



ZAGNY

ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER NEW YORK

September 2012 Newsletter

CONTENTS

THE XVI NORTH AMERICAN ZARATHUSHTI CONGRESS	1
EVENT UPDATES	2-3
PHOTO GALLERY	4
AN APPEAL	5
UPCOMING EVENTS	6
COMMUNITY CORNER	6
NOTES	7
SAVE THE DATE	8

ZAGNY BOARD 2011-2014

President

GEV NENTIN

president@zagny.org

Vice President

KHURSHEED NAVDER

vicepresident@zagny.org

Treasurer

KERMAN DUKANDAR

treasurer@zagny.org

Secretary

SHEROO KANGA

secretary@zagny.org

Joint Secretary

NINA MISTRY

jointsecretary@zagny.org

Members-at-Large

MAHRUKH CAMA

mahrukh@zagny.org

ROHINTON CAMA

rohinton@zagny.org

MEHERZEEN DARUWALA

meherzeen@zagny.org

VISPI KANGA

vispi@zagny.org

SHIROY RANJJI

shiroy@zagny.org

ARZAN SAM WADIA

arzan@zagny.org

THE XVI NORTH AMERICAN ZARATHUSHTI CONGRESS



ZARATHUSHTI EXISTENCE IN THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS.....

TO THE XVI NAZC CO-CHAIRS Ferzin Patel & Gev Nentin

TO THE XVI NAZC COMMITTEE CHAIRS -

Exhibition Committee Co-Chairs - Arnaz Maneckshana & Nawaz Merchant

Finance Committee Co-Chairs - Homi D Gandhi & Kerman Dukandar

Logistics Committee - Mehru Cama

Logistics Committee (Registration) - Piroja Press

Program Committee - Keki Dadachanji

Public Relations Committee - Homi D Gandhi

Social Committee Co-Chairs - Khursheed Navder Dusaj & Mahrukh Cama

Technology and Audio/Visual Committee - Arzan Sam Wadia

TO THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

TO THE COUNTLESS VOLUNTEERS

TO OUR GUEST SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

TO OUR LOYAL AND GENEROUS SPONSORS AND DONORS

TO THE STAFF AT HILTON WESTCHESTER RYE BROOK, NY

AND ESPECIALLY, TO THE CONGRESS ATTENDEES

**FOR MAKING THE XVI NORTH AMERICAN
ZARATHUSHTI CONGRESS A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS!**

LOOK OUT FOR A NAZC MAILING TO FOLLOW SHORTLY

EVENT UPDATES

PROF. KAIKHOSROV D IRANI HONORED ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

BY: KHURSHEED NAVDER DUSAJ

Professor Irani Honored on His 90th Birthday for a Remarkable 61-Year Academic Career

On June 13th, 2012 Professor, Kaikhosrov Dinshah Irani, was honored at his 90th Birthday by the City College of New York (CCNY) with a Faculty Service Award for his incredible career spanning six decades and for touching and inspiring generations of students during that time. Our ZAGNY members were there to proudly celebrate this jubilant, milestone event with him.

CCNY President, Lisa Coico, felicitated Prof. Irani with this honor and spoke glowingly about his distinguished career as a philosopher, scholar, chair, teacher and mentor. She spoke about KD, as he is often referred to and fondly recalled by his colleagues and multitudes of grateful alumni, and how he has been a source of continuous cultural and intellectual enrichment and encouragement, not only for students of philosophy, but for all students, college and university-wide, who have enjoyed the privilege of interacting with him. She mentioned that KD's interests are as diverse as their student body--on one hand he is an expert on ancient civilizations and religions (especially Zoroastrianism); on the other, adept on philosophical issues in modern physics, which led him to work with Einstein.

Often in the City University of New York (CUNY) circle, upon knowing that this author is a Zoroastrian she has been told, then you must know KD! Many of CCNY's distinguished alumni, who have gone on to achieve great success and to make important contributions of their own, remember KD especially well and fondly. Observations he made to them, or particular lessons he taught them, have remained with them for life. One of his prodigious alumni, an anonymous Scandinavian who became a successful chemical engineer, had credited KD's influence as essential to his own achievements, and had bequeathed two million dollars for The Irani Fellowship in 1999. This fellowship continues to enrich the lives of CCNY students via contact with distinguished visiting philosophers.

