

**Parsi
Junction**
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PARSI JUNCTION

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Committed to Transparency and Accountability

Truth be Told!



Dear Community members,

The last few months have been very trying and tiring for all of us. I have been writing regularly to

BBP Trustee Viraf D. Mehta get our community to stand together and strong in this fight against COVID. Our community has sadly lost almost 200 members due to this infection and this number increases week after week, despite the dip in COVID in Mumbai. As you are aware, vaccines were in short supply however from what we are now given to understand, the flow of vaccines should be steadily available in Mumbai with more vaccination centres opening in the coming weeks.

Our BPP Helpline remains active for any requirement any community member may have. A special mention should also be given to many community workers such as Rumi Zarir and Tehmtan Dumasia who despite the tough times have stood and supported this community.

During this pandemic, the Trustees have tried to do all within their capacity to serve the community. Unfortunately whilst under the leadership of Mrs. Tirandaz, we have been working to serve, some of my colleague Trustees have been indulging in petty politics even at a time like this.

Today our community is in need for unity and not pettiness. There is no doubt that when there are multiple minds at work there are

bound to be clashes. Presently, one of my colleagues is to most actions taken by the present Board of Trustees. Kersi Randeria is disgruntled because the current Trustees are of the view that every resident of a BPP flat should have the right to encash their tenancy. This (i) reduces litigation between the BPP and resident, (ii) allows the BPP to receive funds and (iii) also allows the outgoing tenant to earn some funds. Kersi Randeria has been opposed to this system even before I became a Trustee. Sadly, even today, Kersi Randeria tries every trick in the book such as (i) putting disclaimers of his dissent to the auction notices and (ii) also as far as I have heard making calls to potential bidders telling them not to bid for BPP flats as soon there will be more flats than Parsis. This unfortunately is the sad state of affairs within the Board room.

We (Mrs. Tirandaz, Mr. Dastur and myself) are vehemently opposed to putting any kind of burden on community members. Increase of service charges is a burden most community residents were forced and threatened with by the earlier majority Trustees. However, we have no such ambition or aim to burden residents. Instead, we feel that encashing of tenancy rights provides a steady flow of funds to assist the BPP.

In the Parsi Times news papers of Kersi Randeria of 29th May 2021, he has sadly made some petty allegations and I feel it my duty to state the truth

Service Charges:

In July 2020, Chairman Mrs. Tirandaz, Trustee Xerxes Dastur and myself, unanimously discontinued the additional 750 rupees

service charge that was imposed on our beneficiaries from February 2017.

Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Pheroze Amroliwala and other community activists, the service charges were discontinued.. A hue and cry is being made about an apparent waiving of charges of a handful of people who protested the same earlier. Let me state once again for the record that the outstanding payment of Rs. 750 for any resident has NOT been waived. It has only been differed for the time being. All arrears of this service charges of Rs. 750/ pm for the period of February 2017 to August 2020, a period of 43 months amounting to Rs. 32,250/ will be collected by the BPP in due course following due process. Just because Mr. Randeria does not like a few of the individuals who have not paid, we are not going to commence mindless litigation against beneficiaries spending way more funds on litigation than collection of charges. For those who have paid in advance beyond August 2020, no refund will be given but instead we will be adjusting that against future rent. The question of Refund to the 2700 residents who paid under duress imposed by Kersi Randeria himself amounting to around Rs. 8 to 10 crores is out of the question due to the acute financial condition of the Trust.

In yesterday's PT he suggests that we should refund everyone the Rs. 750 service charge paid over the last few years just because a few handful of people haven't paid, people he has publicly admitted he doesn't like. He further tries to mask he



vengeful pettiness by saying that people in covid times need the additional money. It is shocking that this is the same person who thrust these service charges upon the community beneficiaries and thereafter informed custodians not to take rent of the beneficiaries who have not paid the service charges. He is the same person who has admitted that he has made phone calls to residents threatening them that he would file a case against them should the service charges not be paid.

Mr. Randeria claims people need the additional cash during these times. In fact, Let me inform the community that we have got less than 15 calls in the last 2 months on our BPP Helplines asking for financial help. Most of the calls have been in relation to vaccinations. Our helpline is still open for those in need of financial help so I request those needing financial aid to please use it.

Leaking Information:

Mr. Randeria seems to not like the fact when the truth is laid out in the open for all to know and instead makes false and baseless allies against others. It will be interesting for you to know that Mr Randeria and his colleague have been 'leaking' information for the last 10 years when it suited them. In fact, earlier this year after one of our Tuesday Board meetings, Mr. Randeria, Chairman Mrs Tirandaz and myself were taking the elevator down when Mr. Randeria admitted to Chairman Tirandaz and myself that he has intentionally leaked the extract of the minutes of a BPP meeting pertaining to Dr. Zuleika Homavazir to Mr. Deboo so that he could forward it on WhatsApp groups to prejudice voters, to ensure she lost the election. If you don't want to take my word for it, you can ask Mrs. Tirandaz. All information that is published in the Parsi Junction is information the community should be made aware of: (a) majority Trustees spending over Rs. 50 Lakhs of charitable funds on lawyers fees to oppose the minority Trustees (b) allotting flats to friends by lying to us Trustees, c) finalising for Rs. 8 lakhs donation a flat which had an offer of Rs. 60 lakhs and for which the allottee himself was ready to pay Rs. 30 lakhs but as Deposit and not Donation d) paying Rs. 5 crores to BMC through some dubious middleman who charged Rs. 30 lakhs as consultant fees. I can go on but to what avail.

From a reading, it is clear that the Parsi Junction reports the facts that take place as they are. However, unlike the Parsi Junction, Kersi Randeria's psycho online Khol paper makes false vile defamatory statements continuously about the current majority Trustees and their entire families, even those deceased.

The Dissenting Trustee:

Ever since Trustee Zaheer Bhatena passed away and ex-Chairman Yazdi Desai was unable to attend to the BPP, Trustee Kersi Randeria has done everything in his power to not only stall the progress of the BPP but also try and stop any and every avenue for the BPP to earn revenue. He has earned himself the nickname "The Dissenting Trustee". Just recently I told Mr. Randeria that he doesn't always have to oppose any and everything the Board proposed to do. We need to work together. The community is aware that Mr Randeria keeps printing his dissent notes to our auction of flats. Just before the lockdown last year, ex-Chairman Yazdi Desai had proposed to the Board that we move contempt of Court proceedings against Mr. Randeria in the High Court as well as file 41D application before Charity Commissioner for removal of Kersi Randeria as a Trustee as he was constantly working against the interest of the Trust. Sadly Mr. Desai fell ill soon after probably due to the tension created by Kersi Randeria and unfortunately nothing in this matter was taken forward.

Mr. Randeria has been the biggest proponent to stop the auction of flats from 2015, which had been stopped by the Charity Commissioner in November 2013, until recently. For six years the BPP had NO revenue stream while our employee salaries, overheads and building repair costs just kept mounting away. With none of our projects having kicked off, the only source of revenue at the moment is auctioning of flat. Even legal luminaries to High Court Judges agree to the same. So while Mr. Randeria prints his dissent in his own Paris Times as well as Jame-Jamshed whose Editorial Rights also he has purchased from the Owner, he refuses to accept the harsh reality of it all.

