



NEWSLETTER OF  
THE ZOROASTRIAN SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

*In Search of the Truth*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June 2005-August 2005

Volume XIII, No. 2

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The Zoroastrian Society of  
British Columbia  
6900 Halifax Street  
Burnaby, B.C. V5B 2R5  
Canada

Telephone (604) 420-3500  
[www.zsbc.org](http://www.zsbc.org)

During my last visit to India in January 2005, I planned a trip to Udvada, where our largest fire temple is situated. Fortunately my friend volunteered to drive me. To my pleasant surprise the highways in India have improved tremendously. As always, visiting and praying in an atash behram is a must. The atmosphere inside was very unique and awe-inspiring. The glow of burning fire, the vibrations of prayers by mobeds and the quiet surroundings were so soothing and uplifting. It is something all Zoroastrians should experience at least once in their life time.

Our Zoroastrian religion proclaimed as "DAENA VANUHI" (good religion) about 3770 years ago by Zarathushtra Spitma. He was the first prophet to recognize that there is just one God - Ahura Mazda. Asho Zarathushtra preached a new doctrine of goodness and retribution, and gave the world the motto of Good Thoughts, Good Words and Good Deeds. Humta, Hukhta and Huvareshtha.

Let us all be proud of our Daena Vanuhi and continue to teach our children and grandchildren the same and make this world a better place to live in.

Homi Italia  
President.

*Directors of The Zoroastrian Society of British Columbia (ZSBC) Invite You All to Celebrate the Pateti/Navroz Function Together*

**Dinner and dance organised by ZSBC on *Saturday, August 27, 2005, 6:30 p.m. to midnight, Pateti Celebration at Riverside Palace, Banquet Hall, 14500 River Road, (River Road/Valmont Way), Richmond.***

Tickets will be sold from August 1<sup>st</sup> until August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005 exclusively. No tickets will be sold after this date or at the door and no refunds given after August 21<sup>st</sup> for cancellations due to any and all reasons.

<u>Cost of tickets</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Non-Members</u>
Adults & youths 13 years & over	\$ 20	\$ 30
Youths 5 to 12 years	\$ 10	\$ 15
Children under 5 years	Free	Free

Tickets will be available from:

- Mr. Farrokh Namdaran @ (604) 926-9733 for North Shore residents
- Mr. Sharook Kapadia @ (604) 439-3066 for Burnaby and Coquitlam residents
- Mrs. Silloo Panthaky @ (604) 513-1261 for Langley residents
- Mr. Behramsha Mizan @ (604) 270-4077 for Richmond residents

There will be no reserved seating/table allocation. Seating will be on first-come first-served basis, hence please come early.

ZSBC SCHOLARSHIP:

**2005 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS BY  
THE ZOROASTRIAN SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
FOR ITS MEMBERS SEEKING ADMISSION TO UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE  
THIS YEAR.**

The Scholarship Committee of ZSBC invites members' children who are completing the Provincial Grade XII examination this year, to apply for a modest scholarship from ZSBC.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible, the applicant must have a minimum of 1425 points achieved under the British Columbia Standard ministry Score (SMS) criteria.

**Application:** Application forms are available from ZSBC's web site at [www.zsbc.org](http://www.zsbc.org), or from Bella Tata (604) 681-5250, Homi Italia (604) 438-2076, Fariborz Rahnamoon (604) 986-2077, Dinaz Mizan (604) 270-4077 or Farrokh Namdaran (604) 926-9733.

Completed application forms, Grade XII marks and a one page write up about achievements should be returned by **September 12, 2005** to

**The Scholarship Committee, ZSBC,  
6900 Halifax Street,  
Burnaby, B.C. V5B 2R5**

FEZANA SCHOLARSHIP:

**FEZANA ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS (2005-2006)**

**Applications are invited for the FEZANA ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS and the MEHRABAN & MORVORID KHERADI ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP THE FEZANA SCHOLAR.**

The scholarships are open to Zarathushti applicants who are currently enrolled or have applied as full-time students in institutions of higher learning (accredited degree-granting colleges or universities) in USA or Canada.

