

THE PARSEE VOICE

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For Private Circulation

A YEAR GONE BY...

*A year has just gone. By all counts, it was a breathtaking one. Ever since its birth in August 2003, when the BPP election fever had gripped the community, the toddler began to create ripples and flutters in the appropriate quarters. Through most of the year, **The Parsee Voice** maintained the momentum.*

*As a wag, a cricket-crazy chap, who bumped into us the other day, exclaimed, **Subko hila ke rakh diya!***

*From the BPP elections to the "World Body of Zoroastrians" to the "Foundation for Development of Udvada", a common thread seemed to run through them all: the smooth-operator extraordinaire, who, at first, styled himself a "sitting trustee" and sooner, than later, began walking and going places – from London and America to Udvada!! "Shanti" never spread so much **a-shanti** ever before!*

Yet, this one-year-old did its bit to expose the untruths and subterfuges of various persons and organisations. It tried to live up to its motto of 'Truth', 'Justice' and 'Right'.

*Our heartfelt thanks to those noble souls who stood by us through thick and thin, who worked themselves to the bone during the two successful public meetings organised by **The Parsee Voice**, one against the*

"World Body" and the other against the demolition of the building opposite the Dadyseth Atash Behram, and who are a pillar of strength to this news-cum-views letter.

Our sincere gratitude to all our dear readers, well-wishers and contributors, who have given us such a tremendous response through e-mails, letters and phone calls. We are simply overwhelmed!

We also thank those who don't see eye to eye with our policies, and yet wrote to us from time to time, expressing their views frankly.

***The Parsee Voice** has been a *bête-noire* for those in authority, who think that they can get away with blue murder. It has also virtually been the nemesis of **deen-dushmans**, who want to bring about change for the sake of change.*

*As we enter the 2nd year, we promise to continue in the same vein. Dark clouds, which were so far looming on the distant horizon, seem to be approaching nearer. We all have to gird up our loins and join hands to protect and preserve what our ancestors have given us in trust. May the Good Lord help us in fulfilling our task! As the wag would have said: "**Lagey raho, P.V., Lagey raho!**"*

THE BIGGEST HIJACK STORY IN PARSEE HISTORY! Parsee-Zarthoshtis, Your Days Are Virtually Numbered!

We are neither soothsayers, nor Doomsday prophets. One doesn't have to be either, to predict an overwhelming onslaught, in the next few years, of Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, Brazilian, Venezuelans, Bylorusian and what-have-you, on the Indian sub-continent, and particularly on Parsee-Zoroastrian strongholds in Mumbai and Gujarat!

But even before that, thanks to our own BPP, its Chairman and a couple of other trustees, who seem to be experts in reverse swings, are on the verge of taking hold of the whole Parsee community of India and metaphorically transplanting it to the West! How?

Nearly 1300 years ago our ancestors, after

considerable meditation and planning, decided that after Iran, the only place where the Mazdayasni Zoroastrian religion and its true followers would survive and flourish was the west coast of India; till the advent of the next Saviour, Shah Behram-i-Varjavand, because Iran no more remained the land which sustained the *Pav Mahal*...

So, a new *Pav Mahal* (Spiritual 'Palace') was created on the foundation of Holy Iranshah by the highly exalted, saintly leader of the group that came to India, Mubedan Mubed Nairyosangh Dhaval.

Their whole intention and purpose of settling in Sanjan, and not in Diu, where they first landed, was to establish the *Pav Mahal* in Gujarat, where the Rajputs ruled, so that the protection and benedictions from the *Pav Mahal* would percolate to all Mazdayasni Zarthoshtis for centuries till the advent of Shah Varjavand. All that the Mazdayasni Zarthoshtis were supposed to do for these centuries was to ensure that both Holy Iranshah and the *Pav Mahal* connected with Him were preserved and protected by us!

This could happen in many ways, the chief among them being that every Mazdayasni Zarthoshti was obliged to be a *tokham pāsband* or a protector of the original seed. Our forefathers did their best to practise this basic tenet of the Zoroastrian religion. So they prospered.

The erstwhile trustees of the biggest Parsee trust, the Bombay Parsi Punchayet, were always in the forefront to ensure that Mazdayasni Zarthoshtis married within the fold, at least until the middle of the 20th century.

Thereafter, particularly after 1954, when the Special Marriage Act came into existence, things began to get more out of hand. More Parsee men and women started looking outside their community for conjugal union. In spite of fervent appeals from certain quarters, the BPP trustees did nothing to ask for exemption from the Act for our community!