With interest rates constantly dropping it is impossible for the BPP to survive on the interest of its deposits. The deposits of the

BPP grew from 14cr to over 250 cr from 1997 to 2015 only through this scheme. And because Mr. Randeria used his majority to stop these auctions for four years, the BPP today is not only struggling to pay staff salary on time but also has to delay doles to the poor, payments to second and third child, medical and educational aid, and other welfare activities.

Bssdies the auctions, the only other possibility of a revenue stream to save the BPP is the Godrej Baug ownership building. However, there too Mr. Randeria has convinced his colleagues to squander crores of charitable funds by paying Rs. 5 crores till day as land under construction tax for this building which has been lying undeveloped for over 10 years. A few years ago I had proposed we move Court against this tax, but I was shot down by Mr. Randeria himself and his majority who didn't want to pay a few lakhs in legal fees. But ironically he convinced his majority to spend Rs. 35 lakhs to pay his "consultant" friends to stop this tax. But instead of paying a few lakhs in legal fees against this, the BPP has unfortunately paid Rs. 5 cr till date (+35 lakhs to his consultant) and now has a yearly liability of 90 lakhs on a building that hasn't even been touched in decades. Finally better sense has prevailed with the Board and we are not paying any more of this tax and will be moving court against this tax and Kersi's consultant friends. In the mean while we will be asking the architect to move on this project to get permissions in place so that we can start to monetize this 200 cr + project.

Regarding vaccination

The BPP should be focusing on getting the community vaccinated and providing for a respectable funeral for our deceased. In this regard, Masina Hospital and Breach Candy Hospital have stepped up immensely and a big thank you to them. With vaccines are available and for those interested in taking the vaccine please contact our helpline or myself and we will get you signed up.

Please get vaccinated and stay safe. And I hope my future articles can be about a unified BPP.

Regards,

Viraf D. Mehta



BPP BOL

As a follow up to last week's update, we contacted Trustee Viraf Mehta in regards to consigning Covid victims to the Dokhma at Doongerwadi. He informed us that the five High Priests, Vada Dasturji Feroze Kotwal, Vada Dasturji Khurshed Dastur, Vada Dasturji Keki Ravji (Meherjirana), Vada Dasturji Cyrus Dastur and Vada Dasturji Dr. Jamasp Dastur Kaikhusroo JamaspAsa, along with three learned scholars, Ervad Dr. Ramiyar, Karanjia, Ervad Dr. Parvez Baja and Ervad Dr. Rooyintan Peer, have sent across a proposal on how the BPP Trustees can facilitate Covid victims at a Dokhma at the Doongerwadi and still remain within the statutes of Dokhmenashini.

He did mention that the High Priests and Scholars told the Board of Trustees that at this juncture there should be no consideration of an alternative mode of disposal.

It is now for the BPP Trustees to approach the BMC first for permission or follow the footsteps of the Surat Parsi Panchayat and approach the High Court directly. A separate Dokhma has been identified. Ervad Aspandiyar Dadachandji along with his son Ervad Hormuzd Dadachandji have been consulted as well in regards to its usage.

Travesty of Justice

The dead cannot cry out for justice. It is the duty of the living to do so for them

Lois McMaster Bujold

How many innocent
Lives have been lost?

Wonder how many
How many we will lose?

Because of ignorance
As Dalai Lama once
stated:

"Where ignorance is our Master
There is no possibility of real peace"
Including Justice

Why do we look
Down upon people
Because of the colour

Of their skin or is it
Their caste ideologies
Or religion?

Nobody is superior
Or Inferior
We are all equal
On the same playing field
No matter what colour caste
Of that matter creed

With the wealth of
Information out there
If we can make an effort
Humanity can educate
As well eradicate
Racism Discrimination
Violence as well Hate

Choicest Happiness
Farida Bamji
April 22nd 2021
Stay safe and well

જીવન

ખુદાએ આપ્યું આપણને એક અનમોલ જીવન, એમાં આપ્યો
પ્યાર

કાશ બધાં જીવી શકતે, માની શકતે આં સુખી, સોનેરી સંસાર

ભલે હોય જીવન લાબું કે ટૂંકું, ભલે હોય જીવનમાં દિવસ ચાર

તો પણ એનો મોહ છે ભારી, કરે છે લોકો જિંદગી સાથે વેપાર

કરે છે એક બીજાઉપર જુલમ, બેઈમાની અને ભયંકર અત્યાચાર.

કાશ આં વૃત્તિ બદલી શકાય, તો જીવનમાં પાછો આવી શકે
પ્યાર

પાછા આવે સુખ, શાંતિ; લાગે જીવન, એક મહેકતો ફૂલોનો હાર

ઓ પરવર પ્યારા, આપ અમને આં બુદ્ધિ નેક; તો થાય સુખી હર
નર અને નાર.

Armin Dutia Motashaw

SERVICE CHARGES

"SERVICE CHARGES, THE PANDEMIC AND A PENDING REFUND!"
'Need to implement One Trust-One Rule For All Beneficiaries'.



For the last three weeks **Phiroze Amroliwalla** Randeria through his personally owned Parsi Times is after the present majority trustees on the issue of Service charges and insisting that they refund Rs. 750/pm being the amounts collected for these increased Service Charges.

It is strange that Randeria who was the main person behind this forced collection is now suggesting a refund when all that the present majority trustees have done is to provide relief to all residents of BPP BAUGS, prospectively from this draconian increase in service charges because of the suffering and loss or reduction in income due to the Pandemic and subsequent lockdown etc.

Those who had then paid had done so under Randeria's threat of non-acceptance of rent if the increased service charges were not tendered under the instructions

of Randeria. If at all they are instigated to demand refunds they should all claim it from Randeria who did not even listen to his own co-panelled trustees late Zarir Bhathena and Noshir Dadrawala who also agreed that the increase was draconian and tried to reason with Randeria. If required I will produce evidence to that effect.

It is also on record that a resolution to reduce this service charge to Rs.350/-pm. and tabled and approved in 2018 by Trustees Noshir Dadrawala, Viraf Mehta, Armaity Tirandaz and Xerxes Dastur was not allowed to be implemented through clever manipulation and manoeuvring by Randeria, aided and abetted by some staff loyal and faithful to him alone.

If Randeria was certain about the legality of this increase in service charges, then may I ask why did he not take steps to file legal proceedings against me in particular and in general all those who did not pay for a whole three years when he had his brute majority?

The readers need to be reminded that on January 7, 2017, a circular was issued by then Chairman Mr Yazdi Desai appealing to residents of BPP Baugs to pay an additional

fivefold increase of Rs.750/- in Service charges from the present Rs.150/-pm irrespective of the size of the flat, location, services offered, etc. ie. a one size fits all increase.

Naturally, most residents protested more so as residents were already paying for most of the increases stated in the circular: viz. Property Tax, Water charges, Security charges etc. which were being charged and paid for separately. Baug/colony representatives and activists even had a meeting with the whole board. But it was mainly Randeria who would not listen and insisted that all residents must pay. Whereas Mr. Desai sought cooperation, Randeria resorted to arm twisting and instructed Custodians NOT to ACCEPT rents from those who did not pay these increased charges.

Now with elections around the corner, he is obviously singing a different tune to woo the voter.

