



# ZAPANJ

ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW JERSEY

Newsletter October 2004

www.zapanj.org

**President:** Cyrus B. Toorkey    **Vice President:** Banoo Karanjia

**Treasurer:** Cyrus Mehta    **Secretary:** Aban Singh

**Joint Secretary:** Khorshed Vakil-Unwalla

## Past news to share:



### August 23 - The Pateti Function

Our Pateti function and the celebration of 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ZAPANJ association was a great success. Over 150 people attended the function, which far exceeded our expectation of 80-100 people. Though it was a bit tight to accommodate everyone at this venue, nonetheless it was great to have everyone present. Especially the variety of entertainment provided at this year's function by our very own members was a great hit with one and all. Participation from our very youngest members to our oldest members was wonderful. Fashion parade by the youngest Zarthustis was fantastic, followed by presentation of the Good Life Emblem Award to *Monaz Kanga*. Next was a game show where you had to guess Parsi surnames. Lastly, the two highlights of the evening were a smashing hit with the crowd - a dance performance by one of our newly married couple - *Farzad* and *Nazneen Irani*, and a hilarious Natak "*Chalo Video Layea*". We also honored one of our founding members of ZAPANJ - *Ervad Adi Unwalla* with a shawl and small citation. And, of course no function would be complete without the raffles tickets, wherein a

surprise element in the prizes made it great fun. The food was delicious, and the music was upbeat. Everyone had a gala time dancing the evening away. Even some of our shy members were carried away with the moment and couldn't resist a trip to the dance floor! Way to go ZAPANJ!!!



**Prayer Class:** Thanks to our cooks for a delicious meal at the September prayer class. Cooks for this class were *Behnaz Toorkey*, *Phiroza Stoneback*, and *Havovi Jokhi*.

**Gambhar News:** We celebrated our Gambhar on October 3, 2004 and everyone enjoyed the Dhansak, kababs and the delicious food. Thanks to *Jehan* and *Behroz Kasad* for sponsoring the Gambhar for the fifth year. Thanks also to our priests *Ervads-Adi Unwalla*, *Adil Masani*, *Minocher Dadachanji* and *Sam Bapasola* for conducting the prayers. Our youngsters *Darayus Toorkey* and *Kyra Singh* read their papers on the "The Contributions of the Achaeminian Dynasty" and "The Five Gehs", respectively as one of their requirements for the Good Life Emblem Award. *Cyrus Toorkey* thanked the volunteers for various jobs of cooking, setting up and cleaning, and *Freny Ranji* for coordinating this event. Prayer class for the month of October was held shortly thereafter.

## Future events to participate in

### ZACUCE Fundraiser:

Mark your calendar for the second fundraiser to be hosted by ZACUCE on November 26, 2004. Please refer to the attached flyer for details. For tickets, contact *Freny Ranji* at (856) 854-2251.

One of the exciting highlights of this event will be a raffle of a **hand embroidered** GARA donated by *Naju Davar* from Bombay. Ticket for the raffle is only \$10.00 and can be obtained from any of the ZACUCE committee members. Please come forward and purchase more than one ticket to increase your chance of winning this beautiful piece of work and support ZACUCE in their fundraising efforts. Also, there is a raffle ticket for one round trip ticket from the US to India courtesy of Air India for just \$10.00 or three raffle tickets for \$25.00. Spurred by the success of the Natak at Pateti function, there will be another Parsi Natak performance.

A brochure is being printed for this event also. Please refer to the Flyer.

The evening promises to be fun, vibrant and an event to remember. Students over 10 years are especially encouraged to attend, as this will be a cultural experience for them and remember students pay only half the price per ticket. COME ONE AND ALL, bring your friends, families, and relax and enjoy!



**November Prayer:** The November class will be held in New Jersey at 4.30 pm. As always, please remember to bring a topi or scarf for use during the Humbandagi.



### Community News



### Cruise information:

*Travelsource Network* is arranging the Second Annual Zoroastrian cruise on popular demand. This is a 13-day cruise of the Amazon commencing on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2005, aboard the luxury liner "Marco Polo" of Orient Lines. If you are interested, call *Dela Kooka* at 1-800-561-9999 ext.334 or 905-468-0405 or send e-mail to *delatravelcogeco.ca*

**Congratulations:** to *Natasha, Ninoshka* and *Kyra Singh* on their initiation into the Zoroastrian faith. Their Navjote took place in August at the Darbe-be-Mehr in Toronto, Canada.

