

e-Magazine of Vile Parle

DECEMBER • 2025

# Townपर्ले.in

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**Gifting with Purpose**  
Insights from a Seasoned  
Gifting Professional

**In this Issue...**  
**Why Stress?**  
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**The New Tata Sierra**  
A Classic Name Reimagined  
for the Tech-Driven Era



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# Editorial...



**D**ecember marks a natural pause as the year draws to a close. In Vile Parle, the festive season brings a slower pace, holiday cheer, and moments of reflection. Christmas adds warmth to the month, while the approaching New Year encourages fresh thinking and new beginnings.

The December 2025 edition of TownParle.in brings together a mix of insightful and engaging content. This issue features a thought-provoking article on **Virtual Reality in the Building Industry**, exploring how technology is changing architectural presentations. Our **Ask the Experts** section addresses everyday concerns related to Vastu, Astrology, and Health, with practical guidance for homes, careers, and winter wellness.

Readers will also find an interaction with a seasoned gifting professional, sharing perspectives on meaningful and thoughtful gifting during the festive season. A nostalgic piece on **Christmas in Goa** captures the cultural and emotional essence of the festival, while the Ayurveda health column focuses on preventive winter care. We also present a special prequel story that introduces a new series planned for 2026, centred on wisdom, mindful choices, and everyday learning.

As we move towards the New Year, we hope this edition offers thoughtful reading, useful insights, and a gentle transition into the months ahead.

Wishing all our readers a Merry Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

**CHANDA MANTRI**

Editor - Townparle.in



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# VIRTUAL REALITY OF THE BUILDING INDUSTRY

An Architect shapes the environment while fulfilling human needs and his structures stand a test of time. His ideas, ideologies and art work are such that they have to be conveyed to a common person as well as a technical one. To showcase his designing skills he has to present the visuals generally as a three dimension sketch on paper, or in the form of a model or at times on unfurnished walls which form a canvas to explain minute details.

Where the Architect presents his designs to the clients or developers, the developer and the builder too wants to proffer their ventures to their clients in the same significant way.



**Ar. Rashmi Phulkar**

With the advancement of computer technology in every sector of industry, Architecture is not far away from it. The primary application of Architecture was done by the Architects in the form of hand done sketches and model making.

But in the last two decades it has been steadily replaced by cad software 2d and 3d tools. These applications assist the Architect to provide a comprehensive understanding of the project by providing a vivid and realistic model of the project. Just as New software tools like 3D max, sketch up, lumion, Enscape, and many more have come up to aid in having a dialogue between design and demonstration and so have experts with this expertise too. Some may step further to the extent of using Virtual Reality for presenting their projects.





Here software technology clearly supersedes the design parameters and the Architect has to keep upgrading his presentation skills in order to contribute to his vision. If not then a strategic partner is integrated along who has such expertise to deliver a real life experience to navigate through their schemes.

Imagine a person gets a walkthrough of his own house before it has been constructed. He can feel his space in real time, where he would be living after a couple

of years. Experts are hired who will aid in offering an immersive and interactive exercise to woo its customers. It does give a larger than life impression and may create a rosy picture to please the prospective buyers but can be gullible at times. It can be a total depiction of design given by the graphic artist who may not know the relevance of technical details while presenting a glossy impression. These gaps in virtual dynamics may be misleading. The reality of virtuality is that much

freedom is given to creativity here, but details may be lost in transition.

It is a simple advice to the buyers to not fall prey to such fancy gimmicks but to be seeing through a more informed model. Rather than assessing a virtual impression, the purchaser should scrutinize aspects like reputation of the developer, carpet area of the property to be purchased, quality of materials and accessories used, the amenities



# MEMORIES OF A Goan Christmas

Christmas — the festival that commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ, believed by Christians to be the Son of God — is celebrated every year on 25th December across the world as both a religious and cultural occasion. The word Christmas comes from "Christ's Mass", a sacred service in which Christians remember Jesus' sacrifice for humanity and His resurrection.

Interestingly, no one knows the exact date of Jesus' birth. The Bible does not mention it. So why 25th December? Over centuries, several interpretations emerged. Historical records suggest that the first known celebration of Christmas on 25th December took place in 336 AD during the reign of Roman Emperor Constantine, the first Christian Roman ruler. Earlier, churches celebrated the occasion on 6th January as Epiphany, marking the revelation of Jesus as the Son of God and His baptism. Another theory connects the date with the Jewish festival of Hanukkah, which begins around the same period. Since Jesus was Jewish, this overlap may also have influenced the chosen date.



**Neela Barve**

Ultimately, for Christians, the essence of Christmas lies not in the exact birth date but in the belief that God came to Earth in human form to redeem humanity.

