

PARSI TIMES

DECEMBER 28, 2013
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Inside Vadi Dar-e-Meher... Pg. 6

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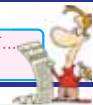
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A New Year's Resolution is something that goes into one Year... and comes out the other!

Turn to Pg. 22



FROM THE EDITORS' DESK

Dear Readers,

Yes of course! We are at the World Zoroastrian Congress and loving it. I was unable to attend the first day but Parsi Times was proud to be represented by our young contingent of reporters from across the city and even one from the UK. Throughout the day, while we put the paper together in office, Raaj, Benaifer and Polad sent message after message telling me about how wonderfully the entire process had come together. I cannot wait to explore it for myself this weekend.

All the old cupboards have been thrown open and the best outfits laundered and ironed this past week as the Community attended gala events everywhere. The World Zoroastrian Chamber of Commerce also had a heavy week with private dinners and their Annual General Meeting of 2013. Parsi Times will have the complete detailed report of that in our next issue.

As I look at the images of the World Zoroastrian Congress it is heartwarming to see, in the sea of duglis and prominent noses, some familiar young faces from our own city, some popular older ones and some completely new blood from the far corners of the world. We must mingle with enthusiasm and excitement but most of all with curiosity... curiosity to understand the ways of the other delegates.

The Indian Zoroastrian is a Zoroastrian moulded to fit into the cultural melting pot that is our nation. We speak and understand the politics, nuances and lives that are integral to being Indian. When we meet the foreign delegates of the Congress we must try and understand how they have fit into their homelands and yet have retained their Zoroastrian faith well. It is awe inspiring to see that without the molly coddling easy breezy Baug flats at their disposal, Dharma-gyan classes and Parsi food shops adjacent to home, Agiaris at literally every corner and heavy Religious influence of living in highly Parsi populated areas, our foreign friends have retained their culture with such poise and live such good and practical lives everywhere. Take the time out to make friends and add them on facebook. (And while you're at it, add Parsi Times too!)

The world is watching our city, the main stream media is celebrating us and we are happy to take centre stage. Zoroastrians are in the spotlight everywhere and buzzing with energy as they prep for the New Year ahead.

As you enjoy the last weekend of 2013, reflect on your year, pick your best moments and put them in the memory bank, your toughest and put them in your recycle bin... but not before extracting your lessons learnt and wisdom gained from each.

Freyan.

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Dear Readers, Seasons' Greetings from Parsi Times! On Pg 22 of this issue is a special 2014 Calendar for all our Readers Cut it out and use it to keep track of your special days of 2014! God Bless always! HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Lagan Lounge

Wanted Parsi Bride

Matrimonial alliance invited for Parsi graduate boy, 1976 born, working for travel industry. Looking for simple, educated, good natured girl. Contact: 9819096359

Matrimonial alliance invited for Mumbai based, non-Manglik, unmarried, fair, handsome, 35 years old graduate, Parsi Zoroastrian boy with secured job, earning well, from unmarried, good looking, simple, Zoroastrian working girls upto 34 years. Contact on e-mail with details on seemakay4@gmail.com at the earliest.

29 years old, 5 ft 4' tall Parsi boy settled in Australia, seeks matrimonial alliance from girls willing to settle in Australia. Horoscope match necessary. Boy coming to India in mid January. Intrested parents contact on 09998962065 9 am to 5 pm and 6 pm to 10pm

Wanted an educated good looking bride for a 29 year old boy, born & brought up in U.S.A (height 5 ft 11 inch). Graduated from University of Pennsylvania in Finance. Working as an Investment banker for a leading global bank, well settled. Coming to India from Dec.21st to Jan 4th. Contact: +91-8108995432 / +91-8108994321

Wanted Parsi Bridegroom

Matrimonial alliance invited from well settled Zoroastrian boys (non-manglik only) for daughter 29 years, 158 cms, B.Tech. (Mumbai), Masters I.T. (Canada), fair and petite, good family values, willing to settle in India or abroad. Arriving in India mid December. Contact on: kdq09@yahoo.com with date of birth, place, time, photo, matrimonial bio-data.

USA based well qualified, 82 born girl, visiting in December, seeks a well qualified, well settled boy. Contact nycgirlusa@gmail.com

NOTICES

Panthaki Agiary Salgreh પંથકી અગિયારી સાલગ્રેહ

The Panthaki Agiary Salgreh is to be celebrated on Wednesday, 1st January 2014, Roj Sarosh and Mah Amardad. By the Trustees: Machi-Havan Gah, Jashan - 9:15 am. Hama Anjuman: Jashan - 5:00 pm, Machi - 7:00 pm.

પંથકી અગિયારીની સાલગ્રેહ બુધવાર તા. ૧ જાન્યુઆરી ૨૦૧૪ના દિને રોજ : સરોશ, માહ : અમરદાદ, ટ્રસ્ટી સાહેબો તરફથી: માચી - હાવનગૌહ, જશન: ૯.૩૦ સવારે (સ્ટે.ટા.) હમા અંજુમન: માચી ૫.૦૦ કલાકે (સ્ટે.ટા.), જશન ૭.૦૦ કલાકે (સ્ટે.ટા.)



155th Salgreh of Vachha Gandhi Agiary વાચ્છા ગાંધી અગિયારીની વપખમી સાલગ્રેહ

Modi Sorabji Vachha Gandhi Daremaher Salgreh is to be celebrated on Wednesday, 1st January 2014.

Jashan by the trustees: 9.30 am. Jashan by Staff: 5.30 pm Lecture by Dr. Peshotan Hormazdiar Mirza: 6.00 pm

સરોશ રોજ, બુધવાર તા. ૧વી જાન્યુઆરી ૨૦૧૪ને દિને મોટી સોરાબજી વાચ્છા ગાંધી દરેમહેરની વપખમી સાલગ્રેહ છે. તે દિને સવારે ૯.૩૦ વાગે, ટ્રસ્ટી સાહેબો તરફથી શુક્રગુજારીનું જશન અને હમઅંદગી થશે. સાંજે ૫ વાગે સ્ટાફ તરફથી જશનની ક્રિયા થશે. સાંજે ૬ વાગે માનવંત દસ્તુરજી સાહેબ ડો. પેશોતન હોરમઝદીયાર મીરઝાં આતશ બહેરામ સાહેબની બોય દેવાની ક્રિયાની સમજણ ઉપર ભાષણ કરશે. સર્વે હમદીનોને જશન તથા ભાષણમાં ભાગ લેવા ટ્રસ્ટી સાહેબો તરફથી આમંત્રણ છે.

PARSI TIMES



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1) Republican Sports Club (Merban Patel, Parsi gentleman, identifying, Coaching and Mentoring underprivileged kids play Hockey and lead a better life).

2) War Wounded Foundation (Taking care of 10,000 War Wounded Personnel of Army, Navy and Air Forces).

3) Vasantha Memorial Trust (Taking care of cancer affected patients of weaker sections of society).

Godrej is Running The Standard Chartered Marathon but we can support them while Reading the Parsi Times!

All these 3 NGOs need our support to sustain and continue doing commendable work in their respective fields. For doing so, they need financial assistance and Godrej makes the humble appeal to P.T. Readers to come forward and support these genuine causes.



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(The Gathas 3.2, 4.9,11,12).



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This is to update you with regard to the swimming pool that has been proposed by the BMC under pressure from Ms. Annie Shekar and Mr. Vinod Shekar. On 20th December 2013 The BMC Commissioner Mr. S. Kunte had visited the back garden and the project is in its final stages. I request each one of you to use your influence and prevent the Commissioner from going ahead with the project.

If the swimming pool is constructed, we will not only lose the basketball court and 1/3rd of the football



court (which will be used for parking) but also 14 trees would be felled. Gradually in a couple of years entire ground will be taken away.

This ground is used by all the schools and colleges of South Mumbai. Hence thousands of children will be deprived of the open space if the swimming pool is constructed which will be useful to only a few.

Act Now and save Back Garden (Sabina Chandrashekar Ground).

An open letter from the Principal, P. Machado forwarded to *Parsi Times*, by a concerned parent.



Champion Athlete

Anosh Pervez Mohta, a F.Y.B.Com. student of KP B Hinduja College of Commerce bagged the Individual Championship of the Senior College at their Annual Athletic Meet held at Priyadarshini Park, on 3rd & 4th December 2013. He won a total of 8 medals - 6 Gold, 1 Silver & 1 Bronze including relays. Anosh is a prominent member of the Bombay Parsi Panchayat Athletic team and trains daily at Rustom Baug under the watchful eye of Mr. Dara Doomasia. He owes his success to the encouragement of his father Pervez Mohta and to all the BPP coaches.

An Ambulance in need

Central Bank of India on its 103rd Foundation Day on 21.12.2013 donated Ambulance Van to N. K. Dhabhar Cancer Foundation, Mumbai under Bank's CSR activities. The N. K. Dhabhar Cancer Foundation has been formed for carrying out various activities to support cancer patients. It is a non-profit organization based in Mumbai. They recognize the needs of cancer patients and strive to provide them clinical support and an improved quality of life. The foundation was launched on 5 June, 2011 in Mumbai, in memory of Mr. Nariman K. Dhabhar, father of Dr. Boman Dhabhar.

Bank's Chairman & Managing Director Shri Rajeev Rishi donated the Ambulance Van to the Trustees of the Foundation in the presence of Shri R. K. Goyal & Shri Animesh Chauhan, Executive Directors and other Senior Executives and customers of the Bank.



Shri Rajeev Rishi, Chairman & Managing Director of Central Bank of India donating the Ambulance Van to N. K. Dhabhar Cancer Foundation by cutting the ribbon. Seen alongwith him are Shri R. K. Goyal, Executive Director, officials of the Foundation and Executives of the Bank.

BEST WISHES TO THE AAM ADMI PARTY

By P.T. Contributor Piroja Jokhi

The victory of the Aam Admi Party has come to us as a pleasant surprise. Today when they are taking oath to free the country from the clutches of corruption, let us congratulate them and wish them the very best to achieve their final goal. It is not going to be an easy

task for them as they will be facing big challenges opposing the mighty Congress and the BJP, both parties equally soaked in corruption. It is possible that all among the AAP may not be able to keep the clean image and they will constantly be watched for a lapse on their part. Till now



we had no choice, as we could not look up to any party with a clean image.

This is the first step for the new entrants which has raised hopes for the common man to get some relief. Though they are at present standing on a sticky wicket, their resolve and faith will take them to their destination. Though we cannot deny the intent and the motive of Hazare and his

team, their means and modalities need much to be desired. Though Anna and Arvind, both have the same goal, Anna has stuck to his guns and chose to remain out of the political clout, but visualizing the political scenario Kejriwal and his team concluded that it will not be possible to cleanse the system without entering active politics. Both the leaders have the similar ideology, but have chosen divergent paths to reach their destination. For the good of the nation, and for the noble cause they are striving for, it is advisable that even if they

stand on different platforms, they should remain united supporting, guiding and complementing each other to strengthen their cause. Though time only will tell the wisdom of their choices, but as a fatherly figure and as Kejriwal has proved his point with the massive support his team has received from the public, Hazare should leave aside their differences and support the Aam Admi Party.

On this auspicious occasion let us wish them all the best for their success and may their dreams turn into realities and bring about the change to fulfill the dreams of Babu and all those who sacrificed to bring democracy for this Great Nation!

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New Priests... Old Inspirations...



14 Dasturjis including the Vada Dasturji who performed the Jashan, all are Navars of Vadi Dar-e-Meher

FACT FILE
Vadi Dar-e-Meher
Address: Dastur Vad, Mota Falia, Navsari - 396 445
Date consecrated:
Roz: Asfandarmad, Mah: Amardad, 551 A.Y.

If you are looking for some spiritual inspiration, deep in the heart of Navsari rests a structure that pulses with sanctity and soulfulness. The Vadi Dar-e-Meher is the second oldest Dar-e-Meher in India, after the Iranshah. This is the sacred place where over 10,000 boys of the Bhagarsath and other Anjumans passed through their Navar and Maratab ceremonies. Only those children who passed through these hallowed portals had their names entered in the Great Register of the Bhagarsath Anjuman and only they were authorised to perform ceremonies within the jurisdiction of the Bhagarsath Anjuman. On the day of their Salgreh, *Parsi Times* donned its mathabanna, bent its head in reverence and walked in.... **P.T. Writer Khushroo P. Mehta** files this report.

On special invitation from an ardent PARSİ TIMES Reader and well wisher Mr. Fardoon Bajan, I took a trip to Navsari to find out more about the Vadi Dar-E-Meher and attend the Salgreh.

It was on the early morning of the 20th December that I received a very warm welcome from Mr. Bajan who had especially come to pick me up from the station at the slightly unearthly hour of 5 a.m. A healthy Parsi breakfast at his residence followed. At 8 am, he took me on a tour around Navsari. We finished at the Aatash Behram where I went in and paid my deepest respects with prayer and tandorosti. I then headed on foot to the Vadi Dar-E-Meher.

Soon I was in front of a huge wall and an antique looking main entrance door of the Agjary. All by myself, I took slow steps into the building complex, every wall and every door narrated history. It was the kind of place every Zarthosti should explore at least once and feel the magic themselves. I saw the two holy wells, the traditional Navar Martab ceremony rooms, the religious

rituals rooms and the special room where the Holy Aatash [Dadgah] was kept ablaze by the priest in attendance.

The Vadi Dar-E-Meher is the training centre for Mobeds of the region and they all take turns to come and serve the Holy Aatash at this place.

Soon I could see the enthusiastic Ervads getting ready and moving towards the open hall where the Salgreh Jashan was slated to be held at 9.30 a.m. Mr. Bajan soon joined me. I was informed that the Vada Dasturji of Navsari Ervad Kaikhushroo Navroze Dastoor (more popularly known as K. N. Dastoor, or KND), whom the Bhagarsath Anjuman had elected as the 17th Dastur Meherji Rana (To follow Dastur Meherji Dastur Kekobad, who expired on 23rd January 2010); was especially here to attend the Salgreh Jashan and take part in the prayers. He had done his Navar ceremony from the Vadi Dar-E-Meher!

The Salgreh Nu Jashan prayers began around 9.30 a.m. and were performed by six Ervads around the Jashan Nu Aatash and 8 Ervads sitting on the benches around the Jashan

area. A total of 14 Mobeds including the Vada Dasturji prayed for the small crowd that was deep in prayer.

As always, the announcements in PARSİ TIMES draw pilgrims and Bedins from far. On that particular day there were 5 visitors from Navroze Baug and Rustom Baug, Mumbai who after having read the notice had made plans to especially make it to Navsari and visit the historic Dar-E-Meher on this Salgreh day.

The lot was very impressed and moved by the unity and uniformity with which the 14 Ervads performed the Jashan. The Ervads, a happy lot of 14, posed for us. An exchange of gratitude and greetings followed. Mr. Bajan took me to the well, which had potable water and a drink of the holy water rejuvenated my mind and body to new levels of freshness.

After that I paid a visit to the Holy Varasyaji who is very aggressive toward any newcomer around him. He is young and has been here for the last five years. His Taro is used for the holy rituals in becoming a Navar and other Nirangdins.

