

THE PARSEE VOICE

Vol. I. 3

1 – 15 September 2003

For Private Circulation

**Election
Special**

POSERS FOR ELECTORAL COLLEGE VOTERS!

By Adi Doctor

(1) IF “as a sitting trustee” (this expression has become so...o...o infectious!) D.K. Tamboly has done wonders for the BPP and the Parsee community in the last seven years (that's what we are being brainwashed with), why does he need to be PROPPED up by SOLICITED letters from Khandhidas and Nassesalars and his so-called admirers and well-wishers from Parsee baugs and colonies?

(2) “As a sitting trustee”, isn't he misusing and abusing his authority, by shoving letters prepared by him and his lieutenants, under the nose of innocent colony residents and Electoral College Voters – “*trustee saheb-é moklâvelun chhé, té sahi kari aapo!*”?

(3) When he may be doing “such good work”(?) under the auspices of the WZO, where is the need for him to go for a second term of seven long years in the Bombay Parsi Punchayet? Isn't there, then, some other motive for his DESPERATE attempt to become a BPP trustee for further seven years?

(4) Haven't you ever wondered why D.K. Tamboly is hopelessly allergic to the word, “Parsee”? (No wonder, his allergy extended so viciously to The Parsee Voice!) We would very much like to have a friendly challenge with our readers in general, and the voters, in particular, to show us any recent write-up,

article or speech of their Dinshaw...ji, wherein, with the word “community”, he has used the word “Parsee”. It's either “the Zoroastrian community” or the “Zarthushti community”. Why does he do that, always? Because, that's the buzz-word used in old Blighty and in the so-called “New World”, where their brand of “neo-Zarthushtis” (read, pseudo-Zarthushtis) exist and proliferate—faster than mice, because there are apostates and renegades, who are ever ready to plonk the sudreh-kusti even on any available lamp post!! And they are all either members or office-bearers, or hangers-on of the WZO, of which Mr. D.K. Tamboly is the Member, International Board and the Chairman of the WZO Trust Funds, India.

(5) Double Speak: Haven't you, as a voter, seen the deviousness and duplicity in his so-called “Plainspeak”, (Jame 31st Aug. 2003), which, in reality, is nothing but “Doublespeak”? Parsees, by and large, have become so gullible and even indifferent that they don't bother to see through his game plan of bamboozling them with his playing around with words – just as a cat plays with a mouse, before devouring it!

He is supposed to be giving his explanation to the leaflet that created a remarkable stir in the community. And what has he done? What

he is always capable of doing – deriding and belittling the writers of that leaflet, being evasive and beating about the bush to hoodwink the readers! Not only has he failed to explain the accusations, but has evaded replying to many of the queries.

Such deviousness and subterfuge cannot be seen by those who have turned a blind eye to truth and are hypnotised by his sweet talk!

I have been a voter on the Anjuman Committee for the last twenty three years. I have seen many a battle fought out both inside and outside the columns of Jame by candidates

aspiring for the trusteeship of the BPP, and Jame has every right to take sides, which it did, in the past. But, in the last three years, in particular, beginning with Mrs. S. Kavarana's re-election followed by Dinshaw Mehta's and Rustom Tirandaz', it jettisoned all journalistic ethics and came up a cropper, twice!

A front-page headline of an issue of Jame Weekly of October 2002 read: "Tirandaz and Truth – Poles Apart!" I don't know about that. But I am sure that one can safely substitute "Tamboly" for "Tirandaz"!



OOO... LÀ LÀ! 'JAM-E-TAMBOLY' PUSHES THE PANIC BUTTON!

Tch! Tch! How has the 171-year-old Jam-e-Jamshed fallen! To what low depths has it sunk that, it has to rope in the help of **Khandhias** (in more sense than one!) and **Nassasalars** and the motley *chamchas* to prop up its godfather, D.K. Tamboly, for the trusteeship of the Bombay Parsi Punchayet!! (31st August, 2003).

