

# VISION

July 2006

## Up-Coming Events

**July 23, 2006**

Extraordinary General Meeting  
ZRCC at 12 noon  
Annual General Meeting  
ZRCC at 1:00 p.m.

**July 30, 2006**

Youth Variety Program  
Performance at Meadowvale  
Theatre at 2:00 p.m.  
Refreshments at ZRCC at  
5:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$30 and include  
refreshments at the  
OZCF property to follow.

For tickets and details  
please call Shireen  
Kharwanwala at  
(905) 569-2498

**August 15-19, 2006**

Shenshai Muktd prayers  
(see within for details and  
times)

**August 25, 2006**

Papeti Navroze Dinner &  
Dance  
Maple Banquet Hall  
(Eglinton and Dixie Rd.  
Mississauga) see enclosed  
flyer

**August 24-27, 2006**

Children's Camp at ZRCC  
(see article within)

## Newsletter Committee

Michelle Patel, Roshan  
Byramjee and Daniel Patel,  
Niloufer Bhesania  
For advertising contact:  
Roshan at zbyramjee@  
cogeco.ca.

## Message from our President "Our Constitution of Democracy"

In this, my final newsletter message as President, I would like to sincerely thank each and every one of you for the continuous confidence that you have so graciously placed in me and the board of directors in enabling OZCF to achieve its goals. Your enthusiasm and energy have inspired me and the board in conducting our tasks. Sometimes these tasks seemed monumental and perplexing. But we overcame these difficulties one step at a time with the many skills that our community members offered freely, the efforts and time commitments of our volunteers, and no doubt, blessings from above – and did we ever need it! The board of directors that I have worked with are an incredible group of individuals who have dedicated themselves selflessly to the complete interest of our organization.

Imagine the unimaginable - from our inaugural jashan in May 2002 to the dramatic unanimous vote by the membership just three years later in June 2005 to purchase our 10.1 acre parcel of land and set the foundation for our Zarathushti community. And we are having a lot of fun along the journey, holding various religious and social events with a true sense of friendship. None of this would have been possible without the generosity and vision of our membership. We will soon commence architectural design and renovation of the current facilities upon membership approval and should feel very proud that we have started to pay down our loan considerably.

The successful future of OZCF is deeply engrained within its forward thinking constitution. It permits the President to remain in this privileged office for two terms, not consecutively, of two years each, in a lifetime. It allows us to pass the torch to others to promote vibrancy through refreshed ideas and invigorated energy, encourages creativity and good succession planning, and prevents complacency from holding on to the leadership for too long. The virtues of diversity are built into our board, that consists of 13 members that come from all walks of life, young and old, working and retired, men and women, Parsis and Iranians, all who have a common vision and can freely share views. The limit of two proxies per person in our by-laws also enables the members to freely elect the board of directors without the encumbrance of unlimited proxies determining the election. But we must not stop there, for as any business plan demands, we need to review our by-laws regularly to ensure they are dynamic and alive.

After much consideration, I have decided to leave the board, for it is time to pass the torch on to others. It has been a privilege to work with the membership, boards and committees of this organization and I assure you that I will continue to contribute whatever I can towards its betterment when called upon. With the recent Town of Oakville designation of our land in alignment with our future plans, we are now well positioned to move forward with fund raising for our building project.

Over the past years of involvement in the OZCF, I have learned as much about community administration as about life itself. I have realized that the collective strength of a unified people is able to achieve almost impossible goals that they believe in. Driven by some mysterious force that assembles the jig-saw of life, their spirit enables them to meander through the various obstacles that life tosses them, to achieve a state of balance that provides a peaceful sense of accomplishment in their endeavours. Such, my friends, is the essence of community.

May Ahura Mazda always bless our community

**Phil Sidhwa**  
President, OZCF

## As We Grow New Partnership Program

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Ultra Built-in Systems are proud to support the OZCF. When you purchase a product or service at Ultra Built-In Systems, please mention that you are a member of the OZCF. Ultra Built-In Systems will donate 2% of the profit to the OZCF.

