

PARSI PUKAR ENTERS THE SEVENTH YEAR

Greetings to each of our readers!

"To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven;

"A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted."
- Holy Bible: Ecclesiastes : 3.1, 2.

Oh God! How time flies! This humble magazine has completed six years!

This issue is dated July, August, September 2001; it is, however, published in February 2002. Why we are late has been explained in the previous Issues. You, my dear reader, must have observed that we are making up the delay and shortening the time gap. By the grace of Ahuramazda and His Yazat-Prophet, Asho Zarathushtra, we hope to reduce the gap to nil soon.

Six completed years mean, this humble magazine - in - your - service has entered the historic annals. It is time to look back. Ahura alone knows how many more years and more pages of history this child of Khshnoom will cover.

In the matter of Religion in general, and Zarathoshti Din in particular, we Parsis present a peculiar psychological phenomenon. All of us have intense devotion towards our Paigambar Asho Zarathushtra. Here we walk on a common path. But then at some point we divert to different lanes.

Many of us have deep faith in the Spiritual Institutions of our Din. We do Kushti, pray Manthrawani, go to Agiari-Atash beheram, have Kriyakaam for the departed souls, love Dokhm-e-nashini. But we do not inquire in proper depth what they are. We do not take adequate intelligent interest in them. We are unaware of the spiritual and mystical depths running into them. Forgive me, a kind of mental laziness has crept in us. Self interested and ego-centred 'Dasturs' and 'Scholars' misguide us. Our knowledge of Religion is markedly shallow and self-centred. We can describe it as "Uchdi tunchi lai dodela", (a phrase current in Gujarat Parsis.)

This magazine provides you materials for thinking out the truths moulded in our Din. Religion is the mystical science, which covers all Sciences from an electron to God. Its study therefore requires sincere exertion, not only in reading but also in living our life on earth. In six years, Parsi Pukar has given you ample materials to think and study. The like of questions shooting in your mind are listed on page 3 and some terse answers on page 4. These were published in a pamphlet which was a prelude to the coming out of this magazine, and reprinted here, not merely as a historical record but also to rekindle the questions in your mind.

* * * * *

Following the excellent tradition of all Religions, we offered a Prayer on the first page of our first issue. We offer it again here on the next page!

OUR PRAYER SIX YEARS BACK...

*In the NAME of Ahura Mazda,
the fountain-Source of the Wisdom Divine
Who is One and yet Infinite;
Is Infinite and yet lives in every particle
of His Creation;
Who is Just and yet Merciful;
Who punishes and yet forgives;
Who draws us to Himself in innumerable ways;*

*AND in the Names of all the Channels
of His Divine Light, the 'Yazata's';
AND in the Name of His Yazatic Messenger,
Asho Zarathushtra;
AND in the Names of all His Prophets,
Abeyds, Ashavans, Saints and Sages,
AND in the Name of Adarbad Maraspand
the Saoshyant Dastoor of our times;
AND in the Name of Shah Behram Varzavand
the Saoshyant Dastoor of the near Future...*

We of this humble periodical

PARSI PUKAR

*send greetings to our readers
and initiate our venture...
We pray to the Lord and all His Divine Forces
to give us strength to be and continue to be,
in His service...*

* * * * *

On the 2nd cover page of the first issue,
our advertiser Elektronik Lab exclaimed:

“ HAIL PARSI PUKAR

“Dedicated to Ustad Saheb Baheramshah Shroff

*Floated on the Waves of Time On his 68th Anniversary : 7th July 1995.
“We wish you a smooth and long 'Journey.'”*

OUR PRAYER NOW

What is this our Lord?

We prayed that may Shah Baheram Varzavand and all Saviours come in near future! Why have They not arrived?

Is it that : the Times are not as bad as they should be to warrant Their arrival?

Or are we not ready yet to receive them?

Thy will be done, Oh Ahura!

"Atha nae Anghat Yatha Havo Vast."

"Whatever be the loving Will of the Lord of our destiny, may that happen to us-"

So said even Geush Urvaa, the Sacred Soul of the Mother Earth, in Gatha Ha 29-4, while praying for the arrival of the Divine Farmer, Asho Zarathushtra!

In the meantime, give us strength to be in Thy service.

May the Parsi Community have the Holy Fire of Thy Divine Energy kindled within it so as to draw a protective ring around it and each of its members!

May each parsi be ready to face whatever ordeal is destined to strike him or her.

"Fera ve Rahi Amesha Spenta..... Ushtnem"

Ae Ameshaspand's! May I dedicate all my thoughts of Frashogard, all my words of Manthra and truth, all my righteous works in life, all my worship, all my devotion and even my body and soul, to You!

(Parsi Pukar July-Aug.-Sep. 2001 - Vol. 7; No. 1)