



UNCTION

Committed to Transparency and Accountability

PARSI JUNCTION WISHES ALL PARSI/IRANI ZOROASTRIANS A VERY HAPPY AND SAFE NEW YEAR WITH MANY MORE TO COME

Congratulations to the New Chairman of the BPP - Mrs. Armaity Rustom Tirandaz



Armaity Tirandaz

On Tuesday, Dec 29, 2020 at a specially convened Board meeting, the BPP Board of Trustees accepted the resignation of Mr. Yazdi Desai, submitted to the Trust last week due to health reasons.

With Mr. Desai's departure, Mrs. Tirandaz is now the senior-most Trustee of the BPP.

Mrs. Armaity Rustom Tirandaz was **unanimously** elected by her colleagues as the new Chairman of the BPP.

In 1974, Lady Hirabai Cowasjee Jehangir became the first woman to Chair the BPP. Mrs Tirandaz would now be the second.

We wish Mrs. Tirandaz all the success in her new role as Chairman of the BPP.

- Team Parsi Junction

ISHERING NEW BEGINNINGS

Let me begin by wishing everyone a happy, prosperous safe new and year. The agony of lockdown has indeed been overwhelming. With the Covid19 vaccine around the corner, we can hope that the worst is behind us.



Viraf D. Mehta

2020 has been a year most would like to forget. We've all had more than our fair share of anxiety, grief, surprises and disappointment. When the lockdown was announced on March 24, none of us knew what to expect or when any of this would end. Being part of an essential service, I have had to go to work everyday since the lock down. The first day I drove to work I was the only car on the road. A truly eery experience. During the lockdown I was fortunate that my basic safety needs as well as food were taken care of. However, it made me ask myself "what about the not so fortunate from our community?".

I am proud to say that the BPP stepped in like the apex body that it is and took on the mammoth task to look after our poor and needy. We set up whatsapp groups for each colony, filled with volunteers who very selflessly offered their services and were the true saviours for our elderly.

The BPP became the guardian of our community and helped many with monthly food and medical supplies for anyone in need including the elderly. Financial aid was not only provided our mobed community but even to those whose income was affected due to the lock-down. The highlight was the kitchen we set up in Cama Baug from which we served over 5000 meals for free in the month of May.

During the lockdown, the Trustees held weekly/ bi-weekly conference calls to coordinate all of this. In fact since July itself, the Trustees have had over 50 Board meetings on Zoom to ensure that our colonies are safe for its residents. Mrs. Armaity Tirandaz chaired each of these meetings and with her finesse, she steered the BPP to accolades by one and all with her handling of affairs during the pandemic.

Had 2020 not been bad enough, in June 2020 we lost our colleague Trustee Zarir Bhathena and thereafter in December 2020 our Chairman Yazdi Desai resigned as Trustee and Chairman due to health reasons he has been suffering from since April 2020. I sincerely wish Mr. Desai a speedy recovery. These incidents are a constant reminder to us that nothing can be taken for granted.

On 29th July 2020 the Trustees by majority considering the difficulties faced by our community members due to the covid effect discontinued the levy of additional service charges of Rs. 750/ pm levied from February 2017 in spite of the cash crunch faced by the Trust.

The Trustees in August 2020 moved the High Court for exemption to pray at Doongerwadi which the High Court allowed for 200 grieving families who had recently lost their near and dear ones to pray for their souls at Doongerwadi.

Due to the massive landslide at Hughes Road and Ridge Road right from lower bungli at Doongerwadi right down to Peddar Road and Hughes Road leading to complete disruption of water supply to most parts of D Ward. Once again our Board under leadership of Armaity Tirandaz rose to the occasion and permitted BMC to temporarily lay 2 feet diameter water pipes all above ground for its easy removal from the Reservoir at Malabar Hill next to our Ambavadi down to Hughes Road. BMC did a masterly job of working round the clock and restored water to all the affected areas within four days of the calamity.

Since elections for Mr. Bathena's vacancy should have been held before 23rd September 2020 under the provisions of the Election Scheme, once again High Court had to be moved for extension of time due the stringent effects of the Covid pandemic, and the High Court approved the extension and allowed BPP to hold the elections by 23rd March 2021.

And since Yazdi Desai submitted his resignation a few days back, we can now conduct elections for two seats, saving about Rs. 40 lakhs cost for each election.

With all these developments and inspite of the covid new strain causing anxiety to one and all, the BPP elections are back and unfortunately as history has shown, we have always seen that these elections bring out the worst of many. If anyone has been going through the Parsi media last few weeks, you will see a barrage of vile attacks against my family, my father and myself. It has been quite shocking to see the level to which a handful of paid armchair critics have been making derogatory

statements towards my family. Sadly, chivalry is dead. Even my mother has not been spared by these vile elements in our community and as very distasteful comments have also been written on these groups against the women in my family.

These whatsApp warriors have done nothing for the benefit of our community except spread acrimony and distrust amongst us. Each one has vested interests to do so and sadly very unfortunately drag the name of our community down with them. They have lost their parsipanu andit istime we stand up to these clowns and show them the damage they are doing to the upcoming generations.

Being the youngest Trustee on this Board, I interact with all age groups and it hurts me when I hear the impression our community members have of the BPP and other community members questioning why Parsis are their own biggest enemies. The good work done by this Board is lost because of the one--upmanship and egos of some trustees.

We need to look at the larger picture. We have to let go of the past as the institution of the BPP is bigger than everyone.

There is much to be done:

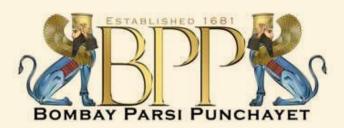
- Between the Godrej Baug ownership building, Navsari ownership building and the HPCL settlement, the BPP can be flushed with at least 300 crores.
- We are looking into another ownership building in Cusrow Baug
- Redevlopement projects in Bharucha Baug, Panthaky Baug, Contractor Baug, Nirlon, Dhunbai Wadi are on the cusp to be kick-started
- ... the list goes on

The BPP has the ability toachieve great things. I can confidently say that all it takes is a few months of working together as a team for the trustees to achieve tasks that were set seven years ago.

With the resignation of Mr. Yazdi Desai last week, the Board unanimously elected Mrs. Armaity Tirandaz as the new Chairman of the BPP. Given her track record of the last six months, I am hopeful for great things over the next two years along with two new colleagues who will be joining the BPP from 23rd March 2021. I pray that the new team brings about a new era for the BPP and I can proudly state that I am a Trustee of the Apex Body of our community.

