



ISSUE 18

ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER NEW YORK

JULY/AUGUST 2004 NEWSLETTER

ARTICLES:

CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS	2
DONATIONS AND INFORMATION	3
MUKTAD REGISTRATION FORM	4
FEZANA NEWS	6
PATETI REGISTRATION FORM	7

MUKTAD PRAYERS

August 15 – August 19, 2004

Our Zoroastrian community is invited to participate in the Muktdad Prayers for all five days from August 15th through August 19th, 2004. In order to accommodate workday schedules, ZAGNY is offering the community prayer services in several locations around the tri-state area with the generous help from some of our members. Our thanks go out to the host families who have graciously volunteered their homes and to the Priests who have kindly agreed to perform the prayers.

Our Mobeds will recite submitted names on all five days of the Muktdad prayers at all locations. ZAGNY will serve lunch following the prayers on August 15th.

Date	Sunday August 15	Monday August 16	Tuesday August 17	Wednesday August 18	Thursday August 19
Place	Pomona, New York	Queens, New York	Princeton Jct, New Jersey	Closter, New Jersey	Baldwin, New York
Time	11:00AM	6:30 PM	6:30 PM	6:30 PM	6:30 PM
Hosted By	ZAGNY (Pomona Darbe Mehr)	Teshtar & Noshir Irani	Jasmin & Maneck Kotwal	Sheroo & Vispi Kanga	Yasmin & Jamshed Ghadiali

Please complete the form on page 4 of this newsletter. Should you have any other questions, please contact **Vispi and Sheroo Kanga** at (201) 227-1890.

ZAGNY BOARD:

ZAGNY_SECRETARY@YCOS.COM

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PATETI FUNCTION

– August 21, 2004

ZAGNY will hold its Pateti function on August 21st, 2004 at the Pomona Darbe Mehr. We have a fun filled program and all are encouraged to attend.

Registration will start at 5:00 PM. The program will begin with a "Atash Niayesh" prayer at 5:30 PM, followed by cocktails, between 6 and 7 PM ONLY. Once the cocktail hour has closed, at 7 PM, the evenings programs will begin with several dances, some performed by our own children and some by professional groups from dance schools, followed by dinner. After dinner you will sit back and relax to enjoy a hilarious Parsi Comedy Natak - "**TEHMULJEE IN TURMOIL**" performed by our own talented members, young and old. So folks, go to the registration form on page 7, fill it out and mail it to reach us by August 7th, 2004.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

JULY 2004	
21-25	IVY F. GANDHI YOUTH CAMP (details on pg 5)
AUGUST 2004	
8	ZAGNY ANNUAL PICNIC
15-19	MUKTAD PRAYERS
21	ZAGNY PATETI FUNCTION
SEPTEMBER 2004	
1	ZAGNY SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE
12	ZAGNY Religious Classes ***** (1 PM START)

Please provide any contact changes or personal announcements to zagny_secretary@lycos.com.

🕒 CONGRATULATIONS

Farah and Friya Randelia, daughters of Rohinton and Daisy Randelia of Parsippany, New Jersey, on the occasion of their Navjote, at Albless Baug in Mumbai on February 17th, 2004.

🕒 CONDOLENCES TO

Ruby Malva and family on the passing of Ruby's mother Jerbanu Rustomji Malva. Jerbanu passed away in Los Angeles CA at the age of 98.

Farida, Freddie and Nicole Davar on the passing of Rohinton Davar. Sadly Rohinton passed away, after a long illness on July 3, 2004.

May their souls rest in Peace.

ZAGNY SCHOLARSHIPS

ZAGNY invites applications for financial assistance (Scholarship/Loan) for the academic year 2004-2005 from its members who are studying at institutions in the United States. Applicants should be full-time students. The last date for filing an application is **September 1st, 2004**.

Application forms and information can be obtained from **Cyrus F. Hirjibehedin**, 135 Executive Drive, Manhasset Hills, NY 11040 or cfh6@columbia.edu.

ZAGNY'S SUMMER PICNIC

AUGUST 8th, 2004

IT IS PICNIC TIME !!! Come join us with kids and families for our annual ZAGNY picnic at the **Shepherd Lake Recreation Area** located in **Ringwood State Park** (Ringwood, NJ)

The spring-fed waters of the 74-acre Shepherd Lake offer swimming, boating, canoeing fishing, hiking trails etc.