Timeless Travel Memories

By P.T. Reporter Khushroo P. Mehta

In a nutshell

As per the historic records available, it is understood that sometime after the Parsi settlement at Sanjan in Gujarat (936 AD), the laity began to spread out. Some moved a little north to the small port of Navsari. As their numbers grew in Navsari they requested their brethren in Sanjan for a Priest of their own to guide the local Community. Zarthost Mobed with his son Kamdin went there in 1142 AD/511 YZ and the building of Vadi Dar-E-Meher was originally established in 551 YZ/1182 AD.



An old Community function here

Over the years the structure has gone through many facelifts. It was repaired by the Anjuman, then re-built by Desai Mancherji Khurshedji, at his own expense and consecrated on 7th Feb 1795 (Hormazd Roz, Amardad Mahino 1164 YZ). More changes occurred when it was re-consecrated and on the 27th Aug

1909 (Meher Roz, Aspandard Mahino, 1278 YZ). The old building was later renovated by Ervad Khurshedji Behramji Sahiar at a cost of Rs.25, 000/- in memory of Hama Asho Farohars on 21st Mar 1930 (Daepmeher Roz, Meher Mahino 1229 A.Y.).

Vadi Dar-E-Meher is also called the Bhagarsath Anjuman Dar-E-Meher. This place is mainly used for performing rituals and for training and initiating Parsi priests, as Navars & Martabs.



I rummaged through an old book pulled out and maintained well by the aging yet alert Ervad Hormuzji Bapuji Kotwal. Ervad Kotwal mentioned that J.N. Tata and even Jamshedji Nasserwanji Tata were students of this Vadi. Jamshedji Nasserwanji Tata completed his Navar here in 1845.

I made it a point to visit more of Navsari for our Readers.

The "First Dastur Meherjirana Library" and the house [birthplace] of Seth Jamshedji Nasserwanji Tata (The Grand Old Man of Indian Industry) were on my list. This house is soon to be converted into a historic museum and there was renovation work going on there. It was strange that I felt nostalgia while walking around considering this was my first trip to the historic town. Maybe it was my roots and ancestry pulling me in. Does everyone feel that way about Navsari? After my trip I suggest that even if you are in India for a short trip, one day in Navsari can make it richer in memories.



The 5 year old Varasyaji at the Vadi Dar-E-Meher



Mr. Fardoon Bajan at the Salgiri Jashan



More Mobeds Join the Salgiri Jashan Prayers



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D.J. Dhamaka

Ladies, he is the first man to make you sway in 2014! He is the DJ at your New Years Eve Bash! The Community gets down to planning some awesome celebrations across the Baugs and buildings of Mumbai and we caught up with the Spinning Stars who will tune you in to 2014!



AARISH DARUWALLA

Age: 21
Experiences: Has been playing professionally since he was 14. He has played at the Screen Awards and the Standard Chartered Marathon among a long list of credentials.
Current and Hot Fav picks: Animal by Martin and I am the sky by Alan Parson.
Genre: Retro, Rock, House and Commercial.
Newbie or staple: Has been playing at DPC since 5 years.

CATCH AARISH PLAYING AT THE DPC MASQUERADE NEW YEAR BASH 2014

YOHAN TENGRA

Age: 17
Experiences: Started playing in January this year. He won events like War of Djs at Umang, Malhar and at H.R. He opens for Tyrst and plays at Canvas.
Current and Hot Fav picks: Hey Brother and Wake me up by Avicii.
Genre: E.D.M and Commercial.
Newbie or staple: Newbie at Godrej Baug.

CATCH YOHAN PLAYING AT EXPLOSION 2014 @Godrej Baug Eco Park



YAZAD KARAI

Age: 36
Experiences: He has been playing professionally since 2000. He has played at Aamby Valley and several events at Lonavala. He plays for Parsee Gymkhana every year but this time Malcolm Baug approached him to play for them.
Current and Hot Fav picks: Badtaamez Dil and Pitbull tracks.
Genre: Depends on the crowd. If the crowd is old than Retro, If the crowd is young than House music or Bollywood.
Newbie or staple: He is a Newbie at Malcolm Baug.

CATCH YAZAD AT 2014 NEW YEAR BASH @Malcolm Baug



RUPESH GAIKAWAD

Age: 27
Experiences: He has been playing since 8 years at top Mumbai Clubs and private parties
Current and Hot Fav picks: Daddy Cool.
Genre: Plays Bollywood, E.D.M. and Retro.
Newbie or staple: Newbie at Nowroze Baug.

CATCH RUPESH PLAYING @ Nowroze Baug



NEVILLE DUBASH

Age: 43
Experiences: Djing since 1989, this sound engineer used to play at the Oberoi and the Heritage. Now he only spins for special events and fun.
Current and Hot Fav picks: Spaceman by SHM and all Michael Jackson tracks.
Genre: Any genre depending on the crowd but mostly Bollywood.
Newbie or staple: He is a Bharucha Baug staple, playing at all their function for 15 years now!

CATCH NEVILLE AT 2014 NEW YEAR BASH @Bharucha Baug



Ho! Ho! Happy!

It's all candy canes and Santa Clausy at the Baugs across the city. So while you may have been out getting stuffed with some stuffing or eating too much marzipan, check out what was going on within the Baug celebrations for Christmas!

Cusrow Baug

A Christmas Celebration with a conscience! As part of their annual Christmas fair, the Cusrow Baug United Sports and Welfare League sponsored 14 different NGOs in order to help raise funds for their charities. The party held on the 21st of Dec, saw a large turnout on the lawns. The Baug Children were greeting people from the game stalls and many small businesses showcased their products. Santa Claus gave away gifts to the tiny-tots and everyone had a memorable time.



Dadar Parsi Colony

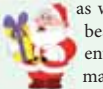
The Traditional Children's Christmas Party at DPC was definitely one for the books! The get together has been on for years now. At first it was a small gathering of parents and their children. Now it has evolved into a well-organized event, second in line to the New Year Bash and always proves to be a night to remember & cherish! On the 19th of December the ground at Dadar Gym was teeming with children and their parents, all dressed in their holiday finery - a sea of reds, whites and greens.

Game and activity stalls, a mini train, a trampoline and a toddler zone were part of the jamboree. A magician and the compere thrilled the crowds. The much awaited horse carriage came through, carrying none other than Santa. Kudos to the Entertainment Committee of the DPCG who ensured that the gifts were generous and the kids went home happy.



Salsette

The Salsette Zoroastrian Colony Welfare Association popularly known as SAZCOWAN had organized a Christmas Carnival on Christmas Eve. It included a very exciting and well attended Fancy Dress Competition where the first prize was won by Dashan Suratia (Snowman), second prize by Pearl Amalsadiwala (Chef) and third prize by Danesh Todiwala (Krrish). Santa made an appearance here as well and the DJ entertained the crowd with Carols and other beats! The SAZCOWAN team thanked all the kids and their parents, Grand Parents and others who came for this function and made this event a successful and a memorable one.



Behram Baug

Christmas Eve was special for the residents of Behram Baug. The spirit of Christmas was in full glory on their football field. It was fun and frolic for the young and old with the amazing music and the games. No Christmas Party is complete without Santa giving away some smiles. It was no different here. Soon after Santa worked off his charm, young Perziya Zack and Meher Talati enthralled all with a puppet show. The little Delara Sidhwa (all of 8) wowed everyone by playing the keyboard. Cheers to Mrs. Zeenobia Printer and her team of young mothers for organizing such a merry evening.



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PARSI POINT

No Case made out for FIR says EOW
 In the complaint filed before the EOW by the four trustees the EOW after preliminary investigation has recorded that no case has been made out to file a first information report. However given the serious nature of the allegations made by the four trustees in their complaint and the confirmation by ALL six trustees stating that Mehta himself has allegedly admitted to the BPP receiving 25 lacs in cash one can safely say that this would not be the end of the saga. In the coming weeks as a responsible media Parsi Times will pursue this case though interviews of all seven trustees and shall keep the Community posted!

Mehli Colah no more...
 The CEO of the Bombay Parsi Punchayet, Mr. Colah passed away late yesterday. Our condolences to his family.

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ZENOBBIA DAVAR

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Wakeup call for the Community

Dear Editor,
 We Zoroastrian Parsis are still living in the past, we salute our ancestors like Sir Jamshedji Jeejeebhoy, Jamshedji Tata, J.R.D Tata, Naval Tata & Family, Ardeshir Godrej, Pirojsha Godrej & Family, Shapoorji Pallonji, Dadabhai Naoraji, Sir Pherozeshah Mehta, Lady Jerbai Wadia, Nowroji Wadia & family, Sir Cowasji Jehangir & Lady Jehangir, Sir Dinshaw Wacha, Veer Nariman, Sir Dhunjibhoy Bomanji, Cowasji Adenwala, Firoz Gandhi, Sir Dinshaw Petit, Madam Cama, Sorabji Pochkhanawala, Sir Dinshaw Maneckji Petit, Homi Talyarkhan, B.D.Petit, Shapoorji Jokhi, Zarthosti Brothers, Air Marshal- Aspy Engineer, Field Marshal- Sam Manekshaw, Admiral - Jal Cursetji, Nani Palkhivala, great actor, director and producer -Sohrab Modi, first sound movie director - Ardeshir Irani, great atomic scientists - Dr.Homi Bhabha, Dr.Sethna & Dr. Karkhanawala, great doctors Dr. Masina, Dr. Kersi Dastur, Dr.Keki Grant, great cricketers - Polly Umrigar, Nari Contractor, Rusi Surti, great educationist, judiciary, philanthropist and leaders in all the fields and many more.
 All of them with their extremely hard work and vision have achieved excellence and have given so much on a platter to our community, they were the top leaders of our community in different fields and brought us on the map of India as the most distinguished, respected, honest and philanthropic community. They were all united. They commanded respect and gave the same respect to poor and rich. They were the

true nationalists and true Zoroastrians who lived by the principles of Prophet Zarathustra i.e. Good Words, Good Thoughts and Good Deeds. They always strived for the best of our community. In the present days with the Grace of Almighty we have so many great and successful leaders in each field. They are so wise but I wonder why they are not willing to come out and make a solid group and take the reins of our community in their hands and help to abolish poverty, help for higher education, help to create more jobs, generate more and more affordable housing and to create an environment for entrepreneurship for our youth and help the sick and disabled with medical facilities and provide health care to our senior citizens.
 The most urgent need is to increase our population; there are many ways by which we can surely save our declining community and increase to a reasonably good number.
 If you read the statistics of the births and deaths for last so many years, the birth ratio is declining terribly. So, it is high time for all of us to have seminars on the subject of declining community without any orthodoxy to have successful results. In the name of Ahura Mazda, I sincerely Pray to The Almighty to give us wisdom and strength to save our Zoroastrian community on this planet. My sincere appeal to our stalwarts, please take keen interest to save our declining community.

Rohinton Jamshedji Mehta

POINT TO NOTE: It's the message, not the messenger you might be mad at! Please Note: The opinions expressed in 'Letters to the Editor' are those of Readers and contributors and do not necessarily express the opinion of our Publication. We reserve only the right to 'edit for quality' and the right to not publish letters intended for this section, that we find less than suitable in tone or expression. If anyone has any doubts and issues about the content of the letters, they are requested to contact the individual authors if his/ her details are mentioned.

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Our Community today

P.T. Writer Piroja Homi Jokhi takes stock of where we stand at the end of 2014

As we attend the World Zoroastrian Congress, which has ultimately survived in the midst of controversies, it is important that it serves the purpose of reviving the true spirit of Zoroastrianism, or it will be a mere eyewash. Will the delegates who come all the way from different lands, bring with them the message of Universal religion, a religion preached and practiced by

It does not make a difference whether we survive or become extinct once we have lost our unique identity and moral values.

our wise Lord Zoroaster, or it will be the routine lectures of preserving the age old customs and rituals, the need to shelter our religion and carry on the traditions as our forefathers did. More than the declining number, it is the decline in the values that is the cause of concern for the Community. Perhaps we have been bequeathed with too many amenities by our benevolent ancestors that has made us complacent, killing the spirit of entrepreneurship, and accepting doles at the cost of our dignity and self respect. Providing suitable work is more challenging than flinging money as it enhances dignity and self respect of a person. We have come to accept charity as our right, when it is our moral duty to pay back what we receive from the Community. With so much funds at our disposal we have to create opportunities

for all to be employed in a meaningful way, and encourage the talented to achieve excellence in their chosen field. For amelioration of poverty, not doles, but providing opportunities for work is difficult, but the right solution.

Our Community was once upon a time the leading force, in all activities, like trade, commerce, politics, sports and academics. Today we have become absolutely insensitive not only to politics but to all other activities we once excelled in.

The Grand Old Man of India **Dadabhai Naoroji** expressed the spirit of our emerging identity when he stated, "I am a Hindu, a Mohmedan, a Parsi, a Christian, or of any other creed, I am above all an Indian. Our country is India, our nationality is Indian. He was the founder of the Indian National Congress and the first person to make demand for Swaraj. Though the Parsis were admirers of the royalty, many of them have taken an active part in the freedom struggle. The first Indian National flag was defiantly unfurled by a Parsi lady, **Madam Bhikhaji Cama** in 1907 and inspired a generation of Parsi firebrand patriots. She wrote published and distributed a lot of revolutionary literature, and smuggled it to India from her exile. The landmark Nariman

P. T. Writer Piroja Homi Jokhi

Point is named after the great freedom fighter **Khurshed Framji Nariman** popularly known as Veer Nariman a title conferred to him by Sarojini Naidu. Another great stalwart was us **Sir Phirozsha Mehta**, the Lion of Bombay, who was the President of the Indian National Congress. After independence there were eminent parliamentarians like **Phiroze Gandhi, Minoo Masani, Pilo Mody** who made their mark as honest, upright and bold parliamentarians. The list of these great patriotic Parsis is too long to be mentioned. Today we have become so bankrupt in the political arena that there is not a single Parsi name to be reckoned either in the Parliament, or in the assembly or in any political arena even at the level of municipal corporation.

Earlier in every walk of life, we had achieved the unique distinction of remaining at the top. The game of cricket so passionately loved today all over India, owes its origin to the Parsi Community who popularized it to the length and breadth of the country. Today when India has become the hub of international cricket, when the game is considered as a religion, there is not a single Parsi name visible even in the list of Ranji Trophy at the state level. **A. F. S. Talyakhan** was a legendary broadcaster of his time. Today we have drawn a blank where we were supreme.

The great industrialist **Jamshedji Tata** is rightly

called the father of the Indian industry and the city of Tatanagar stands a testimony to this great entrepreneur. The Tatas and the Godrejs have managed to keep up the reputation but there have not been any new entrants from the Community in today's fast moving industrial arena.

At the young age of sixteen **Jamshedji Jijibhai** made his first voyage to China, bore great hardships as traveling was not so easy as it is today. His enterprise is the fairy tale of "rags to riches".

