For Private Circulation Only

PARSI'

Sunday, 14 August 2022

▶ Volume 1 ▶ Issue 143

▶ Year 2 ▶ Copy 143 ▶ Pages 08



UNCTION

Committed to Transparency and Accountability

NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHOW GENUINE INTENT TO WORK IN UNISON

The new Board of seven Trustees were elected on 29th May 2022 from the 15 candidates who offered their services for community welfare. It is now two and a half months since then and thankfully till date all seven have been working UNITEDLY as one body. Under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Armaity Rustom Tirandaz, the Board so far has avoided all controversies and disputes. Armaity has shown herself as a caring and sympathetic Chairman to the poor and needy members of our community. Though she stays at Dadar Parsi Colony she is the last to leave the Boardroom invariably past midnight. She has introduced two days Board meeting every week due to the huge backlog of items and one day specifically kept to meet our beneficiaries for their needs and requests. Though Finance is still a major worry for the Trustees, the new Board has started on a positive note and has started discussing plans for three new buildings at Nirlon Complex after demolishing the existing C, F and G buildings and since Wadia Baug funds, belonging to BPP itself and not any fictitious Trust, is proposed to be utilized for its construction, this seems the most likely project to take off shortly.

On the Bharucha Baug redevelopment, Architect Hanoz of HMD group is already in detailed discussions with the Board and it taking forward the plans to build towers to replace A, B, C and Doctor Building, most of whose occupants have already been housed in Transit accommodation by the earlier Board under the Chairmanship of Dinshaw Mehta. Renowned Architect Hafeez Contractor and his Assistant Karl Wadia have been requested to bring back the Cusrow Baug Redevelopment plans before the Wadia Committee for taking the project forward. Redevelopment Consultant Sunil Ambre has already forwarded the Feasibility Report of Cusrow Baug.



SAL MUBARAK TO ALL OUR PARSI/ IRANI ZARTHOSTIS

Of course the Godrej Baug Ownership project which had been held up for area clearance from City Survey Office is also on the radar of the new Board and hopefully the matter is expected to be resolved soon. Once this takes off then hopefully the financial crisis of BPP will come to an end. 785 A, B and C blocks at Dadar Parsi Colony, bang opposite the Agiary, and the only project

which had received NOC from MHADA as also IOD and CC thanks to Rustom Tirandaz during his first term as a Trustee can be started soon as all three buildings are vacated with the residents being rehoused in transit accommodation around DPC. The project went into limbo with the untimely demise of Rustom Tirandaz.

All that is now awaited is for the Trustees to make good on their election promise of conversion of Leave License to Tenancy. Whilst the majority can pass it, for the sake of mutual goodwill and co-operation, the Majority want it to be done by Consensus of all Trustees and hence the delay in implementing the Conversion Policy.

Talking of poll promises, we recollect that (Continued 02)

Send WHATSAPP to receive regular updates

NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHOW GENUINE INTENT TO WORK IN UNISON

(Page 01)

due to the highly inflationary cost of living and the job losses suffered community members our due to the Covid Pandemic, the Trustees had agreed to withdraw the current increase in car and scooter parking by 10% every year. Going back to the May 2022 Elections, in the issue of Parsi Junction after the elections we had given the votes secured by all the 15 candidates. However the final count after audit of the results has revealed some errors of one or two votes of some candidates vote count. We give below the final accurate votes secured by each of the 15 candidates as under:

Anahita Desai	5546
Hoshang Jal	3993
Viraf Mehta	3873
Maharukh Noble	3800
Dr. Adil Malia	3611
Ervad Xerxes Dastur	3455
Armaity Tirandaz	3377
Rumy Zarir	3295
Daara Patel	3240
Ervad Farhad Dastur	2903
Kersi Randeria	2868
Prof. Dr. Zuleia Homavazir	1827
Tehmtan Dumasia	1422
Farhanaz Irani	483
and Kaikhushru Irani	418

From the above list, the first seven were declared elected as Trustees, the last four lost their Deposits.

