



MY INDIA

A PRESENTATION BY ETAN DORONNE

WHERE EVERY VILLAGE IS HOME





ABOUT THE LECTURE SERIES

This program supports the community by inspiring the individual. A non-fiction narrative conveys the social, environmental and spiritual values. In times of economic hardship, alternative paths, solutions and answers are needed on many levels.

FORMAT

Narrated slide presentation with audience participation running 1.5 to 3 hours.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

All are welcome. Previous audiences included: people who enjoy or plan on traveling or living abroad; people wanting to learn how to travel independently; people from diverse ethnicities, including Indians in America; people interested in spirituality.

FEES

Honorarium if available; donations & photography sales if permissible.

PREVIOUS PRESENTATIONS

NOVEMBER 2008

Will & Ariel Durant Branch Library
7140 W. Sunset Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90046

MARCH 2009

Peninsula Center Library – Palos Verdes
701 Silver Spur Road
Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

JANUARY 2009

Encino - Tarzana Branch Library
18231 Ventura Boulevard
Tarzana, CA 91356

Studio City Branch Library

12511 Moorpark Street
Studio City, CA 91604



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE COMPLETE ONLINE PHOTO GALLERY](#)





STATEMENT OF PURPOSE & BIOGRAPHY

- 🌸 *To share the life-changing reality I experienced traveling through traditional rural India.*
- 🌸 *To assist people in finding a source of pure and simple happiness.*
- 🌸 *To bring Indian culture and wisdom to our consumer society.*
- 🌸 *To become a link in the universal chain of giving.*



Etan Doronne is a graduate of the Bezalel Academy of Art and has worked in the educational and the corporate worlds.

He first traveled independently in 1989. Since then he has traveled through Egypt, Tanzania, Cyprus, Turkey, Greece, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Netherlands, Britain, France, Spain, USA, Canada, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, China, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Nepal and India.

Etan's current projects include creating eco-awareness workshops for communities, schools and businesses.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(818) 614 7128

my.india.experience@gmail.com

4570 Van Nuys Blvd #364 • Sherman Oaks CA 91403

Sunday Los Angeles Times

TRAVEL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2009 • LATIMES.COM/TRAVEL

Films & programs

INDIA

Slide show

Julia Hagie will display photos from her trips to India, including the hill towns.

When, where: 7:30 p.m. Monday at Distant Lands, 56 S. Raymond Ave., Pasadena.

Admission, info: Free. RSVP to (626) 449-3220.

AFRICA

Tour previews

The Greater Los Angeles Zoo Assn. will present a "Travel Night" preview of two African wildlife safaris it will sponsor this year.

When, where: 7 p.m. Tuesday in Witherbee Auditorium at the Los Angeles Zoo in Griffith Park.

Admission, info: Free. (323) 644-4792.

MT. WHITNEY

Workshop

Experts give tips on climbing California's Mt. Whitney.

When, where: 7 p.m. Wednesday at REI stores in Arcadia, 214 N. Santa Anita Ave.; and Manhattan Beach, 1800 Rosecrans Ave., Suite E.

Admission, info: Free. (626) 447-1062 for Arcadia; (310) 727-0728 for Manhattan Beach.

SENIORS

Workshop

Veteran travelers will offer tips on travel topics for mature travelers.

When, where: 11 a.m. Saturday at the HI-Travel Store, 1434 2nd St., Santa Monica.

Admission, info: \$5 for HI-USA members and students; \$10 for others. (310) 393-3413.

INDIA, BHUTAN

Slide show, lunch

Dave Garfinkle will show photos from his recent trip to northern India and Bhutan.

When, where: Noon Saturday at Patio Mediterranean Cuisine, 21 E. Huntington Drive, Arcadia.

Admission, info: \$18.50, including lunch, tax and tip. RSVP to Network for Travel Club, (323) 578-3601.

INDIA

Presentation

Etan Doronne will show slides and discuss his yearlong backpacking journey through rural India.