Almost every trustee that was elected to the BPP board began to take more interest in himself, his status, his monetary gains, etc. rather than in the welfare of the community. Those were the days, when the late Burjorji Bharucha dubbed such trustees, **haaondas and chaaondas! But, even then, most of those trustees never ditched the Parsee community! The BPP was a member of the Federation of Parsi Zoroastrian Anjumans of India, but, none of the trustees ever dreamt of**

putting the Parsees, the Mazdayasni Zarthoshtis of India, on the same level/footing as total outsiders, blatant converts from abroad, who proclaim themselves to be "Zoroastrians"! Not only that! They (the latter), have the temerity to tell the original Mazdayasni Zarthoshtis, the Parsee-Zoroastrians of India that Parsees cannot monopolise the Zoroastrian religion! The irony of it all is that such rank aliens and synthetic Zoroastrians have been fully encouraged by Parsees from India, who have settled in England and the USA, who have completely obliterated, at least in their minds, the very word "Parsee" by which they and their own ancestors were known when they were in India! The very word "Parsee" is taboo to them!

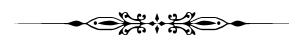
The worst part, however, is that, today, the last of those in authority, some trustees of the BPP, led by its Chairman, Minoo Shroff, are deplorably going out of their way, to knock down the very ring or circuit of protection that has kept this very unique, exclusive Anjuman of ours, which needs no federation whatsoever, so segregated and insulated from the material/spiritual pollution of the outside world. While Parsees mingled freely socially, they successfully prevented outside forces from penetrating their spiritual and religious fortress!

Alas, today, all the labour and sacrifices of our forefathers in preserving our race, is about to be sacrificed at the altar of materialism and modernism. While men at the helm of foreign organisations, like FEZANA and WZO are guilty, it is the present-day trustees of the BPP, led by Minoo Shroff, who will be judged at the bar of history, for being the pied pipers, who led the Parsee Zoroastrians to their doom!!

According to the latest papers in the possession of **The Parsee Voice**, a consensus has already been "reached on forming a World Body." "It is expected that the proposed entities (WZO, FPZAI, FEZANA and ZTFE) would be ready for registration by 21st March, 2005.

What will you gain, Mr. Shroff, by signing on the dotted line of the "amended joint communique", when posterity will ask, *et tu*, Minoo?

But then, as they say, there is many a slip between the cup and the lip, and, there are Higher Powers that rule our destinies! Let's wait and watch.



GIMMICKS GALORE !

Prevarications & Half-Truths From FDU!

NOT A WORD IN THE FDU TRUST DEED FOR PARSEE ZOROASTRIANS! FDU TRUSTEES GUILTY OF TAKING THE COMMUNITY FOR A RIDE!

"Will you come into my parlour? said the spider to the fly...". This childhood ditty came to mind on reading the so-called "clarification" of the Foundation for Development of Udvada (FDU – the 3rd in exactly a month – all signed by Dastur Khurshed Dastur Kaikobad Dastur of Udvada. (Jam-e-Weekly – 26th September 2004). A thousand pities that he has fallen into the booby trap the Managing Trustee of the FDU, laid for him way back in May, 2003! In spite of many right-thinking persons asking the Dasturji to quit, not only has he not done so, but, instead, has fallen deeper into the morass and, as the Chairman of the FDU, has been obliged to sign letters to the press, written by others! So much for his credibility!!

The first two letters to the press were sent to The Parsee Voice. But, the last one, in which "some unfounded concerns"(?) were sought to be explained, was not received.

Now, that Dasturji, in spite of several requests that he should quit the FDU, has decided to perform, **Hamazor** (pun intended), with some who have joined hands with Satan himself, we shall give below complete details about FDU's strategies and dirty tricks in hoodwinking not only the Udvada Anjuman, but the entire Parsee community, so that readers can see through the murky game the FDU is playing and how unfortunately, Dastur Khurshed is allowing himself to be a pawn in it!

● (1) On Friday, the 10th September, 2004 we received a letter from Dastur Khurshed, enclosing the opinion of Mr. Cyrus Guzder regarding heritage laws and sites in general, and suggestions about how Udvada could have proper urban planning, etc. This correspondence was published in Jam-e-Jamshed Weekly of the 12th September, 2004, with totally misleading and deceptive heading both on the front and inside pages, reading: "Udvada: A Heritage Precinct", as if Mr. Guzder or anyone else had already declared Udvada to be a heritage precinct! The editorial blurb that accompanied the heading on the

front page, whether written by the *de jure* editor or the *de facto* editor, smacked of malice and hatred.