Another notable feature of this election was that at the Khareghat Colony voting venue, it was the highest turnout with 2010 voters whilst Cusrow Baug, Colaba had the lowest voter turnout of just 1125 voters. DPC, with the highest number of Parsis residing had a Turnout of just 1570 voters, with Bharucha Baug, Andheri a voter turnout of 1502 and Rustom Baug, Byculla had a voter



Members of the Election Commission Cyrus Bharucha, Malcolm Siganporia, Hoshang Sinor, Cmde Aspi Marker (retd), Shehnaaz Khambatta, Sqn Ldr Minoo Wadia (retd), Kainaz Irani, Zenobia Unwalla, Berjis Desai and Sanaya Dadachanji

Anahita Desai, Armaity Tirandaz and Maharukh Noble



Darayus, Viraf, Pansy, Dinshaw and Hormuz Mehta

turnout of just 1157 voters.

In all 7364 Parsis voted for this election out of total voter strength of around 25000 voters registered to vote.

Due to the unfortunate and untimely demise of her husband, Anahita Desai was expected to get the highest votes. Armaity Tirandaz was a certainty due to the immense good work done by her as the interim Chairman for almost two years and Hoshang Jal was a certainty due to the immense good work done by Hoshang as President of Cusrow Baug AssociationOut of five candidates of Team Kom ni Unity four got elected but out of five candidates led by Kersi Randeria only two got elected with the biggest surprise being the loss of Kersi Randeria himself, coming eleventh out of fifteen. A surprising and unfortunate loss was that of

Rumy Zarir coming eighth with 3295 votes. It is only a matter of time before he gets elected.

The only down side in these 75 days since the elections was the uncalled for Petition filed by Kaikhushru irani and eight others, all ardent supporters of Kersi Randeria, and financed by Kersi Randeria himself to set aside the May elections and hold fresh elections as they claim a few EVMs had allegedly malfunctioned. Their main complaint was against the Honorary work done by the ECs. Who would bear the legal cost of the Election Commissioners was a pertinent guery in the mind of most Parsis as they were appointed by the High Court but thankfully several Senior Counsels, both Parsi and non-Parsi have voluntarily come forward to offer their services to the ECs absolutely pro bono. Of course

the legal cost of the elected Trustees will have to be borne by the BPP. What a shame of waste of scarce charity funds to sooth the ego of a defeated candidate. The others will have to bear their own costs if they are interested to support or oppose the sore losers Petition.

The Petitioners are also aware that their Petition will most likely be dismissed as the elections were conducted by a team of Election Commissioners appointed by the Division Bench of the High Court. But the ploy seems to be to get some community relief that those who lost were a result of EVM malfunctioning and not the community mandate.

We wish the community gives this new Board a chance to deliver and make us Proud of the BPP once again.

Wishing peace, happiness and prosperity to one and all.

Saal Mubarak.

The testival of al souls

The ten-day Muktad period is a time of remembrance and prayer for the souls and spirits of the departed... The last ten days of the Zoroastrian calendar are dedicated to the festival of Muktad or Hamaespathmaedya. Beginning from the early hours of Ashtad Roj, which is the 26th day of the last month Aspandarmad, this festival ends on the fifth Gatha - the Vahishtoishti Gatha - in the early hours of the morning before Navroze begins.

In ancient Iran, a ten-day holiday was given to allow the

public to celebrate this festival.

The last five days are dedicated to the five Gathas, which form the revelation of Asho Spitaman Zarathushtra. This festival is also designated as the sixth Gahambar and is known as Hamaespathmaedya in Avestan or Fravardegan in Pahlavi, and is celebrated in honour of Man – Lord Ahura Mazda's finest creation. According to the Fravardin Yasht, one of the oldest Yashts, the Fravashis of the dead come down to earth and mingle with the living for ten days and nights.

"We worship the good, strong, beneficent Fravashis of the righteous, who come flying down from their homes at the time of Hamaespathmaedya; then there they walk to and fro for ten nights, desiring to know thus... Who will praise us? Who will worship us? Who will sing hymns to us? Who will give offerings to us of meat and clothes? Of which of us will the name be taken for invocation?" (Yt 13. 49-50). Thus, an important part of the Muktad prayers involves the names of the departed, which are recited during the Afrinagan, Satum and Farrokhshi rituals.

