



## A tribute to our Konknni ancestors.

**Panji – Goa, December 29, 2014:** At about midday today I visited the Goa inquisition tower in Old Goa and offered tributes and prayers to my Konknni ancestors that were persecuted, suffered and even died as a consequence of the Goa inquisition. In all the fun-fare of activities we conduct and go through daily, we have forgotten the suffering and pain our peaceful innocent ancestors underwent at the hands of the Goa inquisition. We remember martyrs of all types including the konknni language martyrs a few decades ago. However, these ancestors who suffered unimaginable pain and suffering for absolutely no fault of theirs are forgotten.

They were tortured inhumanly and so were their women and children many of who were infants. There is not even a plaque beside the inquisition tower. I wish we all pay tribute to them.

Those with vested interests destroyed records of this inquisition. The absence of records of the Goa inquisition does not disprove the fact that the inquisition in Goa was one of the – if not the – longest, cruelest and most torturous inquisition mankind has experienced. Our ancestors endured this for over two hundred years. The subsequent efforts and actions of those responsible for the inquisition have made insignificant and trivial the martyrdom of our humble ancestors. Today, I offered my ancestors some flowers and prayers. I asked them to dissolve all grudges or urges to retaliate and to pardon those that did these hurtful things. This is the only way to ensure “sovoskai amchea sovem”. On behalf of those that suffered and died at this inquisition tower in Old Goa, I - one of their descendants - pray reconciliation, forgiveness and peace to their persecutors and to all of us Konkannistas. I urge all my Konknan brethren to remember and pay tribute to our ancestors whenever possible and especially at this time of the year.



“Nomoskar ani Dev borem korum”  
Konkn’no Vijay Naik.  
December 29, 2014