Dastur Khurshed's covering letter that went with Mr. Guzder's communique, which again, was only signed by him, while it was written with pen dipped in vitriol by you-know-who!

By a strange coincidence, that same Friday, the 10th evening, five of us, the two High Priests of Udvada, Dasturs Peshotan Mirza and Khurshed Dastur, Pankaj Joshi and Jamshed Bhiwandiwalla, the heritage architects and this editor, met Mr. Cyrus Guzder at his office, to discuss the Gujarat Government's project for Udvada.

Both, Dasturji Peshotan Mirza and yours truly made it abundantly clear to everyone that we are mainly concerned with the Spiritual-cum-Religious Heritage of Paak Iranshah and that FDU should have no *locus standi* in Udvada! M/s. Joshi and Bhiwandiwalla were at pains to explain that FDU is only a non-government organisation and that they had to deal with the state government alone; if the local anjuman and others of Udvada were prepared to take care of the heritage aspect, the heritage architects would gladly work with them.

This editor also requested Dasturji Khurshed, more than once to quit the FDU, which comprises largely of those who dream of becoming leaders of the World Body of Zombies! At one time, he did admit that he was under tremendous pressure and that, he would consider leaving the FDU!

● (2) A few days after the 12th September, when Jame indulged in a blatant disinformation campaign, Dastur Khurshed, alongwith two other FDU trustees dashed to Udvada and Valsad, presumably to meet the Collector, who was fully aware of the strong objections against the FDU, raised by members of the Parsee community, thanks to the signature campaign of **The Parsee Voice**.

In the meantime, we received unconfirmed reports from Udvada that Dastur Khurshed was trying to win over Udvada Anjuman Committee's members regarding FDU's role in the conservation of heritage. A clarification, we learnt, would be published in the Jame Weekly of Sunday, the 26th September.

By now, we realised what untruths were resorted to and how positions shifted from day to day, where the Chairman of FDU was concerned!

● (3) So, as expected, came the culmination on Sunday the 26th September. Jame's banner headline asked if it was a "Storm in a tea cup". Then came the same vicious editor's blurb scratched once again by either the *de jure* or the *de facto* editor that Dastur Khurshed as the Chairman and his co-trustees of FDU will "go ahead with their plans for the development of Udvada, come what may".

But will they? So full of vendetta had become the *de facto* or *de jure* editor's mind that he did not even bother to read the contents of Dastur Khurshed's letter (sorry, it should read, the letter signed by Dastur Khurshed).

● (4) **On the surface, at least, the said letter indicates that the FDU has virtually retracted from its original plan of making Udvada a heritage-cum-tourist centre.**

But what is indeed most laughable and supremely ironical is that the prospective leaders of the World Body of Zombies are giving the Parsee community assurances that, "the term 'Zoroastrian' is used to identify those belonging to the Parsi/Irani race as is the common practice. There is no question of creating any situation whereby a neo-Zoroastrian or a converted Zoroastrian would ever be allowed to enter our revered Iranshah.."

Mamma mia! We blinked in utter disbelief! After Moses received the ten commandments 3000 years ago, this must surely be the 11th revelation!!

Who do the FDU trustees think they are fooling? As the managing trustee knows only too well, most members of the Parsee community were not born yesterday! Whether the whole letter signed by Dastur Khurshed should be called an eyewash or hogwash, the readers of Jame alone can decide.

● (5) On our part, we are sure its's both! Why?

(a) **Let any reader ask Dastur Khurshed or his co-trustees, why are they so keen on building a museum in Udvada, while apparently giving up tourist lodges and heritage precinct? Because, as we have learnt from the horse's mouth, the authorities will give that crore-plus rupees only if a museum is set up in Udvada!** So, dear Dasturji Khurshed, please try and realise that you are, at present, being "used" by some of the smooth operators. Once the museum comes up and that World Body of Zombies is in its place, your mentioning the "Trust Deed of Iranshah" will have no meaning!

