



ZAPANJ

ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW JERSEY
Newsletter February 2005

www.zapanj.org

President: Cyrus B. Toorkey **Vice President:** Banoo Karanjia
Treasurer: Cyrus Mehta **Secretary:** Aban Singh
Joint Secretary: Khorshed Vakil-Unwala

Elections for the ZAPANJ Board of Trustees: It's time again for elections for the next two-year term 2005-2007. Per constitution of our association, a member can serve on the board for a maximum period of four years, and at least four years must elapse before a past board member can run for an election to the board again. Four members of the current Board of Trustees (Cyrus Toorkey, Banoo Karanjia, Cyrus Mehta and Aban Singh) are finishing two consecutive terms (four years) of serving on the Board and thus will no longer be eligible to continue. Therefore, four positions will become vacant, which must be filled at the next Annual General Meeting of the Zoroastrian Association of PA and NJ on Saturday, March 19, 2005. We urge each and every member of the association in good standing to consider joining the board and serving your community. Effort or time commitment to serve on the board is as much or as little as you put into it. The board meetings are held as and when needed or as often as the board calls them. Please give serious consideration to becoming a member of the board and submit your nomination form as soon as possible but no later than **March 12, 2005**. You can either nominate yourself or nominate someone else. Nomination form is attached below. If you have any questions, feel free to call any of the board members.

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ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW JERSEY NOMINATION FORM

To: The President, ZAPANJ

I, _____, a ZAPANJ member in good standing wish to submit my nomination or wish to nominate _____ as a candidate for election to the ZAPANJ Board of Trustees for the two-year term 2005–2007 at the Annual General Meeting on Saturday, March 19, 2005. Please accept my nomination.

Signature _____ **Date** _____
Nominee

Mail the completed form postmarked no later than March 12, 2005 to *Cyrus Toorkey* at Cameo Drive, Cherry Hill NJ 08003 by **March 12th**.

**ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW JERSEY
PROXY FORM**

To: The President, ZAPANJ

I, _____, a ZAPANJ member in good standing hereby appoint _____ as a Proxy with full powers of substitution to vote on my behalf for the election of the ZAPANJ Board of Trustees for the two-year term 2005–2007 at the Annual General Meeting on Saturday, March 19, 2005. This proxy revokes any proxy previously given.

Signature _____ Date _____

If a Proxy's name is left blank, the President's name shall be entered. If not dated, this Proxy is deemed to bear the date on which it was received.

Mail the completed form postmarked no later than March 12, 2005 to *Cyrus Toorkey* at Cameo Drive, Cherry Hill NJ 08003 by **March 12th**.

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Membership Dues: It is time to renew the ZAPANJ membership for the calendar year 2005. If you are not a member of ZAPANJ yet, we urge you to become one. Please mail your check to *Khorshed Vakil Unwala* payable to ZAPANJ. Membership fee check can be mailed together with your Navroze payment. Please make sure that there are two separate checks, one for Navroze and the other for membership dues. Please note that FEZANA dues (\$2.00 per family per year) need to be paid even if you are a Life Member and do not owe ZAPANJ annual dues.

2005 ZAPANJ ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES:

- Life Membership = \$300 plus \$2/family/year FEZANA dues
- Family Membership = \$35 plus \$2/family/year FEZANA dues
- Single Membership = \$20 plus \$2/family/year FEZANA dues
- Student Membership = \$10 plus \$2/family/year FEZANA dues

MEMBERSHIP DUES FORM

Please make a check payable to ZAPANJ and mail it along with the attached slip to:

Khorshed Vakil-Unwala, 136 Spruce Lane, Collegeville, PA 19426

Name _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Address _____

Type of Membership requested: Life _____ Family _____ Single _____ Student _____



ZAPANJ

CELEBRATES



NAVROZE



AT

BOMBAY CUISINE



SATURDAY
MARCH 19, 2005

FROM 6:00 PM – 11:00 PM

(Annual General Meeting 6.30-7.30 pm)

COME AND ENJOY
FOOD, FUN, MUSIC, and DANCE
WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

ADDRESS: BOMBAY CUISINE, HOWARD JOHNSON EXPRESS INN, 2389 ROUTE 70 WEST, CHERRY HILL, NJ-08002

TEL 856-317-1900 FAX: 856-317-0800

Please note, we will not be able to entertain any cancellations and no refunds will be made.

All checks sent after March 5 will be charged at \$35.00 without any exception. Call Khorshed Unwala (610-831-0716) before the due date to make reservations prior to sending your check.