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### Renew Your Membership

It's that time of the year again! It's time to renew your membership for 2006.

You can pay for your membership online at <http://www.ozcf.com/Membership.htm> or send your cheques to Nozer Kotwal at 4244 Taffey Crescent, Mississauga, ON L5L 2J2.

### New Members

Do you know of a family who may have just moved to Toronto or someone who would like to become a member? Ask for a membership form and help the OZCF grow.

Feel free to copy it and give it to any of your friends or family who may wish to become members of OZCF.

## Youth Variety Program

To anyone who has not bought their tickets - the Youth Variety Program is on July 30th. Tickets are only \$30 which includes admission to a fabulous show and your refreshments at the ZRCC afterward (your ticket stub will be your meal stub so please indicate your dietary preference of meat/chicken/vegetarian when you book your tickets).

Our youth have been hard at work practicing their dances, music pieces and skits.

The organizing youth have been busy looking for sponsors and donations and are still looking for any donations you might want to make, be they cash/service or gifts. They will also be collecting non-perishable food items at the theatre. To purchase your rickets please contact Shireen Kharwanwala: (905) 569-2498 or Cyrus Cooper (416) 449 6337.

Come and support our talented youth.

## WZCC News

The Toronto Chapter of the WZCC invites you to join us in the 1st annual WZCC Golf Event. We invite golfers and non-golfers alike to come out and have fun, enjoy the weather and meet your WZCC local members and representatives.

Date: Thursday, August 24th

Time: Registration begins at 3 pm.

Tee-Off starts at 4 pm and depending on the numbers, may go to 5:30 pm.

Place: Hunter's Glen Golf Club, 9001 Highway #50, Kleinburg

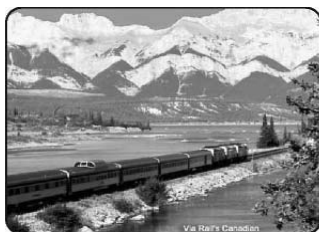
Cost: Members \$40 per person; Non-Members: \$50 per person

This includes 9 holes of golf, power carts, scoring and a buffet style BBQ dinner. If you require golf club rentals, they are available at the course. If you would like to join us for dinner only, the cost per person will be \$25. Dinner will start at approximately 7:30 PM.

If your business would like to donate prizes for the tournament, please let one of the board members know. For more information, please contact Armaity Bamji (416-979-3552 or Armaity.bamji@gmail.com) or go to [www.OZCF.com](http://www.OZCF.com).

Please RSVP by August 11th using the attached registration form to confirm your space. See you on the links!!

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## Zoroastrian Mental Gymnastics

This column is meant to provide a family activity with something for each member, regardless of age. Please send responses to ozcf-zmg@hotmail.com by August 31st and provide the family name, address & phone number. Only one entry will be accepted per household. Please list Question number, followed by the Answer. Only email entries to the given address will be accepted.

The names of the first 3 correct respondents will be published in the next newsletter along with the correct answers and the acknowledgment for the sources of the information.

1. List the first 5 days of the Zoroastrian Calendar in Avestan and provide their English meanings.
2. List the Names of the 5 Gatha days.
3. Out of the 101 names of Ahuramazda, name # 50 to # 60. Also give the English meaning (translation).
4. According to the Zoroastrian Religion, what type of wealth gives joy.
5. Zoroastrians believe that Good Thoughts, Good Words, and Good Deeds are a key element of the foundation of the religion.