Today, Christmas is celebrated far beyond religious boundaries. Children across the world eagerly await Santa Claus, hoping to find gifts in the stockings they place beside their beds on Christmas Eve. Who among us hasn't woken up with excitement to see a sock mysteriously filled with toys?

While Christmas is celebrated worldwide — helped by the pleasant weather before winter fully sets in — every place adds its own flavour to the festivities. But Christmas in Goa is truly something special.

## GOA'S TRYST WITH CHRISTMAS

Goa was under Portuguese rule until 1960. In Portuguese, Christmas is called Natal, a term still used in Konkani today, which later evolved into Nataal in Maharashtra. After the Portuguese conquest of Goa in 1510, large-scale conversion of the local population to Roman Catholicism took place, and Goa emerged as a major centre of Christianity in the East.

Old Goa, once known as the "Rome of the East", is home to architectural marvels like the Basilica of Bom Jesus, convents, and churches that are now UNESCO World Heritage Sites. These monuments are not just historical structures; they form the very soul of Goa's Christmas celebrations.



The festive season in Goa actually begins even before Christmas, with the annual feast of St. Francis Xavier on 3rd December. St. Francis Xavier arrived in Goa in 1542 as a missionary and played a key role in spreading Christianity. He passed away at the young age of 46 on a Chinese island, and his mortal remains were later brought to Goa and placed in a silver casket at the Basilica of Bom Jesus. Every ten years, his body is displayed for public viewing, drawing devotees from across the globe. Even otherwise, thousands gather at the Basilica every year on 3rd December for his feast, popularly known as the Saipache Fest — the Lord of Goa Festival.

The nine-day novena starting from 23rd November fills the church premises with

devotion and celebration. The surrounding area turns into a vibrant fair — locally called Feri — where farmers, artisans, and small traders sell everything from rare vegetables to shell crafts, cane products, coconut-shell artefacts, and even traditional cookware. During my eight years of living in Goa, I collected many such unique items — some of which I still use today.

Behind the church, a massive open shelter is created where pilgrims from across the country and abroad are allowed to stay free of cost. On 3rd December, the entire state observes a public holiday. From morning Mass till late night, devotees line up endlessly for blessings.

## THE CITY COMES ALIVE

From 4th December onwards, the fair moves to Panaji city. Hundreds of stalls line the footpaths along the Mandovi river, from Mandovi Hotel to Kala Academy. The crowd is so dense that there's barely space to walk. Evenings turn into food trails, with families hopping from stall to stall, tasting different delicacies instead of eating at home. Live music, orchestras, and open-mic singing add to the festive mood, while Panaji glows with dazzling lights from the bridge right into its narrow lanes.

Christmas traditions like decorating trees, exchanging gifts, attending church services, carol singing, and setting up cribs are followed in Goa just as they are across the world. But Goa adds its own distinctive charm.

Markets sparkle with tinsel, huge Christmas trees are installed at public places, and traditional Goan Christmas





cake — rich with wine and dry fruits — appears weeks before the festival. Homes buzz with the preparation of dodol, neureos, coconut milk puddings, and other sweets. Much like homemade laddoos or karanjis, every household's recipe tastes different. I was lucky to sample many varieties at my workplace — each one special in its own way.

## MIDNIGHT MASS & LIVING TRADITIONS

On Christmas Eve, hundreds gather at the Church of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception in Panaji for Midnight Mass. Exactly at midnight, church bells ring out and the Mass begins. Since I lived barely two minutes away, I could hear the bells clearly at home — a sound that still echoes in my memory.

Many neighbourhood chapels host cultural

programmes, especially for children, much like Ganeshotsav performances in Maharashtra. This was also where I first experienced Tiatr, Goa's unique and immensely popular theatrical form, made up of short satirical acts called podd'dde. Artists from Tiatr often go on to become celebrated performers.

I lived in Fontainhas, Panaji's heritage quarter — a place of 200–250-year-old houses, preserved across generations. Watching Tiatr performances near the local chapel, alongside people from different countries, was an unforgettable experience.

## CRIBS, CRUISES & COMMUNITY

Just as forts are built during Diwali in Maharashtra, Goans build cribs — elaborate representations of the Nativity scene. Churches organise competitions for both household and public cribs, with generous prizes supported by government



grants. Children are especially enthusiastic, with families and neighbours coming together to help.

After dinner, we would often step out together to admire the cribs around the neighbourhood, comparing them playfully and soaking in the festive lights. The most magnificent crib, of course, stands outside the Panaji church, drawing crowds day and night.

Another unforgettable experience is the Mandovi River cruise. Beautifully decorated boats offer music, folk dances, and breathtaking views of the illuminated city reflected in the water. Whether dancing on deck or simply watching, the experience is magical.



