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# MERRY CHRISTMAS PARSI TIMES

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(19th Dec, 2020)  
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THE TRUTH. DELIVERED WEEKLY.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Continuing our weekly commitment to holding BPP meetings with community members on Tuesdays, BPP Trustees Mr. Kersi Randeria and Mr. Noshir Dadrawala, will be conducting the third, in-person BPP Meeting, in the BPP Board Room, on Tuesday, 22nd December, 2020 at 5:00 pm, keeping in mind and strictly following all health and safety standards.

It is hoped that fellow Trustees - Mrs. Tirandaz, Mr. Mehta and Mr. Dastur will attend the same, in person, too.

Trustees Randeria and Dadrawala will be in the BPP Board Room to meet members of the community on Tuesday, 22nd December, 2020, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm BY PRIOR APPOINTMENT ONLY.

We look forward to resuming normal meetings in the new normal.

- BPP Trustee Noshir H. Dadrawala
- BPP Trustee Kersi J. Randeria

**'Face-To-Face Board Meetings, Not E-Encounters', Say BPP Trustees Kersi Randeria And Noshir Dadrawala**

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What About Christmas?

by  
By Veera Shroff Sanjana

Pg 07



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## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

### Celebrating The True Essence Of Christmas 2020

Dear Readers,

There's precious little that hasn't been redefined to fall in line with the new normal, as we live through the globally disruptive novel coronavirus pandemic.

The world's most celebrated festival - Christmas - is no exception. But while the superfluous symbolism of Christmas will be greatly altered, its essence, perhaps, couldn't be more restored.

To most, Christmas usually means receiving and giving gifts, partying with family and friends, food, dance and merriment. Just like 2020 has been a year like no other, its Christmas too, will be like no other - what with all the mandatory norms of maintaining social distancing, wearing masks, et al.

This year, as we are forced to remain distanced from the usual merriment and festivities that go along with Christmas, it's impossible to escape the palpable inadequacy of an 'online Christmas'. At the end of the day, there's only so much that digital platforms and messenger services can do. We are undoubtedly grateful to technology - it's been one of our main saviours that's kept us sane through the most part of this year, but it just can't compare to the warmth of a tight hug given by a loved one. Technology is, at most, a consolation for the human connect.

Insomuch, Xmas 2020 helps us dig deeper within, to reconfirm our realisations over the past months, where most of us have developed a whole new sense of respect, gratitude and appreciation for things that really matter...

Yes, Christmas in 2020 reaffirms that what truly matters to us, is what concerns our Maker. It celebrates the prophet - Jesus Christ - who was committed to the weakest amongst men, and who's silent strength inspires compassion, faithfulness, generosity and peace within us, even as His presence in our hearts chips away our self-delusions and deceptive perceptions.

Christmas symbolises God's constant and unconditional love for us all, in this hectic, fast-paced world. It celebrates gratitude, forgiveness, sacrifice and kindness, inspiring us to reach out to all without judgement, even as it transforms the emptiness in our hearts into the sanctuary of divine presence. But most of all, Christmas is the occasion for kindling the fire of hospitality in your home and the flame of charity in your heart - inviting one and all to take our rightful place around the welcoming altar of acceptance and love.

The stable in Bethlehem, where Christ was born, had no door. All were welcome - there was no need to knock or make an appointment or 'sign in'. Yes, all were welcome to partake the miracle of the divine immaculate conception. And therein perhaps, lies the essence of Christmas 2020 - to welcome with open arms and to give with a bigger heart. As the saying goes, "He who has not Christmas in his heart, will never find it under a tree."

So, what is it that you plan on giving or gifting in this Season? How will you be living your Christmas? You could gift your Time and a listening ear to someone you know who has been feeling lonely - especially our seniors. You could gift Hope and Positivity to those who are hurting with the losses that the Pandemic has caused them. A simple call can be so empowering, when you just tell a friend, a colleague or a loved one, 'Hey, I'm here for you'.

You could gift Love, Understanding and Appreciation to those closest to us - our family, who we unintentionally take for granted - and let them know they are cherished, not under-valued. After all, the best of all gifts around any Christmas tree is the presence of a happy family and friends, sharing love and laughter with each other!

You could gift Forgiveness to those who have wronged you, even if simply in your heart. You could gift Gratitude to those who have made and continue to make a difference in your life, and of course, to our Maker. And what better way to show your gratitude to Him, than to give yourself in service of His less privileged creations. Yes, indeed! We are spoilt for choice deciding what we could gift others this Xmas!

And when we all will celebrate Christmas in its true spirit thus, like the saying goes, "Peace on earth will come to stay, when we live Christmas every day."

From all of us at Parsi Times - Have Yourselves a Merry Christmas!

Have a lovely weekend!

- Anahita  
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### PUBLIC NOTICE

The Trustees of the Bombay Parsi Panchayet are pleased to announce that from Jan 2021 they will commence holding physical Board Meetings in the Board Room at 209 D. N Road.

To begin with, the Trustees shall hold only one or two physicals meeting a month and the remaining meetings will be held over Zoom. This will be re-evaluated at a later date and changes will be made accordingly.

However, if any beneficiary requires to meet the Trustees on an urgent matter it would be with PRIOR APPOINTMENTS ONLY.

The pandemic has not gone away but we realize the necessity to meet in person hence we request everyone to please bear with us as only limited appointments will be given to begin with.

Appointments can be sought on the cell nos. given hereunder from 11 am to 4 pm between Monday to Friday.

1. Jimmy Merchant . . 9819027857

2. Burzin Patel . . 9930956811

These meetings would be strictly adhered by following the BMC guidelines. Wearing Face Masks & Maintaining Social distance is mandatory.

# The Way Ahead: In-Person Board Meetings, Not E-Encounters



**Kersi Randeria - BPP Trustee**

Even as the issue of good governance has been at the centre of what appears to be a great divide between the five current BPP Trustees, it has been an issue where Noshir and I stood firm, as a matter of principle, rather than allowing the rule of the majority to eclipse all parameters of good governance, based simply on an uncompromising attitude of our colleagues.

It was in July this year, when the Unblock commenced, that I requested all my colleague Trustees to revert to our earlier physical/

in-person meeting format for Board meetings, instead of continuing these virtual meetings on Zoom platforms which achieved precious little. I distinctly remember Trustee Armaity Tirandaz, in one communication, confirming that we would probably meet, maybe post the 15<sup>th</sup> of August.

It is impossible to describe through the written word, what happens during digital meetings on Zoom. One of my primary issues of concern, have been the vituperative, aggressive and loud, so-called 'discussions'. These would take place unflinchingly, especially with some Trustees whose high-decibel hostility could be attributed to old baggage revisiting the present Board, where one's

duty as a Trustee had to be unprofessionally compromised at the altar of family pressure.


Truth be told - hardly any issues of importance have been discussed, debated or resolved on these digital 'E-encounters', as we had no access to files, old minutes and other relevant documents. Quite literally, the major chunk of our discussions comprised issues like grass cutting and pump repairs... matters meant to be handled by the administration, not Trustees. This is borne out by the items on the agenda, where almost all important issues continue to languish and are deferred to the next meeting and fifty odd housing applications languish at the bottom of the agenda.

Sadly, even issues of great importance and community concern, like shifting of the Parsi Gate and allowing the abominable intrusion of drones or laying pipes within the sacred Doongerwadi, which 100% merited and warranted a physical meeting and solid discussions with all five Trustees, were left to their digital fates on Zoom and / or exchange of messages on WhatsApp! And the results are out there for all to see, even as our community yet again, tries to rise from this gross attack on its most integral religious sentiments.

When significant decisions and others are taken by just three Trustees, as opposed to what should have ideally been seven, but due to unavoidable circumstances, currently stands at just five Trustees strong, the community bears the brunt. Doubtlessly, were these meetings held face-to-face in the

Contd. on Pg 04

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**MRS. PAVANA ANCHEES - PRINCIPAL**

Contd. from Pg 03

Boardroom, one could have sought various inputs before taking this decision and there would be no leeway for things to get lost in translation.

Three weeks ago, Noshir and I decided not to attend any further such digital E-meetings because not only was nothing being achieved, but these meetings left a bad taste in the mouth due to the verbal ferocity. For those who disbelieve this, I'm willing to, with the permission of my colleagues, put out the recordings of proceeds and minutes for humdins to hear first-hand, in the interest of transparency.

Noshir and I also announced our decision to meet with community members as BPP Trustees, and over the last two Tuesdays, we met with a score of people, and most expressed how merely the act of speaking face to face with us Trustees, provided them great comfort and reassurance.

Our insistence on in-person meetings resulted in Trustee Viraf initially agreeing to consider having at least one physical meeting in the month of December, but subsequently going back on his commitment, claiming he wasn't free or willing to meet in December. Trustee Xerxes Dastur generally refused to reply, and when he did, claimed that he could not attend the meeting for health reasons. However, a community member with whom I shared this nugget of information, laughed and said that he has himself met with Xerxes a couple times last week and that he seemed to be in perfect health.

So, the question remains, why then are the three Trustees not showing up for in-person BPP meetings, when Viraf and Xerxes have been attending their respective offices and other places too, post the lockdown? It's because Trustee Armaity Tirandaz refuses to attend Board Meetings, citing the potential health dangers posed by the pandemic. And yet, photos of Tirandaz have gone viral on WhatsApp, where she is attending a public event in a garden, alongside over a dozen people standing in close proximity to her, some without their masks, and with zero regard for social distancing!

The reason why they're unwilling to attend the meeting simply boils down to the issue of 'Majority - Minority'. Not wanting to alienate and lose Armaity Tirandaz's loyal support and risking the 2:2 vote that would take place in a physical meeting without Tirandaz, and thereby losing their majority. Also, with Noshir Dadrawala being the Chairman (as he's the second senior-most Trustee) with the Casting Vote, these physical meetings would not be technically conducive for the trio in majority and hence these physical meetings are not being held. Plain and simple!

Last week, Noshir and I once again firmly requested that in-person meetings must start. As a result, the three trustees finally realised they couldn't continue to deliberately hold meetings based on the principle of quorum, rather than holding inclusive meetings with all the Trustees.

The public notice issued by BPP (Pg. 2) talks of holding one or two meetings from January 2021. I propose and will stand by, that we will hold 2 meetings every month - once every fortnight, but we will not have any Zoom meetings as they are, and will always be, a waste of time.

## Why Physical Board Meetings At BPP Should Be Resumed



Noshir H. Dadrawala - BPP Trustee

On Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2020, from 3:30 pm to 7:30 pm, BPP Trustees - Kersi Randeria and Noshir Dadrawala, once again made themselves available to BPP beneficiaries.

Requests by this duo, since August 2020, to consider at least one if not two Board Meetings a month in the Board Room, seem to have fallen on deaf ears by the trio currently in majority (Trustees Armaity Tirandaz, Viraf Mehta, Xerxes Dastur) on the Board. There are many major issues which cannot be discussed with optimal effectiveness on Zoom.

**Finding Middle Ground:** Both - face-to-face and virtual meetings, have their benefits and disadvantages. Virtual meetings did serve their purpose during the total lockdown. But, to insist on only virtual meetings after the unlocking instead of adopting the middle path and alternating with both forms, is akin to keeping the stable doors locked when the horses are all out. The best thing to do is to combine both forms on an alternate basis. That would be reasonable and sensible. For Trustees, communication is connection and inspiration - not just transmission of information with beneficiaries and stakeholders. Communication is critical for building alignment and executing strategy.

**Virtual Challenges:** Virtual meeting are at best a convenient substitute. There is a world of difference looking at the person in the eye than looking at a small computer screen, or worse, a smartphone with poor connectivity. When one attends a physical meeting, it is the primary reason why one is at the particular place at the given time - there would be more discipline and lesser distractions.

**Effectiveness Of Real Board Meetings:** The serious and focused environment of a Board Room cannot be compared with

attending an on-screen Board meeting from home with sounds of clutter from the kitchen or the television playing in an adjoining room or the more common - 'poor network'.

When one walks into a Board Room one is in attendance for the meeting and comes prepared with easy access to data, files and papers. When meeting in person, people are more communicative and able to express themselves with body language, gestures and words - all of which work together to convey a holistic message. Also, misunderstandings are less likely.

During face-to-face meetings people get instant feedback. This is very important, especially in the development of something that requires teamwork. It is the best kind of meeting for brainstorming. Face-to-Face meetings create stronger bonds and people understand each other better. This is as important as team building to any business or charitable institution.

**Compliance Constraints:** Unlike validity of zoom meetings which are officially recognized under the Indian Companies Act 2013 by the Registrar of Companies, the validity of zoom meetings and decisions taken therein continue to remain questionable. Neither the Maharashtra State Law and Judiciary Department nor the Charity Commissioner has so far issued any circular or notification validating or recognizing virtual meetings. Also, the manner in which BPP Zoom meetings are convened is not in sync with the High Court framed BPP Scheme.

**Moving On:** As trustees we can ill afford to lose our connect with each other. The world, including India, is learning to live with the potential threat of infection and moving on with care and caution. Did health and sanitization frontline workers function virtually even during total lock-down? It's time every trustee starts to see himself as a frontline worker in the service of the community. If the BPP staff can come to the BPP office every single day, why can't BPP trustees consider coming to the BPP office at least once or twice a month to start with!

Keeping exactly this in mind two trustees of the BPP have taken the initiative and made it a point to be at the BPP office every Tuesday. Leading by example is generally the best way forward. One hopes that cussedness will be dropped and good sense will prevail to ensure good governance on the BPP Board.

Noshir H. Dadrawala, Trustee - BPP

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# Rohinton Mistry Stands Tall In Mumbai Cricketing Circuit!



BINAISHA M. SURTI

*Cricket Umpires hold a special place in our hearts because we know that the game, that the whole nation is irreversibly addicted to, hangs on the words and decisions of its umpires! Needless to say, Cricket Umpires across the world have their fair share of fan following. If you were to spot an ever-smiling and jovial personality with a floppy hat, on the cricket field, handling teams with ease... it would most likely be our very own Rohinton Mistry, the Elite Panel Umpire of the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA).*

*The community takes great pride in 59-year-old Rohinton - the only active Parsi umpire in Mumbai's cricketing arena, for the last two decades now and still going strong, officiating in some of the top-most tournaments! Parsi Times Reporter Binaisha M. Surti brings to you an exclusive feature with Rohinton Mistry where he shares his passion for cricket, his motivations, principals and more...*

Born in Mumbai, educated in Pune's JN Petit Technical School, Rohinton Mistry started his career with Larsen and Toubro (Mumbai) as an Engineer from 1980 until his retirement, last year. His love for cricket developed during his school years. "Rather than the bat, I picked up the ball and later realized that I was quick enough to worry most batsmen of my age. I was even the champion of my school in athletics, so it was natural for me to venture into bowling. Further, when I returned to Mumbai, I was introduced to renowned coach Vasant Amladi, who called me for nets at the Hindu Gymkhana and polished my bowling skills," shares Rohinton. But when he read an newspaper advertisement for a trainee engineer, he had to quit cricket and concentrate on his job.

So, what is it that made his choose Umpiring? Rohinton answers, "My company played amateur cricket, so we'd participate in Times Shield. I started playing for my company. When there were practice matches, I would stand as an umpire. Taking an

interest, I applied for Umpiring Classes at MCA and went to Wankhede Stadium, where Madhav Gothoskar, along with Pilo Reporter, were our faculty. I stood second in the written exam while the oral and practical were taken by late Dara Dotiwalla. I was lucky to pass the exams in the first attempt!"

He further adds, "My first ever cricket match as an Umpire was a Giles Shield game at Azad Maidan and I was very excited. One starts off with lower grade matches and is gradually promoted to doing higher level games. MCA was happy with what I was doing and further entrusted me with senior division matches and was given Times Shield B and C division games. In 2005, I was allotted my first Times Shield A Division match at MIG between Railways and Air India. There's been no looking back since. My passion has kept me going through all these years."

Rohinton has umpired numerous competitive tournaments including the Times Shield where current and former international cricketers, along with Ranji Trophy players



Rohinton Mistry (left) with Sachin Tendulkar (right)

participate. He also officiates in the DY Patil T20 tournament, Police Shield, Purshottam Shield, Talim Shield and Young Comrade Shield.

When asked to choose between Rohinton Mistry the Cricketer or Rohinton Mistry the Umpire, he says, "Definitely Umpire!! I've keenly observed how a captain plans a dismissal of a batsman with his bowler. There is a particular plan involved at every step of the game. I've officiated in a game where Rohan Gavaskar scored a triple century - I learnt so much while watching these great stars play. Umpiring is all about experience, one has to gain it on field. You have to stand in the sun for long hours, take the good with the bad. You learn when one should talk, when one should refuse a situation and so on. To control the game and the players is the most important aspect of being an umpire."

