



# ZAGNY

ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER NEW YORK

## January 2014 Newsletter

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### HAPPY NEW YEAR!

*May Today Be The First Day Of A Beautiful Year Ahead*

*May The Year Ahead Bring In Happy New Beginnings*

*May The New Beginnings Bring In Luck And Joy*

*For a Prosperous and Successful 2014!*

### EVENT UPDATES

#### DMZT SPECIAL GENERAL BODY MEETING FOR THE NEW DARBE MEHR BUILDING PROJECT DECEMBER 8, 2013

#### ZAGNY BOARD 2011-2014

##### President

GEV NENTIN

[president@zagny.org](mailto:president@zagny.org)

##### Vice President

KHURSHEED NAVDER

[vicepresident@zagny.org](mailto:vicepresident@zagny.org)

##### Treasurer

KERMAN DUKANDAR

[treasurer@zagny.org](mailto:treasurer@zagny.org)

##### Secretary

SHEROO KANGA

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##### Joint Secretary

NINA MISTRY

[jointsecretary@zagny.org](mailto:jointsecretary@zagny.org)

##### Members-at-Large

MAHRUKH CAMA

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ROHINTON CAMA

[rohinton@zagny.org](mailto:rohinton@zagny.org)

MEHERZEEN DARUWALA

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[arzan@zagny.org](mailto:arzan@zagny.org)



A DMZT Special General Body Meeting was held on December 8, 2013 to vote on the two proposals related to the New Darbe Mehr project. A total of 221 votes were cast.

**PROPOSAL #1:** Out of the sum of \$908,317, which is being held by DMZT in the New Building Fund, the sum of \$680,000 be specifically allocated towards expenses/activities related to the construction of the New Darbe Mehr building, with the remaining

\$228,317 being retained by the Trustees in the New Building Fund for future needs of the property.

Proposal #1 passed by 89.14% majority vote of the 221 total votes cast: 197 Yes, 19 No, 5 Invalid.

**PROPOSAL #2:** The construction of the New Darbe Mehr building shall begin when the sum of \$3.5 million (which is the estimated total building cost, out of the estimated total project cost of \$4.5 million) is collected in cash and formal pledges. The Trustees must have three vetted proposals before construction begins.

Proposal #2 passed by 90.50% majority vote of the 221 total votes cast: 200 Yes, 20 No, 1 Invalid.

We are very pleased with the strong support of the community and are working hard to maintain the positive momentum.

Best regards,

DMZT Trustees

### **JAMVA CHALOJI – NOVEMBER 16, 2013**

ZAGNY proudly presented, by popular demand, the second JAMVA CHALOJI Banquet Dinner. On Saturday, November 16, 2013, 120 Bawajis and their fun-loving friends gathered at the Pomona Darbe Mehr to partake in lively entertainment followed by a complete 'lagan-nu-bhonu' served on 'kera-na-patra' in traditional Paanth-style seating.

The sold out event was a fundraiser for our New Darbe Mehr Building to be built in Pomona. What made this event even more unique was that community members, friends, well wishers and local businesses enthusiastically sponsored all the main items for the event.

The 'chalk-toran-ses' decorations set the mood for the event as guests arrived at 6:30pm dressed in their daglis, garas and saris regalia. One guest even remarked that they saw more garas and daglis that evening, than at many a function back home at the Jeejeebhoy Dadabhoy Ajiary in Colaba, Mumbai!

While guests enjoyed drinks at the open bar and sumptuous appetizer treats, ZAGNY President, Gev Nentin, welcomed them to the event and briefed the crowd on the status of the new Darbe Mehr project.

The entertainment kicked off with some fantastic vocals by Anahita Palkhiwala who got the crowd swinging to old and new favorite melodies. A stand up comedy routine by our Firdosh Mehta taking potshots at, who else but us Bawajis, had the crowd begging for more. Dancers from Arthur Murray Dance Studio delighted the audience with several ballroom dance performances and invited the crowd to join in, presenting Niloufer and Kaika Clubwala the best couple dancers' prize.

To add to the excitement, Aashish and Dinyar Devitre, pledged a \$100,000 seed donation to the New Darbe Mehr Building Fund, to be matched that evening. Edul Daver announced this fantastic news and indicated that the match would take place after dinner giving time for spouses to discuss.

After the customary group photograph of all the guests it was time for 'Jamva Chaloji!' The Paanth was seated and served a lip-smacking meal that would make even our very own Tanaz Godiwalla proud! On the menu was saria, lagan-nu-achar, murabbo, rotli, patra-ni-macchi, jardaloo-sali-marghi, and mutton pulav-daar, topped off with lagan-nu-custard and badam paak. Party favors of homemade bhakras were handed out for guests to relish.

Dinnertime excitement peaked when an impromptu live auction of a gorgeous Gara and a beautiful Chantilly lace sari, both donated by members, raised \$6,000 after a round of animated bidding from guests.

After dinner, an update about the new Darbe Mehr building project was provided and the donation match initiated. The spontaneous round of fund raising generated \$138,000 from amongst those present and an additional \$100,000 from Sam Bhadha and Family, brought the total funds raised that evening to an astonishing \$338,000, unprecedented in ZAGNY's 40-year history!

The much awaited Electronics Raffle (another fund raiser for the New Darbe Mehr Building) drawing followed, before the floor was opened to dancing and merriment.

Any event such as this is made possible by the efforts of its dedicated volunteers, and that is where ZAGNY doffs its hat to its members and the Board. The entire dinner was cooked and contributed by ZAGNY members and local restaurants run by Zarathushti members; and was served by ZAGNY Board members and their spouses to all 120 guests. The result was a fantastic culmination of community spirit and community bonding that parallels the financial success of any event.

ZAGNY extends its heartfelt thanks to the entertainers for sharing their wonderful talent with us; to all the event sponsors who not only donated generously, but also contributed their time and efforts; and to all the attendees whose participation made JAMVA CHALOJI 2013 a resounding success on all counts!

**COOPER UNION & INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY BOMBAY  
ESTABLISH A STUDENT-EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

AS REPORTED ON THE COOPER UNION WEBSITE



*Prof. Devang Khakhar (seated, left) with Pres. Bharucha and others at the October 26, 2013 signing (photo: India Abroad/P. Rajendran)*

The Cooper Union and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to develop a student-exchange program between the Albert Nerken School of Engineering and the renowned engineering and technical institute. The Memorandum was signed in a ceremony in Cooper Union's Rose Auditorium on October 26, 2013.