## FEASTS, MUSIC & MEMORIES

A Goan Christmas feast is unforgettable — sorpotel, roast turkey, grilled seafood, fruit cake, bebinca, dodol, neureos, perad (guava cheese), and bath made of coconut milk and semolina. These meals are enjoyed with family and friends at home, by the sea, or after church services.

Goa truly earns its title as the party capital during Christmas. From jazz and waltz to trance and electronic beats, music fills the air. While Vagator and Anjuna host rave parties, the world-famous Sunburn Festival attracts music lovers from across the globe.

Yet, locals often prefer quieter beaches, celebrating with close family and friends. Many Goans working abroad return home for Christmas, making the season even more joyous. Celebrations stretch from late November all the way into the New Year.

I still remember how my landlady encouraged me to put up a Christmas star on the balcony. The following year, I combined Christmas stars with handmade sky lanterns — a “two-in-one” idea that delighted neighbours and children alike. Those small gestures built bonds that time has not weakened.

Even today, whenever I return to India, I make it a point to spend a few days in

Goa, meeting old friends. This year, the pandemic kept me away, but writing this piece stirred countless memories. Just the other day, a call came:

“Madam, we put up the star your way... we miss you while eating kuswar. When are you coming?”

As I promised a video call on Christmas Day, my eyes welled up.

Goa, like Konkan, has people with tender hearts beneath a strong exterior. Every time I see Goa from the airplane window, I feel as though the entire land is wrapped in a warm shawl of love. Perhaps that is why Christmas in Goa feels so magical — and why it keeps calling me back. 

# ASK THE EXPERT

## HEALTH

As winter sets in, many residents experience seasonal health issues such as frequent cold and cough, joint stiffness, and body pain. In this **Ask the Expert – Health Section**, readers from Vile Parle shared their winter-related concerns.

Below are the responses by **Dr. Smita Gaikwad**, based on classical Ayurvedic principles.

### During winter, I frequently suffer from cold, cough, and throat irritation. How can Ayurveda help prevent this?

In winter, Kapha accumulates in the respiratory tract and Vata increases due to cold-dry weather, so the chest and throat area becomes a weak point.

Ayurveda advises consuming warm, heavy, and

slightly oily food and avoiding curd, cold drinks, and refrigerated items to prevent Kapha stagnation.

#### Practical measures include:

- Daily intake of warm water or herbal tea with tulsi, dry ginger, and black pepper, adding a little honey only when the drink becomes lukewarm (avoid honey in hot water).
- Local protection through steam inhalation with ajwain or eucalyptus.
- Warm salt and turmeric gargles.



- Dr. Smita Gaikwad

- Regular nasya using simple warm sesame oil or prescribed medicated oil to protect the nose and throat.

### Joint stiffness and body pain increase for me in cold weather, especially in the morning. What does Ayurveda suggest?

Cold and wind aggravate Vata in asthi (bones) and sandhi (joints), leading to morning stiffness, cracking, and increased pain in winter. Ayurveda recommends heat, oil, and gentle movement to





restore lubrication and circulation.

#### **Daily routine suggestions include:**

- **Abhyanga:** Full-body massage with warm sesame oil or medicated oil before a hot shower, with special focus on knees, back, and small joints.

- **Diet and movement:** Include sesame seeds, ghee, warm soups, and turmeric.

- Avoid raw salads and cold foods.
- Add gentle yoga, stretching, and short walks to keep joints mobile.

#### **My digestion becomes slow in winter and I experience gas and bloating. What dietary changes are recommended as per Ayurveda?**

Slow digestion, gas, and bloating occur when Vata in the colon combines with wrong food combinations in winter, leading to heaviness

despite strong seasonal Agni. Ritucharya for

Hemant-Shishir advises warm, unctuous, well-spiced meals taken on time, with minimal snacking on dry or packaged foods.

#### **Simple dietary changes:**

- **Favour:** Fresh, cooked, warm foods—kichadi, soups, one-pot meals—with hing, ajwain, jeera, and dry ginger for deepana-pachana

- **Avoid:** Cold water, carbonated drinks, excess bakery items, and eating late at night

- Encourage early dinner, slow eating, and short post-meal walks

#### **Children in our area are falling sick repeatedly during the school season. How can parents improve children's immunity naturally?**

School-going children face crowding, irregular eating, junk foods, and inadequate

sleep, which diminish ojas and immunity. Ayurveda suggests strengthening agni, maintaining a regular routine, and using gentle rasayana support rather than only treating repeated episodes.