Recalling one of his most memorable games as the 'Salil Ankola Benefit Match' (2010, DY

knows his job very well and is consistent."

Former international cricket umpires - Pilo Reporter and late Dara Dotiwalla - have been Rohinton's mentors. "The former explained the laws very well through his own match situations as an umpire and I am very grateful to both these greats of the game. I've learnt to never get carried away or intimidated by big names (cricketers) on field. You have to treat them as professionals, when one of them is batting, he is just another batsman doing what he knows best. One has to silently continue with the job as an umpire!"

Sharing one of his finer moments as an umpire, he says, "It has been an absolute privilege for me to have officiated and been a part of the historic 1886 Trophy tournament at Parsee Gymkhana (PG), where the British faced us Parsis! It's all thanks to the Vice President and Cricket Secretary of PG and MCA Apex Council Member - Khodadad Yazdegardi - that I could be a part of this grand affair at PG. He is passionate about the game and always comes forward to support and help everyone."

Signing off, he concludes, "An umpire should do his duty to the best of his ability without any fear or favor. Most importantly whenever in doubt, never give a batsman out - is something I have learnt from Pilo Reporter. One has to have quick reflexes and has to also think on their feet at all times, because we only get a split-second to give our decisions. When you give your best, nine out of ten times you will always be right!"



Rohinton Mistry (left) before toss at Wankhede Stadium

We further discussed as to what Rohinton does as an umpire to stay on top with his skill sets. He said, "You have to know the Laws of the game in and out. Each and every match teaches us something different. How one walks, talks on field, interacts with cricketers, how to handle big names on field... to judging the pitch conditions whether it is playable on not, one gains all the experience over years. Players will only respect you after knowing that this particular gentleman

# Teshtar Tir Yazad

## (The Yasht Series)



DAISY P. NAVDAR

*Daisy P. Navdar is a teacher by profession and a firm believer in the efficacy of our Manthravani. She is focused on ensuring that the deep significance of our prayers is realized by our youth. She credits her learnings and insights, shared in her articles, to all Zoroastrian priests and scholars whose efforts have contributed towards providing light and wisdom for all Zarthostis.*

Invite you to join me as I journey through the wonderful teachings shared in a Khordeh Avesta, which was printed in 1902 - more than a 100 years ago! Authored by Dinbai Sohrabji Engineer, the teachings, stories and notes in this book speak about the various powers of our prayers, while sharing anecdotes of people who have used these prayers and the tremendous achievements that each has accomplished.

In all the realms created by Dadar Ahura Mazda, He has appointed a keeper. Teshtar Tir Yazad is one such ruler. Teshtar Tir Yazad rules over the grah (planets) and setara (stars).

S a t v e s h Yazad, Bahman A m e s h a s p a n d, Ardivisur Yazad, Vaad Yazad, Hom Yazad, Din Yazad, Berejo Yazad and the Asho Farohar are all subject to the command of Teshtar Tir Yazad. Tir Yazad

is the bringer of life-giving rain. We have all studied the water cycle in the early years at school. Isn't it marvelous to know that this cycle is described in such details within our scriptures too!

Tir Yazad commands the winds to blow over the Vohukash sea; He brings storm upon the waves of the sea and He brings calm upon its surface too. He commands the ebb and the flow of the tides. All the

waters that rise up from the ocean get collected as clouds around the Hindav mountain (sounds similar to Himalaya?), which rises in the middle of the ocean. (A side note of observation: Even today, geologist have found evidence of sea shells on the Himalayas. Is this strange.. I wonder!)

The clouds, which gather around the Hindav are then guided by Tir Yazad to the lands upon which they are most

respects to Teshtar Tir Yazad and call upon his benevolence for our lives ahead.

Teshtar Tir Yazad is also considered the Yazad who helps to cure all eye related ailments. It is said that He uses the brilliance of Spitaman Zarathushtra to bring light into our eyes. Very frequently I suffer from strain in the eyes due to the usage of the mobile phone and computers - it is a common phenomenon. However, I

frequently find myself remembering the name of Teshtar Tir Yazad as I rub my eyes and ask him to relieve me of the irritation. I have never been disappointed so far.

From the 101 names of Pak Dadar Ahura Mazda, we should recite Farakhatante 101 times on Tir Roj with a glass of water in front of us. Drinking this water and applying it on the eyes brings a lot of relief from eye ailments.

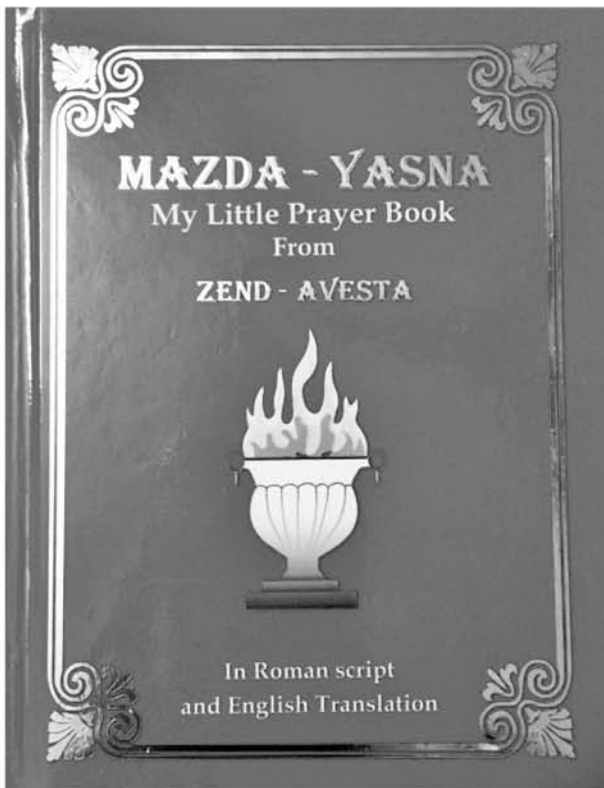
If you manage to pray the Tir Yasht at least once a year on Tir Mahino and Tir

Roj, you can consider yourself very blessed. It is not easy an easy task but then neither is our life, and yet we still manage to get through our daily challenges. Wouldn't we be doubly blessed if we took the assistance of Teshtar Tir Yazad by reciting his prayers?

"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes." Marcel Proust

required. The lands upon which man and animals live, were divided into seven Kishwars (probably continents) and Tir Yazad brings rain to them all. Tir Yazad is the harbinger of hope and growth and regeneration and renewal. He assists man in growing crop and food for sustenance.

This cycle is so intrinsically connected to our very existence that just out of reverence and gratitude, we must pay our



In Roman script and English Translation

## WANTED

Panthaki at Ahmedabad for Kankaria Adarian. Residence available. Monthly Salary Rs. 35000 for 3 Boi per day and 50000 for 5 Boi per day + income from sukhad, diva & ritual prayers.

Please Contact on  
9909951509 or 9998031452.

## RELIGIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Nirangdin Ceremony At Cama Baug Agiary

A Nirangdin ceremony will be held at Seth Pallonji Khurshedji Cama (Cama Baug) Agiary at midnight on Roj Adar, Mah Amardad, Tuesday, 22nd December 2020, Y.Z. 1390 in remembrance of Late Sohrab Adulji Modi, by Maharukh and Hormuz Hoshang Lavangia.

### 'Dudh Ma Sakar' Presentation

Frohar Films' Tele-Serial, 'Dudh Ma Sakar', presents 'Enthronement of Sacred Fire in Jokhi Agiary -1', on 20th Dececmber, 2020, at 12:00 noon, on DD Girnar channel. For feedback, mail: froharfoundation@gmail.com

## Let Us Be All The World To One Another

Start your weekend with positive vibes with inspirational excerpts from the acclaimed book, 'Homage Unto Ahura Mazda' by Dasturji Dr. Maneckji Naserwanji Dhalla of Karachi.

From the time that the journey of his life begins, man likes not to be lonely in life. Crushing is the burden of solitude. Heavy is the load of life, if all alone he has to bear it. It weighs down man's spirit. Often does the firmament overcast and the clouds gather over his head and dreary darkness falls upon him and weariness of spirit takes possession of him.

Man is ever in search of someone who sustains him in his direst straits. He finds courage and comfort in living together with his kith and kin. When they live in unison, they become stronger and better able to go through rough times. Light becomes the burden and easy the yoke of life. Then does life take a brilliant colour. Many together find safety to sail the sea of life in one and the same boat.

Teach us all to bear with one another and live in concord. Teach us to exercise

forbearance and forgiveness towards one another. Let us share with our neighbors their joys and sorrows. Let us not be wholly filled with self-love. Let us learn to love one another. Let us all learn to live in brotherly love.

Let us not covet our neighbor's good. Let us aim at their hearts and win them by our goodwill for them. Let us not seek success in the failure of others. Let us comfort and console the sorrowing and suffering with the kiss of human kindness. Let our hearts go out to others in their misfortunes.

Let us realize that we are all interdependent. Let us behave with one another in mutual trust and in common brotherhood. Trust begets trust. Let us all so to live as our lives are for Thy children, who are our brethren. Guide us to serve our brethren and love our brethren for Thou, Ahura Mazda, art in them all.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The BPP N.N & R.N Wadia Baugs are in possession of a 4R+K flat admeasuring about 1134 sq ft carpet area on the 3rd floor, being **Flat No Q - 7 at Cusrow Baug, Colaba** which has reverted to the Trust. The said flat is proposed to be offered on Leave & License basis to prospective offerers who give the highest quantum of Refundable Deposit in excess of **Rs. 2.25 Crores** for the same.

Those interested are requested to contact the Custodian at Cusrow Baug (Contact No 022 22047521 or (M: 93 2282 5716) to take inspection of the said flat Monday to Saturday 10 am to 1 pm.

1. Those interested are requested to attend the Auction to be held (Zoom Meeting) at the Neville House Office on Thursday **7<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 6.00 p.m.**, and submit their proposal in a sealed envelope with a separate Demand Draft of **Rs. 1 Lakh** in the name of "Funds & Properties of the Parsi Punchayet Bombay" as Earnest Money Deposit which will be returned if their proposal is not accepted. Please do not put the Demand Draft in the sealed envelope but hand it over separately.
2. Interested buyers must quote value of the flat in excess of **Rs. 2.25 crores (Reserve Security Deposit amount)**, exclusive of Stamp Duty and Registration Charges, as applicable for registration of Leave & License Agreement.
3. The sealed envelopes will be opened in the presence of all the applicants on the same day (**on 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2021**) at 6.00 p.m.
4. The highest offer will be taken as the Second Reserve Security Deposit amount and the applicants will be requested to make an Open offer in excess of this Second Reserve Security Deposit amount.
5. The highest Open Offer will be taken as the Third Reserve Security Deposit amount.
6. The Bid member - Buyer will guidedbeforehand by the **Presiding Chairperson - BPP Trustee** for all 3 Round Bidding process. Final Round will conducted on One-to One direct Phone confirmation for bid in excess of 2<sup>nd</sup> Round final figure.
7. The flat will be allotted to the highest bidder in this Third & Final round. (If any tie it may occur, one more round will be conducted on same pattern of Third & Final round for Final Highest Figure)
8. 50% of the full Security Deposit amount of the flat must be deposited by the Buyer within **15 days** of the auction and the **balance 50% within one month** of the auction. Failure to make payments on the Due date will lead to cancellation of their offer and the forfeiture of the Earnest Money Deposit. The flat may again be re-auctioned, or offered to the second highest bidder, as decided by the Trustees.
9. The Leave & license Agreement will be registered after the full Security Deposit amount is received by the Trust.
10. The Trustees reserve the right to refuse any or all offers at their discretion without assigning any reason.

For and on behalf of the  
BPP N. N. & R.N. Wadia Baugs  
P.N. Sigantoria  
**SECRETARY**

**IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE**

Members of the community, particularly those who may be interested in the above 'PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF FLAT' are requested to take note of the fact that:

**BPP TRUSTEE MR. KERSI RANDERIA HAS DISSENTED AGAINST THIS PROPOSED AUCTION AND THE DISSENT HAS BEEN DULY RECORDED IN THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Kersi Randeria**  
Trustee, Bombay Parsi Punchayet

**Daara Patel Awarded As Impactful Corona Warrior**

**L**ion Daara B Patel was recently felicitated as 'The Most Impactful Corona Warrior' during the Pandemic, by 'Social Talks', an NGO and IDMA (Indian Drug Manufacturers Association) for his efforts and contributions.

These included coordinating with Central and State Governments to enable members

from different states to increase their manufacturing capacity utilization from 20-30% to 70-80%; interacting with Gol's Department of Pharmaceuticals for supporting the Pharma Industry on various issues; conducting online awareness programs; providing the Maharashtra Police free vitamins, face masks and gloves; and helping in activities in feeding migrants.

**THE WZO TRUST FUNDS**

C-1, Hermes House, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Mama Parmanand Marg, Mumbai 400 004  
Tel Nos. (+91 22) 23684451, 23684452, 23684453.  
E-Mail: admin@wzotrust.com

The Executor & Estate Administration of an overseas bank have indicated they are **considering extending** financial support to economically challenged Zoroastrian Senior Citizens on a quarterly basis through our Trust.

The selection criteria, requires the individual to be over 60 years of age, whose total annual income is less than Rs.250,000 (Rupees two lakhs fifty thousand) per annum. In case of married couples, support to only one spouse will be considered.

It may be noted that individuals who are already receiving regular financial support under existing schemes of WZO Trust Funds viz. Quarterly Financial Support, Elderly Moped Couples & Widows, Pallbearers etc., will not be eligible to claim support under the new proposed scheme.

Those interested and qualify to receive support as per criteria above should contact our office for the form to be filled in. Outstation applicants may contact us through e-mail or by regular mail urgently.

Donors of the proposed scheme - The Executor & Estate Administration of the overseas bank - reserve the right to continue the scheme on an ongoing basis or terminate the proposed scheme at their sole discretion.

Selection of beneficiaries will be decided by Donors solely on merits. Those attempting to influence the selection process will not be considered.

**Trustees,  
The WZO Trust Funds.**

**Reader's Corner**

*Parsi Times is delighted to present the writings of our talented readers with the Community, via our promotional platform - Reader's Corner. We encourage and promote our budding writers, to share your original works - poetry or prose, by offering the opportunity of getting your work published in Parsi Times - the Community's leading Newspaper! Mail us with your contributions at editor@parsi-times.com*

**Oh Santa!**

**By Armin Dutia Motashaw**

This Christmas, poor old Santa Clause will have to work with many a clause,  
He'll have to be careful; so as to Covid he won't himself expose!  
A mask he will have to wear with surgical gloves, as his gloves won't serve the cause.

Children await will for their toys, but Santa instead, will give them safety kits,  
Add, he may to these, a toy or two, and a few chocolates and candy bits.  
Lord, help Santa and us all, now we are truly at the end of our wits!

This Xmas - no dancing or fun parties, only video calls to dear ones wish,  
Sadly, Nature has tightened Her reins and strongly has pulled the leash;  
Thank God our mums are cooking Turkey, pudding, or another traditional dish.

Mother Nature - forgive us all, for our callousness, selfishness and indifference,  
Santa teach us to kind towards one and all - teach us life's true essence,  
It's high time we comprehend, that to pollute our Earth, we don't have a license!



## Covid-19 Vaccination Could Start In January

**Life Could Resume Normally By Oct, 2021 Says Adar Poonawalla**

A couple of days ago, Pune-based Serum Institute of India (SII) CEO, Adar Poonawalla said that the Covid-19 vaccination drive could likely begin in India by January 2021. SII, which is testing and manufacturing the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine candidate, expects to get its Emergency Use Authorisation (EUA) by the year-end.

“By this month-end, we might get an emergency licence, but the actual licence for wider use might come in at a later date. But, we are confident that if the regulators give a nod, India’s vaccination drive can start by January 2021,” said Adar at The Economic Times Global Business Summit, adding that Indian citizens could get vaccinated by October 2021, following which normal life could resume.

“Once 20% of India gets the coronavirus vaccine, we can hopefully see the confidence and sentiments coming back, and by September-October next year hopefully there will be enough vaccines for everyone and normal life can return,” he said.

Last week, the Subject Expert Committee (SEC), which is scrutinising applications by three firms for EUA of their Covid-19 vaccines in India, asked SII and Bharat Biotech for additional



late-stage safety and efficacy data from their ongoing clinical trials. The expert committee noted that the SII has only “submitted safety data till November 14”, and that the principal investigator of its study, Dr Sushant Meshram, who is involved in the trials, did not attend the meeting, as per news reports.