NAVROZE DINNER REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

of members: _____ # of non-members: _____

Total amount on enclosed check: \$ _____

_____	Adult Members	@ \$25 per person
_____	Student Members	@ \$20 per person
_____	Children (3-12 years)	@ \$15 per person
_____	Children (13-18 years)	@ \$17 per person
_____	**Kids meal (Under 12)	@ 12 per person
_____	Non-Members	@ \$35 per person

***Strictly* for kids under 12 years who opt for Kids meal, Macaroni & Cheese and Chicken Nuggets for dinner, chips for appetizer and ice cream for dessert will be served. No food will be allowed from the buffet table. Call *Khorshed Unwala* in advance for this menu.

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Since this is an election year, we request that all dinner attendees and members stop at the reception desk to confirm membership and pick up ballot for election. Thank you

Past news to share

Condolences:

Our deepest sympathies and condolences to *Freny Ranji* on the sad demise of her dear husband, *Jamshed Ranji*, who passed away on 28th December 2004. Jamshed Uncle, as he was universally known, was from Dar-el-Salem and settled in the United States since 1971. He worked as an Insurance Adjustor in New Jersey Pennsylvania and Delaware. He is survived by his wife *Freny*, and three sons *Neville*, *Dinyar* and *Viraf* and daughter-in-laws *Leslie* and *Jennifer* and granddaughter *Lauren* and grandson *Jordan*. We will miss Jamshed Uncle for his quiet and dignified presence and humility. He always took the time and trouble to make delicious kulfi for our functions, especially for gambhars when we have almost a hundred people attending. May Ahura Mazda grant everlasting peace to his soul and give the family strength to bear what He has willed.

Nivedita Masani's father, *Dr. Vasant Palkar* passed away in Bombay on December 13, 2004. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to the *Masani* Family.

Our condolences also go out to *Burgise* and *Khurshed Palkhiwalla* and their family on the passing away of their daughter *Farah Palkhiwalla* in December.

Our heartfelt condolences to the *Toorkey* family on passing away of *Cyrus Toorkey's* father Mr. *Burjor Toorkey* in Bombay, on January 30th. It was a pleasure to have him when he came here on vacation to visit his son's family and for those of us who knew him, he will surely be missed.

Our condolences also go out to *Havovi Jokhi*, whose mother *Shernaz Jinwala* passed away suddenly in Ahmedabad in January.

May all the departed souls rest in peace and may Ahura Mazda give courage to the families to bear the loss of their loved ones.



Prayer Class: We have all been enjoying the healthy homemade meals at the prayer classes. Thanks to all our cooks for providing the dinner during prayer classes. Cooks were as follows for the months of:
November: *Hutoxi Cooper*, *Nilufer Shroff* and *Baktawar Dinshaw*
December: *Cyrus Mehta*, *Persis Kasad* and *Veera Karanjia*
January: *Khurshed Bapasola*, *Mahrukh Kermani* and *Daulat Mewawalla*

Congratulations: We all welcome *Rachel Stoneback* into the Zoroastrian faith. Rachel's Navjote was held on October 23rd 2004 in Pennel, Pennsylvania. *Congratulations Rachael!*

Future events to participate in:



February 12: Prayer class will be held in Devon and the cooks are: *Aban Singh*, *Armin Surti* and *Aban Unwalla*.

March 13: March prayer class will be held at Devon. We will be celebrating Navroze the traditional way by setting "haftshin" table, reminiscing, and learning some of the old traditions and ways.

Cooks for March will be *Nivedita Masani*, *Khurshed Unwala*, and *Benaifer Eduljee*.

Please advise the cooks if you would be attending and staying for dinner.

Prayer class for the month of April will be held in Devon again, and for May the classes will be held at Gibson House in Evesham Township in NJ.



March 19: This year's Navroze function will be held at Bombay Cuisine in Cherry Hill, NJ on March 19. For details refer to the flyer for the event enclosed with this

Newsletter. We advise you to call the hotel directly to get directions or use Map Quest on the Internet for directions.

Also, please be aware that elections will be held at the Annual General Meeting for new Board members. If you wish to run for one of the positions on the board, send your nomination by **March 12, 2005**. If you cannot attend this event and wish to cast your vote, use the proxy form and mail it to *Cyrus Toorkey* at 38 Cameo Drive, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003. Should you have any questions about election process or serving on the board, do not hesitate to call any of the current board members.