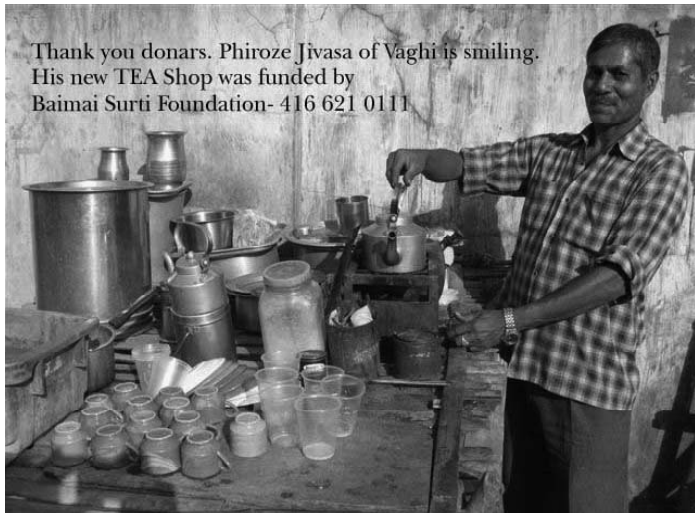
What is the religious teaching regarding speaking Good Words?

## Update on the Baimai Surti Foundation

In the April 2006 issue of the newsletter, we profiled the Baimai Surti Foundation. Here is another success story of a business owner in India who benefited from the efforts of and donation from the Foundation.

God Bless!

Dhunjishaw Surti



Articles and news are welcome from everyone and will be put in the newsletter at the discretion of the committee. Please send your articles to Michelle Patel at: ron.michelle@cogeco.ca

Submissions for the next newsletter must be received by **August 30, 2006**. Information received after that date will be considered for the following newsletter.

## A Point to Ponder

Evil is simply the absence of God.

It is just like darkness and cold, words that man has created to describe the absence of God.

God did not create evil. Evil is the result of what happens when man does not have God's love in his heart.

- Albert Einstein

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## Shenshai Muktaad

Shenshai Muktaad ceremonies will be held for the first time at ZRCC, 1187 Burnhamthorpe Rd. East, Oakville, from Aug 15th to Aug 19th, 2006.

Aug 15th to Aug 18th – Morning Stoom 6:30am; Afringan/Farokhshi 7:00am;  
Afternoon Stoom 11:30am; Evening Stoom/Hum Bundaghi 7:00pm.

Aug 19th. - Morning Stoom 7:30am; Afringan/Farokhshi 8:00am;  
Afternoon Stoom 11:30am; Evening Stoom/Hum Bundaghi 7:00pm

If you wish to include the names of your dearly departed in the daily prayers, please fill out the attached form and forward it to Ervad Nozer S. Kotwal or Ervad Kobad Zarolia a.s.a.p.

Donations of Fruits, Flowers, Dry Fruits, Cooked Food, Sukhad, Loban, Tachho etc. will be very much appreciated. If you would like to volunteer your services please contact Armaity Anandasagar at (905) 271- 0366.

Anyone interested in having their sudrehs stitched (malmal included) right here in the GTA please contact Mrs. Gool Bharda @ 905-607-6882.

### Rates for Ceremonial Observances

For the awareness of the community the North American Mobed Council (NAMC), Toronto Chapter, recommends a rate of \$100 for each religious ceremony per mobed.

## Pinafari Boutique

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## Births

Dilshad, Behram and Xenia are thrilled to announce the arrival of their second child, a daughter, Zoish Behram Byramji on Tuesday, May 2nd, 2006 at 8:48 am. Excited sixth-time grandparents are Shirin & Sarosh Byramji and a fourth grandchild for Shenaz & Kersi Banaji of Pakistan. Zoish is blessed to be welcomed by many lovings aunts, uncles and cousins.

Lilah Charlotte, born on June 21, 2006 to Joe and Shehnaz Amato was welcomed by proud grandparents Soli & Perin Pardiwala and Vincenza and Orazio Amato of Ottawa, and cousins Aiden & Rachel Silliphant.

Congratulations to the Tired New Parents

## Marriages

Neville, son of Aniheeta and Kersi Cooper to Farrah, daughter of Farida and Dara Bhesania on May 22, 2006.

Kerman, son of Khorshed & Kersi Mehrwan to Pearl, daughter of Meher and Jal Panthaky on May 4, 2006.