To new beginnings. Happy New Year!

Viraf D. Mehta **Trustee, BPP**



PUBLIC NOTICE

BOMBAY PARSI PUNCHAYET ANNOUNCES SCHEDULE FOR TRUSTEES ELECTION UNDER THE UNIVERSAL ADULT FRANCHISE SCHEME

Owing to the vacancy created by the demise of Trustee Late Mr. Zarir M. Bhathena and the resignation of Chairman Mr. Yazdi Hosi Desai, Elections for the post of two Trustees of the Bombay Parsi Punchayet, will be held as per the below mentioned Election Schedule.

As per Clause No. 14 of the Scheme for Election, any person who shall at the time of Election be a member of the Parsi Community, of not less than 30 years of age (this restriction of age does not apply to any Candidate who has attained the age of 25 years and whom a majority of not less than 2/3rds of the members of the Anjuman Committee desire to be so exempted by a written requisition to the Trustees) and who shall have been Proposed and Seconded by members of the Anjuman Committee i.e. General member or Donor member, are eligible to stand as Candidates.

Such candidates have to fill in the prescribed form (available from the Bombay Parsi Punchayet's Office), accompanied by a cash deposit of Rs. 5000/-. The deposit shall stand forfeited, if the candidate fails to secure at least 5% of the total votes cast at such an election.

All those members on the General Register and Donor Register, who have so far not collected their Certificates, are requested to collect their respective Certificates to be eligible to exercise their franchise. If the Certificate has been lost or destroyed, members on the General Register and Donor Register can apply before 10-03-2021 for a duplicate certificate, application for which has to be filled in a prescribed form along with payment of a fee of Rs.10/-. As per the Scheme in force, Members on the General Register and Donor Register will be allowed to vote only on production of their respective Certificates. No Certificate will be allowed to be collected after 12-03-2021 (5.15 P.M.).

The Registers will be frozen as on 13-01-2021 (at 5.15 P.M.). Only those Members whose names appear on the General Register and the Donor Register, as on **13-01-2021**, will have voting right at the forthcoming Election.

If nomination is received from only two candidates, in accordance with the sanctioned Scheme, such candidates will be declared duly elected.

In the event of there being more than two candidates, an Election will be conducted as per the schedule given hereunder:

SCHEDULE OF ELECTIONS

Sr. No.	EVENT	DATES
1	Members as on effective date (5.15 P.M.)	13-01-2021
2	Availability of final list of Members on the General / Donor Register on payment of	18-01-2021
	charges of Rs.300/- per CD.	
3	Nomination Forms for Trustees Elections will be issued and accepted from	18-01-2021
4	Last date for filing Nominations to Trustees Elections (5.15 P.M.)	01-02-2021
5	Last date of withdrawal of Nomination (5.15 P.M.)	16-02-2021
6	Publishing of the names of Candidates	20-02-2021/ 21-02-2021

7	Last date to apply for a duplicate certificate	10-03-2021
8	Last date for collecting Member Certificate or its Duplicate (5.15 p.m.)	12-03-2021

9 Election on 14-03-2021 at the following 5 centres from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

i. Cusrow Baug, Colaba.

ii. Khareghat Memorial Hall, Khareghat Colony, Hughes Rd.

iii. Dadar Parsee Gymkhana, Dadar.

iv. Rustom Baug, Byculla.

v. Sir Shapurji Bharucha Baug, Andheri (West).

Declaration of Election results by Scrutinizers and President latest by

Result to be published on the Notice Board of the Bombay Parsi Punchayet latest by

14-03-2021

15-03-2021

12 Result to be published in Newspapers latest by 20-03-2021/21-03-2021

13 The new elected Trustees will assume Office at 12 Noon on 18-3-2021

N.B.

1) A member can exercise his/ her voting right at any one of the voting centres on the date specified above.

- 2) Certificates collected on production of Authority Letter by a third party should have the member's signature duly attested either by a Notary or Special Executive Officer. Members whose certificates are not attested will not be allowed to vote.
- 3) In case of there being a tie, in the number of votes cast between two candidates, Rule 21(C)(xv) of the Scheme would apply and the date of the result would be deferred by 4 days. In such an event the declaration of the result on the Notice Board of the B.P.P. would be declared on 15-03-2021 and the same would be published in the Newspapers.
- 4) Members of the General & Donor Register who have been issued two or more separate certificates (one issued earlier and the other taken subsequently) can vote only once and only one certificate will be treated as valid.
- 5) Voters must bring along with them Photo Proof of their Identity e.g. Passport, Driving license, Aadhaar Card, PAN Card, Senior Citizen Card.
- 6) Voters have to elect two Trustees by pressing the button against the names of the candidate they wish to elect on the Electronic Voting Machine. (They can select only two).
- 7) LAMINATED CERTIFICATES WILL BE ALLOWED TO BE USED BY VOTERS. In such cases, the Staff has been instructed to punch the certificates at a pre-determined spot, instead of Signing them.
- 8) As per Clause 4(d) of the Scheme for the Election of the Trustees each Donor Member vote would be counted / treated as two votes. However, the donors have to press the button only once against each of their selected names of the candidates.
- 9) Voters should note that only those certificates bearing the caption 'General Register' or 'Donor Register' would be treated as valid.

It is further notified that the full list of registered members on the General Register and Donor Register eligible to vote for the forthcoming Trustees Election is available on the Web and members can verify their enrolment or otherwise on the net address which is **www. bppvoterslist.org**

By Order of the Trustees Bombay Parsi Punchayet

"A few Stray thoughts and a few general observations, all my own work," for the first weekend of 2021!



Phiroze Amroliwalla

In the words of my late dear friend 'Busybee', "A few Stray thoughts and a few general observations, all my own work," for the first weekend of

While wishing one and all a very Happy 2021 and beyond, I repeat what I had said in last week's Parsi Junction that **UNITY** is the need of the hour for our community and especially for the BPP and its Board.

Happily, the PJ and the PT are united on this sentiment expressed yesterday by the Editor of the PT in her editorial. If only the owner of PT adopted some of the suggested writings of the Editor and put into practice what the Editor and some of her columnists write week after week! But some never learn or maybe their ego is larger than life!

Though the community was aware of the ill-health of Chairman Yazdi Desai, one had hoped he would recover and resume his responsibility. There was a mutual understanding and admiration between us and I was therefore disappointed to hear about his resignation. One can now pray that Yazdi recovers completely and is able to resume his other family and business responsibilities.

