ON TURNING HUNDRED
Salute to the Founders’
guiding motto of “Seva anay Sukhawat”
inspiring the Mandal
into its Centenary and beyond
December 2012

Dear Members

We would like to present you a souvenir of our Centenary celebrations in which most of you participated with your family and friends.

Going by today’s trend, there is little text and lot of photos. We hope you will find yourselves and your friends there.

The souvenir is printed in colour to capture the vibrancy of the celebrations and the beautiful clothes you all wore at different events. In this we thank the photographers of our community who have preserved these memories for us: photo credits appear at end of each event. I have tried to place as many different faces as I could because between the various events practically the entire community in Karachi must have been a part. My apologies to those I could not include due to space constraint.

We thank the advertisers for their generous support which has helped in defraying major cost of printing.

We received a suggestion to include the list of KZBM members. This appears on pages 18-20. Therefore if your picture is not in the pages, your name will definitely be there.

Thumbnail history of the Mandal is also included on page 21.

Hope you will enjoy the brochure and keep it.

Sunnu F Golwalla
Editor – Centenary Souvenir
In the name of Ahura Mazda (Ba-nam-e-khuda....) we began Banu Mandal’s centenary celebration and this guided us to simple but joyful celebrations in which practically the entire community of Karachi was able to participate on one or more occasions.

The Jashan was symbolically on 11-11-11 which was 100 years to the date when thought for the Mandal was conceived at the home of our founder Gulbai Mehta. All mobed sahibs of Karachi were invited to perform the jashan and this was followed by simple cake cutting, some pictures and an address by Mandal’s President Navaz Aga who also invited ideas for year-long celebration.
A gala evening with Parsi-style sit-down dinner was attended by nearly 800 persons. There was a medley of entertainment: a Broadway sequence, catwalk, a natak song and young girls in saris with placards; while “Mandal Lights” was a slide-show of KZBM’s 100-year history in pictures.

The audience added to the gala ambience with their elegant garas, kor ni saris and sporty gentlemen in daglas. Do see a red gara ‘palav’ on page 5 belonging to our Founder President Gulbai Mehta, now an heirloom to Nina Russi Wania who is seen wearing it. Parsi sit-down dinner and a memento to mark the occasion concluded the evening.
The challenge of February programme made us realise that in today’s world with demand on everyone’s time at work and school, it would be practical to have programmes that do not demand excessive time but are popular with our people.

What followed in May was a truly Grand Tambola with a profusion of lucky dip and bingo prizes in cash and hampers and a snowball of whopping Rs 25,000/-, delighting a large crowd many of whom went home with a broad smile.
Display of paintings, embroidery, crochet and torons galore! A young entrepreneur Kainaz Irani showcased her handmade fashion jewellery, which has developed from a hobby to a small business.

Items and participants were:

**Bead Jewellery**: Kainaz Jamshed Irani and Ferozeh Cawas Sidhwa

**Bead Torans**: Sheroo Giara, Aban Irani, Dinaz Jamshedji, Hilla Maneckji, Natasha Mavalvala, Zarin Mobed, Alla Rustomji, Chisti Sidhwa and Rashidbanoo Virjee.
Canvas Painting: Vahishta Amra, Anushe Engineer, Farahnaz Marker, Zarin Mobed, Anushka Rustomji and Veera Rustomji
Crochet: Mahnaz Billimoria
Cross stitch and Hand embroidery: Nergesh Daruwalla, Ferozeh Dastur, Rashna Gazder, Niloufer Noshirwani, Bachi Patel, Vira Sidhwa and Nina Wania
Dry Plants frames and deco items: Zarin Patel
Glass painting: Sanober Cooper
A medley of activities once again with a witty emcee Maharukh Bhiladwala to take it forward.

It was more a ‘Over 40s’ attendance with coaxing the hesitant to the floor with a relief break for thank yous and a auction to raise funds. Some more dancing and games followed by dinner. The energetic ones, however, shaked their hips well past midnight.
An adaptation of a 3-hour natak in Gujarati to a one-hour in Roman script was a feat to begin with. It was staged by largely a debut cast with guest appearance by two veterans in the closing scene. Second day was open to non-Zarhosti friends.

In our entertainment-starved people it drew crowds also from the non-Zarhostis, and the audience had many laughs at the complications faced by the young hero juggling three pretty stewardesses and promising each one lifelong fealty!
On the eve of our Centenary Past living Presidents, Vice Presidents, Honorary Secretary and Chairladies were honoured for their dedicated service to the Mandal and through it to the community, with citations, flowers and trophies. Departed ‘banus’ were remembered, eulogised and a minute silence requested in their memory, by Programme Chairlady Dinaz Irani.