**Scholarships:** Scholarships for the academic year 2005-2006 will be awarded in September 2005. The Mehraban and Morvorid Kheradi Endowment Scholarship will be for \$5,000.

**Eligibility:** (1) Applicants must be of the Zarathushti faith. (2) Applicants must be currently enrolled or have applied as full-time students in institutions of higher learning (accredited degree-granting colleges or universities) in USA or Canada. (3) Applicants must be legal residents or citizens of USA or Canada. (4) Foreign students holding legal status in USA or Canada are eligible, provided they have spent one year or 2 semesters at a college or university in North America. (5) Applicants will be eligible to receive a maximum of two awards, which may or may not be in consecutive years.

**Application:** Application forms are available from the FEZANA web site at [www.fezana.org](http://www.fezana.org) or from Dr. Dolly Dastoor ([dollydastoor@sympatico.ca](mailto:dollydastoor@sympatico.ca)) Completed forms should be sent, post marked no later than August 1, 2005 to

**DOLLY DASTOOR Ph.D, Chair, FEZANA Academic Scholarship Program,  
3765, Malo, Brossard, Quebec, Canada J4Y1B4**

**HOMEMADE DELICACIES**

Contact: Farida @ 604-214-2089



**Persian Rose Syrup  
Cottage Cheese (Paneer)  
Almond Cake  
Bhakras  
Golpapri**

**Back to the Future**

**The Fourth  
World Zoroastrian Youth Congress**  
~ University of Ballarat, Vic. Australia  
Adar Roj, Adar Mah, 1374 Yz  
**G'day\* from Downunder!**

Here's your friendly Slave once more extolling the virtues of a visit to the land of milk and honey – and of course grasping the greatest GIFT of all – the 4<sup>th</sup> World Zoroastrian Youth Congress to be held at the University of Ballarat, VIC. Australia, in December 2007!

Your extremely caring and competent Executive Team had decided from the start to make this event the BEST Congress Ever – in true Aussie Zoroastrian style. And to that end, here's a little more that should keep you all saving those cents/ paisas/ pence - the Dollars, Rupees and Pounds will take care of themselves – so as to be there, or forever be square!

Earlier on we'd mentioned the Aussie Olympics and Going for Gold – well we've decided to welcome you with gold too – now don't everybody start another Gold Rush! But at least be sure that a Golden prospect awaits all who choose to participate! I'm not saying any more!!!

Without hesitation, here's a sartorial hint – how about remembering to bring along, some authentic traditional outfits – some really smashing out to kill Gala evening wear – some utterly droll fancy dress attire – some compulsory beachwear (we won't stop anyone from going topless, provided they are males) – some Country and Western garments – AND of course some sensible shoes! Stilettos aren't exactly practical for Gold digging! Jodhpurs are optional extras as are fig leaves and dhotis – though if part of your National costume, don't leave them behind! In your best bib and tucker, you'll be ready to meet a Royal Prince or two! – failing which, you might just bump into the Queen of your heart or at least a Princess!

Going “**Back to the Future**” means a little bit more than a generation ago! This crop of youngsters want to make their own futures based on a far, far distant past – and that's what we will be catering for, not with our imaginations but via competence and credibility enough to speak of Asho Zarathushtra rather than some weary, old has-been Ustad Zumborkiwalla! The Youth Yakka that we mentioned earlier will give the Youth themselves a chance to speak up about their hopes and aspirations and what exhilarates them, what ails them, what upsets them – and that wise ear to the ground has detected, nothing bores them more than constant negativity about our supposed census figures and other done to death, conventional topics, ad infinitum! They've heard it all before, debated it, umpteen times – they've rejected them all – outright! Have even asked that such monotonous subjects be left for Adult Congresses! We're a young Nation on the brink of a blossoming and that's what we want to showcase – the colourful vibrancy, the zest for living, the sporting eagerness, the happy positivity of **our Aussie Zarthosti YOUTH!** In Modern World History we're simply “16 going on 17”, – the future lies ahead and we want it to be as glorious as our past – in fact, we mean to make it even better! The present is **the GIFT** we want to share with you all! So Come on Downunder in December, 2007 and build for yourselves a Golden Future with your own hands, clean hearts and clear heads and with your own kind in great numbers! Contact: Shiraz Mistry Tel: 61 3 9562 0543 or email: [Smileysjm@optusnet.com.au](mailto:Smileysjm@optusnet.com.au)

MEMBERSHIP FEES:

Family: Husband and wife, including children under 18 .....	\$50
Senior (65 years and over) .....	\$15
Full time student .....	\$15
Individuals (18 years and over, even those living with parents) .....	\$25

Fees may be paid by cash or cheque. You may contact any one of the Directors, whose names and responsibilities are given below, on any issue relating to our Society and convey your views to them.