"The Cooper Union is honored to participate in this agreement with IIT Bombay which is recognized worldwide as a premier institute for engineering education," President Jamshed Bharucha, who signed the Memorandum, said. "The Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay is the most selective engineering school in India, and has played a crucial role in sparking the global technological revolution over the past few decades. This is an important relationship for Cooper Union as our two institutions have much in common and we are both highly selective. Technology leaders increasingly are working in a global context, so giving Cooper students exposure in a very different part of the world would be an extraordinary opportunity. The experience will enrich our students' engineering education while providing an important cultural experience."

Starting in the 2014 academic year, two students from each institution will enroll for one semester of study in the other institution. The students must be undergraduates in their junior or senior year, or graduate students enrolled in the home institution for at least one semester. The exchange students will come from any of the engineering disciplines common to both institutions: mechanical, civil, electrical and chemical engineering. The host institution will provide economical housing to the exchange students who will pay tuition only at their home institution. The participants will bear travel and living expenses.

Ruyintan (Ron) E. Mehta, a graduate of IIT Bombay, has donated the cost of airfare for two IIT and two Cooper Union students for the first year of the exchange. "My wish is that no student be denied an opportunity to study in a foreign institution of equivalent prestige and repute based on his or her ability to pay," Mr. Mehta said. "I have been the beneficiary of the superb education imparted to me at IIT Bombay and US Graduate schools at little or minimal cost and this is the least that I can do for other students."

"The student exchange will help lead to greater collaborations and partnerships between the two institutions," Prof. Devang Khakhar, Director of IIT Bombay, who also signed the Memorandum, said, noting that the two institutions "had a rich tradition of nurturing excellence."

### UDVADA ATASH BEHRAM FUNDRAISER – OCTOBER 20, 2013

The Annual Udvada Atash Behram Fundraiser, hosted by Erach Munshi and Mehru & Lovji Cama, was held on Sunday, October 20, 2013 at the Darbe Mehr, Pomona. All funds collected will be donated towards the maintenance of the Mumbai, Udvada, Surat and Navsari Atash Behrams and Agiaries; and also provide monetary support to the mobeds and needy Zoroastrians in the area.

Contributions are accepted throughout the year. Please make checks payable to "ZAGNY-Critical Assistance Fund" and mention "Udvada Atash Behram" in the memo line. For details, please call Erach Munshi at (212)865-6683. **Thank you for your support!**

### HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARADE – NOVEMBER 3, 2013

BY: MEHERZEEN DARUWALA

We had a terrific Halloween celebration at the ZAGNY Religion Class on November 3, 2013. We missed this celebration last year, as the tri-state area coped with recovery from super storm Sandy. This year ZAGNY made up for it with a bang. We had over 40 enthusiastic participants ranging in age from under one year, to the young at heart. The Darbe Mehr was decorated for the festivities with a mix of fall leaves and pumpkins, Halloween skeletons and spider-webs, topped by an eerie chandelier. A big thank you to Shiroy Ranji, Hilla Antia and Darius Daruwala for helping to decorate.

Our youngsters appeared in all color and splendor. We had Halloween witches, fairies, princesses, superheroes, animals and a very unusual "popcorn" and "good deed." Each child paraded down to the stage, announced his/her name, age and what he/she was dressed up as, to the eager audience and judges. Our very first participant was 6-month old Asha Gandhi. Asha was dolled up as a delectable strawberry and won the cutest costume prize. The "oohs" and "aahs" continued as the audience cheered for all the participants. Our adult pirate, Shiroy, burst into the room in typical swashbuckling style, eliciting squeals and laughter from youngsters and adults alike. While our wonderful judges, Shawn Bengali, Tanaz Karai, Farah Randelia, and Friya Randelia deliberated, kids were led to the piñata for a few swings each, all dashing to stuff their loot bags with candy.

The Best Overall prize went to the Peacocks – sisters Annika and Bianca Vesuna. Their costumes were hand-made – very enterprising! Other prizes included the Funniest: Popcorn – Kaizad Sribnick, Most Original: Smores – Tinaz Kotval, Scariest: SWAT – Farhaan Shroff, Best Girl: Gypsy – Carina Daruwala and Honorable mention: Little Pirate – Zane Mehta. Thank you to all the parents for your efforts in having your kids dress up and participate in this event. Congratulations to all the participants. You were the ones that succeeded in making this event a "sweet one" for ZAGNY!

### THE RELIGIONS FOR PEACE WORLD ASSEMBLY – NOVEMBER 20 TO 22, 2013

BY: PORUZ KHAMBATTA

The Religions for Peace World Assembly was held from November 20th through the 22nd in Vienna, Austria. In attendance were over 600 religious leaders and people of faith as well as representatives of the UN, UNICEF and numerous world governments. I had the privilege of serving as one of ten youth delegates chosen to represent North America at the Assembly. We were selected based on recommendations from senior leaders in our religious community and our past accomplishments. Before the Assembly began, the North American Youth Delegation met with the other youth delegates from around the world at the Youth Pre-Assembly. At this event, we shared our experiences and aspirations as young people representing a diverse assortment of religious traditions from every corner of the globe. It was inspiring to meet such driven, accomplished young people and brainstorm with them ways we could create a more just and harmonious society through youth-led, grass-roots initiatives.

The Assembly gave me newfound hope that Peace is possible and that religion can be a powerful tool for attaining Peace. At the Assembly, I had the honor of being elected by my peers to be the youth representative on the Drafting Committee, which was tasked with writing the Assembly Declaration. What I learned from this experience and the Assembly Declaration that we ultimately

contd.



## THE RELIGIONS FOR PEACE WORLD ASSEMBLY CONTD.

produced ([http://www.rfp.org/sites/default/files/publications/Vienna Declaration - Final.pdf](http://www.rfp.org/sites/default/files/publications/Vienna%20Declaration%20-%20Final.pdf)) was that all the world's religions hold the attainment of Peace as a core principle and instruct their members to work towards it. The fact that we are all united in seeking Peace and are compelled to promote it means that there is no great religious or spiritual divide preventing us from achieving global harmony. Peace is "common sense," as Lawrence Chong, a youth representative from Singapore aptly declared at the Youth Pre-Assembly. However, he pointed out that Peace has not yet been attained globally because selfishness and short-sightedness can lead those with power away from actions that will promote the common good.