What was sauce for Tirandaz doesn't seem to be sauce for Tamboly, the *de facto* Editor for the last three years! **And look at the wildest of the wild, reckless, baseless allegations and accusations on the front page of the same issue: without naming Tirandaz, that poor "politician" has been unnecessarily dragged in to camouflage Tamboly's own theatrics!**

BYE & HI! Journalism reached its nadir on the 24th August itself, when on the centre-spread, the Dhondy-Tamboly duo went hammer and tongs at Noshir Dadrawala: the language used was that befitting a guttersnipe! "How dare can anyone challenge our "Zarthushti" **Sethia**, who wanted an arm-chair walkover to 209, D.N. Road, for a second term? You have to take it below the belt... etc."

The very next Sunday came the expected somersault (even primates can't do it that fast!) The "despicable" Dadrawala, in just a week, became a "Hero". Why? **Because he withdrew his candidature (but not in favour of Tamboly), on account of the cheapest and dirtiest arm-twisting and blackmailing tactics employed by the duo!**

The issue of 31st August is littered with articles and letters from Tamboly's satellites and those who want to see their names and pix, week after week in the tabloid! Don't try to show our idol in a bad light! Haven't you seen the halo round him?

But what supprises us is that a letter from Mrs. Simone N. Tata and Mr. Noel N. Tata has also been published to boost Mr. Tamboly's chances at the hustings!! Maybe, some one will have to jog their memory about the erstwhile Naval Tata-Tamboly relationship? Some other skeletons in the cupboard too, have started rattling, and yet Tamboly has the gall to say in his "Plainspeak" that his "life" and "work have always been an open book"!!

Finally, how come in their over-anxiousness to print solicited letters of recommendation (a) from doctors and lawyers, someone forgot to mention that quite a few of them were with the DDD-AG less than two years ago (draw your own conclusions!) and (b) someone also forgot to remove the name of Fram Mirza from the list of staffers of Doongerwadi! Just to remind you, that the same Mirza has been banned by our High Priests from performing ceremonies at our Fire Temples, because he has been dubbed a "renegade" who makes a mockery of our rituals, performing them for those cremated, or for those marrying non-Parsees and for the Navjote of their children! Again, he has endorsed Tamboly! So, draw your own conclusions!!

THE CHEQUE THAT KEEPS BOUNCING!

Like Banqo's ghost, two things that haunt the Dhondy-Tamboly duo day-in and day-out are: **that cheque and that 'politician'!**

So exasperated is Tamboly about the 3½ years old cheque raising its ugly head from unexpected corners, that, in a characteristic patronising tone (after all, he is the self-styled community's **Sethia!**) he wrote in his explanation, not in his own *Jame*, (that really needs a lot of explanation – see Tannaz Parakh's letter elsewhere in this issue) that, "...I must make it clear at this juncture that there will be no further responses from my end to the collective negative synergy emanating from minds that think unenthusiastically, speak unconstructively (our printer has problems with all that gobbdygook) and act harmfully".

So, let's see how the Tamboly-Dhondy duo, even today explain away that cheque of Rs. 4 lacs of 10-3-2000 in favour of "R.A. Dhondy". First, Tamboly writes, "The policy of WZO is not to extend support in the name of firms, the logic being that firms can close down or change hands!!" **We don't understand your logic, Mr. Tamboly! You can't fool all the people all the time!!**

Jam-e-Jamshed is a Private Ltd. Co. The WZO has issued cheques in favour of institutions and organisations, the classic case being that of the Athornan Mandal, to which, in early 1996, two cheques, totalling Rs.90 lacs (Rs.40 – Rs.50 lacs) were issued!!

Let's proceed further. Tamboly writes, "When the Editor of *Parsidom*, late Dara Kadva, came to be

DINSHAW TAMBOLY CRITICISES *PARSIDOM* REPORT

The Editor, *Parsidom*

SIR : Reading the report "Caught red-handed" in *Mee Parsidom Boltoy* column (15-4-2000) reinforced my admiration for the adage "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread."