DIRECTORS OF ZSBC AND COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES:

Homi Italia	President	(604) 438-2076
Pervin Buhariwala	Secretary	(604) 945-7865
Farrokh Namdaran	Treasurer	(604) 926-9733
Sharook Kapadia	Maintenance & Seniors Liaison	(604) 439-3066
Sillo Panthaky	Education committee	(604) 513-1261
Farhad Mistry	Youth Liaison/Sports	(604) 315-6587
Percy Bhagat	Social Events	(604) 984-0986

Birth

To Farahnaz Reyhani and Mehrdad Mehrfar, a son Behrod Mehrfar born January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005 in Vancouver. Brother of Hiran Mehrfar

Marriage

Sheena Dastur, daughter of Soli and Khorshed Dastur of Surrey to Darren Schoepp, at the Darbe Mehr on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005

OBITUARY:

Esfandian Mehrfar passed away on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Husband of Poorondokht Salamati, father of Khosro of USA, Mehrdad of Vancouver, Mehran of USA and Kamran of Iran. Father-in-law of Roya Farkhani, Farahnaz Reyhani, Farzaneh Aryani and Mina Shirvia. Grand father of Roxana, Cyrus, Hiran, Behrod and Sheeva.

Rostam Zartoshty, 84, passed away on May 5, 2005 in West Vancouver, B.C. husband of Parvin, father of Mehrbanoo Behroozi, Manouchehr, Parviz and Bahram.

Mrs. Rati Vakil, 84, passed away in Bombay on May 19, 2005. Mother of Rohinton Vakil, Niloufer Lalkaka of Langley and Meher Jayakar of Langley.

## YOUTH CORNER:

ZYNA's Nourooz celebration in Vancouver was first floated in November of 2004 on "Zpeakerbox" – An online Zoroastrian youth forum hosted by Narius Dastur of Vancouver [www.zpeakerbox.narius.net/nuke]. Finally, it was decided that the event would be held over the Easter long weekend and the highlights would be Whistler and ZSBC's Nourooz function. In all seven youth from all over North America attended the activities. Hailing from Canada were Zinnia Pardiwala (Salt Spring Island), Afreed Mistry and Visda Vokhshoori (Toronto), and Abad Mahava (Edmonton). From the US we had Navroz Gandhi (Washington, D.C.) as well as Hutosh Sadri and Hormazd Romer (San Fransico). Most of the ZYNA youth arrived on Thursday, March 24th and departed on Sunday, March 27th; they were hosted at Roshan & Dinyar Mistry's residence in Langley. The activities started Thursday night with a potluck at the host house where fifty to sixty local youth attended, bringing a wide variety of tasty grub from "Oosh" to "Paloa". The next day was started in true Parsi fashion with some very tasty Akurri breakfast made by Hutosh and was spent sightseeing. The group visited Simon Fraser University, Capilano Suspension Bridge, and Cyprus mountain lookout before breaking for lunch at Horseshoe bay for some fish & chips. In the afternoon the group visited Stanley Park, English Bay, and strolled on Robson street before heading back home for dinner. In the night, the ZYNA youth met up with some local youth to watch the movie "Guess Who" at Silvercity Colossus and ended the night at approximately 3:00 am after a few games of Cranium and Charades. Early on Saturday morning the group went off to Whistler via the Sea to Sky highway, stopping at the White Spot in Squamish for some pancakes, waffles, and other decadent breakfast items. In the evening they attended ZSBC's Nourooz function where approximately 300 local zarthusti's turned out to party. FEZANA president Firdosh Mehta and his wife graced the function. The after party was held at Zain Mavalwala's till 4:30 am. On Sunday morning some of the youth had to depart, while the rest went on to Eddie Madon's Bombay Bhel in Burnaby for a very tasty lunch of bhel, pani puri, and other delicacies. The evening was spent on Robson Street, where the ZYNA crew excelled in having some dark Belgium chocolate café mochas and some Mondo Gelato Biscotino at the same time. By Monday morning all the ZYNA youth had departed, everyone had a great time and pictures are available on Zpeakerbox. Friday nights ~ **Volleyball nights** @ Harry Gerome center, 7:30-10pm. Contact ZYBC President Zain @ [zainmavalvalla@shaw.ca](mailto:zainmavalvalla@shaw.ca). Sunday mornings ~ **Squash at SFU**, start at 8:30 ends at approx. 11am. Contact Farhad @ [fmistry@alumni.sfu.ca](mailto:fmistry@alumni.sfu.ca).