We, as Zoroastrians and citizens of the world, can promote Peace by following the teachings of our faith and seizing upon opportunities to collaborate with others on peace-building endeavors. There are numerous threats to peace that stand before us. They include poverty, political unrest, violent extremism, human rights violations and systemic injustices. Many of these factors are inextricably linked and feed off of each other in a vicious cycle. I believe our faith calls on each and every one of us to intervene and address these problems. Prayer and reflection can imbue us with the courage required to face these issues but are alone not enough to solve them. Good thoughts and good words are incomplete without the presence of good deeds. We must be brought to action.

I came away from the Religions for Peace World Assembly with a changed perspective. The theme of the Assembly, "Welcoming the Other," was envisioned through a multiplicity of lenses by a multitude of speakers. Ultimately, it made me realize that despite their diversities and differences, all of the world's religions are more similar than they may seem. We are connected in our desire to achieve sustainable Peace. Our own religion captures this sentiment beautifully through a phrase priests recite as they clasp hands during prayers. Hamazor Hama Asho Baad. Let us be united in righteousness.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### MARCH 14, 2014: DISCUSSIONS FEATURING PROMINENT ZOROASTRIANS

*Event flyer on Page 10*

#### **MARCH 29, 2014: SAVE THE DATE**

#### **CEREMONIAL GROUND BREAKING FOR THE NEW DARBE MEHR BUILDING ZAGNY & IZA JOINT NAVROZE CELEBRATION**

*watch this space for event details and registration form in our next newsletter*

#### APRIL 6, 2014: ZAGNY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS

**Notice is hereby given that Election of the Board of Directors of the Zoroastrian Association of Greater New York, Inc., (ZAGNY) will be held at it's Annual General Meeting to be held at the Arbab Rustam Guiv Darbe Mehr, 106 Pomona Road, Suffern, New York 10901, on Sunday, APRIL 6, 2014.**

The current term of the Board of Directors ends in March 2014. The term of the new Board of Directors will be for a period of three years from April 2014 to March 2017. Nominations are invited for the election of the new Board of Directors for the positions of **President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Joint Secretary, and Members at Large** (5 positions). Each Nominee requires to be supported by any two ZAGNY members, acting as a Nominator and a person Seconding the Nomination respectively. All nominees, nominators and persons seconding the nominations must be duly paid ZAGNY members in good standing at the time of the nomination and election. A brief introduction / bio-data of the nominee should be included with the nomination form. Completed nomination forms (included on **Page 6**) must be post marked **NO LATER THAN JANUARY 15, 2014**. Forms mailed after January 15, 2014 will not be valid and will not be accepted. Proof of mailing will be determined by the post office date-stamp. Please write 'NOMINATION FORM' in the lower left corner of the envelope.



# ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER NEW YORK

106 Pomona Road, Suffern NY 10019 USA Tel. 845.362.2104

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011-2014

President: Gev Nentin  
Vice President: Khursheed Navder  
Treasurer: Kerman N. Dukandar  
Secretary: Sheroo Kanga  
Joint Secretary: Nina Mistry

Members-at-Large: Mahrukh Cama  
Rohinton Cama  
Meherzeen Daruwala  
Vispi Kanga  
Shiroy Ranji  
Arzan Sam Wadia

## **NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ZAGNY FOR THE TERM APRIL 2014 – MARCH 2017**

NAME OF PERSON BEING NOMINATED:

FIRST

MIDDLE

LAST

NOMINATION FOR THE POSITION OF (PLEASE CHECK AS APPLICABLE):

- ☐ PRESIDENT
- ☐ VICE PRESIDENT
- ☐ TREASURER
- ☐ SECRETARY
- ☐ JOINT SECRETARY
- ☐ MEMBER AT LARGE

I hereby accept the nomination for the above indicated position. If elected, I will serve ZAGNY to the best of my ability and act in accordance with it's Constitution and By-Laws.

SIGNATURE OF THE NOMINEE

DATE

NAME AND SIGNATURE OF THE NOMINATOR

DATE

NAME AND SIGNATURE OF PERSON SECONDING  
THE NOMINATION

DATE

*Nominations must be post marked no later than January 15, 2014.*

*Nominations received after January 15, 2014 will not be valid and will not be accepted.*

*Mail completed Nomination Form to:*

*ZAGNY Secretary  
Sheroo Kanga  
159 Aristotle Way  
Cranbury, NJ 08512*

### MAY 3, 2014: REVLOK RUN / WALK FOR WOMEN'S CANCER



On Saturday, May 4th, 2013, ZAGNY will participate in the **17th Annual Revlon Run/Walk for Women** in the fight to help eradicate women's cancers. Over the past several years, with the participation of many ZAGNY members, their families and friends, we have raised thousands of dollars for this worthy cause. Our team name is "ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER NEW YORK". To walk / donate, please visit [www.Revlonrunwalk.org](http://www.Revlonrunwalk.org), then click NY and search for our team. For questions, please call **Natasha Dusaj** at (973) 402-1813 or **Sheroo Kanga** at (609)448-0192.

### NEW DARBE MEHR BUILDING PROJECT

#### ONGOING FUNDRAISERS FOR THE NEW DARBE MEHR BUILDING

Contribute your special skill / talent and help raise funds for the new Darbe Mehr building project. Thank you to our members Percis & Vispi Daruwala, Natalie, Rusi & Asha Gandhi, Sheroo & Vispi Kanga, and Jasmin & Maneck Kotwal for volunteering to contribute –