The interim results of the Oxford Covid-19 vaccine trials, published in The Lancet, shows that the vaccine protects against symptomatic disease of 90% in those given a half, and then a full dose. The vaccine uses a chimpanzee adenovirus viral vector that can’t cause disease in humans and expresses the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein. This means the vaccine delivers the spike protein genetic code into vaccinated people’s cells, which then produce the protein, teaching the immune system to recognise and attack the virus.

## Noted CA And Trustee Hoshang Wania Passes Away

Numerous members of the community expressed grief over the death of noted Chartered Accountant and Trustee of multiple trusts, Hoshang Wania, who passed away on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2020. He was known to be a simple man of principals and a true Zarthosti who was helpful to all. His funeral was held at Doongerwadi at the Albless Bungli.

In a tribute to Hoshang Wania, BPP Trustee Noshir Dadrawala shares:

“Hoshang Wania was known to me since 35 years. His religious beliefs were traditional but he was never too vocal about his beliefs nor was he a bigot. He was a professional and meticulous to the core. He never chased money or fame and was passionate about his work. He was always simple in attire and demeanour.

He often used to drop in to lament about the disempowering tax laws for charities or to seek clarifications from me on matters pertaining to FCRA. Several trusts benefited from either his guidance or pro bono services.

He suffered many challenges in life but bore them silently and bravely. Many years ago, he was diagnosed with a brain tumour but returned to his hectic schedule soon after surgery. Later, his hearing got affected but he continued to work tirelessly. Over the last couple of



years, his health suffered and he is now relieved from his mortal suffering and has attained immortality in the hearts of all those whom he served so selflessly - the poor, young students, those needing medical assistance and those needing his professional expertise.

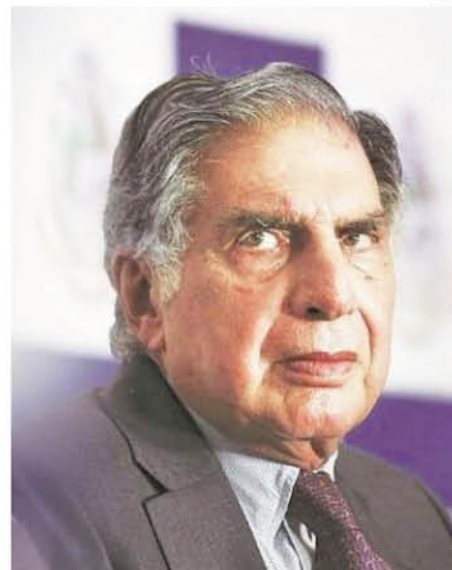
Today on his passing, we admire his passion for service and professional competence. But what stands out most are his very Human, Humane and Humble qualities. Adieu Hoshang! It is time now to open new books of account in the other world with no balance carried forward from here. You leave no liabilities but lots of assets in terms of your good deeds. What a nice Balance Sheet of life!”

May Ahura Mazda grant his noble soul Garothman Behest.

## Apex Court Reserves Judgment In Tata - Mistry Case

On 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2020, the Supreme Court reserved its verdict on the cross appeals filed by Tata Sons Pvt. Ltd. and Cyrus Investments Pvt. Ltd., against the appellate tribunal NCLAT order (December 18, 2019), which had ordered the reinstatement of Cyrus Mistry as the Executive Chairperson of Tata Sons Limited - the \$100 billion plus salt-to-software Tata conglomerate.

A bench comprising Chief Justice S A Bobde and Justices A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, asked the parties to file compiled written submissions. During the hearing conducted via video-conferencing, Shapoorji Pallonji (SP) Group claimed that there was breach of Articles of Association and provisions of the Companies Act in the removal of Cyrus Mistry as the Chairman of Tata Sons, in October 2016. The Tatas denied the allegations and claimed there was no wrong-doing as they were well within their rights to oust Mistry.



On 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2020, the apex court granted relief to Tata group by staying the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) order of December 18, 2019, by which Mistry was restored as the Executive Chairman of the conglomerate. Mistry had succeeded Ratan Tata as chairman of Tata Sons in 2012, but was ousted



four years later on October 24, 2016.

In May, 2020, the Supreme Court had issued notice to Tata Sons and others on a cross-appeal filed by Cyrus Investments Pvt Ltd. Tata Sons had earlier told the top court that it was not a ‘two-group company’ and there was no ‘quasi-partnership’ between it and

Cyrus Investments Pvt Ltd. Tata Sons made the averments in an affidavit while responding to the cross-appeal filed by Cyrus Investments seeking removal of alleged anomalies in the NCLAT order for getting representation on the TSPL’s board in proportion to the stakes held by his family.

In his reply to the Tatas’ petition challenging his reinstatement by the NCLAT last December, Mistry demanded that Group Chairman Emeritus - Ratan Tata reimburse all the expenses to Tata Sons since his departure in December 2012, in keeping with best global governance standards.

Mistry is seeking representation in the company in proportion to the 18.37% stake held by SP Group, according to the cross-appeal. Reinstating Mistry as the Chairman, the NCLAT had also termed the action of the Registrar of Companies to allow conversion of Tata Sons into a private limited company illegal.

The hearing is ongoing.

# 8th WZYC: London Calling! Spotlight On Youth Organisers

By Zeena Batiwalla (Maravala)

With the 8<sup>th</sup> World Zoroastrian Youth Congress (8WZYC) 2023 hosted by the Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe (ZTFE) in the United Kingdom (UK) in Summer 2023, a dedicated team of youth volunteers have already commenced early groundwork to start planning and organising this momentous event. As part of a series of articles, we will be sharing the insights and visions of our 8WZYC organising team.

As Treasurer for the 8WZYC, I'm currently a manager with KPMG's Audit Technical Programmes Team, having graduated (2015) and completed my Chartered Accountancy in 2018 (ICAEW). Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with family, watching Bollywood movies and doing crosswords.

I love and take pride in being a Zarthusti and in our everlasting faith. I vividly remember one of my very first trips to Mumbai as a young girl, visiting Bikhaji Behramji's Kuo, and the warm and homely feeling, being surrounded by countless Zoroastrians on Ava Roj. I loved that feeling, so much so that I dreamt of getting married in an Atash Behram in the future. My dream came true in December 2018.

Being a Zoroastrian in the UK is a privilege as I can be a melting pot within myself - from learning how to cook my favourite dishes with instructions from my Mum and

Mother-in-Law to debating with my Dad and Father-in-Law about why we lost that last round of Hokum! Having family worldwide facilitates combining Eastern and Western practices of our culture and religion, while still feeling close to my roots - something that our youth overseas strive to do and what we endeavour to bring to this Youth Congress.

The 8<sup>th</sup> World Zoroastrian Youth Congress to be hosted by ZTFE (UK) inspires me to showcase with pride what London has to offer our global Zoroastrian community! I'm thrilled to participate and look forward to welcoming our Zoroastrian youth from across the globe.

As Treasurer, my responsibilities include creating a master budget and ensuring this is adhered to. I'm the first point of contact for approving any expenditure and keeping a general (but stringent!) check on whether our incoming donations match our outgoing plans. At this stage of the Congress organisation, I've been busy crunching numbers and working with the sub-committees to ensure that we provide an affordable and inclusive experience for

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PARSI TIMES

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participants. Working closely with the Entertainment Committee, I plan to ensure we have a diversified and interesting set of events lined up to make this Congress truly memorable!

The opportunity of getting to know fellow Zoroastrians and seeing what each brings to the team, and their passion and enthusiasm for our Zoroastrian community, fills me with pride. I cannot wait for what's to come in the lead up to 2023!

# Mahabanoo Mody-Kotwal And Son - Kaizaad Win 2020 National Laadli Media Award

On 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2020, celebrated actor and theatre personality - Mahabanoo Mody-Kotwal and her son - Dr. Kaizaad Kotwal's company, Poor-Box Productions, were awarded the 2020 Laadli Media Awards For Gender Sensitivity, over an online streaming event. They received this prestigious award for their work in bringing the path-breaking play, 'The Vagina Monologues', to India, seventeen years ago. The Laadli Awards are supported by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Speaking on the occasion, Mahabanoo Mody-Kotwal said, "While Laadli is honoring Kaizaad, myself, Poor-Box Productions and The Vagina Monologues, we would like to share this prestigious moment with many, many who have made this journey possible - our committed and brilliant cast and crew who, seventeen years later, are still going strong with us!" as she went on to name the entire cast and crew who were a part of this revolutionary play's journey.

Mahabanoo also thanked Eve Ensler (who recently announced that she now chooses to be known simply by the letter 'V') for her love and unyielding

support. She thanked the respective heads of 'V-Day' and 'One Billion Rising', Susan Swan and Monique Wilson, for helping bring these two international movements to India. Working with these two movements in India, Mahabanoo and Kaizaad have used the play to raise funds and awareness towards ending violence against women and children.

Poor-Box Productions' 'The Vagina Monologues' (in English and Hindi) still witnesses house-full shows, and has also been produced for schools and colleges, as also for the economically disadvantaged women and men living in urban slums. The show has become a cult-phenomenon in India.

"Nowhere else can you find better proof of the fact that art literally saves lives than in both, our English and Hindi productions of The Vagina Monologues... the stories of real lives changed, and even saved, which have proven to be the ultimate rewards any artist, any human, could possibly ask for. We promise to keep going with this play and this work as long as audiences will keep coming and as long as women continue to be violated. In India, that road seems endless and very fraught. Sometimes when giving up seems easier, I remember



the words of Mary Anne Radmacher who said, 'Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying 'I will try again tomorrow.' We, at Poor-Box Productions, thank you all at Laadli again, and vow we will try again tomorrow," concluded Mahabanoo.

Last year in November, 2019, the mother-son duo had been felicitated with the prestigious 'Karmaveer Puruskar

Mahartna' in the capital, for their great contribution to women's empowerment and in combatting violence against women and girls. The Make-A-Difference Foundation was established in 2008, by the mother-son team, dedicated to the cause of women's empowerment and particularly the cause of helping battered and abused women, across all strata, irrespective of religion, caste and creed to find a way out of violence and stay free of violence.

## Padma Shri Yazdi Karanjia Takes Comedy Theater On Global Tour Digitally

The Parsi-Gujarati diaspora in Canada are set to get entertained with two Parsi laugh riots performed by members of Surat-based Karanjia Arts, but with a catch – the plays will be staged virtually amid the pandemic conditions. Parsi theatre legend and Padma Shri awardee, 84-year-old Yazdi Karanjia, who has dedicated his life to the performing art, will also play the lead role in one of the two plays – ‘Parsi Harishchandra’.



The Karanjia family, known to be the guardians of Gujarati Parsi Theatre, have kept the hilarity rollickingly alive for the past seven-odd decades with their stupendous performances. All the characters in both the plays are performed by the entire Karanjia family itself. Two comedies – ‘Mungi Stree’ and ‘Parsi Harishchandra’ – have been performed by the Karanjia family for Canada-based ‘Friends of Gujarat and Gujarat Abroad’ (FGGA) and especially in the digital form for the Gujarati diaspora overseas.

“Before the global lockdown, they (FGGA) had invited us to perform in Canada, which got scuttled owing to the pandemic. So, the Gujarati diaspora group asked us to recreate the two comedies digitally for them. We rented an auditorium for the rehearsal of the two plays for more than one month before shooting them with three cameras from different angles and converting it into a digital mode,” said director of both plays, Farzan Karanjia.

[Courtesy: [timesofindia.indiatimes.com](http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com) (Surat)]

## Premiering Ba Humata

By Meher Amalsad (Ca, USA)

A Prayer, Leadership and Entrepreneurship Global Webinar Series on ‘Prayer With Action And Action With Prayers’, by our Thoughtful Priests, Insightful Leaders and Thinking Entrepreneurs.

### THEME 1: MAKE OTHERS HAPPY AND YOU SHALL ALSO BE HAPPY

Date: Sunday, January 3, 2021

Time: 9:30 pm - IST / 8:00 am - Pacific Time / 11:00 am - Eastern Time

Website: <https://ba-humata.co.uk>

With immense pride and joy, we would like to invite you all to join us for this very special thought-inspiring, monthly global webinar. This program is thoughtfully designed to build Oneness and promote Harmony with collective consciousness of Humanity, Love, Peace, Righteousness and Fellowship, by sharing Zarthushti values.

*The goal is not to grow the plant,  
But to thoughtfully plant the seed;  
For each one of us to blossom with our own  
Positive thinking, love, light, grace, joy and peace!*

Each program endeavours to showcase the wisdom of our senior generations, together with the promise of our future generation.

The first webinar features global Zarthushti icons including - highly respected **Mobed Mehraban Firouzgary** from Iran; scholar priest **Mobed Soli Dastur** (USA); Iranshah Initiative Ambassador - **Tinaz Karbhari** (Hong Kong); dynamic youth priest **Mobed Ramin Shahzadi** from Germany; and global holistic health guru **Dr. Mickey Mehta** (India); along with our Zarthushti Neuro-scientist from Cambridge University (UK) - **Dr. Karishma Koka, PhD** – the Founder, Host And Moderator of Ba Humata

## WZCC's WEBINAR WATCH

Parsi Times brings you the weekly schedule of WZCC's Webinars which have been conducted through the epidemic and have greatly benefitted community members worldwide, with their insightful, informative and highly beneficial sessions, with speakers who are authorities in their respective fields. Our very own tech-guru, Yazdi Tantra has been holding a series of Zoom Meetings online on Technology for the layman, under the title 'TantraTech', every Friday at 9:30pm (IST). You can attend these at: <https://bit.ly/yazdizoom>. (Past recordings available at: <https://bit.ly/yazdiyoutube>.)

### 'SURVIVING AND THRIVING AGAINST ALL ODDS' [Dubai Chapter]

When: 19th December, 2020 Time: 8:00 pm (IST)

Speakers: Sam Balsara & Lara Balsara Vajifdar, Madison World.

Link: <https://zoom.us/j/8487251418>

Contact: Meher Bhesania ([bhesania@emirates.net.ae](mailto:bhesania@emirates.net.ae))

### 'SCHOLARSHIPS AND FUNDING FOR HIGHER EDUCATION' [FZN]

When: 20th December, 2020 Time: 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

#### Panel Discussion:

**Neville Shroff** (Zoroastrian Charitable Trust of Hong Kong, Canton & Macao);  
**T J Ravishankar** (Tata Trusts);  
**Ryan Pereira** (US - India Educational Foundation);  
**Farrokh Rustomjee** (RD Sethna Scholarship Fund)

Link: Register at [www.zoroastrianfacultynetwork.org](http://www.zoroastrianfacultynetwork.org)

Contact: Yazdi Tantra ([yazdit@gmail.com](mailto:yazdit@gmail.com))

## ZOROASTRIAN FACULTY NETWORK



## Scholarships and Funding for Higher Education



on Sunday, 20 December 2020  
at 07:30 pm IST

Admission to Webinar is FREE!