With his resignation, it was the right thing for the board to **unanimously** elect Mrs. Armaity Rustom Tirandaz as Chairman and our Hearty Congratulations to Mrs. Armaity Rustom Tirandaz who till December 29, was grudgingly and sarcastically referred to as 'Acting' Chairman!

With Yazdi's resignation and the vacancy caused earlier by the sad and the untimely demise of Zarir Bhathena there will be elections for two seats of BPP Trusteeship. As announced these are scheduled for March 14, 2021.

A sincere effort towards UNITY should be made by avoiding elections and allowing two worthies to join the Board unopposed. Is this possible?

An emphatic YES is an answer!

In the first place the pandemic, which is NOT likely to disappear by March 2021 despite the vaccine being around the corner, if the surge in some other countries is any indication. Our elderly and seniors, who are the main ones who are still interested in voting for our 'Akabars' are not likely to risk themselves by venturing out. Secondly, the BPP and thereby the community can and will save a huge sum badly needed by the trust for more constructive use. Had it been a single seat due to Yazdi's resignation, then there was not an iota of a doubt that Anahita would walk in, most probably unopposed. It is true the undersigned had earlier opposed her candidature but that was only due to the principled stand of a husband and wife serving together on our community trust! The undersigned is now better acquainted with some facts which came to light later, of the humane qualities of this husband and wife duo as well as the principled stand taken by Yazdi before he was afflicted. I have therefore

unequivocally extended support wholeheartedly.

However, in the present scenario, there is every likelihood of a contest for the second seat. A little bird has whispered, not Tweeted, of a likelihood of another Desai in the running too. The community will know of it sooner than later! Maybe if three Mistry's could work in harmony then why not two Desai's? But one should not forget that the three Mistry's along with a single Desai almost disabled if not displaced the then Chairman!

Finally, the first step towards UNITY would be to stop this Majority/Minority tussle on the board. This is possible if the board functions as a team and power is not concentrated in the hands of any ONE individual. Trustees must apply their own minds to every issue. Trustees are elected for their own individual qualities, experience, expertise, and above all integrity! Finally, no trustee should claim immunity for his actions outside the board even if they pertain to his personal or business dealings as these too reflect and cast their shadow on the individual and the community which elected him/her in the first place, as happened in the now famous, (or is it infamous) Vikram Jagdale episode.

At all times they must maintain a just, fair, and proper balance between their responsibility towards the Trust Properties and funds, as also the beneficiaries for which these trusts were created.

May better sense prevail. The community looks forward to a better 2021 and the years to come!

Phiroze Amroliwalla For and on behalf of our KOM-UNITY.

TRIP TO LADAKH



Ruby B. Aderbad

On a trip to Ladakh, on the way to Tsokar, I was trying to capture the beautiful landscape from a moving car when I spotted these gorgeous Kiangs (wild asses). Their noble presence added to the untouched splendor of this mountainous region, and I couldn't resist taking a quick photo. Ladakh is a photographers delight and each and every frame can be termed as a "Postcard from heaven".



Ruby B. Aderbad works with an MMC 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.

Two Critically Injured in Fire at Panthaki Baug in Andheri, Mumbai



Two persons were injured in a fire that broke out at Mehta building in Panthaki Baug in Mumbai's Andheri East late on Wednesday.

The fire broke out on the first floor of the four-storey building on Andheri-Kurla Road.

According to fire brigade officials, the injured were identified as Yohan Irani (17), who was admitted to Citi Care hospital and Naushad Chapgar (83), admitted to the civic-run Cooper hospital with 60% burns.

Doctors said that both of them were stable and under treatment.

Officials said that the fire broke out at around 11pm on Wednesday night and was brought under control at around 11.45pm.

IT IS REPORTED THAT THE SINGLE SENIOR CITIZEN STAYING IN THE FLAT HAS LOST ALL HIS FURNITURE, ARICLES AND THINGS AS EVERY THING IN THE FLAT HAS BEEN DESTROYED.

THE RESIDENTS FEEL THE ABSENCE OF THE ENIGMATIC PARVEZ DRIVER THE LEADER IN PANTHAKY BAUG BUT THE OTHER RESIDENTS HAVE STARTED A COLLECTION DRIVE TO RESTORE HIS FLAT TO A LIVEABLE CONDITION.

IT IS HOPED THAT WAPIZ WILL HELP THE OLD MAN WITH FURNITURE AND REDO THE WHOLE FLAT.

THE NEW LEADERS IN THE BPP SHOULD TAKE IT UPON THEMSELVES TO RESTORE THE FLAT TO ITS ORIGINAL CONDITION AS WELL AS PAY FOR HIS MEDICAL EXPENSES. IT IS NOT KNOWN WHO ARE THE RELATIVES OF MR. CHAPGAR AND WHETHER THEY WILL COME FORWARD TO HELP THIS DESTITUTE OLD MAN. BUT IF THERE ARE NONE THEN ULTIMATELY THE FLAT WILL REVERT TO BPP.

WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT WITH THE NEW DISPENSATION AT THE HELM OF BPP, THINGS WILL CHANGE AND IMPROVE FOR THE BETTER KEEPING THE NEEDS OF THE COMMON PARSI IN MIND AS PARAMOUNT AS PROCLAIMED BY THE NEW CHAIRMAN ARMAITY TIRANDAZ AFTER HER NOMINATION AS CHAIRMAN.

EDUCATIONAL CLEANSING



Azmin Vania

As a teacher, there are so many questions that arise in my mind in the way we bring up our children and treat other children today. In a world that is rapidly changing, perhaps the pause button has been left unused for far too long. Today, I request Educationist, Iong. Ioday, I request you to pause and reflect

as I speak to you about the paradigm shift we could make as educators. I invite you to join me in my endeavour to achieve 'educational cleansing?

Education and Parenting - two sides of the same coin. Why? Both shape identity. Both can make or break a child. So today when I refer to educators, I'm referring to parents as well. After all, isn't home the first school?