The individual who wrote the report and the family of the individual who is instrumental in providing the information, now conveniently forget that they and their families were also helped in similar circumstances.

It was a lesson to learn how a simple and straightforward act of extending support has been twisted and projected as something devious by individuals who earlier were supported in similar fashion at a time when they were in need.

The pathetic report reminded me of the story where the deaf man heard the dumb man say that the blind man saw the lame man run.

– Dinshaw K. Tamboly
Banaji Street, Mumbai

(Mr Dinshaw Tamboly has either misread or read too much in the report, which is not aimed at either the WZO or him personally but someone else, who, he knew, had left no stone unturned and no adjective unused in vilifying *Parsidom* and its Editor. As the heading above had said, the report was written by me and it is in line with the rules of this profession that, when a journalist has a good story in his hand, he does not sleep over it but publishes it straightaway. That's what I did, also to repay my villifyer in the same coin. The contents of the report would have been same even if the cheque was issued by someone else and not the WZO. – Dara Kadva)

RUSI DHONDY REPEATS THE CHARGE OF YELLOW JOURNALISM

The Editor, *Parsidom*

SIR : This is in reference to your article captioned "Caught Red-handed" printed in your column *Mee Parsidom Boltoy* on 15th March 2000.

In this connection, I would like to inform you that I have treated your "expose" with the contempt it deserves and have consigned your issue to its logical resting place – the dustbin. Moreover, I have proposed your name for Chairmanship of the Association of Yellow Journalists (rproposed).

May you continue to churn out more and more trash, much to the perverse delight of you and your ilk.

Rusi A. Dhondy
Cusrow Baug, Mumbai

(Hurt is felt hard only when pain hits the self, which a person does not feel when he inflicts the same onto the others. Mr Dhondy never thought of this when he and his lieutenant heaped all conceivable insults and contempts on me and my magazine during the past six months – and lost when the community delivered its verdict on 11th March 2000. I leave the same right of verdict onto the community to decide whether *Parsidom* is really a "rag" and its Editor deservant of the title that Mr Dhondy and his *Sancho Paza* has so kindly conferred on me repeatedly. They are poor judges to have a final say in the matter themselves. – Editor)

aware of the true facts, he set the record straight in **Parsidom** of May 25, 2001, with the following write-up.”

Instead of giving his own explanation for the cheque, Tamboly quotes the late Mr. Kadva's brief write up, which itself is mysterious and raises doubts.

What Tamboly does not tell his readers, however, is what he and Mr. Dhondy wrote to **Parsidom** and Mr. Kadva's hard-hitting comments thereon, published in **Parsidom** of the 30th April, 2000 – in the next issue immediately after the one in which the cheque's copy was published (15.4.2000). We reproduce below the contents from that issue of 30-4-2000.

Notice the contemptuous, threatening language used by the "jugal jodi". The WZO supremo keeps reminding Kadva of the debt he owes the WZO! That's his brand of charity. Even then, Kadva uses strong language in his comments. More than a year later, Mr. Kadva wrote the condescending note: "SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT"

(25-5-2001). Less than two months later, on 20th July, 2001, Mr. Kadva passed away.

The questions that arise are: Why did Mr. Kadva repeatedly inform his readers in 2001, that **Parsidom** was indebted to the WZO? Surely, he was aware of the fact that in 1997, WZO enabled **Parsidom** to "get off the ground", when he wrote his critical comments on the nasty letters of Tamboly and Dhondy, as published on 30-4-2000 and quoted above? **Why then, after one whole year, did the late Editor set the record straight? Was it pressure? Bullying? Bulldozing? Jame has the habit of using such nefarious tactics with those who one way or the other are a threat to Tamboly, the latest example being that of Dadrawala in the issue of 24th August, 2003!**

Readers and Anjuman Committee Voters should confront Tamboly with these doubts and queries, before lapping up whatever he writes, and before taking him at his face value!



