

FEBRUARY 2016

KZBM's Navroze Sale Sun 6 March at 5pm



Persons interested in placing stalls may book these with Alla Rustomji latest by 1st March 9pm.

We invite the youth of our community to also have stalls to share their talent and skills, and make the mela enjoyable for all age groups.

There will be the usual stalls of KZBM with outfits for ladies, children's clothes, *sadras*, towels, sheets and household items as well as entertainment for children.

KZBM PROGRAMME

Cards, Bridge & Mahjong Evening with Kharya on Saturday, February 20, 2016



Come for an enjoyable winter evening of fun games of Cards or Mahjong in the company of good friends, with steaming cup of tea and snacks. We will conclude with tambola to try your luck, which will be followed by delicious Kharya (paya) dinner.

Kindly inform the ticket seller if you would like to eat Kharya (paya) or Chicken for dinner, and do not change your decision as dinner will be ordered accordingly. Also, bring your own gaming table.

Venue: KZBM Hall

Time: Games at 3pm

Tambola at 8pm &

Dinner at 9pm

Ticket per person: Rs 600

Last Date: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 till 1p.m.

Your Generosity Requested

Most of you already know that three-&-half year old Aryana Quettawalla has Severe A-plastic Anaemia and the only treatment suggested by her doctors is for her to have Stem-cell Transplant. This treatment can be done in Singapore but a huge sum is required and the community is requested to show their generosity as always and donate freely.

KZBM will receive cheques written in name of 'Karachi Zarhosti Banu Mandal' on behalf of the family and issue receipts. We look forward to your kindness.

For Your Convenience



All events for February 2016 are listed **at the very end** of this newsletter, to help you note these in your diary.

ALSO, when the newsletter is very long it is difficult to read it within body of email. You may read in 'pdf' version on www.banumandal.com > what's on , after it is uploaded in the first week of the month.

Z-Clips (4 posts: 1-4)



Inspired by "Taste of London" food festival CKO Event Management's Events Producer Cyra Anklesaria gave us "Karachi Eat": A fiesta of food, meet-the-chefs, live bands, performances, light-hearted competitions and supervised kids-activity to help parents free to explore the carnival.

The Frere Hall gardens were abuzz with average 20,000 persons participating per day: Friends and families noshing food and the sporty ones trying out face painting, shirt printing, photo booths or even the stage with open-mic night, complete with strobe lighting making the Frere Hall building spectacular.

Ninety-one food stalls - with red-and-white chequered tablecloth in the theme the festival - were from the top restaurants in the city, fast food chains, celebrity chefs, famous street food, frozen food to patisseries; as well as home-cooks to test their culinary skills. Fusion items like chocolate mutabbaq and Nutella gol gappay to haleem, and sajjī , Indian dosas and Danish sandwiches by a Danish family provided a diverse range. Sattar Buksh, Tempt Asian, Rajjoo ice-cream and koyla karhai were new entrants this year, while others built on their success of previous years. This was the third edition of the Festival, having commenced in 2014.

Here is a visitor's comment:

My walk around Karachi Eat Festival:
Fatso grilled sandwich - worth the wait!
Hoka organic apple crumble - yum yum yum
Saniyas kitchen khao suey - absolutely delicious!
Churros and Choc - perfect!
Cakes by Karimi Ferraro rocher cup - great for a sweet tooth
Fresh lemonade made in the old fashioned way - totally refreshing
Whilst walking, overheard people reviewing what they were eating,
so had help getting to the sure-shot stalls.
Went at 2.30 so no problems with traffic, parking or entry. Smooth
day out. Thanks CKO events!

To make the food affordable, the stall holders were asked to price each serving upto Rs 200, and the entry charge - which was complained about by some - was actually with the thought to keep away the undesirable element and the proceeds were given to couple of charities. A thorough security check was done prior to the opening and even an ambulance was at hand.

KZBM heartily congratulates Cyra for producing a successful mega-event third year running, and who knows in future and in better times an event appropriately adapted maybe organized for the common man too, also giving him a slice of good times. **SFG**

2

Our Pond's Miracle Women



Rashna Percy Gazder and Zarnak Yazdi Sidhwa were honoured at the Mohatta Palace on Saturday 23rd January 2016 in the Pond's Miracle Women Journey. They were among the 100 Miracle Women of 2015.