(b) **Instead, Dasturji, you and the gullible Parsees, who are carried away by the mendacious propaganda in Jame Weekly on this subject, should take a close look at the TRUST DEED OF FDU itself!**

The Highly Controversial Cosmopolitan Trust Deed of FDU

D.K. Tamboly, who is the Managing Trustee, is also the settler of the FDU Trust. The very first object states that **the trustees are at liberty "to use the corpus... for such purposes of Public Utility in general including for the uplift of culture, heritage, art and tourism as the Trustees may think fit and for one or more of such purposes to the exclusion of or others as the Trustees may think".**

Then, 24 objects have been listed!

Here are just a few of them :

"(i) to establish, promote, run, maintain, assist, finance and set up a Museum and Cultural Centre at Udvada, Gujarat.

"(ii) to establish, promote, run, maintain, assist, finance and set up a Tourist Lodge cum Reception Centre at Udvada, Gujarat.

"(iii) to establish, promote, run, maintain, assist, finance and set up a Heritage Walk at Udvada, Gujarat.

"(iv) to organise an Annual Festival at Udvada, Gujarat [For Whom?!]

"(v) to organise a Tourist Circuit;

"(vi) any object which are of a heritage or cultural nature pertaining to the people in Udvada, Gujarat or who have had their attachment with Udvada, Gujarat;

"(vii) to provide for construction of building or otherwise in any manner whatsoever, as the trustees in their absolute discretion may think fit for all or any of the above purposes...

"(ix) to establish research association/s for general public utility to help to carry on research and other work..."

The objects of the trust deed go on and on and cover in their wide sweep an entire spectrum of mundane, secular activities – from establishing literary and artistic institutions to promoting vocational centres, development projects, etc. etc.!!

The 21st and 22nd objects are also eye-openers :

"(xxi) to establish, promote, run, maintain, assist, finance, set-up and support the economic uplift and welfare of priests, spiritual leaders, scholars, heritage experts, archaeologists, historians and teachers of **all communities** in or around Udvada (emphasis ours).

"(xxii) to uplift, advancement (sic) and welfare of **all people** in or around Udvada" (emphasis ours).

And, all along, the Chief Minister of Gujarat, Mr. Narendra Modi and Mr. P.K. Lehri, now the Chief Secretary of Gujarat, in their very first communicate two years ago, had emphatically stated that the whole project was for Parsee Zoroastrians only!

IN THE ENTIRE TRUST DEED OF 21 PAGES, THERE IS NOT A SINGLE MENTION ABOUT PARSEE ZARTHOSHTIS. WORST STILL, IF A TRUSTEE DIES OR RETIRES OR RESIGNS,

THE REMAINING TRUSTEES CAN APPOINT "ANY OTHER PERSON OR PERSONS TO BE A TRUSTEE OR TRUSTEES".

THERE IS NOTHING AT ALL IN THE ABOVE TRUST DEED, ABOUT MAINTAINING THE SANCTITY OF HOLY IRANSHAH OR EVEN A REMOTE SUGGESTION THAT UDVADA IS TO BE A YATRA DHAAM FOR PARSEE ZARTHOSHTIS!!!

IN FACT, THE "FOUNDATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF UDVADA" HAS NOTHING WHATSOEVER TO DO WITH THE PARSEES OF UDVADA, THEIR HOMES AND PAAK IRANSHAH OR WITH THE PARSEE COMMUNITY!!

Dastur Khurshed Dastur has been a trustee of the Foundation since May 2003, when the Trust Deed was signed. How many Udvada Anjuman Committee members, let alone other members of the Parsee community, were informed by him or any of his co-trustees that the Foundation is out and out a cosmopolitan trust?

How is it that Mr. P.K. Lehri, who is a nominee of the Gujarat government on the Board, has himself signed the Trust Deed, when the whole intention of both the Central and the Gujarat governments was to help the Parsees preserve their heritage and culture?

We still earnestly urge Dasturji Khurshed to resign forthwith from this Foundation, which has nothing for the Parsees, nor for the preservation of the sanctity of Holy Iranshah and His Pav Mahal!!

The FDU should not be allowed to have even a toehold in Udvada!

[This space has been left blank as a token of our very strong protest and revulsion against the secular FDU in Udvada.] – Ed.

HIGH PRIESTS REJECT FDU's AGENDA IN UDVADA

19 September 2004

Shri P.K. Lehri
Chief Secretary, Government of Gujarat
Block No.1, 3rd Floor, Near Sachivalya
Gandhinagar 382 010, Gujarat.