Congratulations to the Happy Newlyweds

## Thank you,

### Thank you, and Thank you

We are happy to say that we are sold out of our Time and Talents Cookbooks. 100% of the proceeds collected from the sale of the books will be donated to the OZCF. Hope you all enjoy the book and thank you to everybody who bought a copy and supported the OZCF.

Thank you to everybody who brought their old cell phones and printer cartridges to the Navroze function in March. All items collected have been donated to the food bank on behalf of the OZCF. You can have comfort in knowing that these items will put food on the table for families in need.

Cyrus Aryaie & Ardeshir Khoshraviani for donating 7 Picnic Benches.

The Hira family for donating a large Coffee Percolator.

Gool Kanga of Mumbai for donating 2 "Dana ni Torans", 5 beautiful Ladies Evening Purses & 24 White Scarves for our prayer room.

Nergis Saher for donating a large Coffee Percolator.

Perin & Jehangirji Screwvala for donating 30 white caps for our prayer room.

Donations are always welcomed.

Donations are tax deductible.

**Make this Vision a Reality.**

For more Info go to [www.OZCF.com](http://www.OZCF.com)

## Advertise your Business with Parsiana

Below is an excerpt from a letter from the editors of Parsiana regarding advertising in a new business directory.

In an effort to boost entrepreneurship in the community, Parsiana is preparing a Global Yellow Pages directory of Parsi and Irani Zoroastrian business enterprises. The purpose of the directory is to make the community aware of the services, products and facilities available.

Zoroastrians have a reputation for enterprise, quality products and services. Given a choice many consumers would opt for a product which they know has been manufactured by a Parsi enterprise.

To qualify for free inclusion in the directory the business must be Zoroastrian owned (minimum 25% ownership required), irrespective of the size, number of employees or the turnover. From shipbuilding to chocolate making, all businesses qualify for the free listing.

You can include your business under them or should you feel the existing headings do not cover your enterprise, you may indicate the necessary heading and we could consider that classification.

In addition to the free listing, should you wish to advertise your services and products in the Yellow Pages, you are welcome to do so. We have kept our rates as nominal as possible to partially help cover the cost of printing and free distribution of the directory. We attach a rate sheet to give you an idea of the sizes, columns and costs involved. Non-Parsi enterprises are welcome to advertise. We intend to publish the directory by November 15, 2006 and request you to submit the data early to ensure inclusion. Due to the high cost of postage, sending out reminders is expensive and a waste of scarce community resources.

Should you wish any further information, or assistance, please do contact us. For detailed information, visit [www.parsiana.com](http://www.parsiana.com) We would like the Yellow Pages to be a showpiece of Parsi and Irani enterprise

Thanking you and with best wishes.

Sincerely

Veera Patel and Jasmine D Driver  
Directory Coordinators

## The Parsi & Zarathushti Greats of Past & Present!! Future? Not certain as we will be the vanishing Sect!

When HRH Prince Edward visited the New Zoroastrian Center for Europe in Harrow on 26th June 2002, it was the first visit by a member of the Royal Family to the Zoroastrians. On that splendid occasion, celebrating the Golden Jubilee of Her Majesty, the Prince said "I am sorry it took us 141 years to get here, but the next visit will not be so long in coming." He had just been hearing of the enormous contribution of the Zoroastrian community towards Britain.

It was a Zoroastrian Rustom Maneck Sett who obtained from the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb for the British East India Company the license to trade in India. In 1724, his son Nowroji became the first Asian as well as the first Zoroastrian to visit the UK. It then took over a 100 years for the first Asian firm and also the first Zoroastrian firm to be established in the UK. That happened in 1855 when Mr. Mancherjee Hormusjee Cama set up Cama & Co.

Continued above...

His family was the illustrious Cama family who owned and ran Asia's oldest newspaper 'The Bombay Samachar' in India and indeed still does so today. It is not insignificant that the Bombay Samachar has always been published in Gujarati, sealing the bonds between the Parsees of India and their hosts on the West Coast of India - the local Gujarati population.