The evening commenced with BVS Parsi School’s Variawa Band playing the National Anthem, Mama Parsi School girls singing ‘Chaiye Hame Zarthosti’, followed by hoisting of the national and KZBM flags. Dinaz Divecha, the emcee for the evening, read out greetings received from Zarhosti associations. A splash of fireworks gave a befitting finale to the celebrations.
HONOURING OUR BANUS
The citations were read:

ϕ By President Navaz Aga for Past Presidents: Perviz Daroga, Toxy Cowasjee and Dr Gool Talati
ϕ By Vice President Kermin Parakh for Past Honorary Secretary Nargesh Dubash and Past Chairlady-Welfare Hilla Umrigar (not present)
ϕ By Chairlady-Education Meher Cawasji for Past Vice Presidents: Dr Mehroo Khambatta, Vera Dastur and Franey Irani (not present)
ϕ By Honorary Secretary Sarfaraz Golwalla for Past Chairlady-Rehabilitation Dinaz Polad and Past Chairlady-Medical Aban Aga
ϕ By Honorary Secretary Franahaz Marker for Past Chairlady-Welfare Julie Anklesaria and Past Chairlady-Child Chapter Roshan Kamdlin
THEY SERVE THE MANDAL
AND THE COMMUNITY

(pictures across)

Top: Managing Committee

Seated l to r: Farhanaz A Marker, Honorary Secretary; Kermin S Parakh, Vice President; Navaz K Aga, President; Sarfaraz F Golwalla, Honorary Secretary and Roshan B Mehri, Honorary Treasurer

Standing l to r: Dr Bukhtawar H Rabadi, Chairlady-Medical; Spenta F Khambatta, Chairlady-Welfare; Dinaz N Irani, Chairlady-Programme; Nilofer S Noshirwani, Chairlady-Rehabilitation; Dr Parinbanu N Virji, Member; Zarin A Mobed, Member; Alla B Rustomji, Member; Mitra A Irani, Chairlady-Child Chapter and Meher F Cawasji, Chairlady-Education.

2nd row from left:


Rehabilitation Subcommittee: l to r: Benafshey A Virji, Nargesh S Daruwalla (Secretary), Meher Z Doctor, Nilofer S Noshirwani (Chairlady), Zarin A Mobed (Treasurer), Alla B Rustomji and Viliie P Daruwalla. Not present: Farida K Patel.

3rd row from left:

Medical Subcommittee: l to r: Dr Cyra F Baria, Dr Zarir R Mogul, Dr Bakhtawar H Rabadi (Chairlady), Serfaraz F Golwalla (Secretary), Dr Parinbanu N Virji and Zenia X Anklesaria.

Education Subcommittee: l to r: Yasmin F Mehta, Furengeez D Tampal, Kermin S Parakh, Meher F Cawasji (Chairlady), Sunnu F Golwalla (Secretary) and Thrity K Spencer. Not present: Franay N Irani and Zarine T Mavalvala.

4th row from left:

Child Chapter: l to r: Dilnavaz E Malbari, Farahnaz A Marker, Amna A Subedar (Secretary), Mitra A Irani (Chairlady), Zavera Z Golwalla, Mitra H Bhesania, Jesmin J Chowna (Treasurer) and Behroze M Khambatta. Not present: Smita F Mama.

Programme Subcommittee: l to r: Katherina Z Irani (Secretary), Phiruza K Birdie (Treasurer), Dilshad A Irani, Merang S Byramji, Dinaz N Irani (Chairlady), Navaz K Aga, Dinaz D Divecha and Ferzeen E Bhadha.

WE WERE GREETED BY

Zarhosi associations in Karachi have always worked together and cheered for one another. It felt very good to be greeted by almost all our associations on the occasion of our Centenary. We acknowledge them all:

- Kermin S Parakh, Principal BCS Parsi High School
- Spenta D Kandawalla, Chairperson, BMH Parsi Medical Relief Association
- Shahveer JHP Byramji, Trustee Hommie & Jamshed Nusserwanjee Charitable Trust
- Franay Nariman Irani, Managing Trustee, Kandawalla Trust
- Byram D Avari, Chairman, Karachi Parsi Anjuman Trust Fund
- President & Managing Committee, Karachi Parsi Institute
- Dr Mehrroo and Dr Kershaw B Khambatta
- Council of Management, YMZA/Dastur Dr Dhalla Institute
- Furengeez D Tampal, Principal, The Mama Parsi Girls’ Secondary School
KZBM MEMBERS

We have two categories of members: Patrons and Life. As all members are life members their names are retained lifelong. Those who are Non-Resident have been shown with [NR] against their names with country they live in, where this information is known to us. This list is maintained by Toxy Cowasjee and to help her in this indomitable task please email her at toxy39@gmail.com any update or change that you may be aware of. Thank you.