Dear Sir,

Re.: Preserving the sanctity of Udvada and our Holy Iranshah Atashbehram

We, the **High Priests of the Parsee/Irani community of India**, are deeply disturbed to learn about the plans to turn Udvada gaam into a cultural-heritage-tourist centre under the auspices of a trust titled 'Foundation for Development of Udvada' (FDU).

As you may be aware, Udvada is the sacred, spiritual citadel of the Parsee community because therein is enthroned the Holy Fire, "Iranshah Atashbehram", the fountainhead of the community's spiritual strength, survival and progress in India through the centuries. Thus it is the sacred duty of all Parsees to ensure that no harm befalls the Holy Fire or its immediate environs, which have to be maintained with sanctity and care. Promoting Udvada as a cultural-heritage-tourist centre, will result in the very opposite.

A very important issue to be noted is that today, there are, in several parts of the world, non-Zoroastrians who are unauthorizedly converting to Zoroastrianism. These so-called converts don the sacred Sudreh and Kushti and masquerade as neo-Zoroastrians. Turning Udvada into a cultural-heritage-tourist centre will attract all these so-called converts. **Many of them will surely attempt to enter the precincts of Iranshah Atashbehram, thereby causing grave religious disorder. That will be totally intolerable and unacceptable to us Parsees.**

We are sure you will understand that it would be an impossible task for the priests tending to the Holy Fire, to monitor every person entering the precincts of the Atashbehram and to restrict entry of these converts into the Atashbehram, the FDU having invited and welcomed them (via tourism), virtually to its doorstep.

Another equally important issue to be considered is the stringent ritual purity standards required to be maintained by the attendant Priests (Boiwalla Sahebs) of the Iranshah Atashbehram. In spite of the quiet and tranquil conditions prevailing at present in Udvada, it is still difficult for them to safeguard their purity levels. **An influx of tourists will make it virtually impossible for them to lead a way of life very necessary for them to serve Iranshah Atashbehram with the requisite purity, care and diligence.**

With the objective of preserving and protecting the serenity and sanctity of divine Iranshah Atashbehram, we appeal to you to call an immediate halt to the cultural-heritage-tourism Agenda proposed for Udvada and withdraw any authority given to the FDU and/or any other organization to pursue it. We seek your co-operation in allowing Udvada to remain a quiet, serene and holy place of pilgrimage for our community. We look forward to your positive response, and immediate action which may be sent **c/o. Dastur Dr. Peshotan Mirza, High Priest, Iranshah Atashbehram, Udvada Anjuman at 4, Babulnath Road, Ground Floor, Mumbai 400 007.**

Yours in His Service,

Sd/-
Dastur Dr. Kaikhusroo
M. JamaspAsa
(Mumbai)

Sd/-
Dastur Dr. Firoze Meherji
Kotwal (Mumbai)

—
Dastur Khurshed Kaikobad
Dastoor
(Udvada)

Sd/-
Dastur Cyrus Noshirwan Dastur
(Surat)

Sd/-
Dastur Meherji K. Meherjirana
(Navsari)

Sd/-
Dastur Dr. Peshotan Hormuzdyar
Mirza (Udvada)

Sd/-
Dastur Nadirshah P. Unvalla
(Bangalore)

cc.: **The Collector**

Collector's Office, Dharampur Road
Valsad 396 001, Gujarat.

cc.: **Shri Jayandra Sinh Chudasama**

Addl. Collector & Addl. District Magistrate
Collector's Office, Dharampur Road
Valsad 396 001, Gujarat.

cc.: **Mr. A.F. Doctor, Editor**

The Parsee Voice

cc.: **Mr. Rusi Dhondy, Editor**

Jam-e-Jamshed Weekly

cc.: **Mr. Mancher Cama, Editor**

Mumbai Samachar

cc.: **Mr. Jehangir Patel, Editor**

Parsiana

ઉદવાડા ગામને અડશો નહિં!

“ધી પારસી વૉઈસ” નાં ઉદવાડા ગામને હેરિટેજ/કલચરલ અને ટુરિસ્ટ સેન્ટર બનાવવાની સામેનો પ્રબળ વિરોધનાં પ્રત્યાઘાતો અળગ અળગ શહેરો/ગામોથી આવ્યા છે. તેમાંનો એક વિરોધ પત્ર, સુરતનાં દસ્તુરજી સાચરસ નો. દસ્તુર તેમજ બીજાઓની સહી સાથનો, જે ગુજરાત નાં મુખ્ય મંત્રી, શ્રી. નરેન્દ્ર મોદી ને લખાએલો હતો, તે અમો અત્રે પ્રગટ કર્યે છીએ!