Interestingly, both the righteous and the wicked souls are formally invoked, in order for them to participate in the ceremonies performed in their honour. Parsis and Iranis go to the Fire Temple every day for ten days to remember the souls and spirits of their deceased family members.

The Muktad is seen as one of the most important festivals of the Zoroastrian calendar, for it is through the enactment of the Muktad ceremony that a link and continuity is maintained between the spirits and souls of the departed and those family members, who have requested for the rituals to be performed.

What is the difference between the Urvan or Ruvan and the Fravashi?

Simply put, the term Urvan or Ruvan means the soul. It is the soul that helps in the decision making process in life, and is, therefore, judged on the fourth morning after death at the allegorical Bridge of the Separator (Chinvat Pul). The soul goes to heaven if the good words and deeds outweigh the bad ones, or is relegated to hell if more bad words and deeds are generated during one's lifetime.
On the other hand, the Fravashi is recognised to be

the essence of Ahura Mazda in man. It is seen as the righteous, incorruptible part of God and therefore, can never be judged. The Fravashi is also seenas the guardian spirit of man and is said to come to one's help when invoked.

Send WHATSAPP to receive regular updates

ANAHITA DESAI TAKES OFFENCE AT WRONG YASMIN MISTRY

In the last Parsi Junction issue No. 142 of 7th August 2022, we had published the names of the nine Petitioners who had filed the Misc. Petition to set aside the 29th May 2022 elections and hold fresh elections.



One of the Petitioner

was Yasmin Mistry. It has now been brought to our knowledge that there are two Yasmin Mistrys as representative of two of the candidates among the 15 candidates- one representing Anahita Desai at Rustom Baug centre and the other representing Kersi Randeria at J.B. Vatcha School, Dadar Parsi Colony. We had mistaken one for the other and accordingly published what we did in the Parsi Junction. This led to Anahita Desai sending her mail seeking our apology for the inadvertent error which is published below:

"From: Anahita Desai <anahitadesai1@ gmail.com>

Date: Sun, 7 Aug, 2022, 9:59 pm Subject: Setting the record straight

To: <sethnakg@gmail.com>

Mr. Kersi Sethna and Mr. Dinshaw Mehta, In your newsletter Parsi Junction dated 7th August 2022 you have WRONGLY mentioned on the front page "Yasmin Mistry - representative for Candidate Anahita Desai, Trustee".

Yasmin Jal Mistry who is the daughter of Mrs Arnavaz Mistry was the representative of former BPP Trustee Mr. Kersi Randeria at the recently held BPP Elections.

I want to set the record straight. MY REPRESENTATIVE WAS YASMIN KALI MISTRY, my friend who stays at Rustom Baug and NOT Yasmin Mistry whom you are referring to.

I normally would not have written to you but I did not want untruth to be projected as a fact. It would be best if you take the trouble to check the facts before publishing misinformation and causing unnecessary confusion and acrimony within our community. You owe me an apology.

Anahita Yazdi Desai **BPP Trustee**" Dear Mrs. Desai,

In reply we have to state that Yasmin Mistry without her middle name or even initials led to this apparent error of mistaking YASMIN KALI MISTRY as YASMIN JAL MISTRY which is a genuine error due to incomplete name being given in the representative coloumn by you.

We went through the list of representatives submitted by the fifteen candidates for each of the five voting centres. In the Rustom Baug list of representative was one Yasmin Mistry without the middle name/ initials of her father/husbands name. We went no further and obviously wrongly presumed this to be the Yasmin Mistry, daughter of Jal Mistry and potential candidate for Trustee election who subsequently withdrew due to community angst as she is married to a Muslim. We did not bother to search further least expecting another Yasmin Mistry also without her middle name or even initials.

We are aware that Anahita Desai and Arnavaz Mistry are very close friends and served on the Liason Committee and Ladies committee of Parekh Dharamshala together and when we found Yasmin Mistry as representing Anahita Desai, we had no reason to doubt that there was another Yasmin Mistry representing Kersi Randeria and hence looked no further.

If she had given her Representative's name as Yasmin Kali Mistry as she has now done then the inadvertent error could have been avoided and the misunderstanding would never have happened if both Yasmin Mistrys



had given their middle name or even initials.