Community News



New Address: Please welcome a new family *Zeus* and *Diana Avari* to join our community. They reside at 220 E Mermaid Lane #209, Philadelphia, PA 19118, Phone No: 215-242-6366 Email-Zeusavari@yahoo.com



Our Youngest Members:

Congratulations to *Anita* and *Darius Desai* on the birth of their twin sons *Cyrus* and *Sam* and grandsons to *Cawas* and *Kamal Desai*.

Cell phone do not call list: If you haven't already heard, in a few weeks, cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies and you will start to receive sales calls on your cell phones. Call this number from your cell phone 888-382-1222. It is the National Do Not Call list. It blocks your number for 5 years. Please pass on the information to your friends...here is website to register online: <https://www.donotcall.gov/register/reg.aspx>

Congratulations to *Freddie Patel* for being recognized for his hard work and on his promotion. He is serving on the aircraft carrier, USS John F. Kennedy and has received a citation from the *Captain D. E. Fitzpatrick* for his 'superior performance' of duties as a Maintenance Supply Clerk. In recognition of his performance, he has been promoted to Petty Officer Third Class. We are very proud of him and are thankful that there are brave young men (and women) like him who serve our country in the armed forces. We are thankful to them for allowing us to live our lives peacefully because of what they do out there to protect our freedom. God bless them and keep them safe.

Appeal for help from Mumbai, India:

An urgent appeal to help Mr. *Kersas Batliwala* of Mumbai has reached us through our member Mr. *Adi Kasad*. Mr. *Kersas Batliwala* has been diagnosed with cancer of the lungs, which has spread into the spinal cord. He lost sensation in both the feet because of compression of one of the vertebrae in the spinal cord. On the recommendation of Dr. *Zarir Udvadia*, he was transferred to Hinduja Hospital, where he underwent a spinal cord surgery to correct the compression of the vertebra in the spinal cord. *Kersas* has already incurred Rs. 200,000 in the medical bills over a period of two weeks. He is expected to stay in the hospital for some time to complete the radiation and physical therapy treatments. It is estimated that his bills may reach Rs. 500,000 very quickly. *Kersas* is the only earning member of the family of five, working in a local bank. With his limited financial means, he cannot afford the astronomical medical bills. *Kersas Batliwala's* address is: *Kersas & Zenobia Batliwala*, Coover Cottage, Municipal Street, #34-B Mori Road. Mumbai 400 016, India.

To send any donations locally you can address them to *Rusi and Viloo J. Tavadia*, 41544 Thoreau Ridge, Novi, MI 48377-2856, Tel: (248) 624-3747, Fax:(248) 624-375. E-mail: rtavadia@twmi.rr.com They will then forward all the monies to *Kersas*.

Dear ZAPANJ Members,

As a simple straightforward 'bawaji' I would like to say a simple but heartfelt thank you for having been given the opportunity to serve our community. As a Board we did what we could to the best of our ability but there is a lot more work to be done and I will continue to try and help the new Board and the membership of ZAPANJ at large.

We need to develop a stronger network and willingness to help one another, socially and professionally. The youth and the young adults need to feel that they have in the adults of this community a resource that they can tap into for help at any time. The youth and young adults on the other hand need to participate more and take up the challenge of what they can do to make things better in ZAPANJ for their age group. **Talk is cheap – Actions count!!!**

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the ever-willing help and assistance of the Board members who have worked so hard to make these two years a most enjoyable experience.

Yours humbly,

Cyrus B Toorkey.

Dear ZAPANJ Members,

It is with mixed feelings that I format this last Newsletter serving as your Secretary on the Board of Trustees for the last four years. I truly enjoyed being a Secretary and have tried, to the best of my ability to organize and provide you the news and information in a timely fashion about our association in the most positive way. I believe, in encouraging our children and have always, given them their news space and recognize their accomplishments, however big or small they are.

*As a committee, we accomplished a lot with prayer classes on every second Saturday of the month on a **regular** basis. During the past four years, we obtained halls and held our prayer classes, meetings and functions in both PA and NJ so that there was equity in traveling for all our members in PA and New Jersey. A lot was accomplished in the last four years and I am sure the new committee will continue the long tradition of good work for our association, as there is a lot that need to be done yet.*

Many of you have looked forward to the Newsletter and have expressed your compliments, criticism and comments. I sincerely appreciated all your input. For one thing, this has helped me to fine tune my computer skills to a great degree. HA! HA!

I would like to take this opportunity to say a "Thank You" to each and every member of our ZAPANJ community.

Thanks also go to past president Arnavaz Sukhia and all the current Board members for their support. Thank You!!!

Aban Singh.

Aban Singh
Secretary-ZAPANJ
2509 Condor Drive
Audubon, PA 19403