

"I shall pass through this world but once. Any good that I can do, or any kindness that I can show any human being, let me do it now and not defer it, for I shall not pass this way again."



VOTE FOR

ARNAVAZ JAL MISTRY

FOR THE OFFICE OF
THE BOMBAY PARSI PUNCHAYET
ELECTIONS - 2008

"IN THE SERVICE OF THE COMMUNITY"

INTRODUCTION

I am not new to those who have interacted with me during the course of my varied services to the members of the community. However, for all those who have not heard much about me, I shall try to enumerate the kind of work that has been done by me so far.

I took my first step to serve the people by working in the Parsi Ward of J.J. Hospital nearly 22 years ago. Although J. J. Parsi ward has been my pet project, due to my desire and keenness to work for the underprivileged, I have found time to do something for many other social organizations and places needing my attention. Some of the other institutions that I am involved with are the Parukh Dharamshala, Doongerwadi, various hospitals, Young Rathestars, Don Bosco Shelter (for street children), Kamla Mehta Blind School, Jai Vakeel School for children in need of special care, Ackworth Leprosy Home, Stree Zarthosti Mandal, Dinbai Pattuck Trust, etc.

The Dalai Lama has rightly said, "If you Wantt others to be happy. practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion."

This has been my motto in life. Compassion for all humankind, especially the poor, needy and the deprived has been my main objective in life.

I am experienced in handling the working of various charitable and welfare organizations and trusts. The administration of all these have been handled by me with total transparency, honesty, efficiency and with a deep concern for the betterment of the community.

ACTION PLAN:

1. BUILDING BRIDGES:

My foremost task would be to bring about amicable settlements on various issues that are troubling the community at the moment. We are a peace-loving community, and that is the way we shall remain. I shall strive to bring about rapprochements amongst people of different opinions.

2. CARING FOR THE UNDERPRIVILEGED

Many of our brethren live below the poverty line -may be not by the general standards of our country, but certainly by the standards of our community. The Panchayet is expected to give such of our community members a helping hand from funds earmarked for the same.

- We shall strive to see that this help is extended to the genuine seekers in the most transparent manner.
- The Panchayet also helps out those of our community Who need financial support for medical treatment. It would serve the needs of such persons better if the Panchayet procured health insurance policies for them. This way, it would save the poor the indignity of asking for financial help. We shall strive to see that such a scheme is put in practice.

3. SENIOR CITIZENS

- We would try to create more Homes for the aged, where they can spend their twilight years with love and dignity. This would be of great help to the migrated families whose parents have preferred to stay back here.
- We shall encourage our youth to visit these Homes regularly, so as to create a bond between them.
- An active 24-hour Help-Line would be created for senior citizens, especially for those who live alone.
- For active senior citizens various activities like outings, get-togethers and picnics would be organized, and recreation facilities would be created close to their residents.

4. HOUSING:

Housing is the most critical requirement of the community. The Panchayet is expected to provide affordable housing to the members of the community.

- This critical issue of providing housing shall be given utmost priority.
- Allotment shall be made strictly as per the merit system, and no attempt to get out of turn allotment shall be entertained. This has been a much-debated issue in the recent past.
- It is necessary to manage the creation and allotment of rental as well as ownership apartments in Mumbai in a transparent and equitable manner.

- We shall strive to address the complaints of aspirants by setting up a special housing grievances cell.
- Details about a transparent merit-based system would be made available to all the applicants.
- Priority for housing allotments would be given to young couples waiting to get married and to start a family.
- Priority would also be given to full-time mobeds.
- We shall try to initiate out of court compromise settlement of pending legal cases.
- We shall also endeavor to explore how more housing can be created from the resources available.

5. EDUCATION & YOUTH AFFAIRS :

Our community has been in the forefront in all possible fields in our country. This has been possible due to the importance we, as a community, attach to education. The Panchayet provides financial help to needy and deserving young of our community so that they may pursue their dreams.