Let us close the issue as an honest misunderstanding due to incomplete name of your representative.

> Yours sincerely, Kersi Sethna

BPP TRUSTEES HOST JASHAN AND DINNER FOR STAFF

Tuesday, Aug 9, 2022 was the first time in over a decade that the Trustees themselves hosted the staff of the BPP. The evening started with a Jashan at BPP's Godavara agiary with the prayers led by Erv Firdaus Pavri and his team of Erv Yazdi Dhalla, Erv Percy Dadina and Erv Hormazd Aibada and aided by helper Zehan Daruwalla. Most of the Parsi staff of the BPP attended the Jashan and it was truly a humbling experience. Following the Jashan, a dinner was organized at the Ripon Club for all the BPP and Wadia Committee Office staff including Custodians, Engineers, Gamadia Health Clinic staff, Liason Committee workers, Doongerwadi staff and others.

Caterer Temptan Dumasia served a delicious meal which was well appreciated by all. His singing skills impressed one and all and even set the stage for others to join in and dance.

Like a true leader CEO Aspi Sarkari took the mic as well and ensured everyone had a great time.

The BPP staff falicitated the Trustees thanking them for hosting such a lovely evening and bringing back the unity and harmony that was so desperately needed.

We wish this new BPP Board all the very Best and may the next five years see witness a complete transformation of the Trust.













MOMS

Are you home, my dear? Take rest from all you do; Was the traffic very severe? Shall I make some tea for you?

Don't you know I'm busy, Mom? Why do you keep calling so? I can't keep taking all your calls, You understand - or no?

Have you had your meal, my dear? Did you like what I made today? If you want anything else my dear, You only have to say.

The same phone calls kept coming, She answered them in short: Don't you know I'm busy, Mom? Was her annoyed retort.

Today the phone was quiet, She felt unhappy and alone, Oh, how much she wanted it to ring -But Heaven has no phone.

- Thrity E. Bharucha

WHAT IS **RELIGION?**

"However many holy words You read, however many you speak What good will they do you If you do not act upon them" (BUDDHA)

Bulls Eye again! Religions are road to salvation Whether it be Hinduism Christianity Judaism Sikhism Muslim or Zoroastrianism

As far as Zorastrianism

Is concerned It preaches

Freedom of thoughts Words deeds

Regardless of

One's status in life

Including one's color

Caste religion or creed **Equality Universality**

Respect Tolerance regardless

Of ideologies

For all of humanity.

I state:

" You don't need religion to have morals If you can't determine right from wrong then you lack empathy, not religion (Atheist Quotes)

Are ye mighty listening to this?

Choicest Blessings



PUBLIC NOTICE

The BPP N.N & R.N Wadia Baugs are in possession of a 2 Rooms+ Kitchen flat admeasuring about 674.34 Square Feet Carpet area at the "G Block", Flat No: G - 1, Ground Floor at Cusrow Baug, Colaba which has reverted to the Trust. The said flat is proposed to be offered on Leave & License basis



to prospective offerers who give the highest quantum of Refundable Deposit. (Please contact Secrteary (M: 9833964746) for details of Bid Start Value).

Those interested are requested to contact the Custodian at Cusrow Baug (Contact No 022 2204 7521 or (M: 9322825716 or 9820662201) to take inspection of the said flat Monday to Saturday 10 am to 1 pm.