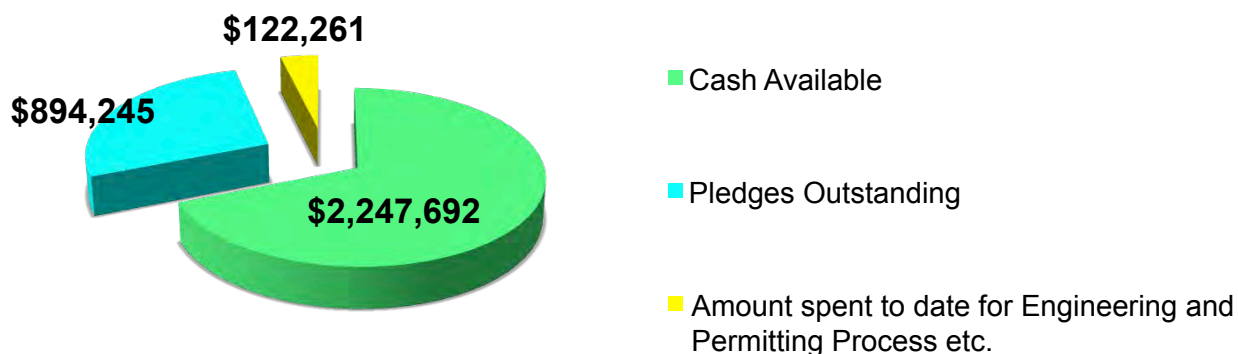
- ❖ **OPPORTUNE TITLE AGENCY** is a full service title company with a team of licensed professionals and are here to serve you and provide professional and quality services to our clients. **We attend closings all over the State of New Jersey for individuals, realtors, lenders and attorneys, during the day or evening hours at your convenience.** Owner **PERCIS DARUWALA** has agreed to donate 20% of her net earnings towards the Darbe Mehr project for any and every deal or referral that comes from ZAGNY Member / Non-Member or any fellow Zoroastrian. Please give us the referral code "ZAGNY". For further information, please contact Percis at Percis@otatitle.com or call (732)419-9471.
- ❖ **NJ PRIME MORTGAGE, LLC.** is a licensed Mortgage Broker in State of New Jersey and helps clients to get Residential Purchase / Refinance mortgages and does Commercial lending through ACE COMMERCIAL CAPITAL, LLC. and can lend up to 500 Million through a network of more than 200 lenders nationwide. Owner, **VISPI DARUWALA**, has graciously agreed to donate 20% of his Net earning towards the new Darbe Mehr project for any and every deal or referral that comes from a ZAGNY Member / Non-Member or any fellow Zoroastrian.
- ❖ **VISPI DARUWALA** is also a Licensed Realtor and he can help his clients Buy / Sell / Rent property throughout the state of New Jersey. Vispi Daruwala has once again graciously agreed to donate 20% of his net earning towards the new Darbe Mehr project for any and every deal or referral that comes from a ZAGNY Member / Non-Member or any fellow Zoroastrian. For further information, please contact Vispi at vispi@mortgagelp.com or call (732)642-7290.
- ❖ **RUSI GANDHI** has been a real estate broker for over 36 years and specializes in Commercial, Residential, Mergers and Acquisitions, and 1031 Exchanges. He does business in over 67 countries, including India, through RE/MAX and FIABCI (The International Real Estate Federation). He has contributed to ZAGNY for more than 15 years from the sale and purchase of properties to Zoroastrian families and friends. For the last two years, Rusi Gandhi has once again graciously contributed towards the New Building Fund. For further information, please contact Rusi at rusigandhi@gmail.com or call 1-800-575-6005, ext 117.
- ❖ Enjoy home-made mouth-watering **malido** contributed by **SHEROO & VISPI KANGA**. Malido costs \$6 per pound or \$30 for a 6lb tray. To order, please contact Sheroo Kanga at kangavs@yahoo.com or call (609)448-0192.
- ❖ Enjoy delicious home-made **bhakra** and **batasa** treats contributed by **JASMIN & MANECK KOTWAL**. Goodies are generally available for purchase at the monthly Religion Class and other special events or to order, please contact Jasmin at jasminkotwal@yahoo.com or call (609)275-5952.

To join the above list of donors, please contact Edul Daver at edul@zagny.org or Toos Daruvala at toosdaruvala@aol.com – THANK YOU!

# NEW DARBE MEHR BUILDING PROJECT CONTD.

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN STATISTICS: FUNDS

**TOTAL DONATIONS / PLEDGES AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2013 - \$3,264,198**

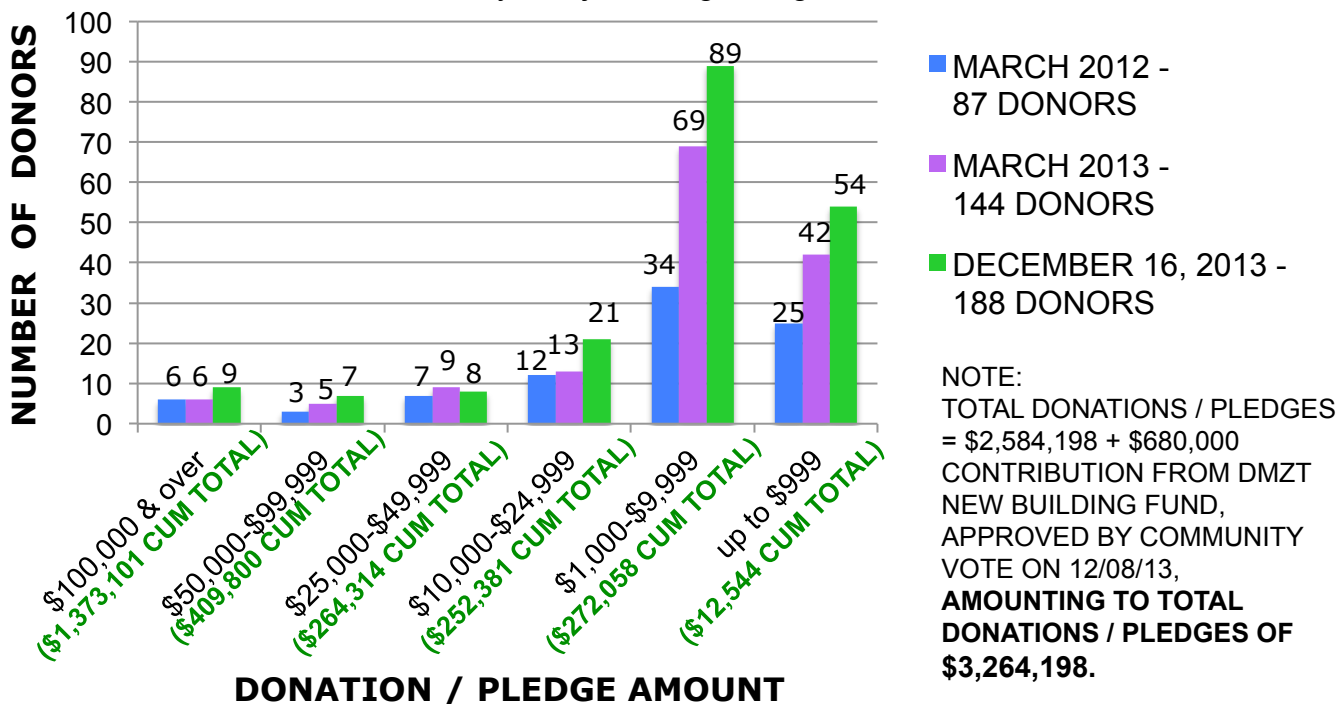


**NOTE:** CASH AVAILABLE INCLUDES \$680,000 DMZT FUNDS APPROVED BY THE COMMUNITY ON 12/08/13

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN STATISTICS: DONORS

### DONOR STATISTICS AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2013

Out of a total pool of approx. **350** active tri-state Zoroastrian families, **188** have currently donated, while **162** families have yet to join our growing donor base.



TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE NEW DARBE MEHR BUILDING  
PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO **DMZT – SPECIAL NEW BUILDING FUND**  
AND MAIL TO **MINU DUTIA, DMZT TREASURER, 1 BROADVIEW DRIVE, MEDFORD, NJ 08055**  
ALONG WITH THE COMPLETED DONATION FORM ON PAGE 9





## NEW DARBE MEHR PROJECT AT SUFFERN, NY

**YES! I WOULD LIKE TO SHOW MY SUPPORT TOWARDS THE NEW DARBE-MEHR BUILDING PROJECT**

### 1. Personal Information

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. I would like to show my support with a gift of – \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\$100,000 / \$50,000 / \$25,000 / \$10,000 / \$5,000**

(Please note that gifts of \$100,000 and more will be recognized by permanent naming of various rooms in the new Darbe Mehr. Please contact Toos Daruvala at [toosdaruvala@aol.com](mailto:toosdaruvala@aol.com) / Edul Daver at [eduldaver@gmail.com](mailto:eduldaver@gmail.com) for details)

### 3. Gift Options

☐ **CHECK** ENCLOSED – Check # \_\_\_\_\_

(Please make check payable to “**DMZT - New Building Fund**”)

☐ **SECURITIES** (Stocks, Bonds etc.)

Estimated Value: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Please contact DMZT-Treasurer, Minu Dutia at [dutiaminu@yahoo.com](mailto:dutiaminu@yahoo.com) for transfer instructions and other details)

☐ **PLEDGE** OF \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be paid (please circle one)

ONE-TIME / ANNUALLY / SEMI-ANNUALLY / QUARTERLY / MONTHLY

Number of Installments \_\_\_\_\_; Beginning (month/year) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

For a total gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (should be same as in Item 2 above)

### 4. Please designate my gift (Please write name(s) as you would like them to appear on the Donor List)

☐ In HONOR OF, NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ In MEMORY OF, NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ In MY FAMILY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ ANONYMOUS

### 5. Donor List

☐ I CONSENT to disclosing the name(s) listed in Item 4 above on the Donor List on a website, e-blast communications or printed in ZAGNY newsletters

☐ WITH the amount of my gift where amounts are stated

☐ WITHOUT the amount of my gift where amounts are stated

☐ I do NOT wish to disclose the names listed in Item 4 above on the Donor List on a website, e-blast communications or printed in ZAGNY newsletters

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date - MM / DD / YYYY**

**Please return completed form to:** Minu Dutia, DMZT-Treasurer, 1 Broadview Drive, Medford, NJ 08055.

Darbe Mehr Zoroastrian Temple is a 501(c)3 organization. Your gifts may qualify for federal and state tax deductions or credits as laws allow. Please consult your tax advisor for the actual tax deductibility of your gift. A receipt will be sent to you after your gift has been received.



# Save the Date

ZAGNY is proud to present thought-provoking, interactive discussions featuring prominent and influential Zoroastrians.

## The Power of Cultural Influences and Inspirations for Success

### **Zubin Mehta**

Co-chairman of the Mehli Mehta Music Foundation  
& Music Director for Life of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra

### **Dr. Jamshed Bharucha**

President, The Cooper Union

### **Dinyar Devitre**

President, Pratham USA

### **Jehangir Mehta**

Chef Owner . Graffiti . Mehtaphor . Me and You

### **Navroz Udwardia**

CEO & Co-Founder, Falcon Edge Capital

Join us on March 14th from 6:30 pm -10:00 pm

Fredrick P. Rose Auditorium, The Cooper Union, 41 Cooper Square, New York, NY 10003

\$50.00 per person and includes refreshments prepared by Chef Jehangir Mehta.

All proceeds will go to the New Darbe Mehr Building Fund.

Registration form to follow.





# PHOTO GALLERY

## HALLOWEEN 2013



## JAMVA CHALOJI





## COMMUNITY CORNER

### ZAGNY 2014 MEMBERSHIP

ZAGNY Board invites you to be a part of the tri-state Zoroastrian community. Become a 2014 ZAGNY MEMBER and avail of member registration rates for ZAGNY events; be a part of our email list to receive community news-flashes and event updates; subscribe to our info-packed newsletters; bring your tots-n-teens to the Darbe Mehr for monthly Religion Classes; and share in the pride of building our new Darbe Mehr as a ZAGNY member!

New members are welcome to join our growing tri-state community! Existing members, kindly renew your membership to continue to participate in ZAGNY events and activities. Your Board has strived not to increase membership dues and has maintained the same membership rates as in the past year.

Please complete the membership form on **Page 19** and mail along with your check or sign up online at [www.zagny.org](http://www.zagny.org)

We look forward to your participation as a 2014 ZAGNY MEMBER and count on your support through membership dues and donations. Thank you!

### BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



Dixie and Kaizad Cama welcomed their baby boy, **Darius**, born December 26, 2013, in New York City. The proud grandparents are Nilufer and Nevil Kadwa and Mehru and Lovji Cama.

**ZAGNY welcomes our newest addition to the community!**

### WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT

**Congratulations** to Katie and Ervad Pervaz Patel on the wedding of their daughter, Avan to Nevil, son of Farida and Phiroze Cursedji, on Thursday, December 5, 2013 in Mumbai, India.



**ZAGNY wishes the newly-weds the very best for a happy married life!**

### NAVJOTE MUBARAK



**Congratulations** to Annika and Bianca Vesuna, daughters of Farokh and Binaifer Vesuna, on their Navjote ceremony on November 23, 2013 in Mumbai. May their lives be filled with good health, peace, and prosperity.