In my article, I will be talking about three very important shifts we need to make as educators:

- 1. Expectation
- 2. Comparison
- 3. Confinement
- 1. Expectations: The moment a child is born, he's pushed into the sea of expectations. Often, a child is considered a tool to fulfil the parent's ambition and the seed of expectation begins at birth. We fail to realise that children have a distinct identity of their own. They start demonstrating their need to be free through their tantrums and silent aggressions when they flick their spoons while you force that morsel down his throat. Maybe that's why children are most creative in their formative years than they are when they begin formative schooling. How often have we got irritable with that child who doesn't eat? How often have we displaced our frustration on a free spirit for the lack of control of our own emotions? How often have we sometimes silently (most times quite aggressively) expected the child to be 'llike' us? On the other hand, as teachers, I've observed so many teachers lay expectations for their students without the buy in from the student himself. Wouldn't it be nice to have a three-way conference where the child sets expectations for himself/herself and is guided and motivated to accomplish those by his parents and teachers? In fact, it is us who have to step in, every single time those expectations are not met - not to penalise the child, but to understand how we could

do it better the next time! Hey society, you have a long way to go before you evolve and understand Donald Miller who rightly said, "When you stop expecting people to be perfect, you can like them for who they are." PAUSE and savour the moments of glory and reflect on the failures.

2. Comparison: Our society puts a lot of pressure on young minds by equating success or achievement with 'coming first'. I also grew up with a highly competitive mindset until I started teaching at BIS - a school that changed my paradigm for life; a school that held each child as valuable in its own unique way as it did a student who came first; a school that was so ahead of its time that it didn't believe in grades being demarcators or benchmarks for success.

As parents, it's often that 'other' child who always seems to be better than your own and it is our greed to somehow modify our child's personality as if it were a bike to suit our version of what 'best' looks like. Jane De Suza's 'FlyAway Boy' has its protagonist identify with this -- "Why can't you be more...quiet?...disciplined?... normal...?studious...?" As teachers, we make comparisons between siblings, twins, friends and we don't stop at that. As if that weren't enough, we make comparisons to alter personalities as the expectations is to ultimately be the lesser version of yourself and the greater version of 'that self.' I'd highly recommend 'The FlyAway Boy' by Jane De Suza to every single parent and teacher. It is a MUST READ. Wouldn't it be wonderful if I compared what I did yesterday to what I do today instead? Wouldn't it be wonderful if I compared my wrongs with my rights and learnt my lessons? Wouldn't it be wonderful if I compared my past to my present and engage in self-discovery?

3. Confinement: BOXES! My favourite topic of discussion. How easily we box children as 'nerd,' 'geek,' 'lonely,' 'wannabe,' 'cool,' 'smart,' etc. In fact, thinking out of the box has also become a box these days. Like I say, our mindsets are such, we have boxed even the 'out of the box' by creating a hype around it. Why can't each of us be less confined, less trapped, less labelled and less judgemental? Who creates these boxes? Is it the hegemonic group's secret tool to suppress its own angst and insecurities? What is it that stops us from breaking the shackles of confinement and flying towards liberation of spirits?

Perhaps it's us! Perhaps it's our narrowmindedness that doesn't allow us to think otherwise. Perhaps it's the education we have received as children from our parents and teachers. Perhaps it's a safety tool to continue living life the way it has been defined for us. Perhaps we're less courageous. As adults, we forget what we owe our children. We owe them a mind of their own - a thinking mind that questions respectfully, a wise mind that evaluates logically and an empathetic mind that values differences.

Imagine all the time we would save if we enjoyed each other's company. Imagine the ratio of laughter over sadness. Imagine a world where there is only constructive feedback (not criticism) for self. Everytime you feel like you're failing (parenting or teaching), remember your reason for becoming one! It will motivate you for sure!

I don't have all the answers yet. I'm still trying to figure this out and may be if you have already, you could share that with me ;-) for I'm not a teacher who claims to know it all because I don't. I'm only a teacher who is seeking possible ways to help children succeed and become better human beings and the better versions of themselves every single day.

I hope the next time you see a child as a child, allow him the freedom to be silly, the freedom to make mistakes and learn from them, the freedom to respect differences, the freedom to express himself/herself and most importantly, the freedom to BE himself/herself.

Azmin is the former Chief Coordinator of The Holiday Programme for Youth (HPY). She is also the founder of Tiny Turtles. A group that encourages freedom of expression through drama games and activities for children across age groups. Azmin is also a facilitator and educator at the Bombay International School and leads the performing arts & events space in school. She has recently achieved her certificates in training with Fenella Kelly and David Farmer on teaching drama in schools (also online teaching of drama). She has had the exposure of teaching in the ICSE, IGCSE and IBPYP boards at BIS and has been teaching English, Integrated Humanities and Drama since 10 years. Currently, she's involved in professional theatre with Silly Point Productions. In all, Azmin has performed in over 30 plays professionally!

RATHESTAR HAVOVI SUKHADWALA **OBJECTS TO PLAN 'B' FOR PARSI GATE**



From: Havovi Sukhadwala on 2020-12-28 07:16

From: Havovi Sukhadwala

To: armaity tirandaz, Viraf Mehta, Xerxes V. Dastur, Noshir BPP, Kersi - Ahura, Yazdi

Cc: Shernaaz Khambatta Jt. Dy. CEO BPP, bppceoas@gmail.com, Farha Irani, Arzan .JG, Anahita Desai, Nauzer Bharucha, RUKHSANA Darayus Modi, Meher Panthaki, meherangiz Baria, Ervad Dr. Rooyintan Peer 30 more...

Date: Mon 07:16

Dear Hon. BPP Trustees,

Before this dramatic year 2020 comes to an end within a few days, I want to thank each and everyone of you including our Chairman Mr. Yazdi Desai for an experience which has indeed put me in particular along with my little core team a phenomenal roller coaster ride in an endeavor to save Zarthosti heritage and religious places of worship as per Govt records. You have contributed in your own limited capacities inspite of your difference of opinion on this issue at the beginning in July 2020 to save Parsi Gate as a documented Monumental Religious Place of Worship.

Before you give a written NOC to the BMC to shift, its my moral and humble duty to alert you that you have to carefully consider the Heritage Rules and Regulations of Greater Bombay 1995 and the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) **Notification by Ministry of Environment** and Forest guidelines which do not allow shifting of, demolition and reconstruction buildings of archeological and historical importance, heritage buildings and building under public use which means buildings such as for the purpose of worship, education, medical care and cultural activities. Kindly refer to to the **Heritage Guidelines and CRZ notifications** attached herewith for your kind perusal and also the brief diary of events which I have emailed to Mr. Ravi Raja, Leader of Opposition, BMC as he was the only one to help us get into the board room of MHCC on 4th December 2020 aftera 3.5 month long wait

I also thank the activists namely Mr. Zoru Bhathena who in principle agreed to shift the said Parsi Gate on 30th June 2020 while he has a petition in the Supreme Court against the Coastal Road against violation of CRZ notifications of Ministry of Environment and Forestry. I hereby humbly request him to do his due home work about environmental laws as a noted environmental activist and as a member of the Parsi community and NOT mess around with the religious sentiments of the Parsi and Irani brethren on Social media platforms such as whatsapp and help us prevent illegal shifting of the monumental Parsi Gate which is a documented religious place of worship according to EIA Report of 2016 for the said Coastal Road Project. But I am thankful that he attended the Zoom meeting on 10th August 2020 at told us that the Supreme Court has allowed only reclamation and NOT shifting of Heritage structures along the coast of religious and archeological significance.