When, where: 4 p.m. Saturday at the Encino-Tarzana Branch Library, 18231 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana.

Admission, info: Free. (818) 343-1983.

Send announcements to travel@latimes.com.

Calendar

PALM SPRINGS

Palm Springs International Film Festival

When, where: Through Jan. 19, various Palm Springs venues.

Highlights: The 20th annual event features more than 400 screenings of more than 200 films from 60 countries.

Cost: Ticket packages from \$50.
Info: (800) 898-7256, www.psfilmfest.org

GARDEN GROVE

Tet Festival (Vietnamese Lunar New Year)

When, where: Jan. 30 to Feb. 1, Garden Grove Park

Highlights: An annual celebration that features ethnic dishes, contests, a talent show and traditional arts and crafts.

Cost: Free.
Info: (714) 890-1418, www.tetfestival.org/vendors.html

CALISTOGA

Wellness Month

When, where: Through Jan. 31, throughout Calistoga.

Highlights: A variety of wellness-oriented events and offers, including bike tours, guided hikes and mud baths.

Cost: Varies by event.
Info: (707) 942-6333, www.calistogavisitors.com/events.

SAN FRANCISCO

Kaiser Permanente Half Marathon and 5K

When, where: Feb. 1, through Golden Gate Park and along the Pacific Ocean.



MARK BOSTER Los Angeles Times

Garden Grove's Tet Festival is set to mark a new year.

Highlights: A 13.1-mile running course, a 5K fun run/walk, a health-and-fitness showcase and a post-race award ceremony.

Cost: \$50 to participate in the half marathon, \$40 to participate in the 5K (proceeds benefit charities).

Info: (415) 759-2690, xnet.kp.org/sanfrancisco/index.html

MAMMOTH LAKES

Elevation Mammoth Gay Ski Week

When, where: March 18 to 22, various Mammoth locations.

Highlights: The seventh annual event features skiing, snowboarding, après-ski parties with DJs and more.

Cost: A \$130 party pass includes access to all events; a VIP party pass costs \$170.

Info: (323) 654-0650, www.mammothgayski.com
— AVITAL BINSHTOCK

itinerary@latimes.com

Drop in and meet the journalists.

latimes.com/YourTimes

Los Angeles Times

08ED094 08E17005



MARCH 10 2008

THE JEWISH JOURNAL

OF GREATER LOS ANGELES

Volume 23, Number 48 • 20-26 Tevet, 5769 • January 16-22, 2009 • jewishjournal.com



▶ (LECTURE)

On Feb. 7, 2007, Etan Doronne did what many of us only dream of – he embarked on a yearlong solitary backpack journey through rural India. Some of the villages he visited had never seen foreigners. Back in the States, the world traveler is inviting the public to share “**My India, Where Every Village Is Home.**” Sat. 4 p.m. Free. Encino-Tarzana Branch Library, 18231 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana. (818) 343-1983.

Green Home & Family

a light+green lifestyle publication

Our guide to light+green events
making the connection with your world, your neighbors, and yourself

THOUSAND OAKS

ENVIRONMENTAL MOVIE NIGHT

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2008

The C4 chapter is hosting an "Environmental Movie Night" at the Hillcrest Community Center in Thousand Oaks. Award-winning film *Kilowatt Ours: A Plan to Re-Energize America* is a timely, solutions-oriented look at one of America's most pressing environmental challenges: energy. This event is sponsored by Cybercopy and will be free admission and open to the public. More information is available at the chapter website, usgbcc4.org.

LOS ANGELES

MY INDIA—WHERE EVERY VILLAGE IS HOME

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2008 | 4 PM

In 2007, Etan Doronne began a year long solitary backpack journey through rural India. Some of the villages that he visited had never had a foreign visitor. Through his slides, Etan brings home a little bit of a far-away village. Will and Ariel Durant Branch Library, 7140 West Sunset Blvd. (323) 876-2741.