પ્રતિ,
એડીટર સાહેબ,
“ધી પારસી વૉઈસ”

આપશ્રીને આ પત્ર મારફત અમે સૂરતની જરથોસ્તી અંજુમનના સભ્યો અમારી હૃદયની લાગણી રજૂ કરવા રજા લઈએ છીએ.

તા. ૨૨-૧૨-૦૨ અને ૨૯-૧૨-૦૨ ના “જામે જમશેદ” ના અંકોમાં કમિશ્નર ઓફ ટુરિઝમ ગુજરાત સ્ટેટ શ્રી લહીરી તરફથી જાહેરાતમાં ઉદવાડા ગામને “કલચરલ અને હેરિટેજ સેન્ટર” બનાવવા ડ્રા. ૧ કરોડ ૨૧ લાખની ગ્રાંટ ગુજરાત તથા કેન્દ્ર સરકારે મળી ફાળવી છે. આ આખો ખ્યાલજ ચિંતા ઉપજાવનારો છે. જેના નીચે પ્રમાણેના કારણો રજૂ કરીએ છીએ :

(૧) ઉદવાડા ગામ જ્યાં “ઈરાનશાહ” છેલ્લા ૨૫૭ વર્ષથી બીરાજ રહ્યા છે. આ ગામ શાંત અને પવિત્ર સ્થળ છે ત્યાં ભકિતને માટે ઉત્તમ વાતાવરણ છે જે હજી સુધી આ પ્રદુષણના જમાનામાં પણ જળવાઈ રહ્યું છે. આ મકાનમાં ઇલેક્ટ્રીસીટીનું કનેક્શન પણ નથી અને આવનારા જરથોસ્તીઓને પુર્ણ રીતે ધાર્મિક અને આધ્યાત્મિક શક્તિ બક્ષનારૂં આખા ભારતમાં ફક્ત આ એકજ સ્થળ છે. જરથોસ્તીઓ માટે ભાવપૂર્વક બંદગી કરી વળતા આશિષો મેળવવાનું આ સર્વોત્તમ સ્થળ છે અને આવી ભાવના વિશ્વના દરેક પારસીના દીલમાં છે.

(૨) “ઈરાનશાહ”ની જાળવણી એક ખાસ પ્રકારની ધાર્મિક કવાયદમાંથી પસાર થયેલા મોબેદ (ધર્મગુરૂ) સાહેબોજ કરી શકે છે. જે અત્યંત મુશકેલ છે. સામાન્ય જરથોસ્તીની પણ સમજ બહાર છે. જેમાં પહેરવેશ, વાણી, જમણને લગતા કાયદા એવી અન્ય અનેક બાબદોને સમાવી લીધા બાદ અને તેનું પૂર્ણ પાલન કર્યા બાદજ આવા મોબેદ (ધર્મગુરૂ) સાહેબ “ઈરાનશાહ” સમક્ષ તેમની સેવા કરવા હાજર થઈ શકે છે. જે માટે ગામનું એકાંત વાતાવરણ, રસ્તા ઉપરની ઘણી ઓછી અવર-જવર અને મોબેદ (ધર્મગુરૂ) સાહેબનું એમના ઘરથી કોઈને પણ સ્પર્શ કર્યા વગર રસ્તા ઉપરથી આવવું જવું ફરજીયાત છે.

(૩) “કલચરલ અને હેરિટેજ સેન્ટર” થવાથી આ સ્થળ ઉપર પારસીઓ ઉપરાંત ભાઈબંધ કોમોની પણ અવર-જવર ઘણીજ વધી જવાની, વાહનોની અવર-જવર અનેક ઘણી વધશે, ગામના વાતાવરણમાં અવાજ

અને ધુમાડાનું અનેક ઘણું પ્રદુષણ વધશે. ગામ લોકોની અવર-જવરથી ધમધમતું થશે, શાંતી રહેશે નહિં અને સ્થળની પવિત્રતા જળવાશે નહિં. ધાર્મિક અને આધ્યાત્મિક વાતાવરણ જોખમાશે.

