



NEWSLETTER OF
THE ZOROASTRIAN SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

In Search of the Truth

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June 2006-August 2006

Volume XIV, No. 2

CONTENTS

President's Message	1
Pateti/Navroz Celebration	2
ZSBC Scholarship	2
FEZANA Scholarships	3
Zartoshti Scholarship	3
Announcement	3
Membership Fees	4
Birth	4
Marriage	4
Obituary	4
Youth Corner	5
Seniors Picnic	5
Past Event	5
Dr.Mary Boyce	6
Zoroastrian Biography	6
Upcoming events	7
Reminder	7
Upcoming events (Farsi)	8

My term as President is coming to an end. I have served my community for nearly a decade, first as a director of maintenance, then as a treasurer and for the last four years as President. Over the years I have learned many things about our community in British Columbia. I have experienced that those who have served as Directors sacrificed a lot of personal time and gave honest service to our community. It is a team effort and everyone has done his or her duty faithfully.

My advice to the community members is that everyone should volunteer for at least one term as a Director. Only by doing this, you will understand the working of our society.

Over 1500 Zarathoshties have made British Columbia their home, coming from many different parts of the world. We have freedom of choice, religion and speech in this beautiful country of ours. Why not take full advantage and encourage our children and youth to actively take part in social as well as religious activities of our community. They are the future roll models of our community.

It is with heavy heart I have to inform you that Mehrdad Ashooian, age 39 passed away on April 30, 2006. Mehrdad was an active member of our community, he was instrumental in encouraging our youth to play basketball during the 9th Zarathoshti Games. He will be sadly missed by our community. We give our heartfelt condolences to his wife Shideh Khorasheh and family. May almighty rest his soul in eternal peace!

I earnestly request members of our community to attend the AGM on June 11, 2006 in large numbers and cast your vote to elect your favourite Directors.

May Ahura Mazda bless you all!

Homi Italia
President

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

Directors of The Zoroastrian Society of British Columbia (ZSBC) Invite You All to Celebrate the Pateti/Navroz Function Together on Saturday August 26th, 2006 from 6:30pm at Cheers Restaurant 125 East 2nd Street, North Vancouver, V7L 1C2.

Tickets will be sold and tables allocated on first cum first served basis. Please note that there are only 150 seats available for this function. Sale of tickets will be from August 01st to August 20th. No refunds at all if cancellation done after 20th August 2006.

Cost of tickets:

Members: Adults \$25; Youth 5-12 \$12; under 5 Free

Non-members: Adults \$35; Youth 5-12 \$17; under 5 Free

Please reserve your tickets with:

Homi Italia @ (604) 438-2076

Sharook Kapadia @ (604) 439-3066

Dinaz Mizan @ (604) 270-4077

Percy Bhagat @ (604) 984 0986

There will be a cash bar managed by the restaurant. The directors of ZSBC advise you all to be responsible and not to drink and drive. Music by our very own DJ Jessi Partovi."

ZSBC SCHOLARSHIP:

**2006 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, 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, 2006** to

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

FEZANA SCHOLARSHIP:

FEZANA ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS (2006-2007)

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 2006-2007 will be awarded in September 2006. 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 or from Dr. Dolly Dastoor (dollydastoor@sympatico.ca) Completed forms should be sent, post marked no later than August 1, 2006 to

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

MEHRABAN & PARIDOKHT ZARTOSHTI SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

The Trust of ARBAB ROSTAM GUIV DAR E MEHR will be giving scholarship to students for higher education under the " MEHRABAN & PARIDOKHT ZARTOSHTI SCHOLARSHIP FUND". For details please check the website <http://www.arbabrostam.homestead.com/>

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Taxi Service in London: If you visit London, England and need taxi service, please contact our fellow Zarathoshti Mr Gav Buhariwala @ 02082481829 (Res) or 07957236929 (Cell) or email him (gavbuhariwala@aol.com or gbuhariwala@hotmail.com)

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

Maya, a daughter to Neville and Kaynaaz Dholloo sister to Zal on March 16th, 2006 @ Richmond General Hospital.

Daria, a daughter to Zubin and Shahnaaz Balsara, sister to Daryush on May 5th, 2006 @ Royal Columbian Hospital

Boma , a son to Tooka Shahriari and Famaraz Amjadi, on May 6, 2006 in Vancouver, B.C.

MARRIAGE

Zubin (son of Maki and the late Pheroze Daruwala, Vancouver) to **Aimy** (daughter of Kaikobad and Dinky Pudumjee, Pune) in Pune, India, on March 7, 2006.

OBITUARY:

Shavax Shapurji, 94 years, in London, England, on March 8, 2006. Father of Fi Dastoor (Vancouver, B.C.), Rumi Shapurji (USA), Dhan Shapurji (USA), Nergish Manecksha (Malaysia) and Hillan Sethna (England).

Murzban Sohrab Nirumvala, 64 years, in Toronto, on March 8, 2006. Husband of Meherengiz, father of Sohrab and Bahar, brother of Paterasp (Burnaby, B.C.), Aspy and Kersi (in Mumbai).

Mehrdad Ashooian, 39 years, in North Vancouver on April 30th 2006. Husband of Shideh Khorasheh, son of Aflatoon and Parvin Ashooian and brother of Mahabanoo Ashooian, brother-in-law of Mehraban Mehr.

Mrs. Hira Busha, 98 passed away on May 21, 2006 in Port Moody, mother of Banoo Bharucha, mother-in-law of Rusi Bharucha, grand mother of Kersasp Bharucha and Zarrin Dadinatha of Coquitlam.

YOUTH CORNER: *By Zain Mavalwalla*

It has already been two years since the new youth committee was formed and took over...how time flies! Our last event, Mingle 06, was very successful and enjoyed by all who attended. We want to thank Mr. Peterasp Nirumvala, owner of Delta Four Projectors, for kindly donating a wonderful projector and screen for this event.

