



In Search of the Truth

June - August 2009

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NEWSLETTER OF THE ZOROASTRIAN SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone:

This is your summer newsletter, and so it's time to hear from me again.

First, I would like to draw the attention of our Zoroastrian youth to the **12th North American Zoroastrian Youth Congress to take place in Fremont, California, over the July long weekend (July 1-5)**. Registration costs for this congress are very reasonable. ZSBC will also provide a subsidy of \$250 each to 2 registrants from BC who will go to Fremont and showcase Vancouver and our congress in a 20-minute presentation. Attending this congress could be one of the highlights of your life—you will make new friends, enjoy participating in several events with youth sharing a common religion and heritage, get in some sightseeing, and perhaps even find the partner of your dreams. So, take this chance and go attend this worthy event. Bring back your experiences from the event so you can help us in organizing our congress in 2011.

While urging Zoroastrian youth to go to the congress, I would also like to draw their attention to the fact that the ZYBC executive is trying very hard to organize events locally. Please make an effort to acknowledge these efforts with your attendance. ZYBC executive members are listed on our website (www.zsbc.org), and would appreciate hearing from you—new ideas, comments, or suggestions will be welcomed.

I am also pleased to inform you that the ZSBC Board and the Arbab Rostum Guiv Darbe Mehr (ARGDM for short) Trustees had a very positive and fruitful meeting on May 10 regarding a **new Darbe Mehr**. This meeting was particularly enlightening as Zoroastrian youth and members from the building trades in our community were also present. The general consensus was that the **existing location needs to be replaced with larger, more updated premises** to better serve the needs of our community. With this in mind ZSBC and the ARGDM trustees are going to pro-actively pursue fundraising. The wish for a new Darbe Mehr can only be fulfilled if we all commit to regular giving. Our intent is to encourage pre-authorized or debit commitments from our members. Fundraising details will be sent out by e-mail, and followed-up by telephone contact from the New Darbe Mehr committee members. Please support this venture, for the sake of the Z kids who are the future of our community.

Finally, you are all invited to the ZSBC Annual General Meeting to be held on June 21, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. It is important that you take the time to do so (even though there are no elections for officers this year). Get an update on what's happened over the past year, view the financials, and give us your input. Remember, that if you don't vote, you don't really have a right to complain!

Have a great summer.

Kashmira Suraliwalla
ZSBC President.

ZSBC Board of Directors:

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Kashmira Suraliwalla | President | (604) 272 3784 |
| Jessi Partovi | Secretary | (604) 232 4401 |
| Farrokh Namdaran | Honorary Treasurer | (604) 926.9733 |
| Mehernosh Kasad | Youth & Sports | (604) 214 0578 |
| Farhad Roueintan | Socials | (778) 232 4456 |
| Faramarz Soroushi | Maintenance & Seniors | (604) 518 0654 |
| Houman Abtin | Education | (604) 568 9828 |

HEARTY HOME CATERING

Having a party but strapped for time?

Give us a try! Let us handle all your catering needs; from Indian (Parsi and Mughlai), to Chinese, to hearty Western dishes.

We specialize in delicious appetizers, main courses, salads, and a variety of desserts, all at reasonable cost and free delivery on orders for 20+ people.

Contact: Hutoxi Dadimaster at (778) 571-1272

2009 SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABILITYS:

1. Zoroastrian Society of BC (ZSBC) Scholarships:

The Scholarship Committee of ZSBC invites members' children who have completed their Higher Secondary School examination, and achieved no less than 71% marks to be eligible for consideration. These scholarships are based on merit, community involvement and service, etc., and are aimed at assisting students to continue post-secondary studies in a college, university or technical institution. Application forms are available from ZSBC's web at <http://www.zsbc.org>. or from Bella Tata (604) 681 5250, Homi Italia (604) 438 2076, Fariborz Rahnamoon (604) 986 2077, Dinaz Mizan (604) 270 4077 or Farrokh Namdaran (604) 926 9733. Completed application forms, Grade XII marks and a one-page write-up about achievements should be submitted by September 7, 2009 to: The Scholarship Committee of ZSBC, 6900 Halifax Street - Burnaby, B.C. V5B 2R5.

2. FEZANA Academic Scholarships:

Applications are invited for the FEZANA Academic Scholarship, the Meheraban & Morvorid Kheradi Endowment Scholarship, Banoobai and Maneckshaw Kapadia (BMK) Endowment Scholarship. All scholarships are open to Zarthushti applicants who have obtained admission for attendance at institutions of higher learning (accredited degree-granting colleges or universities) in USA or Canada. Applicants will be rated on Scholastic Achievement (40%), Financial Need (40%), Extracurricular Activities (10%) and Community Service (10%). Application forms are available from the FEZANA web site at <http://www.fezana.org>.