It is the tale of courage, of determination, of great vision and character to be witnessed in a boy of just sixteen. Bearing great hardships and fearlessly facing all odds, dame fortune smiled on this enterprising lad. Believing in the doctrine of Zoroastrianism and believing that education is the key to progress and prosperity, he bequeathed a large portion of his fortune to establish schools, and other charitable institutions to benefit the Community. We owe our gratitude to this great man, who changed the destiny of the Community in the nineteenth century and gave us the status we enjoy to this day. His success inspired many more, who ventured to far off lands in search of fresh pastures. These Sethias followed in the footsteps of J.J. and gifted large portion of their wealth for various

charities to benefit the weaker section of the Community.

The first cotton mill, the first Indian funded bank, the first news paper, are all established by Parsis.

In the Army it was **Field Marshal Sam Maneksha**, in the Navy it was **Admiral Jal Curshedji**, and **Air Marshal Aspi Engineer** and many more made us proud, the way they served the country. We cannot forget the contribution

Like the hare we were far ahead in the race, became so complacent that we did not realize how others went past us, leaving us far behind.

of **Homi Bhabha** who made India a nuclear power. Our small Community has made such a great impact, that for them even Gandhiji remarked "In number Parsis are beneath contempt, but in contribution beyond compare".

It is for us to retrospect how the Community who was the leader and a role model for all other Communities in India is lagging today.

Besides our achievements, our progress, our charity and entrepreneur, we were revered more for our integrity and honesty. There was not the shadow of a doubt for the integrity of a Parsi employed at any place. Today when there are allegations against the chairman occupying the most prestigious position in the Community, we are put to great shame and embarrassment. It is not the declining number, but the decline in values which



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is the greater cause of concern for the Community. How long, we as a Community are going to survive, or how great our ancestors were, is not important as what we are today and how far we are progressing. It does not make a difference whether we survive or become extinct once we have lost our unique identity and moral values.

We today practice Stone Age rituals believing that somebody's evil sight will harm us, and that anyone who is not practicing our religion is harmful and suffers when dead and gone. We poison the young minds of our children with rituals and superstitions but do not care to cultivate their individual identity, the power of reasoning and ability to make their own judgement. For more than over a decade we are brooding over the issue of disposal of dead bodies as if it is of utmost importance. All the time we are in the midst of controversies for no sound or valid reason. In the name of religion we commit the most irreligious acts when the very purpose of religion is to establish peace, with the spirit of love, compassion and brotherhood. For the cause of religion we create confrontation, hatred and

injustice. We do not know who are the custodians of our religion. We depend upon those who claim to have the monopoly but do not practice religion in its true spirit.

Our ancestors true to their promise, blended like sugar in the milk and created a new culture and brought glory for themselves and to the country they adopted as their own. Today we are proud inheritors of our religion that is based on purity of thoughts, words and deeds, while blending the doctrine of love from Christianity, the spirit of compassion from Jainism, equality of mankind from Buddhism, great philosophy of Hinduism, and faith of Islam. Unity is our strength. In spite of having different views, if only we cultivate tolerance and even if we do not accept, but respect other's opinion, we can be united in peace. In the glass full of sweet milk, if we add salt in it, we cannot retain the taste and the flavor of the milk. Let us hope that this 10th. World Zoroastrian Congress, where several wise heads of the Community come together, use their wisdom and with a sense of duty put the petty issues aside and bind in unity, love and brotherhood!

Ok! So you are one of those newspaper haters! Too much bad and depressing news! **Parsi Times Reluctant Writer** shares... not so reluctantly, his take on the latest newsmakers and breakers, making the round up of the weeks madness interesting and exciting to know...

Talk Like An Egyptian

By the Reluctant Writer

Turns out, the year 2013 promises to end on a "shocking" note, not the 'electrical' kind... but of 'sensibilities'. The last quarter of this year has been consistently delivering these in quick succession. Here are some, not necessarily in chronological order.

The AAP shocked the daylight out of the competition in Dilli. Only to deliver a bigger one, three weeks later by asking the Congress for "outside" support to form the Government, knocking out the night lights as well this time. Not surprisingly there's been a lot of swearing AT before the swearing IN.

Anna Hazare, deemed to be the one whose agitation for the Lokpal Bill led to the break away AAP, is still reeling from the shock of not being invited to the swearing in ceremony of Arvind Kejriwal today (Saturday 28th of December 2013).

A. K. Ganguly, stubbornly refusing to step down as Chairman of the WBHRC even after being indicted by a 3 judge fact finding committee of the SC for sexually harassing a law intern is another case in point. And Tehelka's Tarun Tejpal takes the dubious honor for delivering his own brand of shock to his lady colleague, by molesting her in a hotel elevator in Goa.

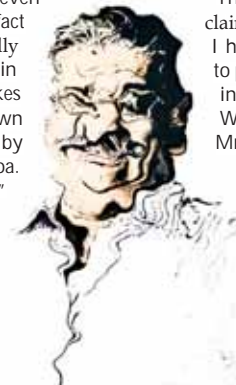
Then there's this "shocker" from Gujarat which should warm our cockles amongst all this muck flying around. In a small village called Khoraj, practically overnight, 117 homes can be designated as crorepatitis. The largest conglomeration of women crorepatitis to be precise. 400 odd

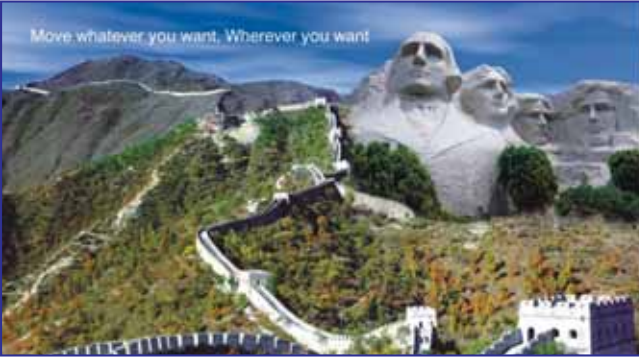
villagers have landed a sum of Rs. 850 crores among them from the Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation. Theplas, Khandvi and Dhoklas are on the house - ANY house here!!!

Closer home, Dinshaw Mehta and the remaining trustees of the BPP have managed to deliver, to the Community and country, by extension the BIGGEST SHOCK since the inception of the Trust. Allegations and defense have been the norm since the poop hit the fan beginning November. Paid ads. Not only in our Com press, but cleverly planted in the national press for the benefit of the entire world have gone viral.

The latest one dated 23rd Dec. in the TOI claims a clean chit by the EOW to Mehta. I have taken an "anti-shock" antidote to prevent me from ANY further shock incase I see him shaking hands at the WZC with the President of India... Mr. Pranab Mukherjee.

So in conclusion to this years TLE I wish to incorporate just a minor change to my favorite line... "TU MAAN NA MAAN HAMARA BPP MAHAAN!!!"





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SNAPSHOTS OF THE OPENING ACT

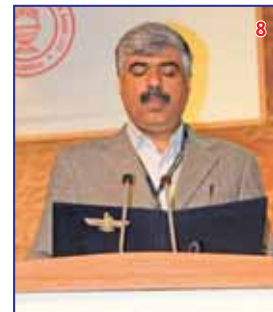
With a Foreword by P.T. Reporter Benaifer Mirza



The stage is set (and an extremely beautiful one, indeed), and it's time to welcome Zoroastrians from across the globe to the much-awaited and highly-prestigious 10th Edition of the World Zoroastrian Congress (WZC). Over the years, the WZC event has become a gathering where old thoughts, beliefs and ideologies are discussed, new ones are debated and deliberated, smiles are shared, and heartfelt views and opinions are spoken about.

The 10th WZC meet is no different. With 'Zoroastrianism in the 21st Century: Nurturing Growth and Affirming Identity' being the focal point of discussion, the event kicked off on Friday, December 27th with lots of gaiety and galore. The challenges that the organizing committee has faced through the process of it all, is definitely not unknown to anyone. But, still, amidst all the highs and lows, ups and downs, what one witnessed on the very first day of the Congress was interesting topics of discussion; lots of interest in the community, with diverse ideas and views on various topics. The who's who of the community, from various parts of the world where the community holds presence and prominence (including Lord Karan Bilimoria, Sarosh Bharucha and many more) graced the occasion.

It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that such a huge turnout of Zoroastrians can only be witnessed either at the wedding or Navjote function of a very well-known family at Jeejeebhoy Agiary, or at a World Zoroastrian Congress Meet!



(1) The highest dignitary to ever grace the World Zoroastrian Congress, Shri Pranab Mukherjee President of India, shares the stage with Dr. Cyrus S. Poonawalla. (2) Paranjoti Academy Chorus along with Conductor Coomi Wadia (3) On the Dias (l-r) Homai Mody, Dr. Poonawalla, Dasturji Khurshed Dastur, Nader Godrej, Maneck Daver (4) Nadir Godrej was eloquent as he spoke to the audiences. He focussed on the various moods and milieus of the Community (5) Dorab Mistry and Ketayun Kapadia of FEZANA (6) The first person to speak at the Congress, Vada Dasturji Khurshed Dastur Kaikobad Dastoor sets the tone with a Blessings (7) Within the crowd we see some of the BPP Trustees and their families (8) Dr. Esfandiar Ekhtiyari, Iranian Zoroastrian M.P. (9) Master of Ceremonies Mahiar Dastur (10) Lord Billimoria traces the history of the Parsis from Cyrus the Great to the current times (11) Maneck Daver was part of the Organizing Committee (12) Dr. Cyrus S. Poonawalla was looking stately as he greeted the audience. The very modest Poonawalla thanked the Trustees and the Community for giving him the opportunity to sponsor the event (13) Homai Mody gives a memento to Dadi Mistry the Ex President of the New Delhi Parsi Anjuman (14) Mr. Rusi and Mrs. Roshan Dalal travelled from London to attend the WZC and to get a chance



to pay homage to places of worship and charitable institutes. They said they have looked forward to attending the Congress as it is a forum to keep up to date and compare and learn from each other. Other delegates from the west said the food is great! (15) Victor Daruwalla; the founder of Bawa Tips met P.T. He said that he was impressed with the words of the Canadian speaker and that he might even consider moving to Canada for work. The Canadian speaker spoke about tolerance being necessary and about how in their local Community they welcome the wives and children of Zoroastrians married out into their fold. (16) The famous Brits, Malcolm Deboo, Lord Karan Billimoria and Dorab Mistry strike a pose for Parsi Times (17) The Volunteers at the WZC event on Day 1

With inputs by P.T. Reporters Hoshedar Polad & Raaj Shamji



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Mehran Felfeli

WHERE TO INVEST THIS YEAR?

There was a time when tablet was just a medicine,
Those were the days when Apple was just a fruit,
Now are the days when life without a Phone is sin,
And we use Google to find others roots,
Gone are the days when we used to write,
But now use a Pen (drive) as a storage device,
Onions, now even their price brings us tears,
Therefore invest wisely and bring yourself cheer

Mehran Felfeli

In my previous article dated 31st August 2013 I had articulated the reasons why should our stock market head for a lifetime high despite all the odds and inflated pessimism. Today, while I write this article the equity market has already breached the lifetime high and may witness further rise even in the coming days. On a lighter note you would have made astronomical returns in Onions and Tomatoes, because they have appreciated by 278% and 122% in just 1 year. It's just not onions that bring us tears but their prices also do.

Gold has lost its sheen, real estate industry is stagnant, deposit rates are not even at par with inflation and ironically the retail investors are net sellers in the equity market. The biggest question that currently stares us in the face is WHERE TO INVEST? Let us understand various investment asset classes and the current risk associated with it.

GOLD

Who says Gold is a safe haven. Prices have dropped by 10% locally and internationally the value of this yellow metal has eroded by over 30%. The impact of erosion has not been drastic in India due the Rupee depreciation against the Dollar and we are net importers of

Gold. Gold prices can be as speculative and volatile as a stock market. I am of the firm belief that the price of anything cannot rise forever. For some history-conscious investors, fear of a repeat of the gold price crash of 1980 may be keeping them out of the gold market. Just for someone who is not aware, Gold had hit a record high in the beginning of 1980 because of high inflation and strong oil prices and then in August 1999 Gold hit an all time low eroding almost 70% of its value. i.e.

someone who had invested in 1980 and held it for almost 20 years he/she would have lost 70% of his money.

I guess anything that goes up too soon has to come down. The moment we witness a global recovery we can see Gold lose a bit of its glitter. I guess at these levels gold is in an unchartered territory and investors have to be extra cautious. Although there may be some more steam left in Gold but watch your step. At these levels invest via SIP (Systematic Investment Plan) through Gold ETF funds. Please remember that Gold is taxed.

REAL ESTATE

Undeniably it has been the best performing asset

class for the last many years but certainly the most unorganized sector with lack of transparency. The Real Estate Bill, 2013, seeks to set up a regulatory authority to protect consumers and promote the real estate sector. Currently

Realty is bleeding and its revival would take some time. The high cost of borrowing is squeezing developer's margin and also the expensive loan rates is affecting buyers. The current rental yield in Mumbai and Pune is around 3% and 4% p.a. respectively i.e. if I buy a property now and put it on

rent the return is a miniscule 2%-3% per annum on the overall investment. Also with the upcoming elections, Babu's who stash away their so called hard earned (unaccounted) money in this sector may require them now for vote banks, this will result in slight liquidity crunch.

Please avoid dealing with under-constructed properties, deadlines may not be met and you may be stranded. Readymade construction is a better option. It is an asset class to be considered for long term because of its illiquid nature. We may witness further slowdown in this sector and investors are advised to be cautious. However, anyone with a decent bank balance is in a good bargaining position.

FIXED DEPOSIT/ TAX FREE BONDS/ NCD'S

Considering that interest rates are peaking it is prudent to deploy funds into fixed income avenues like Fixed Deposits, Debt Mutual funds, Tax free bonds, Tax Non-convertible debentures of secured companies. However, the stark reality is that such instruments do not beat inflation but the safety aspect is essential to consider in ones investment portfolio. Hence I would certainly recommend these instruments in ones portfolio.

EQUITY

This is one asset class which is heading for a boom and anyone who invests here for long term will make money unless the product is a revenue making machine for a bank/broking firm with high hidden costs. Although we may head for short term volatility but the long term trend is very good. Just a few months ago business channels functioned more like an astrology channel and predicted the doomsday of the market, what happened? As usual they were wrong. No one on earth can predict

the market or time it. It is a futile effort to outsmart the market, it is like challenging Rajnikant. Valuations are still cheap now, in 2014 you should witness inflation being tamed, subsequently interest rate cycles reversing, cost of capital will eventually reduce and company margins will improve. Fiscal deficit is the fly in the ointment with high import bills but overtime it will be controlled. The US Fed announcement in December will decide the faith of easy flow of money which can bring short term jitters to the market. Right now the economy is in its worst shape and ironically the stock market is rising, this trend has stumped investors. Please note that the stock market does not wait for Santa claus to arrive so it could begin rallying, it moves when valuation becomes very cheap. The sad story is that retail investors have been net equity sellers while foreign institutions have been net buyers. Investing into stocks is not gambling as long as your investment is not based on speculation. Stock represents the ownership of a company. Investing into stocks is investing in a business opportunity which you should be able to foresee and understand. This is the best and most liquid asset class for very long term investors.

