

FAMILY PORTRAITS: WHY THEY ARE IMPORTANT MORE THAN EVER

By Pallav Mishra

Have you ever thought and wondered how you would survive these months of lockdown if not in the loving embrace of family members who give meaning to your existence. In their company you are closest one can be to the purpose of life. You have been held together by a legacy of love that has transcended down a line of generations. And sometimes to take a dip in that pool of legacy, you open the window to your past and a joyous symphony steals your spirit away into its waves. For in the words of John Keats-



PRIYA GOSWAMI PHOTOGRAPHY

*A thing of beauty is a joy forever:
Its loveliness increases; it will never
Pass into nothingness; but still will keep
A bower quiet for us, and a sleep
Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet breathing.*



FAMILIES & GENERATIONS - FRAMED

Human kind has a natural tendency to preserve a thing of beauty and appreciate its precious. The time, as it passes, adorns them as well as the eyes of viewer. Its loveliness increases as the impermeable layers of past makes it impossible to find its replacement. And that is the reason we love and cherish our family albums. We grow with it as a vintage layer deposits on it guarding the truest essence of the moments captured in it. Ageing is the sign of life, and that makes the hard copy of a photo album livelier than the soft copy of photographs in the gallery of our phone. An album lets you make yourself a part of a tradition of memories, which is grand and illustrious, making way for your future generations to join in.

IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY PORTRAITS

Earlier, families were bigger and communication was slow and so photographs were the most enhanced artificial method to document a family tree. With advancement in technology, the world changed and photography became as popular and common as dancing, singing and poetry. Even the purposes of photographs changed. They seized to just be used for preserving memories but found other applications as well, such as- communication, expression, documentation, verification etc. Photographs became so common that not much remained special and personal about it.

All this happened so fast that we did not even have time to realize the importance of having a family portrait. Not until it became long since all our family members came together, or a moment worth being kept from passing passed by. That moment could be any normal day at our home when all our loved ones are together sharing a beautiful time together. What has changed during the decades is, we all have become busier and these memories are becoming just a part of our phone galleries.





THE ART OF FAMILY PORTRAITURE

It is not rare to find moments worth preserving as a photograph in our lives; there is always someone to welcome, part or live with. There are family occasions, moments or some milestone life events such as a marriage anniversary, a birthday, a kid leaving for higher studies. All these instances are special due to the uniqueness of emotions associated with them. We recount our past with our friends and families by the mention of such occasions in our lives.

And such emotions and expressions can be best photographed in the comfort and familiarity of a place you call home, where they have been nourished. This calls for someone whose skills are polished enough to let the warmth of your family bonds become evident in their newfound company. That someone becomes very important when it comes to the art of family portraiture.

Priya Goswami is one such photographer who specializes in shooting in the comfort of a home environment without disrupting the routine life. She believes the technical parts and skills related to the art of family portrait photography is something a photographer can bring along, but only the ease of familiar environment can bring about the naturalness of the abstract a good family portrait requires.

She recalls an anecdote when a family approached her for a photoshoot of their child and she suggested they go for a family session. She shares, “the reason I asked them for a home shoot was because the babies are most comfortable when surrounded by their own people. It was winters and the baby was turning one.” Without much ado the photoshoot was conducted as the baby got into her warm woolies and had a merry time with her parents and Priya.



FINE ART SERIES PROJECT

A project special to her heart, this is a unique series of family portraits. These images capture the essence of a family laying the entire focus on them without any background distractions. It brings out the most quintessential nature of your family bonds by limiting all that does not contribute in its reflection. Each piece in this series is worth being framed.




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About the Photographer

A freelance professional photographer, Priya Goswami is passionate about clicking babies, kids and family portraiture. Masters in Marketing and Brand Management, who went on to pursue a career in photography after a decade long corporate stint, Priya has always loved photography and documenting life/people in her own unique style. It was while pursuing a course in photography in 2015 along with her job she chose to follow her passion instead of a paycheck.

She specializes in home shoots making the session a comfortable one. Often, when asked about the right time and age to get family pictures done, she always says, "the moment you think it is, that's the right time!"

Priya is based in Delhi/NCR and travels across the country for assignments.

Contact:

9911000716

www.priyagoswami.com