## Past Event:

Annual Table Tennis tournament was held on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at the Darbe Mehr. Approximately 40 youths and adults took part in the tournament.

	Singles	Doubles
Winners:	Mehernosh Kasad	Mehernosh Kasad & Cyrus Dalal
Runner-up:	Zain Mavalvalla	Zain Mavalvalla & Freddy Irani

All winners and runners-up were presented with cash prizes.

### UPCOMMING EVENTS:

All events at the Arbab Rustam Guiv Darbe Mehr, 6900 Halifax Street, Burnaby – unless otherwise specified.

Apart from the events listed below, which are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances, the Darbe Mehr will be kept open by a group of our members, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on **Vrahraum Eezad (Behram Roj) June 8, July 8, Aug 7 and Sept 6, 2005**

**Sunday, June 12, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. 37<sup>th</sup> Annual General meeting (registration begins at 1:30 p.m.)-** All Zarathushtis are welcome to attend the AGM, but only those who have paid their membership fees for 2005-2006, even just before the commencement of the meeting, can vote. Please also refer to the “Notice of the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting” enclosed with this newsletter. Light refreshment will be served after the meeting. If unable to attend, kindly give your proxy to one of the Directors or a friend who is attending.

**Sunday, June 19, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. – Peer-e- Sabz Memorial Day-** will be celebrated at Shannon Falls, near Squamish, with group prayers at the site, songs, games, music, making Sirog, etc. Please bring your own food and refreshments, blankets, etc., and come to Taylor Way (entrance to British Properties in West Vancouver) by 10:00 a.m., so that we can all try and leave together for Shannon Falls.

**Saturday, July 16, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. Seniors Day Picnic-** ZSBC invites all Seniors who are “young at heart” for some outdoor entertainment. Lets assemble at the Darbe Mehr at 8.30 a.m. with a day filled with fresh air, fun, frolic and food at Harrison Hot Springs. We will return back to the Darbe Mehr at 4.00 p.m. The registration charge is \$10.00 per person for food and transportation. Please call the following Directors before July 10, 2005 to register as seating is limited. Homi Italia-(604) 438-2076, Farrokh Namdaran (604) 926 9733 or Sharook Kapadia (604) 439 3066.

**Friday, July 29 to August 1, 2005 – Stave Lake Youth Camp.** Cost \$50 for 4 days and 3 nights. This includes your stay, transportation, all meals and activities. Register before June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Call Zain Mavalvalla @ 604-274-4973 or Farhad Mistry @ 604-315-6587 for registration.

**Monday, August 15, 2005 11:00 a.m. – Ahunavad Gatha:** Jashan, followed by potluck lunch.

**Saturday, August 27, 2005 6:30 p.m. to midnight-** Pateti/Navroz Dinner and Dance.(See details on the first page)

### REMINDER:

#### **Membership Fees Are Due For 2005-06.**

ZSBC’s fiscal year is for the period March 21 to March 20, of the following year. A society can function only to the extent that it is supported by its members. The Directors urge you to pay your membership fees for the year 2005-2006, which are now due. Fees, can be paid by cash, or cheques made payable to the ZSBC. Cheques may be sent to the Darbe Mehr, in an envelope marked for attention of the Treasurer.

UPCOMMING EVENTS (In Persian)