OJAI

12TH ANNUAL OJAI HOLIDAY HOME LOOK IN

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF VENTURA

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23 and 24, 2008

Your chance to peek in is from 10 am to 4 pm with proceeds benefitting the Ojai Music Festival and its education program. Sponsored by the Ojai Festival Women's Committee, this timeless holiday tradition invites guests to tour four distinctive Ojai residences adorned with unique seasonal trimmings while also enjoying the enchanting surroundings of the valley. This year, the four showcased properties are models of ecological awareness. In two brand-new homes,

and in two remodeling and expansion projects, commitment to energy conservation was a driving force. The featured four homes are the Libbey Estate, Casa Verde, Here Design, and Pepper Lodge. Advance tickets for Holiday Home Look In are \$30 per person, and may be purchased at (805) 646-2094 or www.OjaiFestival.org. (Day of event tickets are \$35 per person.) For more information on the Holiday Home Look In, visit the Festival web site at www.OjaiFestival.org

SANTA BARBARA

GREEN DRINKS

SANTA BARBARA CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2008

Anyone working on environmental issues or studying them, people interested in sharing ideas and networking in a green way, or anyone else interested in making the world a greener (better) place... Attend SB Green Drinks for fun, networking, sharing a drink at the end of the day, inspiration, business or pleasure! Check www.usgbcc4.org for more details.

WESTLAKE VILLAGE

GRATITUDE MEDITATION LABYRINTH WALK

ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE CATHOLIC CHURCH LABYRINTH

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2008 | 8 AM - 9 AM

Buddhist teachers would assign loving-kindness, gratitude and appreciation meditations with the specific intent to counter-balance the negative thoughts that people often experience. The theme of this labyrinth walk is gratitude. This labyrinth walk is Meenal Kelkar's way to show her gratitude for your support. Bring your friends and loved ones to participate the power of meditating on a shared intention in the presence of community. Free-will contribution will be given to Casa Pacifica. Go to www.integrative-insight.com or by phone: (805) 504-6640.

sfv **West Valley News** BUSINESS & COMMUNITY

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION SERVING WEST VALLEY SMALL BUSINESSES AND OTHER COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

DECEMBER 2008

Community News/Calendar

Sunday December 21 — Beauty Icon Allen Edwards at Calabasas Library

The Friends of the Calabasas Library is sponsoring a unique author event on Sunday December 21 at 2pm: Beauty Icon Allen Edwards will be talking about his new autobiography *Shear Force*, followed by a demonstration of beauty consultations for several volunteers from the audience, plus a book signing. Participants are advised to arrive early to sign up for the unique opportunity to receive a free personal beauty consultation from a living legend in the beauty industry.

Edwards is an internationally renowned image-maker and industry leader. He has styled some of the world's most glamorous and fashionable women, and is the original creator of the Farrah Fawcett layered cut which started a trend that still exists today. With over 1000 television appearances including Oprah and Regis, Allen Edwards has stayed at the top of his game for over 30 years.

Edwards is currently a resident of Calabasas and a member of the Friends of the Library.

Shear Force is an inspiring personal story of Allen Edwards' triumph over adversity, as he takes us behind-the-scenes into the glitzy Beverly Hills Beauty industry during the '70s and '80s ... from the free-wheelin' sex capades and drugs to the onset of AIDS ... from Hollywood starlets and Harley Davidsons to reality shows. Allen Edwards is a *Shear Force*.

For further information, contact the Calabasas Library, (818) 225-7616, www.cityofcalabasas.com/library.html

St. James Sunday Concerts will be pleased to present our holiday concert, "Christmas is A-Coming" on **Sunday, December 14** at 4 PM at St James Presbyterian Church. The concert features St James Early Music Ensemble and Chancel Choir in a program including music by Reale, Weelkes, Praetorius, PDQ



MY INDIA *By Etan Doronne*

WHERE EVERY VILLAGE IS HOME
A free guided talk and slide presentation

On February 7th 2007 Etan Doronne began a year long solitary backpack journey through rural India. Some of the villages he visited had never had a foreign visitor let alone an opportunity to build a friendship with one.