Dear Investors, however please remember not to disturb your risk appetite and asset allocation while investing. How you invest is as important as where you invest. So please avoid replicating your friends or peers portfolio's, it may not suite your risk appetite.

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FeedBack...
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Joining the Parsi Times pages with some fun, interesting and quirky things to do online, is Yazdi Tantra.

A Chartered Accountant by training, Computer Consultant by Profession, Entrepreneur Developer by hobby and Trainer in his leisure time. Look up his latest blog www.ConsumerResources.in for some useful resources, and on-lyne.blogspot.in for some more interesting Tech Stuff.

How I Work! Shush!

Whenever we enter a meeting or a theater, we tend to put our phone on silent mode, at least all sensible and disciplined people do! But then, such people invariably forget to switch on the Volume of their phone when the meeting is over.

Shush! is a great help at such times - Once you install the app on your Android device, whenever you mute the volume on your phone, up pops a friendly reminder asking you when would you like to restore the volume back to normal - after a few minutes or a couple of hours? Having set the time, you need not worry about the volume of your phone getting back to normal - it will automatically be reset once the period is over! Of course, if your meeting ends earlier, you can restore the volume back to normal, manually.

A very handy app for everyday use.

RECIPE



Purveen Dubash is a chef with many knives in her pretty home

Kitchen cabinet. From TV anchor to educator to author she is armed with culinary skills to put your tummy into a hypnotic state. We are proud to present to you her recipes which have the unique distinction of being not only simple to follow but yummy to taste!

Dosa Batter

Ingredients:

- 1 cup boiled rice (raw)
- 1 cup rice
- 1 cup urad daal
- 1 tablespoon methi seeds
- 1 cup curd
- Salt to taste

Directions:

Soak the boiled rice, rice and methi seeds in a large bowl of water for 4-6 hours. In another bowl of water, soak the urad daal. Grind the drained rice until it is fine. Add the daal. Grind till the



mixture is smooth. Place the batter in a large stainless-steel vessel for 10-12 hours in a warm place. When the batter has tripled in volume, add the curd. This batter can remain in the fridge for a week.

Winter Curls

Tushna Mehta



A shopaholic who fills her cupboard with the spoils of professional styling. Tushna Mehta has worked with the famous b:blunt hair professionals for a while and is ready to share her knowledge and passion for tresses!

Winter can effect the hair in various ways. It could make the hair go slightly flat as the weather goes drier and cooler. Generally people feel their hair stays a lot better in the winter but it goes flatter than usual.



This is the best time of the year to do something fun and bouncy to your hair.

Want to add volume to your hair?! Add some curl. Use tongs and divide your lovely long locks into 7 to 10 parts and curl the ends. Run your fingers into your hair! That will open up your curls and give you lots of volume and movement.

For the girls with the lovely curls keep them intact this year! If you've got a natural wave or kink to your hair, just apply a little product to damp locks and leave them to dry naturally. They will not only stay frizz free thanks to the lovely weather but they will give you a more approachable look and fun bouncy curls.

If you want to introduce curls without any effort then plaiting towel-dried hair overnight is the easiest way to create care-free waves.

Adding texture doesn't mean taking away shine: finish your look with a shine spray or a slick of glossing serum for an ultra-glam feel.



What's Your Number

Stars, Angels & Spirituality are all part of being Kermeez Shroff. Here she shares what the week ahead looks like for you with regard to your root number. To arrive at your root number add the digits of your birth date (not including month and year.), till you arrive at a single digit number. eg. 25-3-1988. Take 25 only- add 2 and 5 = 7 kermeezshroff@yahoo.co.in

- 1** Emotionally a little turbulence is seen. You may get into small arguments and disputes with your loved one. Career wise you will receive guidance and be shown the way by someone respectable. **Advice** - Do not let confusions bogge up your decisions. **Lucky dates** - 31st Dec. 13 1st & 2nd January 2014.
- 2** Your mind and emotions will be in a state of confusion. You will be unable to make decisions. Career wise it's a serene week. Not too many changes just the regular. **Advice** - Do not take tensions which are unnecessary. **Lucky dates** - 29th Dec. 13, 2nd & 3rd January 2014.
- 3** Issues of the past will trouble you and hence compel you to take a journey into yourself. You will have a soul searching week. Career wise you will charge ahead on the project at hand and be a winner. **Advice** - Spend some quality time with the people who matter. **Lucky dates** - 30th Dec. 13, 1st & 2nd January 2014.
- 4** A good week ahead. Marriage may be on the cards. Celebration along with your loved one is seen. A sense of fulfilment shall grip you. Career wise you will achieve all your goals with determination. **Advice** - Search for the smaller things in life to be happy. **Lucky dates** - 1st to 3rd January 2014.
- 5** Not a very good week ahead. Issues will not let you sleep peacefully. Emotionally you will be low. Career wise problems will bend you down. However, the worst is over career wise. **Advice** - Do not carry more than you can handle. **Lucky dates** - 31st Dec. 13, 1st & 3rd January 2014.
- 6** A good week in a relationship. Marriage may be on the cards. You will get the kind of adoration you want from your loved one. Career wise it's a low week. Take care of your finances. **Advice** - Purity in every thing is the key for you. **Lucky dates** - 1st to 3rd January 2014.
- 7** Planning for the future with your loved one is seen this week. Career wise you will be seen working hard and awaiting fruitful results. **Advice** - Be a little playful. Ignite the youth within you. **Lucky dates** - 30th Dec. 13, 1st & 3rd January 2014.
- 8** You will come a full circle this week with regards to your relationship. Justice will be delivered to you. Career wise you will also reap the rewards of your hard work. The Universe will be benevolent to you. **Advice** - Be orderly and disciplined yet not cold hearted. **Lucky dates** - 28th & 30th Dec. 13 & 1st January 2014.
- 9** A few ego clashes are seen. Otherwise the week is pretty good. You and your partner shall be involved in activities which connect you both further. Career wise you shall await a reward of some kind for the past efforts you have put in. **Advice** - Be strong and independent. Let your ideas grow. **Lucky dates** - 1st to 3rd January 2014.

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Word of the Week!
Exhilarate: Make cheerful and excited, enliven, exhilarate, refresh and stimulate

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Contact: 9769021742



Aries: 21st March - 20th April: If you want to be happy this year, just concentrate on your work and don't be jealous by looking at others. Be satisfied with what you have. Time between July-August will shatter your mental peace. You will get the money but you will long for mental peace. If you are planning to marry, finding the right person will be hard. People will envy you for no reason. This year be careful during October & November. You will get great benefits by serving the elders. January & February will be fabulous. Your enemies will turn into your friends. Don't start anything new on Wednesdays. Wear Mars stone, it will increase your mental peace. Salaried people will not face any problems. You will react after observing the situation. Partnerships will not be fruitful. Feed poor on a full moon day or on the last day of the month of a Hindu calendar.

Taurus: 21st April - 20th May: This year you will get some peace. Travelling is on the cards, you might get a chance to go to foreign country. You might get your soul mate. You will be troubled by some physical ailments. If you are planning to go to foreign country for higher education, start your efforts from the beginning of the year. Don't undertake any Government related work in the months of January, August, September and December. If you are planning get married, period between July and December is ideal for the same. Start any new work on Thursday and if possible, tell others to do it for you. This year wear diamond or garnet, it will bring good luck. Success and gains in home or lands brokerage is assured.



Gemini: 21st May - 20th June: This year will prove beneficial for you. Money matters are good. You will not have to run around for money. You will get the perfect returns for your efforts. Meeting some people will have a calming effect on you. You will be able to finish accounts related work efficiently. This year, plan well before undertaking any task, helping others will prove beneficial to you as well. You will be separated from your siblings but fortunately it will not be due to misunderstanding or difference of opinion. Take care of elderly family members. Your kids may have some problems. Don't do anything in the fit of moment. Don't start any new venture on Thursdays. There are chances of visiting foreign land. Wearing green stone in last finger will increase your convincing power. Be very careful and you will be happy.

Cancer: 21st June - 22nd July: This year first 6 months will be testing for you. Health wise do take good care of your life-partner. You will get benefit of your hardwork in the last 6 months of the year that way the situation will get balanced. You will be in the pink of your health. More work and busy schedules will bring happiness. You will not be able to get extra leaves this year. Chances of journey are very less. Don't start any work on Saturdays. If you are planning to get married, time after April is very cordial and you will find a suitable person. Acidity and headache will trouble you. You will take care of your responsibilities. You will get good results in January and February. Be careful, as accidents are on the cards. If possible try to avoid any partnerships this year.



Leo: 23rd July - 23rd August: Be practical and things will start to work in your favor. Keep your ego away. It will prove beneficial. Money will be steady. This year is very good for starting new work. Difference of opinion between father and son are likely. Money will come your way but your medical expenses will also rise. Don't take loans on debts this year. You will be able to take decisions related to marriage after June. Plan your wedding after December. You will be inclined towards religious activities. Don't hesitate to help your friends. January, April, May and December will test you. Stay away from speculative activities. Black color will cause problems for you, so don't wear black cloths on Sunday. Don't buy a vehicle this year.

Virgo: 24th August - 23rd September: This year you will have to pay extra attention to accounts related work. Don't indulge into partnership. Don't be surprised if an old partnership hits a rock. Be careful with your words in January, as you might hurt someone. Take good care of your health in April-May. Don't over-depend on someone. Money will be good, but you will not be in a position to save it. Somebody close to you will make life difficult for you, so be very discreet in your behavior. Journey is on the cards, but be careful. Don't do any good work on Thursdays, instead start it on Mondays and it will prove fruitful. This year wear Panna stone, it will bring peace. Don't take any important decisions related to job or business, it will go against you.



Libra: 24th September - 22nd October: This is a fruitful year for you. You will achieve what you desire. Don't expect a promotion at work. Health related issues of your life-partner will disturb your peace of mind. Monetary gains are indicated, but at the end you will have to spend more on medicines and other things. You might lose a dear one. Due to a positive effect of a favorable planet, monetary gains will come. If you are thinking of changing jobs, make sure you have your option ready, before quitting the current job. Change in season will reflect in your health. Wear amethyst in middle finger. It will help you in concentrating on your work. Don't take any decisions based on assumptions of others.

Scorpio: 23rd October - 22nd November: This year you will get many opportunities regarding travel. Married people will get to hear some good news. You will get and give good support to your spouse. If you are in fields of arts or teaching, time is good for you. People who want to get married will find the right person. January and February will bring some anxiety and restlessness. Worry regarding your parent's health and high expenditures are on the cards. If you get a job offer from foreign shore, don't let it go. You will be in a position to finish your pending tasks by convincing people. An old friend or a person you like most might show up again. Avoid wearing dark green cloths, as that will add to your woes. Start any good work on Mondays and Tuesdays. Moonstone will have a calming effect on your personality.



Sagittarius: 23rd November - 22nd December: This is not very favorable period for changing jobs, if you are toying with an idea to change the job, avoid it. Control your temper, as this period shows you might take some decisions in anger. Think twice before taking any quick and impulsive decision, as you might have to regret it later. March, April, July and August are the months which will bother you with ill health. Acidity and eye related issues may crop up during this time. Work pressure will be high. But don't neglect health. Your confidence will be at a peak, you may not like somebody helping you. Try to help some students in their study. Wear Pearl and Topaz. Don't start any new work on Wednesday or Friday. Income will rise after June.

Capricorn: 23rd December - 20th January: You will get proper results and success for your hard work; this is a fruitful time for you. This year, there will be an auspicious occasion at home. This period indicates separation from a near one. Be assured this separation will lead to betterment of your loved one. The year is good for marriage. You will get many opportunities regarding going abroad after July. Financially, this year is excelled for you. During July and August chances of misunderstanding with family members can't be ruled out. Problems at work are also indicated. Be very calm and composed during these months. Your nature will turn stubborn during this year. You will find a suitable person to marry. Don't start any new venture on Sundays. Donate black cloths this year for good luck.



Aquarius: 21st January - 19th February: This year you have to pay extra attention to your work. You will have to take care of your health too. Chances of buying a new house are very bright. This year is very fruitful, as without investment you will get gains. Addition to the family is also indicated. If you are planning to get married, chances of getting good person are bright. To fulfill your desire you will not hesitate to do hard-work. You will make new friends. Foreign tour is very much on cards. Your efforts will bring fruits in last 6 months of the year. Stomach related problems and high pressure are the health related issues, which will hound you. Blessings from the elders will be good for you. You will be able to fulfill promises given to family member. Students who are going for higher education might find initial period too taxing, be focused and don't lose hope, you will come out with a flying colors. Don't start any auspicious activity on Tuesdays.

Pisces: 20th February - 20th March: This will be a difficult year for you. Problems will keep coming your way. You might have to go through rough patch at your work place. Your siblings will not support you. Don't depend on your relatives too. Your planets are not in favorable position. So your confidence level will also be low and it will have an adverse effect on your work. Difference of opinion with your loved ones will be regular. Be careful in your action and words, as you might hurt a dear one by it. Don't indulge in dubious investment plans, if you have excess money, put it into fixed deposit. Stay away from using green color this year. Don't pay attention to unproductive and time-consuming activities. Wear Topaz and it will lead you towards prosperity.



The New Year Plan!

- 1: Dress for the weather.
- 2: Hire a driver or have a designated driver.
- 3: Be close to those you love making memories with.
- 4: SMS your wishes because the lines are usually jammed at 12!
- 5: Carry your ID for checks and nakka bandis.

Have a great 2014!

પારસી ટાઈમ્સ

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નથી મુજને ગમ સમય ગુજરવાનો,
જે વીતી ગયો તે નથી આવવાનો,
સોચીઓ નહોતો,
કદી ફાયદો ખુદનો,
દીલની સીફ તમત્રા છે,
સંસાર સાફ કંઈ કરી જવાનો
-મીનુ બી. તારાપોર

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જન્મ તારીખના આધારે લવિચવાણી



જો તમારો જન્મ ડિસેમ્બરની ૨૮મી તારીખે થયો હોય તો..

તમે વધુ પડતો આત્મવિશ્વાસ રાખશો. વિશ્વાસઘાતના પ્રસંગો બનશે. પૈસો ખૂબ સહેલાઈથી મેળવશો અને ગુમાવશો. નુકસાનીથી ગભરાવ એમ નથી. હિંમતથી સંકટનો સામનો કરી ફરી પાછા પોતાનું કામ શરૂ કરશો અને સફળતા મેળવશો. સ્વભાવે આનંદી અને મળતાવડા હશો. ઝઘડો કરવાનું હંમેશાં ટાળશો. દરેક પ્રકારની અગવડને નીભાવી લેશો. તમારા મનના વિચારો ચહેરા પરથી તરત જ સમજાઈ જશે. તમે સત્યપ્રિય હશો. અનેક ક્ષેત્રો તમારા સ્વભાવ અને સંબંધોને લીધે પૈસા પ્રાપ્ત કરી શકશો. બીજાને મદદ પણ કરશો. તમે સ્વપરાક્રમે પ્રગતિ કરશો. હાથમાં લીધેલા કાર્યને પૂરું કરશો. તમારા વિચારો ખૂબ જ ઉંચા હશે. વિજ્ઞાન, દવા વગેરે ક્ષેત્રો ધનલાભ મેલવશો. રાજકારણમાં વધુ રસ પડશે. શારીરિક બાબતમાં પેટ અને સાર્દનસને લગતી તકલીફ થશે.