- We shall strive to see that such help is distributed in transparent manner and all possible aspirants get the help they deserve.
- We shall work in coordination with minority commission officials to get reservation of seats for the community.
- A lot of community members are not aware about the existing reserved seats in the educational institutions. Our youth would be made aware of this to use those seats.
- With a virtual explosion in the number of careers open to the young today, it is not possible, as was traditionally done in the past, for the parents to guide the young, as to what educational field to pursue, and ultimately what career to choose. We would strive to provide this guidance by holding seminars and inviting experts in the fields to guide the young.
- We shall work towards more interaction among youth by organizing musical evenings, outings, and sports events.
- We shall organize sports tournaments and summer camps for the youth and children.
- Arrangements for summer jobs for the youth would be made to enable them to expend their vacations fruitfully.

6. DOONGERWADI :

In the recent past, the system of Dokhmenashini has caused considerable apprehension whether we could continue using the same. The premises of Doongerwadi are like an oasis amidst the concrete jungle that our city has become.

- Every effort would be made to see that the property is looked after well and solemnity of the precincts are maintained.
- We have a dedicated team of Nassesalars (pall bearers), who are doing a commendable job in trying circumstances. We shall strive to see that their needs are well taken care of.
- We shall also make sure to see that the educational and health needs of their children are taken care of.

7. GOOD GOVERNANCE:

All good intentions are brought to a naught if implementation is poor.

- For good governance of various issues, I shall ensure that I am available to the community members to study their suggestions and redress their grievances.
- We shall strive to see that all projects are implemented in the most professional manner, and resources are channeled in a productive way.
- We would strive to see to it that the Panchayet has an active website, and invites the community to interact with them on a day-to-day basis, giving feedback, inquiring on various issues concerning the community, and to address grievances and complaints.
- A dedicated team of experts to advise members of the community on various issues ranging from health and social issues, to education and careers for the young would be created.

Dear Voter,

Bombay Parsi Punchayet is a three and a half centuries old institution, and is the largest Zoroastrian institution in modern history. At the moment it is passing through an all-important stage in its history.

The community is at the threshold of momentous changes. For the first time in the history of B.P.P. all adults in the community are going to have a say in deciding who will govern the premier institution of the community.

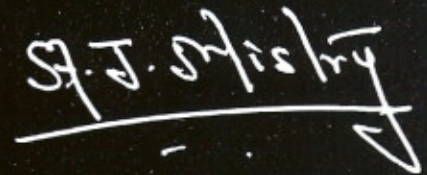
Our community is facing challenges we have never faced any time in the past. There are controversies that need to be resolved by balanced, mature thinking.

The nodal social organization of the community- The Bombay Parsi Punchayet is itself facing challenges, thrown up by various contentious issues.

At this juncture, we as a community need to throw up leaders who will guide the destiny of the community in a balanced way.

We need leaders of proven record of community service. We need leaders who have sacrificed their time and resources to bring relief to the needy of the community.

I hope that my candidature is considered favourably, and that I am elected to the office of the Bombay Parsi Punchayet, to continue the good work that I have been doing, for many more years.



MRS. ARNAVAZ JAL MISTRY

The elections would be held between 10 am and 6 pm as hereunder:

- 04-10-08 : Khareghat Colony, Hughes Road
- 05-10-08 : Rustom Baug, Byculla
- 11-10-08 : Parsi Punchayet Office, J. .J. School, Fort
- 12-10-08 : Shapoorji Bharucha Baug, Andheri
- 18-10-08 : Parsi Punchayet Office, J. .1. School, Fort
- 19-10-08 : J. B. Vatcha School, Dadar

AN EARNEST APPEAL TO OUR PARSEE COMMUNITY

The time has come for us to move forward in unison and harmony for solving the problems of our community, which have in the recent past been blown out of proportions. This has finally resulted in the Universal Adult Franchise. History will be created in the first week of October 2008 when a full set of 7 trustees will be elected to the office of the BPP.

We offer our wholehearted support to ARNAVAZ JAL MISTRY, with whom we have had the good fortune of interacting over many matters, especially connected with the social work she is involved in, for the upliftment of the under prevailed of our community.

She is a devout Zoroastrian and promises to uphold the age-old traditions of Zoroastrianism, especially where Dokhmenashini is concerned. She also holds the problem of housing very close to her heart, and would work for transparent and fair allotment of residence to the members of the community.