The financial loss incurred by the BPP due to the favours granted by Randeria in allotting flats either free or with extreme concessions to his chosen few should be reimbursed by Randeria to the BPP in keeping with his 'One Trust-One Rule For All Beneficiaries' so that sufficient funds are available to make these refunds which are instigated by him.

Phiroze Amroliwalla

Dr. Zuleika Homavazir's Response to Mr. Kersi Randeria



Dr. Zuleika Homavazir

Your twirl to have a burial ground at Doongarwadi is out of context to the objects of the Trust Deed.

You in consensus with your Colleague Noshir Dadrawala who portrays himself to be a Traditional ORTHODOX and extends lectures on Zoroastrian Religion seems to have tilted to Christianity or Islam imagining Tombstones at Doongarwadi.

Has the so-learned Noshir Dadrawala not read the version of the purification perpetrated by the buried corpse in the soil thereby polluting the Earth that we worship as one of the elements of life.

Also the Zoroastrian Community should be made aware that tattoos on our body is against our Religion. Please note. If you, as Trustees do not follow the tenets of our Religion, twist and turn at your own

whims and fancies, how do you expect our Community to follow protocol.

Your failure to follow the rules and the attached write-ups will again lead to legal tussles and therefore financially lining up pockets of your preferred advocates causing forceful depletion of scarce resources OR is this another gimmick to get your preferred candidates to Trusteeship. Do not forget the Consensus Candidates Mrs. Anahita Desai and the crooked tenancy deal by the Righteous Noshir Dadrawala who cannot stand his ground but flows with the tide to force field Mr. Burgis Desai.

The Community has had enough of the Desais and you two as well.

Rumy Zarir! What the Zoroastrian community needs...



Over the years Rumy has been helping, supporting the community and fighting for what is right without fear and without the fear of being judged.

It makes him stand out as a different personality always, like his mobile caller tune suggests: Once he commits to something, he is committed till the end.

Rumy not only gives selfless service to our community but interacts efficiently in maintaining excellent working relationships with government authorities like BMC, Police, Fire Brigade, Public health, etc.

When everyone was spending time with family late in the evenings, Rumy went door to door along with the security, sanitizing all the Zoroastrian colony buildings at Chicalwadi, while informing Tenants about the process and requesting to be careful whilst walking on the sanitized area.

Rumy is selfless in serving the community and goes out to help even people not known to him. Many calls received at odd hours are patiently heard.

In this last year of panic and concern, he has stepped out daily without caring for his



own safety. He has actively been involved in colony welfare activities like:

Fumigation, arranging groceries for tenants during the lockdown peak. He has been like a guardian, attending to requests which others don't heed to. One such example was when, he used his presence of mind to facilitate an old injured senior citizen reach the hospital in time— on the day of the cyclone Tauktae, an old lady who had a major fall was being taken to the hospital, however, the ambulance could not reach her building due to road construction work and floods in the surrounding areas. By allowing

passage through the colony, the ambulance by-passed the commotion and reached the hospital in time.

A miracle worker for this senior citizen needing timely assistance.

Rumy is a fearless leader who will not think twice in coming forward and supporting the community when needed. He gets the job done with his Can Do attitude and without fuss.

He is constantly involved in service for the community. He was actively involved in sorting out encroachment issues with regards to two of our prominent Agiaries in Mumbai.

He was continuously on the move during the lockdown, delivering food, groceries and medicines to the deserving and the elderly. This activity was done all over south Mumbai.

For his tireless efforts, he was awarded '100 Most Impactful Corona Warrior Award' by Social Talks in association with IDMA (Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association).

RumyZarir, a true warrior and a treasure of our community.



F. S. Parukh Dharamshalla

Tel: 2364 5982**No. 34, Hughes Road, Mumbai – 400 007**

The F. S. Parukh Dharamshalla, a Home for the Aged, a much needed initiative of the BPP, situated at Khareghat Colony, Hughes Road, is a boon for the senior citizens of our community.

Ninety percent of the residents in the Home reside totally free of cost. They do not have to pay for any of their requirements, such as, the accommodation, meals, clothes, linen, diapers, toiletries, laundry services, services of a barber, etc.

The medicines, prescribed by the Doctor specially appointed to take care of the senior citizens of the Dharamshalla, are also supplied to them free of cost. Hospitalization, if required, is also free of cost at the Parsi General Hospital. Medical equipments such as wheelchairs, walkers, surgical beds, side-tables are also provided.

Many of the senior residents need constant medical supervision as well as help with basic tasks like bathing and usage of the toilet. A few of the residents are immobile and are restricted to their beds.

For the entertainment of the residents there are television sets in each ward. Monthly entertainment programmes are also organized to keep up the spirits of the residents.

The Dharamshalla has a capacity of about 100 residents that include some paying residents, who are provided a separate room. All the above facilities are also provided to the paying residents at a nominal cost of Rs. 7,000/ per month, which does not include the expenses of a caretaker such as a ward boy/ayah.

It requires huge funds to run the Home of this magnitude smoothly and efficiently.

The salaries of staff, includes a Doctor, nurses, Manager, Assistant Manager, Supervisor, Cooks, Ayahs, Ward boys, a liftman, etc.

The residents are housed in two separate wings for men and women. In order to maintain the premises in an ultra-clean and hygienic condition, there is huge expense on the upkeep, repairs and maintenance, which includes two lifts, furniture, fixtures, electricity bills and appliances.

The residents are provided wholesome, nutritious meals. Some meals, however, are sponsored by our donors.

All the above facilities are taken care of with the support of BPP and through generous donors. A Ladies Advisory Committee, looks after the needs of the residents, and generally oversees the running of the Dharamshalla. The Committee members, the Managers and support staff ensure that the sunset years of the residents are their 'golden years', and that they remain respected members of the community.

We hereby appeal to you to please donate generously to support our 175 year old Community Institution. The Donors are requested to address their cheques in favour of 'Funds & Properties of Parsi Punchayet Bombay' and forward the same to No.34, Hughes Road, Mumbai 400 007. The donors can credit the Bank Account directly if they wish to do so:

For Indian Rupees

State Bank of India
Hughes Road Branch, Mumbai 400007
A/c no. 10066941969
IFS Code: SBIN0005800

For funds from abroad

State Bank of India, FCRA Cell, 4th floor,
New Delhi Main Branch
11, Sansad Marg, New Delhi 110001
A/c no. 40062270513
Branch code: 00691
IFSC: SBIN0000691
SWIFT: SBININBB104

Please inform us on Email: pdharmshala@gmail.com regarding your NEFT, RTGS, IMPS

Please make sure to mention that the said donation is specifically meant for the use of Parukh Dharamshalla.

Your largesse will go a long way in making the lives of our seniors more comfortable.