It is that time of year again for elections to be held for a new committee to be formed. I want to take this time to thank all the current members for all their hard work and dedication. Existing members are welcome to continue with us, and new members are always appreciated. There will be a meeting at the Darbe Mehr in June where roles of the various positions will be explained, and an election will follow. If you are interested in contributing to the youth committee in any way, we would love to see you at the election. We will keep you posted about the exact day that elections will take place. I hope to see you all there!

SENIORS PICNIC: Saturday, July 22, 2006: Seniors Picnic to Barnet Marine Park, Burnaby:

Enjoy a shoreline stroll amid the lazy trails of Barnet Marine Park, where the view of Burrard Inlet and the towering Coast Mountains beyond are simply spectacular and a favorite of water-lovers. You can swim in the ocean, explore the shoreline or just bask in the sun. Picnic tables are scattered under shady trees and a concession stand, change rooms and outdoor showers are available in summer. Just across the water, large freighters are at work and pleasure craft navigate the choppy waters. At high tide, the water can rise 14 feet, making the marine traffic appear closer than it really is. A mill town at the turn of the century, this park still has remnants of its early days. The remains of the mill's scrap burner juts out into the water, resembling a small castle.

Meeting Point: Picnic Area, Barnet Marine Park

Directions: Travel east on Hastings Street. Keep left on Barnet Highway, following signs for the park.

Duration: 10.00 am to 3.30pm

Food & Drinks: Tea/Coffee and lunch will be served.

Charges: \$5/- per person

Registration: Contact: Sharook Kapadia @ (604) 439-3066 or Homi Italia @ (604) 438-2076 or Farokh Namdaran @ (604) 926-9733 on or before July 17, 2006. Volunteers to pick up and drop off for seniors will be highly appreciated

WINNERS:

TT/Carom/Baggammon tournament results:

Baggammon : Faramerz Amjadi

Carom: Farida Raghina

TT mixed doubles: Arzan Balsara & Merhnosh Kasad

Women's TT: Farida Raghina

Men's TT: Mehernosh Kasad

Dr Mary Boyce

The greatest scholar of Zoroastrianism, Professor Mary Boyce passed away on Tuesday 4th April 2006 peacefully at the hospital.

Professor Mary Boyce was a titan in the academic world, foremost as a scholar of Zoroastrianism and of Iran. She taught and inspired a whole generation of scholars and researchers who have followed in her footsteps. She was for many years the distinguished Head of the Department of Religious Studies at the renowned School of Oriental and African Studies, London University. She authored several distinguished books and guided several writers and researchers to complete their work. Such was her commitment to scholarship and research that even in her advanced age, through sickness and ill health; she continued to work on her books.

Professor Boyce was a great and genuine friend of the Zoroastrian community. It was she who inspired the establishment of a Chair in Zoroastrian Studies at SOAS.

Mobed Mehraban Zartoshti who made large donations to establish the Zartoshti Brothers Chair in Zoroastrianism at SOAS expressed his deep distress at the news of the passing away of Professor Boyce. Mobed Mehraban described Professor Boyce as "the most dedicated and distinguished scholar of Zoroastrianism of our times, who loved our religion and our community very much. It was a great privilege for me and my brother Faridoon and our Family, to have known her and to be associated with her in ensuring the teaching of Zoroastrianism at SOAS. She devoted her entire life to the study and teaching of Zoroastrianism and I salute her life and work. We Zoroastrians were truly blessed to have such a committed and scholarly friend. Throughout her long and dedicated years of work, she highlighted to the academic world the true genius of our Prophet Zarathushtra and His unique message. As a scholar and a historian of ancient Iran, her work will occupy pride of place forever. May her soul always bless us from her abode in Garothman Behesht "

Our sincere condolences to Mr. Peter Boyce, her brother and to Geoffrey, her nephew.

Zoroastrian Biography:

Sir Cowasjee, the grand-nephew, adopted son and successor of Sir Cowasjee Jehangir, Kt., was educated at Proprietary High School and Elphinstone College, and for his numerous acts of charity was Knighted in 1895 and received his Baronetcy thirteen years later. He had the honour of receiving the Order of Knighthood direct from her majesty Queen Victoria.

Among his benefactions are Rs 2 lakhs for the erection of the Readymoney Wing of the Imperial Institute, London, Rs 4 lakhs for the Sir Cowasjee Jehangir Public Hall, and large sums for hospitals, schools, and other charitable institutions. Sir Cowasjee's munificence was large and diffusive, not confined to particular individuals or institutions but extended in general to all that could make out any just claims to it. Universally known amongst all his friends and even acquaintances as Bawa, Sir Cowasjee possessing a jovial and merry temperament, made himself a persona grata with members of all communities. He passed away after completing his four score years honoured, loved and respected by all his fellowmen. (ZANT NEWS)

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 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on **Vahraum Eezad (Verahram Rooz) June 8, July 8, Aug 7 and Sept 6, 2006**

Sunday, June 11, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. 38th 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 2006-2007, even just before the commencement of the meeting, can vote. Please also refer to the “Notice of the 38th 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 18, 2006 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 22, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. Seniors Day Picnic- ZSBC invites all Seniors who are “young at heart” for some outdoor entertainment. See details on page 5

Saturday, August 19, 2006 at 11:00 a.m. – Vahishtoist Gatha: Jashan, followed by potluck lunch.

Saturday, August 26, 2006 6:30 p.m. to midnight- Pateti/Navroz Dinner and Dance.(See details on page 2)

REMINDER:

Membership Fees Are Due For 2006-07.

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 2006-2007, 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 Farsi)