I thank Mr. Jamshed Sukhadwalla, Structural Civil Engineer and community activist who was the chief petitioner for the Atash Behram Matter against Mumbai Metro 3 and MMRC for getting me shunned by the community and BMC Coastal Road officials after taking the mobile numbers of 5 Civil engineers working on the BMC Coastal Road team at Worli Naka and accompanying me as a technical expert wishing me well in our collective endevour to save Parsi Gate on 4th September 2020 and telling the BMC and Land T technical team at Worli Naka to make Plan B by removing the edifice and dismantling it for a "Short" period of 2 or more years.

After making Plan B behind closed doors with BMC on the basis of his letter dated 15th August 2020 to the BMC Chief as an individual Structural engineer trying to represent the Parsi community who is not a tunneling expert using BMC technical staff and their instruments for a month, today Mr. Aditya Thackeray now does not wish to waste more time with Architect Alan Abraham who has Plan C to offer essentially to preserve Marine Drive Heritage Precinct and not shift the said Parsi Gate.

My team also thanks Adv. Rayomand Zaiwalla who started writing to the Government officials since 2019 about the said Parsi Gate and the fundamental Right to worship Avan Yazad, help me finalize the online petition along with Mr. Aspi Deboo initially drafted by Adv. B J K Taila whom I also thank. I also thank Mr. Hanoz Mistry to help us draft the covering letter to the CM especially when I was shaken up by the whatsapp messages forwarded to me by Mr. Jamshed Sukhadwalla on 3rd October 2020 about shunning the carefully prepared on line petition on Change.org. to save Zarthosti Heritage.

Thanks to the Parsi Press and Mr. Nauzer Barucha of TOI to spread awareness through their respective newspaper and Mr. Dinshaw Mehta particularly who portrayed me as a one woman army which I am not in the Parsi Junction news letter. I have a dedicated core team who wish anonymity for peace of mind and Nishkam Seva. I humbly request with due respect to Dinshawji not to use Parsi gate issue which he never supported from the very start after Mr. Maneck Dastur approached him with the BMC team as a launch pad for his political and personal endevours with BPP and BMC as well.

Last but not the least I thank all silent workers of my core team on this venture to save Zarthosti Heritage which they continue to work for slowly and steadily as Zarthosti Heritage is what posterity would not willingly let die. and particularly all those copied on this email for enduring my lon essays as am not a professional content writer and have an eye for detail which I prefer to elaborate on though it is back breaking for me frankly.



Wish you all Fruitful and Harmonious 2021 with our Parsi gate still standing to worship our divine Mother Avan Yazad.

Sarosh Yazad Panah Baad.

Thanking you, Sincerely,

Havovi M Sukhadwala

On Saturday, 19 December, 2020, 01:53:39 am IST. Havovi Sukhadwala <hmsukhadwala@yahoo.co.in> wrote:

Dear Hon. BPP trustees,

I would to elaborate few important point as its very important as its very important to keep in mind for conservation of Parsi Heritage buildings, Fire temples and monuments like the century old Parsi Gate, Sanjan Column signifying Parsi Heritage and Culture.

Talong with Ms. Farah Irani (a dedicated retired senior citizen interested in conservation of Parsi Heritage Structures, Buildings and fire temples) submitted on 13th November 2020 the physical spiral bound copy of the Parsi Gate petition with 143 comments for conservation of the century old Parsi Gate monument along 7080+ signatures majority of which came from Parsi Community along with other community members to:

- 1. Hon. Chief Minister
- 2. Hon. BMC Commissioner
- 3. Chairman of MHCC
- 4. Hon. Bombay Parsi Panchayat Trustees

I also sent emails along with a written letter to Mr.Aditya Thackeray who is not only minister of Environment, Tourism but of Protocol too but also to the leader of opposition BMC Mr. Ravi Raja also.

While BPP awaited an official reply from BMC Chief to their letters dated 13th August 2020 and 7th September 2020 whether a written No Objection Certificate or NOC had been given by the Heritage Committee I went BMC office to follow up for an appointment with the BMC Commissioner on an urgent basis . The Hon. Commissioner gives an appointment on the kind behest of his PA Mr. Parab on 19th November 2020 for BPP trustees along with selective members of Parsi Community. I call up Er. Dr. Parvez Bajan to come he instantly agrees to come. Next I call Mr. Kersi Randeria to come he is ready to cancel his appointments. architect Jehanbax Billimoria too is ready but Mr.Xerxes Dastur is down with viral fever while Mr. Viraf Mehta requested to have a meeting post 4:30 pm as it was difficult to leave his work place. Unfortunately I did not have the contact number of Mr. Noshir Dadrawalla hence could not requeset his presence. So I immediately go back to Mr. Parab as I was still at BMC headquarters when the appointment was granted and request for the meeting at 4:30 pm on the same day. But that is not sanctioned unfortunately.

Now since Mr. Viraf Mehta and Mr. Xerxes Dastur in principle had agreed to shift the century old Parsi Gate Heritage monument on 30th June 2020 their presence in the meeting was most important hence I wrote another application to BMC Commissioner requesting another date and submitted to Mr. Parab.

We again follow-up on my letter seeking appointment with BMC Chief with BPP trustees and technical and religious experts on 27th November 2020 but still I do not get a response. So next on the same day we both meet the Leader of Opposition of BMC Mr. Ravi Raja and explain to him that neither Plan A nor Plan B are feasible for the Parsi Community for continuous access to the waters to worship Avan Yazad on Avan Roj every month and that it was really unfair of the BMC Coastal Road team to approach the BPP asking for written approval as No objection to shift the Parsi Gate only after placing 8 piling machines at the last moment to be "legally safe" in the CONSTRUCTION PHASE and NOT in the PLANNING STAGE when the EIA report was prepared and submitted to the Planning Committee in 2014.