**For and on behalf of the Ladies Advisory Committee,
F S Parukh Dharamshalla**

**(Mrs. Armaity Tirandaz)
Chairperson**



**Chairperson
Armaity Tirandaz**



NOSHIR DADRAWALA THROWS COLD WATER TO DOKHMENASHINI FOR COVID VICTIMS AT DOONGERWADI



Noshir Dadrawala

WHILST ALL THE HIGH PRIESTS AND SCHOLAR PRIESTS ARE TRYING THEIR BEST TO ENSURE DOKHMENASHINI TO COVID VICTIMS, THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN TZML, YASHAN JOKHI AND NOSHIR DADRAWALA MAKES IT CLEAR THAT NOSHIR DADRAWALA IS NOT IN ITS FAVOR TO GIVE DOKHMENASHINI TO COVID VICTIMS. AFTER NOSHIR GAVE HIS SUMMARY AS TO WHY COVID VICTIMS CANNOT BE GIVEN DOKHMENASHINI AT DOONGERWADI, TZML CALLED UPON ITS MEMBERS TO COME TO A COLLECTIVE SOLUTION AS PER BELOW MAIL:

From: TZML Admins

Subject: Re: BPP Trustee - Please Ensure Dokhmenashini is Available to Parsi Covid Victims

12 May 2021

Dear Noshir,

thank you for your feedback.

Dear all,

Noshir has put forth some important points.

We are summarising these below.

Please put on your best thinking cap and tell us how to surmount these problems.

All suggestions welcome.

That will strengthen our case when we apply to the BMC for permission.

ND-1: When science or a scientist tells us that a dead body does not spread infection it's because a corpse neither breathes, nor coughs, nor sneezes! But, it does not mean that the corpse is free of pathogens. If it was, why is a covid corpse zipped in a protective bag?

ND-2: Today all we have are rodents at night and by day kites and crows pecking at the body which inflates and bursts open around the third or fourth day, oozing inner liquids. Sunlight too is scarce.

ND-3: Sure they mingle with the outside world. But, it's not the same as mingling with corpses in different stages of decompositions and fluid from infected lungs and the gut oozing all over the pavi.

ND-4: Could you please elaborate on those SOP.

The Government and Health Department's SOP is either burn or bury without opening the bag.

TZML: Yes, no SOPs for Tower Of Silence disposal exists at present. Hence. we are referring to SOPs which we collectively as a community need to create and present to BMC

ND-5: Surely we could try.

But, please understand that burning and burying is not the same as:

a) Keeping a corpse covered in a body bag on a pavi of an in-use or unused dokhma and

b) certainly not the same as keeping a covid cadaver exposed with crows, kits and rodents that move between doongerwadi and surrounding neighbourhoods.

Thanks to all once again.

Please take part in this brainstorming and discussions so we come to a collective solution.

We owe that much to our dear Parsi covid victims.

Sincerely,
TZML Admins.
(tzmladm@gmail.com)”

IN RESPONSE, YASHAN JOKHI SENT HIS PROPOSAL OF APPOINTING A HEALTHCARE CONSULTANT COMPANY TO STUDY AND PROPOSE A WORKABLE SOLUTION.

HE ALSO WANTS BPP AND OTHER ANJUMANS TO INTERVENE AND SUPPORT THE PETITION OF THE SURAT PARSI PUNCHAYET.

FINALLY HE REQUESTS THAT OUR SENIOR MOST HIGH PRIEST DASTURJI DR. FIROZE KOTWAL SHOULD GIVE HIS VIEWS WHETHER BURIAL OR CREMATION CAN BE ALLOWED ON OUR SACRED LANDS OF DOONGERWADI RESERVED SPECIFICALLY ONLY FOR DOKHMENASHINI.

WE GIVE BELOW HIS MAIL ON THE SAID ISSUE AS UNDER:

On Mon, 24 May 2021 at 13:24, Yashan Jokhi wrote:

“Dear TZML Admins & Humdeens,

The problems listed in the appended email requires a professional approach and advice. In my humble opinion, it would be prudent that BPP hires a reputed healthcare consultant company, to study, analyze and propose a workable solution, acceptable to statutory authorities and meeting the religious tenets. This would also involve designing the required safety procedures to be followed by doongerwadi staff, Priests and all other associates.

Secondly, in line with Surat Parsi Panchayat filing a petition to allow Dokhmenishini, BPP and other Anjumans across India should join the petition as an interested party, or file separate petitions, to strengthen the case.

Lastly, to avoid confusion on whether Burial or Cremation should be allowed on Doongerwadi lands during covid times or not, we may kindly request an opinion of our **Senior Most High Priest Dasturji Dr. Firoze M. Kotwal**, needless to mention who is respected by all other High Priests, Priests and community members round the globe. As we all know, doongerwadi land is seen as sacrosanct and established by our ancestors



for specific use of only dokhmenishini. His religious advise would put an end to this debate and allow community leaders to focus on other important aspects.

Best Wishes,
Yashan Jokhi”

IMMEDIATELY NOSHIR DADRAWALA REFUTED DASTURJI KOTWALS EXPERTISE BY RIDICULING HIS EARLIER ADVICE TO DO SACHKAR OF COVID VICTIMS WHO WAS CREMATED FACING THE DOKHMA WALLS WHICH HAD NOT BEEN SUPPORTED BY ANY OTHER HIGH PRIEST. HIS MAIL IS PASTED BELOW:

“ From: Noshir

Subject: Re: BPP Trustee - Please Ensure Dokhmenashini is Available to Parsi Covid Victims

Dear Yashan,

I wish to respond to only your last paragraph.

*"Lastly, to avoid confusion on whether Burial or Cremation should be allowed on Doongerwadi lands during covid times or not, we may kindly request an **opinion of our Senior Most High Priest Dasturji Dr. Firoze M. Kotwal**, needless to mention who is respected by all other High Priests, Priests and community members round the globe. As we all know, doongerwadi land is seen as sacrosanct and established by our ancestors for specific use of only dokhmenishini. His religious advice would put an end to this debate and allow community leaders to focus on other important aspects."*

Of course Dasturji Kotwal will say no to Burial and Cremation. Even among the Roman Catholics, few Popes have dared to bend with exigencies of time.

Yes, Dasturji Kotwal is respected by all other High Priests, Priests and community members around the globe. I personally respect him a lot for this outstanding knowledge and experience. He is a living authority on religion and rituals.

But the statement: "His religious advice would put an end to this debate and allow community leaders to focus on other important aspects" amuses me!

Only recently he suggested that two priests could perform the sachkar facing a dokhma for a victim of covid who per force is cremated. How many other High Priests, Scholar Priests and Priests supported his suggestion?

Sorry, but could not resist saying what had to be said.

Best wishes.
Noshir”

YASHAN JOKHI'S REPLY WAS CURT AND CRISP AS UNDER:

“From: Yashan Jokhi

Subject: BPP Trustee - Please Ensure Dokhmenashini is Available to Parsi Covid Victims

Dear Noshir,

For me personally, Dasturji Kotwal's opinion matters.

I shall await his response eagerly!

Good Day.
Yashan”

NOW COMES NOSHIR DADRAWALA'S STARTLING RESPONSE THAT DOKHMENASHINI IS NOT VIABLE AT DOONGERWADI GOING DIRECTLY AGAINST THE ADVICE OF THE FOUR HIGH PRIESTS AND THREE SCHOLAR PRIESTS WHO HAVE SUGGESTED HOW DOKHMENASHINI CAN BE ENSURED TO COVID VICTIMS AT OUR DOONGERWADI. NOSHIR'S CONTRARY VIEWS ARE PUBLISHED BELOW:

“From: noshir

Subject: Re: BPP Trustee - Please Ensure Dokhmenashini is Available to Parsi Covid Victims

Of course it matters.
But, you seem to be missing the point.