#### Speakers:

1. Neville S Shroff - President and Managing Trustee of the Zoroastrian Association, Zoroastrian Charitable Trust of Hong Kong, Canton and Macao
2. T. J. Ravishankar - Director - The JN Tata Endowment for the Higher Education of Indians & Head, Individual Grants Program (Education) - Tata Trusts
3. Ryan Pereira - Regional Officer - United States - India Educational Foundation
4. Farrokh M. Rustomji - CEO - R. D. Sethna Scholarship Fund

To register - visit :  
[www.zoroastrianfacultynetwork.org](http://www.zoroastrianfacultynetwork.org)

# The Bawa Word Search

Search out Saying Merry Christmas in 16 Different Languages hidden in the word-jumble box below, in bi-directional, horizontal, vertical and diagonal forms:

A Z A M Z V N A J S T V V C L N G S I O U B I N M  
M W W S K U I C I X J L Y Z O A D T O D M T U B G  
E O V X K H N K N J H E U A U M T M W F M A V N A  
K S V X K X V N Y M W K P J Q E H A R P X J E S T  
T E M Y Y N E A B Q N C H T G X I G N U E T P B K  
N W I D Y W Q C K P S T I Y I I L T L Z H Z U P K  
I E U T X X L J O G P C Q L V P L X O C I O B P R  
E G T J D C L F A N I F R J Q A N E A O N L N A B  
A E L E N G T Q E R A T D X J K A N D N X S E T Y  
N M U E U Y K U E L X V T R V H H J A E E X C F D  
B M Y V O H S F N R I P E R L I K T O H A G M T U  
H F O W W I N H B H Z Z Y L E E A P R U G L G O G  
D X U G I U L Y X G J X N W E L O F Z L L B G R D  
T B D S I R T E W I O F E A E S K N B M E U L I O  
N F D C D B X L G Q U H K X V G E B X O Y F A F B  
S E A L G V V T V J O W T K V I H V Q U M U X N S  
L R B S L M L K E R O K B Y V W D J D Z E G V C P  
C K M U N Q B P F A Z L Z G P Q C A Y C Y Y A T Z  
G K H Y V A A J O U L U A F B B Z J D C X C O O A  
R A V T S E D H Z O R O G O V I L T S A H C S J I  
K G A M S S R E T A N B O Z I C G I U D I M K N U  
J A B G D X H B G B O K E R O C D V I E Y N I H L  
R X P A X T U G V R O L I J K K E R S T F E E S T  
V C O G O D J U L B L N Z W X P N F J J A I J K A  
K A M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S S J U C J A G N Y

- |                            |                           |                                   |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Feliz Navidad (Spanish)    | Joyeux Noël (French)      | Frohe Weihnachten (German)        |
| Buon Natale (Italian)      | Feliz Natal (Portuguese)  | Crăciun Fericit (Romanian)        |
| Hyvää Joulua (Swedish)     | God Jul (Norwegian)       | Schastlivogo Rozhdestva (Russian) |
| Glaedelig Jul (Danish)     | Hyvää Joulua (Finnish)    | Gleðileg Jól (Icelandic)          |
| Vrolijk Kerstfeest (Dutch) | Sretan Božić (Croatian)   | Veselé Vánoce (Czech)             |
|                            | Merry Christmas (USA, UK) |                                   |



## TechKnow With Tantra

### Nord VPN

Browsing the net from your phone brings privacy risks. A VPN (Virtual Private Network) shields your privacy. NordVPN app lets you enjoy secure and private internet access in just a single tap – on your smartphone, tablet, or your Android TV, keeping your online activity private from ISPs, advertisers, and other snoopers, so no one can access your online data. It also changes your IP address so that you appear to be browsing from a different location, without anyone knowing. On WiFi network, your sensitive data is safe – the CyberSec feature protects you from malware, spyware and other malicious content. And all this, without compromising a bit on speed!

Android: <http://bit.ly/2nnTvmT>      iOS: <https://apple.co/2oTBMh4>

## SUDOKU

		2		6				
7			2				1	9
						2	5	
				9			3	6
		8		2		5		
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	1	4						
5	9					4		2
			7			9		

## WINNING CAPTION!!!



Kitty Cat: Can you believe that these are Russian Chess Grandmasters before they took the Sputnik vaccine?!

By Viraf P. Commissariat (CT, USA)

## CAPTION THIS!

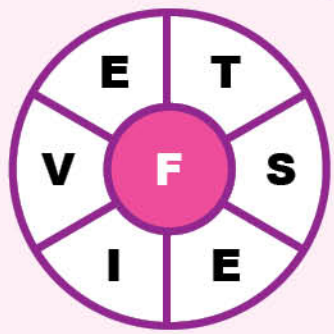


Calling all our readers to caption this picture!  
 Send in your captions at [editor@parsi-times.com](mailto:editor@parsi-times.com) by 23rd Dec., 2020  
 Winning Caption and Winner's Name Will Be Published Next Week.

Disclaimer: Some of our 'Caption This' Contest photos are taken from freely available, public online resources and are published in a light and humorous vein, which is the mainstay of the Parsi spirit! No offence is intended to anyone or any situation.

## HOW MANY WORDS?

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters below? Every word must contain the letter in the center. You should make at least one word using all 7 letters.

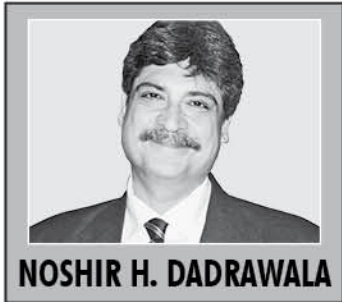


- RESULTS:**  
 Average - 7 or more words  
 Good - 8 or more words  
 Outstanding - 10 or more words

## Thought of the Week

"The greatest gift of all this holiday season is a loving family and close friends!"





**NOSHIR H. DADRAWALA**

# BPP Requires Good Governance



### What Is Good Governance?

In my opinion, 'Good Governance' is a transparent decision-making process, in which the leadership of a public charitable trust, in an effective and accountable way, directs resources (human and financial capital) and exercises power and position (as trustee) on the basis of shared value. All public charitable trusts, especially those with large financial and other resources, need a strong 'Governing Body' (Board of trustees) in order for the organisation to achieve long-term effectiveness. As the organisation passes through various stages of its life cycle, the governing body's style may need to change, but the basic areas of responsibility to the organisation remain the same.

### The Four Key Areas Of Responsibility Of A Governing Body:

**(I) MISSION AND VISION:** The primary reason to serve on the governing board of a public charitable trust is to deliver its mission. The governing body's responsibility is to determine, reaffirm, support and sustain the organisation's mission, in line with its Mission Statement and Vision Statement. A Mission Statement clarifies the essence of organizational existence and its purpose, describes the needs the organization was created to fill and answers the basic question of why the organization exists. Through its Vision Statement, the charitable trust defines its ultimate motivation, its dreams, its image of a desired future. For Eg., "No young married Parsi couple in Mumbai will be without proper shelter in the next decade." Every organization needs both - a Mission Statement and a Vision Statement as a critical part of strategic planning. The mission statement is like a 'road map' for the organization while the vision statement is the final destination the organization is attempting to arrive at.

Unfortunately, when scope of vision is restricted to the next election and the mission becomes "only what I think, speak and do, is right", the 'Road Map' becomes a 'Road Block' and the 'Destination' becomes a 'Dead End'.

**(II) OVERSIGHT:** The second area of the governing body's responsibility is 'Oversight' or overseeing the governance

of the organisation. Oversight establishes appropriate checks and balances to ensure that the organisation is well governed within the framework of the law and its mission is fulfilled. It is particularly important because public charitable trusts like the BPP are often the subject of intense public scrutiny.

**Trustees of the BPP are expected to 'govern' as per a 'scheme' sanctioned by the Bombay High Court. The scheme makes no reference to an 'Acting Chairman' or 'Acting Chairperson'. It requires that in the absence of the Chairman, the Trustees may elect from among themselves a Chairman for a meeting. This could easily be done by rotation. But, when convenient, the 'letter' of the 'scheme' is invoked, and when not convenient, the 'spirit' of the scheme is invoked!!!**

**Trustee Mrs. Tirandaz has been chairing every meeting since Mr. Yazdi Desai (who is currently the BPP Chairman) took ill earlier this year. In the interest of peace and harmony, I try to turn a blind eye to some of my colleagues invoking the 'spirit of the scheme' to justify their dominance. But this is not 'good governance'. This is a wrong practice and precedence which may someday come to bite the very people who are promoting this. After all, 'what goes around comes around'. This is law of Nature!**

Public charitable trusts like the BPP need to avoid conflicts of interest at all times. A Trustee should be above suspicion; no Trustee should participate in a discussion or vote on an issue where there is even a potential conflict of interest. Openness and honesty are essential at all times. Part of the oversight process also is evaluation, which is often easily understood but difficult to implement. Because the governing board is responsible for the overall performance and effectiveness of the organisation, it should conduct periodic assessment of organisation's activities, as well as its management,

to ensure that the organisation is serving the community within its mission.

**Self-Assessment:** The governing board should conduct an annual self-assessment where every Trustee needs to self-evaluate his/her effectiveness against the agreed benchmarks. This promotes an engaged, active and knowledgeable governing body. A board self-assessment also helps board members to contribute to their fullest capability. **Are trustees ready to do this? So far, the Board has resisted even having an internal 'Code of Conduct'. Self-evaluation therefore seems a distant dream!**

Each trustee may be good in his/her individual capacity, but collectively, the Board is a disaster. Ideological differences can be managed. But where personal differences are concerned, bruised egos become hard to manage. I try to strike the balance. I try to find the golden mean or the middle path but **its all about 'They V/s Us' instead of 'We, the trustees of BPP'.**

**(III) RESOURCES:** One of the most challenging responsibilities of service on the governing board is resource development, which includes both financial and human resources. Governing board members do not need to be financial experts, but they must be diligent about reviewing financial reports. Members of the governing board are responsible for developing a fundraising strategy, and they should contribute their time, skill, and influence to raising money. **Unfortunately, fundraising has been reduced to selling charity flats to those who have the financial resources at less than prevailing market rates.**

Considering BPP's resource crunch, I am open to the idea auctioning a few large flats at premier baugs. However, I am averse to putting any and every BPP flat up for sale merely because the trust has a resource crunch! What was the original intent of the founders and donors should not be forgotten.

**(IV) OUTREACH:** All governing board members should be an articulate voice for the organization's mission, values, and activities. Members of the governing board provide links to the community in which the organization operates. Outreach by governing body members has two main outlets. Outreach can be to potential donors and to community-at-large that would benefit from the organization's activities. Linkage to both groups requires a strong commitment from each member of the governing board.

The board's responsibilities to outreach include: Listening to the needs and interests of current and potential stakeholders; Promoting the organization's mission, activities, and achievements; Ensuring that the organization has marketing and public relations strategies to support the outreach programme; and Developing communications with key business, media and social leaders and inform them of the organization's work and success.

Good governance is the price we pay for the freedom to exercise power and authority in a free, enlightened and democratic society. The job of a trustee is a thankless one. Even so, one must trudge onward, despite criticism. It's important that 'say what I mean' and 'mean what I say'. There is no point in mincing my words. I may be at risk of criticism or abuse for speaking my mind and standing up fearlessly for what I believe. But I draw inspiration from the words of the Scottish poet and journalist, Charles Mackay, "You have no enemies, you say? Alas, my friend, the boast is poor. He who has mingled in the fray of duty that the brave endure, must have made foes. If you have none, small is the work that you have done. You've hit no traitor on the hip. You've dashed no cup from perjured lip. You've never turned the wrong to right. You've been a coward in the fight."



# પારસી ટાઈમ્સ

THE TRUTH. DELIVERED WEEKLY.

## બીપીપી અનલોક ૧

મુંબઈ હવે મહિનાઓથી અનલોકની સ્થિતિમાં હોવાથી અને રોજિંદા જીવનમાં સામાન્ય રીતે રોગચાળાથી બચાવવાની ફરજિયાત ક્લમો હોવા છતાં, સમુદાયના સભ્યો અવિરત રીતે બી.પી.પી. ટ્રસ્ટીઓ સાથે બેઠક માટે અસંખ્ય મુદ્દાઓને ઉકેલવાની રાહ જોઈ રહ્યા છે, જે મહિનાઓ સુધી રોકી રાખવામાં આવી હતી, જ્યારે શહેર લોકડાઉન હેઠળ હતું. જોકે, બીપીપી બોર્ડ દ્વારા કોઈ શારીરિક બેઠક થઈ નથી, અનલોક હોવા છતાં, હાલમાં ત્રણેય ટ્રસ્ટીઓ - આરમઈતી તીરંદાઝ, વિરાઠ મહેતા અને ઝર્કસીસ દસ્તુર - બોર્ડ રૂમમાં આવવા અને સમુદાયના સભ્યો સાથે મુલાકાત કરવાનો અને મહત્વપૂર્ણ વ્યવહાર કરવાનો ઈનકાર કર્યો હતો. નિર્ણાયક મુદ્દા કે જે પર ટ્રસ્ટીઓનું ધ્યાન જરૂરી છે. મહિનાઓ સુધી, ટ્રસ્ટીઓ કેરસી રોંદેરિયા અને નોશીર દાદરાવાળાના પ્રયત્નો, તેમના ત્રણ સાથી ટ્રસ્ટીઓને શારીરિક બોર્ડ મીટિંગ કરવા દબાણ કરે છે જેથી હમદીનોના અસલી મુદ્દાઓ પર પહોંચી અને તેનું સમાધાન લાવવામાં આવે.

વર્તમાન બી.પી.પી. બોર્ડ ઓફ ટ્રસ્ટી ટ્રસ્ટીઓની સંખ્યાના સંદર્ભમાં ૭ ટ્રસ્ટીઓની જગ્યાએ ફક્ત ૫ ટ્રસ્ટીઓ કામ કરી રહ્યા છે. ટ્રસ્ટી ભાથેનાના અવસાન પછી ચેરમેન દેસાઈ રીકવર થઈ રહ્યા છે. તે ખરેખર આઘાતજનક અને નિરાશાજનક છે કે જૂમ મીટિંગ્સ માટે બે ટ્રસ્ટીઓ (કેરસી રોંદેરિયા અને નોશીર દાદરાવાળા)ની ઉપલબ્ધતા ન હોવા છતાં, ત્રણ કહેવાતા બહુમતી ટ્રસ્ટીઓ (મહેતા, તીરંદાઝ અને દસ્તુર) એ કોરમ હેઠળ કાર્યરત કરવાનું ચાલુ રાખવાનો નિર્ણય કર્યો છે. અન્ય બે કાર્યકારી ટ્રસ્ટીઓની સલાહ અથવા સંમતિ વિના સમુદાય માટે એકતરફી નિર્ણયો લેવામાં નુકસાન થઈ શકે છે. કોરમ, જેને ઓછામાં ઓછા ત્રણ ટ્રસ્ટીઓની આવશ્યકતા છે, તે કટોકટીના કિસ્સામાં વાપરવા માટેની માર્ગદર્શિકા છે, નિયમિત પ્રેક્ટિસ તરીકે નહીં. જોકે, આ તકનીકીનો લાભ લઈને અપવાદને નિયમમાં ફેરવી, ત્રણ બહુમતી ટ્રસ્ટીઓ - ૭ માંથી ફક્ત ૩ જ - સમગ્ર સમુદાયને બંધનકર્તા નિર્ણયો લેવાનું ચાલુ રાખે છે!

## આદર પુનાવાલાએ 'એશિયન્સ ઓફ ધ યર'માં સ્થાન મેળવ્યું

વિશ્વના સૌથી મોટા રસી ઉત્પાદક - સીરમ ઈન્સ્ટિટ્યુટ ઓફ ઈન્ડિયા (એસઆઈઆઈ) ના સીઈઓ આદર પુનાવાલાને તાજેતરમાં સિંગાપોરના અગ્રણી દૈનિક ધ સ્ટ્રેટ્સ ટાઈમ્સ દ્વારા એશિયન ઓફ ધ યર તરીકે ઓળખવામાં આવતા છ લોકોમાંના એક તરીકે નામ આપવામાં આવ્યું.



આ પ્રતિષ્ઠિત માન્યતાના અન્ય પાંચ પ્રામકર્તાઓમાં ડો. રીઉચી મોરીશીતા (જાપાન), પ્રોફેસર ઉઈ એન્ગ ઈઓંગ (સિંગાપોર); ફાર્માકોના સ્થાપક અને ડિસ્ટ્રિબ્યુટર - સીઓ જંગ-જિન (દક્ષિણ કોરિયા); રોગચાળાના નિષ્ણાત ચેન વી અને પ્રોફેસર ઝાંગ યોંગઝેન (ચાઈના) નો સમાવેશ થાય છે. ધ સ્ટ્રેટ્સ ટાઈમ્સના જણાવ્યા અનુસાર, આ છ લોકોએ આ યુગના સૌથી મોટા સંકટમાંથી બહાર નીકળવાનો માર્ગ શોધવા માટે અવિરત ૨૦૨૦સાલને ખર્ચ કર્યું છે. દૈનિકમાં કહેવામાં આવ્યું છે

કે સામુહિકરૂપે 'વાયરસ બસ્ટર્સ' તરીકે ઓળખવામાં આવે છે, માનવતાના આ છ ચેમ્પિયન નાયક છે, તેઓએ પ્રત્યેક પોતાની ક્ષમતામાં, કોરોનાવાયરસ રોગચાળાને હલ કરવા માટે સમર્પિત કર્યું છે, એમ દૈનિક કહે છે. વાયરસ બસ્ટર્સને સન્માન આપવાના નિર્ણયમાં, સ્ટ્રેટ્સ ટાઈમ્સના સંપાદકોએ એવા લોકોને ધ્યાનમાં રાખ્યા હતા, જેમણે, એક અથવા બીજા રીતે, વિશ્વના ઘણા લોકોને ઓછા સમયમાં જીવલેણ રોગ થતો અટકાવવા માટેની એક જટિલ, મહત્વી-સ્ટેજ પ્રક્રિયાને સક્ષમ કરી હતી. ૩૯વર્ષિય આદર પુનાવાલાએ જણાવ્યું

હતું કે એસઆઈઆઈની કોવિડ-૧૯ રસી ઓછી અને મધ્યમ આવક ધરાવતા દેશોને પહોંચાડવામાં મદદ કરશે, જેઓ તેમને મેળવવાની ખોજમાં નોંધપાત્ર ગેરલાભનો સામનો કરે છે. એસઆઈઆઈ ગરીબ દેશોને રસીઓની પહોંચાડવામાં મદદ કરશે. પૂણે સ્થિત (એસઆઈઆઈ) એ ઓકસફર્ડ યુનિવર્સિટી અને બ્રિટીશ-સ્વીડિશ ફાર્માસ્યુટિકલ કંપની એસ્ટ્રાઝેનેકા સાથે મળીને કોવિડ-૧૯ રસી, કોવિડશિલ્ડ બનાવવા માટે સહયોગ કર્યો છે અને ભારતમાં ટ્રાયલ ચલાવી રહ્યું છે. એસઆઈઆઈની સ્થાપના આદર પુનાવાલાના પિતા ડો. સાયરસ પુનાવાલાએ ૧૯૬૬માં કરી હતી. આદર પુનાવાલા ૨૦૦૧માં એસઆઈઆઈમાં જોડાયા અને વર્ષ ૨૦૧૧માં કંપનીના રોજિંદા કાર્યોના સંપૂર્ણ નિયંત્રણ સાથે સીરમ સંસ્થાના સીઈઓ બન્યા.