So Mr. Ravi Raja studies my letter to Hon. CM and BMC Chief and speaks to the BMC Chief who says that matter is with MHCC. So we tell Mr. Raja that MHCC has declined to answer all my letters right from 19th August 2020 till date for reasons best known to them. So Mr. Ravi Raja immediately contacts Mr. Ramnath Jha, chairman of MHCC and asks him to give us an appointment. So Mr. Ramnath Jha tells Mr. Ravi Raja to guide me to contact Mrs. Aparna Bhatte Dy. Municipal Architect to give me the link to the monthly zoom meeting of MHCC members. She tells me to share one contact number of BPP trustees so I share the contact number of BPP Dy. CEO Mrs. Shehnaz Khambatta. Mrs Aparna Bhatte speaks to Shehnaz and Mrs Tirandaz and gives an appointment at 3pm. Mrs Tirandaz informs all BPP trustees on the same day to the best of my knowledge and puts in on their whats app group too requesting the trustees to attend at 3pm on Zoom. I also request Architect Alan Abraham to join the meeting with his proposal to ensure no shifting of the Parsi Gate at all. Now I need to elaborately report this to all BPP trustees and executives who were not present in the zoom meeting at all.

Now in this significant monthly Zoom meeting dated 4th December 2020, Mr. Viraf Mehta categorically asked the Chairman that before choosing option A or Option B he needs to clarify keeping in mind the religious sentiments of the Parsi Community for safe access to the waters for over a century that is the Parsi Gate a Heritage Structure? Mr. Ramnath

Jha said, "No its not a heritage structure." So Mr. Viraf Mehta again confirmed whether its a heritage structure to which Mr. Ramnath Jha again says that its not a heritage Structure. Then Mrs Bhatte says that its part of the Heritage Precinct thats why NOC of MHCC was required. Mr. Jha also stated that irrespective of whether BPP approves of Option A or B they will go ahead. Now kindly note that MHCC had given NOC to BMC to work on Marine Drive Waterfront near Mafatlal Bath Club in 2015. In 2017 MHCC ordered **BMC** Heritage cell to do restoration work of the pillars and especially the broken steps as per their directives and spends lakhs of rupees on it after respecting the sentiments of Parsi Community represented by Mr. Maneck Dastur. So was the MHCC ignorant that this structure is going to be uprooted by the BMC Coastal Road team. This huge lacunae in communication between BMC Coastal Road team and MHCC is noteworthy. **BMC** head quarters model of Princess Street exchange shows the shifting of the Parsi Gate this was prepared in the Planning Stage. BMC Coastal Road Project started in 2018 but approval for shifting of the Parsi Gate even though it was clearly identified in the EIA report of 2014 as a religious place of worship.

After Mrs. Bhide was transferred to BMC headquarters as AMC (ESR), she sends a communication on May 2020 to BMC Coastal Road team to seek permission of the Parsi Community as she also identified the monumental Parsi Gate as a religious place of worship of Avan Yazad

Now the latest newspaper report in Mid Day states that while BPP strives to maintain at original position, and BMC waited for 6 months for an approval shifting only 20 metres westwards is proposed after recent meeting with Mr. Aditya Thackeray on 8th December 2020 who has assured respect to our religious sentiments but today Mr. Vijay Nighot clarifies that for 2 years there will be no access for immersions.

Parsi community members called me on reading Jame and Mid Day and were running to the spot to see if Pillars were standing or removed and asking what next for 2 years.

So I humbly with folded hands request the Board of BPP trustees to have a

meeting Alan, Farah and myself and hear out his side of the story to understand what transpired in his meeting on 8th December 2020 with BMC Chief and Mrs. Harshita Narvekar before you go ahead with a written reply to Chairman of MHCC in the following week.

i am sorry again for wasting the time of the board as it was not ethical on the part of Mr. Jamshed Sukhadwalla to meet BMC independently on 4th September 2020 with me without the knowledge of BPP which I then reported to Mr. Viraf Mehta inspite of Mr. Sukhadwalla telling me not to and spending 5 long sessions and work hours of BMC Coastal road team after grabbing all the contacts of the entire Coastal Road team from me on 27th August 2020 and throwing me on the side and then reporting his work to BPP and Community on social media.

I hope Mr. Viraf Mehta and all BPP trustees will still remember that since 1st July 2020 I have been informing the BPP and community through emails and whatsapp messages periodically as a loyal community member seeking the Right to Worship the waters at the pious Parsi Gate where I had prayed to Avan Yazad for a job and ended up getting one as a Sports nutrition faculty kindly note, miraculously while Late Dr. Faramroz Chiniwalla ended up writing 56000 pages of Zoroastrian literature of Ilm e khshnum after been directed to take amal only at the Parsi Gate at Marine Drive particularly on the waters and nowhere else. Please read the 143 comments of the Parsi community before you decide to shift and reply to MHCC.

Kindly note that BMC and Indian judiciary and bureaucracy has capitalized on the divided front of the community and its representatives such 5 vada dasturjis or 5 Petitioners of Atash Behram Metro 3 matter. Hence for once I humbly request 5 existing BPP trustees to unite as Mr. Yazdi Desai is on Sick leave as Chairperson of BPP and is slowly recovering with the grace of God. This disunity has impacted my health and professional performance kindly note as disunity consumes a lot of everybody's time including mine which is very precious to each one of us.

So pray that Divine intervention guides BPP to do a miracle for the Parsi Community that elects them. God Speed to you all. a miracle always happens daily as God is Great. Finally let God and Avan Yazad decide. I have copied is this email only to those who are genuinely concerned and not at all politically oriented to maintain the sanctity of the Save Parsi Gate project

Thanking you,

Sincerely,

Havovi M Sukhadwala 19th December 2020



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On Friday, 18 December, 2020, 09:42:49 pm IST, armaity tirandaz <artirandaz@ gmail.com> wrote:

Thanks for the information Havovi. Will discuss and decide. Armaity

On Fri, Dec 18, 2020, 6:47 PM Havovi Sukhadwala hmsukhadwala@yahoo. co.in> wrote:

Dear Viraf and all BPP trustees.

I am grateful to Mr. Viraf Mehta to have arranged on war footing a meeting with Mr. Aditya Thackeray on 7th December 2020 post the meeting with MHCC on 4th December 2020 to arrive at an answer to MHCC after having consulting the community as you had said so in the Zoom meeting with MHCC.

We all made it clear that BPP nor I donot want to take the path of litigation at all and sought a win win solution for the BMC and community. Mr. Aditya Thackeray was pleased to hear that too and sought our support for the Coastal Road Project.