Come share this once in a lifetime experience!

Saturday, January 17th Time: 4:00 pm
Encino - Tarzana Branch Library
18231 Ventura Boulevard, Tarzana, CA 91356
(818) 343-1983

Etan Doronne is a graduate of the Bezalel Academy of Art, and has worked both in education and the corporate world.

In 1989 he took his first independent trip. Since then he has traveled to Egypt, Tanzania, Cyprus, Turkey, Greece, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Netherlands, Britain, France, Spain, USA, Canada, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, China, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Nepal and India.

Etan's current projects include creating eco-awareness workshops for communities, schools and businesses.

Contact: 818-614-7128.
my.india.experience@gmail.com

लक्षवेधी



बोललेला नवस यशस्वी झाल्यावर सेवा म्हणून रश्मी लुडवे जत्रेत मसाल्याचं दुकान लावतात. पर्यटनासाठी मालवणात आलेल्या एका परदेशी नागरिकाने होसेने जत्रेला हजेरी लावली. भराडीदेवीच्या या जत्रेत सांगलीहून ज्योतिष सांगायला आलेल्यांची संख्या भरपूर होती. भाविकांच्या भावडेपणाचा फायदा घेत त्यांनी दिवसाला किमान हजार रुपयांचा गजाल जमवला. भराडीदेवीला जत्रेत इतर राजकीय पक्षांच्या बॅनरप्रमाणे अरुण गवळीचा शुभेच्छ देणारा बॅनरही दिनाखात झळकत होता. जत्रेच्या काळात देवीच्या खणा-नारळाच्या ओटीचीच उलाढाल काही लाखात झाली.

अधिक जमिनीवर सांडत असतो. पण त्याची भक्तांनाही फिकीर नसते आणि महाप्रसाद फेकणाऱ्यांनाही. उलट तसं विचारल्यावर उत्तर मिळतं- 'वरच्यावर झेलला गेला तो प्रसाद आणि जमिनीवर पडला तो साधा भात.'

मात्र हा साधा भातही अनेकांच्या तोंडी लागत नाही, ते यांना कोण सांगणार?

पण केवळ महाप्रसादच नाही, तर भराडीदेवीचे वर्षभरात होणारे सगळेच विधी काहीसे गूढ आहेत. आणि त्या विधींना गाव-हाटी असं संबोधून त्या विधींची माहिती गावकरी इतरांना सांगत नाहीत. उदाहरणार्थ, पूर्णपणे शाकाहारी मानलेल्या या देवीच्या जत्रेची तारीख ठरवताना मात्र तिला मांसाहाराचा नैवेद्य दाखवला जातो. जत्रेची ही तारीख ठरवणं हादरेखील आंगणेवाडीवासीयांचा एक मोठा कार्यक्रमच असतो. देवदिवाळीला सर्व ग्रामस्थ भराडीदेवीच्या देवळातच एकत्र जमतात. त्यावेळी चटईवरच बसण्याची प्रथा आहे. महाराष्ट्रातल्याच नव्हे, तर भारतातल्या बहुतेक सर्व जत्रा या विशिष्ट महिन्यातल्या पौर्णिमेला किंवा इतर कुठल्या तरी मुहूर्तावर असतात. पण आंगणेवाडीच्या जत्रेचा दिवस मात्र गावकरीच नक्की करतात. हा दिवस नक्की करताना आधी ते देवीला काँल लावतात. देवीने काँल दिला, तरच ठरवलेला दिवस नक्की करतात. जत्रेचा हा दिवस ठरवण्याआधी दुकराच्या शिकारीचा खास विधीही असतो. या शिकारीसाठी काही ग्रामस्थ जंगलात जातात. जोपर्यंत दुकराची शिकार मिळत नाही, तोपर्यंत ते घरी परतत नाहीत. मग शिकारीसाठी एक-दोन किरा दहा दिवस लागले तरी बेहतर! ते जंगलातच तळ ठोकतात. शिकार मिळाल्यावर दुकरा पाठीवर मारून ते विजयोन्मादात गावात प्रवेश करतात. त्यावेळी गावातल्या महिला त्यांना ओवाळतात. ही शिळ/ए देवीसमोर दीपमाळेवर ठेवून तिला तिचा नैवेद्य दाखवला जातो आणि मग त्या दुकराचं मटण प्रसाद म्हणून घरोघरी वाटलं जातं.