Kaikhosrov Dinshah Irani was born on May 1, 1922 in Mumbai, India. In 1947 he moved to USA to continue his studies in Physics at Princeton University, where he was taught by Albert Einstein. It was Einstein's letter of recommendation that led him to get appointed at CCNY in 1950. KD has consistently manifested all the intellectual and humanistic qualities that Einstein undoubtedly prized him with, and which KD in turn has stimulated in so many generations of CCNY students and alumni. He taught philosophy at CCNY for the following 41 years and has been Professor Emeritus ever since. Prof. Irani just completed his final class at CCNY this spring 2012. The Faculty Service Award from the Alumni Association was a fitting close to his historic career.

MUKTAD PRAYERS

BY: KHURSHEED NAVDER DUSAJ

The five days of the *Gathas* are deemed very holy, and it is believed that during this period, the *fravashis* of our near and dear ones come down from their spiritual world into this material world and bless all those who remember and pray for them.

Prayers were attended by over 125 members at our Darbe Mehr on Sunday, August 12th, 2012. Thanks to our priests (in alphabetical order) Darius Antia, Rohinton Dadina, Karl Khambatta, Jehangir Madon, Rohinton Madon, and Pervez Patel for offering the special prayers and reciting all the names. The hall looked somberly beautiful—the flowers, divo, fire and the burning of sandalwood, created a virtual paradise on earth in honor of the visiting *fravashis*.

Thanks to Sheroo Kanga for preparing a simple, delicious, home cooked meal of *dhansak*, *kachumber*, *gravy chicken*, and *malido* and *fruits* for dessert; to Kamal Merchant for helping in the kitchen; and to Meherzeen Daruwala for coordinating the list of names to be recited by our priests. Our sincere appreciation to those who came in early and scrubbed the *khumchas* and *ses*, washed

EVENT UPDATES CONTD.

MUKTAD PRAYERS CONTD.

fruits and flowers, and got things ready for the prayers.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our host families, Behroze & Astad Clubwala, Percis & Vispi Daruwala, Jasely & Kerman Dukandar, Teshtar & Noshir Irani, Jasmin & Maneck Kotwal, and Gool & Ramesh Thakarar, for graciously volunteering their homes to offer the prayer services during the five *Gatha* days.

It is due to the efforts of such dedicated volunteers that our congregation has fortunately been able to observe the *fravardegan* days with religious fervor and piety.

PARSI NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Saal Mubarak Y.Z. 1382! Our Parsi New Year was celebrated at the Darbe Mehr on Saturday, August 18th, 2012. The event was attended by approximately 100 members and guests.

A brief welcome by ZAGNY President, Mr. Gev Nentin, was followed by an update on the new Darbe Mehr building initiative by Mr. Edul Daver. Guests enjoyed a cocktail hour complete with appetizers while they mingled and socialized and were entertained with light music.

The dinner spread catered by Mehernosh Daroowalla of India On The Hudson was much relished. The evening ended with some dancing to requested favorite numbers played by our very own, Arzan Sam Wadia.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success and to all our members and guests for celebrating Parsi New Year with us.

9/11 UNITY WALK

BY: HOMI D GANDHI

The 9/11 Unity Walk in New York City on Sunday, September 9th, 2012 was co-sponsored by Religions for Peace USA and the Interfaith Center of New York.

Unity Walks have been held for many years in Washington D.C., New York City, and other U.S. communities. The 2012 NYC 9/11 Unity Walk began at 3pm in Washington Square Park, with opening remarks from Rev. Bud Heckman, Executive Director of Religions for Peace-USA and Intersections Executive Director Rev. Bob Chase. The walk visited religious communities along its path, (Judson Memorial Church and Hindu Temple on Broome Street) where different faith leaders reflected and offered prayers. The group also stopped at Synagogue for the Arts, a unique architecture in the midst of attached houses and shops, before concluding the walk at 5pm at St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church at 22 Barclay St., adjoining the World Trade Center site.

The Ribbons of Hope art installation, created on last year's 10th anniversary of 9/11, was displayed at St. Peter's. There were reflections and prayers from Christian, Islamic, Zoroastrian, and Buddhist faiths at the Church. After the prayers, the audience was invited to take a ribbon, write a commitment that will continue this sense of Unity, and then pin it on the banners of the Ribbons of Hope art installation.