The park is open from 8:00am to 8:00PM daily. **THERE IS NO RESERVED SPACE SO PLEASE ARRIVE EARLY AROUND 9:00 AM.** Some of us will try and get there early to save a few tables for our ZAGNY group. Since the park does not allow signs, we will have someone meet you in the parking area to direct you to the picnic location. There is no per person admission charge, however the park charges a parking fee of \$10.00 per car.

Bring your favorite potluck picnic dish (enough to share with 8-10 people), and come prepared to have a great time! Grills are available for cook-out. ZAGNY will provide watermelon, iced tea, hot tea and charcoal for the cook out.

Once you are in the park, Toni and Viraf and Vispi-Sheroo will have their cell phones switched on in case you need directions to the picnic area.

Contact **Vispi & Sheroo Kanga** at (201) 227-1890 or **Toni & Viraf Ghadially** at (732) 972-6527, if you plan to attend. (Cell numbers for day of picnic 908-410-5536 or 732-208-4703 or 201-248-7208) Additional details are on the Park's website <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/ringwood.html>

WZCC HEALTH/WELLNESS SEMINAR

World Zoroastrian Chamber of Commerce- NY Chapter sponsored a well attended seminar on Sunday, May 23rd. Guest speakers **Prof. Khursheed Navder**, spoke on Nutrition and Weight Management, **Dr. Satish Modi**, discussed Lasik surgery and Crystalens implants, and **Mr. Vispi Kanga** talked about Skin Care and Cosmetic Surgery.

WZCC sincerely thanks all the distinguished speakers and volunteers who helped make this informative event happen. Lunch catered by Sheroo Kanga was delicious. Voluntary contributions made by WZCC members and seminar attendees were donated to ZAGNY. For information on WZCC: Rusi Gandhi, rusi@garden.net, Noshir Dutia, noshd@hotmail.com or Arnaz Maneckshana amanecksha@aol.com

DONATIONS AND INFORMATION

Ⓢ DONATIONS

CRITICAL ASSISTANCE FUND	
004 TOTAL	\$2,698.00
Ferozshaw Ogra	25.00
GENERAL FUND	
2004 TOTAL	\$7161.05
Ashodad	414.00
Rusi Gandhi (from a real estate sale)	401.00
Donations from WZCC Seminar	177.00
Jehan and Beroz Kasad	100.00
Hormuzd and Freny Dalal	100.00
United Way – Tinaz Hakim	156.16
United Way – Tinaz Hakim	78.08
United Way – Unknown Donor	55.35
United Way– Virasp Davar	25.98
United Way - Virasp Davar	20.87
NEW BUILDING FUND	
2004 TOTAL	\$3,074.00
Farzad Dutia	100.00
Rohinton Kapadia	60.00
SCHLOARSHIP FUND	
2004 TOTAL	\$1,335.00
LIBRARY FUND	
2004 TOTAL	\$ 130.00

WANTED – CATERERS

In an effort to provide the best and most varied options to the community, ZAGNY would like to collect a list of caterers who can provide food with a predominance of Parsi flavors at functions of various sizes, ranging from less than 100 people to more than 200 people. Please contact **Cyrus Hirjibehedin**, by phone at 212-663-5768 or by email to cfh6@columbia.edu, with information on your menu selections and catering capacity.

NEW BOOKS FOR THE ZAGNY LIBRARY

Parsiana Publications has sent two books on the World Encyclopedia with the compliments of Philanthropist, NarYman Kaikhosrow, who has also authored them. The books are "Theory of Waves" and "Khorshid Nigirshn". These books will be kept in the ZAGNY library for reference purposes. Anyone interested in purchasing his or her personal copies may write to Parsiana Book Club, parsiana@vsnl.net. The books are very reasonably priced at Rs. 1,225 and Rs. 2,150 respectively, plus handling charges of Rs. 100 per book.

IVY F. GANDHI YOUNG ZOROASTRIANS' CAMP

The annual Young Zoroastrians' Camp this year will be from 7:00 pm on **Wednesday, July 21st** to noon on **Sunday July 25th** at the Darbe Mehr. The camp is great fun and a wonderful opportunity to strengthen old friendships and build new ones. There are many great activities such as hiking and picnicking in Bear Mountain, sports (soccer, volleyball, badminton, baseball, etc.), board games, arts and crafts, scavenger hunts, water fights, and the highlight of the camp, the really fun skits put up by our talented children.

The camp is open to all children between the ages of 6 and 18. Younger children are welcome if accompanied by a parent. Parent volunteers are needed, and if you would like to spend even part of the camp time with us please let me know.

