



LOHANA SAMAJ NEWSLETTER



LOHANA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION OF CANADA

P.O. BOX 927, ADELAIDE POST STATION, TORONTO, ONTARIO, M5C 2K3

JANUARY 2011

www.myLohana.com

EDITORS: Radhika Bhayani, Sanket Thakkar

“HAPPY NEW YEAR”

Message from the President

On behalf of the Board of Directors and volunteers of the Lohana Charitable Foundation (LCF), Happy New Year and Best Wishes for 2011 to Lohanas everywhere!

The year 2010 was indeed a successful year for us, showing once again that, with good support and encouragement from the members, the Samaj can deliver events and the required infrastructure products such as e-mail and auto-dialer communications that enable our close-knit community. The self-standing Funeral Committee performed in an exemplary fashion as always. The major events during the year turned out to be well attended, thanks to our members treating Samaj events as more than just one choice for entertainment. Our people recognize the value of such events for themselves, for their brethren, for their seniors, and for their children and grandchildren. We had the soothing Bhajans on September 11, 2010, followed by the melodious Sharad Purnima Garbas on October 23, 2010, and the glittering Diwali Gala on November 6, 2010. We also released the new Lohana Directory based on a complete update of the database, the first time such an update has been undertaken in nearly 20 years.

We have now established a semi-formal process for the update of the Lohana Database and we have instituted disciplined rules for the use of mass communication, all of which are repeated in this newsletter in order to ensure fair and efficient administration in the long-term. I want to extend my personal thanks to all the Board members, volunteers, and well-wishers who ensured the successful year. We hope that all Lohanas continue to support community activities, and we hope to see you all at the 2011 Annual General Meeting (AGM) on February 6, 2011, about which more details are provided in this newsletter.

It is most encouraging to note the participation in Samaj activities by the relatively new immigrants that arrived over the last two decades and by the young adults that were once the young children of those that first came to Canada during the 70's and 80's. Please continue to consider the Lohana Samaj as a family and an important institution for us all.

Having completed responsibility as a transitional President for part of the year, I will now encourage newer active members to take on this role as of the 2011 AGM. I am certain that my shoes will be filled easily. On the other hand, Lalitbhai Kanabar's role will be very difficult to fill. Lalitbhai has been more than a treasurer for almost a decade; he has worked very hard, literally day and night, on many, many aspects of our Samaj. His contribution has been invaluable, and his knowledge and experience about our community is a tremendous resource. Sadly, Lalitbhai has decided not to come back as a Board member. I sincerely believe that losing a person of Lalitbhai's caliber from active duty is a big loss for the community.

Going forward, I promise to provide absolute and full support to the incoming President. I guarantee whoever takes over that, as an ex-officio, I will be an active participant in the community to the extent that he / she requires.

With best wishes for the New Year,

Narendra Pattani, Acting President.

LCF Committee (2010)

PRESIDENT (Acting):
NARENDRA PATTANI

Vice-PRESIDENT:
AMBRISH THAKKAR

TREASURER:
LALIT KANABAR

SECRETARY:
HARSH THAKKAR

AUDITOR:
RAKESH MAJITHIA

BOARD MEMBERS:
RADHIKA BHAYANI
PRATIK DHRONA
SONA RUPARELIA
LEKHA LUKKA
MILA TANNA
BEJU LAKHANI (Past Pres.)

YOUTH COMMITTEE:
SHEEL RADIA (President)

FUNERAL COMMITTEE:
SURESHBHAI THAKRAR
KANTIBHAI RAJA
VIPINBHAI MITHIA
KAMLESHBHAI THAKRAR

FOGA REPS:
RAMESHBHAI CHOTAI
VIPINBHAI MITHIA

SPECIAL DUTIES:
SAMIR CHANDE
(Website)
BIMAL LAKANI
SANKET THAKKAR



Lohana Charitable Foundation of Canada

Invites all members to attend:

Annual General

Meeting 2011

Date: Sunday, February 6, 2011

Time: 3 – 4pm AGM

4 -5pm Social gathering

Location: Vishnu Mandir

8640 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, Ontario

Ph: 905-886-1724

Timing will be *strictly* observed

Refreshments will be provided during the AGM

AGENDA

1. Review of minutes from 2010 AGM
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Lohana Mahaparishad Report
4. President's Report
5. Youth Report
6. Dissolution of 2010 Executive Committee
7. Election process for 2011 Executive Committee
8. Any other business
9. Adjournment

The Executive Committee wishes to thank the Community for a wonderful year, delightful experience, and constant support.

Anni – In Her Loving Memory

એસે જીવન ભી હે જો જીયે ભી નહિ...જનકો જનેસે પહેલે.....