Collective, collaborative action between people of diverse faiths is one of the strongest avenues for humans to reflect and be reminded of our common commitments and responsibilities. Recent tragic events in Wisconsin, Missouri, and Colorado perpetuate a narrative of violence and division and remind us of the urgency of our action. With the anniversary of 9/11, we had a unique opportunity to remind ourselves and educate future generations about our shared values as people of faith and goodwill.

PHOTO GALLERY

PROF. KAIKHOSROV D IRANI HONORED ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY



MUKTAD PRAYERS



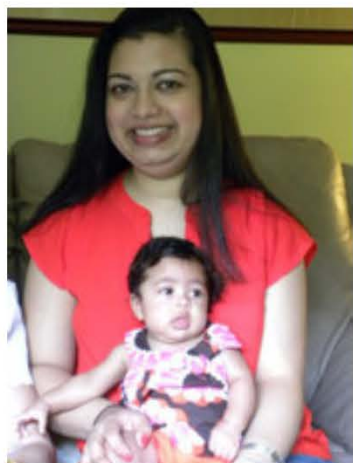
PARSI NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



9/11 UNITY WALK



NEED A KIDNEY DONOR



Sameera (Sam), seen here with her 6-month old daughter Simran, was diagnosed with Renal Failure in 2005.

She was put on the Deceased Donor List at the beginning of 2008 once she hit End-Stage Renal Disease (ERD). Her younger sister, Nicole (Nikki), was a perfect match and a transplant was completed in June 2008. .

In July 2009 Sam's body started rejecting the kidney and this was controlled by medication.

In March 2012, Sam went through a second rejection, followed by a third rejection that led to renal failure in August 2012. She was immediately put on dialysis.

The process for putting her on the Deceased Donor List again has started. The expected wait time is more than 8 years.

Living donors provide the best chances for a successful transplant and post transplant quality of life.

A donor for Sam must have blood group O+ and will have to undergo further type matching tests and procedures before being confirmed as a donor.

Since all this takes time, the earlier potential donors are identified the better.



If you, or anyone you know, would like to be considered as a donor, please contact Mahruk Sharma Lokesh Sharma, using any of the contact methods below:

Phone

203-687-9039

203-435-4014

203-562-4557

800-565-3747

email

Mahruk@sbcglobal.net

Lokeshs@sbcglobal.net

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Please take a moment to contact your network of friends and acquaintances with this request. The more people who receive this request the greater the chance of finding a donor. Please forward the contact details above to your network with a request to call / email directly.

We'd like to thank you in advance for taking the time and trouble to help us spread this message. We truly appreciate it.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7TH, 2012 ARBAB RUSTAM GUIV 32ND DEATH ANNIVERSARY

October 7th, 2012 marks the 32nd death anniversary of our benefactor Arbab Rustam Guiv. Without him and his wife, Khanum Morvarid's generous and benevolent hearts, the New York area Zarathushti community would not have had a place to call it's own. Our growing and thriving community will forever be grateful to them.

A short prayer in their memory will be recited by our Ervad Pervez Patel at the October 7th religion class. We pray to Ahura-Mazda to bless their souls and shower their blessings on us all!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21ST, 2012 – UDVADA ATASH BEHRAM FUNDRAISER

Erach Munshi and Mehru & Lovji Cama will host the Annual Udvada Atash Behram Fundraiser Jashan and lunch on **Sunday, October 21st, 2012 at 11:30am** at the **Darbe Mehr, Pomona.**

All funds collected will be donated towards the maintenance of Mumbai, Udvada, Surat and Navsari Atash Behrams and Agiaries; and also provide monetary support to the mobeds and needy Zoroastrians in the area.

To contribute, please make checks payable to "ZAGNY-Critical Assistance Fund" and mention "Udvada Atash Behram" in the memo line.

As a courtesy to the caterer kindly RSVP by October 15th, 2012, to any one of the persons listed below, whether you will attend the lunch – Thank you!

Erach Munshi at (212)865-6683, or
Mehru & Lovji Cama at (201)569-7359, or
Kamal Davar at (732)549-5162

COMMUNITY CORNER

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



Valerie and Danesh Modi were blessed with a baby boy **CYRUS ALESSANDRO MODI** on July 01, 2012. Grandparents Phiroza and Satish Modi, and uncles Yasha and Tushar are overjoyed to welcome little Cyrus.