Oh and pardon my error. Dasturji had suggested that Geh Sarna (recital of Ahunavad Gatha) should be allowed not Sachkar.

Two priests holding Paiwand may perform Geh Sarna facing a Dokhma is what he had suggested.

In any case, his answer will be Doongerwadi is only for Dokhmenashini and we will respect that and all devout Parsis will clap their hands. Bravo. Well said Dasturji saheb!

The question is how will we consign covid cadavers to the Dokhma?

What will we tell the court and municipal authorities?

a) will the corpse be laid on the pavi sealed in the body bag and which means no Khurshed Nigerashni for the corpse?

And let's not even think about what to expect when the body bag opens or is opened or tears!

In India no permission is granted to open the body bag even for burial which we all know.

b) will the body bag be opened and the corpse laid bare on the pavi with not a single vulture around and four months on monsoon coming up.

It's easy to quote what some scholar wrote a hundred years ago. Easy to say we consigned bodies to the dokhma even during the plague.

But in those times we had vultures sitting shoulder to shoulder on Dokhma walls. Can we say that today?

Did we have Godrej Baug or Spenta Apartments and other buildings around the towers?

It's good to cherish the past. But stop living in the past. Get a grip on current reality. Face the Truth!

We will witness four months of monsoon. Very little sunlight and instead of vultures we have crows and kites by day and rodents by night. What we are suggesting is the equivalent of saying we will dispose the body in the crematorium without gas, firewood or electricity.

Let's sing Chaye Hame Zarthoshty! It will make us feel good!

We can sing it standing outside the court as well! The judge will be moved I am sure.

Noshir H Dadrawala”



ONCE AGAIN YASHAN'S RESPONSE WAS CURT AND SINCERE AS UNDER:

“On Mon, 24 May 2021 at 17:18, Yashan Jokhi wrote:

We humdeens with high hopes, are looking for solutions from trustees, to ensure dokhmenashini for covid victims. The endless email exchanges helps none.

The questions in your below email reiterates the **need for professional help**. That's my limited response to your email. All the **five trustees can sit together** and arrive at a solution.

Trustees success is entire community's success.

Summarizing the 3 points mentioned earlier:

- a) Hire healthcare service providers (if no solutions available internally).
- b) Support SPP in their battle. (an opportunity to show community unity).
- c) Consult Senior Most High priest Dasturji Kotwal Saheb in matters of confusion.

I may not be able to respond any further

today, as am off to board meetings for many hours now. We have said enough, it's time to act for all of us!. Good Luck.

Best
Yashan”

AS EXPECTED NOSHIR'S RETORT WAS SIMPLE AS HE HAD NO WAY TO EXPLAIN HOW HIS VIEWS WERE DIAMATRICALLY OPPOSITE TO WHAT THE SEVEN HIGH PRIESTS AND SCHOLAR PRIESTS HAD RECOMMENDED AS TO THE BEST WAY TO CONSIGN COVID VICTIMS AT DOONGERWADI:

BPP Trustee - Please Ensure Dokhmenashini is Available to Parsi Covid Victims

“From: Noshir - CAP

Subject: BPP Trustee - Please Ensure Dokhmenashini is Available to Parsi Covid Victims

Your Advice Accepted with gratitude!

- a) Hire healthcare service providers (if no solutions available internally).

Good idea. Any leads/suggestions in terms of names of such agencies.

Let us know after you finish with your Board Meetings,

b) Support SPP in their battle. (an opportunity to show community unity).

Goes without saying. We will support them and they will support us!

c) Consult Senior Most High priest Dasturji Kotwal Saheb in matters of confusion.

Doubtlessly. He is a Living Authority on matters of our Religion & Rituals!

I too will be off now to speak at a webinar.

Agree time now to Act.

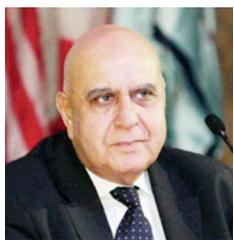
Honour and Shame from no condition Rise

Act well your part

There all honour lies!

N”

DINSHAW TAMBOLY CLARIFIES ON PRAYER HALL CONSTRUCTION AT WORLI CREMATORIUM



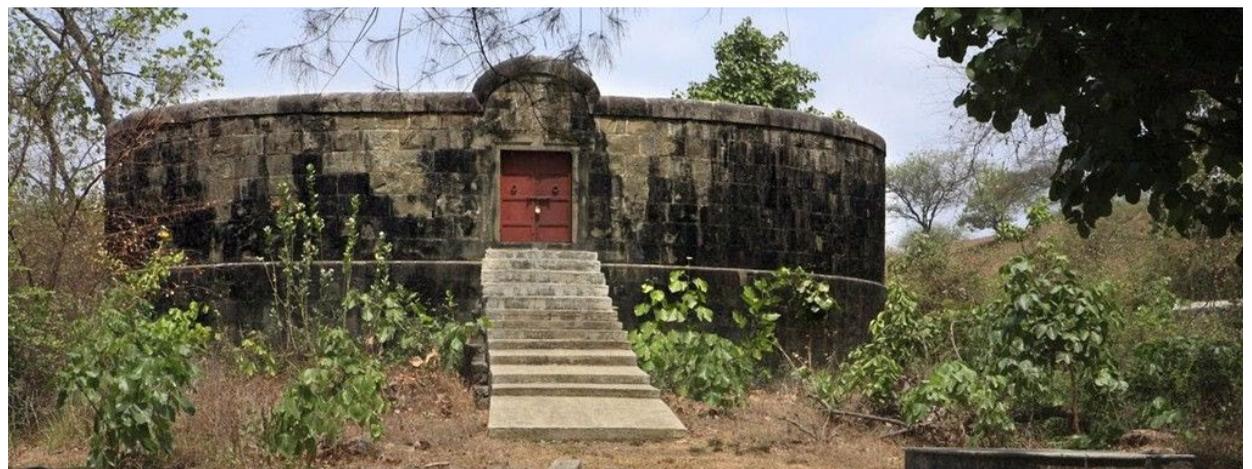
Prayer Hall From Dinshaw Tamboly on 23/05/2021 11:50 am

Dear Dinshaw,

Dinshaw K. Tamboly Today's (May 23, 2021) Parsi Junction carries articles on the issue whether Parsi's who have succumbed to Covid-19 should be allowed to be buried on Doongerwadi estate or not.

In the said articles, a couple of references have been made about the creation of the Prayer Hall at Worli, for which credit has been given to me as having been responsible for negotiating with Municipal Authorities and obtaining permission for it to be established.

It is essential for me to reiterate that the entire credit for undertaking negotiations and obtaining permissions for setting up the much needed Prayer Hall are not due to



me but to late Jamsheed Kanga and Homi Khushrokhani who both played very active and effective roles for the same.

My effective role has been to oversee the functioning of the Prayer Hall as I have always held the view that in spite of edicts from the upper echelons of the clergy, no Zoroastrian soul should be denied the efficacy of the first four days prayers whilst on its onward journey to the higher realms.