MEET YAZDI H. DESAI – THE CANDIDATE WHO LOVES PARSEEPANU!

How Nature abhors a vacuum! As soon as 43-year-young Noshir H. Dadrawala upped and offed, in stepped another 43-year-young – Yazdi H. Desai – a sincere, committed and matured Zarthoshti, who, unlike his opponent, the “sitting trustee”, “loves being a Parsee”! He loves his “*Parseepanu* and all the eccentricities that go with it”.

What's even more important, this Finance/Legal Director of Writer Corporation (formerly P.N. Writer) has no personal axe to grind in becoming a BPP Trustee, except to put the virtually derailed Punchayet back on its wheels. Not for him, serving two mistresses. He is very much

against any world body of so-called Zoroastrians or Zombies if you like. He firmly believes that we Parsee/Irani Mazdayasni Zarthoshtis are the only true heirs to the greatest and most exalted religion of Holy Prophet Zarthosht.

Besides, Yazdi possesses appropriate sense of purpose and sincerity towards a cause.

We earnestly appeal to all voters not to be bowled over by all the blitzkrieg of Yazdi's opponent and allow a breath of fresh air in the corridors of the historical Bombay Parsi Punchayet.



Truth must prevail!

The August 3, 2003 issue of Jam-e-Jamshed Weekly carried details of an interview of Mr. Dinshaw K. Tamboly by Ms. Ruby Lilaowala, which she claims was “comprehensive”. I would prefer to call it a “convenient” interview.

The impression that one got was that the whole interview was stage-managed with questions to project Mr. Tamboly in a positive light. But the very purpose of an interview is defeated when certain important considerations are swept under the carpet and window-dressing is resorted to. This is exactly what happened here!

The questions which Ms. Lilaowala did not care to ask were courageously placed before the community by a group of concerned individuals. Instead of appreciating their honesty and lauding their sincerity of purpose, the opposition launched an all-out blitzkrieg in Jame to deride and hound the authors of that circular into silence. And our obliging lady interviewer too decided to join this bandwagon and contribute her mite.

In the issue of August 31, 2003, Ms. Lilaowala took it upon herself to defend Mr. Tamboly and launched into a tirade against the authors of the circular by giving them a severe dressing down on “*Morality, ethics, principles, respect for truth...*” etc. **What Ms. Lilaowala has not realised is that she herself is SUPPORTING UNTRUTH.** As fate would have it, her article is titled “**TRASH! TRASH!! TRASH!!!**” – a very apt title for what she herself has penned!

She writes, “*As regards Tamboly's role in establishing a “Cosmopolitan Agiary”, it is plain humbug and does not deserve a comment.*” **No, lady! You are wrong!**

The Parsee Voice has in its possession a copy of the Trust Deed of “**The European Zarathushti Fire Temple Trust**” executed on 4th October, 2000. Clause 3.2 of the said Deed is reproduced hereunder :

“*The Principal Charitable Object of the Charity is the advancement of the Zarathushti faith by :*

(a) *the provision and maintenance of a place or places of worship both the the living (being consecrated Fire Temples), for persons professing the Zarathushti faith and for departed souls;*” (emphasis ours).

Please note, the words used are “**for persons professing the Zarathushti faith**” and not “**for Parsee Zoroastrians or born of Parsee Zoroastrian parents**”.

In short, any Ron, Dick, and Ali, who fancies himself as “professing” the Zarathushti faith, is conferred the right of entry and worship in this “Agiary!”. DOES THIS NOT TANTAMOUNT TO ESTABLISHING A “COSMOPOLITAN AGIARY!”

Further, Clause 12.3 of the said Trust Deed states that “*The Administrators shall in the course of this process be guided (but without imposing an obligation on them) by the High Priests (Dastoorjees) in India*”.

How come the Dastoorjees' opinion on ‘whether persons *professing*(?) the Zarathushti faith can enter a consecrated Agiary in the first place’ was never solicited? Even future advice, if and when asked for, is not binding on these worthies. How very convenient!