However I was not given the opportunity to speak to seek clarity that by following Plan B how does one access the waters safely for immersions of offerings and ashes post cremation from Chandanwadi where Parsis have been unfortunately subjected to during COVID 19 pandemic, especially if the century old Parsi Gate monumental pillars and stone steps which have been the safest access on the Marine Drive Heritage Precinct so far are removed for 2 long years.

Also there was no clarity as to how will the century old Marine Drive Heritage Precinct get protection from the raging sea during high tide when the stone pillars and steps are removed for 2 years. During High tide the water comes right upto the footpath.

The "middle path" as given in your press release to Jam -e - Jamshed which is basically plan B execution by BMC Coastal Road team does not give that clarity at all.

Also I am very grateful to you that you have categorically stated Plan A is not approved by the community by and large nor its safe for all Mumbaikars because the Tetrapods are at the highest opposite Al Sabah Court signifying maximum wave impact

and disaster as correctly stated by our Structural expert Mr. Jamshed Sukhadwalla in the meeting on 4th September 2020 with the BMC Coastal Road team where I was present and exe. Engineer Mr. Swamy too was present.

But Plan B option prepared jointly by BMC Coastal Road Team and structural engineer Mr. Jamshed Sukhadwalla in September 2020 and presented to BPP does not allow SAFE ACCESS to worship Avan Yazad especially during monsoon when Chowpatty beach is difficult to use by the senior citizens especially coming out of their waiting taxis and Cars to do their religious offerings to the sea waters they worship

Kindly give the clarity to me and the community and oblige before you write to the Chairman of MHCC giving option B as reported in Jame Jamshed newspaper dated 13th December 2020 and recently in Mid day too. Moreso the community is indeed disturbed at the news of removal of the pillars temporarily for 2 years as i have received phone calls enquiring about the same.

Also today at around 3pm I had a telephonic conversation with Chief Engineer Shri Vijay Nighot of BMC Coastal Road team to seek clarity from him directly, So he categorically stated that tunnel position will not be changed to prevent shifting of the Parsi Gate as mote lanes need to be added which requires shifting of the Parsi Gate permanently either in Option A opposite al Sabah Court or option B 20 metres Westwards after extension of the existing promenade.

However kindly let me inform you that I received a whatsapp a message from Mr. Alan Abraham architect who had kindly attended the meeting with MHCC.

The message is as follows," Met with the Municipal Commissioner Igbal Singh Chahal along with architect Alan Abraham to put forth suggestions regarding the alignment changes on the Marine Drive stretch of the Coastal road that'll help maintain the Heritage precinct of Marine Drive and Parsi Gate. He directed us to AMC Ashwini Bhide in charge of Coastal road project. She said that she'll share it with her technical team to assess feasibility of the suggestions. Signed by Mrs. Harshita Narvekar, MCGM Corporator Ward #226."

So I earnestly request you to meet Alan Abraham and Mrs. Harshita Narvekar before you give your final NOC to MHCC and oblige.

It is my moral duty is to report the apprehensions of our community members who signed the petition spread for awareness basically and not litigation.

I again show humble gratitude for your concern for the religious sentiments of the Parsi Community as responsible BPP trustees which is indeed noteworthy after receiving a copy of the on line petition on Change.org on .

I await a reply so that we do not waste more time of the BMC our own on this long drawn matter since July 1st 2020 and keep focus on sustainable solution during Construction Phase of the Coastal Road.

Thanking you,

Sincerely, Havovi M Sukhadwala



POLITICS MAKE STRANGE BEDFELLOWS

TRANSIT ACCOMODATION IN BHABHA SANATORIUM IN CONTROVERSY

In 2019, when the Trustees were informed of the dilapidated condition of Godrej Foundation Building in Contractor Baug, Mahim by their Engg. Dept as being beyond economic repairs, the Trustees Unanimously decided to reconstruct/redevelop the building and to shift the actual around 16 residents out of total 26 occupants to Bhabha Sanatorium till the Godrej bldg. was restored.

For this Bhabha Sanatorium wings needed to be brought to a liveable condition for which an estimate of about Rs. 70 to 80 lakhs was received and an Architect was appointed to repair the Bhabha rooms.

At that time one of the encroachers, one Sana Irani who had an Eviction suit against her filed by the then Trustees was being helped by her supporter Dinshaw Mehta in the Small Causes Court at Bandra. For some reason when Sana Irani learnt of the repairs to Bhabha bldgs., she took strong objection to the repairs and shifting of Godrej occupants there and would not allow the Contractor to do repairs.

Naturally Sana Irani and Dinshaw Mehta fell apart on this unreasonable attitude and repair works of Bhabha started in spite of her attempts to stop it and was completed nearing end of December 2020.

Taking advantage of the fall out Kersi Randeria as per his snake like heart immediately befriended Sana Irani his one time biggest detractor and now started catering to her demands and the latest mail sent by him on the goading of such a trespasser to the Board of Trustees makes interesting reading. Since transparency is the motto of this paper and the residents of Godrej building need to know of this new development, we are publishing his mail to his colleague Trustees as under:

""From: kersi <kersi@ ahuramazdagroup.com>

Date: Tuesday, 29 December 2020, 9:19

AM + 0530

Subject: Transit accommodation in **Bhabha Sanatorium**

Good morning

Yesterday I received a call from Ms Sana Irani, one of the occupants of Bhabha Sanatorium

Even as she raised the issue of one Mr Boga from Mahim allegedly abusing her and generally misbehaving with her (which is not the purpose of this email) she questioned the decision of the Trustees to allot flats in Bhabha as Transit flats.

She guestioned why cases had been filed against her and the current occupants of Bhabha if BPP was allowing for new "rights" to be created albeit through "transit agreements" which were akin to (as per her lawyer) Leave and License agreements.

She further questioned the wisdom of BPP not stamping and registering these agreements particularly if it came to BPP needing to take legal action against those who may refuse to vacate the premises later on. What if they refuse to leave, was her lament?

She further raised the issue whether the BPP Trustees were the Trustees of Bhabha (which she insisted Viraf's father says they are not) and if not, or if there was a question mark against this issue then are they empowered to sign these documents. This is a point which needs serious consideration and which has also been raised by me recently, when I have insisted that we take legal steps to establish the same.

Another very valid legal point (according to me) that she raised was whether in a Sanatorium the Trustees could under any guise or document, create long term lease, licence etc. This may be even more relevant as the Trustees certainly (as of now) do not have the required funds to repair and rebuild the Godrej building in N C Baug whose occupants we are providing "transit accommodation" to.