Below from left: the Pond's trophy; Zarnak at the event and Rashna's picture at the gala on the miracle women wall, as she was in Mumbai attending her brother's wedding. KZBM once again heartily congratulates Rashna and Zarnak for bringing laurels to the community.



3

The first ever International Udvada Uttsav (celebration) From December 25 to 27, 2015



Pakistan, Germany and Iran.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi wanted a festival to attract Parsis from across the world because he wanted to portray Udvada as a place of religious harmony and tolerance, but regrettably some controversy and consternation was evoked.

The Uttsav was perhaps the biggest International Parsi held celebration, with hotel rooms booked for December as early as June 2015, from Zoroastrians living in England, America, Canada,

The festivities included heritage walks, skits, treasure hunts, a vintage car rally, dances and skits by Zoroastrians from all over, performances by Shamak Daver & his dance troupe, and actor Boman Irani; competitions and lectures.

The controversy: On the second day of the Meet, Darius Khambatta, the senior counsel in Bombay High Court in his lecture said that "Zoroastrian fire temples should open their doors to children of Parsi mothers married to non-Parsis." This sparked a lot of controversy which regrettably is still raging.

References:

Parsis Worldwide Congregate at the First International Udvada Utsav by Beynaiz Edulji in Differenttruths.com
'Darius Khambatta says Parsis should be more inclusive', in The Indian Express

4

Draame-Bawaas



One-act play competition was held in Mumbai to honor the legacy of Adi Marzban in the legend's birth centenary year. **See the video of the finals of the competition**, in which four finalist teams, rigorously mentored by veteran artistes, perform a quartet of sparkling productions.

Click on the link below or copy-paste it in your browser:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kQDgeuo1kbQ>

OUR FRIENDS (6 posts: A-F)

**PPCA & KPI
Tambola
FUNDRAISER**

**FRIDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2016
7PM ONWARDS
KPI LAWN**

Please register your games with any one of the following:

- Anjuman Bagh – Azar Irani (32762355 – 0333 3651990)
- Avani / Cerus Colony – Natasha Movatsala (0334 3659002)
- Meherabad / Bath Island / Cliffros – Ronita Sethia (0900 8296918)
- Jamshed Bagh / Collector Bagh – Natasha Mobed (32251738 – 0300 8228616)
- Katrak Hall – Kaizer Irani (32784518 – 0900 2182633)
- Kharshedbal Compound – Ratanshaw Makojina (32785663 – 0300 9296809)
- Parsi Colony – Spenta Khambata (0300 8253447) / Behroze Khambata (32250648)
- Rastom Chawl Compound – Dinkaw Daruwala (32728259 – 0300 8226393)

FOOD AND DRINKS ON SALE

All proceeds will be donated to Aryana Quettawalla's Fund

B

Karachi Parsi Institute:



PLEASE NOTE: In addition to sumptuous '**Four Course Meal**' the facility of doorstep delivery of tickets can be provided without additional cost! So what are you waiting for? Pick up the phone and buy now!

C

BVS Parsi High School Drama Festival 2016 Performed by the Secondary Section

On Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st February 2016
At 6:30 pm, at the School premises



Tickets: Through Mrs Diana Randeria Head Mistress Secondary Section and Mrs Mehernaz Bharucha, Head Mistress Cambridge Section of the School.

Note

- Valet parking will be available
- Children under the age of 10 years not allowed
- Cost of ticket is Rs100

D

The YMZA/Dastur Dr Dhalla Institute ATHORNAN MANDAL'S Macca Darab Sachinwala Gujarati Elocution Competition Sunday, February 21, 2016 at 11 am at Banu Mandal Hall

This Gujarati Elocution is open for all Zarthosti children in the following age categories on ANY topic of interest-

- Montessori & Class 1
- Classes 2, 3 & 4

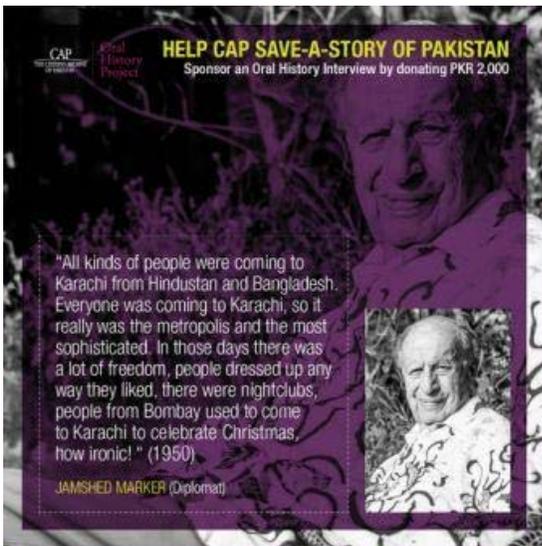
- Classes 5, 6 & 7
 - Classes 8, 9 & 10
 - Classes 11, 12, 13 ("O" & "A" Levels)
- (Depending on age groups these may be either further sub-divided or combined together)