3. Mehraban & Paridokht Zartoshty Education Association Fund Scholarship:

Applications are invited from Zarthushtis students who are legal permanent residents of BC and are enrolled to study in the second or subsequent year in a technical institution, college or university in Canada or the United States. Also Zarthushtis students who are not permanent residents of BC but have enrolled to study for the second or subsequent year in a technical institution, college or university in BC are eligible. The closing date for submitting completed application is August 31, 2009. The criteria and application form can be accessed from <http://www.ancientiran.com>

CONGRATULATIONS:

To Shirin Jangi and Kikhosrow Kadkhoda, on the birth of their daughter JAZMINE, on February 19, 2009 in Vancouver.

To Riyaz and Jennifer Deshmukh, on the birth of their son DARCY ETHAN, on March 22, 2009 in Vancouver,

To Zubin and Arman Mehrabadi, sons of Roozbeh Mehrabadi and Farah Shroff, for their Navjote/Sedreh Pushi performed at Darbe Mehr in Burnaby on May 16, 2009.

CONDOLENCES:

Mr. Rostam Shahbandari, husband of Shirin father of Khodabakhsh, Katayun and Parisa, father in law of Zaryab Hamavand and Shahram Mehrrostami passed away in North Vancouver at noon on 31 March 2009.

Banou Behizadeh, 90 years, sister of Zomorod Shahriari (aunt of Shervin Shahriari), passed away in North Vancouver on May 16 2009.

Mino Daruwala, 78 years, husband of Bakhtawar, father of Percy Daruwalla (Burnaby, B.C.) and Kashmira, passed away in Mumbai on February 5, 2009.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

All events are at the Arbab Rustam Guiv Darbe Mehr, 6900 Halifax Street, Burnaby – unless otherwise specified.

Apart from the events listed below, which are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances, the Darbe Mehr will be kept open by a group of our members, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Vrahraum Eezad (Verahram Rooz) which falls on: Monday June 8th, Wednesday July 8th, Friday August 7th 2009 and Sunday September 6th, 2009.

The Darbe Mehr will be kept open from 11:00am to 1:00 pm on Sundays when religious & Farsi classes will be held. The last class (before Summer Break) is on Sunday June 14th. (For Graduation ceremony, see details of June 28th)

Sunday June 14: Annual Pir-e Saabz event at Shannon Falls. For further details contact Feraydoon Demehri at (604) 926 9891

Sunday June 21: 41st Annual General meeting (registration begins at 2:00 p.m.) All Zarthushtis are welcome to attend the AGM. Please also refer to the “Agenda of the 41st Annual General Meeting” enclosed with this newsletter. Light refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Sunday, June 28 at 11:00 a.m. Zarthushtis Children Class Graduation Ceremony. Venue: **TBD**. Please await further updates either via emails or through Zoroastrian study class. You may also contact Houman Abtin or Shiraz Italia for further details.

Sunday, July 5th 10:30am: "Walk for Renovation of Darbe Mehr" – About 3 km walk will be at Deer Lake in Burnaby. Plenty of parking and beautiful surroundings. Registration fee \$15 including a BBQ lunch. Register by July 1, 2009. For further details call Homi Italia (604) 438-2076 or Behramshah Mizan (604) 270- 4077.

Friday, August 14 to Tuesday, August 18: Weekdays at 6.30 p.m. onwards, Saturday and Sunday, August 15 & 16, at 11.00 a.m.: Muktaf/Gatha Prayers – Vase spot can be reserved for \$50. Please note that maximum of 3 names per vase will be recited during prayers. Please register with Mehernosh Kasad (604) 214 0578 or Kashmiri Suraliwalla (604) 272 3784 to book a vase spot, sponsor meals and/or volunteer.

Saturday, August 22: 6:30 p.m. to midnight: Pateti/Navroze Celebration Directors of The Zoroastrian Society of British Columbia (ZSBC) invites you all to celebrate the Pateti/Navroze function on Saturday, August 22 from 6:30 pm to midnight at Cheers Banquet Hall - 125 East 2nd St. in North Vancouver. Tickets will go on sale beginning on August 1st on a "first come, first served" basis and from the following individuals:

Yasmin Kapadia at 604.439-3066; **Dinaz Mizan** at 604.270-4077; **Farrokh Namdaran** at 604.926-9733.

Ticket Prices: Adults & Youth over 12 years of age: Members @ \$30, Non-Members @ \$45.

Youth 3-12: Members @ \$15, Non-Members @ \$20.

Kids under 3 Free, first 7. Thereafter @ \$10 each.

For further details you may also contact our Socials Director, Farhad Rouentien on (778) 232 4456.

Sunday September 13: Annual Sports Day, Mahon Park, North Vancouver. For registration and more details please contact Mehernosh Kasad (604) 214 0578.

Sunday, September 20: Seniors Picnic: Time and Venue to be announced later. For details please contact Socials Director, Farhad Rouentien (778) 232 4456.