#### **Suggestions for parents:**

- **Daily habits:** Fixed sleep-wake time, simple warm home-cooked food, and avoiding cold drinks, ice creams, and packed fried snacks on routine days

- **Protective support:** Age-appropriate chyawanprash, guduchi, tulsi-ginger herbal teas, and regular oil massage with mild sesame oil or prescribed baby oil to improve strength and resistance

#### **Expert Consultation**

**Dr. Smita Gaikwad**  
Ayurvedacharya | BAMS, EMS

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# ASK THE EXPERT

## Vastu & Astrology

In our fast-paced urban lives, many residents experience stress, delays, and a sense of imbalance—often without a clear reason. Through our Ask the Expert column, TownParle.in brings practical guidance from experienced professionals to help readers understand how Vastu and Astrology may influence daily life.

For the December 2025 issue, local readers from Vile Parle shared their concerns related to home harmony, career growth, mental peace, and children's education. Here are the expert responses by

**Jyotish Acharya Shubhamm Shaastri.**

**We stay in a small apartment in Vile Parle and cannot make any structural changes. Are there any simple Vastu remedies we can follow at home?**

Yes. Balancing the five elements—**Water, Air, Fire, Space, and Earth**—according to Vastu directions can help bring harmony even without structural changes.

Simple remedies include:

- Placing the **Mandir** in the **North-East** direction.
- Keeping a **bowl of water** in the **Northern zone** of the house
- Having the **master bedroom** in the **South-West** zone

These small adjustments can help balance Vastu energies effectively.

**There is constant stress and lack of peace in our house. How can we know if this is due to Vastu imbalance?**

Vastu imbalance, combined with negative aura, can be a reason for lack of peace at home.

Remedies include:

- Adding **turmeric and rock salt** to water and wiping the floor every **Saturday** to energise the house
- Placing a **piece of alum wrapped in black cloth** in the **North-West direction**, especially if lack of peace is linked to debts



**- Shubhamm Shaastri**

These practices help neutralise negative energies.

**Despite working hard, my career and business progress keeps getting delayed. Can astrology explain this?**

Yes. **Jupiter** plays a major role in career and business growth. When Jupiter is placed in the **6th, 8th, or 12th house**, it can cause delays.

A simple remedy is to **feed chapati and jaggery to a cow**, which helps strengthen Jupiter and supports growth in work and business.



**Many people suggest wearing gemstones. Is it safe to wear them without proper horoscope consultation?**

Gemstones should be worn **only under proper guidance from an expert astrologer.**

Wearing the correct gemstone can balance planetary energies.

However, wearing an incorrect gemstone may lead to **mental imbalance and financial stress**, so consultation is essential.

**My child is intelligent but lacks focus in studies. Are there any planetary reasons behind this?**

Yes. **Mercury** is the key planet for focus and learning. If Mercury is associated with **Rahu or Ketu**, it can lead to lack of concentration and weak decision-making abilities.



**Can astrology help in choosing the right time for important decisions like buying a house, starting a business, or marriage?**

Yes. Studying **Mahadasha** and **Vimshottari Mahadasha** helps in selecting the right timing for important life decisions such as property purchase, business ventures, and marriage.

### Expert Consultation



Vastu and Astrology are not about superstition, but about understanding energy balance and timing. While general remedies can support overall well-being, personalised guidance is always recommended for accurate and effective results.

Readers who wish to seek professional consultation may connect with **Jyotish Acharya Shubhamm Shaastri**

**8369202820/9819210995**



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**Cyber Crime & Digital Safety Awareness Program at Utkarsh Mandal**

With the rise in cyber crimes and online frauds, a Cyber Crime and Digital Safety Awareness Program has been organized at Utkarsh Mandal, Vile Parle on Saturday, 20 December.

The program aims to educate citizens about common cyber frauds such as lottery frauds, digital arrest scams, KYC scams, phishing, online shopping frauds, SMS, email and call scams, investment frauds, and



secure browsing practices. The session will focus on practical tips to help people protect themselves from online threats and financial losses.

The awareness initiative is being conducted with the support of Responsible Netism of Ahaan Foundation, with the objective of promoting safe, responsible, and informed use of digital platforms among citizens.

## **Vile Parle Gets a Modern 5-Storey Urban Health Centre**



Vile Parle has upgraded a single-storey Ayurvedic dispensary into a **five-storey Urban Health Centre**, improving healthcare facilities for local residents. The centre now offers **yoga, acupressure, ayurveda and allopathy services under one roof**.

The facility, named the **Shri Manohar Parrikar Urban Primary Health Centre and Ayurvedic Dispensary**, is located in **Ward 84**. It includes OPD services on the **1st and 2nd floor**, a **yoga and mental**

**wellness centre on the 5th floor, and a dialysis unit planned on the 3rd and 4th floor, which will start soon.**

The dialysis facility will help local kidney patients by reducing travel to distant hospitals and will offer treatment at **nominal BMC-approved rates**. The centre is expected to benefit **thousands of residents**, especially **senior citizens and economically weaker sections**, by providing affordable healthcare close to home.