The Zoroastrians (popularly known as Parsees in India) traveled to distant lands during the early 19th century and became pioneers in the trade of goods such as cotton, silk, opium and also made a name as bankers and land developers. The Zoroastrians in the UK during the period 1890 to 1935 also enjoyed great success in Britain's political life with no less than 3 Zoroastrians (also the first 3 Asians) getting elected to the House of Commons - Dadabhai Naoroji (Liberal), Sir Muncherjee Bhowmaggree (Conservative) and Shapurji Saklatvala (Labor & Communist).

However, this success in the political field was never replicated in the field of business in the UK. The Zoroastrians who achieved Baronetcy in the UK did so on account of their successes in India, Pakistan, Hongkong or Aden.

### NORTH AMERICA

The Zoroastrian community in North America is relatively young with most of the migration having taken place post 1960s. There is a large proportion of Iranian Zoroastrians who have brought with them great business and trading skills. Apart from the philanthropic Zartoshty family, other prominent Zoroastrian businessmen in North America are Tahamton Arresh (real estate), Alayar Dabestani (theatres & film distribution) and Edul Daver (engineering).

The most prominent Zoroastrian is of course the music conductor Zubin Mehta (Apru Zubin) followed by the writer, Rohinton Mistry.

It can truly be said that From Cama to Cobra has been an exciting odyssey of enterprise, courage and success. Mother India can be proud of her Zoroastrian Diaspora.

In future issues we will feature Iran, Hong Kong, Africa, Aden, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Stay tuned.

### For Your Own Interest

To clarify what is meant by the various names used to describe our places of worship and sacred fires. Some of the names used for places of worship are AGYARI, DAR-E-MEHER, ATASHKHADE and ATASH-BHERAM.

AGYARI is made up of two Sanskrit words. AG means fire, and YARI means place or abode - a place where fire is kept.

DAR-E-MEHER is a Persian word. DAR means door and MEHER means light - House of Light.

ATASH-KHADE also means house of fire or a house where a fire is kept.

ATASH-BEHRAM Behram means victories.

All of the above are names given to buildings where the fire is kept. The fire inside these buildings is also graded according to the ceremonies performed on them.

An ATASH DADGAH is a house fire, which can be lit and tended by any Zoroastrian. Many Agyaris in India house this type of fire. It is looked after by Mobeds or Behdins and, in some cases, non-Zoroastrian custodians.

The ADARIAN fire is a consecrated fire which can only be tended by a Mobed who has taken the Nahn.

An ATASH BEHRAM houses the highest-grade of fire as many ceremonies have been performed to procure the flame. These fires are typically very old.

## Children's Camp at the ZRCC

A Fun and Adventure Camp is planned at the ZRCC for children between the ages of 6-12 from August 24th to 27th at a cost of \$40. We need a minimum of 10 children per day to run the camp with a maximum of 25 children. To register, please contact Mrs. Nergish Khandke (nergishkhandke@hotmail.com) or Teenaz Javat (javat@rogers.com or 905-542-2553) before July 20th. Register early to secure your child's spot.

Parents are asked to drop off their children on Thursday, August 24th between 5.30 pm and 7.00 pm and to pick them up at 3.00 pm on Sunday, August 27th.

The children will be housed in tents at the ZRCC for the duration of the camp. In case of inclement weather, the tents will be moved into the barn. A mix of adventurous, fun, challenging, 'cool' and religious activities is being planned. The timing includes Khordad Sal so that the children will be able to attend one religious function.

Sunday will be a "Kiddie's Day" when children under the age of 6, accompanied by their parents, can join their older siblings in the fun.

If you would like to volunteer your time, even for a day or half a day, please contact Mrs. Nergish or Teenaz. We are looking for youth and young parents to help out with the many activities being planned.

If you would like to sponsor the Camp or give donations in cash or kind, please contact Armaity Anandasagar (905-2710366 or armaity@rogers.com). If you have any sports equipment like mini putt, cricket, football, volleyball, etc. we would like to hear from you.

## ZCC 2006 Season & England Tour

Our Zoroastrian Cricketers have just commenced their 2006 Season and will be embarking on an adventurous tour of England this July/August. Our community congratulates ZCC and wishes them every success!!