Three people have signed this Trust Deed as Trustees viz. Rumi Sethna, Rohinton Sarosh Irani and **DINSHAW KAIKI TAMBOLY**. Though it is claimed that the Agiary plans were finally shelved (for other reasons), **it does not negate the fact that Mr. Dinshaw Kaiki Tamboly was a party to this act in the first place.** In spite of signing this Trust Deed, Mr. Tamboly mentions in his write-up in Mumbai Samachar that “*The very heading is ridiculous and the assumption that a ‘cosmopolitan agiary’ was being established at London is preposterous*”. **Are these the actions of a ‘religious and conservative’ man as Ms. Lilaowala would have us all believe him to be?** It now remains to be seen whether Ms. Lilaowala still calls this accusation “plain humbug” or is **gracious enough to admit her mistake publicly.**

Ms. Lilaowala's attention is also drawn to the fact that the issues raised in the circular were not new or fabricated. The matter relating to this Cosmopolitan Agiary and other issues concerning the WZO's functioning and agenda vis a vis religious matters have been repeatedly appearing in Mumbai Samachar for the last two years but the powers-that-be in the WZO have rarely thought it fit to clarify their position on these issues. **It appears that the principles of transparency, accountability etc., which are bandied about by them, are meant only to be preached but not practised!**

We are sure that Ms. Lilaowala is an honourable lady and will, in future, ensure that she is not, to quote her own words, “*grossly irresponsible and reckless in levelling such accusations*” without first getting her facts straight!

H.M. Mistry

Tannaz Parakh Picks Holes in Tamboly's "Explanation"

To,
The Editor,
The Parsee Voice

Sir,

Mr. Dinshaw Tamboly's explanation in response to various issues brought to the fore in a pamphlet circulated among community members, published in last Sunday's Jam-e-Jamshed and Mumbai Samachar are totally unacceptable, to say the least. While some of them are vague and extraneous to the actual concerns expressed, others are downright untruthful.

Following the 6 subtitles Mr. Tamboly has divided the pamphlet into, I will expose the bankruptcy of truth in them.

WZO

Mr. Tamboly himself has not denied any of the statements regarding the WZO. This makes them all truthful statements. Yet he labels them a "medley of distorted facts, fiction and flights of fancy"!

Mr. Tamboly says that intermarriages are the stark reality of the times. He argues that if a non-zoroastrian spouse can be accepted as a member of the family, then why can't they be accepted as members of the organization. He says that other organizations in the West also accept non-Zoroastrian spouses as members. And he says that the WZO is a magnificent organization. **Significantly, an entire paragraph expressing what might be termed by some as "liberal views" is missing from the Jame version of Mr. Tamboly's letter to the electorate and the community! It remains intact in the Samachar.**

In any event, none of the statements mentioned above, in any way address the issues we have raised. Although membership of non-Zoroastrian spouses is sought to be justified by Mr. Tamboly, the other half of the statement namely, **giving non-Zoroastrians voting rights to stand for office, is completely ignored by him.**

While asking the question, "what does such a membership clause really do", Mr. Tamboly conveniently makes no mention of the rights to

vote and stand for office that this clause confers on the non-Zoroastrian spouse. It is these rights, which may result one day in non-Zoroastrians heading and controlling what is supposed to be a Zoroastrian organisation. Also ignored is the falsehood that WZO leaders have constantly propagated in India in order to placate our predominantly traditional community, namely that WZO-India and WZO-U.K. are separate bodies. As the signatories to the pamphlet have proved, they are not!

Most importantly, the query "what does the "Z" in WZO stand for? remains unanswered!" Let me answer that one for you.