**Congratulations** to Natasha Dinshaw, daughter of Nina and Bomi Dinshaw, sister of Dilshad, on her Navjote ceremony on December 31, 2013 in Mumbai. May this memorable day of initiation into the Zoroastrian faith bring her happiness and strength throughout her life.

### ADDRESS CHANGE

Dolly and Viraf Kapadia

1002 Schindler Dr. North  
Monmouth Junction  
NJ 08852





## AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

### ROHINTON CAMA – AUXILIARY POLICE LIEUTENANT RECOGNIZED FOR 37 YEARS OF SERVICE



Long standing ZAGNY member and current ZAGNY Board member, Rohinton Cama, was recognized by the Borough Council of Metuchen NJ on his retirement, at a ceremony held on July 15, 2013.

Borough Councilman, previous Police Officer, Mr. James Wallace, applauded Lieutenant Rohinton Cama for his faithful service to the Great Borough of Metuchen and its residents as an Auxiliary Police Officer since 1976. He commended Lieutenant Cama's years of service which included countless hours of volunteer time in which he supported the Police Department in its efforts to keep the community and its residents safe from harm, maintained key Police Department equipment, maintained order and safety

through crowd control at innumerable town events, facilitated commerce and trade in the business district, and protected the order, dignity and solemnity of religious, wedding, funeral and other ceremonies through effective traffic direction and control. He recognized Lieutenant Cama for bringing comfort and calm to the community in times of strife, and for supporting all other emergency services in Metuchen in their efforts to aid those in need, both emergent and dire. Councilman, Mr. James Wallace, thanked Lieutenant Rohinton Cama, for his selfless and tireless devotion to the Borough, saying that Lieutenant Cama continues to serve as an inspiration to past and present members of their Auxiliary Police Department, their Police Department, the Metuchen EMS Squad, the Metuchen Fire Department, their Borough Government and Administration, countless community volunteers, residents, and individuals in their Borough. The Mayor and Council of the Great Borough of Metuchen, expressed their enduring gratitude to Lieutenant Rohinton Cama for his selfless dedication to our community and to the Metuchen Auxiliary Police.

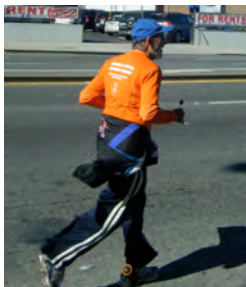
### JAMSHED GHADIALI – OUR SEVEN TIME NEW YORK MARATHON 'PLODDER'

Doing one marathon is an unique achievement, but 'apro' Jamshed has just completed his SEVENTH NY Marathon, with Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Hospital FRED's NYC Marathon Team. He is an inspiration to his Akuri and Custard



and eating friends and is Yasmin and Aysha's JOY and PRIDE.

Jamshed ran his first marathon with Fred's Team in 2006 at a ripe old age of 60. It was his fastest marathon at 6 hours, 19 minutes, and 59 seconds. He



now considers himself to be a 'Plodder' and is proud of his 2 Hrs. and 240 mins time. He lost his favorite running shoes to hurricane Sandy but managed with a substitute this year being even more inspired after what happened in Boston.

Jamshed ran track in school and college in Mumbai but favored the medium distance runs of 1,500 (4 mins and 10 secs – WOW!) and 5000 meters.



Years later he got back into running and joined Fred's Team to raise money for cancer research. He was inspired and motivated by seeing men and women without two legs and older people especially Fauja Singh ,who ran his first marathon at the age of 89 and last at 101. Jamshed has not only raised over \$40,000 for cancer research, but is also a regular blood donor and organizes bone marrow donation drives. He has tallied a record 103 whole blood, 34 plasma, and 139 platelet donations to the American Red Cross with each of these 276 donations helping to save a life of an unknown American.

The Ghadiali's also organize the annual B.D. Petit Parsee General Hospital Fundraiser and have given very generously to the New Darbe Mehr Capital Campaign and other causes. They certainly live by the following quote attributed to Winston Churchill: " You make a living by what you get; you make a life by what you give.' Thank you for inspiring our community!

### AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS CONTD.

#### MAYA MISTRY – BLACK BELT IN TAE KWON DO



On December 7, 2013, 9-year old Maya was one of the youngest in her class to earn her 1st Degree Black Belt, within a relatively short period of three years, in the Korean martial art form of Tae Kwon Do.

At the end of a written test and grueling three hour physical test, Maya, along with six other students was awarded her hard earned black belt by the World Tae Kwon Do Federation. Maya completed her black belt training and will continue to train at Cosmo's Martial Arts Center (CMAC).

Maya began her Tae Kwon Do training at CMAC in October 2010 under the guidance and instruction of Master Cosmo and his team of instructors. In spite of a couple broken bones over the years, Maya's commitment to the training, and resolve to persevere has culminated in this commendable achievement.

Seen alongside is Maya with Master Cosmo at the Black Belt Awards Ceremony.

**ZAGNY congratulates all the recipients on their achievements!**

### 10<sup>th</sup> WORLD ZOROASTRIAN CONGRESS, MUMBAI, INDIA



The 10th World Zoroastrian Congress took place at the NSCI Complex in Worli, Mumbai from December 27 to 30, 2013.

Read an in-depth daily coverage of the Congress by our own Arzan Sam Wadia on the Parsi Khabar website at <http://parsikhavar.net>

### THANK YOU!

Heartfelt thanks to our many volunteers who help out in the kitchen, assist with meal serving and stay late to clean up every month on Religion Class Sundays.

**Your help is valued and sincerely appreciated!**

### ZOROASTRIAN YOUTH WINTER RETREAT 2014

**Zoroastrian Youth of North America (ZYNA) will be exploring historic Claremont, California**  
Join us for a celebration of team building, friendship, and fellowship.

<b>Who?</b>	<b>Zoroastrian Youth 18-24 years of age</b>
<b>What?</b>	<b>Team Building Retreat</b>
<b>Where?</b>	<b>Claremont, California</b>
<b>When?</b>	<b>January 31-February 2</b>
<b>Why?</b>	<b>To strengthen unity amongst Zoroastrian youth</b>

This will be a unifying retreat geared towards college and graduate students (ages 18-24) who will get to know one another on a deeper level. The new generation of Zoroastrians will be able to strengthen friendships and connect with like-minded professionals that live and work by the core beliefs of our religion, through excursions. Mingle and surround yourself with energetic, ambitious individuals.