Patrons
Hutoxy C Cowasjee
Meher R Dalal [NR] UK
Vera N Dastur
Hilla N H Dinshaw [NR] Channel Islands
Perin J H Dinshaw
Franey N Irani
Arnaz J Marker

Life Members
Mehri K Abesthe
Aban E Aga
Armaity F Aga
Navaz K Aga
Nilofer K Aga [NR] Canada
Sanoea M Aga [NR] Singapore
Shera R Aga
Zeena B Aga
Bapsy J Amalsad [NR]
Soonita R Amaria [NR]
Cyra D Anklesaria
Julie H Anklesaria
Kamal D Anklesaria
Zenia Z Anklesaria
Roshan F Antia
Paricher F Appoo
Amy A Arjani
Anita R Asli [NR] Canada
Piroja Atashband
Dilnaz X Avari
Feroza B Avari
Goshipi B Avari
Nalibai R Bamboat [NR] Canada
Tanya E Bamboat [NR] UK
Goolbanoo J Banaji
Parveen D Banaji
Shenaz K Banaji
Anaz A Bankwalla [NR] USA
Navaz R Bankwalla [NR] USA
Cyra F Baria
Roozebeh Baria
Roshan M Baria

Dinar D Behrana
Nargis A Behramji
Katy H Behrana
Lily D Behrana [NR] USA
Mehrukh Behrana [NR] Canada
Meher Behrana [NR] Australia
Roozbeh A Behrana [NR] UK
Katy H Behrana
Siloo P Behrana [NR] Canada
Aban E Bhadha
Ferzeen E Bhadha
Katy P Bhadha [NR]
Mani M Bhadha
Najoo P Bhadha
Poruchisti A Bhadha
Shermaz M Bhadha
Zarin H Bhadha
Homi D Bhagaria
Rodha D Bhagaria
Perin R Bhappu [NR] USA
Dilshad P Bharucha [NR] Australia
Dinsi K Bharucha
Gulmohar M Bharucha
Hilla B Bharucha
Havovi J Bharucha
Hufrez D Bharucha [NR] UK
Khorsheed D Bharucha
Khorsheed H Bharucha
Nerges P Bharucha
Poruchisti J Bharucha
Shahnaz P Bharucha
Roshan P Bharucha
Gulnar A Bhathena
Rodha B Bhathena
Meena P Bhesania NR
Mitra Bhagaria
Prochi H Bhagaria
Hufrish R Bhiladwala
Mahrukh Bhiladwala
Meher A Bhujwalla (NR) Dubai
Arnavaz K Bilia
Natasha K Bilia
Diana J Billimoria
Freny J Billimoria
Mehrukh H Billimoria
Perveen F Billimoria
Havovi Z Birdie [NR] USA
Nargis P Birdie
Phiruza K Birdie
Rodha B Boatwalla
Ava J Boga [NR] Canada
Dilshad R Boga
Meher J Boga [NR] Canada
Persis F Boywalla [NR]
Behnay V Byramji [NR] Canada
Dilshad B Byramji [NR] Canada
Lyla R Byramji
Meheraniz S Byramji
Zarina H Byromshaw
Freny K Captain
Meher F Cawasji
Mahrukh R Chemi [NR]
Daulat N Chenoy
Zenobia N Chenoy [NR] Oman
Roshni E Chinai
Freny H Chinoy
Meher D Chinoy [NR]
Zarina A Chinoy [NR] Canada
Dilshad C Chowna [NR] Australia
Jasmine J Chowna
Shemaz R Chowna
Aban N Commisariat
Anita H Commisariat [NR] Canada
Aalla Z Contractor
Anita N Contractor
Cyra N Contractor
Zara N Contractor
Ashees F Cooper [NR] USA
Gool D Cooper
Guslan F Cooper
Havovi Z Cooper [NR]
Mani P Cooper
Nargis N Cooper
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Sunobor S Cooper
Ava A Cawasjee
Bhicki F Cawasjee [NR] USA
Gulnar N Cawasjee
Mani C Cawasjee
Pervin N Cawasjee [NR] UK
Aban A Cawasji
Freny B Cawasji
Vahista S Cawasji (NR) USA
Havovi S Dadabhoy
Dhunmai F Dalal [NR] USA
Freny M Dalal
Mohbano M Dalal
Perin A Dalal
Lyla R Daroga [NR] USA
Perviz V Daroga
Rashna F Daroga [NR] Canada
Shernaz R Dastoor
Bakhtavar D Daruwalla (NR) Canada
Farida C Daruwalla [NR] Canada
Hilla D Daruwalla
Khorsheed B Daruwalla
Khorsheed D Daruwalla
Nargesh S Daruwalla
Nilofer D Daruwalla [NR] Canada
Pervine Z Daruwalla [NR]
Shirin F Daruwalla [NR] Canada
Villy P Daruwalla
Villy R Daruwalla
Farida A Dastoor
Armaity M Dastur
Armaity M Dastur
Fiona R Dastur
Dhun R Dastur
Lily Dastur [NR] USA
Meher B Dastur
Mehrin C Dastur [NR] Canada
Zermina D Dastur
Dinaz F Davar
Arnavaz D Desai
Farida N Desai [NR] USA
Freny M Desai
Soonamaj D Desai [NR] USA
Zarin M Dhagara
Armaiti E Dinshaw
Diana M Dinshaw [NR] USA
Farishma M Dinshaw [NR] Canada
1911 Initial meeting of 8 women and 4 men at the home of founder Gulbai Mehta
1912 Banu Mandal established and begins work from HJ Rustomji Home
1912 Welfare is Mandal’s prime activity but a formal Welfare Subcommittee was formed in 1956