According to the WZO a Zoroastrian is a person who professes the Zoroastrian faith. Mr. Tamboly, a leading WZO official can certainly not feign ignorance of this. Our High Priests and religious scholars have always maintained that **the Zoroastrian Faith does not permit conversion.** Either one can accept what the WZO states regarding the definition of a Zoroastrian or what our High Priests and religious scholars say. **A man must stand for one or the other. One cannot, with any manner of honesty, hold both views, as Mr. Tamboly seems to do.**

Please note: There are converts in South America and Africa, who *claim to profess the Zoroastrian Faith!* The WZO has opened the doors of our religion to them. It is only a matter of time before this same "universality of Zoroastrianism" ideology is thrust down our throats. What is rankling about this whole pathetic situation is that WZO Charity has succeeded to a large extent in closing the eyes and minds of community members to this hidden religious agenda of the WZO. **Wake up my friends, before the WZO gobbles up our religious identity, along with the vast funds and properties left by our sagacious forefathers for the benefit of Parsee/ Irani Zoroastrians.**

"Cosmopolitan Agiary"

Mr. Tamboly states, "The assumption that a "cosmopolitan agiary" was being established at London is preposterous". I wonder what one would

call an agiary that was to be established for persons “professing the Zoroastrian Faith”? The idea is undoubtedly preposterous **but the fact remains that Mr. Tamboly was the Founder Trustee of the European Zarathushti Fire Temple Trust, whose object was to establish a consecrated Adarian for persons professing the Zoroastrian faith!** Just so that one understands clearly the implications of the phrase “professing the Zoroastrian faith”, I would like to add that **Mr. Ali Jafarey, a Muslim, also “professes the Zoroastrian Faith”,** as to thousands of his disciples in South America and Africa!

Dakhmas, Doongerwadi, DDD-AG

Several points need to be tackled here.

- (a) It was certainly a sick mind that circulated ghastly photographs of the insides of our Dakhas. No arguments there. But receiving the photographs and showing them to other people are two different actions. We know of many people who similarly received these photographs but were prudent enough to trash them. If Mr. Tamboly insists on collectively grouping everyone he showed the photographs to, as only “one individual”, I suggest that all those who have been shown these photographs by him should now publicly question him on this point. Let them collectively sign their statement as coming from “one individual”!
- (b) “Avoiding litigation” is the reason given by Mr. Tamboly to explain his action of favoring the DDD-AG. This reasoning is completely faulty if not dishonest. If the DDD-AG were threatening to take the Trustees to court, **so were the traditionalists. There was never a chance of “avoiding litigation” as Mr. Tamboly claims.** Therefore, it follows that this explanation given as a reason for favoring the DDD-AG is a cover-up!

The statement that is most alarming in this whole explanation under Dakhmas, Doongerwadi, DDD-AG, is that Mr. Tamboly points out that the problem is “not completely solved”. And says that “should circumstances conspire to weaken the system in future”, he would, “as a mature and responsible Trustee, have no option but to go through the same motions as earlier”. **Significantly again, this entire paragraph too, is missing in the Jame version of Mr. Tamboly's letter!** It remains intact in the Mumbai Samachar. **This is masterful election strategy!** The

orthodox are sought to be won over with the publicity blitz in Jame that announces that **Mr. Tamboly is the “Saviour of Doongerwadi”,** while at the same time a carrot is held out to the DDD-AG that he would still be willing to consider the DDD-AG request for a prayer hall were they to approach the BPP again in the future! Both groups are happy and the truth lies buried somewhere between their twin hopes.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT GIVEN TO THE JAM-E-JAMSHED

The truth is that Mr. Dinshaw Tamboly's nexus is with the Editor, Mr. Rusi Dhondy and **this Rs. 4 lakhs we're very reliably told, is only the tip of the iceberg.** Please see the cheque again and now examine the absurd explanation given by Mr. Tamboly.

Firstly, Mr. Tamboly claims that the policy of the WZO is “to extend support in the name of individuals and not in the name of firms.” **Pray why then has the WZO only recently handed over a cheque of Rs. 90 lakhs to the Athornan Mandal and not to any of the Trustees in their “individual” capacity,** in keeping with this WZO Policy?”