- 1. Those interested are requested to attend the Auction to be held at the BPP -D.N. Road Office on Thursday 18th August, 2022 at 5.00 p.m., and submit their proposal in a sealed envelope with a separate Demand Draft of Rs. 1 Lakh in the name of "Funds & Properties of the Parsi Punchayet Bombay" as Earnest Money Deposit which will be returned if their proposal is not accepted. Please do not put the Demand Draft in the sealed envelope but hand it over separately.
- 2. Interested bidder must quote value of the flat in excess of Base Value (Reserve Security Deposit amount), exclusive of Stamp Duty and Registration Charges, as applicable for registration of Leave & License Agreement.
- 3. The sealed envelopes will be opened in the presence of all the biding applicants on the same day (Thursday on 18thAugust, 2022 at 5.00 p.m.
- 4. The highest offer will be taken as the Second Reserve Security Deposit amount and the bidding applicants will be requested to make an Open offer in excess of this Second Reserve Security Deposit amount.
- 5. The highest Open Offer will be taken as the Third Reserve Security Deposit amount.
- 6. The Bid member Bidder will be guided beforehand by the Presiding Chairperson- BPP Trustee for all 3 Round Bidding process . Final Round will be conducted on One-to One basis in close cover-confirmation for bid in excess of 2nd Round final figure..
- 7. The flat will be allotted to the highest bidder in this Third & Final round. (If any tie it may occur, one more round will be conducted on same pattern of Third & Final round for Final Highest Figure)
- 8. 50% of the full Security Deposit amount of the flat must be deposited by the bidder within 15 days of the auction and the balance 50% within one month of the auction. Failure to make payments on the Due date will lead to cancellation of their offer and the forfeiture of the Earnest Money Deposit. The flat may again be re-auctioned, or offered to the second highest bidder, as decided by the Trustees.
- 9. The Leave & license Agreement will be registered after the full Security Deposit amount is received by the Trust. 10. The Trustees reserve the right to refuse any or all offers at their discretion without assigning any reason.

By the ORDER of Board of BPP TRUSTEES for BPP N. N. & R.N. Wadia Baugs P.N. Siganporia

SECRETARY M: 9833964746

RETRIEVAL OF UNCLAIMED INVESTMENT

Dear Friends,

I will be arranging a Webinar on *Retrieval of Lost & Unclaimed Investments*

The main speaker will be an industry stalwart and we will cover

- Succession/Transmission
- Issuance of Duplicate Share Certificates
- Dematerialisation of Physical Shares
- Retrieving of shares from IEPF
- Q&A

Session will be online and is tentatively planned on Saturday 27th August at 4.30pm

Will share the links with the group soon. If you have any specific queries which need to be addressed, please DM me on 7900700099 or email me on care@w-aves.com

> Thanks & Regards, **Adil Behram Driver**



PARSI PUNCHAYET BOMBAY -LIAISON COMMITTEE-



Sir H.C. Dinshaw Industrial Institute Building, Chikalwadi, 275-V, Tardeo Road, Mumbai-400007. Tel. Nos. 2388 2748 / 2381 1233.



Mrs. Armaity Tirandaz. The Chairperson The Chairperson Season's Greetings 1391 y.z.



Dear Friends.

Liaison Committee (74 years young) established in 1948, is well-known for its primary activity that is it liaises as an investigation agency for Charity help referred to by over 20 Trusts of Mumbai and one or two Trusts from out of Mumbai.

Apart from this very crucial role it plays for these Trusts, the other social welfare activities of the Liaison Committee are rarely publicized and, therefore, the commendable work done by the Liaison Committee is mostly unknown.

- a) Once a year distributes a very handsome food hamper to 300 poor and deserving Parsi / Irani Zoroastrians.
- b) Conducts 2 free 10 days Holiday Camps (during the summer vacation and during the Diwali vacation) for disadvantaged Parsi / Irani Zoroastrian children who mainly reside outside Baugs / Colonies. In these 10 days the children are taken for excursions to theme parks, lunches at 5 Star Hotels, visits to museums, have various workshops and activities and given gifts at the end of the camps.
- c) Under the Rehabilitation Centre which functions from the Liaison Committee premises, it has a Work Centre where Sadras, Pyjamas, Kustis are bought from ladies who make this at home but have no outlet to sell their products and these are then sold at the Work Centre. This generates employment for the unprivileged.
- d) The Liaison Committee also accepts mulmul and siavs from which Sadras are stitched for the free distribution to the poor.
- e) Distribution of exercise books, stationery items / school bags etc.

For carrying out the above activities and to supplement our cost, we appeal to you for your generous and handsome donation on the auspicious occasion of the Parsi New Year.

May we request you to draw a cheque in favour of "Parsi Punchayet Bombay A/c. Liaison Committee" and forward the same at the above address.

We wish you and all your loved ones a Happy New Year.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. C. K. Batty. Senior Executive.