## Parle Tilak Vidyalaya Excels at K.P. East Ward-Level Science Exhibition



Students and teachers of **Parle Tilak Vidyalaya English Medium School (Secondary Section)** delivered an impressive performance at the **K.P. East Ward-Level Science Exhibition**, held from **10 to 12 December 2025**, winning top honours in multiple categories.

In the **Junior Group Category**, the school secured the **First Prize** for the project titled "Bottles of Plastic Make Garden Fantastic". The project showcased the concept of **vertical farming**, demonstrating how everyday plastic bottles can be reused to grow microgreens, spring onions, garlic, pudina, ajwain, curry leaves and chillies. Based on the theme of '**waste to taste**', the project highlighted sustainable food

practices and environmental awareness.

The project was guided by **Mrs. Anjalee Bhoj**, with students **Ansh Jat, Aditya Varankar, Jivisha Vesawkar** and **Sthira Divekar** participating.

In the **Teaching Aid (Junior Category)**, **Mrs. Aditi Agashe** won the **Third Prize** for her project titled



"**Experiential Ways to Teach Angles**". The STEM-based teaching aid focused on hands-on learning by integrating mathematics with real-life observation, simple tools and creative activities. The project aims to enhance critical thinking, problem-solving skills and practical understanding among students.

The teaching aid has also been **selected for the Zonal-Level Competition**, adding to the school's achievement.

The school management expressed pride in the students and teachers for their dedication to **innovative, experiential and meaningful learning**, bringing recognition to the institution at the ward level.



## PTV ICSE U-14 Girls Volleyball Team Secures Third Place at MSSA Tournament



The Under-14 Girls Volleyball Team of Parle Tilak Vidyalaya (ICSE), Vile Parle (East) secured Third Position at the Dream Sports MSSA

**Under-14 Girls Volleyball Tournament**, held at **Shishuvan Sports Complex, Matunga**, from 10 to 15 December 2025.

The team delivered a commendable performance throughout the tournament, showcasing strong teamwork, discipline and competitive spirit against teams from across Mumbai.

The team members included **Swara Kamerkar, Prisha Rane, Kavya Mahadik, Aarohi Wagh, Prisha Salunkhe, Shanaya Manke, Smruti Bane, Kshitija Barge, Vedangi Bhatt, Tanishka Surve, Smera Halankar and Anoushka Panse.**

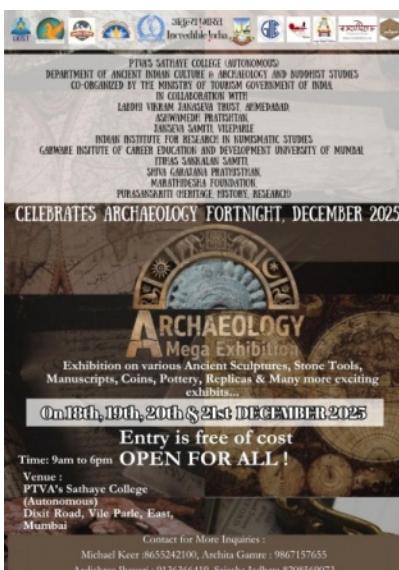


## Archaeology Mega Exhibition to be held at Sathaye College, Vile Parle East

An Archaeology Mega Exhibition will be organised at Sathaye College, Vile Parle East, from 18 to 21 December 2025, showcasing India's rich archaeological and scientific heritage.

The exhibition will feature archaeological artefacts, ancient coins from various dynasties, sculptures, manuscripts, stone tools, pottery, replicas, and informative panels related to archaeology and ancient civilisation.

**Janseva Samiti, Vile Parle**, will participate in the



exhibition with a special gallery on "Ancient Indian Astronomy," highlighting India's astronomical legacy.

The gallery will display working models of astronomical instruments, including replicas inspired by **Bhaskaracharya** and the **Jantar Mantar observatory** built by **Raja Jai Singh II** in Jaipur, along with detailed information panels.

The gallery is dedicated to the memory of **Late Prof. Mohanrao Apte**, founder of Janseva Samiti, and will also feature select books on astronomy authored by him.

The exhibition will be open daily from 9 am to 6 pm and is free for the public.



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# Gifting with Purpose

Insights from a Seasoned Gifting Professional



- Neha Gadodia & Townparle Team

As December ushers in the season of celebrations and year-end reflections, gifting naturally takes centre stage. To understand how gifting trends are evolving and how residents can make more meaningful choices, the TownParle.in team spoke with entrepreneur and gifting professional Neha Gadodia, who has

been working in the gifting space for over 17 years through Arc Iris.