For additional information and registration forms, please contact **Homi Byramji**, home: **(973) 316-8636** or cell **(973) 489-3252**.

BOLLYWOOD HEADLINER...

USA is certainly a land of opportunity and it is proved again! Farokh Daruwala came to USA about 3 years ago and look at the Irony - he is born and brought up in Mumbai the "Bollywood", where he as an HR professional also worked with large film production companies like Shogun films, met actors frequently like Amitabh Bachchan, Shahrukh Khan, Jackie Shroff and the likes...!

His work brought Farokh to the US and while here Farokh began starring in movie made here in the USA called "Bandhak" the lead role...due to release in the start of September 2004. He has already started working in another film "Junoon"

Along with his Bandhak production team, Farokh is starting a Theatre group called "Platform" in Edison, NJ which will be in running from July end onwards.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS –

IAAC Film Festival: The Indian Diaspora 2004
 Filmmakers are invited to submit their films (Feature/ Short/ Doc) for the fourth annual IAAC FILM FESTIVAL: THE INDIAN DIASPORA, November 4-7, 2004. IAAC Film Festival: The Indian Diaspora includes films made by people of Indian origin living outside India. Films made by non-Indians with Indian content (plot, theme, actors, location, and protagonist) will also be considered. For additional information, go to <http://www.iaac.us/Indian%20Diaspora%20Film%20Festival%202004/home.htm>

ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER NEW YORK, INC.

MUKTAD PRAYERS 2004

Please complete this form in **BLOCK** letters with the correct status circled for each name and return this form by **AUGUST 7, 2004**, to:

MAIL FORM TO:

Sheroo Kanga

Attn: Muktaad Prayers

147 12th street

Cresskill, NJ 07626

CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

ZAGNY

Kindly include the following names in the daily prayers during the forthcoming Muktaad ceremonies.

- I am enclosing herewith my contribution of \$ _____ (@ \$5 per name, maximum of 6 names) to defray costs for this event.
- I am enclosing my contribution of \$ _____ (@\$5 per person), I/We _____ (# of people) will be attending the lunch, after the prayers, on August 15th, 2004. These monies will be used to defer the cost of the caterer, the paper products, for this event.

Yours truly,

PRINT FULL NAME

TELEPHONE NUMBER

		Name of the Deceased		Names of His/Her Father/Husband
1	E O Oi B K		E O B	
2	E O Oi B K		E O B	
3	E O Oi B K		E O B	
4	E O Oi B K		E O B	
5	E O Oi B K		E O B	
6			E O B	

The names of the deceased are always recited together with their father/husband's name along with their status, i.e. Ervad, Osta, Osti, Behdin or Khurd, as per Zoroastrian custom. No surnames are recited in the prayers.

E = Ervad (male who is/was a Navar)

O = Osta (male from Athornan or priestly family but not a Navar)

Oi = Osti (female from Arhornan family)

B = Behdin (male/female from Behdin or non-priestly family)

K = Khurd (whose Navjote has not been performed)

NO NAMES WILL BE ACCEPTED OVER THE PHONE OR ONCE THE PRAYERS ARE STARTED DURING THE MUKTAD DAYS.

This newsletter will be made public on the ZAGNY web-site. If you do not want your personal information to appear on the website, please do not submit it to the newsletter for publication.

PROJECT MAINSTREAM – THE RUMMY GAME

On Saturday May 15th 2004, ZAGNY hosted a play, The Rummy Game. It was a bitter sweet tale of 2 aging Parsis living in a charitable senior citizen home in Mumbai. The performance of the 2 actors Sabira Merchant and Hosi Vasunia was poignant and laughable. One was reminded of the shenanigans of rummy players and the colorful language that only a Parsi bawaji can render. The important part of hosting this show was that ZAGNY truly stepped out of the box. This play was to raise funds for Project Mainstream. This charity supports the street children of Mumbai. This was not a Parsi helping a Parsi, but rather the Zarthosty community reaching out to the underprivileged street children of Mumbai.

Project Mainstream is a unique organization based on business management principles. It teaches the children to be street smart, trains them for a trade so that they can earn an honest living, sets them up in a business and offers them temporary housing and makes loans for housing. Its aim is to make the children self sufficient and contributing members of society. It seems that 80%-90% of the 30,000 children helped so far have repaid the money for their training and loans.