સુરત ના જાણીતા માનીતા અને સૌ ના લાડિલા, પદ્મશ્રી કરંજીયા ૩ વર્ષ બાદ ફરી આવી રહ્યા છે એક હાસ્ય ના ખજાના ની સાથે, મસ્ત મજાની સોજજો પારસી કૉમેડી લઈ ને 'દિનશાજી ના ડબ્બા ગૂલ' THE D.D. MEHTA MEMORIAL TRUST & THE PARSI FOOD & TRADE FESTIVAL



ON TUESDAY AUG 16, 2022 AT 7 PM Bookings Open

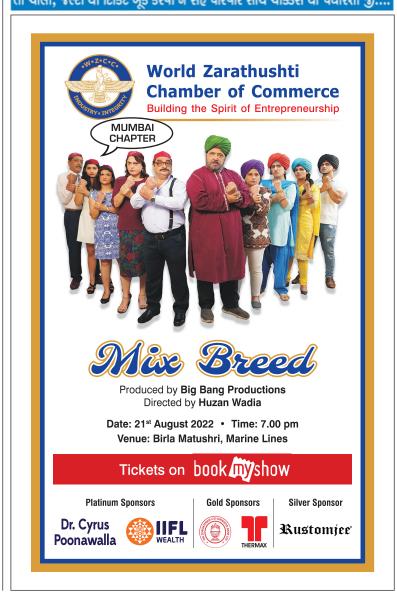
Donation Cards: 800, 500, 400, 300

Contact:

COLABA: 9892242994; MEHERNOSH-TARDEO: 9224011329; CHANDRESH-GRANT ROAD: 9870000967;

FARHA: 8108295111

ni ચાલો, જલ્દી થી ટિકિટ બૂક કરવો ને સહ પરિવાર સાથે ચોક્કસ થી પધારશો જી....



1971 WAR

Thank *These are the Russian submarines which protected the Indian Navy by becoming a shield against America in the 1971 war.*

*50 years ago in 1971, the US threatened India to stop the 1971 war. Concerned India sent an SOS to the Soviet Union. A story that has almost been erased from the Indian history books. When Pakistan's defeat in the 1971 war seemed easy, Kissinger prompted Nixon to send the US 7th Fleet Task

Force, led by the nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, to the Bay of Bengal.*

*USS Enterprise, 75,000 tons, was the world's largest nuclear-

powered aircraft carrier in the 1970s with over 70 fighters. A moving monster on the surface of the sea. The Indian Navy's fleet was led by Vikrant, a 20,000-tonne aircraft carrier, carrying 20 light combat aircraft. Officially the USS Enterprise was sent to the Bay of Bengal to protect American citizens in Bangladesh, while unofficially it was to intimidate the Indian Army and prevent the liberation of East Pakistan. India soon got another bad news.*

Soviet intelligence reported to India that a powerful British naval fleet led by the aircraft carrier HMS Eagle along with the commando carrier HMS Albion, along with several destroyers and other ships were approaching the Arabian Sea from the west in Indian waters.

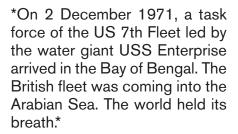
*The British and Americans planned a coordinated naval attack to intimidate India: British ships in the Arabian Sea would target India's west coast, while the Americans would attack in Chittagong. The Indian Navy was caught between British

and American ships. That was December 1971, and the world's two major democracies were now threatening the world's largest democracy. An SOS from Delhi was sent to Moscow. The Red Navy soon dispatched 16 Soviet naval units and six nuclear submarines from Vladivostok to block the USS Enterprise.*

*Admiral N Krishnan, the chief of the Eastern Command of the Indian Navy, wrote in his book 'No Way But Surrender'

> that he feared the Americans would reach Chittagong. He mentioned how he thought

> of attacking the Enterprise in a do-or-die trick to slow it down.*



But, unknown to the Americans, they were overtaken by submerged Soviet submarines.

As the USS Enterprise headed for East Pakistan, Soviet submarines came to the fore without warning. Soviet submarines now stood between India and American naval forces.

Americans_surprised_ surprised_.