Sharing her perspective, Neha believes that gifts do not need to be expensive to be impactful. "Thoughtful gifts, given at the right time and in the right spirit, can leave a lasting impression of positivity," she explains. According to her, happiness is not something that can be bought outright—it is created through emotions, intent, and connection.

During the interaction, Neha spoke about how gifting has moved beyond being limited to birthdays and anniversaries. Today, people gift to celebrate job promotions, personal milestones, or sometimes simply to make their loved ones feel special—without any particular reason. She adds that gifting is as much about how it makes the giver feel as it is about the recipient.



From a business perspective, Neha highlighted how organisations effectively use calendar milestones to build relationships. Occasions such as New Year, Makar Sankranti, Valentine's Day, and Women's Day are increasingly used to acknowledge clients, suppliers, and employees through thoughtful gestures, helping build long-term goodwill.

Speaking about current preferences, Neha noted a rising demand for personalised and utility-driven gifting solutions. Products such as customised diaries, conventional and electronic desktop calendars, visiting card holders, personalised pens, keychains, and curated gift sets continue to remain popular among both individuals and corporates.

She also pointed out that many Vile Parle residents seek guidance for family celebrations such as birthdays, baby showers, and anniversaries, where the focus is on meaningful gifting rather than just spending. Having served over 10,000 customers over the years, her experience helps clients choose options that offer value, relevance, and lasting recall.

For Parle residents, insights from experienced professionals like Neha provide clarity on how thoughtful gifting can strengthen relationships and spread positivity. As she sums it up, "When gifting is done with the right mindset, it becomes a powerful way to create happiness—for both the giver and the receiver."

Readers Interested in Exploring Personalised Gifting Options or Seeking Guidance may Connect with

**Neha Gadodia | 9820630931**





# Why Stress? When you can Tarot!!!

Let's take a sneak peek into 2026 and what it may hold for us. From the lens of Tarot cards, the year 2026 adds up to the number **10**, making it the year of **The Wheel of Fortune**. This compound number further reduces to **1**, bringing **The Magician** into influence as well.

The year 2026 is likely to bring significant changes, movement, and expansion, opening up opportunities across various areas of life. One may feel lucky when such situations arise, but it is important to recognise and seize these

opportunities when they appear. However, these chances may not last long, so being prepared with the right knowledge, resources, and attitude will be essential to make the most of them.

This year may also bring awards and recognition for efforts made in the past. Life in 2026 could feel like a whirlwind due to the speed at which events unfold, and at times this may feel overwhelming. It is important to pause, slow down when required, and allow yourself space to breathe. Growth and movement can also bring changes in location. Those



**Nupur Shriiram**  
Tarot Reader & Numerologist

considering relocation to a new city or country may find 2026 an ideal year to take that step. Opportunities related to promotion, travel, and expanding knowledge are likely, and students pursuing higher education may find favourable prospects overseas.

As the number **1** signifies new beginnings, 2026 encourages leaving behind what no longer serves you and embracing fresh starts. Take bold decisions and assume charge of your life. To



manifest new beginnings, it is important to release emotional or mental burdens and allow yourself to rise again. A positive shift in health is also indicated, offering a renewed sense of hope.

Individuals born on the **1st, 10th, 19th, or 28th** of any month are advised not to handle everything alone. Seeking support and listening to others can provide valuable perspectives.

The energy of number 1 carries strong leadership qualities, making such individuals natural entrepreneurs due to their self-motivation. However, balance is key – be gentle

with yourself and others, and avoid unnecessary self-criticism.

From a global perspective, 2026 may see the rise of progressive leadership, stronger laws, improved communication between nations, and growth in tourism. Environmental awareness will increase, with greater focus on recycling and renewing resources. Since Jupiter governs The Wheel of Fortune, optimism, generosity, financial growth, and advancements in education are likely themes. Mercury, influencing The Magician, highlights strong growth in travel, tourism, social media, advertising, communication, and the

performing arts. Sports, races, game shows, dance, and yoga are also expected to gain popularity.

Take chances – but do so wisely. Embrace the changes coming your way, remembering that nothing is permanent, especially in a year as dynamic as 2026.

After a challenging few years, this year promises improvement. Staying optimistic and resilient will help you navigate it successfully.

## Happy New Year

— MORE DETAILS —

**NUPUR SHRIIRAM**

Tarot Reader & Numerologist

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# — WHAT'S COMING IN —



A Sneak Peek into the **Joshi Family's** Year of Wisdom  
**December 2025 — A Special Prequel Chapter**

## A — ATTENTION

The winter breeze arrived a little early in Vile Parle (East) this year. Evenings felt softer, mornings gentler, and the familiar streets carried a quiet warmth — as if preparing for something new, something hopeful.