For detailed event information and to register, visit <http://www.fezana.org/node/324>

## ZAGNY DONATIONS RECEIVED LIST

BY: KERMAN DUKANDAR

The following is a list of donations received by ZAGNY for the previous year, period **January to December 2012**. The list includes donations in excess of \$25 and does not include donations towards the B.D. Petit Parsee General Hospital, Udvada Atash Behram and Nassesala Charities.

A sincere **THANK YOU** to all the donors for their generous contribution towards the various Funds and to every donor whose gracious contribution not exceeding \$25 is not listed herein.

Donor	Fund category					
	New Building fund	General fund	Scholarship fund	Critical Assistance	Library fund	Congress 2012
Aria, Porus and Soonoo		\$100				
Bamji, Shernz and Yezdiar	\$120					
Bengali, Minoo and Dinaz			\$50	\$30		
Bharda, Aspi and Zarin				\$30		
Bharda, Darayes	\$35		\$35			
Bharucha, Darius and Shernaz		\$55				
Buhariwalla, Behram				\$50		
Cama, Lovji and Mehru				\$40		\$125
Cama, Rohinton and Mahrukh		\$550				\$300
Cooper, Perween						\$101
Dalal, Jehangir (in memory of Dr. Rustomji and Mini Cooper)				\$201		
Daruwala, Jahanbux and Nancy				\$55		
Dastur, Jamshed				\$20		
Dastur, Kavsy and Barbara		\$56				
Dastur, Nari and Dinoo				\$100		
Davar, Virasp and Kamal				\$50		
Daver, Edul and Niloufer	\$50					
Deboo, Dhun				\$35		
Dinshaw, Bomi and Nina						\$1,000
Dotivala, Tehmasp and Zarine				\$50		
Dukandar, Kerman and Jasely						\$102
Dutia, Noshir and Kashmira				\$60		\$150
Dutia, Tanaz						\$50
Gandhi, Rusi and Natalie		\$25	\$25	\$25	\$26	
Gupta, Jasmin		\$100				
Hakim, Lovji and Rupy						\$100
Hakim, Khushru and Roshan	\$130					
Harda, Kersi and Rashna				\$200		
Kapadia, Rohinton and Roshni	\$40					
Khambatta, Hoshang and Renate	\$100					
Khambatta, Kayomarz and Goolcher				\$50		
Khodadadi, Irandokht	\$33					
Kotwal, Maneck and Jasmin	\$365					
Langrana, Noshir and Dinaz		\$55		\$30		
Madon, Rohinton and Yasmin				\$50		\$20
Malesra, Kobad	\$15			\$50		
Mantri, Amit and Anahaita	\$10					
Mehta, Firdosh and Maharukh						\$130
Mehta, Khurshed				\$70		

## ZAGNY DONATIONS RECEIVED LIST CONTD.

Donor	Fund category					
	New Building fund	General fund	Scholarship fund	Critical Assistance	Library fund	Congress 2012
Mehta, Ruyintan and Monica				\$150		
Mehta, Sherazad and Mrinalini Nair			\$40	\$40		
Merchant, Kamal				\$41		
Mistry, Firoz and Piloo				\$100		
Mistry, Keki and Khorshed						\$55
Modi, Phiroza	\$100					
Motivala, Meherwan and Joan				\$141		
Nalladaru, Hiroiz and Vajifdar, Dinaz	\$500					
Neville, Mahrukh and Vincent		\$50				
Nikpour, Floria				\$70		
Noushi, Mayyar and Sarfaraz (Sasha)				\$45		
Palkhiwala, Baji and Christine				\$35		\$35
Patel, Farokh and Armin	\$100	\$50		\$30		
Patel, Farokh and Dominique	\$50	\$50		\$30		
Patel, Ferzin and Rajan	\$101					
Ranji, Shiroy	\$101					\$101
Rudina, Solee and Viloo						
Saklatwalla, Vira	\$40	\$100				\$40
Sarkary, Homi and Gul		\$100				
Sethna, Rusi and Shernaz	\$110					
Shaviri, Armaan	\$80					
Sribnick, Zenobia and Ethan		\$180				\$395
Sterling Styles Inc.						\$51
Sukhia, Sarosh and Nancy		\$156				
Tamboly, Niloufer		\$250				
Todiwala, Dara						\$151
Todiwala, Mozam				\$20		
Udwadia, Dianne	\$80			\$20		
Vania, Jehangir and Daulat		\$30				
Vimadlal, Khushroo and Parynaz	\$101					\$101

The following list includes significant donations in excess of \$1,000 from a single donor.

A heartfelt **THANK YOU** to all the donors for their very generous contributions towards the various Funds.

Donor	Fund category					
	New Building fund	General fund	Scholarship fund	Critical Assistance	Library fund	Congress 2012
Anonymous				\$30,000		
Dastur, Soli and Jo Ann	\$1,001			\$55		
Devitre, Dinyar	\$53,000	\$880				
Mistry, Cyrus Pallonji	\$65,000					
Mistry, Pallonji Shapoorji	\$70,000					
Mistry, Shapoor Pallonji	\$60,000					
Modi, Phiroza and Satish				\$5,000		



## ZAGNY CRITICAL ASSISTANCE – YOUR DONATIONS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

ZAGNY was informed through Houston, about a family in New Jersey going through a medical crisis and in dire need of financial assistance. The hospital charity care for the father, terminally ill with cancer, was running out soon.

Monies through ZAGNY Critical Assistance Fund, were provided to the family who is ever so grateful for the generous support from our community. The monies were used to provide comfort to the father with a hospital bed and a wheel chair upon his return home from the hospital. It was heartening for the family to be able to bring the father home in his last days before he passed away peacefully on December 21, 2013.

ZAGNY extends its sincere thanks to everyone who contributes to the ZAGNY Critical Assistance Fund. Your donations make it possible for us to help our community members in their hour of need.

- ZAGNY Board

### **ASK THE LAWYER.....**

BY: ZARNOSH MANECKSHAW

One of my readers writes "I am purchasing a home. It's my first big purchase, and understandably I'm a bit nervous about the transaction. What should I be looking for?"

A home purchase is a major transaction. For most, it is their most valuable asset when equity exists, and their most costly liability when none does. Entering into a contract to purchase a home can be a daunting task.