1915 Work Class was created to provide income to indigent women and the name was changed to Rehabilitation Subcommittee in 1961
1923 First printed Annual Report in Gujarati
1923 Neeyam (Rules) printed with finer points of membership and administration
1923 Joined other Zarthosti associations to honour Poet Laureate of the Bengal, Rabindranath Tagore
1924 Medical relief work made a start and the Medical Subcommittee was formed in 1956
1952 Joined other Zarthosti associations to honour American President’s wife Eleanor Roosevelt
1955 Suggestion for a self-supporting committee for entertainment was made and the Programme Subcommittee was formalised in 1958
1957 Mandal was registered under the Societies Act XXI of 1860
1958 Assistance and interest in academic progress is reported in Annual Report of 1958 when the Education Subcommittee was formed
1958 Classes for children started at the home of Gool Behli Rustomji and Child Welfare Subcommittee was formed in 1960
1962 Mandal was also registered under Voluntary Social Welfare Agencies Ordinance 1961
1962 On Mandal’s Golden Jubilee Manijeh Hommie Mehta Building was gifted by Sohrab Mehta in memory of his mother and this then became the registered office of the Mandal from its original location H J Rustomjee Home
1968 Education loans facility commenced for higher education
1972 At Mandal’s Diamond Jubilee a conference on “Parsi Problems” was held with Dr Jal Bulsara, the President of K R Cama Institute, as the keynote speaker
1991 First Annual Report in English was printed
1991 KZBM’s landmark cookery book the Manna of the Angels was launched and presented to Queen Elizabeth II in 1997
1991 Our newsletter What’s On was launched which is now the only community newsletter for Karachiites
1993 Zoroastrian Youth Conference on topical issues of Zarthostî youth was organised by KZBM
1994 Interest-free business loan facility started for small businesses
1995 Census of Zarthostîs in Pakistan with detailed data and analysis of every aspect of demography was conducted
1996 Address & Telephone Directory made its appearance and is now into its 7th publication
1996 Zarthostî visitors from Tajikistan at the suggestion of Dame Meher Master-Moos were invited and entertained
1997 Shariar and Shervin Shariari of America gave their unique presentation of Paradise, 1+1=3 and, Change your Paradigm
1998 A Services Directory was compiled with comprehensive list of Zarthostî entrepreneurs. This information is now updated and included in the A&T Directory
1998 Mandal’s constitution was amended to keep the institution progressive
2000 “Discovering Ashavan” a novel by Farishta Dinshaw was launched. It is now available on Amazon.com
2002 Sands of Time, the history of the Mandal with brief sketch of Zarthostî associations in Karachi was launched and its copies were sent to K.R. Cama Institute, SOAS Library and U.S. Library of the Congress in 2004
2001 Friends Medical Helpline set up to assist retired middle class
2003 Karachi Parsi Central Education Trust was closed and its funds were handed to KZBM
2005 Medical Loan Scheme introduced
2009 Informal Religious Meetings (IRM) was closed and their funds handed to the Mandal
2009 Mandal went ‘green’ but required copies of Annual Reports henceforth photocopied and distributed
2009 Marriage Loan introduced to assist newly married to set up their home
2011 Centenary celebrations commenced with vigour and joy
2012 Centenary celebrations concluded with the community’s participation.
We congratulate you on your Centenary

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Karachi Zarthostti Banu Mandal

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