Conditions:

- * UPTO 3 minutes per speaker (to be strictly enforced for ALL age categories).
- * Spoken language should be everyday Gujarati and not high-end, "shud" Gujarati.
- * Passages need not necessarily be on religion and preaching- but can also be a story.
- * Creative and older children are encouraged to speak about personal experiences.
- * Children must speak in a conversational tone to arouse interest in audience.

Please give names to: Shahrazad Irani, Behroze Khambatta, Kaizer Irani, Natasha Mobed, Natasha Mavalvala
Last date of names: February 16, 2016

E
If you know someone who has witnessed
Early Years of Pakistan
Encourage them to share their experience/story, orally



The Citizens Archive of Pakistan (CAP) is a non-profit organization dedicated to cultural and historic preservation, operating in Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad.

CAP's Oral History Project (OHP) concentrates on people talking about significant events in their lives during the early days of Pakistan, providing an alternative perspective to historical literature. The Project also aims to archive and preserve various records such as letters, newspapers, refugee cards, official correspondences and passports.

Karachi's history has been influenced and shaped by the Parsi community and collecting oral history narratives and memories from members of this community is imperative.

The names of some members of the Parsi community interviewed

by CAP in the past are given below:

Cyrus Cowasjee, Toxy Cowasjee, Dina Mistry, Gulshan Mistry, Nargis Mistry, Ratanshaw Mogan, Jamsheed Marker and Kershaw Khambatta

If you know someone who witnessed the early years of Pakistan, please nominate them for an oral history interview with CAP and help preserve these memories before they are lost. You can also archive old documents, photographs and other memorabilia with CAP.

For interview nominations or more information, you can get in touch with us through:

Email: info@citizensarchive.org
 Phone: +92.332.2541272

You can also peruse some of our work at:

Web: www.citizensarchive.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/citizensarchivepk
Twitter: www.twitter.com/citizensarchive
Instagram: www.instagram.com/citizensarchive
Youtube: www.youtube.com/CitizensArchive
CAP Film: <https://vimeo.com/129070447>

F

Mushkil Asaan Prayers

February 5, 2016 at 5:00pm

Jamshed Baugh Club House

The JB Club Committee is thankful to the community members for their presence at the Mushkil Asaan prayers and invites all Zarhostis to attend.

MILESTONES

Janam

Armaan, a boy to Shiraz and Cyrus Billimoria in New Jersey, USA, on 19th January

Arya, a girl to Natalia and Ahmed Ali in Hong Kong on 25th January

Navjote

**Correction: Aryan and Alena, daughters of Nazish and Meheryar Mavalvala on 25th December.

** while the error is regretted, it is also requested that when outstation children have their Navjote, someone in their family very kindly provides details at kzbm1912@gmail.com

Siyavash, son of Farishte and Cyrus Kapadia on 30th January

Maran

Minoo Nawrojee Bamjee, h/o (late) Dinaz Bamjee, f/o Anita Nadeer Contractor, Lyla Ramie Daroga, Natasha Adil Tarapore and Phiroza Kaezad Setna, on 1st January 2016

Ex-Karachiite: Jehanbux (Jhangoo) Divecha, h/o Daulat, in Toronto, Canada on 3rd January

Darius Framroze Rabadi, h/o Perveen Rabadi on 7th January.

Parin Darabshah Gamwalla, sister of (late) Eruch Gamwalla, aunt (fui) of Vahishta Fariboze Irani on 8th January.

Freny Aspi Aga, w/o (late) Aspi Aga, m/o Diana Billimoria and (late) Lillian Karanjia on 10th January

Eruch P Balsara, f/o Sunita Kaikhosrowzadah and Anahita Faroogh (Canada), on 12th January

Persis F Patloo, sister of Tehmi, Jerbanoo, Daisy and (late) Cyrus Patloo on 14th January

POSTING

Beware of use of insect spray when your stove is on

If you spot a cockroach in your kitchen DO NOT use an insect killer spray IF THE STOVE IS ON. Particles from the spray can explode and engulf you in flames, also endangering anyone who comes to rescue you.