अशा काही ग्रामीण प्रथांमुळे आधीच भराडीदेवीभोवती एक गूढ बलय निर्माण झालं आहे. त्यात ती नवसा/ला पावले, अशी भक्तांची श्रद्धा असल्यामुळे गेल्या काही वर्षांत या जत्रेची लोकप्रियता वाढलेली आहे.

कोकणात जत्रा मोठ्या प्रमाणावर होतात. त्या जत्रा एकप्रकारे गावजत्राच असतात. त्यामुळे त्या जत्रांमध्ये फार मोठी आर्थिक उलाढाल होत नाही. पण आंगणेवाडीच्या जत्रेने कोकणातल्या जत्रांचे सर्वच उधांक मोडीत काढले आहेत. या जत्रेत लागलेल्या दुकानांचीच संख्या तब्बल ५००हून अधिक होती. काही दुकानं, तर पार खानदेश-सोलापूरहून आलेली होती. त्यात सोलापु्री चादरींपासून पंढरपुरातून आलेल्या हॉटेल व्यावसायिकांचाही सहभाग होता. या सर्व दुकानांत दोन दिवसात झालेली खरेदी-विक्री आणि मंदिरात भाविकांनी उदारहस्ते दिलेली देणगी हा सारा आकडा किमान सात ते दहा कोटी रुपयांच्या घरात असल्याचा अंदाज गावातील काही जाणकार व्यक्त करतात.

लोकप्रियतेमुळेच आज भराडीदेवीच्या देवस्थानाला ऊर्जितावस्था आली आहे. मूळ कौलारु मंदिराच्या जागी राजस्थानी स्थापत्यशैलीतील सुरेख मंदिर उभं राहिलं आहे. तसंच मंदिरावर साडेतीन किलो सोन्याचा कळसही चढला आहे. या ऊर्जितावस्थेला नारायण राणेंचा मोठा हातभार लागल्याचं आंगणेवाडीवासीय खुल्या दिलाने मान्य करतात. कारण स्थानिक प्रशासनाच्या माध्यमातून आंगणेवाडीला रस्ता-बीज-पाणी यासारख्या अनेक सुविधा नारायण राणेंनी उपलब्ध करून दिल्या. अगदी यावर्षीही आंगणेवाडीच्या विकासासाठी त्यांनी मोठा निधी उपलब्ध करून दिला. देवस्थानला भाविकांच्या देणग्यांच्या माध्यमातून मोठा निधी उपलब्ध होत असतानाही जिल्हा पंचायतीकडे येणाऱ्या निधीपैकी ५० टक्क्यांहून अधिक रक्कम आंगणेवाडीच्या विकासाकडे वळवण्यात आली.

मात्र जत्रेच्या माध्यमातून देवस्थानचा आणि पर्यायाने गावाचा विकास होत असताना आंगणेवाडीवासीयांनी आता सामाजिक भानही व्यक्त करायला हवं. देवस्थानच्या माध्यमातून मिळणारा पैसा केवळ आपल्याच गावाच्या विकासासाठी खर्च करताना कोकणातील अनेक गावं मूलभूत सोयी-सुविधांपासून दंचित असल्याचं लक्षात घ्यायला हवं. तसं झालं तरच भराडीदेवी केवळ नवस केलेल्यांनाच नाही, तर न करणाऱ्यांनाही पावले, असं लोक म्हणतील. ■ छायाचित्रे: प्रकाश सरमळकर