સમુદાયના સભ્યોનું કલ્યાણ કરનારી આ સ્થિરતાના સામનાઓમાં, બીપીપી ટ્રસ્ટીઓ કેરસી રોંદેરિયા અને નોશીર દાદરાવાલાએ જૂમ મીટિંગોમાં ભાગ ન લેવાનું નક્કી કર્યું, તેઓ માને છે કે, ટ્રસ્ટી તરીકેની તેમની ફરજ તરીકે હમદીનોને નજીવા કારણસર જૂમ મીટિંગોનું આયોજન કરી મળવું યોગ્ય નથી. ૮ ડિસેમ્બર, ૨૦૨૦ ના રોજ, ટ્રસ્ટીઓ રોંદેરિયા અને દાદરાવાલા, બીપીપી બોર્ડ રૂમમાં, નિર્ધારિત મુજબ, આશરે એક ડઝન જેટલા લાભાર્થીઓને મળ્યા હતા. મહેતા, તીરંદાઝ અને દસ્તુર - ત્રણેય બહુમતી ટ્રસ્ટી સમાજના સભ્યોની ખાતર થોડા દિવસ અગાઉ નોટીસ આપી હોવા છતાં તેઓએ હાજરી આપી નહોતી. જોકે, મીટિંગ સરળ અને વ્યવસ્થિત રીતે ચાલી હતી. જેમાં આરોગ્ય અને સલામતીનું ૧૦૦% ધ્યાન રાખવામાં આવ્યું હતું. બંધ (ખેડૂત આંદોલન સંબંધિત) અને બી.પી.પી. ડિટ્રેક્ટર્સ દ્વારા દિવસ દરમિયાન અનેક નકલી અનામી સંદેશા ફરતા હોવા છતાં, આ દિવસે કોઈ શારીરિક મીટિંગ નહીં થાય તે છતાં આ સારી શરૂઆત હતી. ટ્રસ્ટીઓ કેરસી અને નોશીરે સામાન્યમાં બી.પી.પી. અનલોકિંગ કરવાનો પ્રયાસ કર્યો છે. પ્રયાસ તબક્કાવાર ચાલુ રહેશે. ખુશીની વાત એ છે કે, વધુ એક બીપીપી ટ્રસ્ટી હવે બોર્ડ રૂમમાં દર મહિને ઓછામાં ઓછી એક બેઠકમાં ભાગ લેવા સંમત થયા છે. આ ખરેખર સ્વાગત છે. બીપીપી ટ્રસ્ટીઓ સમુદાયના સહકારથી પ્રગતિના ચક્રને આગળ વધારવા પ્રયાસ કરશે.

- કેરસી રોંદેરિયા  
- નોશીર દાદરાવાલા  
ટ્રસ્ટીઓ - બીપીપી

## પાયોનિયર ડાન્સ માસ્ટ્રો - આસ્તાદ દેબુનું અવસાન

પદ્મશ્રી પ્રામકર્તા, આસ્તાદ દેબુ, ભારતમાં આધુનિક નૃત્યના પ્રણેતા તરીકે માનવામાં આવતા, ૧૦મી ડિસેમ્બર, ૨૦૨૦ ના રોજ ૭૩વર્ષની વયે અવસાન પામ્યા. નવેમ્બરમાં તેમને કેન્સર હોવાનું નિદાન થયું હતું. તેઓની પાછળ તેમની બહેનો - કમલ દેબુ અને ગુલશન દેબુ છે. રોગચાળાના બંધનને કારણે માત્ર એક જ પરિવારના સભ્યો હાજર રહેવા સાથે વરલી ખાતે એક ખાનગી અંતિમ સંસ્કાર યોજાયો હતો. સોશિયલ મીડિયા પર સમાચાર વહેંચતા તેમના પરિવારે એક ટૂંકી ઘોષણામાં કહ્યું, તેઓ ૧૦ ડિસેમ્બરે એક ટૂંકી માંદગી પછી અમને છોડી ગયા. તેમનું તેમની કળા પ્રત્યે અવિરત સમર્પણ સાથે અનફર્ગેટબલ પ્રદર્શનનો એક પ્રચંડ વારસો પાછળ મૂકી ગયા, ફક્ત તેમના વિશાળ, પ્રેમાળ હૃદયથી મેળ ખાતા, જેનાથી તેમણે હજારો મિત્રો અને સંખ્યાબંધ પ્રશંસકો મળ્યા. ૧૩મી જુલાઈ, ૧૯૪૭ ના રોજ

ગુજરાતના નવસારીમાં જન્મેલા આસ્તાદ દેબુએ પ્રલવાદ દાસના કથકનો અભ્યાસ કર્યો, ત્યારબાદ ઈ કે પત્રીકર હેઠળ કથકલીનો અભ્યાસ કર્યો. ૨૦માં વર્ષમાં એક યુવાન તરીકે, તેમણે લંડનમાં માર્થા ગ્રેલામ ડાન્સ તકનીક અને ન્યૂ યોર્કમાં જોસ લિમોનની તકનીકનો અભ્યાસ કર્યો. તેમણે ૭૦ થી વધુ દેશોમાં, એકલા, જૂથ અને સહયોગી કોન્સર્ટમાં પ્રદર્શન કર્યું, તેઓ ૧૯૬૯માં લંડનમાં પિંક ફ્લોઈડ સાથે પર્ફોમન્સ સહિતના મહત્વના સારગ્રાહી પળો સાથે ગૌરવપૂર્ણ વારસો મૂકી ગયા. દેબુએ પસંદગીની કેટલીક ફિલ્મો માટે કોરિયોગ્રાફી પણ કરી, જેમાં વિશાલ ભારદ્વાજની ઓમકારા (૨૦૦૬) અને સુપ્રસિદ્ધ પેઈન્ટર, એમ.એફ.હુસેનની ફિલ્મ, મીનાક્ષી: એ ટેલ ઓફ થ્રી સિટીઝ (૨૦૦૪)નો સમાવેશ થાય છે. તેમણે બહેરા નૃત્યકારોને કલાત્મક વિકાસ પ્રદાન કરવાના હેતુથી ૨૦૦૨માં આસ્તાદ



દેબુ ડાન્સ ફાઉન્ડેશનની સ્થાપના કરી હતી. સમકાલીન સર્જનાત્મક નૃત્યમાં તેમના યોગદાન માટે તેમને ૧૯૯૫માં સંગીત નાટક અકાદમીનો એવોર્ડ મળ્યો હતો અને ૨૦૦૭માં તેમને પદ્મશ્રીથી સન્માનિત કરવામાં આવ્યા હતા. પારસી ટાઈમ્સે તેમના પરિવાર પ્રત્યે હાર્દિક શોક વ્યક્ત કર્યો છે.



## YOUR MOONSIGNS JANAM RASHI THIS WEEK

લખનાર: મરહુમ મહારાજ શ્રી સ્વયંજયોતિના સહકાર્યકર્તા જયેશ એમ. ગોસ્વામી

અઠવાડિક રાશિક્ષણ: તા. ૧૯.૧૨.૨૦૨૦ થી તા. ૨૫.૧૨.૨૦૨૦



### Aries - મેષ - અ.વ.ઈ.

તમારે છેલ્લુ અઠવાડિયું ગુરૂની દિનદશામાં પસાર કરવાનું બાકી છે. તમારા ફેમીલી પ્રોબ્લેમ દૂર કરવામાં સફળ થશો. તેમની ડિમાન્ડ પૂરી કરી શકશો. તમે જ્યાં કામ કરતા હશો ત્યાં જ્યાં સાથે માન પણ મળશે. ચેરીટી કે જરૂરિયાત વ્યક્તિને જોઈતું દાન કરી દેજો. દરરોજ 'સરોશ યજ્ઞ' ભણાજો. શુકનવંતી તા. ૨૦, ૨૧, ૨૨, ૨૪ છે.

Lucky Dates: 20, 21, 22, 24.

This is your last week under Jupiter's rule. You will be able to resolve any issues in the family and cater to their wants. You will receive fame and praise at your workplace. This is a good time to perform charitable deeds, especially for those in need. Pray the Sarosh Yasht daily.



### Cancer - કર્ક - ડ.હ.

તમને આજથી ૩૬ દિવસ માટે શનિની દિનદશા શરૂ થયેલી છે. જે પણ કામ કરશો તેમાં મુશ્કેલી આવશે. કામમાં ઉતાવળ કરતા તે કામ બગડી જતા વાર નહીં લાગે. નાણાકીય બાબતમાં પૈસાની ખુબ ખેચતાણ રહેશે. જ્યાં ત્રણને બચાવવા જશો ત્યાં ત્રીસનો ખર્ચ થશે. શનિ તબિયતને અચાનક બગાડી દેશે. તેમાં ખાસ કરીને પેટના દુખાવા તથા સાંધાના દુખાવાથી પરેશાન થશો. દરરોજ ભુલ્યા વગર 'મોટી હમન યજ્ઞ' ભણાજો. શુકનવંતી તા. ૨૦, ૨૧, ૨૨, ૨૩ છે.

Lucky Dates: 20, 21, 22, 23.

Saturn's rule, starting today for the next 36 days, predicts having to face challenges in all your endeavours. Avoid doing anything out of haste as that will surely go to waste. Financial constraints are indicated. You could end up spending ten times that of what you've saved. Saturn could take a toll on your health - especially stomach aches and joint pains. Pray to pray the Moti Haptan Yasht daily.



### Libra - તુલા - ર.ત.

ચંદ્રની દિનદશા ચાલુ હોવાથી અગત્યના ડીસીઝન ચેન્જ નહીં કરતા. અગત્યના કામો પહેલા પૂરા કરી લેજો. તમારા સેલ્ફ કોન્ફીડન્સમાં વધારો થશે. મિત્ર કે સાથે કામ કરનારની મદદથી કામ પૂરા કરવામાં સફળતા મળશે. આનંદ મળે તેવા સમાચાર મળશે. ઘરવાળાની ડિમાન્ડ પૂરી કરી શકશો. ૩૪મુ નામ 'યા બેસ્તરના' ૧૦૧વાર ભણાજો. શુકનવંતી તા. ૨૩, ૨૪, ૨૫, ૨૬ છે.

Lucky Dates: 23, 24, 25, 26.

The Moon's ongoing rule advises you not to change any significant decisions that you have made. Complete your important works first. Your self-confidence will increase. Friends and colleagues will help you complete your work. You could receive good news. You will be able to cater to the needs of your family members. Pray the 34th Name, 'Ya Beshtarna', 101 times, daily.



### Capricorn - મકર - ખ.જ.

૧૪મી જાન્યુઆરી સુધી શુક્રની દિનદશા તમારા મોજશોખમાં વધારો કરશે. પ્રેમી-પ્રેમીકામાં મતભેદ ઓછા થતા જશે. નાણાકીય બાબતમાં સારા સારી રહેશે. મુસ્લીમતમાં ફસાતા બહાર નીકળવામાં શુક્ર તમને મદદગાર થશે. દરરોજ 'બહેરામ યજ્ઞ'ની આરાધના કરજો. શુકનવંતી તા. ૧૯, ૨૦, ૨૪, ૨૫ છે.

Lucky Dates: 19, 20, 24, 25.

Venus' rule till 14th January, will increase your inclinations towards fun and entertainment. Squabbles between couples will reduce. Financial prosperity is indicated. Venus will bail you out of any unfortunate predicament you find yourself in. Pray to Behram Yazad daily.



### Taurus - વૃષભ - બ.વ.ઉ.

તમને ગુરૂની દિનદશા ચાલુ હોવાથી આપેલા પ્રોમીસ પહેલા પૂરા કરી લેજો. રોજબરોજના કામ પૂરા કરવામાં સફળ થશો. ગુરૂની કૃપાથી ધન મેળવવા ભાગદોડ નહીં કરવી પડે. થોડી બચત કરી ઈનવેસ્ટમેન્ટ અવશ્ય કરજો. મનને શાંતિ મળે તેવા કામ કરવાનો ચાન્સ મળશે. દરરોજ 'સરોશ યજ્ઞ' ભણાજો. શુકનવંતી તા. ૧૯, ૨૦, ૨૩, ૨૪ છે.

Lucky Dates: 19, 20, 23, 24.

Jupiter's ongoing rule advises that you deliver on your promises as a priority. You will be able to successfully complete your daily works effectively. With Jupiter's blessings, you will not have to put in too much effort to earn money. Ensure to save and make investments. You will get the opportunity to do works that bring peace to the mind. Pray the Sarosh Yasht daily.



### Leo - સિંહ - મ.ટ.

બુધની દિનદશા ચાલુ હોવાથી જે પણ કામ કરશો તેનાથી બીજાનું દીવ ઝીલ લેજો. નાણાકીય બાબતમાં જ્યાં જરૂર હશે ત્યાંજ ખર્ચ કરશો. બચત કરી સારી જગ્યાએ ઈનવેસ્ટમેન્ટ કરી શકશો. તમારા દુસ્મન તમારા કામને જોઈને આશ્ચર્ય પામશે. તમારા વિરુદ્ધ નહીં જઈ શકે. જ્યાં કાંઈ મળતો હશે તે કામ પહેલા કરજો. દરરોજ 'મેહેર નીઆએશ' ભણાજો. શુકનવંતી તા. ૧૯, ૨૧, ૨૩, ૨૪ છે.

Lucky Dates: 19, 21, 23, 24.

Mercury's ongoing rule has you winning over other people in all your endeavours. Financially, spending will be limited to only those areas where necessary. You will be able to invest your savings profitably. Your detractors will be surprised with your excellent work and will not be able to go against you. Prioritize those tasks which are benefit you. Pray the Meher Nyaish daily.



### Scorpio - વૃશ્ચિક - ન.પ.

૨૪મી જાન્યુઆરી સુધી મુસાફરીના ચાન્સ મળતા રહેશે. કોઈપણ કામમાં કંટાળો નહીં આવે. તમારા કામમાં કોઈપણ ભુલ નહીં શોધી શકે. મિત્રો તરફથી માન મળશે. જે પણ કમાશો તેમાંથી ઈનવેસ્ટમેન્ટ અવશ્ય કરજો. ઘરનું વાતાવરણ સાફ હોવાથી ઘરવાળાની ડિમાન્ડ પૂરી કરી શકશો. દરરોજ ૩૪મુ નામ 'યા બેસ્તરના' ૧૦૧વાર ભણાજો. શુકનવંતી તા. ૧૫, ૧૬, ૧૭, ૧૮ છે.

Lucky Dates: 15, 16, 17, 18.

You will get travel opportunities till 24th January. You will be free of any lethargy. No one will be able to find a single fault in your work. Friends will respect you. Ensure to make investments from your earnings. With the house atmosphere being cordial, you will be able to cater to the wants of family members. Pray the 34th Name, 'Ya Beshtarna', 101 times, daily.



### Aquarius - કુંભ - ગ.શ.સ.

શુક્રની દિનદશા ચાલુ હોવાથી કામકાજ માટે ભાગદોડ કરવી પડશે. તમારા કામનું તમને બરાબર વળતર મળી રહેશે. ખર્ચ પર કાબુ નહીં રાખી શકો. નવા કામ મેળવવામાં સફળ થશો. મનગમતી વ્યક્તિને મળતા મનમાં આનંદ થશે. રોજના કામ સમય પર પૂરા કરી શકશો. દરરોજ 'બહેરામ યજ્ઞ'ની આરાધના કરજો. શુકનવંતી તા. ૧૯, ૨૨, ૨૪, ૨૫ છે.