Thank you to those who attended and showed their support and to those who could not attend, but sent in donations towards this cause. Thanks also to the sponsors: **Air India, Palace of Asia, Hot Breads of Lawrenceville, Sukhadia of Edison, Kamal Davar** an Anonymous donor and **Sam Bhada of Raddisson Hotels**. The organizing committee for this show consisted of: **Mahrukh Cama, Mehru Cama, Usheen Davar, Behroz Dutia**, and **Jasmin Kotwal**. This show would not have been possible without the volunteer spirit of so many ZAGNY members: **Lovji Cama, Rohi Cama, Minu Dutia, Jamshed Ghadiali, Toni Ghadially, Sheroo** and **Vispi Kanga, Fali Shroff, Aban Chavda** and most importantly our youth: **Tanaz Dutia (Reid), Aysha Ghadiali, Cyrus Hirjibehedin**. To all of you, our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for a job well done.

ZAGNY is proud to announce that a check in the amount of \$3000 was given to Project Mainstream. More donations are still being received which in turn will be sent to this charity. **FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO DONATE TO THIS WORTHY CAUSE, PLEASE SEND A CHECK MADE OUT TO ZAGNY AND IN THE MEMO SECTION PLEASE INDICATE "PROJECT MAINSTREAM."**

The feedback from the audience was very positive and here are some of their comments:

*"Not only was the play hilarious, bringing back memories of 'Parsa' mannerisms and idiosyncrasies, but also had a very poignant message. The concept of bringing cultural activities and programmes such as this, for wider audiences including other Indian ethnic groups and even local neighborhood residents, is indeed unique and something we should consider doing more frequently!" **Edul Daver***

*"The Rummy Game" was a delightful comedy that dealt with some painfully real issues for the elderly, such as loneliness and survival on charity. The actors superbly portrayed their characters, and had us rolling in the aisles, and at times sharing in their grief. We commend ZAGNY for bringing this wonderfully entertaining play for our amusement, especially one that supports a worthy cause like Project Mainstream. **Danny and Goher Mobed***

*"An excellent show -- entertaining and thought provoking. Congratulations to Sabira Merchant and Hosi Vasunia on their performance and Project Mainstream -- and ZAGNY for presenting it to the community." **Dinci & Nausheer Avari**.*

*"Not only did you do a fabulous job with the details of the events, but the show itself was nothing less than spectacular. The acting of Hosi Vasunia and Sabira Merchant was very authentic in their Parsi ways which made watching the play even more humorous and enjoyable. The play touched my heart and I found it to be particularly relevant in our modern society with our new and growing generation. But more importantly, the cause that you espouse, Project Mainstream, is one that I felt honored to support. You and all those in attendance have helped to make this world a better place." **Rahul Bansal**.*

*"We were very pleased to have attended the staging of the Play -The Rummy Game. We were happy to notice a sizable number of non-Parsees attending the event. We feel this is a good sign on behalf of ZAGNY to involve non-zoroastrians too in some of our functions as all can only benefit by such an interaction. It was good to note the enthusiastic applause and appreciation shown by the audience during and after the completion of the Play. This kind of support and encouragement do go a long way for the persons involved in the venture. Please continue the good job." **Firdaus and Mahrukh Mehta**.*

*"And one of the actors wrote: Many, many thanks for your wonderful support and organisation for the show, and what a wonderful audience you got for us, it was a pleasure to perform for such a crowd. I send my thanks to the wonderful team and look forward to meeting you all again." **Hosi Vasunia**.*

If you would like to announce an event that will occur within the next 3 months in the ZAGNY newsletter, or provide feedback or suggestions about this newsletter, please email zagny_secretary@lycos.com.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

The Fezana Welfare committee has come across cases of domestic violence within the Zarathushti community in North America. Our community is by no means immune to any social issues. To address this issue the committee has sought the advice of numerous professionals in the field. Fortunately in our country we have resources on hand that we can tap into for help and guidance. But, due to lack of awareness the individuals in need are not taking the crucial initial steps required. This may be due to social and/or cultural differences or the stigma attached.

To assist people in these situations the committee has established a **confidential toll free phone line; 1-877- 265-7273, FEZANA Critical Assistance Hotline**. The message will be sent to the coordinator. We have set up a network of contacts in Canada and USA to whom the call will be forwarded. The contact can be a friend that provides emotional support during the crisis. Also, this contact will guide the individual to a proper professional agency that handles such situations. There will be expenses to cover costs for any medical, temporary housing, counseling individuals, legal, etc. needed to assist. Therefore, we need professionals as well as monetary angels/farishtas to help support this cause.