She is modest as far as her work is concerned, but her track record has done most of her talking -

Her selfless services to the institutions such as, the Sir J. J. Parsee Ward, the Parukh Dharmashala, the Don Bosco Shelter, the Ackworth Leprosy Home, the Stree Zarhosti Mandal (RTI), the Kamala Mehta Blind School, Doongerwadi, the Jai Vakeel School, etc. bear testimony to the devotion she has towards our community.

In a heart endowed with faith and devotion to serve humanity, burns the eternal flame of hope, which leaves no room for discouragement. To this upright lady social work is a way of life and a medium to put true compassion to good use. She is a strong-willed person, possessing excellent qualities such as hard work, honesty, and deep concern for the betterment of the community.

She is courageous and takes impartial decisions in all the administrative matters that she has handled so far, such as social service organizations and trusts, education, and medical aid to the poor. More importantly, she possesses intellectual honesty with which she assimilates, understands and decides every issue without fear or favour, not allowing external forces to influence her decisions.

We fervently appeal to all our community members, that your valuable vote would help Arnavaz in securing a seat as a Trustee of the BPP, and we assure you that she would surely prove herself more than worthy of the trust that we all have reposed in her.

"CHANGE IS INEVITABLE AND RIGHT NOW IT IS STARING IN THE EYES OF ALL THE ZOROASTRIANS."

B.A. Palkhivala
BEHRAM A. PALKHIVALA

Rustom Soonawala
DR RUSTOM PHIROZE SOONAWALA
MD FRCS FRCOG, FICOG.

Dr. B. K. Daver
DR B. K. DAVER.

Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy
(JAMSETJEE JEJEEBHOY)

Farook K. Kavarana
(FAROOK K. KAVARANA)

Mrs. Arnavaz



Jal Mistry

“દુ આ દુનિયામાથી માત્ર એકજ વખત પસાર થઇશ. જે પણ મારેથી કંઈક ભલૂ થાય, યા કોઈ પણ મનુષ્યને દુ દયા બતાવી શકુ તે માહરે હમનાજ કરવી પડે. તેમા કંઈ પણ ઢીલ નહીં થવી જોઈએ. કારણ કે કદાચ દુ પાછો આ રસ્તે નહીં આવી શકું”



આપણે દુન્યામાં માત્ર એકજ જીવન છે. દરેકે ને કંઈક જીવનનુ કાર્ય હોય છે. દરેક જન જીવન જીવવામાં વ્યસ્ત હોય છે - કુટુંબ તરફની જવાબદારીઓ નીભાવવા યા તો આર્થિક ફાયદાઓ માટે ઓફીસ મા કામ કરવુ પડે છે. જીવનના રસ્તા પર આપણે અસંખ્ય એવા વ્યક્તિઓના સમાગમ માં આવ્યે છીએ જેઓ એક યા બીજી રીતે કમનસીબ હોય છે, અને જેઓને આપણી જરૂર હોય છે. પણ આપણી વ્યસ્ત જીવનમા તેઓ માટે સમય ફાળવી શકતા નથી. કોઈક વખત પૈસા આપ્યે છીએ, પણ લાગણીઓ ના સંબંધમાં આપણે કંઈક ખાસ કરી શકતા નથી.

અગર એક એવી વ્યક્તિ હોય જે સમાજના કમનસીબ લોકોને પોતાના કુટુંબનો એક ભાગ સમજતા હોય, તો તે છે મીસીસ અરનાવાઝ જાલ મીસ્ટ્રી.