શુભ રંગ: પીળો, સોનેરી, જાંબુડી

શુભ નંગ: માણેક, યોખરાજ

આ વર્ષોમાં કોઈ પણ યાદગાર બનાવ બની રહેશે: ૧, ૫, ૧૪, ૨૩, ૨૭, ૩૧, ૩૬, ૪૦, ૪૬, ૪૮, ૫૪, ૫૭, ૬૪, ૬૬, ૭૩, ૭૫.

- નુપુર



બકોર પટેલની વાતો

લખનાર: શ્રી હરીપ્રસાદ વ્યાસ

લીલે તોરણે પાછા!

(ગયા અંકથી ચાલુ)

છેવટે બાંકુભાઈ મુનીમે તેમને ઠંડા પાડ્યા અને કહ્યું: 'શેક, ગભરાવાનું કારણ નથી. એક મોટરમાં વિઠુને પાછો મોકલીએ છીએ, તે જઈને બધું લઈ આવશે. બરફી રહી ગઈ તેનો કંઈ વાંધો નહીં, પણ અમથાભાઈના કપડાં જ રહી ગયા, એટલે શું થાય?'

આમ કહી બાંકુભાઈએ એક મોટરવાળાને સમજાવ્યો. તેને વધારે પૈસા આપવાના નકકી કર્યાં. મોટરવાળો કબૂલ થયો. બાંકુભાઈએ વિઠુને અમથાના કપડાં અને બરફીનો ટોપલો લેવા તારાપુર મોકલ્યો!

આ બાજુ નારતો કરવા માટે પંચત

પડી હતી. તે એમ ને એમ બગાડાં ખાતી

રહી! પેલા હમાલે પાણી કાઢ્યું.

સૌએ પેટ ભરીને પાણી પીધું. પછી એક

કહ્યું કે: 'નાસ્તો જવા દો. ત્રણ મોટરોને

ચાલવા દઈએ. બાકીના પછી આવશે.'

પાછળ કોણ રહે અને કોણ નહિ, તેનો

મોટો સવાલ ઉભો થયો. બધાને સાથે

જ જવું હતું. છેવટે ચારે મોટરો સાથે

ઉપાડવાનું નકકી કર્યું અને બધાં ગપ્પાં

મારવા બેઠા. પટેલ મનમાં વિચાર કરે કે આ જાન ખરી નીકળી!

જોતજોતામાં તો તારાપુર મોકલેલી મોટર પાછી આવી પહોંચી.

સાથે અમથાનાં કપડાંની પેટી તથા બરફીનો ટોપલો લઈને વિઠુ પણ

આવી પહોંચ્યો. પટેલે ઝટઝટ બધાંને બરફીનો નાસ્તો કરાવ્યો. પછી

એકદમ મોટરો ઉપાડી. આમ કરતાં કરતાં સોજત્રા આવી પહોંચ્યું.

ગામને પાદરે જાન ઉતરી. વહેવાઈને ઘેર ખબર પહોંચી ગઈ.

થોડીવારે ન્યાતના માણસો સાથે વેવાઈ સામેયું કરવા આવી

પહોંચ્યા.

સામેયું એટલે જાણો છો ને! બન્ને વેવાઈના પક્ષના સામસામા એક

બીજાને મળે તે. ગાડામાં તો વરવાળા હારબંધ ઉભા રહે. કન્યાવાળા

હારબંધ ચાલતા સામા જાય. હાથમાં હાથ મેળવે. નમસ્કાર કરે. કોઈ તો

એકબીજાને ભેટે પણ ખરા.

બેચરભાઈ તો બકોર પટેલને વળગી જ પડ્યા. પટેલ મુંબાઈ રહેલા

તેથી આવું ના ગમે, પણ કરે શું?

સામેયું કર્યા પછી બધાને જાનીવાસે લઈ ગયા. જાનીવાસો એટલે

જાનને ઉતરવા માટે જે ઠેકાણું આપ્યું હોય તે.

પછી કલવો પીરસાયો અને વરરાજા ચોરીમાં પણ જઈને બેઠા.

વરરાજા ચોરીમાં બેઠા પછી ખરી ગમ્મત થઈ. બકોર પટેલ અને બેચર



પટેલ વચ્ચે પહેરામણીની બાબતમાં વાંધો પડ્યો!

વાત એમ હતી કે બકોર પટેલ ઉંચા કુળના હતા. તેમનું કુટુંબ અમીર કુટુંબ કહેવાતું. ન્યાતની પટેલબાઈ કરે એટલે બધા તેમને પટેલ કહે. તેમના કુટુંબીઓને પરણતી વખતે પહેરામણી મળે. હજાર, બે હજાર, પાંચ હજાર, દશ હજાર, જેવો સુરતિયો.

અમથાનો વિવાલ કરતી વખતે બકોર પટેલે પાંચ હજાર પહેરામણીના લેવાના નકકી કરેલા. માંડવા ખરચના લેવાના નકકી કરેલા, માંડવા ખરચના હજાર જુદા. બેચર પટેલ માંડવા ખરચના રૂપિયા ભેગા સમજેલા એટલે એમણે આપવા માંડવા પાંચ હજાર. અને આપણા બકોરભાઈ માગે છ હજાર!

આ બાબત ભારે ભાંજગડ થઈ. વાત કેમ કરી ના ઉકલે. બેચર પટેલ બહુ ટેકીલા આદમી હતા. એ કહે: 'દશ હજાર કહ્યા હોત તો દસ હજાર આપતે પણ તમે ખોટી રીતે હજાર વધારે માગો છો તે મળે નહિ!'

પટેલ કહે: 'તમારા કરતાં મારો ટેક વધારે છે. તમે કહીને હવે ફરી જાઓ છો? હું છ હજારમાં એક પાઈ પણ ઓછી લેવાનો નથી!'

બન્નેને બધાએ બહુ સમજાવ્યા. બકોર પટેલને બાંકુભાઈ સમજાવવા લાગ્યા: 'હશે, શેક! એમ સમજો કે હજાર નહોતા કમાયા! તમારે શી ખોટ છે? કબૂલ કરી લો ને?'

પટેલ કહે: 'ના, બાંકુભાઈ, આમા તમે ના સમજો. આ હજારનો સવાલ નથી પણ નાકનો સવાલ છે, નાકનો, સમજ્યા? બેચર પટેલની વાત આમ કબૂલી લઈ તો માફ નાક કપાઈ જાય!'

બેચર પટેલ કહે: 'મારે પણ નાક છે, હોં કે? બકોરભાઈ, હજાર ધર્માદા કરી દઈ તે વાત ખરી, પણ પહેરામણીમાં તો હવે પાઈ પણ વધારે નહિ મળે.'

બકોર પટેલ ગુસ્સે થઈને બોલ્યા: 'એએએમ? એટલી બધી ખુમ-રી રાખો છો? તો અમે અમથાને પરણાવ્યા વગર પાછો લઈ જઈશું.' બેચરભાઈએ જવાબ આપ્યો: 'તો પટેલ, આ રહ્યો સીધો રસ્તો! તમને ના કોણે કહી? જાઓ, રસ્તે પડો!'

પટેલને બહુ લાગી આવ્યું. ચોરીમાં બેઠેલા અમથાને તેમણે ઉઠાડી લીધો: 'ચાલ, ઉઠ, અમથા! બીજી એકયાશી કન્યાઓ મળશે.'

અમથો વીલે મોઢે ચોરીમાંથી પરણ્યા વિના ઉભો થઈ ગયો. બધા જાનેયાઓ પણ મંડપમાં ઉભા થઈ ગયા. સૌ ઉતરેલે મોઢે પાછા ઉતારે આવ્યા અને ગાંસડાંપોટલાં બાંધી પાછા તારાપુર જવાની તૈયારી કરવા લાગ્યા. બેચર પટેલે વધારે પહેરામણી ના આપી, તે ના જ આપી. જાન માટે રસોઈ રંધાવી હતી તે ગામ લોકોને ખવડાવી દીધી. આમ અમથાભાઈ હાથમાં નાગિયેર લઈને લીલે તોરણે પાછા ફર્યા!

કેમ્બ્રેસીસ



લખનાર: દારા એમ. ખોદાખજી

મહાન સાયરસ ઈ.સ. પૂર્વે વર્ષ ૫૩૦ અથવા ૫૨૮ની આસપાસ મૃત્યુ પામ્યો હતો. કેમ્બ્રેસીસ (કાબુજ્યા) અને બારધ્યા (સ્મેરડીસ) નામના તેના બે પુત્રો તથા અતોસા, રોકસાના અને આર્ટિસ્ટોન નામની ત્રણ દીકરીઓ હતી. વિશાળ પરિચય સામ્રાજ્યનો મોટામાં મોટો હિસ્સો કેમ્બ્રેસીસને વારસામાં મળ્યો હતો. બારધ્યાને બાકટ્રિયા, કોરસામિયા, પાર્થિયા અને કારમાનિયા નામના પૂર્વીય પ્રાંતો મળ્યા હતા. કહેવાય છે કે પોતાના હિસ્સામાં આવેલા સામ્રાજ્યના મોટા હિસ્સાથી કેમ્બ્રેસીસ સંતુષ્ટ નહોતો, આથી તેણે ગુપ્ત રીતે સ્મેરડીસની હત્યા કરાવડાવી અને આ વાત લોકોથી સંતાડી રાખી. એ પછી તેણે આખા રાજ્યનો કારભાર પોતાના હાથ માં લઈ લીધો. આ બાબતને પુરવાર કરતો ઐતિહાસિક પુરાવો પણ છે. કેમ્બ્રેસીસ ભારે મહત્વાકાંક્ષી હતો. તેના પિતા સાયરસે વિસ્તારેલી તે કરતાં પણ વધુ દૂર સુધી પોતાની ક્ષિતિજો વિસ્તારવાની તેની મહેચ્છા હતી. તેની નજરો ઈજિપ્ત પર સ્થાયી થઈ હતી. ઈજિપ્ત પર આધિપત્ય જમાવવાની શરૂઆત રૂપે ફોએનિશિયા, સિલિસિયા તથા આ બધામાં સૌથી મહત્વ મદાર ધરાવતા તથા ધરાવતા સાયરસને તે પોતાની આણ હેલળ લાગ્યો. આ ખૂબ જ વ્યહરચના હતી જે કેમ્બ્રેસીસના પ્રથમ ચાર વર્ષનું પ્રતિનિ અને ભારત વચ્ચેના વેપાર-ધંધનો પ્રમુખ ધોરી માર્ગ હતો. પોતાની વિરુદ્ધ ઈજિપ્તના ફારાહો, સમ્રાટ અમેસિસે કોઈસસ સાથે સૈન્ય જોડાણ કર્યું હોવાથી, સાયરસ તેના પર ચડાઈ કરવા માગતો હતો, આમ આ યોજના મૂળ તો સાયરસે જ ઘડી કાઢેલી. કમનસીબે સાયરસની ઈજિપ્ત અંગેની આ યોજના સાકાર થાય તે પૂર્વે તેને મોત આંબી ગયું. પોતાના પિતાની યોજનાને આગળ વધારવામાં કેમ્બ્રેસીસ અતિ આનંદિત હતો. તેણે ઈજિપ્ત તરફ કૂચ આદરી.

હેલિકારનેસસનો ફાનેસ નામનો એક ગ્રીક ભ્રાટૂતી સૈનિક હતો. તે ઈજિપ્તના સમ્રાટની સેવામાં હતો પણ તેમની સાથે તેના સંબંધો બગડતા તેને પડતો મુકાયો હતો અને પછીથી તે કેમ્બ્રેસીસ સાથે જોડાયો હતો. તેણે કેમ્બ્રેસીસને રાજાના બેદોયુન શેખો સાથે સંવાદ સ્થાપવાની સલાહ આપી હતી. તેનું સૂચન સરળ, અદ્ભુત તથા ખૂબ જ તાર્કિક હતું. રાજાના પાણીવિહોણા લાંબા માર્ગ પર કૂચ કરી રહેલા પરિચયન વશકર માટે પાણીની મશકથી સજજ હજારો ઊંટ વિવિધ સ્થળોએ મૂકવાની હિદાયત શેખોને અપાઈ હતી.

(સમાપ્ત)

પારસી ટાઈમ્સ આરામની પળોમાં...

આ જ ની વા ન ગી

ડ્રાયફ્રૂટ કેક



સામગ્રી: ૨, ૧/૨ કપ મેંદાનો લોટ, ૧/૧/૨ કપ દૂધ, ૧ કપ દળેલી ખાંડ, ૧૦૦ ગ્રામ માખણ (સફેદ), ૨ ટીસ્પૂન મિલ્ક પાઉડર, ૨ ટીસ્પૂન બેકિંગ પાઉડર, ૧ ટેબલસ્પૂન કાજુની કટકી, ૧ ટેબલસ્પૂન છોલેલી બદામની કટકી ૧ ટેબલસ્પૂન પિસ્તાની કટકી, પાઈનેપલ એસેન્સ, ચપટી મીઠું.

રીત: એક થાળીમાં માંખણ અને ખાંડ નાંખી, ખૂબ ફીણવું. પેસ્ટ જેવું થાય એટલે બેકિંગ પાઉડર અને ચપટી મીઠું નાંખી ફીણવું. પછી મેંદાનો લોટ, દૂધ, મિલ્ક પાઉડર અને ડ્રાયફ્રૂટ નાંખી બરાબર મિક્સ કરી, ૧ કલાક પીઠં ઢાંકીને રહેવા દેવું. પછી એસેન્સ નાંખી, બેકિંગ ટિનને ગ્લેઝ કરી મેંદો છાંટી (ડસ્ટિંગ કરી) પીઠં નાંખવું. અગાઉથી ગરમ કરેલા ઓવનમાં ટિન મૂકી ૩૫૦ ફે. તાપે એક કરવું. બદામી કલર થાય અને સુંગધ આવે એટલે કાઢી, ઠંડી થાય એટલે બટર આઈસિંગ કરવું.

સાલ મુબારક ને જશો એક જૂનો દિવસ

એક નવો દિવસ, નવી ઈચ્છાઓ, નવાં સપનાંઓ, જાણે કોરા કાગળમાં, ચાંદનીના ફૂલો ખીલવવાની સફર, સંઘર્ષોના ટોળાં વચ્ચે, હૃદયમાં સ્મિત ટકાવવાનો પડકાર, લઈ આવે છે પોતાની સાથે જવાબ વગરના થોડા સવાલ, ક્યારેક થોડું ઉમેરાય, ક્યારેક થોડું બાદ થાય, ને તો ય, દરેક નવો દિવસ હોય છે જીવવા જેવો...

આજની આ જાણને જીવી લો, દરેક નવો દિવસ, કાલે બની જશે એક જૂનો દિવસ...

-આબાન પરવેઝ તુરેલ

હસવાનું શું લેશો ?

પતિ (ગુસ્સામાં) : હવે તું તારી મા પાસે ચાલ્યા જવાની ધમકી આપીશ. ખરું ને ?