(૪) પાસેજ ધુંધવાતો દરીયો હોવાથી ટુરિસ્ટ સેન્ટરો અને તારક હોટલો પણ ખુલવાનાજ અને એ ધંધાની સાથે લાગેલી બધીજ બદીઓ ખેંચી લાવવાના. આપ જાણો છો કે એ હોટલોમાં શું નથી થતું? આ બધીજ બદીઓ આ પવિત્ર ગામમાં ખેંચાઈ આખું વાતાવરણ કલુષિત બનાવશે. આજે પાતલીયા, દેવકા, દમણ જેવા ગામોમાં શું થઈ રહ્યું છે તેજ ઘાટ ઉદવાડા ગામનો થવાનો.

(૫) અમારી આપને નમ્ર અરજ છે કે આ ગામ કરતાં આપ આપની પસંદગી સંજાણ ઉપર ઉતારો, સંજાણ તો ઈરાનશાહનું સ્થાપના સ્થળ છે. સૌથી વધુ ૬૬૯ વર્ષો સુધી ઈરાનશાહ ત્યાં રહ્યા હતાં. સંજાણ બંદરે જરથોસ્તીઓએ ઉતરીને જાદીરાણા નો આશરો માંગ્યો હતો. બહારોટ ગુફાઓ પણ ત્યાં ફક્ત ૧૨ માઈલ ઉપર છે. ત્યાં પણ ઈરાનશાહ ૧૨ વર્ષો સુધી રહ્યા હતા. પહાડો ઉપર ટુરિસ્ટ સેન્ટર વિકસાવો પરંતુ ઉદવાડા ગામ માટે આપના વિચારો ફેરવો.

(૬) દરેક ધર્મે મુક્તિ માટે પ્રાર્થનાને પહેલાં પગથિયાં રૂપ દર્શાવી છે. પારસીઓ માટે એકચિત્ને બંદગી કરવાના શાંત અને પવિત્ર સ્થળ ઉપર દર્શાવેલી બદીથી ઉભરાતું અત્યારથીજ બચાવો. એટલી ખરાં દીલની પ્રાર્થનાથી તમો સાહેબને આ વિનંતી ભરેલ પત્ર લખ્યો છે. તેમાં દ્વેષભાવ કે બૂરી નિષ્ઠા જરા પણ નથી. ઈરાનશાહ અને ઉદવાડા પારસીકોમનું અંતકરણ છે અને દુન્યાભરથી જરથોસ્તીઓ નમન કરવા આ પવિત્ર સ્થળની મુલાકાત લે છે. તો તેને એટલા પુરતુંજ રહેવા દો. તો આપ સાહેબની મહેરબાની. આશા છે કે આપ આ બાબત ઉપર ગંભીરતાથી વિચારી આપે લીધેલ નિર્ણય જરૂરથી ફેરવશો.

લી.
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અને બીજાઓ

ઉદવાડા અંજુમનને અમારી છેવટની અરજ!

❧ ફાઉન્ડેશન ફોર ડીવેલપમેન્ટ ઓફ ઉદવાડા નાં ટ્રસ્ટ ડીડ માં પારસી યા પારસી જરથોશ્તી માટે એક શબ્દજ નથી!

❧ આ ટ્રસ્ટ સંપૂર્ણ રીતે સાર્વજનીક (કોસ્મોપોલિટન) છે, અને તેમાં પાક ઈશનશાહને માટે એક હસ્કુ પણ નથી! ઈશનશાહનાં દસ્તુરજી ખુશોદ કેવા ટ્રસ્ટનાં પ્રમુખ બન્યા છે?

❧ જામે જમચોદ પીકલીમાં આ સંદર્ભમાં આપેલાં બધાંજ લખાણો જે દસ્તુરજી વી સહી સાથવાં છે, તે ભોળા પારસીઓની આંખમાં ઘૂળ છાંટે છે!

[આ વિષે વાંચો અમારો આ અંકના ખાસ અંગ્રેજી લેખ, જેમાં વિસ્તારીને આ બાબતોની છણાવટ કરી છે.]

❧ અત્યારે અમો ફક્ત શ્રીજી પાક ઈશનશાહ નાં ખાદેમો, ત્યાંનાં યથોઝદાથેગરો અને ઉદવાડા અંજુમનની કારોબારી કમિટીનાં સાહેબોને એકજ અરજ કર્યે છીએ કે FDU નામની સંસ્થા જે શ્રીજીને ઘણી હાનીઓ પહોંચાડી શકે છે, તેને ઉદવાડામાં પગપેસારો બિલકુલ કરવા દેવો નહિં!