The 7th US Fleet Commander told Admiral Gordon: "Sir, we are too late. The Soviets are here!" no choice but to retreat Both the American and British fleets retreated. *Today, most Indians have forgotten this huge naval chess battle between the two superpowers in the Bay of Bengal*

so it is important to remember (© Vinod Kumar Jha - former naval officer)





MITHOO MONU ₹900/-

Sagan-ni-sev, Saffron Ravo, Mithoo Dahi, Roasted Dry Fruits & 6 Fruit & Nut Chocolate Bois

DESSERT BOX ₹1100/-

Almond Crunch Chocolate, Apple Crumble Cheesecake, Black Forest Mousse Cake, Orange Nougat Cream

PERSIAN LOVE CAKE (500g) ₹600 /-

DATE BANANA WALNUT

TEA CAKE (500g) ₹450 /-

CAPPUCCINO MOUSSE XL BROWNIE (250g) ₹350 /-

MINI CHOCOLATE BOIS 1/4kg - ₹450/- | 1/2kg - ₹850/-

All other cakes available from TMB's regular menu.

Call or WhatsApp: ① themysterybox +91 7400171007 | +91 9820470379 | +91 9323380933

PIONEERING PARSIS

A Forwad, about some pioneering Parsees.

Our community's bejeweled crown is truly decorated with so many 'firsts'....read on

Dear Humdins. Very much doubt if any other community can boast of as many pioneers as ours......Have done and are doing us so proud......Salute each one of you.....

- 1. The first printing press was started in India in the year 1778 by Mr. Rustomji Cursetji. In 1780, he printed the first book in English under the title "Bombay Calendar."
- 2. The first printing press to have got international acclaim was the Union Press started by Mr. Nanabhai Rustomji Ranina. Mr. Nanabhai Rustomji Ranina was also the first to print an English to Gujarati and Gujarati to English Dictionary.
- 3. The oldest existing newspaper in India, The Bombay Samachar was started by a Parsi on July 1st., 1822. It changed hands a number of times but has throughout been Parsi owned, and is currently been managed by the Camas.
- 4. Madam Bhikaji Cama (1861 1936) was the first Indian to have conceived the idea of a National Flag for India, which she designed and unfurled at the Socialist Congress in Germany in 1907.
- 5. Dr. Manek Bejanji Pithawalla was the first Indian to obtain a Doctorate in Geography
- 6. Behramji Sorabji Lalkaka (1880 1957) was the first to start a heavy chemical industry in India. He started the Pioneer Magnesia Works Ltd. In 1915 for the manufacture of Magnesium Chloride, the import of which from Germany was stopped due to World War I. Magnesium Chloride is used for sizing in the Textile Industry.
- 7. Miss. Amy B. H. J. Rustomji, M.A. (Cantab) was the first and only Asiatic lady to hold the office of Vice President of the International Federation for University for Women for the term 1956 - 1959.
- 8. The first two Indian Members elected to the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society were both Parsees - Mr. Manekji in 1840 and Mr. Cursetji Dadabhoy Wadia in 1844.
- 9. Mr. Ardeshir Edulji Cama A.C.A. (1879 -1948) was the first Indian Member of the Institute of Chartered Accounts in England and Wales in 1908 - the first Indian Chartered Accountant.
- 10. Mr. Jamshedji Sorabji Sethna was the first and only Indian Vice Consul for France in 1905.
- 11. Dr. Shiavux Sorabji Banker was the first Indian to be the head of the Medical

- Department on a company managed Railway, the B.B.& C.I Railway in 1938.
- 12. Dr. Muncherji Jamasjee Mistry L.M.& S. was the first Indian to become a Civil Surgeon in 1887 at Godra in the present Gujarat
- 13. Mr. Khujesteh Kaikobad Batliwalla was the first Indian to be appointed Chief Inspector of Boilers and Factories in U.P. in 1939.
- 14. Col. Dhunjishah Naoroji Parakh was the first Indian to be appointed Professor of Midwifery in the Grant Medical College, Bombay in 1888. He was also the second Indian to pass the I.M.S. Examination, the first being his uncle, Surgeon Major Rustomji Behramji who took his commission in 1875

direct from the hands of Queen Victoria.