પત્ની : ના, એવી ભૂલ હું નહીં કરું. હું તો મારી માને અહીં જ બોલાવવાની છું.

વીજળીઘરની બહાર બોઈ લટકતું હતું. તેમાં લખ્યું હતું : આ થાંભલાને અડનારનું મૃત્યુ નિશ્ચિત છે.

જો કોઈ તેને અડકશે તો કાપદા મુજબ તેની પર કામ ચલાવવામાં આવશે.

ડોક્ટર ગમનલાલે તેમના દરદી હજારીમલને કહ્યું : તમારા પગે હજી સોજા છે, પણ એની ચિંતા કરવાનું કશું જ કારણ નથી.

હજારીમલ : સાહેબ, જો આપના પગે સોજા હોત તો મને પણ એમાં ચિંતા કરવા જેવું લાગત નહિ.



ભાગી અને ગંગા

તીરીરામ કંપની મુંબઈમાં આવી, તેના ઘણાક વર્ષો અગાઉ જ, ભાગી અને ગંગા નામીની બે મરાઠા જાતની કંપનીઓએ પરેલમાં આવેલા પ્રખ્યાત લવજા કેસલમાં એક મુજરા દરમ્યાન, તેના માલેકને રાજી રાખવા, આ ભાગી અને ગંગાએ એક ગાયન ત્યાંને ત્યાંજ તે બંગલાની તારીફમાં જોડી, નાચીને ગાઈ દેખાડી, ત્યાં ભેગી થયેલી મિજલસને ખુશ કરી નાખી હતી. તે ગાયનની થોડીક લીટીઓ તે જૂના જમાનાની યાદ તાજી કરવાના હેતુથી, અહીં ઉતારી લેવાની તક જતી મુકવા ગમતી નથી.

‘મુંબઈ શહેર ગુલઝાર, ઉસમે માહિમ-પરેલકા જંગલા, દરમ્યાને ખૂબ જોર હવા, હોરમજીજી શેકડા બંગલા.’

કંપનીઓના નાચ અને ગાયનની મુંબઈમાં તે વખતે ઠીક ધમાચકરી ચાલતી હતી. તીરીરામ કંપની જેવી કોઈ નાચનારીએ મુંબઈમાં દેખાવ દીધો હતો, અને મરહુમ પેસુ પેટ્રીજ, તીરીરામ કંપનીના ફારસ લખનારે, એક વખત કહ્યું હતું, પણ જેવી તેણે તેણીને પોતાના ફારસમાં ચીતારી હતી, તેવી તે ખરેખર હતી નહીં. તીરીરામ સાંભળ્યા પ્રમાણે જાતે કચ્છી જાતની હતી, પણ મુંબઈમાં તેણીએ બતાવેલા પરાક્રમોની કોઈની નોંધ, પોલીસ ખાતે નોંધાયેલી જણાઈ ન હતી. આ કંપનીના નખરાને માટે ઘણુંક બોલાતું હતું, અને તેના સઘળાં ગાયનોમાં એકાદ બે ગાયનો, મરહુમ પેસુ પેટ્રીજ કહેતા હતા કે એવા તો આંખોના ઈશારા સાથે ગાઈને કરતી હતી કે ભોળા અને બીનઅનુભવીઓ તેની જાળમાં સપડાઈ જતા હતા! ફારસ લખનારે તેજ ગાયન માણેકજી બારભાયાના મોહડામાં મૂક્યું હતું.

મોરા સઈયા નહીં આયે મયે કયેસી કરરે, મોરા પીયા નહીં આયે મયે કયેસી કર્રે.

હવે જવાન બારભાયાએ શું કીધું, તેનો હિસાબ કરતાં કરતાં, આ તીરીરામનો પાર્ટ કરી, તેવણ પરવારી ગયા નહીં પણ આ તેવણના પાર્ટ પછી મરહુમ આપઅખતિયારના લાથમાં માણેકજી સપડાયા હતા.

સોહરાબ તરીકે રૂસ્તમ સોહરાબમા માણેકજી બારભાયા ગાયન ઉત્તેજક મંડળીમાં કોઈક સંગીતની તાલીમ લઈ, તે મંડળે કરેલા જાહેર જલસામાં બીજાઓની સાથે ગાવામાં ભાગ લઈ, જવાન માણેકજીએ પોતાના લલકની મધુરતા મારફતે ઠીક

વિખ્યાતી મેળવી હતી. પણ એ વિખ્યાતીની ખબર, મંડળની બહાર એક બીજા પારસી હતા, જે ગાયન ઉત્તેજક મંડળના એક હરીફ તરીકે દૂર ઉભા રહી, સઘળો તમાશો, અને સઘળી હીલચાલ તપાસી રહ્યા હતા! તેવણના કાન ઉપર જવાન બાર ભાયાની ગાયનકલાની તારીફ ગઈ. આ હરીફ તે વખતે એક મહાન જર્નાલિસ્ટ અને મહાન ગાયક લેખાતા હતા. તેવણનો દોર, દમામ અને રૂઆબ સામા ઘણીને ઠકરાવી નાખનારા હતાં. તેવણ કોઈજ નહી, પણ મરહુમ નશરવાનજી દોરાબજી આપઅખતિયાર હતા, જેવણ માટે પ્રથમ ભાગમાં પુરતું જણાવાયું હતું. આ શેઠ એક લેખક, એક જર્નાલિસ્ટ અને એક ગાયક હોવા ઉપરાંત,

પારસી સ્ટેજ પ્લેઅર્સ

નામનું એક મંડળ ચલાવતા હતા. આ મંડળના સભાસદોને મરહુમ આપઅખતિયાર પોતાના જોડેલા ગાયનો શીખવી, ગાયન ઉત્તેજકના કામની વિરૂધ્ધ જાહેર તખ્તા ઉપર રજૂ કરાવતા હતા. રફતે રફતે મરહુમે પોતાના આ કામને નાટકી રૂપ આપવા માંડ્યું અને બીજી મંડળીઓ ન્યારે આખા નાટકો સ્ટેજ કરતી હતી, ત્યારે આપઅખતિયારનું મંડળ, રમુજી ‘રેડેચીસો’ સ્ટેજ કરવા ભાગી હતી. દાખલા તરીકે ‘કબોડાનો રેચેચ’. માતબર બુઢા વર સાથ,



નશરવાનજી દોરાબજી આપઅખતિયાર

તમાશબીનોને ઘણોજ મન પસંદ થઈ પડ્યો હતો. વળી પ્રભુ સુધારના એવાજ જુદા જુદા રમુજી દેખાવો, પણ તેટલાજ ફતેહમંદ નિવડતા હતા. એવા સ્કેચમાં અચ્છા પારસી ગાનારા છોકરાઓની મરહુમ આપઅખતિયારને ઘણીજ જરૂર હોવાથી તેવણને કાને મરહુમ બારભાયાની કારકિર્દીની ખબર પડતાંજ એ જવાનને મેળવવાની ગોઠવણ કીધી અને એ ગોઠવણના પરીણામમાં, બારભાયા મરહુમ આપઅખતિયારની મંડળીમાં સામેલ થયા હતા.

નશરવાનજી દોરાબજી આપઅખતિયાર

આપઅખતિયાર તપાસી વાંચો, મહેરબાન! એક કદમ વધુ! નશરવાનજીના લાથમાં માણેકજી બારભાયા આખ્યા પછી નશરવાનજીનાં ભેજામાં એક નવો કીડો ચવડી નીકળ્યો! એ વખતે માણેકજી એક જવાન લઈડાના કદનો, પોહળી પેશાની અને મજબૂત બાંધાનો જવાન હતો. તેનો અવાજ ખીલેલો અને તેયારીવાલો હતો. આ સંગેગનો પુરતો લાભ નશરવાનજીએ લેવાનો ઈરાદો કીધો.

પોતે એક કવી તો હતાજ, એટલે ગાયન જોડાવવા માટે બીજી કલબવાલાઓ ન્યારે તે વખતના જાણીતા કવી હલપતરામ, અને બંદે ખોદા પાસે જતા હતા, ત્યારે આ નશરવાનજી આપઅખતિયારને તેવી કાંઈ મુરકેલી પડતી નહીં હતી, કેમ કે તેવણજ પોતાને મનપસંદ રાગ-રાગણીઓની ચાલ ઉપર, પોતાના ખેલને માટે ગાયનો જોડતા હતા, અને તે ગાયનો જેમ પોતે ગાતા હતા, તેમ તે બીજાઓને શીખવી ગવાડતા હતા.

(વધુ માટે જુઓ પાનુ ૨૧)



- * બરફી નરમ થઈ ગઈ હોય તો થોડી વાર ફિજમાં મૂકી દો.
- * લીંબુના રસમાં થોડું મીઠું ભેળવવાથી તે તાજો રહેશે.
- * ડ્રાયફ્રૂટસને પ્લાસ્ટિકની થેલીમાં ભરી ફિજમાં રાખો. તે તાજાં રહેશે.
- * ટોમેટો સોસ વધારે પડતો ગળ્યો લાગતો હોય તો તેમાં લીંબુનો રસ ભેળવી દો.

- * ગ્રેવીનો રંગ ઘેરો લાગે એ માટે તેમાં ચપટી કોફી નાખો.
- * દાળવડા બનાવતી વખતે પહેલાં દાળ ક્ષા કરી પછી તેમાં મીઠું નાખો. દાળવડા કિરપી બનશે.
- * ભજિયાંના ખીરામાં એક ચમચો તેલ અને સફેદ તલ નાખવાથી વધારે સ્વાદિષ્ટ લાગશે.
- * રાયતામાં બે-ત્રણ શેકેલા લવિંગ નાખવાથી વધુ સ્વાદિષ્ટ લાગે છે.
- * કોપરાના છીણને તડકામાં તપાવી પછી એરટાઇટ કન્ટેનરમાં ભરી લેવાથી લાંબો સમય સારું રહેશે.
- * દહીં જમાવતી વખતે તેમાં પ-ક કાજુનો ભૂકો ભેળવી દો.
- * ટામેટાની ગ્રેવીમાં બે ચમચી મલાઈ નાખવાથી કોફ્ટા વધુ સ્વાદિષ્ટ લાગશે.

એક નજર પારસી મરણો ઉપર

Deceased મરનાર	Age વય	Date તારીખ	Address ર. કે.	Relations સગાઈઓ
Dilnavaz Eruch Khurody દિલનવાઝ એરુચ ખુરોદી	70 ૭૦	19-12-2013 20-12-2013	641, Jer Villa, Gr.Floor, Flat. No-1, Shehrvar Amardad 1383	માતા પિતા: નરગિસ તથા પિરોજશા એદલજી મીણબત્તીવાલા, ધણી: એરુચ ફરામજી ખુરોદી, ભાઈ બહેનો: હોશંગ પિરોજશા મીણબત્તીવાલા, મરહુમ વીરાં, મરહુમ બરજોરી, સાસુ સસરા: મહેરબાઈ તથા ફરામજી ખુરોદી.
Rati Pervez Tarapore રતિ પરવેઝ તારાપોર	80 ૮૦	20-12-2013	St.-9-14, Sir Ratan Tata Bldg., Tata Colony, Tardeo, Tulsiwadi, Mumbai-400034.	માતા પિતા: શેરબાનુ તથા બરજોરજી ગોદીવાલા, ધણી: પરવેઝ એફ. તારાપોર, દીકરો: ડો. પરીઝાદ ફિરોઝ દમણિયા, ભાઈ બહેનો: મરહુમ હિદ્રા પેસી દુબાઈ, મરહુમ સોલી શાપૂર, જાલ ગોદીવાલા, ગ્રેન્ડ ચિલ્ડ્રન: ડેવાન, અરનવાઝ, વલુ જમાઈ: ફિરોઝ એસ. દમણિયા, સાસુ સસરા: પિવામાય તથા ફરદૂનજી તારાપોર.
Gool Dhunjishah Pardiwalla ગુલ ધનજીશા પારડીવાલા	-	20-12-2013	Shirin Apts., 1st Floor, Jolly S. Seth Lane, Mumbai-400007.	માતા પિતા: જેલમીના તથા ધનજીશા, ભાઈઓ: સામ, રૂસી, બોમી.
Veera Rustom Green વિરા રૂસ્તમ ગ્રીન	82 ૮૨	20-12-2013	1/B Karai Estate, 248, Javji Dadaji Road, Tardeo, Mumbai 400007.	માતા પિતા: તેલમીના તથા ખુરશેદ બોમનજી પારખ, ધણી: રૂસ્તમ નરીમાન ગ્રીન, દીકરા દીકરી: ફિરોઝા કેરસાસ્ય કાત્રક, ફરિદા રૂસ્તમ ગ્રીન, ભાઈ બહેનો: મરહુમ નરગીસ હોમી બેન્કર, મરહુમ રતન ખુરશેદ પારખ, મરહુમ ગુલ નવલ પેચ, મરહુમ પિલુ મનોહર નેવાસ્કર, વલુ જમાઈ: મરહુમ કેરસાસ્ય સોલી કાત્રક, સાસુ સસરા: મરહુમ જર તથા મરહુમ નરીમાન ગ્રીન.
Moti Pesi Bharucha મોતી પેસી ભરૂચા	85 ૮૫	21-12-2013	18, Sarita B.J. Road, Bandra- Mumbai-400050.	માતા પિતા: શિરીન તથા સાહિયાર, ધણી: પેસી હોરમસજી ભરૂચા, ભાઈ બહેનો: મરહુમ બહેરામ અદી ગોવર, સરવર, હોમાય, ગ્રેન્ડ ચિલ્ડ્રન: પરવિન, સરોશ, શેરોન, ફરાહ, વલુ જમાઈ: તેલમુલ પેસ્તનજી, સાયરસ મટોની.
Baji Jamshedji Makhania બજી જમશેદજી માખણિયા	-	21-12-2013	18, Khareghat Colony, Flat- No-4, 1st Floor, Huges Road, Mumbai-400007.	માતા પિતા: જમશેદજી નશરવાનજી માખણિયા, ધણીયાણી: કેટી બજી માખણિયા, દીકરા દીકરી: શાહરૂખ, ભાઈ બહેનો: મરહુમ કેરસી જમશેદજી માખણિયા, સામ જમશેદજી માખણિયા, સાસુ સસરા: મરહુમ અયામાય તથા પેટરોસ્ય ભેસાનિયા.
Roshan Bahadur Wadia રોશન બહાદુર વાડિયા	75 ૭૫	21-12-2013	14,Jame Jamshed Bldg., 81, Jame Jamshed Rd., Dadar, Amardad 1383	માતા પિતા: મરહુમ મની તથા મરહુમ મહેરજી એન. મોજિયા, ધણી: બહાદુર બી. વાડિયા, દીકરો: ઝૂબિન બી. વાડિયા, ભાઈબહેનો: મરહુમ હોશંગ એમ મોજિયા, મરહુમ ફ્રીડ્ટ એમ. મોજિયા, સાસુ સસરા: મરહુમ આલામાય તથા મરહુમ બહેરામજી એન. વાડિયા.
Homi Dhunjibhoy Kapadia હોમી ધનજીભાઈ કાપડિયા	68 ૬૮	22-12-2013	E - Cusrow Baug, Colaba, Causeway, Mumbai-400001.	માતા પિતા: મરહુમ જાલુ તથા મરહુમ ધનજીભાઈ એચ. કાપડિયા, ધણીયાણી: જાસ્મિન, દીકરી: શારમિન આદિલ ભાદેના, ગ્રેન્ડ ચિલ્ડ્રન: આદિલ રૂસ્તમજી ભાદેના, સાસુ સસરા: મરહુમ હિદ્રા તથા મરહુમ રૂસ્તમજી જે. મહેતા.
Sarosh Burjor Mehta સરોશ બરજોર મહેતા	78 ૭૮	23-12-2013	Spenta North Wing, 3rd Floor, Flat No-4, B.G. Kher Marg, Malabar Hill, Mumbai-400006.	માતા પિતા: મરહુમ હોમાય તથા મરહુમ બરજોર સરોશ મહેતા, દીકરા દીકરી: સિમિન સરોશ મહેતા, જાસ્મિન સરોશ મહેતા, ભાઈ બહેનો: મરહુમ મેલીન બરજોર મહેતા.
Khurshed Nariman Bogha ખુરશેદ નરીમાન બોઘા	80 ૮૦	24-12-2013	Bldg. No-5, Room No-7, Panthaki Baug, , Parsi Colony, Andheri (E), Mumbai. અંધેરી (ઈ), મુંબઈ.	માતા પિતા: મરહુમ વીરબાઈ તથા મરહુમ નરીમાન જવેરી, ધણી: મરહુમ નરીમાન ભીખાજી બોઘા, ભાઈ બહેનો: અદી ફરામરોઝ, બરજોર જવેરી, કેટી ડુમસિયા, બખ્તાવર પટેલ.
Pultan K. Mehta પુલ્તન કે. મહેતા	96 ૯૬	24-12-2013	20A-1, Takshila, Mahakali Rd., Andheri (E), Mumbai-400093	માતા પિતા: ખુરશેદબાઈ તથા પિરોજશા કે. લાકડાવાલા, ધણી: કેપુશરૂ એમ. મહેતા (નાગપુર), દીકરા દીકરી: ગુલ બોદાદ જીનવાલા, કુમી માણેક મહુડાવાલા, મોતી રેડી, ખુરશિદ, ભાઈ બહેનો: મરહુમ ધનમાય પી. લાકડાવાલા, મરહુમ અરદેશર પી. લાકડાવાલા, ગ્રેન્ડ ચિલ્ડ્રન: ડેઝી એમ. શાહ, નવરોઝ મહુડાવાલા, રઘુ, તેજસ્વિની ગુમા, વલુ જમાઈ: મરહુમ ખોદાદ જીનવાલા, માણેક પી. મહુડાવાલા, સુબારામી રેડી, માકી, સાસુ સસરા: મરહુમ ધનમાય તથા મંચેરજી મહેતા (ભરૂચ)
Piloo Darabsha Mehta પિલુ દારાબશા મહેતા	94 ૯૪	25-12-2013	Jaije Terrace, Sleater Road, Mumbai- 400007	માતા પિતા: ધનબાઈ તથા દારાબશા માણેકજી મહેતા, ભાઈ બહેનો: માણેકશા દારાબશા મહેતા.