Inside the modest but cheerful Joshi household at Mumbai-400057, a silent transition was taking place. Not the dramatic kind with announcements and speeches, but the subtler kind that begins with small questions, softer realizations, and everyday moments most people overlook.

But the Joshi's were not **"most people."**

• **Prakash Joshi (50):**  
Thoughtful, Steady



**Prakash Joshi**  
(Ex-Banker & Freelance Educator)

• **Seema Joshi (45):** Warm, Wise

• **Chitra (21):** Stepping into Adulthood with Equal Parts Excitement and Confusion

• **Sneha (16) :** Bubbling with teenage Energy, Humour, and Emotions

Together, they were about to step into a year that would change everything:

Their choices. Their thinking. Their money. Their habits.

And most importantly... their relationship with themselves.

In December 2025, they didn't know that yet.

And that is exactly where our story begins.

## I — INTEREST

It was the first Sunday of December. The Joshi living room smelled of ginger chai and freshly fried poha. The TV was off, phones lay face down, and the whole family sat together — a rare moment when no one was rushing anywhere.

Sneha flopped onto the sofa dramatically.

"Why does December feel so emotional?"

Chitra laughed. "Because your exams are near?"

Sneha glared. "No. Because December makes me think... and I hate thinking."

Prakash chuckled softly. "December is the month of honesty, beta. It forces you to look back before you step forward."

Chitra gazed out of the window. "I feel that too. Like something big is waiting for us next year. Something I can't name yet."

Seema smiled knowingly. "These feelings usually come before something meaningful begins."

Even she sensed a shift – like a quiet knock on the door of life.

### The Small Incident That Changed Everything

That afternoon, while rearranging a drawer, Sneha found a tiny handwritten note that Prakash had scribbled months ago.

It read:

"We don't need to be rich.

We only need to be wise."

"Papa... did you write this for us?" she asked.

Prakash paused, a little surprised. "Maybe. Maybe not. But it's true. Wisdom makes even ordinary lives extraordinary."

Sneha folded the note carefully. "Feels like a clue for next year," she said.

Chitra nodded slowly. "Feels like a sign."

Prakash and Seema exchanged a glance – a silent parental understanding that their daughters were

finally noticing deeper things in life.

### The Seed of the Year of Wisdom

A few days later, something else happened. Something small – and yet, magic often begins in small ways.

The family visited a bookstore near Parle Tilak School. As they browsed, Seema picked up a simple notebook – cream cover, soft pages, nothing fancy.

"Mummy, why another notebook?" Sneha asked. "You already have like 27."

Seema smiled. "This one is different. This one is for 2026 – the year we become wiser."

Chitra raised an eyebrow. "Wiser how? Spiritually? Emotionally? Financially?"

"Everything," Seema replied.

Prakash added gently, "A year doesn't change you. But what you learn in it does."

Sneha whispered, "I'm getting goosebumps for no reason."

"Same," Chitra replied.

They didn't know it yet, but this notebook would soon become a family treasure – filled with thoughts, reflections, lessons, emotions, small wins, and big realizations.

The notebook that would become:

The Joshi Family's Year of Wisdom.

### D – DESIRE

As December days passed, the Joshis began noticing patterns – small, but powerful:

- Sneha pausing to ask herself why she wanted to buy something

- Chitra wondering why she felt anxious at night

- Seema thinking twice before spending

- Prakash becoming even calmer and more observant

It felt as though the universe was quietly preparing them for the next twelve months.

One evening, as a light drizzle misted the balcony grills, Sneha asked, "Didi... do you think next year will be different?"

Chitra replied, "I don't know. But I feel we'll understand ourselves better."

Prakash leaned back in his chair. "Some years give you achievements. Some give you memories. But some years... give you clarity. Rare years. Precious years."

Seema added softly, "And 2026 feels like that kind of year."

"OMG," Sneha said, half-joking, "future me is already crying."

Everyone laughed, but quietly, in their own hearts, each of them knew:

2026 would be the year they grow – together.

## A – ACTION

On the last night of December 2025, the family gathered around the dining table.

Seema opened the new cream notebook.

Prakash brought four pens.

Chitra lit a small diya.

Sneha placed the tiny note she had found earlier in the center of the table:

"We don't need to be rich.

We only need to be wise."

Together, on the very first page, they wrote:

"2026 – The Year of Wisdom."

"What do we write next?" Sneha asked softly.

Prakash smiled. "We don't write. We live. We learn. And the lessons will write themselves."

Chitra added, "And maybe we'll share our journey with others too."

Seema looked at her daughters with deep affection. "We will. Because wisdom grows when shared."