Secondly, “the logic” in this policy of WZO is that “firms can close down or change hands.” If the intention of WZO was to “save this community institute from closing down”, would it not be logical to issue the cheque in the name of Jam-e-Jamshed i.e. the institution rather than an individual like Mr. Rusi Dhondy.

Thirdly, and most importantly, Mr. Tamboly states that “WZO was informed that a photocopy of the cheque issued was given by Jam-e-Jamshed to their creditors as a token of faith that funds had been received and their dues would be cleared”. If this is true then surely bank records can be shown to the public that “Jame's creditors” were in fact paid this amount of Rs. 4 lakhs, which Rusi Dhondy received from the WZO-Rural Housing Project account?

Surely the community has a right to know how much money is being given from WZO funds (even today!) to Mr. Dhondy personally to ward off personal creditors? Is this the accountability and transparency one expects from our leaders?

The continuing nexus certainly explains why Jame does not give those who speak up against the WZO and against Mr. Dinshaw Tamboly's questionable actions as a Trustee of the BPP, even half a fair

chance! **The authors of the pamphlet would have had no reason to distribute pamphlets if our community paper had been unbiased.**

WORLD BODY

While the decision to join a World Body (WB) would seem innocuous at the moment, and even noble to some, seeming to foster international solidarity and unity, the participation of the BPP in the WB, in the long run, is detrimental to the interests of the Parsee/Irani Zarthushti Community, especially in India, for the following reasons:

1. The World Body will be representing Associations all over the world which will have members **whose definition of a Zoroastrian do not match with our definition of a Zoroastrian.** Thus there would be open conflict of interest between the different organizations.
2. Working with such "Zarthushti" nominees on the Board will be tantamount to giving recognition and legitimacy to them thus granting tacit acceptance into our fold.
3. There will come a time when such "Zarthushti" members [who may be converts and neo-Zoroastrians (sic)] would be office-bearers of the World Body, thereby controlling the "Zarthushti" World Body.

The BPP over the centuries has been looking after the interests of Parsee/Irani Zoroastrians in Mumbai as well as in India. Joining the proposed World Body would definitely create a conflict of interest, threaten the identity of our Community and will entirely defeat the purpose for which our ancestors came to India. This is also the opinion of our High Priests and religious scholars.

Despite this, Mr. Tamboly writes, "the establishment of a world body is a necessity of the times" and "the concerns expressed in the leaflet are baseless".

Are these concerns baseless? Let the electorate and community decide.

The World Body is formed under the umbrella of the WZO. Three Trustees of the BPP are WZO officials. **Will these WZO men abide by the voice of our High Priests and religious scholars and shoot down this multi-racial World Body or will they favour the WZO? This is a clear example of the conflict of interest we have been screaming ourselves hoarse about for a long time now. Will some truly responsible community leaders please take up this issue?**

GENERAL COMMENTS

Why is orthodoxy suddenly being given a bad name? It only means ortho = correct; doxy = doctrine; **correct doctrine!** Calling us "lunatic fringe" or other names does not in any way explain away any of the issues we are discussing.

We are not blinded by hatred and we do not have closed minds, as Mr. Tamboly insinuates. We have an abiding belief in the strength and power of the rites, rituals and ceremonies of our ancient religion, which should be preserved and cannot **move with the times as our pragmatic leader proposes time and again**, as a ready solution for the different problems facing the community. Our BPP leaders owe at least that much to the future generations of Parsee/Irani Zoroastrians!

No man can serve two masters. As a BPP Trustee, Mr. Tamboly is expected to protect our funds and properties and preserve our religious identity. Can he do that when the organization he represents in India, the WZO, represents multi-racial "Zoroastrians"?

The WZO can continue with their 'Charity Work' without taking over the BPP. The BPP is the apex body of the **Parsee Zoroastrians. Let us please keep it that way!**

Yours truly,
Tannaz S. Parakh

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