Paidast from California

Maharukh Maneek Bhujwala મહારૂખ માણેક ભુજવાલા	64 ૬૪	04-12-13 Farvardin Tir 1383	California કેલિફોર્નિયા	માતા પિતા: મરહુમ પેરિન તથા મરહુમ દાદીબા ફરામરોઝ રાયમાલવાલા, ધણી: માનેક નવરોજી ભુજવાલા, દીકરી: શેલનાઝ માણેક ભુજવાલા, ભાઈ બહેનો: કયાનોશ રાયમાલવાલા, વિરાક રાયમાલવાલા, ગુલિસ્તાન પરવેઝ અડાજણિયા, સાસુ સસરા: મરહુમ મહેરબાઈ તથા મરહુમ નવરોજી ભુજવાલા.
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Paidast from Poona Parsi Panchayat

Roshan Rusi Irani રોશન રૂસી ઈરાની	76 ૭૬	20.12.2013	D-202, Jeejeebhoy Building, Lullanagar, Pune 411040. બુજાનગર, પુણે: ૪૧૧૦૪૦.
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પારસી ટાઈમ્સ



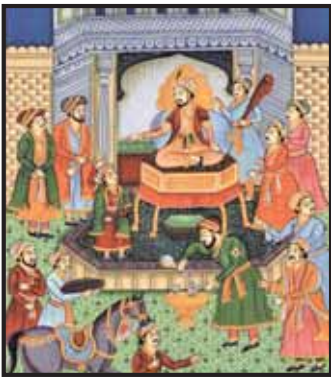
અભિમાની ચિત્રકાર

‘તમારું ચિત્ર ખૂબ સુંદર છે. તમે એક કામ કરો તમે આ ચિત્ર થોડા દિવસ માટે મારા દરબારમાં મૂકી જાઓ જેથી અમારા લોકોને એ જોવાનો લાભ મળે. ચિત્રકાર તો આ સાંભળી આવકારવામાં આવતા હતા. એક વખત એક અંગ્રેજ ચિત્રકાર એના દરબારમાં આવ્યો. પણ તેનામાં તેની કલા માટે ખૂબ અભિમાન હતું. તેણે એક ખૂબ જ સુંદર ચિત્ર બનાવ્યું હતું



એ. હિલા વાશ્ટિયા

જોતાં સાથે જ લોકોના મોંમાંથી વખાણની વાલ નીકળી જાય તેવું અતિ સુંદર છે. વળી તેના સ્વભાવ પ્રમાણે તેણે ગર્વથી જણાવ્યું કે એવું ચિત્ર હિંદુસ્તાનમાં કોઈ જ ચિત્રકાર દોરી શકે તેમ નથી. કેટલા મહિનાઓની મહેનત પછી તેણે એ ચિત્ર તૈયાર કર્યું છે. આ સાંભળી અન્ય દરબારીઓ પણ વિચારમાં પડ્યા કે એવું તે કેવું ચિત્ર હશે. પોતાના ચિત્રની પ્રશંસા કરતા એ ચિત્રકારને અટકાવી જહાંગીરે કહ્યું, ‘તમે તમારા ચિત્રની આટલી તારીફ કરી છો તો પહેલાં તે ચિત્ર તો અમને બતાવો કે જેથી અમે પણ તમારી કલાને જોઈ ‘વાલ વાલ’ પોકારી શકીએ.



ચિત્રકારના ગયા પછી જહાંગીરે પોતાના ચિત્રકારોને બોલાવી કહ્યું. ‘તમારામાંથી કોણ આ ચિત્ર જેવું જ બીજું ચિત્ર બનાવી લાવશે? કારણકે આ અભિમાની ચિત્રકારે તમને આવાહન આપ્યું છે. તમારી સામે પડકાર ફેંક્યો છે. તમને જે મહેણું માર્યું છે તેનો જડબાતોડ જવાબ આપવાનો છે. આ આપણી ઈચ્છાનો સવાલ છે.’ આ સાંભળી એક ચિત્રકારે તેવું જ ચિત્ર તૈયાર કરવાની હામ ભીડી. તેણે ત્રણ દિવસમાં આબેદુલ તેવું જ ચિત્ર તૈયાર કર્યું અને ચોથા દિવસે તો રાજા સમક્ષ તે રજૂ કર્યું. જહાંગીરે

તો એ જોઈ ખૂબ ખુશ થઈ ગયો. જહાંગીરે પેલા અંગ્રેજ ચિત્રકારને બોલાવ્યો અને બન્ને ચિત્રો એકસાથે મૂકી કહ્યું. ‘તમે તમારું ચિત્ર આ બે ચિત્રોમાંથી ઉઠાવી લો.’ અંગ્રેજ ચિત્રકાર તો આબેદુલ પોતાના જેવું જ ચિત્ર જોઈ ડહાંટી ગયો. એનું અભિમાન નષ્ટ થઈ ગયું. તેને તો એ ચિત્ર પુરું કરતા ત્રણ મહિના લાગ્યા હતા. જ્યારે આ ચિત્રકારે તે જ કામ ફક્ત ત્રણ દિવસમાં પૂરું કર્યું હતું તે તેના તોછડાઈભર્યા વર્તન બદલ શરમાઈ ગયો. પોતાના એવા વર્તન બદલ માફી માંગી અને પેલા ચિત્રકારને તેના કામ બદલ અભિનંદન આપી તેને ભેટી પડ્યો.

ચિત્રકારે દરબારમાં તે ચિત્ર રજૂ કર્યું. ચિત્ર ખરેખર ખૂબ જ સુંદર હતું. જહાંગીરને પણ થયું કે ચિત્ર ખરેખર સરસ છે. પરંતુ ચિત્રકારે જે અભિમાનથી કહ્યું હતું કે ‘એવું ચિત્ર હિંદુસ્તાનમાં કોઈ બનાવી શકે જ નહિ’ એ એના અભિમાનથી ભરેલા વચનો બાદશાહને ખૂંચ્યા હતા. બાદશાહે તે ચિત્રકારને કહ્યું,

એક સોની અને એક લુહારની દુકાન બાજુબાજુમાં જ હતી. એકવાર એક સોનાનો નાનો કણ અને લોખંડનો એક ટુકડો દુકાનની બહાર ફેંકાઈ ગયાં
રાત્રિની નીરવ શાંતિમાં સોનાના કણે લોખંડના ટુકડાને કહ્યું કે ભાઈ લોખંડ, હું પણ તારી જેમજ પ્રહાર સહન કરું છું. મારું હૃદય પણ વેદનાથી ભરપુર છે, હું આ વેદના મૂંગા મોઢે સહન કરું છું.
મારી અને તારી વેદના સરખીજ છે તેમ છતાં તું તો પ્રહારે પ્રહારે તારી વેદનાને વ્યક્ત કરી ગાઈ બતાવે છે.
ત્યારે લોખંડના ટુકડા એ કહ્યું ભાઈ સોના, તારી વાત તો સાચીજ છે કે આપણે બન્ને પ્રહારો સહન કરીએ છીએ. આપણા નસીબમાં પ્રહારો જ લખાયેલ છે. પરંતુ ...તારી અને મારી વેદના સરખી નથી દોસ્ત ...તું તો અન્યના પ્રહારો સહન કરે છે, જ્યારે મારે તો પોતીકાં ના પ્રહારો સહન કરવા પડે છે ...અને ભાઈ જ્યારે પોતીકા પ્રહાર કરે ત્યારે વેદના અસલા હોય છે ...ને તેથી જ મારા હૃદયમાંથી ચીસ નીકળી જાય છે.

બોધકથા

આ બાબદ મોટે ભાગે નસરવાનજી આપઅખતિયારના કામો સાથ સંબંધ ધરાવતી હોવાને લીધે, આપણે એ બાબત માણેકજી બારબાયાના કામની સાથે ભેળી નાખવી જોઈએ નહીં. નસરવાનજી આપઅખતિયારની એક એકરર તરીકેની કારકિર્દી ખરેખર આજની ઉંઘરતા એકટરોને



શ્રેષ્ઠ દાન

મને વિચારી છે, સાંજે આ વાક્ય ત્યારે હું આજે જરૂર વાત કરીશ વર્ષો થઈ ગયા. હરીશને વર્ષો આજે પણ એની આંખોમાં લહેરાતો સાગર જોઈ છે અને મને ઈશ્વરની વિરાટતાના દર્શન થાય છે. આકાશ અને સાગર ન હોત તો કદાચ આપણે ભગવાનની કલ્પના પણ ન કરી શક્યા હોત.

હરીશ મને ખૂબ જ પ્રેમ કરે છે. મારો બહુ ખ્યાલ રાખે છે. નાનકડું પણ ઠાવકું ઘર બે સંતાન સૂરજ અને અમી મને એણે આપ્યા છે. એ કહે છે આ વર્ષે એ મને સોનાની બંગડીઓ બનાવી આપશે. મને ખાતરી છે કે એ જરૂર મને સોનાની બંગડીઓ પહેરાવશે. હું પણ વિચારોમાં ખોવાઈ ગઈ. હમણાં જ યશોદા આવશે. મેં એને કહ્યું છે આજે સાંજે બન્ને છોકરાઓ માટે કપડાં લેવા જવાનું છે તું સાથે આવજે યશોદા તરત તૈયાર થઈ ગઈ પણ એનો ચહેરો જરા ઉદાસ દેખાય છે. યશોદા અને વાસુ છેલ્લા દસ વર્ષથી અમારા પડોશી છે. બન્ને ખૂબ જ માયાળું છે. મારા છોકરાઓ ઉપર તો એમને બહુ માયા છે. કોઈ વાર રડતાં જુએ છે તો તરત દોડતાં આવે છે. છોકરાઓને મનાવીને પોતાને ઘેર લઈ જાય છે. આવા પ્રેમાળું લોકોને પણ ભગવાને સંતાનસુખથી વંચિત રાખ્યા છે. લગ્નના દસ વર્ષ પછી પણ યશોદાની ગોદ ખાલી છે. સંતાનો માટેની એમની તરસ ચોવીસે કલાક એમના ચહેરા ઉપર ઝલકતી હોય છે.

ઘણા દિવસ પછી યશોદા સાથે બજાર ગઈ અને છોકરાઓ માટે ઘણાં કપડાં અને યુનિફોર્મ લઈ આવી હરીશનો આવવાનો સમય થઈ ગયો છે.. દુકાન વધાવીને હવે એ ઘરે પહોંચવા જ જોઈએ. છોકરાએ યશોદાના ઘરે લેશન કરવા બેઠા છે એટલે નિરાંતે હું એમને વાત કરી શકીશ આજે આવતાં જરા



(પાના નં. ૧૯થી ચાલુ) રૂસ્તમ અને સોહરાબ નસરવાનજી આપઅખતિયાર પોતાના વખતમાં, પારસી કોમમાં સારો લાગવગ અને વગવરસીલો ધરાવતા હતા. તે વખતના શેઠીયાઓએ એવાણને ઠીક માન આપતા હતા, જેથી જ્યારેબી નશરવાનજી આપઅખતિયારના ખેલો જૂની નાટકશાળામાં થતા, ત્યારે તે

મોડું થઈ ગયું મને સાખત ભૂખ લાગી છે. હરીશનું આ લગભગ રોજનું વાક્ય છે. તમે લાથપગ ધોઈને ફેશ થઈ જાઓ, હું જમવાની તૈયારી કરું છું. ‘મારે તને એક વાત કરવી છે, શાંતિથી સાંભળજે... જમવા બેસતાંની સાથેજ હરીશ બોલ્યો, ‘હા, પહેલા તમે મને વાત કરો પછી હું પણ તમને એક વાત કરવાની છું.