(Courtesy: Rashna Umrigar)

OUR FAITH (3 posts: 1-3)

Ancient Persian Mazda Yasni Calendar

For The 21st Century

(by Fariborz Rahnamoon)



Keeping track of days has been of interest from time

immemorial. The obvious unit of time has always been the day and night, the determinant of which has been the Sun. Some who started their day at sunrise, the sun was of great importance to them to the extent that it was considered as the god that gave life, for they argued that without the sun there would be no life on earth: human life, as we know it on earth, would not be possible without the sun.

The moon as a means of timekeeping had drawbacks, for the time it kept did not coincide with the seasons and fell short of a solar year, so civilizations that had settled down and were farming found the moon lacking the qualities of an efficient timekeeper and the intelligent among them invented a method to divide the year based on seasons rather than the moon. In other words the Solar system was used to divide the year. The various positions of the earth in relation to the sun were the determinants and most of them were celebrated as festivals.

The ancient Iranian calendar was the most advanced calendar that has ever existed, unfortunately for mankind this calendar along with the other advances in science achieved by the Persian civilization was destroyed; first by the Greeks and Romans led by Alexander and the Islamic conquerors leaving very little unbiased information for reconstruction.

The ancient Iranians according to the Avesta followed the solar year. 'Haptan Yasht' (Ha-3), says about: "the coming of the season at the proper time of the solar year." So also in Yasna Ha1.9, Ha 3.11, Ha 4.14 it says, "I learn about and work with the solar year, the righteous period". Their year always started with the Vernal Equinox and the Avesta and Shahnameh date it back to the end of the last ice age when the legendary Shah Jamshid celebrated the first spring after the ice melted. **The ancient Iranians had one of the most accurate calendars because their year always started with the vernal equinox and so it automatically took care of the leap year.**

The fact that they followed the solar year, very accurately, is further strengthened by the main festivals that are celebrated to this day. Namely, Now Ruz, Tirgan, Mehregan, Yalda (Chelah) and Sadeh; today these festivals are given mythical prominence rather than their obvious scientific significance. So let's look at the scientific significance of these festivals and reconstruct the ancient Iranian Calendar. These festivals coincide with, the unique positions of the earth while revolving around the sun and the start of the seasons.

So it is these events in nature that are in fact celebrated as festivals.

- 1- Vernal Equinox the beginning of Spring as New Year – Now Ruz
- 2- Summer Solstice the beginning of Summer as Tirgan
- 3- Autumnal Equinox the beginning of Fall as Mehregan
- 4- Winter Solstice the beginning of winter as Yalda (Chelah)

(Above are excerpts from a detailed article on the subject)

2

Original Fire lit by Prophet Zarathostra (Zoroaster) more than 2500 years ago

See the video by clicking the link below or copy-pasting it in your browser:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q2ZxstfJejM>

3

A Prayer



(Submitted by our nonagenarian member Freny Minoo Desai)

AND...

The Fig Leaf

A little boy opened the big family bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages.

"Mama, look what I found," the boy called out.

"What have you got there, dear?"

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, "I think it's Adam's underwear!"

Despatch: Last Saturday of the month.

Previous Issues: www.banumandal.com/what's on

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To unsubscribe: Write UNSUBSCRIBE in subject line and email to kzbm1912@gmail.com



For noting in your diary:

Day/Date	Time	Venue	Event and its details
Fri 05 Feb	7 pm	KPI Lawn	PPCA/KPI Tambola Fund Raiser. Food and drinks on sale.
Fri 05 Feb	5 pm	JB Hall	Mushkil Asaan prayers
Sat 13 Feb		K P I	Valentine's Day Dance. Tkts: Zoro Rs 900 Non-Zoro Rs 1200. Theme: red and white
Sat 20 Feb	3 pm onward	KZBM Hall	Card/Bridge/Mahjong, followed by Tambola and Kharia(paya) dinner. Tkt: Rs 600
Sat 20 & Sun 21 Feb	6:30 pm	BVS School	Drama Festival 2016 by Secondary Section Tkt: Rs 100 from School of Headmistresses
Sun 21 Feb	11 am	KZBM Hall	Gujarati Elocution. Last date for names: 16 Feb.
Sun 06 Mar	5 pm	KZBM Hall	KZBM's Navroze Sale. Book tables by: 1st March