

ENGLISH

CHAPTER 7: GLIMPSES OF INDIA



GLIMPSES OF INDIA

~Summary~

PART- I

A Baker from Goa

-by Lucio Rodrigues

Bread Making in Goa

This is a pen-portrait of the traditional Goan village baker, who is still remembered by Goans. Bread making started from the Portuguese days. They were the lovers of bread. Bread making was an art which needed perfection. Mixing, moulding and baking were the areas of specialisation of making bread. The loaves were baked in time tested furnaces. This profession has been continued by the baker's descendants.

The Author's Childhood Days Recalled

The author remembers his childhood days when the baker used to be their friend, companion and guide. He used to visit twice a day, once in the morning during his selling hours and then again while returning after selling all his bread. The jingling thud of the bamboo, he carried, woke them up in the morning and they ran to meet and greet him. They ran for getting the bread-bangles, which were a specially made sweet bread.

Delivering the Loaves

As the baker came, he would call out the lady of the house and wish her 'Good Morning'. The children would be pushed aside and the loaves would be delivered to the maid servant. The author recalls the aroma of loaves that filled the air. The children would not even brush their teeth and ate bread bangles made of bread with tea.

Importance of Bread in Traditional Ceremonies

The various kinds of bread were very important for all occasions. No marriage was complete until and unless the traditional bol was served. The lady of the house on the occasion of her daughter's engagement would prepare sandwiches and bolinhas would be prepared for Christmas and other festivals. (bol and bolinhas are the varieties of bread)

The Baker's Dress

The baker was usually dressed in a kabai, a long frock reaching down to the knees or a shirt and a trousers which were shorter than full-length ones and longer than half pants. Even today if anyone dares to go out in the streets wearing half pants, he is referred to as a pader (baker).

Bread Making - A Profitable Profession

The baker usually collected his bills at the end of the month. All the accounts were written on a wall in the premises with a pencil. It was a profitable profession during those days because Portuguese were lovers of fresh baked loaves. The baker, his family members and his servants looked prosperous and happy.

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NCERT SOLUTION

Questions (Page No. 86-87)

(ORAL COMPREHENSION CHECK)

Question. 1 What are the elders in Goa nostalgic about?

Answer: The elders in Goa were nostalgic about the good Old Portuguese days, the Portuguese, and their famous loaves of bread.

Question. 2 Is bread-making still popular in Goa? How do you know?

Answer: Yes, bread-making is still popular in Goa. The author says that the mixers, moulders, and those who bake the loaves are still present in Goa. The age-old, time-tested furnaces still exist. The 'thud' and 'jingle' of the traditional baker's bamboo, marking his arrival in the morning, could still be heard in some places. It is a family profession, which is carried out generations after generations.

Question. 3 What is the baker called?

Answer: The bakers are known as padre in Goa.

Question. 4 When would the baker come everyday? Why did the children run to meet him?

Answer: The baker came twice every day, once when he set out in the morning on his selling round, and then again, when he returned after emptying his huge basket. The children ran to meet him not because of their love of the loaf, which was bought by the maid-servant of the house. They actually longed for the bread-bangles, which they chose carefully. Sometimes, it was a sweet bread of special make.

Question. 5 Match the following. What is a must

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (i) As marriage gifts? | 1 Cakes and bolinhas |
| (ii) For a party or a feast? | 2 Sweet bread called bol |
| (iii) For a daughter's engagement? | 3 Bread |
| (iv) For Christmas? | 4 Sandwiches |

Answer:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (i) As marriage gifts? | 2 Sweet bread called bol |
| (ii) For a party or a feast? | 3 Bread |
| (iii) For a daughter's engagement? | 4 Sandwiches |
| (iv) For Christmas? | 1 Cakes and bolinhas |

Question. 6 What did the bakers wear: (i) in the Portuguese days? (ii) when the author was young?

Answer:

- i. In the Portuguese days, the bakers had a peculiar dress known as the kabai. It was a single-piece long frock reaching down to the knees.
- ii. When the author was young, he saw the bakers wearing a shirt and trousers, which were shorter than full-length ones and longer than half pants.