આબાન પરવેઝ તુરવેલ

સાંજે દુકાન વધાવીને જ્યારે હું ઘરે આવી રહ્યો હતો. ત્યારે રસ્તામાં હમેશાની જેમ મંદિર ગયો હતો. મંદિરમાં ગામના પંચ અને શ્રેષ્ઠીઓની મિટીંગ હતી. હું પણ ત્યાં બેઠો વાવાઝોડામાં ગામના ઘણા ગરીબ લોકોના ઘર ભાંગીતૂટી ગયા હતા. એમનું નવું ઘર બનાવી આપવા માટે ફંડ ભેગું કરવાની ચર્ચા ચાલી રહી હતી. બધા ફંડમાં પોતાના ગજા પ્રમાણે રકમ લખાવી રહ્યા હતા. હું પણ તારા માટે સોનાની બંગડીઓના જે ત્રીસ હજાર રૂપિયા રાખ્યા હતા એ આપી આવ્યો છું. તારી બંગડીઓ ફરી ક્યારેક બનાવીશું. તું નારાજ તો નહીંને? ‘આનાથી રૂડું કામ બીજું શું હોઈ શકે? ગરીબોના માથે છાપડું આપવું એ તો ઈશ્વરને પૂજવા બરાબર છે તમે જે કર્યું છે સારુંજ કર્યું.’

‘હાહ.. તારો સાથ જ મને..’
‘બસ, બસ હવે આગળ કંઈ કહેશો નહીં, મારે પણ તમને એક વાત કરવી છે. મને ફરી પાછા સારા દિવસો જઈ રહ્યા છે મને પણ એક વિચાર આવ્યો છે અને મેં નક્કી કરી રાખ્યું છે પુત્ર કે પુત્રી જે કાંઈ પણ અવતરશે એ યશોદાના ખોળામાં મૂકી દઈશ. એની ગોદ ભરાઈ જશે. બન્નેનું જીવન સુધરી જશે. માની મમતા પાવન થશે. હરીશના મોઢા ઉપર તેજ પ્રકાશી રહ્યું હતું. અંધકાર કેટલો પણ ગાઢ કેમ ન હોય. સુરજ તો ઉગે જ છે. ઘરના મંદિરમાં બેઠેલી મા લક્ષ્મી વિચારે છે કે મને તો આવા ઘરમાં જ વાસ કરવાનું ગમે.

જાણવાજોગ થઈ પડે એમ છે. પારસીઓમાં એ વખતે છૂટા હલકે ગાનારાઓનો, તેમજ વળી જાહેર તખ્તા ઉપર આવી ગાનારાઓનો મોટો દુકાળ હતો. અને તે દુકાળને લીધેજ, ગરીબ બીચારી ગાયન ઉત્તેજક મંડળીને જલસા માટે જોઈતા પારસી ગાનારાઓને શોધી કલાડવા, દીવો લઈ જોવા નીકળવું પડ્યું હતું! ત્યારે નસરવાનજી આપઅખતિયારને રૂસ્તમ સોહરાબનો ઓપેરા કરવા જોઈતા ખાડીબંધ એકટરો ક્યાંથી મળે? અને તોબી નસરવાનજીએ આ કીયાની ખેલ ઓપેરા રૂપે કરવાનું જાહેર કીધું. તે ખબર સાંભળી કેપશરૂ કાબરાજી ખડખડ હસી પડ્યા! અને આ કીયાની ઓપેરા ક્યારે સ્ટેજ થાય છે, તેની રાહ જોતા, લાથમાં કલમ અને કાગજ લઈ બેસી રહ્યા!

હવે કેપશરૂ અને આપઅખતિયારની વાત તેને વખતે થશે. વળી રૂસ્તમ સોહરાબનો ઓપેરા કેમ અને કેવી રીતે નશરવાનજીએ કીધો, તેબી તેને વખતે જણાઈ જશે! પણ એ કીયાની રૂસ્તમ સોહરાબના ઓપેરામાં, માણેકજી બારબાયા, સોહરાબ તરીકે લડાઈના મેદાનમાં, બખતર અને તલવાર પહેરી રૂસ્તમજી સામે, પોતાના તુરાંની લશ્કરની સાથ આવી, પોતાના જોરની ઉપર મુસ્તાક બની વડાઈ કરતો જ્યારે ગાઈ રહ્યો કે, ‘શું મકદુર સોહરાબની સામે કોઈ આવે:

આ ગુરજ, આ સામશીર, આ કમંદ કોણ ઉઠાવે.
આપું થિયેટર ઉપરથી નીચે સુધી બિલકુલ ચિકાર હતું!
રૂસ સર્કલમાં પહેલ્લે વાધેના અગેવાન પારસી ગૂલસ્તો બેઠા હતા! તુકાની બારકસો ઉપરથી વાંકાવળી જોઈ રહ્યા હતા!
(વધુ આવતા અંકે)

My New Years Resolution is to drink only on days that end with a 'y'

Check this Page



New Year Gift @ PARSI TIMES

WIN! WIN! WIN!

Do you have something strong or witty that you hope to do this New Year? Let us know and we could finance you through it!

2 lucky Bawajis win a special P.T. Mug and Rs.1000/- in cash to kick start the year!

Simply complete this line...

My New Year's Resolution is to

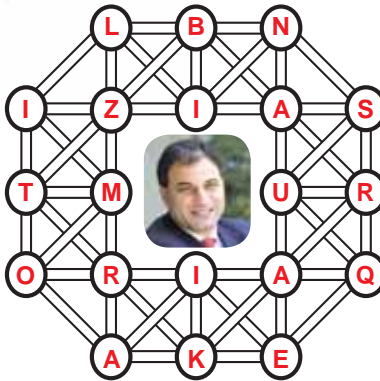
Mail us your answer at contribute@parsi-times.com (subject line: FAB2014)

and watch out for the 2 winners to be announced in our issue dated 4th January 2014! Don't forget to include your name, age and contact details!

Happy New Year Folks!

IN PERSON

Hidden in this criss-crossing network of passageways is the name of the well-known Community personality shown in the picture. Select a starting letter and trace this name with a continuous line. At no time may any letter or passage be re-used.



SNEAKY CHEEKY

Today's clue: S equals T

One letter stands for another in this substitution game. Replace it and complete the phrase to find the cheeky saying of the week!

SUH ITDC VNTTHW

NT SUH VOW IP 1812

VOR SQUONZIGRZC.

SUDOKU

9x9 Sudoku grid with some numbers filled in.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEKS PUZZLES

SUDOKU

9x9 Sudoku solution grid.

SOLUTION (21-12-2013)

IN PERSON

SOLUTION (21-12-2013) Ronnie Screwvalla

SNEAKY CHEEKY

SOLUTION (21-12-2013)

A magician pulls rabbits out of hats. An experimental psychologist pulls habits out of rats

Calendar for 2014 with monthly grids, 'PARSI TIMES' logo, a group photo, and a 'DATES TO REMEMBER' section.

P.T. SPECIAL 2014 GIFT TO OUR READERS! Cut & Pin Up Calendar (Hint: Does well under Fridge Magnets)



COMPILED BY
Roxanne Bamboat

The Last Supper

Announcing the Parsi Times Food Gods of 2013!

Hurry up and get done ordering up delish meals at these Best in Class eateries of 2013 before it's a whole new year and a whole new set to enjoy! Parsi Times presents a round-up of the spaces and places you definitely needed to eat into this past year.

Do you know a menu that deserves to be sampled? Send us the suggestion and maybe we could review it for the rest of the Community!

FeedBack...
contribute@parsi-times.com



Smoke House Deli
(Lower Parel, Bandra, BKC)

If you owe the fly a meal or want to make a big noisy Bawaji statement with every single relative dining together, head to Smoke House Deli. The atmosphere here shifts easily between family friendly and intimate. The cocktail menu is delish and the food range wide. Their seafood dishes are as popular as the Steaks and Hamburgers.



CAFE ZOE
(Lower Parel)

It may not be new but the weekend crowd shows that Café Zoe is still hot stuff! You must try out the breakfast menu. Situated in the heart of office central, Café Zoe makes a super space for a work lunch. The food is simple delicious European fare.



THALLASA
(pop-up at Olive Mahalaxmi)

Thalassa is a beautiful Greek restaurant in Goa, so much so that Olive at the Mahalaxmi Race Course has wooed them and is showcasing their menu for another four months! The restaurant is true to its Greek roots (the owner is a Greek lady who incidentally is an incredible host!) and serves authentic Greek food which is next to impossible to find in Mumbai. With its beautiful ambience, this is the closest you will come to experiencing their island food on our island city.



Masala Library
(Bandra-Kurla Complex)

Our grand dining pick for the year, the Masala Library dishes out contemporary Indian food. Their dessert menu steals the show! Not only is it a taste driven experience but the Masala Library gives you something to talk about with its Molecular Gastronomy (using a lot of science and specific methods while cooking) dishes. Some of their stand out dishes include a Ghevar Cheesecake and Jalebi Caviar with Rabri!



Woodside Inn
(Andheri)

The popular Colaba Woodside Inn has this must try out outlet in Andheri. A meal there will leave you turking for yet another! Woodside is known for their Pizza, Salads and of course their meats so definitely do not miss their Hamburgers.



Aoi
(Bandra)

Pronounced Avi this new restaurant is changing the way people perceive Japanese food. Simply put, it deserves an award for its authentic food but at affordable prices. Sushi here will not burn a hole in your pocket. But broaden your horizon because Aoi has much more to offer than the cliché Sake Sushi combo!

About Roxanne Bamboat

She is a pint sized girl who enjoys reading, movies travel and is obsessed with food. She expresses her love for all things edible in her food blog <http://www.thetinytaster.com> A freelancer in her profession she's able to spend most of her time sampling the city's food offerings and reviews them as well as shares a few of her favourite recipes. More often known as The Tiny Taster, she's decided to take the world by storm - one plate at a time.

P.T. hunts for the stars that live the simple life with greatness.



Hutokshi

the PURSUIT of HAPPYNESS

Name ... Hutokshi Dadabhoy.
I work at... Own educational classes run under the name of Personna Edutech. I also dress brides during season and I also help at the JJ Old Parsi Ward.

I work as... At Personna Edutech
I teach image consultancy and personal grooming.

That basically means... Personality Development on a personal level and at corporate offices.

My work day begins with... A prayer.

I love this about my job... The fact that I teach so many people to be confident and lead better lives.

I wish this would change about my job... Nothing.

I have been working here for ... Over 25 years.

I head to office and head back home at these times... 8 am - depends.

Some of the things that make up my work day... The positive feedback.

Someone I think has an interesting job is... Anything to do with people.

P.T. celebrates the stars that shine bright for us all!

P.T. Rockstars



Dr. Jal H. Amaria

Dr. Jal H. Amaria was born in 1926 to a Navasari family and died suddenly in 1997. Throughout his lifetime he treated patients free of cost by using his knowledge of Osteopathy. Along with his wife Rati, who would create the oils and ointments prescribed by him, Dr. Amaria set up the Jal-Rati Charitable Trust which till date gives free medication to needy patients irrespective of race, creed or colour.

Jal began working with a printing press but his love for healing and social service led him to study medicine. He spread his services across Mumbai and even had a centre in Dahanu. These centres will always be known for their serpentine queues of patients eager to see the excellent doctor.

For 35 years Dr. Amaria served the Indian Community. He was also very involved in the Zoroastrian Community affairs and was one of the main forces behind the shifting of the Soonawalla Dar-e-Meher from the Lal Baug Agiary to Mahim. He was a delegate at the Parsi Matrimonial Court in 1986 and also a proud member of the team that brought the fire from Aden to India (it now rests at the Lonavala Agiary).

P.T. Writer Kermeez give you some lucky tips and tricks for the week.

FORGOTTEN MELODIES

Spiritual Tip Of The Week

Evening Primrose

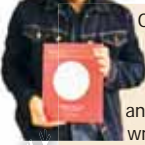
Evening Primrose is a wildflower much loved by some and considered a weed by others. Flowers may be bright yellow, white, purple or pink. Evening Primrose is famous for blooming at night, but this isn't necessarily the case. Most Evening Primrose begins blooming in the late afternoon and continues throughout the night, closing up before noon the next day, depending on the temperature. Magical uses include love and attracting faeries. Use in baths to increase inner beauty & desirability.



By Kermeez Shroff



THREADS OF CONTINUITY



On Day 1 of the WZC, a 1000 plus strong crowd watched as Lord Karan Billimoria launched 'Threads of Continuity' a book by Ashdeen Z. Lilaowala and paid tribute to both the author and his cousin Shernaz Cama with whom Ashdeen wrote the book. Lord Billimoria stated that it was an impressive book with lots of illustrations and good depth and history. He added that he was always proud to wear his Sudreh and Kusti everyday. **P.T. Reporter Raaj Shamji**, has a quick chat with Author Ashdeen during the festivities.

Meeting Ashdeen was such a pleasure. A quick chat with him and I came to realize that this book, though borne out of a single idea of the Sudreh and Kusti became a journey him that he has so wonderfully shared with the Community. Within its matt finished red covers young Ashdeen, a textile design student from the National School of Design celebrates the intricacies that hide behind the seemingly simple Sudreh and Kusti making art and speaks of its living heritage. It celebrates the threads that have been woven by the Indo Aryan Communities over generations. Ashdeen admires the ladies who with such dexterity and a surely strong mathematical edge zoom on their looms to create the garb that keep us safe. Ashdeen through his research found an in depth understanding of the 72 threads and what they represent. Content came in such an impromptu fashion; while walking through the areas he would see people weaving on their front porches and approach them. One story weaved into another! Ashdeen wants to inspire the youth but has in the process of creating such a stunning book inspired us all. Apart from the the content of the book, his clarity of thought, the passion of this young Zarathushti and a brilliant sense of design dance on every page. We saw inspired Delegates at the Congress itself, flocking the book stall to purchase it. Ashdeen has focused around the state of Gujarat where a lot of traditions have been preserved and celebrated. He particularly pays tribute to the women who do this weaving. A point to note according to the dynamic young designer is that he came across a lot of other traditions that Community members in Gujarat follow that seem to have diluted or disappeared outside of the state.



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Dear Mamaiji...
Dear Mamaiji,
You always make me read the Gujarati Calendar date from the front page of the Parsi Times. Today is Tir Roj. What does that mean, Mamaiji?

Dear Dikri,
Tir Yezat is the Yezat of a great Star called Sirius in the Canis Major constellation. It is considered the brightest star in the night sky. Tir also heralds rain on earth and praying to Tir Yezad helps receive a good year of sufficient rain. In ancient Persian Mythology, Tir took on various forms, such as that of a Man, Bull and Horse. He fought the negative forces which tried to create drought on earth. Tir also stands for the planet Mercury. Here is a small prayer to Teshtar Tir: Tishtrya Ya Teshtar Tir Yazad Beresad. Dikri let us say it together...

With inputs from Parvez J. Daruwala.

FeedBack...
contribute@parsi-times.com

DADAR PARSEE COLONY GYMKHANA'S

Masquerade

2013 - 14

ON TUESDAY, 31ST DECEMBER 2013
AT THE DADAR PARSEE COLONY GYMKHANA GROUNDS,
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(DANCE TO YOUR HEARTS CONTENT)

SOUND & LIGHTS
MAZDA AUDIO VIDEO LAB
DJ: AARISH

UNLIMITED SNACKS & DINNER
BY TANAZ GODIWALLA

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