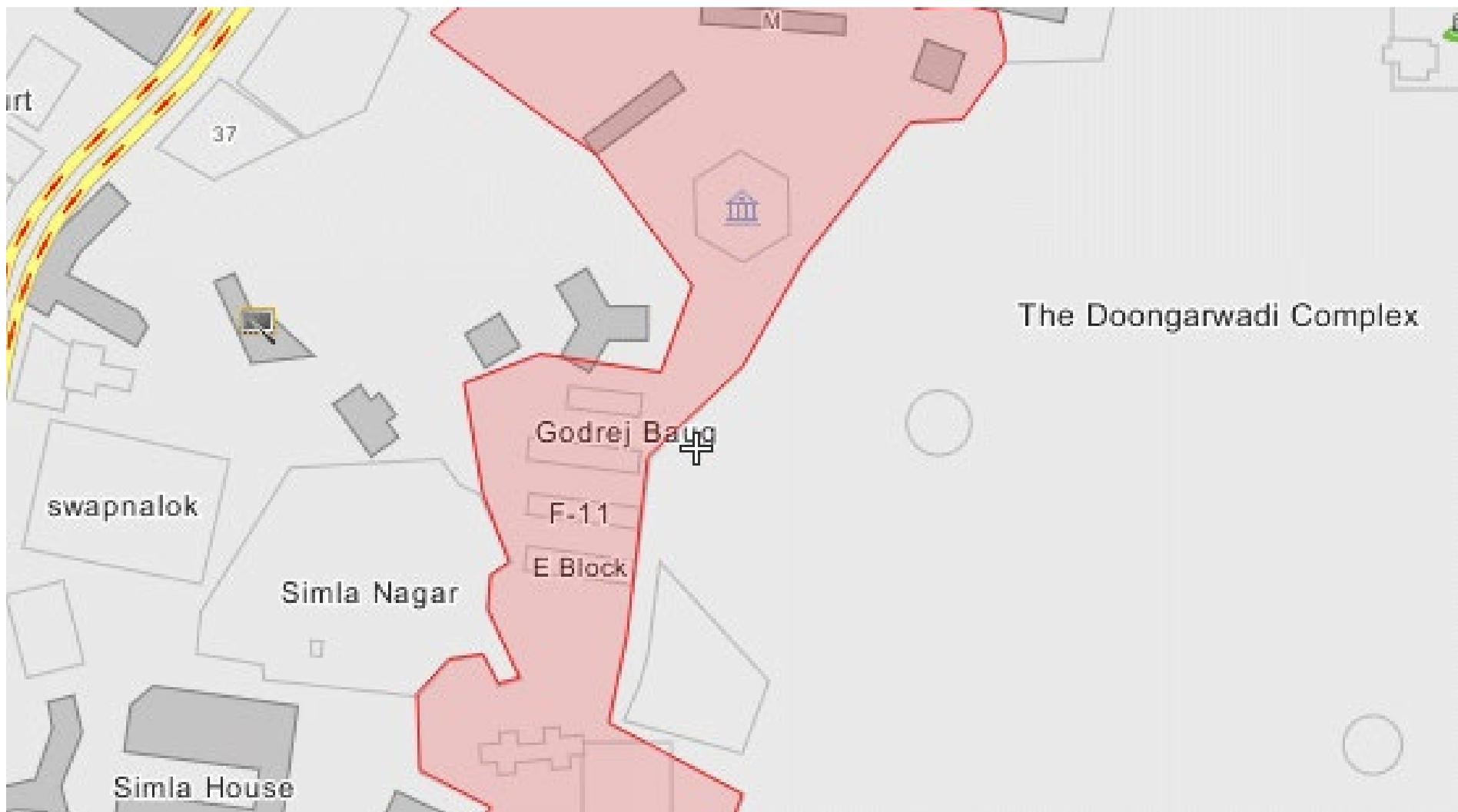
The Prayer Hall has undoubtedly been a great boon to those souls who opt for alternate methods of disposal and their families as the important and essential prayers of the first four days are performed for their onward journey.

Warm regards,

Dinshaw



TRUSTEES SEEK DETAILS OF FUNDS SPENT BY BAUG ASSOCIATIONS



As BPP Colony residents are aware, 50% of Security Charges are collected every month along with rent/license fees and service charges from every resident of the Baug and then giving its 50% share, BPP gives substantial sums every month to its Colony Association for disbursement towards security charges, housekeeping and other welfare activities of the colony.

However several complaints have been received by the Trustees of misuse of these funds by the colony Association for purposes on other matters than what the funds were given for.

In fact one of the Committee member of Godrej Baug Residents Welfare Association (GBRWA), aspiring Trustee candidate, Tehmtan Dumasia has filed a case against the other Association Committee members for misappropriation and misapplication of funds given to GBRWA by BPP for its

activities by issuing cheques in name of their committee member and then taking a percentage cash back from them. The matter is sub-judice pending investigation of their complaint.

In the meantime it is conveyed to us by Tehmtan Dumasia that GBRWA have been de-registered by the Office of the Charity Commissioner for some technical reasons and as yet their Registration has not been restored and hence all financial collections and disbursements done by the Association since the de-registration are illegal, null and void.

It is further reported to us by the same Trustee aspirant that due to the Charity Commissioner's action of de-registration, no elections have been held or can be held pending Re-registration and not due to any Covid reasons as sought to be explained by the now defunct Committee members.

In view of this complaints, the Trustees unanimously decided to send queries to the Association seeking details of the funds spent by them out of amount given to them by BPP so as to exercise a control on the funds disbursed by them to the Association.

The CEO of the BPP has written to several colony associations asking them to furnish a detailed list of where the money provided by the BPP is being spent.

While Khareghat Colony association has already complied, a report from the others is awaited.

Once Godrej Baug sends their accounts the truth of the aspersions cast upon the Committee members of Godrej Baug by Tehmtan Dumasia, most of whom are sincere and honest, will be revealed one way or the other.



PARSI JUNCTION REGRETS ERROR IN REPORTING

In the last Parsi Junction issue of 23rd May 2021, in the article on page 13 under title 'BURIAL AT DOONGERWADI', we had published the response of Ervad Rooiyintan Peshotan Peer circulating on various WhatsApp groups to the article of Vada Dasturji Khurshed Dastoor which appeared in Parsi Times of 2nd May 2021 titled 'Desperate Times Call For Desperate Measures'.

In the said article, we had reported that

"Instead, one of the self-smart Trustees (**Kersi Randeria**) tried to fob it off in his usual cavalier fashion".

It was our error that we had inadvertently reported the name in parenthesis of '**Kersi Randeria**' instead of the correct name of Trustee '**Noshir Dadrawala**', a one time Orthodox who under influence of Reformist Kersi Randeria has now changed his colours also to Reformist and is at best

a pseudo Orthodox when it suits him.

In response to our error, we have now received an email from Ervad Rooiyintan Peshotan Peer pointing out the above error which we are publishing below:

**"From: Rooiyintan Peer
Subject: Objection to PJ**

The Editor,
Parsi Junction.

Sir,

This is to draw your attention to the PJ issue dated 23rd inst.p.13, under the title 'Burial at Doongerwadi', where you have published a write-up under my name, and which is actually taken down from the social media platform.

In the third paragraph of the said write-up, a sentence occurs as "Instead, one of the

self-smart Trustees (Kersi Randeria) tried to fob it off in his usual cavalier fashion".

So please note that I have not written the name of Kersi Randeria in my original write-up, and the said name in parenthesis seems to have been inserted by you. In fact, the Trustee whom I intended in my original write-up was Shri N. H. Dadrawala, 'the erudite scholar', (according to the PJ dated 14-06-2020, p.5 onwards).