Lucky Dates: 19, 22, 24, 25.

Venus' ongoing rule indicates that your work could keep you on your toes. You will earn appropriately, as per your efforts. You might not be able to control your expenses. You will be successful in getting new projects. Meeting your favourite person will bring you much happiness. You will be able to complete your daily chores on time. Pray to Behram Yazad daily.



### Gemini - મિથુન - ક.છ.ઘ.

શનિની દિનદશા ચાલુ હોવાથી તમને દરેક બાબતમાં નેગેટીવ વિચાર આવશે તેના લીધે તમારા બનતા કામ બગડી જશે. જેના પર વિશ્વાસ કરશો તેજ વ્યક્તિ દગો આપશે. તમારી અગત્યની ચીજ વસ્તુ ગુમાઈ જાય કે ચોરાય જાય તેવા હાલના ગ્રહ છે. દરરોજ ભુલ્યા વગર 'મોટી હમન યજ્ઞ' ભણાજો. શુકનવંતી તા. ૧૯, ૨૦, ૨૧, ૨૨ છે.

Lucky Dates: 19, 20, 21, 22.

Saturn's ongoing rule casts a cloud of negativity in all your thoughts. This could lead to the undoing of even nearly successful projects. You could get betrayed by a trusted one. You are cautioned about losing important items by misplacing them or through theft. Ensure to pray the Moti Haptan Yasht daily.



### Virgo - કન્યા - પ.ઠ.ણ.

છેલ્લા છ દિવસ મંગળની દિનદશામાં પસાર કરવાના બાકી છે. ૨૪મી સુધી વાહન ખુબ સંભાળીને ચલાવજો. અગત્યના ડીસીઝન લેતા નહીં. ઘરનું વાતાવરણ ૨૫મીથી સુધરવા લાગશે. નાણાકીય બાબતમાં સારા સારી થતી જશે. અઠવાડિયું પૂરું થતા મનનો બોજો ઓછો થતો લાગશે. દરરોજ 'તીર યજ્ઞ' ભણાજો. શુકનવંતી તા. ૧૯, ૨૦, ૨૨, ૨૪ છે.

Lucky Dates: 19, 20, 22, 24.

With the last 6 days remaining under the rule of Mars, you are advised to ride/drive your vehicles with great caution till the 24th. Avoid taking any important decisions. The homely atmosphere will start improving post the 25th, after which your financial conditions will also get better. You will feel mentally relieved as the week draws to a close. Pray the Tir Yasht daily.



### Sagittarius - ધન - ભ.ધ.ફ.

સૂર્ય જેવા ગરમ ગ્રહની દિનદશા ચાલુ હોવાથી શાંત રહેવા માગતા હશો તો પણ શાંત નહીં રહી શકો. નાની બાબતમાં તમે ગુસ્સે થઈ જશો. સરકારી કામમાં સફળતા નહીં મળે. ઘરમાં વડીલવર્ગની તબિયત બગડશે. તમે જે પણ સેવા કરશો તેનો જથ્થો નહીં મળે. મિત્રોથી પરેશાન થશો. પ્રેશરની મોંઘી પરેશાન થશો. દરરોજ ૯૬મુ નામ 'યા રયમોંદ' ૧૦૧વાર ભણાજો. શુકનવંતી તા. ૨૦, ૨૧, ૨૨, ૨૩ છે.

Lucky Dates: 20, 21, 22, 23.

The hot Sun's rule will not allow you to stay calm, immaterial of your best efforts. You will get angry over small matters. You might not be able to be successful in government-related works. The elderly at home could fall ill. Your services will not be recognized or appreciated. Friends could upset you. You could suffer from Blood Pressure. Pray the 96th Name, 'Ya Rayomand', 101 times, daily.



### Pisces - મીન - દ.ચ.ઝ.થ.શ.

રાહુની દિનદશા ચાલુ હોવાથી તમારા કામ પર વધારે ધ્યાન આપજો. બીજાને તમારા મનની વાત કહેવાથી બોજો ઓછો થવાને બદલે વધી જશે. ખાવાપીવામાં બેદરકાર રહેતા તબિયતમાં અસર થશે. નાણાકીય ખેચતાણ વધવાથી કોઈ પાસે ઉધાર લેવાનો વારો આવશે. દરરોજ 'મહાબોખ્તાર નીઆએશ' ભણાજો. શુકનવંતી તા. ૨૩, ૨૪, ૨૫, ૨૬ છે.

Lucky Dates: 23, 24, 25, 26.

Rahu's ongoing rule suggests that you pay extra attention to your work. Speaking your mind with another could end up making your feel heavier mentally, instead of lighter. If you do not take care of your diet, it would affect your health. Financial constraints could cause you to borrow money. Pray the Mah Bokhtar Nyaish daily.

એક નજર પારસી મરણો ઉપર

Deceased મરનાર	Age વય	Date તારીખ	Address ર. કે.	Relations સગાઈઓ
Maharukh Noshir Kharash મહારૂખ નોશીર ખરાસ	67 ૬૭	10-12-2020	53, Pandey House, 5th Floor, Thakurdwar Charni Road, Mumbai 2. ૫૩, પાન્ડે હાઉસ, ૫મે માળે, ઠાકુરદ્વાર, ચર્નિરોડ (ઈ), મુંબઈ ૨.	તે મરહુમ નોશીર એદલ ખરાસના વિધવા તે મરહુમો નવાઝ તથા બેબન ન. દેસાઈના દીકરી. તે બેબાદ નોશીર ખરાસના માતાજી તે રીહા બેબાદ ખરાસના સાસુજી તે યોહનના ગ્રેન્ડમધર તે પીરોજા તથા મરહુમ એદલ ખરાસના વડુ તે દોલી તથા લોમી વકીલના વેવાન.
Roshan Naval Ghadiali રોશન નવલ ઘડિયાલી	74 ૭૪	10-12-2020	1 C/ 006, Salsette CHS Old Pump House, Andheri, Mumbai 93. ૧સી/૦૦૬ સાલસેટ સીએચએસ, ઓલ્ડ પમ્પ હાઉસ, અંધેરી (ઈ), મુંબઈ ૯૩.	તે મરહુમ નવલ કેખશરૂ ઘડિયાલીના વિધવા તે પરીજાદ આદીલ વાચા તથા મરહુમ ક્યોમર્ઝ નવલ ઘડિયાલીના માતાજી તે મરહુમો ધન તથા શાવકશાદ દસ્તુરના દીકરી તે આદિલ બહેરામ વાચાના સાસુજી તે ફીયા આદિલ વાચાના મમઈજી તે દીનુ રૂસી દોરડીના બહેન તે મરહુમો પેરીન તથા કેખશરૂ ઘડિયાલીના વડુ.
Osti Nergish Ratttonsha Madon ઓસ્તી નરગીશ રતનશા માદન	75 ૭૫	11-12-2020	611, Pateti Block, 2Nd Floor, Flat No 5, Jame Jamshed Road Parsi Colony Dadar, Mumbai 14. ૬૧૧, પટેટી બ્લોક, ૨જે માળે, ફ્લેટ નં. ૫, જામે જમશેદ રોડ, પારસી કોલોની, દાદર, મુંબઈ ૧૪	તે રતનશા બેરામજી માદનના ઘણીયાણી તે તહેમતન તથા ઝરીરના મમ્મા તે મરહુમો દીનબાઈ બેરામજી માદનના વડુ તે મોરેગના સાસુજી તે અનાહિતા તથા દાનેશના બપઈજી તે મરહુમો ગુલબાનુ તથા અમનશા દારાજી ફટાકીયાના દીકરી તે રૂસ્તમ, વિરાક, મર્ઝબાન તથા શ્રીટી બેરામ બલસારાના બહેન.
Nariman Ferroze Nallaseth નરીમાન ફેરોઝ નલ્લાસેથ	83 ૮૩	10-12-2020	Mayfair House, Flat No. 12, 5th Floor, Little Gibbs Road, Malabar Hill, Mumbai 2 મેફર હાઉસ, ફ્લેટ નં. ૧૨, ૫મો માળ, લીટલ ગીબ્સ રોડ, મલબાર હિલ, મુંબઈ ૬.	તે મરહુમ રૂબીના ખાવિંદ તે કેઝાદના બાવાજી તે મરહુમો ફેની ફિરોઝ નલ્લાસેથના દીકરા તે સેરીના કેઝાદ નલ્લાસેથના સસરાજી તે કેલી, રાઈલીના બપાવાજી તે મરહુમો જાલુ અમન બોમબોટના જમાઈ તે મરહુમ મની કાંગાના ભાઈ.
Ervad Godrej Ratanji Panthaki એરવદ ગોદરેજ રતનજી પંથકી	82 ૮૨	12-12-2020	Dinshaw House, 4th Floor, 732, Jehangir Vimaladal Road, Parsee Colony, Dadar, Mumbai 14. દીનશા હાઉસ, ૪થે માળે, ૭૩૨ જે. વી. રોડ, પારસી કોલોની, દાદર, મુંબઈ ૧૪.	તે મેહરૂ ગોદરેજ પંથકીના ખાવિંદ તે એ. હોસેદરના બાવાજી તે મરહુમ રતામાય તથા રતનજી બરબોરજી પંથકીના દીકરા તે મરહુમો કુંવરબાઈ તથા નાદરશાદ કા. શ્રોફના જમાઈ તે ગુલચેર નવલ ચારના તથા મરહુમો બરબોર તેમજ ફિરોઝ રતનજી પંથકીના ભાઈજી.
Katy Aspi Mistry કેટી અસ્પી મિસ્ત્રી	71 ૭૧	14-12-2020	4A, Flat No.605 & 606, Salsette Parsee Colony, Pump House, Andheri, Mumbai 93. ૪એ, ૬૦૬ ફ્લેટ, સાલસેટ પારસી કોલોની, પંપ હાઉસ, અંધેરી, મુંબઈ ૯૩.	તે મરહુમ અસ્પી એરચ મિસ્ત્રીના વિધવા. તે દીલનવાઝ નેવીલ દાડવાલાના માતાજી. તે નેવીલ અદી દાડવાલાના સાસુજી. તે આવા, નાયરાના મમઈજી. તે મરહુમો જર તથા એરચ કાવસજી પાઉવાલાના દીકરી તે કેરસી, સરવીન, મરહુમ બરઝીનના ભાઈ તે મહારૂખ, બીની, સુઝનના ભાભી તે મરહુમ એરચ કાવસજી મીસ્ટ્રી, મરહુમ નરગીશ એરચ મીસ્ટ્રીના વડુ તે રૂમી એરચ મીસ્ટ્રી તથા મરહુમ કેરસી એરચ મીસ્ટ્રીના ભાભી.
Pirojshaw Kavajji Karanjia પીરોજશાહ કાવસજી કરંજીયા	77 ૭૭	15-12-2020	Andheri Flyover CHS. Flat No.204, 2nd Floor, Telli Galli, Andheri (E), Mumbai 69. અંધેરી ફ્લાય ઓવર, ફ્લેટ નં. ૨૦૪, ૨જે માળે, તેલી ગલ્લી, અંધેરી (ઈ), મુંબઈ ૬૯.	તે મરહુમો કાવસજી તથા દોલતબાનુ કરંજીયાના દીકરા તે વિરાક, જંનગુ, શાહરુખના ભાઈ તે શેરનાઝ કરંજીયાના દેર તે ઝુબીન તથા હોરમઝના કાકા તે ખુશનામ તથા ગીતાના કાકાસસરા.
Goolu Nariman Bhagalia ગુલુ નરીમાન ભાગળીયા	81 ૮૧	15-12-2020	12/B, Deepali, St. Cyril Road, Bandra (West), Mumbai 50. ૧૨/બી, દીપાલી, સેન્ટ સિરિલ રોડ, બાન્દ્રા, મુંબઈ ૫૦	તે મ. ખોરશેદ તથા નરીમાન ભાગળીયાના દીકરી. તે મ. મેહલ્લી નરીમાન ભાગળીયાના બહેન. તે પેરીન મેહલ્લી ભાગળીયાના નાણંદ તે નીલુફર, ઝરોષ, ઝરફીસના કુઈજી.
Navaz Dinshaw Dastur નવાઝ દીનશો દસ્તુર	73 ૭૩	15-12-2020	821. 8Th Floor, Bombay Market, Tardeo, Tulsiwadi, Mumbai 34. ૮૨૧, ૮મે માળે, બોમ્બે માર્કેટ, તારદેવ, તુલ્સી વાડી, મુંબઈ ૩૪	તે દીનશો પદમજી દસ્તુરના ઘણીયાણી તે મરહુમો દીનામાય તથા હોરમસજી ચીનોઈના દીકરી તે દેવજાદ તથા દેવનાઝના માતાજી તે મરહુમો મીઠામાય તથા પદમજી દસ્તુરના વડુ તે નેહા તથા જસવીરના સાસુજી તે દનાયશા, શ્રીયાના તથા દાનેશના ગ્રાન્ડ મધર તે પુતલી, જસી, નોશીર તથા ખોરશેદના ભાભીજી.
Dara Khurshedji Panthaki દારા ખરશેદજી પંથકી	75 ૭૫	16-12-2020	D-2/11. S. Bharucha Parsi Colony, S.V. Road, Andheri (W) Mumbai. ડી/ ૨/૧૧ ભડ્યા પારસી કોલોની, એસ. વી. રોડ, અંધેરી (વે), મુંબઈ.	તે કેટી દારા પંથકીના ઘણીયાણી તે મરહુમો ખરશેદજી તથા દીનામાઈ પંથકીના દીકરા તે દાયનાના માતાજી તે કીયાના તથા ખુશનાઝના મમાવાજી તે પરવેજ, નરગીશ તથા મરહુમ બહેરામ, લોમી, હિલાના ભાઈ તે મરહુમ પીરોજશાહ તથા જરબાનુના જમાઈ તે વીરા, માહરૂખ, મોનાઝ, ફરઝાન ને દીનાઝના કાકા.
Hoshang Nadirshaw Wania હોસંગ નાદીરશાહ વાણીઆ	76 ૭૬	16-12-2020	Kismat Building, Flat No.3, 3rd Floor, Colaba, Mumbai 5. કિસ્મત બિલ્ડિંગ, ફ્લેટ નં. ૩, ૩જે માળે, કોલાબા, મુંબઈ ૫.	તે દીનુના ખાવિંદ તે મરહુમ જરબાનુ નાદીરશાહ વાણીઆ તથા મરહુમ નાદીરશાહ સોરાબજી વાણીઆના દીકરા તે બરજીસના બાવાજી તે ખુશનુમાના સસરાજી તે કુમી સામ ભગત તથા ઝરીન નાદીરશાહ વાણીઆના ભાઈ તે મરહુમો જરબાનુ તથા મેરવાનજી દીનશાહજી શ્રોફના જમાઈ તે રોશન તથા એદલ દારબનાના વેવાઈ.
Piloo Dadabhoy Broacha પીલુ દાદાભાઈ બ્રોચા	86 ૮૬	16-12-2020	Sterling Apartments, B- 12, 6th Floor, 38, Pedder Road, Mumbai 26. સ્ટર્લિંગ એપાર્ટમેન્ટ, બી-૧૨, ૬ માળે, પેડર રોડ, મુંબઈ ૨૬.	તે મરહુમ દાદાભાઈ તથા મરહુમ લોમઈ બ્રોચાના દીકરી તે મરહુમ ખરસેદ, મરહુમ શાહપુર તથા મરહુમ જરૂના બહેન તે દિના બ્રોચાના બહેન તે દારાયસ શાહનાઝ ઝુબીન અને બેનાઝના કુઈજી તે ગુલ અને રોશનના નાણંદ.
Adi Hirjibhai Bhatena અદી હીરજીભાઈ ભાઠેના	74 ૭૪	16-12-2020	20/A, Talukdar Building, 1st Floor, Room No.4, Dr. Nair Road, Mumbai 11. ૨૦એ, તાલુકદાર બિલ્ડિંગ, ૧થે માળે, રૂમ નં. ૪, મરઝબાન કોલોની, મુંબઈ ૧૧.	તે નવાઝના ખાવિંદ તે ફીરોઝ, અનીશ નારવેકરના બાવા તે હીરજીભાઈ તથા ડોસીભાઈના દીકરા તે મરહુમો એરવદ માનેક, એરવદ સામ, ઓસ્તા દિનીયાર ને બેદીન, એમી ફરદુન ઈરાનીના ભાઈ તે મોનાઝ આદીલ કાવારાના, ફરીદા નેવીલ પાતરાવાલા ને એરવદ યઝદી માનેક ભાઠેનાના કાકાજી તે મરહુમ નરગીશ, એરવદ સોરાબજી બલસારાના જમાઈ તે એરવદ જાલ સોરાબજી બલસારા (તીલક)ના બનેવી તે સોરાબ તથા યાસ્મીનના કુવાજી તે યનસ, નાસા, નીવાનના મમાવાજી તે આલુ માનેક ભાઠેના ને મરહુમ ઓસ્તી લોમાઈ દીન્યાર ભાઠેનાના દેર.
Khushnuma Jal Waghchhipwalla ખુશનુમા જાલ વાઘછીપાવાલા	60 ૬૦	16-12-2020	5B 104, Salsette Parsi Colony, Jijamata Road, Pump House, Mumbai 93. ૫બી ૧૦૪, સાલસેટ પારસી કોલોની, જીજમાતા રોડ, પમ્પ હાઉસ, અંધેરી ઈસ્ટ, મુંબઈ ૯૩.	તે જાલ કેખશરૂ વાઘછીપાવાલાના ઘણીયાણી તે ખુશરવ તેમ જ પોરસપના માતાજી તે મરહુમ લોમાય તેમ જ એરચશા ફરામરોજ ફનીબંદાના દિકરી તે રૂબી હોશંગ પટેલ ને ફિરદોશના બહેન તે મરહુમ મનીજર તેમ જ મરહુમ કેખશરૂ દિનશાજી વાઘછીપાવાલાના વડુ તે મરહુમ ફિરોજ, મીનુ, ધનજીશા તેમ જ નરગીશ દારાયસ એન્જિનીયરના ભાભી તે મરહુમ પરવીન, ખોરશેદના દેરાણી જેઠાણી તે દિનાઝ અને અરનોજના માસીજી તે ક્યોમર્ઝ, જેરાઝના મામીજી તે હોશંગ પટેલના સાલી.