Question. 7 Who invites the comment — “he is dressed like a pader”? Why?

Answer: Anyone who wears a half-pant which reaches just below the knees invites the comment that “he is dressed like a pader”. This was so because the bakers were known as pader and they wore such half pants.

Question. 8 Where were the monthly accounts of the baker recorded?

Answer: Anyone who wears a half-pant which reaches just below the knees invites the comment that “he is dressed like a pader”. This was so because the bakers were known as pader and they wore such half pants.

Question. 9 What does a ‘jackfruit -like appearance’ mean?

Answer: A ‘jackfruit-like appearance’ means a plump physique. Such a physique was linked to the bakers because they never starved. Baking was a profitable profession. The baker, his family, and his servants always looked happy and prosperous and had a ‘jackfruit-like appearance’.

Questions (Page No. 88)

(THINKING ABOUT THE TEXT)

Question. 1 Which of these statements are correct?

- i. The pader was an important person in the village in old times.
- ii. Paders still exist in Goan villages.
- iii. The paders went away with the Portuguese.
- iv. The paders continue to wear a single-piece long frock.
- v. Bread and cakes were an integral part of Goan life in the old days.
- vi. Traditional bread-baking is still a very profitable business.
- vii. Paders and their families starve in the present times.

Answer:

- i. The pader was an important person in the village in old times **Correct**
- ii. Paders still exist in Goan villages **Correct**
- iii. **Incorrect.** The paders still exist in Goan villages.
- iv. **Incorrect.** The paders wear shirts, and trousers that are shorter than full-length ones and longer than half pants.

- v. **Incorrect.** Bread and cakes are still an integral part of Goan life.
- vi. Traditional bread-baking is still a very profitable business. **Correct**
- vii. Paders and their families starve in the present times. **correct**

Question. 2 Is bread an important part of Goan life? How do you know this?

Answer: Bread is an important part of Goan life. Marriage gifts are meaningless without the sweet bread known as the bol. For a party, bread is a must, while for Christmas, cakes and bolinhas are a must. Sandwiches must be prepared by the lady of the house on her daughter's engagement. The author says that everybody loves the fragrance of loaves. The elders were given loaves and the children were given bread-bangles, which they longed for. Also, the fact that bakery is a profitable profession shows that the love for bread is enormous in Goa.

Question. 3 Tick the right answer. What is the tone of the author when he says the following?

- i. The thud and the jingle of the traditional baker's bamboo can still be heard in some places. (nostalgic, hopeful, sad)
- ii. Maybe the father is not alive but the son still carries on the family profession. (nostalgic, hopeful, sad)
- iii. I still recall the typical fragrance of those loaves. (nostalgic, hopeful, naughty)
- iv. The tiger never brushed his teeth. Hot tea could wash and clean up everything so nicely, after all. (naughty, angry, funny)
- v. Cakes and bolinhas are a must for Christmas as well as other festivals. (sad, hopeful, matter-of-fact)
- vi. The baker and his family never starved. They always looked happy and prosperous. (matter-of-fact, hopeful, sad)

Answer:

- i. The thud and the jingle of the traditional baker's bamboo can still be heard in some places **Nostalgic**
- ii. Maybe the father is not alive but the son still carries on the family profession. **Nostalgic**
- iii. I still recall the typical fragrance of those loaves **Nostalgic**
- iv. The tiger never brushed his teeth. Hot tea could wash and clean up everything so nicely, after all. **Funny**
- v. Cakes and bolinhas are a must for Christmas as well as other festivals. **Matter-of-fact**
- vi. The baker and his family never starved. They always looked happy and prosperous. **Matter-of-fact**

PART- II**COORG**

Coorg - A Heavenly Place

Coorg district of Karnataka lies between the towns of Mysore and Mangalore. It is like a heaven on Earth. It is inhabited by martial men, beautiful women and wild creatures.

Weather and Environment of Coorg

It is the smallest district of Karnataka. It consists of evergreen forests, spices and coffee plantations. The best season to visit Coorg starts in September and continues upto March. The weather in Coorg is pleasant during those months.