લગભગ બાવીસ વર્ષો પહેલ્લા અરનાવાઝે ગરીબોને મદદ કરવા માટેના પહેલ્લા પગલાઓ. જે. જે. હોસ્પીટલ ના પારસી વોર્ડ મા ભર્યા હતા. તે વખતે એ વોર્ડ બીસ્માર હાલતના એક જુના ખંડિયર જેવા ઘર જેવુ હતું. જેમા માત્ર વીસ ઘોલ્યાઓ હતા. એ એવી કંગાલ હાલત માં હતુ કે ગરીબ માણસો પણ તેમા નહી રહેવા માંગતા હતા. આજે એ વોર્ડ એક ભવ્ય ઘર જેવુ આલીશાન છે, અને એમા લગભગ ૪૫ ઘોલ્યાઓ છે. આજે કોમના બુઝોર્ગ વ્યક્તિઓ ત્યા રહેવા માટે પડાપડી કરે છે. પન ત્યા દાખલ થવા માટેનુ એક લાંબુ વેટીંગ લીસ્ટ છે. આ બધુ અરનાવાઝ મીસ્ટ્રી ની અઠાગ સેવા ને આભારી છે. એ ઓ આ પારસી વોર્ડમાં લોકો ખુશહાલ રહે અને તેઓને એ પોતાના ઘેર જેવુ લાગે તે જોવા માટે જરાક પણ પાછા પડતા નથી. અને તેઓ જે પ્યાર અને મમતા તે બુઝોર્ગ હમદીનોને દાખવે છે તે જોતા ખરેખર વીચાર આવે કે કદાચ પોતાના ઘરમાં પણ એઓને આવો પ્યાર ને મમતા નહીં મળતો હોય.

અરનાવાઝ બીજે ઘણે ઠેકાણે સામજીક ને આર્થિક મદદો કરવામાં રોકાયલા હોય છે. એક પણ દીવસ એવો નહી જતો હોય કે એઓ કોમના ગરીબ અને કમનસીબ હમદીનોને મદદ નહી કરતા હોય.

એ ઓ બીજી સંસ્થાઓ સાથે પણ જોડાયલા છે, જેવી કે પારખ ધર્મશાળા, ડુંગરવાડી, અન્ય હોસ્પીટલો, યંગ રથેશ્તાર્સ, ડૉન બોસ્કો શેલ્ટર (રસ્તા પરના બચ્ચાઓ માટે) કમલા મેહતા બ્લાઈઝ સ્કૂલ, કમ બુધ્ધીના બચ્ચાઓ માટે જાઈ વકીલ સ્કૂલ, એકવર્થ લેપ્રસી હોમ વગેરે....

માનવંત મરહુમ સીદ્દામાય કાવારાના ના પગલે ચાલી, એમના સિધ્ધાંતો ને ધ્યાનમા રાખી અરનાવાઝે હવે મુંબઈની પારસી પંચાયતની ચુંટણીમા પોતાનુ ત્રસ્ટી તરીકેનુ ઉમેદવારી પત્ર ભર્યુ છે, માત્ર એ હેતુથી કે વધારે ને વધારે સારી રીતે પોતાની કોમને મદદ કરી શકે. એઓ નોકરયાત નથી માટે, આ નેક કામમા એઓ પોતાનો પૂર્ણ વખત ફાળવી શકશે.

કેટલાકઓનુ એવુ માનવુ છે કે લોકો પોતાનો સ્વાર્થ માટે ત્રસ્ટી થવા માંગે છે. અરનાવાઝ માટે એવુ બીલકુલ કહી શકાય નહીં કારણ કે દાદાર અહુરમઝદની મહેરબાની થી એઓ આગળ પૂરતુ છે વધુમાં એઓ મોટો ભાગનો પોતાનો અંગત પૈસો ગરીબ અને હાજતમંદોને મદદ કરવા માટે ફાળવે છે

અરનાવાઝ ને ત્રસ્ટો અને સંસ્થાઓ ચલાવવાનો સારો અનુભવ છે. એઓ કેટલીક સંસ્થાઓ પૂરી પ્રમાણીકતા, કુશળતા અને લાગણીથી ચલાવે છે. અને કોમનુ ઘણુ ભલુ કર્યુ છે.

અગર જો તમો વિચારતા હોવ કે B.P.P. ની ચુંટણીમા મત કોણને આપવો? તો બેશક નીર્ણય લઈ લો કે તમો પૂરા વિશ્વાસ સાથે અરનાવાઝ જાલ મીસ્ટ્રી ને વોટ આપજો તમોને તમારા નિર્ણય માટે કદી પસ્તાવો નહી થશે.

દરેક હમદીનોની ફરજ છે કે અરનાવાઝ જેવા પરમાર્થી અને માયાલુ સભ્ય ને ટેકો આપે કે તેઓ ઘણા વર્ષો સુધી ભલાઈ ના કામો કરતા રહે.

મિત્રો, સંગાઓ અને શુભ-ચીંતાઓ તરફથી