I sincerely believe that we must take a

proper written legal opinion before allowing the premises to be occupied through unstamped, unregistered documents which the BPP Trustees may or may not have the authority to sign and execute and which goes against the stated and documented objects of the Bhabha Trust.

I was informed by her that she has also spoken to Xerxes and Noshir

Let us please take a proper written legal opinion before undertaking steps which may be illegal in more ways than one.

Kersi Randeria Trustee BPP""

Thus after making BPP spend 70 to 80 lakhs to make Bhabha flats useable, we now have the BPP's biggest fund waster/ squanderer come up with a proposition made by his one time biggest detractor and personal enemy Sana Irani to stop the occupants of Godrej bldg, to shift to transit accommodation in Bhabha Sanatorium. INDEED POLITICS MAKE STRANGE BEDFELLOWS.

This should have been done before putting this proposal to the residents of Godrej bldg. and getting their approval to shift. Now after spending a fortune to stop their shifting is not only unjust but downright criminal.

Yes cases against the remaining Bhabha occupants need to be withdrawn and they should be shifted as others have been done and rent/occupation charges be recovered from them at reasonable rates and not usurious rates.

To ensure the Godrej bldg. residents shift back to Godrej bldg. when reconstructed proper documentation is required and hence the Transit Agreement will have to be properly executed, stamped and registered but we cannot take the risk of residents spending one more monsoon in this dilapidated building to please Kersi Randeria and Sana Irani.

Send WHATSAPP to receive regular updates

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TAROT PREDICTIONS FOR THE 12 MOON SIGNS RAASHI) FOR THE WEEK

For consultation or workshops connect with me at: Mobile: +91 9819221480 Email: lamagusksg@gmail.com

All consultations and workshops will be held online only.

Kermeez Shroff Ghadiali



Follow me: O lamagusksg



LaMAGUS



Aries (Mesh Raashi-a l e)

A chaotic week. You will be busy and bogged down with a lot of chores and also unnecessary work. Be wary of people around you there is a chance you are let down by someone. Careerwise it's a good week as new opportunities might come your way. Travel is also seen.



(Vrishabh Raashi-b v u)

Good news with regards to the work area is on its way. This is also a good week to lay down the foundations for new plans. You do however look bored with the things you will get. Count your blessings.



Saggitarius (Dhanu Raashi-bh f dh)

A wonderful week lies ahead. Your person of your interest will get interested in you! A good week to pursue a new hobby or even start something which you are passionate about. Overall a very good week.



Taurus (Vrishabh Raashi-b v u)

You need to arrive at clarity in this week. Important decisions loom over your head. It is time to move on from your past and remember that it is not healthy to keep reminiscing. Be cautious about the people around you.



Virgo (Kanya Raashi-p tthh)

A wonderful week lies ahead. A small getaway is seen. You will achieve your goals and targets with moderation and clear communication. You might be confused with regards to some choices. You will receive the answers from within.



Capricorn (Makar Raashi-kh j)

In this week you will receive fame and recognition for some hard work of the past. You might get a little hassled by trying to manage multiple things at one time. Disagreements with friends or colleagues are seen.



Gemini (Mithun Raashi-k chh gha)

Careerwise this will be a good week. So this is a great week to start something new. Travel is also on the cards. Overall a great week work wise however confusions will arise in your mind when it comes to making choices.



Libra (Tula raashi-r t)

You look unsure about moving ahead with your plans. Know that you have everything at your disposal to make your dream come true. It is time to forget the wounds and scars of the past and move ahead.



Aquarius (Kumbha Raashi-g s sh)

A great week to make decisions about your career. Your hard work will be rewarded. It is time to look ahead and plan for the future so avoid making impulsive decisions. It is also a good week to invest in something long-term.



Cancer (Karaka Raashi-dd h)

Romance is in the air this week for you. It is also time to look ahead and plan for new things career wise and generally in life as well. It is time to face fears and lay them to rest.



Scorpio (Vrishchik Raashi-n y)

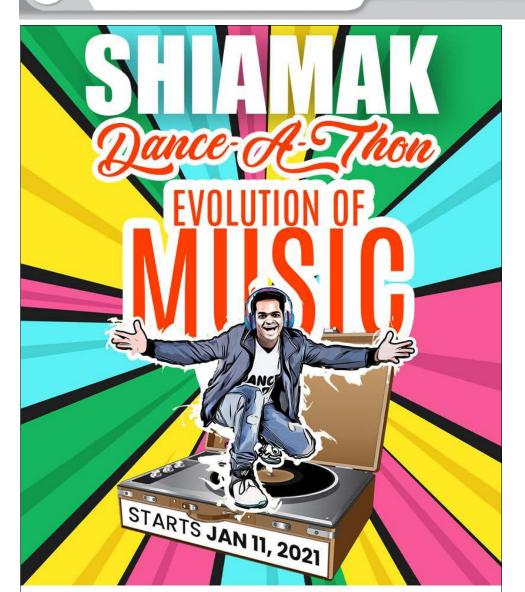
This is a good week to plan for the future ahead. You are also seen taking up a hobby or studying something this week. Try to make your decisions with more clarity and less impulsiveness. don't let delays let you down.



Pisces (Meena Raashi-d ch z th)

A week flooded with tension and stress. It will not be easy to find solutions. You will however receive guidance from experts of the said field. absolutely do not rush into making any decisions. Let this week simply fly by.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

As ends two thousand n twenty; hope we, end all our ordeals

Here is wishing that this ailing world, now very quickly heals

May covid goodbye say; and for ever is gone; endorse we can, close deals.

Health, businesses, travel etc are disrupted n fate many things seals.

But now light let us, a flame of Hope n expect things bright.

May the coming year also bring with it peace, prosperity and divine light.

Hope mankind lessons has learnt, not to, with Nature interfere or fight.

Ahura kind, help us heal; grant us please that divine insight.

Armin Dutia Motashaw

FARMER

O Ahura, Let me a farmer good become;

Help me plant seeds of goodness some.

To help me, to my aid, please soon come.

Easy it is, not to pursue goodness in today's world.

Cosily, easily, warmly sit we can, all curled;

As people good today are tossed, turned n hurled.

With my Sudreh Kushti n Avesta as my armour strong;

Let me do deeds good, plant seeds daily, all along.

With Your blessings, let my life become a never ending song.

Armin Dutia Motashaw

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