Death Announcements from Los Angeles, CA, USA

Bomi Behram Bharucha બોમી બહેરામ ભરૂચા	78 ૭૮	17-12-2020	Los Angeles, CA, USA. લોસ એન્જલ્સ, સીએ, યુએસએ.	તે ફિરોઝના ઘણી તે હીરોઈશના પપ્પા. કઝીન્સ: બેલરોઝ નોશ વાડોલી, કેકી એન્જનિયર, મરહુમ હોશી અમરોલી.
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Death Announcements from Poona

Nadir Jal Pavri નાદીર જાલ પાવરી	74 ૭૪	14-12-2020	Green Field Complex, 7th Floor, Ajmera, Pimpri Pune - 411018. ગ્રીન ફીલ્ડ કોમ્પ્લેક્સ, ડી/૫/૨૮, ૭મે માળે, અજમેરા, પીંપરી, પુણે ૪૧૧૦૧૮.	તે રોશનીના ખાવિંદ તે દરાયસના પપ્પા તે પાશનના ગ્રાન્ડ ફાધર તે મરહુમો જાલ તથા પેરીન જાલ પાવરીના દીકરા તે મરહુમો જહાંગીરજી તથા લોમાય જહાંગીરજીના જમાઈ તે રોશન ફીરોઝ દરબારી, મરહુમો લોમાય તથા સામના ભાઈ તે મરહુમ લોમી ગઝદર તથા ફીરોઝ દરબારીના સાલા તે લોમી, મની, ધનજીના બનેવી તે મરહુમ ફરોક, નોશીર પટેલના સાહુભાઈ.
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## શુકાનાની પ્રચંડ શક્તિ

શુકાના અથવા કૃતજ્ઞતા એટલે આભાર અને કૃતજ્ઞતાની માંગ છે કે આપણે પોતાની જાતમાં, બીજામાં, દુનિયામાં અને જીવનમાં સારા પર ધ્યાન કેન્દ્રિત કરીએ. અધિકૃત સંબંધો અને સારા સંબંધો ફક્ત કૃતજ્ઞતાને કારણે રચાય છે અને પોષાય છે. આપણે કંઈ પણ લીધા વિના આભાર માનીએ છીએ. આપણે સકારાત્મક માનસિક-વળાંક લઈએ, ત્યારે આપણે દરરોજ સવારે ઉઠીને (કોઈની મદદ વગર) આભારી હોઈએ છીએ, ચાના પ્રથમ કપ માટે અને બારી પર કલબલાટ કરતા પંખીઓના અવાજ માટે આપણે આભારી છીએ, આપણે આપણી આજુબાજુના જીવંત જીવન, આકાશ, સૂર્યના પ્રથમ કિરણ, ઝાડ, ઘાસ, ફૂલો માટે આભારી છીએ.



માનવ મન જટિલ છે. બાહ્ય-અવકાશને જીતવા કરતા આપણા પોતાના આંતરિક-અવકાશને સમજવું વધુ પડકારજનક છે. મનોવિજ્ઞાન, ન્યુરોસાયન્સ, દવા અને આધ્યાત્મિકતા - ન્યુરોસાયન્સ અને દવા બતાવે છે કે કૃતજ્ઞતા આપણા હૃદયના ધબકારાને ધીમા કરે છે, શરીરની આંતરિક પ્રણાલીને લગવા કરે છે, રોગપ્રતિકારક શક્તિમાં વધારો કરે છે અને તેથી આપણી સુખાકારીની ભાવનામાં વધારો થાય છે. તે નર્વસ સિસ્ટમની પ્રવૃત્તિને ધીમું કરે છે

અને આપણને આરામ આપે છે. કેટલાક લોકો તેમના જીવનસાથી, બાળકો, મિત્રો અથવા નોકરી વિશે

બડબડાટ કરતાં હોય છે જેના માટે તેઓએ આભાર માનવો જોઈએ. કૃતજ્ઞતા પર નિબંધમાં જ્હોન બ્રુગાલિતા લખે છે કે, 'હું કોઈ પણ આશ્રય, કોઈપણ ભોજન અથવા પાણીનો ઘૂંટ, કોઈપણ મૈત્રીપૂર્ણ હાવભાવ અને સહાયની ઓફર અથવા તો કોઈ અન્ય વ્યક્તિની સમજણનો સંપર્ક કરવા માટે હંમેશા આભારી રહી શકું છું.' ભોજન પહેલાં, ખ્રિસ્તીઓ કહે છે, 'અમે જે પ્રાપ્ત કર્યું તેના માટે ભગવાનનો આભાર,' અને આપણે કહીએ છીએ 'ખોદાયજીના શુકાના' જાપાનીઓ કહે છે 'ઈતાદકીમાસુ', જેનો અર્થ છે - 'હું નમ્રતાપૂર્વક અને આભારી છું કે આ ખોરાક પ્રાપ્ત કરું છું અને જેઓ તેને ઉગાડવામાં, સેવા આપી રહ્યા છે તેમના હાથનો આભાર માની આર્શિવાદ આપે છે. હું આ લેખ વલન કરવા માટે મારા સંપાદકને તથા વાંચકોને વાંચવા

માટે 'ઈતાદકીમાસુ' કહીને આ પેરાનો અંત લાવીશ.

એક વ્યક્તિગત નોંધ પર, મારા બપોજ સવારથી રાત સુધી કૃતજ્ઞતાનો સતત આહાર લેતા હતા, જીવનના દરેક દિવસ સમૂહ-પીઠ, મુશ્કેલીઓ અને દુર્ઘટનાઓ હોવા છતાં એક આશાવાદી, તેના મોટાભાગના સમકાલીન લોકોની જેમ, તેણીએ ક્યારેય તેની સ્વાસ્થ્ય સમસ્યાઓ વિશે વાત કરી ન હતી અને વાયએમસીઆમાં ટેનિસ માટે, સવાર સાંજ કલાક ચાલતા અન્ય લોકોની થોડી મદદ લઈને આખા કુટુંબ માટે રસોઈ બનાવતા તેઓએ વ્યસ્ત અને ઉત્પાદક જીવનની જીવિ હતી. તે પુસ્તકો, નાટકો, ચલચિત્રો, સંગીત, મિત્રોને મળવાનું અને બાળકની ખુશી સાથે સર્કસ જવાનું પસંદ કરતા હતા. તેમના સુખી આહારનું સહયોગ છે, તે ક્ષણ-ક્ષણ આભાર માનતા હું તેણીનું કહેવું સાંભળી શકું છું - કેવો મનોહર દિવસ, મનોરમ તડકો, મનોરમ વરસાદ અને અવિશ્વસનીય રીતે શુકાના - જાદુઈ શબ્દ! કૃતજ્ઞતાનું વલણ રાખો 'શુકાના' કહો આગલી વખતે જ્યારે તમને ઉંઘ ન આવે, ત્યારે તમારા આશીર્વાદો ગણો અને તમે નવા જન્મેલા બાળકની જેમ સૂઈ જશો !! - રૂબી લીલાઉવાલા

## ક્રિસમસ ટ્રીનો ઈતિહાસ

૨૫ ડિસેમ્બર દુનિયાભરમાં ક્રિસમસ મનાવવામાં આવે છે. આ દિવસે લોકો ઘરની સજાવટ કરે છે અને ક્રિસમસ ટ્રી ઘરે લાવે છે. શું તમે જાણો છો કે ક્રિસમસ ટ્રીની પરંપરા ક્યાંથી શરૂ થઈ? ખ્રિસ્તી ધર્મ પહેલાનો ઈતિહાસ: ખ્રિસ્તી ધર્મ અસ્તિત્વમાં આવતાં પહેલા ઘણા સમયથી એવરગ્રીન એટલે કે આખું વર્ષ લીલા રહેતાં વૃક્ષો અને છોડનું લોકોના જીવનમાં ઘણું મહત્વ હતું. લોકો એવરગ્રીન ઝાડની ડાળીઓ ઘરમાં સજાવતા હતા. તેમનું માનવું હતું કે આમ કરવાથી જાદુ-ટોણાની અસર નથી થતી તેમજ ખરાબ શક્તિઓ, ભૂત-પ્રેત અને બીમારીઓ દૂર રહે છે. પ્રાચીન મિશ્ર અને રોમના લોકો એવરગ્રીન છોડની શક્તિની અને સુંદરતામાં વિશ્વાસ રાખતા હતા. સેન્ટ બોનીફેસ: ક્રિસમસ ટ્રી સાથે સંકળાયેલી વાર્તા ૭૨૨ એડી ની છે. માન્યતા છે કે જર્મનીના સેન્ટ બોનોનિસને જાણ થઈ હતી કે કેટલાક દુષ્ટ લોકો એક વિશાળ ઓક ટ્રીની નીચે એક બાળકની બલિ ચડાવશે. સેન્ટ બોનોનિસે બાળકને બચાવવા માટે ઓકનું ઝાડ કાપી નાખ્યું. આ ઓક ટ્રીના મૂળ પાસે એક ફર ટ્રી (દેવદારનું ઝાડ) ઊગી નીકળ્યું. ત્યાર બાદ સેન્ટ બોનોનિસે લોકોને જણાવ્યું કે આ પવિત્ર વૃક્ષ છે. આ વૃક્ષની ડાળીઓ સ્વર્ગ તરફ ઈશારો કરે છે. ત્યારથી જ આ ઝાડ પ્રત્યે લોકોમાં સન્માનની ભાવના જાગી.



## નિરંગદીનની પવિત્ર ક્રિયા

ખેતવાડી મઠે આવેલી શેઠ પાલનજી ખરશેદજી કામા (કામાબાગ) અગિયારીમાં નિરંગદીનની પવિત્ર ક્રિયા મંગળવાર તા. ૨૨-૧૨-૨૦૨૦, રોજ આદર, માહ અમરદાદ ય.જ. ૧૩૯૦ની મઠરાતે મરહુમ સોહરાબ એદલજી મોદીની નેયતે મહારૂખ તથા હોરમજી હોશંગ લવંગીયા તરફથી કરવામાં આવશેજી. સર્વે હમદીનોને પધારવા આમંત્રણ છેજી.

### Death Announcements from Prayer Hall

<b>Khorshed Pithawalla</b> ખોરશેદ જહાંગીર પીઠાવાલા	<b>Jehangir</b> ૮૬	86	12.12.2020	505, C Crest, II, 7 Bungalows, Andheri West, Mumbai 61. પ૦૫ સી કેસ્ટ ૨, ૭ બંગલા, અંધેરી વેસ્ટ, મુંબઈ ૬૧	તે જહાંગીરના ઘણીયાણી તે મરહુમ પીરોજ તથા એરચશા મીસ્ત્રીના દીકરી તે યાસ્મીન સી. દેવાની તથા ખુશરૂના મમ્મી તે ચંદ્રમોહન અને ઝરીનના સાસુજી તે મરહુમ દારાના બહેન તે મરહુમ હીરાબાઈ તથા મરહુમ હીરજીભાઈના વહુ.
<b>Gool Hoshang Mirza</b> ગુલ હોશંગ મીરઝા		91	15.12.2020	Tata Mills CHS LTD. Building No 1-A, Flat No 26, 6th Floor, Elphinstone Road, Parel, Mumbai 12. તાતા મીલ્સ સીએચએસ, બિલ્ડિંગ નં. ૧-એ, ફ્લેટ નં. ૨૬, ૬ઠ્ઠે માળે પરેલ, મુંબઈ ૧૨.	તે મરહુમ હોશંગ ફરામજી મીરજાના ઘણીયાણી તે મરહુમ પીરોજ તથા મરહુમ એરચશા જીજ્ઞાના દીકરી તે યજ્ઞદી હોશંગ મીરઝા, ઝીનોબ્યા ખુશરૂ બીલીમોરીયા, આબાન પરવેજ જીજ્ઞાના મમ્મી તે હવોવી યજ્ઞદી મીરઝા, ખુશરૂ ફિરોજ બીલીમોરીયા, પરવેજ મીનુ જીજ્ઞાના સાસુજી તે ફરજાદ ખુશરૂ બીલીમોરીયા, નાઝનીન મરઝી દાડવાલાના ગ્રાન્ડ મધર તે મરહુમ મીનોચેર એરચશા જીજ્ઞા, મરહુમ હોમાય માણેક એલાવ્યાના બહેન તે તીઆ ફરજાદ બીલીમોરીયા, જેદ ફરજાદ બીલીમોરીયા, આરયાના મરઝી દાડવાલાના, કીયાન મરઝી દાડવાલાના ગ્રેટ ગ્રાન્ડ મધર તે મરહુમ શીરીનબાઈ તથા મરહુમ ફરામજી મીરઝાના વહુ.

### Death Announcements from Poona Parsee Panchayat (Trust Office)

<b>Mehru Noshir Kerawala</b> મહેરૂ નોશીર કેરાવાલા		80	14-12-2020	No 2, Kalyani Classic Road, 2, Lane A, Kalyani Nagar, Pune - 411006. નં.૨, કલ્યાણી ક્લાસિક રોડ ૨, લેન એ કલ્યાણી નગર, પુણે ૪૧૧૦૦૬.	તે નોશીર કેરાવાલાના ઘણીયાણી તે નરગીશ બહેરામ ગાદારીવાલાના બહેન તે મરહુમ જરબાઈ ને ફીરોજશાહ મારફતીયાના દીકરી.
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### Death Announcements from Shree Daman Vapi Parsi Jarthosty Anjuman

<b>Pervez Ardeshtar Vapiwala</b> પરવેઝ અરદેશ્તર વાપીવાલા		82	15-12-2020	Piroja Terrace, Zanda Chok, Vapi. પિરોજા ટેરેસ, ઝંડા ચોક, વાપી.	તે મ. રોશનના ઘણી તે મ. પિરોજ તથા મ. અરદેશ્તરના દીકરા તે મ. નાજમાય તથા ફરામરોજ દલાલના જમાઈ તે ફરહુન, દાદી, મ. ફિરોજ, મ. બેજન તથા હોમાય રાગીનાના ભાઈ તે નરગીસ, પરવીઝના દીયર તે મ. યાસ્મીન અને ખુશીદના જેઠ તે મ. હોમી રાગીનાના સાલા તે દિલનવાઝના પપ્પા તે રોલિન્ટન એન્જનિયરના સસરાજી તે હોમાય એન્જનિયરના વેવાઈ તે ઝરન, નવાઝ, મહેરનોશ, સિમોનના મમાવાજી તે ફીયા, ઝંડન અને વિહાનાના મોટા મમવાજી તે નેવીલ, દેલઝાડ, હેમીન, દીનાઝ, રૂબી, અર્દિશ, મ. જેનિફરના કાકાજી તે દીન્યાર, ફરોખના મામાજી તે મોનાઝ તથા આરમીનના કુવાજી તે રશ્ના તથા સરોશના માસાજી.
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# What About Christmas?