ZAGNY welcomes our newest addition to the community

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY



PERVIN NEKU, fondly known as Piloo Granny, mother of Pouru, mother-in-law of Farokh Hirjibehedin and grandmother to Cyrus celebrated her 90th Birthday on September 22, 2012.

ZAGNY wishes Piloo Granny the very best on this special milestone Birthday!

SAD DEMISE



MAHBANOO KASAD, wife of late Farrokh B Kasad, mother of Imroze Kavarana, late Behzad Kasad and Percyous Kasad, mother-in-law of Percy Kavarana and Meherangiz Kasad, grandmother to Zarah Kavarana, passed away on September 14, 2012 in Mumbai, India at the age of 82.

ZAGNY extends it's heartfelt condolences to the grieving family

IF YOU OWN YOUR HOME, WHY RENT ELECTRICITY?

I will show you how you can get Solar Panels on your Solar Worthy Home's Roof for:

Little To \$ 0.00 DOWN.

\$ 0.00 INSTALLATION COST.

\$ 0.00 INSURANCE.

\$ 0.00 FOR TOWNSHIP PERMITS – ZONING & ELECTRIC.

\$ 0.00 FOR YOUR ROOF SURVEY (for Solar Panels installation)

FREE POWERFUL WEB-MONITORING (Facility to monitor your Electric Consumption Daily, Weekly, Monthly)

FREE NET METERING where you deposit excess electrical energy generated NOT consumed by you to be deposited back on the GRID and get CREDIT for the same

Your Home is Solar Worthy if:

There are **NO or Very Little** Tree Shading Challenges.
Your **Roof Azimuth** (facing) is anywhere from South East (SE) to South West (SW). IDEAL Roof facing is **Southerly**
Your ROOF has a **Single** layer of Shingles.

FREE IS GOOD

CALL Fali D. Shroff 201-887-8125

Solar System Designer and Solar Energy Consultant



928 Chapel Street, New Haven, CT 06510

INTERNATIONAL CONSOLIDATORS
EUROPE, INDIA, ASIA, CRUISES,
DISNEY, CARIBBEAN, HAWAII
HONEYMOONS, FAMILY REUNIONS,
GROUPS & EVENT MANAGEMENT

"WE ARE HERE TO STAY"

MAHRUK & LOKESH SHARMA
203 562 4557 / 1 800 LOKESH S

MahrUK@sbcglobal.net Cell 203 687 9039
Lokeshs@sbcglobal.net Cell 203 435 4014

A Full Service IATAN appointed Agency since 1980

FEZANA

FEDERATION OF ZOROASTRIAN
ASSOCIATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA

Read the latest FEZANA bulletin at –

[http://www.fezana.org/files/
BulletinArchives/August2012.pdf](http://www.fezana.org/files/BulletinArchives/August2012.pdf)

SEND US YOUR NEWS

ZAGNY Newsletters shall continue to share with the community, your announcements for births, Navjotes, weddings, graduations, address changes and sad demises. To include an announcement, kindly email the a newsletter team member listed below.

FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER TEAM

If you do not wish to receive future ZAGNY Newsletters, please contact a Newsletter Team Member listed below.

To receive your newsletter online, please sign-up at –

<http://zagny.org/list/?p=subscribe&id=1>

Questions and suggestions? Contact –

Sheroo Kanga – secretary@zagny.org

Nina Mistry – jointsecretary@zagny.org

Arzan Sam Wadia – webmaster@zagny.org

ADVERTISE IN YOUR ZAGNY NEWSLETTER

Rates per issue:

¼ page- \$25

½ page- \$50

Full page - \$100

20% discount for annual rates



<http://www.facebook.com/zagnyusa>



http://twitter.com/_zagny

WE ARE ON THE WEB

VISIT US AT

WWW.ZAGNY.ORG

SHEROO KANGA
ZAGNY SECRETARY
159 ARISTOTLE WAY
CRANBURY, NJ 08512



OCTOBER 2012

10/07, Sunday

- ZAGNY RELIGION CLASS
- ARBAB RUSTAM GUIV
32ND DEATH
ANNIVERSARY PRAYER

10/21, Sunday

- UDVADA ATASH BEHRAM
FUNDRAISER

NOVEMBER 2012

11/04, Sunday

- ZAGNY RELIGION CLASS
- HALLOWEEN PARTY

DECEMBER 2012

12/02, Sunday

- ZAGNY RELIGION CLASS

12/31, Monday

- NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY