



# Zoroastrian Association of California

## June 2010

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### 2010-2011 Executive Committee

President – Vira Santoke      Vice President – Tehmi Damania      Treasurer – Rooky Fitter  
Joint Secretaries – Persis Choksy & Sheila Madon      Program Chair – Lily Mistry  
Youth Coordinator – Mehernosh Gundevia

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### **NEW ZAC HALL OPENING CEREMONY - A day to remember** **1424 E. WALNUT AVE. ORANGE, CA** **SUNDAY, JULY 18, 2010 @10 am**

JASHAN (starting at 10 am)  
FELICITATIONS  
LUNCH (Dhun-dar & Patyo)

We would like each and every one of you to partake of this very joyous and much-anticipated occasion. Please join us as we give thanks and celebrate the acquisition of our new ZAC hall. We suggest the wearing of saris and duglis, in order to give the occasion a more 'traditional' feel. We are in need of volunteers for Ravo, Malido, fruits and nuts. **Please contact Sheila: 858.675.1017** if you will be attending or would like to volunteer.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

### **KARAOKE EVENING (Fundraiser)**

Sunday, July 25, 2010

Woodlands Restaurant, Banquet Hall

Tickets \$25 (tax deductible donation) Price includes Parsi Dhansak Dinner

(For tickets and information call:

Farida- 661-298-8554, Hilla – 760-494-3045,

Rooky – 714-840-7398 or Woodlands – 562-860-6500

## HALL UPDATE

We are forming a Hall Maintenance Sub Committee for the Center and need all interested members to volunteer if they wish to be added to the committee. Based on the number of people volunteering and their expertise and qualifications, we will form a committee to carry out the day-to-day operations of Center. People with knowledge in electrical, plumbing, construction, painting, gardening and landscaping who are willing to offer their services should step forward. Volunteers should take into account their own personal circumstances (like distance to the Center, time restraints, health, etc) before making this commitment to join. This is going to be a "hands-on" working committee. There may be experienced members of the community who may not be able to be part of the committee but whose knowledge and advice will be very valuable nevertheless. The committee will welcome suggestions and advise from these people without their obligation to serve on the sub-committee. Please send in your name, phone number and field of expertise by email to **hallcommittee@zacla.org**. We will respond to each and every one of you in due course.

It has been suggested by members that the fund-raising continue to repay the bridge loan taken to purchase the property to enable us to make the necessary repairs and upgrades to the property as soon as possible and to support the ongoing maintenance of the hall. We have come up with a possible way to this by members making voluntary contributions on a monthly or annual basis for this purpose. We are requesting each member to pay \$10 per month or \$20 per family as the suggested minimum. In order to cut down on credit card charges and time spent on these transactions, we will discount annual minimum payments to \$100 per member or \$220 per family. This is a suggested minimum only and higher amounts will be greatly appreciated. Members who volunteer to pay for the upkeep will be paying a lower entry to paid functions in future.

Please fill in the attached form with your choice of amount and payment option. We will be able to form our budget once we know how much the community is committing to annually. **Please send your check & form to: Rooky Fitter, 4611 Stellrecht, Huntington Beach, CA 92649.**

We are trying to compile a list of past committees and we need your help. We request all members who have served on past executive committees to send us their name, position held and years in which they served. If you served multiple positions in more than one committee, we want all the info. If you know someone who served with you and is no longer living in the area, please let us know. Please email the information to [committee@zacla.org](mailto:committee@zacla.org).

If you have any skills and would like to share them with other members, please contact any member of the committee. We already have Tehemtán Arjani who has offered to start bridge classes for adults; Armaity Irani who has offered to teach sewing and beadwork to our youngsters and Noshir Jesung, who will once again resume the very popular Gujarati and Art classes now that we have a place of our own.

Many thanks to all who helped clean up the center on Memorial Day weekend. We got a lot done, and would like to see more youngsters volunteer to help clean the hall, parking lot and garden, especially now that summer's here.

A film screening of Tenaz Dubash's film: "**Crisis in Faith: Zoroastrians Today**" with the film-maker Tenaz in attendance on Friday, June 25 at the CZC hall in Westminster. Movie at 8 p.m. Light refreshments will be served before the screening.

ZAC, CZC and ZANC are jointly bringing Tenaz to California to show this film which focuses on the challenges facing the Zoroastrian community in North America.

More details about the movie and Tenaz are available on [www.tenazdubash.com](http://www.tenazdubash.com)

## **WISH LIST**

As you all know, our hall is unfurnished and has no kitchen set up. We need donors for the following items to begin with. We would be very grateful for anything from this list you wish to donate.

Please contact Lily Mistry: [dmistry@cox.net](mailto:dmistry@cox.net)/949.559.5809 if you can buy, or would like to make a cash donation towards a particular item.

10 English prayer books

10 Gujarati prayer books

Afarganu

Chipyo

White chaadars

Cleaning Supplies

Janitorial Supplies

Folding tables and chairs

### **Kitchen Supplies:**

Chest freezer

Commercial stove w/oven

Refrigerator

Utensils

Kitchen Cabinets

Power washer

### **Electronics:**

TV/DVD player

PA sound system

Projector

Screen

Printer/Copier

Computers

### **Youth List:**

Basketball

Table Tennis Table/racquets

Games

Big Notice board

### **We are also in urgent need of the following:**

Painting (along with paint supplies)

Garden clean up

Bathroom repairs/Toilets replacement

Tiling

Carpet replacement

Car park restoration

Cable/Phone/WiFi connection

Maintenance Contracts for: Cleaning, Landscaping, HVAC /heating, etc.

## **CONGRATULATIONS:**

**Cyrus Cursetji** was born June 13<sup>th</sup> to Zeus and Kashmir. Zenaira welcomes her little brother into the world!

**Christopher Khavarian** received the J.E. Wallace Sterling Award at Stanford University. This prestigious award recognizes a senior whose undergraduate activities demonstrate the strong potential for continued service to the University and the alumni community. Khavarian was cited for “the uncommon grace, sustained commitment and exceptional standards with which he has approached his many Stanford pursuits” and for “the passion that permeates all his efforts.”

## **CONGRATULATIONS ALSO TO OUR YOUNG GRADUATES:**

**Cyrus Dadachanji** (Drexel University, College of Medicine)

**Mehernosh Gundevia** (University of California, Irvine)

**Alysha Madon** (University of California, Irvine)

**Rohan Madon** (Rancho Bernardo High School)

**Ava Master** (University of California, San Diego)

**Mahfrin Santoke** (Cal State University, Long Beach)

**Anahita Sidhwa** (University of California, Irvine)

**Eric Tarapore** (Chino Hills High School)

**Karl Taraporewala** (University of California, Los Angeles)

## **APPEAL:**

The Colabewalas are in dire need of financial assistance. If you can help please contact Rukshana: 562.809.6215 (day) / 714.512.6220.

**The story of Mushkel Aasan can now be obtained from the website:**  
<http://www.avesta.org/other/mishfinl.pdf>

## **CONDOLENCES:**

**Mrs. Freny Noshir Dastur**, mother of Yasmin Gundevia, mother in law of Phiroze Gundevia and grandmother of Mehernosh and Rayomand Gundevia, passed away on April 16, in Pune. She will be remembered lovingly by all her children, their spouses and her grandchildren.

**Phiroze Bhatena**, father of Diana (Ron), Rukhshana (Merzi), Grandfather of Karl, Rishad, Jehan and Zena passed away in Mumbai on May 22<sup>nd</sup> after a brief illness.

**Mrs. Kety Ratanshaw Antia** widow of late Ratanshaw Navroji Antia and mother of Meher Rustomji and Navroz Antia, mother-in-law of Sam Rustomji, grandmother of Neville, late Cherag, Cyrus and Nilufer passed away at 89 years of age (after a week in ICU in Mumbai).

**Piloo M. Lakdawalla**, loved husband of Florence, beloved brother of Noshir and brother-in-law of Rhoda. Adored Uncle of Shernaz (Plano, TX), Pervin and Darius, passed away peacefully on May 15, 2010 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Piloo was a kind and generous man who valued family and his own community above all else. He spent much of his life serving the Parsis of Colombo as Trustee of the Anjuman Trust Fund with honesty and integrity. He doted on his two nieces and nephew, whom he cared for as his own. His many students who he taught in the MBA program after his retirement as executive of the Central Bank of Ceylon; many of whom won medals under his tutelage, will also miss him dearly. Piloo was 75 years old.

**Godrej Kaikobad Chichgar** passed away in Mumbai, India. He was father of Maneck (Pervin) and Rohinton (Shehernavaz), grandfather of Zubin (Ferzin), Manashni & Vaspaan, and greatgrandfather to Yashna.

## **UPDATES:**

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

AUGUST 21<sup>ST</sup> 2010 WILL BE OUR PATETI FUNCTION.  
VENUE/DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.

### **NORTH AMERICAN ZARTHUSTI CONGRESS:**

The 15th North American Zarthushti Congress will be held in Houston, from Dec. 29-31, 2010. The benchmark of a successful congress is the quality of its program, the variety of offerings, the number of attendees and the spectacular entertainment. The Program Committee has judiciously selected speakers keeping in mind the variety of offerings in the field of religion, culture, history and preservation of old manuscripts, and issues relating to youth. The theme is: ***Preserve the Past, Protect the Present and Perfect the Future.*** The registration form can be found at their website [http://zah.org/nazc-10/registration\\_form.htm](http://zah.org/nazc-10/registration_form.htm). Early-bird registration ends on June 30, 2010.

***This is your newsletter. If you have any announcements such as weddings, navjotes, births, deaths, graduations, etc., please let the committee know so we can print the information in our newsletter. We would also love to honor all our grads! If you would like to be on our e-mail broadcast list, please inform Vira: [vsantoke@zacla.org](mailto:vsantoke@zacla.org). We often need to share urgent information with members and there isn't time to wait until the next newsletter. Please make sure your Spam blocker "allows" ZAC e-mails.***

***We would also like all our youth to fill the form on the website and enroll, so you get to hear about the latest activity from our youth coordinator.***