This is therefore just to put the record straight.

Yours faithfully,

Rooiyintan Peshotan Peer"

Parsi Junction acknowledges its error of wrongly reporting the name of Kersi Randeria instead of the correct name of Noshir Dadrawalla in the said article and expresses regrets for its error.

Photography

Café with a View



One of the many cafes offering a view of the thundering Parvati river in Kasol, this aptly named "River View Café" lets you sit and chill for hours on end. Time floats by while you eat, drink, snooze, repeat with no one to hurry you along. This is the kind of life that I would love to go back to anytime.



Ruby B. Aderbad

Ruby B. Aderbad works with an **MNC** in Mumbai and is an avid traveler who likes to digitally capture memories. She quotes that traveling is her drug of choice and is happily addicted to it. The mountains and jungles are her go-to places to detoxify, anything that connects her with nature.



BAHUMATA- JUNE SPECIAL FEATURES THE SPIRIT OF ZARATHUSHTRA

MARKING ZARATHUSHTRA'S LEGACY

Serving Unconditionally

(Ushtavaiti Gatha And Yasna 8.7, and 12.2, 12.3)

On Sunday, June 6, 2021
8:00 AM Pacific Time
11:00 AM Eastern Time
7:00 PM United Arab Emirates Time
7:30 PM Iran Time
8:30 PM Indian Time
3:00 PM GMT

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83408826220>

Meeting ID: 834 0882 6220
Passcode: BAHUMATA

With Immense Pride And Joy, We Would
Like To Invite You All
To Join Us For This Very Special Thought-
Inspiring Monthly Global Webinar Program

The Sixth Webinar Features The Following Global
Zarathushti Icons:

1. Mobed Soli P. Dastur (USA) - Our Featured Guest Speaker
2. Ervad Zubin Dastoor (Singapore)
3. Ervad Ushaan Turel (Hong Kong)
4. Dr. And Professor Negin Forouzesh, PhD (Iran And USA)
5. Tehmus Mistry (New Zealand)

Along With Our Very Own Zarathushti Neuro Scientist
from Cambridge University in United Kingdom
Dr. Karishma Koka, PhD
Founder, Host And Moderator of Ba Humata

Please Reserve Your Time For A Milestone
Experience Of Your Life.

<http://https://ba-humata.co.uk>



Ba Humata
Flame of Fellowship of Collective Consciousness

Please join us on Sunday 6th June 2021 in the **Ba Humata** Webinar series for a
very special webinar '**Marking Asho Zarathushtra's Legacy**'

8am PST, 11am ET, 4 pm BST, (3pm GMT), 8.30pm IST, 11pm SGT/MYT

The audience will be invited to share with Vohu Manah (good mind) how Zarathushti
prayers have helped, inspired or enabled them to have different experiences.



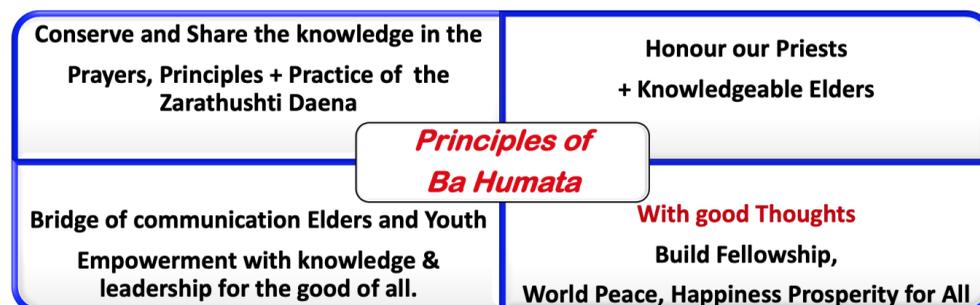
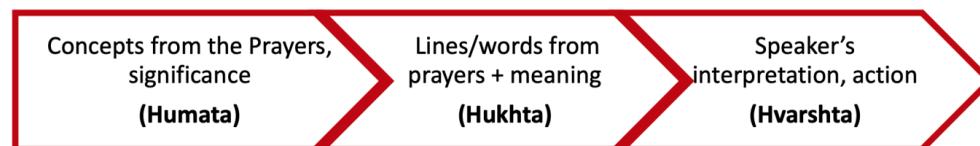
Talks relating to **Good thoughts** and **prayers with good actions** propagating
Fellowship, World Peace, Happiness (Ushta) and Prosperity for All

Marking Asho Zarathushtra's Legacy:
Serving Unconditionally
Ushtavaiti Gatha And Yasna 8.7, and 12.2, 12.3

| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  Mobed Soli P. Dastur (USA) Our Featured Guest Speaker |  Ervad Zubin Dastoor (Singapore) |  Ervad Ushaan Turel (Hong Kong) |
|  Dr. Negin Forouzesh, PhD (Iran And USA) |  Tehmus Mistry (New Zealand) |  Dr. Karishma Koka Founder & moderator |

The speakers and Biographies arranged by Mr. Meher Amalsad - Mentor and Facilitator

Ba Humata Talks



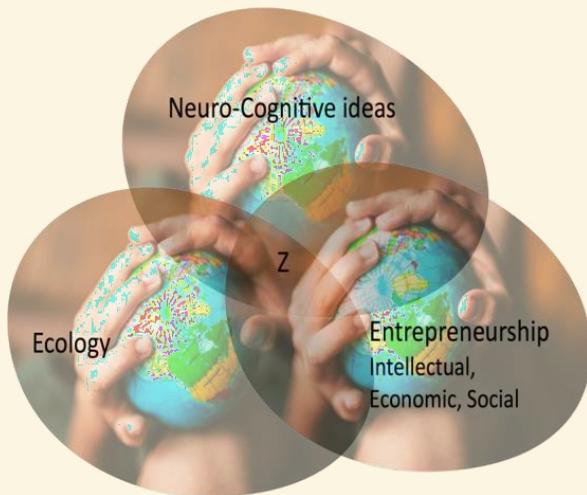
Technical support by Mr. Yazdi Tantra.
Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83408826220> Passcode **BAHUMATA**

**FROM: MEHER AMALSAD, WESTMINSTER, CALIFORNIA, USA
PLEASE JOIN US AND SHARE THIS TO SUPPORT
OUR ZOROASTRIAN PRESENCE
IN THE UNITED NATIONS**

Ba-Humata Discussion

A Webinar and Discussion to share the inspiring Zoroastrian Perspective with the UN and the World as we prepare for World Environment Day together.