## Fees and Donations

Membership fees

Family: \$35

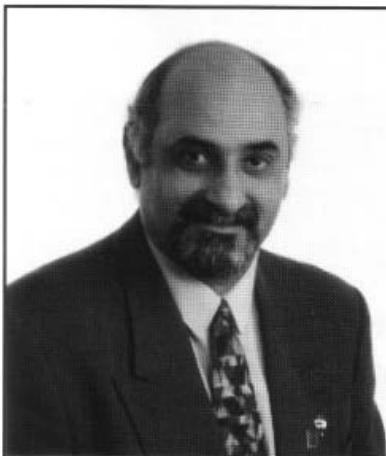
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## Next Best Thing to Pilgrimage To Iranshah Atashbehrum in Udvada

Distance from Udvada precludes you from pilgrimaging to Iranshah? Now you can do the next best thing. Help support those who make this pilgrimage possible.

"Dastoor Baug", a dharamshalla located just across the Holy Iranshah Atashbehrum and a sanctuary for same day pilgrims to Iranshah is in dire need of repairs. A historical structure (built in late 1800s) was once used as a Madressa to train Mobeds in Udvada and then converted to a dharamshalla to accommodate devotees of Iranshah. Third generation of founding members of the trust are seeking your support to restore the structure to its original glory.

For more information please contact Themton Mirza at (519) 660-1135 or send your donations to "The Dastoor Yadgiri Trust", c/o Ervad Jamshed D Dastoor, 644 Dinabad, Dadar Parsi Colony, Mumbai 400 014, India.

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*References available from your community members*

## **OZCF MaSTi MaZa BaZaaR a "Thumping Success!"**

"What a thumping success!" as our own Shiraz Tampal put it! Infants, kids, youth, adults as well as seniors had a fabulous time at the OZCF MaSTi MaZa BaZaaR, held on July 1, Canada Day, at the ZRCC grounds. Everybody seemed to be relaxed and enjoyed the variety of 15 stations which were there to suite everyone's tastes.

Guests enjoyed a perfect summer day filled with food, entertainment for family members and overall good spirits. Especially noteworthy was the "Tummy Delights & Oven Fresh stations kept on receiving delicacies, donations/prepared with tender loving care, on an average hourly basis!!! All were welcome to partake in the Raffle Prizes, Lucky Dip & the silent auction and peruse through lovely artwork and jewelry made by some of our own artisans.

Friends, volunteers and Entertainment Committee members worked hard the night before, some until 11:30pm, with preparations and yet again come to work early Saturday morning setting up chairs, making popcorn and cotton candy, warming food and more!

We thank Shiraz and Sarosh Tampal, Gulrukh, Cawas, Dan and Deenah Patel, Nozer and Nergish Kotwal, Coomi Sorabji, Kamal Driver, Perin and Jehangir Screwvala, Kermin Byramjee, Farshogar and Jasmine Jasavala, Behram Parsi among many others for your dedication to the event.

This wonderful day raised an outstanding \$10,300!





## Ratan Tata Inspires Yet Again

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It was a proud moment when I was attending the USIBC AGM in Washington last Thursday to see Mr. Ratan Tata receive the prestigious award as "India's Most Respected Multinational Business Conglomerate". I could not help but be inspired by his words about the values on which he and his forefathers have built the Tata Group.

It is these values of Integrity, Caring for People, continually aiming for Excellence and Social Corporate Responsibility that have helped build the Tata conglomeration, as well as those of our other Zoroastrian stalwarts over the ages. WZCC seeks to rekindle the entrepreneurial spirit in our community. This award and Mr. Tata's remarks should serve as a helpful reminder to us all that to be truly successful, we need to focus not only on the "business" of what we are doing, but on the values we make sure we instill and genuinely live out in the work we do. That is what, I believe, WZCC can help inspire us to ensure. I took the liberty of congratulating Mr. Tata on behalf of WZCC.