The first thing you should understand is what exactly you are purchasing. Although some people choose to purchase completely new homes, in states with population densities like New Jersey and New York, you will likely be dealing with a non-new structure. This means that conditions on the property that constitute "normal wear and tear" are essentially the responsibility of the Buyer, not the seller. Therefore, on the day of closing, when you conduct your final walkthrough, minor scrapes and scratches should never be a reason to delay or pull out of a deal.

The second thing you should understand is that closings rarely take place on the original closing date. Delays are inevitable. Many delays are caused because the lender is engaging in an exhaustive due diligence process. Therefore, it is absolutely imperative that you do everything possible to keep the process on track. This means being responsive when your realtor or attorney needs information or paperwork. Without your help, they can only do so much. The more responsive you are, the more responsive they can be for you, and the likelihood of closing.

It also means that you should keep your realtor and attorney abreast of your particular individual needs. I once had a client who scheduled a vacation to Paris with his wife and children, and the trip was scheduled on the day of closing. He foolishly believed he could close that morning and hop on an international flight that afternoon. However, he did not bother to ever tell me about this trip. Inevitably a delay occurred, and the entire trip was cancelled, costing him thousands of dollars. Had he simply told me about the trip in the prior three months I was providing services for him, the cancellation would have been avoided.

My third piece of advice is to understand that you are making an investment. A home is an investment, that if properly cared for, will steadily increase in value and provide a solid return when you decide to sell. I have had numerous clients almost pull off six-seven figure deals over something like a \$200 vanity mirror or \$50 chimney cover. No business would ever compromise such a huge deal over such a small issue, and neither should you. Be a businessperson first, a homemaker second, and your closing will move smooth as silk!

Thank you reader, for your question. To anyone reading this column, feel free to send me your questions. Your anonymity will always be protected, and everyone will learn a little more!

## 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**

## **THANK YOU!**

Many thanks to the D'Rozario Family – Kerbanoo, Walter, Yohaana, and Aiyaan, for their generous contribution of four 'torans' for our Darbe Mehr doorways.

The beautiful red and white silk flower 'torans' are hand-made by Kerbanoo and donated in memory of her father, Hormaz Sethna, who passed away recently.

The 'torans' were donated on the occasion of the Jamva Chaloji Fundraiser and were greatly appreciated by all guests at the event.

## **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 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](mailto:secretary@zagny.org)

Nina Mistry – [jointsecretary@zagny.org](mailto:jointsecretary@zagny.org)

Arzan Sam Wadia – [webmaster@zagny.org](mailto:webmaster@zagny.org)

**Watch this space  
for information  
on our next trip**



IATAN Appointed Travel Agency since 1980

### ***'Z-LadyBugs'***

***Inaugural trip to NEW ORLEANS in October 2013***



*Acquaintances became friends – Arnaz Maneckshana*

*Looking forward to many more – Nelly Cama*

*Oh, What a trip!! – Khurshid Mehta*

*We had a blast and enjoyed the trip – Teshtar Irani*

**"Business or Pleasure...Your Travel is Our Business"**

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**Lokesh Sharma at [Lokeshs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Lokeshs@sbcglobal.net) Cell 203 435 4014**

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**VISIT US AT**

**[WWW.ZAGNY.ORG](http://WWW.ZAGNY.ORG)**



ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER NEW YORK

# 2014 MEMBERSHIP FORM

WEB: [WWW.ZAGNY.ORG](http://WWW.ZAGNY.ORG) | FACEBOOK: [FACEBOOK.COM/ZAGNYUSA](https://FACEBOOK.COM/ZAGNYUSA) | TWITTER: [TWITTER.COM/\\_ZAGNY](https://TWITTER.COM/_ZAGNY)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last Name First Name Middle Name Name of Spouse*

NAME OF CHILDREN:

HOME ADDRESS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Street City State Zip Country*

CONTACT

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Home Tel Cell Phone Spouse Cell Phone*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Email Address Spouse's Email Address*

MEMBER

SPOUSE

ORIGINALLY FROM: \_\_\_\_\_  
PROFESSION / TITLE / BUSINESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: REGULAR ☐ ASSOCIATE ☐

REGULAR MEMBER: AT LEAST ONE MEMBER OF THE FAMILY IS ZOROASTRIAN  
ASSOCIATE MEMBER: NO MEMBER OF THE FAMILY IS ZOROASTRIAN

CATEGORY OF MEMBERSHIP:

FAMILY @ \$ 120 ☐  
INDIVIDUAL @ \$ 60 ☐  
SENIOR CITIZEN @ \$ 35 EACH ☐  
STUDENT @ \$ 30 ☐  
NON-RESIDENT FAMILY @ \$ 45 ☐

\*\*ALLOCATE DONATION TO THE  
FOLLOWING FUND(S)

NEW BUILDING \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
GENERAL FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
SCHOLARSHIP \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
CRITICAL ASSISTANCE \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
LIBRARY \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_

DONATION\*\*: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL VIA CHECK: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY BY ☐ EMAIL ☐ US POST

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:**

**FAMILY:** PARENT(S) AND CHILDREN UNDER 21 YEARS

**INDIVIDUAL ADULT:** 21 YEARS TO 65 YEARS

**SENIOR CITIZEN:** 65 YEARS AND OLDER

**STUDENT:** ENROLLED FULL-TIME AT AN ACADEMIC INSTITUTE

**NON-RESIDENT FAMILY:** RESIDING OUTSIDE THE  
TRI-STATE AREA OF NY, NJ AND CT.

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO **ZAGNY** AND MAIL ALONG  
WITH THIS FORM TO:

**KERMAN DUKANDAR**

**TREASURER, ZAGNY**

**96 BERNARD AVENUE, EDISON NJ 08837**

TEL: 732 494 7976

SHEROO KANGA  
ZAGNY SECRETARY  
159 ARISTOTLE WAY  
CRANBURY, NJ 08512



## **FEBRUARY 2014**

### **02/02, Sunday**

- ZAGNY RELIGION CLASS

## **MARCH 2014**

### **03/02, Sunday**

- ZAGNY RELIGION CLASS

### **03/14, Friday**

- DISCUSSIONS FEATURING  
PROMINENT ZOROASTRIANS

### **03/29, Saturday**

- CEREMONIAL GROUND  
BREAKING FOR NEW  
DARBE MEHR BUILDING
- ZAGNY & IZA JOINT  
NAVROZE FUNCTION

## **APRIL 2014**

### **04/06, Sunday**

- ZAGNY RELIGION CLASS
- ZAGNY AGM AND ELECTIONS