- 15. Mr. Charag Jehangir Mistry, F.R.H.S. was the first Indian to be Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of all Scottish Freemasonary in India.
- 16. Capt. Miss. Pheroza S. Davar, M.B.B.S., I.M.S., was the first Indian Army Lady Doctor commissioned in 1942.
- 17. Miss. Shirin Jal Virjee was the first Indian lady to receive the Diploma in Sculpture in 1941 from the Royal College of Arts, London.
- 18. Mr. Sorabji Cawasji Kharas (1821 1875) was the first Indian to go as a businessman to Aden in 1839.
- 19. Mr. Burjor Sorabji Kharas (1831 1875) was the first Indian Consul for the U.S.A. in Aden during 1869 - 1875.
- 20. Mr. Pherozshah Nasarvanji Daroowalla was the first Indian to have passed the examination of Doctors of Law from the London University in 1913.
- 21. Khan Saheb Kekobad Navroji Mody was the first Indian to become Supdt. Of Railway Police on the B.B.& C.I. Railways in 1870.
- 22. Mr. Cawasji Dhunjibhoy Mahaluxmiwalla (1863 - 1950) was the first Indian to be made Superintendent of a public garden, Maharajbagh, at Nagpur in 1885, and the Victoria Gardens in Bombay in 1892.
- 23. The first Indian Cricket Team to visit England in 1886 was composed entirely of Parsees, and was captained by Dr. Dhunjishaw Hirjibhai Patel, who can very well be called the First Indian Cricket Captain.
- 24. Mr. Naoroji Dadabhai Katrak was the first Indian to be appointed Chief Engineer of the Bombay Improvement Trust in 1925.
- 25. Mr. Cursetjee Maneckshah Cursetjee (1847 - 1935) was the first Indian to be admitted as an under-graduate at Oxford in 1864.
- 26. The first three men to circumvent the earth

- on bycycles were all Parsees Adi Hakim, Rustom Bhumgara and Jal Bapasola 1928.
- 27. The first two Indians to be awarded the D.S.O. were Parsee in World Warl - Capt. (later Maj. Gen.) Cursetjee and Capt. (later Col.) Bharucha, both of the I.M.S.
- 28. The only instance of all three brothers winning the D.F.C. - the Engineer brothers - in World War II was Parsees. Aspy, (retired as Free India's second Air Chief), Minoo, with a P.V.S.M., and M.V.C. and a Padma Bhushan, retired as an Air Marshall - probably the highest decorated officer then in the Indian Armed Forces, and Pesi who left the I.A.F. to freelance. And yet a fourth brother had joined the Army and served through World War
- 29. The first three Indians to have sat in the British House of Commons were Dr. Dadabhoy Naoroji, Sir Muncherji Mhawnargree and Sir Shapurji Saklatwalla.
- 30. The first Iron and Steel Works in India, the Tata Iron and Steel Company was started by Mr. Jamshedji N. Tata in Jamshedpur in 1907.
- 31. The first Cotton Mill in India, The Bombay Spinning and Weaving Co., was started in Bombay by Mr. Kavasji Nanabhoy Davar in
- 32. The first Indian to be made a Baronet was Sir Dinshaw Petit. The title was conferred on him by Queen Victoria in 1890.
- 33. The Parsees are the only community to have produced Chiefs of all three armed forces - Air Marshall Aspi Engineer, Field Marshall Sam Manekshaw and Admiral Jal Cursetjee.
- 34. Khushru F. Rustomji, the doyen of Indian Policeman, raised and commanded the BSF during the 1971 operations.
- 35. India's first ever, and singularly successful, urgent response,international intervention operation involving all the three services was led by Brig. Bulsara in the Republic of Maldives, November 1988.
- 36. The first Indian to be made a Field Marshall was Gen. Sam H. F. J. Manekshaw in 1972.
- 37. The first Chairman of the Indian Atomic Energy Commission was Dr. Homi Bhabha, an eminent Nuclear Scientist.
- 38. The First Indian Directer of The Royal Institue of Science war Dr. Faridoon R. Bharucha.
- 39. The first Lok Ayukta (ombudsman) of India was Sohrab Kotval in Maharashtra.