We cannot just keep taking and not giving. To start work on giving, we have organized our **1st Welfare Committee Benefit Fund Raiser**. This event will be held at the Arbab Rustam Guiv Zoroastrian Center of Metropolitan Chicago on Saturday, September 4, 2004. FEZANA has contributed towards this project and will appreciate your support. An evening of togetherness with entertainment, food, along with a silent and/or live auction is being planned to raise funds for this cause.

We are requesting your help to donate funds for this worthwhile cause. Please remember, all contributions to FEZANA are tax deductible.

Please send donations to:
**FEZANA Welfare Committee,
Houtoxi Contractor
2301 Colony Court
Pittsburgh, PA 15237**

If you have any questions, please call **Houtoxi Contractor** at **412 367-2948** or **Hosi Mehta** at **630 833-6923**

FEZANA WELFARE COMMITTEE BENEFIT FUND RAISER

A GALA MUSICAL NIGHT

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2004

6.30 PM,

**AT THE ARBAB RUSTAM GUIV ZOROASTRIAN
CENTER METROPOLITAN CHICAGO**

8615 Meadowbrook Drive, Burr Ridge, IL

**A GRAND EVENING OF
ENTERTAINMENT, FINE DINING & LOTS OF
SURPRISES!!!**

FEATURING

LIVE ORCHESTRA GROUP "MALHAR"

A TALENTED ARTIST FROM BOLLYWOOD
& HIS GROUP OF VERSATILE SINGERS

COME & ENJOY A FUN EVENING OF
SUGAM SANGEET, HINDI SONGS,
GUJARATI RAAS-GARBA
ESPECIALLY OLD ZARTHUSHTI SONGS

PLATINUM SPONSOR

\$1000 DONATION (12 FREE TICKETS TO THE GALA)

GOLD SPONSOR

\$ 500 DONATION (5 FREE TICKETS TO THE GALA)

SILVER SPONSOR

\$200 DONATION (2 FREE TICKETS TO THE GALA)

ALL FUNDS COLLECTED ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

All sponsors will be recognized in the program
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Hosi Mehta (630) 833-6923

Zarin Press (847) 619-6690

Dinsoo Rivetna (630) 852-8515

Hutoxi Minocherhomji (630) 887-1545

Dinaz Weber (630) 830-3430

Anahita Tamboli 813-251-0101

Houtoxi Contractor (412) 367-2948

Mani Rao 630-427-0495

*The Pateti Function will be held on August 21, 2003
at the Pomona Darbe Mehr*



REGISTRATION: PATETI FUNCTION 2004

			NUMBER	AMOUNT
ADULTS	-	\$25.00	_____	_____
NON-MEMBERS	-	\$35.00	_____	_____
CHILDREN 5-15 YRS	-	\$15.00	_____	_____
SENIOR CITIZENS	-	\$15.00	_____	_____
DONATIONS:			_____	_____
		TOTAL:	_____	_____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TEL. NO. HOME: _____ BUSINESS: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Kindly mail your form with check made out to ZAGNY to:

Jasmin Kotwal

12 Park Hill Terrace

Princeton Junction, NJ 08550-0102

*Reservations must be received by August 7th, 2004. All registrations will be non-refundable. A \$15.00 per person / \$25.00 per family **surcharge** will apply to all registrations done either at the door or received within 48 hours prior to the function.*



ZAGNY
106 Pomona Road
Suffern, NY 10901

E-Mail
zagny_secretary@lycos.com

Phone:
845.362.2104

ZODIAC POWER RINGS

For the first time in the US, a product that can help enhance the will power, concentration, assertiveness and confidence of a person, simply by wearing our special metal ring.

ZODIAC POWER RINGS help you excel in your business, job, studies, profession, career, personal relations etc. by improving your personality. They help reduce anger, mental tensions, mood fluctuations and stress felt by the human body, thereby increasing ones productivity on the whole.

ZODIAC POWER RINGS are made of a mixture of five base metals i.e. gold, silver, iron, copper and zinc, in their purest form. Hundreds in the US have benefited by wearing this ring.

CONTACT :
Sole Selling Agent -
Firdosh Mehta, 973.921.1342, firdoshm@comcast.net.
Sub Agents are soon to be appointed.

ZAGNY
106 Pomona Rd.
Suffern, NY 10901

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.zagny.org

**Zoroastrian
Association of
Greater New York.**