A Zoroastrian Perspective for Sustainable Development of the World
Perspectives from the doctrine



**Come, join us on
Sunday , 30th May 2021**

**8am PST, 11am ET, 4pm GMT,
8.30pm IST, 11pm SGT**

Co-ordinated by Karishma Koka (PhD, Neuroscience), founder Ba Humata

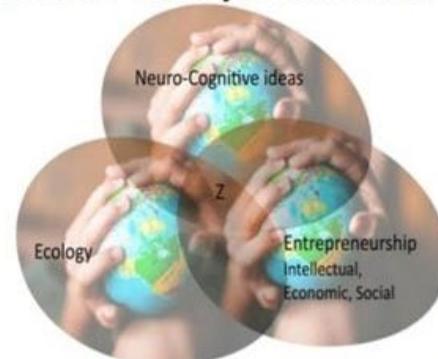
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87360419580>

Meeting ID: 873 6041 9580 Passcode:
GOODMIND

**Please join us on the Sun, 30th May 2021
at 8am PST, 11am ET, 4pm GMT, 8.30pm IST, 11pm SGT**

**“The Good Mind - Nurturing Nature”
a Zoroastrian Perspective for
Sustainable Development of the World.**



Perspectives from the Doctrine

A Webinar and Discussion to share the inspiring Zoroastrian Perspective with the UN and the World as we prepare for World Environment Day together.
Respect and love for Ecology are fundamental to Zoroastrianism.

Short talks by

**Ervad Dr. Ramiyar Karanjia (PhD), Mrs. Jer Panthaki RamMohan,
Mobed Zarrir Bhandara, Noshir Dadrawala, Mobed Zerkxis Bhandara,
Holistic overview by Ervad Dr. Jehan Bagli**

**Short talks by Dr. Hanoz Santoke and Mr. Edul Daver
Followed by a talk and video by Dr. Rashneh Pardiwala
Thoughts from Mobed Mehraban Firouzgary**

**Enabled by www.Zoroastrians.net Mr. Yazdi Tantra
Please share widely with your Friends and the whole World**

Co-ordinated by Karishma Koka (PhD, Neuroscience), founder Ba Humata

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Meeting ID: 873 6041 9580 Passcode: GOODMIND



Jiyo Parsi: Sunday Specials

Team Jiyo Parsi is always on its toes even more so in these times of difficulty. We started with providing free tele counselling to all citizens to reduce anxiety during the lockdown. We moved on to the highly popular Friday Forum which are entertaining, educative and interactive sessions with achievers from the Parsi community in all fields. Tambola and Fun evenings to keep our community members mentally active and entertained are also being organised online. Recently Jiyo Parsi has even sponsored a Summer Camp for Parsi youth. Thus Team Jiyo Parsi has focussed on many aspects of online Advocacy to help alleviate the burden faced by all due to the pandemic.

A recent online event that the Team is organizing is Sunday Special -Interactive sessions on the Zoom platform to address issues related to the pandemic like mental and physical wellbeing, exercises and other issues. Professionals from different fields volunteer their time on Sunday mornings to share their knowledge and expertise with the viewers.



Dr. Kersi Chavda

For the first Sunday Special on 25th April 2021 we managed to have the Renowned Consulting Psychiatrist, **Dr. Kersi Chavda** share his views. Dr. Chavda spoke about how one can best deal with the current situation. There is a lot of negativity and anxiety with death and other losses being faced. He started the talk with what we earlier thought of the pandemic.....working from home, kids not going to school, etc more time to ourselves, family bonding, but the reality has turned out to be something else. Working parents, childrens' school classes, older generation living together now had to adjust to all being at home and they had to let go of their TV viewing time and other activities as the rest of the members were busy, and they

couldn't make any noise. Outside help was not allowed and so the onus of the housework too fell on the family members. What started as a novelty, family bonding and fun activity soon turned into a very frustrating exercise as there was no end in sight. The uncertainty of it all created a great deal of anguish. Dr. Chavda started a number of help lines for people to manage in times of the pandemic. After nearly 8-9 months when things became a little better, people started feeling a little optimistic and we saw glimpses of our lifestyles making a comeback. And then the 2nd wave struck....far deadlier than the 1st one. A lot more people were getting affected. Anxiety is the most important emotion which needed to be handled. Anxiety affects every member of the family. Over a period of time this gets into shades of nagging. This in turn brings in depression. The online scenario was a blessing as we could have a modicum of normalcy and do a few things. A feeling of connectedness helps to react better and seek people out. This helps us go a long way to overcome depression. We also need to do sensible things and do something for ourselves. Take care of self so that we can look after others. Many tips were shared by Dr Chavda which could help people to deal with the present situation in a positive manner.



Dr. Mazda Turel

For the next Sunday Special on 9th May 2021 the guest speaker was **Dr. Mazda Turel**, a renowned neurosurgeon. Due to the lockdown many people are facing issues of pain and stiffness in the back and neck due to the long hours on laptops and mobiles. The talk focussed on many aspects relating to the structure of the brain, causes of headaches, types of headaches and which types of headaches need immediate medical attention. He shared the fact that infertility which does not responded to any kind of ART could be

due to a tumour on the pituitary gland which controls hormones related to pregnancy. Red flags for strokes were discussed and the need for immediate medical attention in emergency ward of a hospital without wasting time even to consult a general physician was stressed upon. The other topic discussed was tips on how to improve memory and remain mentally sharp. Lowering weight and calorie intake, stress and saturated fats and at the same time increasing exercise like walking for 45 minutes daily, adequate restful sleep and Omega 3 fatty acids intake would help in improving overall quality of life. Neck and spine exercises were explained by Dr Turel. These were highly appreciated by the audience who requested for more details.



Dr. Danesh Chinoy

The next Sunday Special on 23rd May 2021 was presented by **Dr. Danesh Chinoy** who is a well-known Sports physiotherapist and Psychologist. He shared his knowledge and experience about health, diet and nutrition. He urged the viewers to take responsibility of their health in their own hands. If people continue over feeding themselves with wrong food and indulge in very little exercise one day their body will give up on them and multiple diseases could reduce the quality of their lives. He also shared breathing exercises to increase lung capacity which can help during the pandemic. Tips of diet and lifestyle changes were also shared with the viewers.

These interactive sessions are appreciated by the viewers and assist them to deal with the



current situation. Team Jiyo Parsi continues to plan and organize innovative sessions for all their enthusiastic viewers.

**Article by Pearl Mistry
Counsellor Jiyo Parsi**

Parzor

JIYO PARSI FRIDAY FORUM PRESENTS

Building Theobroma

IN CONVERSATION WITH
THE MESSMAN FAMILY

Tina Messman Wykes

Kainaz Messman Harchandrai

Kamal Messman

moderated by

Delna Mistry Anand
Family Friend and
Meditation and
Well-Being coach

FRIDAY
4 JUNE 2021
6-7 PM IST

YouTube LIVE
@PARZORFOUNDATION

zoom
MEETING ID: 990 252 6711
PASSCODE: JIYOPARSI

LIVE
4 June 2021
Timing: 6 pm onwards

Come, let's enjoy some sweet moments with the Theobroma Trio, Ms. Kamal Messman, Matriarch who started in the 90s making brownies, cakes and desserts from home. A self-taught cook and entrepreneur, she's the original baker.

Ms. Kainaz Messman Harchandrai, Creative Director and driving force behind their expansion.

Ms. Tina Messman Wykes who shared and believed in the dream and helped to realize it.

From Our Home to Yours, in conversation with Ms. Delna Mistry Anand, a close friend of the Messmans', Dubai based Meditation and Wellness Coach and a dedicated Chocoholic.

Together they will take you on their journey in 'Building Theobroma' on June 4th 2021, 6 pm IST onwards.

Join us on Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9902526711?pwd=bnJKbnFhV2NBdUJ3NFJlbnNoSUtTdz09>

Meeting ID: 990 252 6711
Passcode: jiyoparsi