People of Coorg

The people here are possibly of Greek or Arabic descent. According to a legend, Alexander's army moved South along the coast and settled there only when they were unable to return to their country. These people married among the locals and their culture can be witnessed by their martial traditions, marriages and religious rites. The Kodavus (residents of Coorg) wear a long black coat with an embroidered waist belt. Known as Kuppia, it resembles Kuffia worn by the Arabs and the Kurds.

Bravery Tales of Coorg

Coorg people are well-known for their bravery. The Coorg Regiment is one of the most decorated regiments of the Indian Army. General Cariappa, the first Indian Army Chief, was a Coorgi. Even today, only the Kodavus are permitted to carry firearms without a licence.

Wildlife in Coorg

Coorg is home to a large number of wild animals and birds. Mahaseer, a large freshwater fish, is found here. Kingfishers, squirrels and langurs live without any fear. Wild elephants enjoy being bathed and scrubbed in the river by their mahouts. The river Kaveri gets its water from the hills of Coorg.

Coorg - A Tourist Place

Even the laziest tourists become adventurous on coming to Coorg as it is full of adventure sports like river rafting, canoeing, rock climbing etc. The climb to Brahmagiri hills brings smiles to many faces as one can see the panoramic view of Coorg from there.

Nature at its Best

India's largest Tibetan settlement at Bylakuppe is inhabited by monks in red, ochre and yellow robes. There are many more surprises waiting at Coorg for the tourists to discover.

Reaching Coorg

Coorg can be reached by road and by rail. If one prefers to go by air, then the nearest airports are Bangalore and Mangalore. By road, it is around 250-260 km from Bangalore.

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NCERT SOLUTION

Questions (Page No. 92-93)

(THINKING ABOUT THE TEXT)

Question. 1 Where is Coorg?

Answer: Coorg is the smallest district of Karnataka, located midway between Mysore and Mangalore.

Question. 2 What is the story about the Kodavu people's descent?

Answer: According to the author, the fiercely independent people of Coorg are possibly of Greek or Arabic descent. A part of Alexander's army moved south along the coast. They settled there when return became impractical. These people married amongst the locals and their culture is evident in the martial traditions, marriage and religious rites, which are distinct from the Hindu mainstream.

The Kodavus wear a long, black coat, with an embroidered waist-belt, known as kuppia. It resembles the kuffia worn by the Arabs and the Kurds, hence supporting the theory of their Arab origin.

Question. 3 What are some of the things you now know about:

- i. The people of Coorg?
- ii. The main crop of Coorg?
- iii. The sports it offers to tourists?
- iv. The animals you are likely to see in Coorg?
- v. Its distance from Bangalore, and how to get there?

Answer:

- i. The people of Coorg are fiercely independent. They are of Greek or Arabic descent. They have a tradition of hospitality. They enjoy recounting numerous tales of valour related to their sons and fathers. Kodavus are the only people in India permitted to carry firearms without a license. The author has described the people of Coorg as a proud race of martial men and beautiful women.
- ii. Coffee is the main crop of Coorg. The coffee estates stand tucked under tree canopies in prime corners.
- iii. The sports that Coorg offers to tourists are river rafting, canoeing, rappelling, rock climbing, mountain biking, and trekking.
- iv. The animals that one is likely to see in Coorg are birds, bees, butterflies, macaques, Malabar squirrels, langurs, loris, and wild elephants.

- v. The distance between Coorg and Bangalore is around 260km. There are two routes to Coorg from Bangalore and both are of the same distance. The most frequented route is the one via Mysore. The other route is via Neelamangal, Kunigal, and Chanrayanapatna.