Veera is a published Author ('Endured' and '#LoveBitesLifeHacks') and Columnist; a passionate Educator and Counsellor; Poet and Philosopher... but most of all, a lover of all things literary.



VEERA SHROFF SANJANA

My Christmas tree - all decked and adorned - stands tall in its place, as it has all the years. This year it looks a bit weary and tired, with the ornaments hanging heavy; it seems to have dulled their shine. It seems to know what the past couple of months have rolled in. A sort of Covid after-taste still lingering and lurking in all around, trying to dampen that Christmas cheer.

It's December and Christmas, the last month and festival to end the year of all years! ...The year, which will be the topic of conversation for years to come at gatherings and holidays, over a bottle of wine, and like other disasters and crises that left broken spirits in their path, only to triumph finally, this one will too!

That is my Christmas story this year - The Triumph of the Human Spirit! We will remember being the ones to have seen witnessed, lived and conquered the most terrible times, in the face of the worst pandemic that's hit the world. The punch, landing square in the belly, caused a total collapse of systems, economies and nations everywhere. But here we are, days away from the fag-end of the year, and moments away from a Christmas we've all deservedly earned and waiting to celebrate!



curated images of how well everyone is supposedly doing. Yes, I can bet you all of Santa's toys that your Instagram will be chock-full of images with friends baking Christmas puddings and chocolate cookies, wearing Santa hats and colourful scarves, coating their homes in twinkling lights and candles!

Now don't you worry if you happen to be the exception squandering away this time of the year planning nothing remotely elaborate festive or celebratory at all, failing even to put on a brave face, to somehow make it all seem so magical like the rest of the pack are doing. Questioning all the while whether your life is enriched only when it is filled with, or let's be honest, filtered with Instagrammable moments? I am sure the answer varies from person to person.

So, whether you are one planning hangouts, making gifts and keeping yours and peoples spirits alright, or this Christmas, you resemble Grouch sitting in your PJ's all day and are personally all out of energy or cheer - don't fret - that's alright too! Cause, let's face it, no matter how you approach this holiday, we

can't pretend this holiday season will be anything but a weak imitation of its predecessors! This Christmas is going to be wet. Even so, there's also a sense of freedom in abandoning obligations and succumbing oneself to mediocrity.

It's absolutely alright to slack off this year. If it's a 'Big Mac' you're settling for instead of that wholesome stuffed turkey with all its trimmings, that's ok too! If it's a sitcom instead of a sit-down dinner, don't you bother! If the telly has taken precedence over the tree, that's fine too! Forget about making magic this year. You are surviving this god-damned pandemic and staying home, savoring life - that's heroic enough in my book! So, who cares if the presents and gifts you ordered are late in arriving? Don't feel guilty if you skip the decor and skimp on the presents.

Now 2020 taught us some invaluable lessons, some life-skills never imagined. If nothing else, it's really poked the spiritual bear in most of us - the one that had been hibernating for all seasons past! Somehow

it only seems about right that the year ends with the festival of Christmas. It underlines the very lessons we were meant to learn with the nasty nudge-off.

Christmas is all about the spirit of giving, without a thought of getting. Christmas is the happiness we see in the

joy of others. It is all about forgetting the self and finding time for others - friends and family, and those that matter. It is the time for discarding the meaningless and focusing on the important. As life gets longer, our Christmas list somehow gets shorter. The things we want most, money can't buy - good friends, family and health.

Yes, that Christmas spirit may be dampened. "Why don't I feel Christmassy at all?" I've heard that statement over and over in the past couple of days. I say, it's pretty damned natural not to be overcome with the sensation of the holidays this year, even while sharing festive-flavoured drinks with friends and family. And while people are frantically asking this question - almost as though it's a disease, ready to be diagnosed, it's a bit disheartening as well. Most are bravely putting it together, everyone is associated with someone who's lost work, or worse, a loved one, during this trying year. So what's the big deal in losing a little Christmas cheer?



Truth  
Honesty  
Humanity  
Faith  
Peace  
Integrity  
Humour  
Goodwill  
Justice  
Merry Christmas

Generosity  
Empathy  
Determination  
Modesty  
Optimism  
Warmth  
Laughter  
Enthusiasm  
Constancy  
Persistence  
Kindness  
Perspective  
Strength  
Vision

Christmas certainly doesn't need to be hyped or regaled but lived in the spirit it was meant to - with generosity of the heart and soul, not the presents, gifts or dazzle we wrapped it up in and make it out to be. Stop polluting your mind with meaningless standards and stop pretending if you find it difficult to act like it's a beautiful, special time to be jolly. It's great to be alive, it's a heroic time for us. We've all been through a lot this year and are standing on the threshold of a meaningful festival,

at that precise time in history and our lives, where it undoubtedly matters the most. We are winners us all - you and I! And so, it's really alright to hang your socks for a while instead of your stockings!



Merry Many Christmas' to us all!!



This holiday season, there may be even more pressure than usual to do things special, but in ways different. Old traditions may have to be substituted by new digital ones. Oh yes! This year everyone seems to be perpetually plugged into social media, absorbing

# Meherbai's Mandli Celebrates Christmas!



RUBY LILAOWALA

**M**eherwanji was sitting quietly on his easy-chair and reading Parsi Times when Meherbai came charging at him like a bull saying "Now put everything aside and get dressed pronto because we have to go to Crawford Market to buy a big X'Mas tree, some decorations and lights. We'll light up our *agaasi* like the next door *vandoras* - Jaloo and Aloo, the obnoxious spinsters!"

**Meherwanji:** *Arrey nahi baba!* I don't want our *agaasi* to look like *Munni-Bai-Ki-Haveli!* X'Mas tree is the limit.

And, so they went and bought a huge X'Mas tree. But how to get it up to their third floor flat? With the help of their two supposedly strong neighbours, Sammy-six-pack and Piroj-Pehelwan (both weighing 50 kilos each), they managed to bring-up the tree.

That done, Meherbai spent



the rest of the day calling-up all her Mandli members for a very traditional X'Mas lunch party. *Khadhri Farida* wanted to know if turkey would be served. *Soona* sweet-tooth asked if there would be plum-pudding. *Coomi Kaajwali* wanted an X'Mas cake. *Dolly* asked if there would be Santa Claus. Of course, assured Meherbai. Meherwanji will be Father Christmas in a red coat and X'Mas cap with a white pom-pom ball!



All the Mandli wives were *maha* jealous since Meherwanji was so sporting and full of life, even in old age while most of the husbands were house-bound, with no enthusiasm to enjoy life. She even scolded the lazy lethargic husbands saying, "How can you stay indoors day after day? What about your social life and interaction with friends? Look at my Mehello. Once breakfast is over, we lock the house and gallivant all over town, seeing movies, lunching at clubs with friends, visiting Art Galleries, Exhibitions, Malls, Coffee Shops, Book Stores etc. Life is for living, so LIVE-don't

just EXIST. Even a worm exists. All of you have cars which you hardly use. Take your wives for daily outings in your cars!"

The husbands would listen politely to Meherbai and later request Meherwanji to tell his wife not to give funny ideas to their wives, but Meherwanji was an ideal husband who would give them a double-doze of advice, saying, "*Bairi ney roj bahar lai ney enjoy karvata*

*soo thajj?* A happy wife means a happy marriage!" Of course, the husbands resented this and behind his back, called Meherwanji names like *Joruka-gulaam*, *Bairi-no-margho* and what not!

On X'Mas eve, Meherbai spent a lot of time decorating the X'Mas tree with stars, baubles, silver-streamers, mini-santas and a pair of white-doves (like in the movie *Home Alone*). As they left for the X'Mas eve dance, she forgot to shift the huge X'Mas tree from the centre of the drawing room to a corner. That night, while the entire Christian world held Midnight Mass and sang X'Mas Carols, Meherwanji got up to have a glass of water in the kitchen, but to reach there, he had to pass the drawing room where a fall awaited him. The poor man didn't switch on the lights and banged right into the X'Mas tree and fell down with a thud!

**Meherbai:** Mehella, what happened darling? *Soo avaj aayo?* *Aaproo X'Mas tree toh salamat chey ney?*

**Meherwanji:** Oh Khuda! *Mari Gayo!* I fell on the floor, flat on my nose because of your *sufiyanu* tree. Come and help me. Tree is *salamat*, I am not!! Meherbai ran to rescue her tree and Meherwanji (in that order). Touchwood - he was fine but his nose and toes were swollen and red.

The whole Mandli turned up an hour before the appointed

time to help Meherbai (in eating - not in kitchen *kaam-kaaj*). *Khadhri Farida* of Rustom Baug was the first to arrive but her 200 kilos couldn't get in through the door, until her boyfriend - *Soli Sales-Tax* pushed her in with all his might. Meherwanji was lying in bed wearing his Santa Claus' red coat and ridiculous red cap.

**Freny Fatakri:** Wah Wah! Meherbai, *soo saras Father X'Mas no make-up kidhoy tamey!*

**Meherwanji:** (Groaning in pain) Oh! Oh! Oh!

**Freny:** Merwanji, Oh! Oh! Oh nahi! Santa toh Ho! Ho! Ho! *boley! Chalo bolo Ha! Ha! Ha!!*

**Mani Max Factor:** Meherwanji, what shade of blush-on have you used on your red, red nose? I want to use the same shade of blush-on.

**Meherbai:** Ladies, ladies, *em bedroom ma dhasi aaviney* Meherwanji ney harass *na karo*. He had a nasty fall which is why his nose is swollen and red and he looks like Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer! It's not make-up!

**Koomi Kaajwali:** *Arrey wah!! No make-up? Meherwanji toh mahri maafak natural beauty nikalya!!*

Meherbai took all the members to the drawing-room and served *chato-pani* and soft drinks to all as per their preferences.

**Rarto Rohan:** Sing *aney wafers awwa deo!*

**His wife, Hasti Hilla:** *Sathey jara badam, pista, kaju bi lavjo. Aaprey toh ghernej chaiye!*

Meherbai served them all these plus cocktail kababs, Barbeque prawns and mini cheese-sloppy-Joes. The Mandli insisted on singing X'Mas carols. They sang one song after another and Meherbai went to the kitchen to replenish the WAS-NOT starters. You see, the Mandli got tired after each song, gave themselves an interval and polished off everything on the plates. If the plates were made of 'Marzipan', they would have eaten up the plates too!

In all this revelry, everyone forgot what was in the oven. The kitchen was filled with smoke and the 'Turkey' was burnt charcoal black. Meherbai screamed, "Somebody, HELP ME!". All the ladies rushed in where angels fear to tread and helped Meherbai clean the kitchen.

Meanwhile, Meherwanji kept hollering from the bedroom saying he was famished and "where's the turkey?"

**Jabri Jaloo:** Turkey *oodi gayi*.

**Dolly's Dolla:** Turkey has gone on a tour abroad to Turkey. *Farva Gayij!*

**Meherbai:** Please don't crack such *koila* jokes - not when my Mehella is unwell! I should be by his side fussing over him and now, the turkey is burnt. Guys! I owe you a nice home-cooked lunch but for now, I'll appreciate if you all leave - my mind doesn't function if my hubby is not well!

The Mandli consoled her and calmed her down saying *Kai bi kaam-kaaj hoey toh kehjo*. They left shouting, "Bye-Bye Meherwanji!"

Today's parting was indeed a 'sweet-sorrow'. Everyone parted with lots of *kissi-koti-tata-bye-bye*. Once alone, Meherbai and Meherwanji cuddled-up in bed and opened a bottle of champagne, wishing each other a Merry Christmas though there was nothing merry about it!

# The Power Of Prayer In Scientific Recovery!



DR. DANESH CHINYOY

**Does prayer have the power to heal? The faithful would certainly want to believe the answer to be a strong yes, whereas those seeking evidence would wonder if it's an absolute yes, no or somewhere in-between. Today, let me answer this question from the perspective of science and conclusive research studies.**

Is it possible? Can one's prayers help someone - even someone on the other side of the world, needing a medical miracle? Do prayers help people survive and overcome the grimmest of the situations? Do they help ameliorate the stress that may complicate things? Does one's own religious beliefs - our personal prayers - have an effect on our physical and emotional well-being? Is there truly a link between us, mere mortals and the Supreme infinite source of Light, as some recent neurological studies seem to have established?

These are some of the questions that an increasing number of scientists, across the world, are attempting to answer through meticulous, scientific studies. Research focusing on the power of prayer in healing has nearly doubled in the past decade. Scientific institutions that would earlier not even review a study with the word prayer in it, are now funding studies based on prayers and its effects on healing etc. All of these studies and reports show a remarkable level of consistency, suggesting the efficacy of prayer and faith in the healing process. There are immeasurable health benefits associated with prayer and spirituality.

Every religion comprises its own prayers and traditional spiritual practices, that the faithful will resort to for its healing qualities. Most Zoroastrians must have witnessed and heard stories of the power of 'Ardibehest Yasht' prayer in healing. Prayers involves certain sounds, rhythms, repetitions and meditative practices which invariably evoke a relaxed response that quiets

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stress, quiets the mind and the body, and promotes a natural healing response from within.

Harvard University Scientists have been researching and documenting similar findings for over thirty years now. They have documented, on MRI brain scans, the physical changes that take place in the body when someone prays deeply or meditates. When combined with recent research from the University of Pennsylvania, what emerges is a picture of complex brain activity.

As an individual goes deeper into concentration, intense activity begins taking place in the brain's parietal lobe circuits - which control a person's orientation in space and establish distinctions between self and the world. They have documented a 'quietude' that then envelops the entire brain. At the same time, the frontal and temporal lobe circuits - which track time and create self-awareness - become disengaged. The mind-body connection dissolves and the limbic system, which is responsible for putting 'emotional tags' on that which we consider special, also becomes activated. The limbic system also regulates relaxation, ultimately controlling the autonomic nervous system, heart rate, blood pressure, metabolism, etc.

The result - everything registers as emotionally significant, perhaps responsible for the sense of awe and quiet that many feel. The body becomes more relaxed and physiological activity becomes more evenly regulated. There is a published record that documents nearly 1,200 studies done on the effects

of prayer on health. These studies emphasize that religious people tend to live healthier lives. They're less likely to smoke, drink, or drink and drive. In fact, people who pray tend to get sick less often, as separate studies conducted at Duke, Dartmouth, and Yale universities confirm.

People who are more religious tend to become depressed less often. And when they do get depressed, they recover more quickly from depression. That has consequences for their physical health and the quality of their lives. Studies have very clearly documented that cancer survivors, cardio-vascular accident patients - all do well who have firm religious grounding and belief in the power of prayers and who practice regular prayer.

A study is being conducted by Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, funded by the NIH, involving eighty women with breast cancer and the study aims to find the connection between prayer and its effect on the healing outcomes.

Having a spiritual view helps people integrate difficult life changes and relieves the stress that goes along with them, it also gives people a more optimistic attitude - gives them hope, a sense of the future, of purpose, of

meaning in their lives. All those things get threatened when we go through difficult periods. Unless one has a religious belief system, it's hard to find purpose and meaning in getting sick and having chronic pain and losing loved ones. It certainly makes a lot of sense for doctors and care givers to encourage patients to pray, to meditate and to seek spiritually; thus, creating a conducive environment for better outcomes from their prescribed course of treatment.

I would not be surprised if in the future we have a branch in medical science that deals with prayer-therapy and other meta-physical aspects of energy as a modality in medicine and healing therapies. I understand there would be many doubting Thomases at this point in time. I am not suggesting prayer to replace standard medical treatment. I am looking at whether in all of the energy and interest we have put into systematic investigation of high-tech medicine, if we have actually missed the boat. Have we ignored the rest of the human being - the need for something more - that could make all the high-tech stuff work even better?

If I were to speak from the Zoroastrian perspective, in the 'Ardibehest Yasht', we come across five types of healings which includes healing with herbs or medicine as also healing using surgery, but the most superior form of healing is said to be the healing that happens through 'Manthravani' i.e. prayers. An easy practice during sickness on oneself or that of a loved one would be to pray the 'Ardibehest Yasht' and its 'Nirang' before the household Atash in a state of complete purity, after one has duly completed their 'Farajiyat' Prayers. This practice was referred to as the 'Ardibesht-ni-Pichi' by our elders.

**The important point is to sync the Mantra with the Mithra in our prayer.**

Do write to me with your experiences of the same.