And so, quietly... gently... beautifully...

The year of transformation began – not on January 1st, but on this very night.

The night they promised themselves:

- Not to chase more, but to understand better.
- Not to run faster, but to live wiser.
- Not to earn blindly, but to grow mindfully.

### **And Dear Reader,**

Starting next month, you will walk with them –

month by month, lesson by lesson – as the Joshi family discovers how ordinary

people become extraordinary...

when they choose wisdom.

### **Polished Magazine Teaser**

What if one ordinary year could transform an entire family?

Meet the Joshis of Vile Parle (East) – a warm, witty, relatable household about to begin a remarkable journey of clarity, emotions, savings, value, patience, and smart choices.

Starting January 2026, follow sisters Chitra and Sneha as everyday chaos turns into eye-opening MONEYSMART lessons – funny, heartfelt, and full of gentle wisdom from their parents.

***Small Moments.***

***Big Insights.***

***A Year of Transformation  
is Coming.***

***Stay Tuned.***



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# The New Tata Sierra

## A Classic Name Reimagined for the Tech-Driv

Tata Motors has revived an icon, and this time, it is more than just nostalgia.

The Tata Sierra is a name that instantly connects with Indian car lovers who grew up in the 1990s. Back then, it was bold, different, and ahead of its time. With the all-new Tata Sierra, the brand has attempted something similar by bringing back a legendary name and completely reworking it for today's tech-savvy and comfort-seeking SUV buyer.

This new Sierra is not a retro remake. Instead, it is a thoroughly modern mid-size SUV that blends bold design,

smart technology, and practical performance, making it one of Tata's most ambitious launches in recent years.

### **Design: Familiar Yet Completely Modern**

At first glance, the new Sierra makes a strong visual statement. Tata has retained subtle design cues inspired by the original, most notably the distinctive glass area and the strong shoulder line, but everything else feels futuristic. The SUV carries a wide stance, clean body lines, LED lighting elements, and a floating roof design that gives it a premium road presence.

The design feels mature rather than flashy. It is the kind of car that looks equally confident outside an office building or on a weekend highway drive. Tata has clearly focused on creating a design that will age well over time.

### **Interior and Technology: Where Sierra Truly Shines**

Step inside the Tata Sierra and the tech-forward approach becomes obvious. The cabin feels modern, airy, and well thought out. The highlight is the triple-screen layout, which includes a digital instrument cluster, a large infotainment screen, and a passenger-side display, something still rare in this segment.





The interior materials feel premium, with soft-touch surfaces and a clean dashboard design. Features such as a panoramic sunroof, ventilated seats, a premium audio system, wireless charging, and ambient lighting make the Sierra feel closer to luxury SUVs than mainstream competitors.

For tech-focused buyers, this is where the Sierra gains a clear advantage.

## Engines and Driving Experience

Tata offers the Sierra with both petrol and diesel engine options, catering to a wide audience. The engines are tuned for balanced performance rather than outright aggression. In city driving, the Sierra feels smooth and easy to handle, while on highways it remains stable and confident.

Multiple transmission options, including automatic variants, ensure that both daily commuters and long-

distance drivers find a suitable configuration. Ride comfort is a strong point, especially on rough city roads where Tata's suspension tuning works well.

This is not a performance SUV, but it is a comfortable and dependable one, exactly what most Indian families look for.

## Safety and Driver Assistance

Safety is an area where Tata Motors has consistently raised the bar, and the Sierra continues that trend. The SUV comes equipped with multiple airbags, electronic stability control, a 360-degree camera, and advanced driver assistance features such as adaptive cruise control and lane assist.

For families and first-time SUV buyers, these features provide reassurance and add real value beyond just brochure highlights.

## Space, Comfort and Practicality

The Sierra comfortably

seats five adults, with ample legroom and headroom in both rows. The boot space is generous, making it suitable for weekend trips and airport runs alike. Practical storage spaces inside the cabin further enhance daily usability. Whether it is office commuting, school drop-offs, or long drives, the Sierra handles everyday demands with ease.

## Pricing and Variants

The Tata Sierra is expected to be priced from around ₹11.5 lakh ex-showroom, going up to approximately ₹21 lakh for fully loaded variants. While the higher trims may feel slightly premium, the feature list and safety technology justify the pricing.

Positioned against rivals like the Hyundai Creta, Kia Seltos, and Maruti Grand Vitara, the Sierra stands out by offering a more technology-rich and safety-focused package.

The new Tata Sierra is not just a comeback, it is a statement. It successfully bridges Tata's legacy with modern expectations, offering a strong mix of design, technology, comfort, and safety. For buyers looking for something distinctive yet practical in the mid-size SUV segment, the Sierra deserves serious consideration.



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