Question. 4 Here are six sentences with some words in italics. Find phrases from the text that have the same meaning. (Look in the paragraphs indicated)

- i. During monsoons it rains so heavily that tourists do not visit Coorg. (para 2)
- ii. Some people say that Alexander's army moved south along the coast and settled there. (para 3)
- iii. The Coorg people are always ready to tell stories of their sons' and fathers' valour. (para 4)
- iv. Even people who normally lead an easy and slow life get smitten by the high-energy adventure sports of Coorg. (para 6)
- v. The theory of the Arab origin is supported by the long coat with embroidered waist-belt they wear. (para 3)
- vi. Macaques, Malabar squirrels observe you carefully from the tree canopy. (para 7)

Answer:

- i. keep many visitors away
- ii. As one story goes
- iii. Are more than willing to recount
- iv. The most laidback individuals become converts to
- v. Draws support from
- vi. keep a watchful eye

Questions (Page No. 93-94)

(THINKING ABOUT LANGUAGE)

Question. 1 Here are some nouns from the text.

(culture, monks, surprise, experience, weather, tradition)

Work with a partner and discuss which of the nouns can collocate with which of the adjectives given below. The first one has been done for you.

(unique, terrible, unforgettable, serious, ancient, wide, sudden)

Culture: unique culture, ancient culture

- Monks: _____.
- Surprise: _____.

- Experience: _____.
- Weather: _____.
- Tradition: _____.

Answer:

- Culture: unique culture, ancient culture.
- Monks: serious monks.
- Surprise: unique surprises, terrible surprise, unforgettable surprise.
- Experience: experience.
- Weather: terrible weather.
- Tradition: unique tradition, ancient tradition.

Question. 2 Complete the following phrases from the text. For each phrase, can you find at least one other word that would fit into the blank?

- Tales of _____
- Coastal _____
- A piece of _____
- Evergreen _____
- Plantations _____
- Bridge _____
- Wild You may add your own examples to this list _____

Answer:

➤ **From the text**

- Tales of **valour**
- Coastal **town**
- A piece of **heaven**
- Evergreen **rainforests**
- **Coffee** plantations
- **Rope** bridge
- Wild **elephants**

➤ **Other than the text**

- Tales of **morality**
- Coastal **food**
- A piece of **cake**
- Evergreen **hero**

- Crop plantations
- Sturdy bridge
- Wild beasts

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PART- III**TEA FROM ASSAM****Rajvir's Visit to Assam**

Rajvir and Pranjol are travelling to Assam by train as Pranjol has invited Rajvir to visit his home during the summer vacation. Rajvir is very excited to see the beautiful scenery of greenery and tea plantations outside. Rajvir tells Pranjol that over eighty crore cups of tea are drunk everyday throughout the world.

The Beautiful Tea Gardens

Rajvir looks at the scenery outside and is mesmerised by its beauty. The view from the train was also panoramic (a wide view). There was greenery outside. The soft green paddy fields gave way to tea bushes. Tea bushes spread as far as the eye could see.

Legends about Discovery of Tea

There are many legends about the discovery of tea. The Chinese legend says that when a few tea leaves accidentally fell into boiling water which the emperor tasted and liked, and tea making started.

Indian legend tells that a Buddhist monk cut off his eyelids because he felt sleepy during meditations. Ten tea plants grew out of these eyelids. The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drunk, drove away sleep.

Chinese-the Tea Lovers

Rajvir told Pranjol that tea was first drunk in China. Words like 'chai' and 'chini' are of Chinese origin.

From China, it spread to Europe and then to Asia, Earlier tea was drunk more as a medicine than as a beverage.

Dhekiabori

The boys alighted at Mariani junction. Soon, they were driving towards Dhekiabari, the tea garden managed by Pranjol's father. Groups of tea pluckers, with bamboo baskets on their backs

and wearing plastic aprons, plucking the newly sprouted leaves, could be seen everywhere. The best tea is obtained during the period of May to July.

Conclusion of Glimpses of India

In the chapter – Glimpses of India, we learnt about the beautiful landscapes and specialities of different parts of India. There are a lot of beautiful places to explore in India itself before we make our way to explore foreign locations.

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NCERT SOLUTION

Questions (Page No. 96-97)

(THINKING ABOUT LANGUAGE)

Question. 1 Look at these words: upkeep, downpour, undergo, dropout, walk-in. They are built up from a verb (keep, pour, go, drop, walk) and an adverb or a particle (up, down, under, out, in).

Use these words appropriately in the sentences below. You may consult a dictionary.