The meeting was very stimulating and energizing. I would recommend all those interested in Indo-US businesses to connect more with the USIBC.

Regards,  
Zareen Karani Araoz

### Obituaries

Farrokh Bharucha, husband of Goolcher, father of Anahita (Waterloo, Ontario) and Farhad (Arizona, USA), brother of Katy Noshir Mulla of Mississauga, Ontario, Amy Tengra (Karachi, Pakistan), and Sila (Quetta, Pakistan) passed away in Waterloo, Ontario on May 24, 2006.

Khorshed Kaiku Wadia, mother of Nani (& Roshen), Sarosh (& Moti) and Sam and grandmother of Khurshed Bativala, Avan Wadia and Riah Sidhwa, Jehangir Wadia, Keki Wadia and Neville Wadia, great grand-mother of Zubin Bativala, Jahan and Kashmiri Sidhwa and Ava Wadia, passed away on May 25th, 2006 at the age of 95.

Phee Divecha, wife of Jal Divecha, mother of Michelle and Ashley, daughter of Sam and Banoo Bharucha, sister of Zarina Divecha, passed away on June 19 in Toronto.

Our deepest sympathies go out to the families. May Ahura Mazda grant them strength in this time of sorrow.

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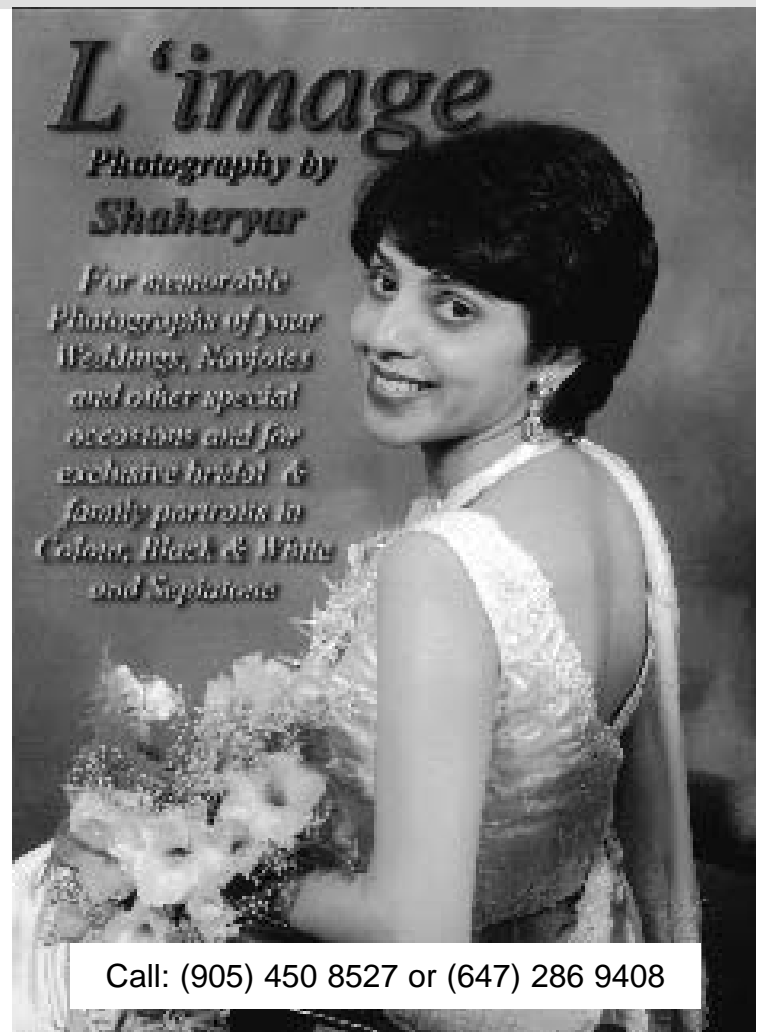
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A black and white advertisement for L'image Photography by Shaheryar. The background features a bride in a white dress holding a bouquet of flowers. The text is overlaid on the image.

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