**Change of address:** *Farzin* and *Vasee Sivasegaran* have moved to 107 Victoria Court, Malvern PA 19355. Their new phone number is (610) 296-4074.



### Our Youngest members:

Congratulations to *Jehangir* and *Betty Appoo* on the birth of their daughter *Aria Shanaiya Appoo* on October 1<sup>st</sup> 2004.

We also welcome the birth of twin boys, *Zachary* and *Sam Irani* to *Zena* and *Jhangir Irani*, grandsons to *Roshan* and *Jimmy Bharucha* of Rosemont, PA and *Arnavaz* and *Gustad Irani* of Boca Raton, Florida on September 22, 2004 in Bryn Mawr, PA.

**Condolences** Our heartfelt condolences to the *Mistry* family. *Khorshed Mistry's* father *Dhanjishaw Billimoria* passed away recently in Bombay.

Condolences to the *Tehsildar* family on the sudden demise of *Tehmina Telsildar*, mother of *Tehmtan Telsildar* in Washington D.C

Also, our prayers are with the *Bagli* family. *Shiraz Bagli* daughter of *Dr. Jehan* and *Freny Bagli* passed away in July in Toronto Canada.



**New arrivals:** Please add these names to your phone directory. *Fali* and *Zarine Sidhva*: New phone no. is (610) 935-2857

*Jehangir* and *Betty Appoo*, 8 Rex Avenue, Apt 4, Philadelphia, PA 19118.  
E-mail address: [Bettym\\_a@hotmail.com](mailto:Bettym_a@hotmail.com).  
*Jehangir* is a cardiac surgeon at the Hospital of University of Philadelphia.

*Kairus Rudina*: 304 Aster Way Warrington, PA 18976. Phone (215) 491-2346 [e-mail: kjrcu@aol.com](mailto:kjrca@aol.com). *Kairus* works at General Mills and is a graduate of Cornell University.

*Farok* and *Pamela Contractor*: 23 Bluebird Court, Flemington, NJ 02822. E-mail: [FJContractor@earthlink.net](mailto:FJContractor@earthlink.net)

*Hilla* and *Amrendra (Ammie) Singh* –are previous members of ZAPANJ who have recently returned to our area. Their new address is 38 Edgewater Dr., Hainesport, NJ 08036. Phone: (609) 578-9351.

**An Appeal from Mumbai:** The Liaison Committee for Organization of Parsi Charities and Social Services in Mumbai is requesting for assistance and donations from members and well wishers in USA. This organization is a Family and Welfare agency rendering services in the field of Health Education and Welfare. They sew sadras and pajamas and organize children's activities as well as conduct counseling

services for parents and children. This appeal was requested to us via *Cawas Cooper*, one of our members whose masi, *Mrs. Freny Gandhi* is an active social worker at this organization. If you would like to make a donation, send your donation to *Cawas Cooper*, 2165 Stonewall Drive, Macungie, PA 18062. Phone: (610) 481-9165. Or, send the donation directly to Zoroastrian Association Bldg, Chikalwadi, Tardeo, Mumbai 400007. Checks should be made out to *Parsi Panchayat Bombay*. Your generous support will be greatly appreciated and used for a good cause.

**Good Educational Zoroastrian Resource:** Per our life member, *Mr. Mehr Soroushian*, the following sites are good for information on Zoroastrianism: <http://www.vohuman.org> Several interesting books are available on this site also: <http://www.1stbooks.com/bookview/19940>.

**For your Information:** *Ervad Dara Sinor* was also, one of the Dastoorjis who conducted the prayers, for the Mukta ceremony held in August.

**Honor Bestowed:** One of our very own Zoroastrians *Mr. Homi Gandhi* from New York was invited to ring the Bell on August 19, 2004 at the New York Stock Exchange at 9:30 a.m. This was a great honor bestowed on *Mr. Gandhi*, and we all feel very proud to know him.

**United Way Donations:** United Way donations are under way for all charity institutions and organizations. Please choose ZAPANJ as one of your agency to receive United Way contributions. ZAPANJ is registered with the many agencies. Please refer to the last page of our phone and address directory for various listings.