- i. A heavy _____ has been forecast due to low pressure in the Bay of Bengal.
- ii. Rakesh will _____ major surgery tomorrow morning.
- iii. My brother is responsible for the _____ of our family property.
- iv. The _____ rate for this accountancy course is very high.
- v. She went to the Enterprise Company to attend a _____ interview.

Answer:

- i. A heavy **downpour** has been forecast due to low pressure in the Bay of Bengal.
- ii. Rakesh will **undergo** major surgery tomorrow morning.
- iii. My brother is responsible for the **upkeep** of our family property.
- iv. The **dropout** rate for this accountancy course is very high.
- v. She went to the Enterprise Company to attend a **walk-in** interview.

Question. 2 Now fill in the blanks in the sentences given below by combining the verb given in brackets with one of the words from the box as appropriate.

(over by through out up down)

- i. The Army attempted unsuccessfully to the _____ Government. (throw)
- ii. Scientists are on the brink of a major _____ in cancer research. (break)
- iii. The State Government plans to build a _____ for Bhubaneswar to speed up traffic on the main highway. (pass)
- iv. Gautama's _____ on life changed when he realised that the world is full of sorrow. (look)
- v. Rkesh seemed unusually _____ after the game. (cast)

Answer:

- i. The Army attempted unsuccessfully to the **overthrow** Government. (throw)
- ii. Scientists are on the brink of a major **breakthrough** in cancer research. (break)
- iii. The State Government plans to build a **by-pass** for Bhubaneswar to speed up traffic on the main highway. (pass)

- iv. Gautama's **outlook** on life changed when he realised that the world is full of sorrow. (look)
- v. Rakesh seemed unusually **downcast** after the game. (cast)

Question. Notice how these—ing and—ed adjectives are used.

- a) Chess is an interesting game. I am very interested in chess.
- b) Going trekking in the Himalayas this We are very excited about the trek, summer is an exciting idea ?
- c) Are all your school books this boring ? He was bored as he had no friends there.

The—ing adjectives show the qualities that chess, trekking, or these books have : they cause interest, excitement, or boredom in you. The —ed /—en adjectives show your mental state, or your physical state : how you feel in response to ideas, events or things.

1. **Think of suitable -ing or -ed adjectives to answer the following questions. You may also use words from those given above.**

How would you describe

- i. A good detective serial on television? _____
- ii. A debate on your favourite topic 'Homework Should Be Banned'? _____
- iii. How you feel when you stay indoors due to incessant rain? _____
- iv. How you feel when you open a present? _____
- v. How you feel when you watch your favourite programme on television? _____
- vi. The look on your mother's face as you waited in a queue? _____
- vii. How you feel when tracking a tiger in a tiger reserve forest? _____
- viii. The story you have recently read, or a film you have seen? _____

Answer:

- i. A good detective serial on television? **Interesting**
- ii. A debate on your favourite topic 'Homework Should Be Banned'? **Exciting**
- iii. How you feel when you stay indoors due to incessant rain? **Bored**
- iv. How you feel when you open a present? **Excited**
- v. How you feel when you watch your favourit programme television? **Interested**
- vi. The look on your mother's face as you waited in a queue? **Tired**
- vii. How you feel when tracking a tiger in a tiger reserve forest? **Thrilled**
- viii. The story you have recently read, or a film you have seen? **Boring.**

2. **Now use the adjectives in the exercise above, as appropriate, to write a paragraph about Coorg.**

Answer: The description about Coorg was really interesting. It was an invigorating and eye-opening account of a beautiful place that our country has. I felt excited and thrilled to read that Kodagus are such a martial race. The wildlife and the panoramic view of the entire misty landscape excited and thrilled me. But it was worrying how alone would I go there ? The idea that I might be lost in case I went all alone made me worried. But the idea that I shall see everything about the place thrilled me. It is so thrilling to see this piece of heaven with evergreen forests and spices and coffee plantations. Today, scientific research across the world has attempted to establish the beneficial qualities of tea—a fact the Japanese and the Chinese knew anyway from ancient times, attributing to it numerous medicinal properties.

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