એસે લોગ ભી હે જો ભૂલે ભી નહિ...જનકો ભૂલનેસે પહેલે ફીર યાદ આ ગઈ..

Even at this late date we remember her and pray for her soul. Om Shanti Om Shanti

Most of us find it difficult to forget her even though very few of us, in Toronto, knew her well. Chotai family and Hindocha family come to mind. Both Rameshbhai and Shantibhai had attended her wedding in Bombay. Rameshbhai Chotai also attended her funeral in London on Nov 20th.

God !
Only if I knew
I wouldn't be asking you
Why?
For such a sudden good bye

In the blink of an eye
We didn't know
That we'd have to say good bye
We know there was no reason for Anni to die

Ill health, old age or a car crash
Death wears a varied dress
But never so soon in a wedding dress
Life is interrupted in such cruel stress

It doesn't take you a second to erase a human face
And almost destruct faith of human race
Your unfairness no longer can face
Hard to keep up with your increasingly cruel pace

The good died young
There might be no tomorrow
In God we trust
Through all this pain and sorrow
The good died young
The flame will burn forever
And no one will forget Anni's name ever
Pray for her young soul for ever

Night has ended for another day,
Morning has come in an awkward way,
Even in Heaven, many like us pray,
May you smile like the sunny ray
That's how you used to and that's the only way
For us to remember you, there is no other way

The New 2010 LCF Directory

- The new directory was distributed during the Lohana Diwali Dinner
- Any family whose name appears in the 2010 Directory and did not manage to get its free copy at the Diwali Dinner for any reason, including as result of not being there, can still obtain its free copy by making arrangements with the Treasurer, **Lalitbhai Kanabar** (905 820 3351). Alternatively, the free copy can be mailed by **Lalitbhai** to the family upon payment of \$ 10 for shipping/handling.
- Anyone wishing to purchase an extra copy (i.e. beyond the complimentary copy) can do so by paying to **Lalitbhai Kanabar** (905 820 3351) the amount of \$ 10 if picked up in person or \$ 20 if it has to be mailed. Upon this payment, arrangements can be made for the extra copy to be picked up from **Ambrishbhai Thakkar** (647 290 2115) in the east, if that is preferred. All payments go to the Lohana Charitable Foundation, but these are *not* eligible for a charity receipt.

Management and Updates of the New Database and Mass Communications

The Lohana Database will be handled in confidence and it will not be posted on the internet in any form. Subject to any specific amendments at an Annual General Meeting, the Board of Directors will adopt the following rules and procedures for the management of the database and communication matters.

Responsibility for Ongoing Database Management

We are pleased to note that the dedicated duo of **Harsh and Sanket Thakkar** have agreed to look after the ongoing maintenance of the database.

Labels for Use in Private Mailings

At times, such as when wishing to send out invitations for private functions, community members may request labels from the LCF for use in private mailings. This service is provided by LCF for the benefit of community at large. A charge of \$ 100 per set of labels, to cover costs, will be levied for this service. Please contact **Ambrish Thakkar** (647-290-2115) or **Harsh Thakkar** (226-448-5922) for this service.

Database Updates Going Forward

The 2010 Directory was issued on Diwali day and was based on the complete reset of the community database during the summer of 2010. Going forward, if anyone wishes to add or change entries in the database, they should download the LCF Database Update Form, in WORD format, from main page of the community web-site www.myLohana.com and submit it in accordance with the instructions on that form. Any changes to database entries should be submitted to the e-mail address "**LCFDirectory@gmail.com**". If any assistance is required, preferably please e-mail to "**LCFDirectory@gmail.com**" or contact any member of the prevailing Board of Directors for assistance in doing so.

Distribution List for E-Mail & Auto-Dialer Communications

All the e-mail addresses and the primary "home" phone numbers received through the 2010 Directory initiative will soon be added to the current lists of e-mail addresses and auto-dialer phone numbers that receive Lohana Samaj messages. In order not to intrude on personal preferences, we have chosen not to include any new cell phone numbers in the auto-dialer list. Please send an e-mail to "**lohanainfo@gmail.com**" if you wish to add, change, or delete an e-mail address or phone number that is used for mass communications. At any time, requisite information for subscribing to, or unsubscribing from, these distribution lists can also be obtained from the community website "**www.myLohana.com**".

Criteria for Messages by Community E-Mails & Auto-Dialer

In order to respect the privacy and collective interest of the Lohana community members that have provided us their e-mail addresses and phone numbers, the Board of Directors has established a criteria that the community e-mail and auto-dialer will normally be used only if the announcement is to do with an event sponsored by LCF or for the funeral or Bhajans related to the death of a community member, or his/her nearest relative, that has passed away recently. The auto-dialer will be used only for events taking place in the GTA. For all other announcements that may be proposed by any Lohana, the Board will vote on a case-by-case basis to determine if the proposed message should be sent out even if the aforementioned Board criteria is not being met. Such Board deliberations are carried out without any debate and on a confidentiality basis in order to be efficient in this voluntary capacity. Requests to send community messages should be directed to "lohanainfo@gmail.com" with a phone call to **Pratik Dhrona** (647 302 7739) to ensure rapidity. If any request does not meet the above criteria, he will engage the President to seek Board vote on the matter.

YOUTH Corner!

Hello Lohana Community!

I would just like to say that our Youth Committee has grown to three members including myself, Ashiana Raja, and Keval Saujani. If anyone is still interested in being a part of the Youth Committee please e-mail at

lcayouth@gmail.com or
sheelradia@hotmail.com

Also, keep your eyes out for another youth event coming out in the new year!!

Thanks,
Sheel Radia, President
LCA Youth

Lohana Graduates 2010

LCF would like to congratulate their 2010 graduates who were recognized at the annual Diwali Dinner. We were proud to announce 15 new graduates this year. A special thank you to **Yogi Chandarana** who, once again, generously donated the fantastic gifts that our graduates received!

Karima Amiani

Daughter of Mansoor and Farida Amiani,
Mother of Rikin Kotak
Certified Management Accountant
Society of Management Accountants

Mahesh Bhagani

Son of Davendra and Kaushika Bhagani
Bachelor of Accounting and Financial
Management, Master of Accounting
University of Waterloo

Kavita Roni Dattani

Daughter of Pinakin and Kishori Jaradi &
Daughter In-Law of Surendra and Anila
Dattani
PhD in Economics
Fordham University, New York

Anuj Dhrona

Son of Dipak & Sangeeta Dhrona
Bachelor of Arts in Economics
Wilfrid Laurier University

Risha Dhrona

Daughter of Suresh and Vandana Dhrona
Honours Bachelor of Science in Integrative
Biology and Health Studies
University of Toronto

Bimal Lakhani

Son of Chandrakant and Rekha Lakhani
Masters of Science in Rehabilitation Science
University of Toronto

Radhika Lakhani

Daughter of Praful & Meena Lakhani
Masters of Law in Alternative Dispute
Resolution
Osgoode Hall Law School, York University

Bindiya Manek

Daughter of Bharatbhushan & Jasuben
Manek
Master of Science in Taxation
Long Island University, New York

Andrenette Arenas Ondhia

Bachelor of Science, Nursing
McMaster University

Suneal Pabari

Son of Prakash & Sheila Pabari
Bachelor of Management and
Organizational Studies
University of Western Ontario

Raj Pattani

Son of Jayshree and Naren Pattani
Bachelor in Applied Sciences, Mechanical
Engineering
University of Toronto

Meesha Tanna

Daughter of Raj & Mayuri Tanna
Honours Bachelor of Arts in
Communication Studies
Wilfrid Laurier University

Preena Tanna

Daughter of Raj & Mayuri Tanna
Honours Bachelor of Science in Biology,
Co-op
University of Waterloo

Kelvin Suresh Vadera

Son of Suresh and Glenda Vadera
Architectural Technology
George Brown College

Natasha Vadera

Daughter of Suresh and Glenda Vadera
Honors in Bachelors of Science, Health
Studies and Biology
University of Toronto

Announcements are based on submissions by the family.

Congratulations!

Prabhavatiben Bhayani proudly announces the engagement of her granddaughter **Radhika** (daughter of Dipak and Mina Bhayani of Thornhill) to **Milan** (son of Indrajitbhai and Jyotiben Patel of Oakville).

Lalitbhai Kanabar is proud to announce the birth of **Janvi Kanabar**, sister to Rainaa and a daughter of **Heena and Rakesh Kanabar**. **Sachin** is the proud uncle. Janvi was born on December 9th, 2010 in Oakville.

The Treasurer of LCF, on behalf of the Lohana community, wishes to thank **Sunit Radia**, LCF ex-president, for securing a donation of \$500 for the Lohana Summer Youth Camp program from Procter & Gamble, where Sunit occupies a high-level position.

Congratulations to **Sunit Radia** who joined an esteemed group of Sales Professionals on September 14th 2010 in Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, to receive the William Procter Sales Mastery award for career achievement. Sunit embodies the qualities of a William Procter Sales Master as demonstrated by his distinguished and sustained business results and impressive contributions in building the organization.

Sunit has served Lohanas twice as the LCF president and three times as its Vice-president. "Be Proud. Be Lohana" slogan is his brain-child and the Youth Summer Program was conceived and developed during his presidency.

These ex-presidents are really hard at work in their own respective fields (cannot complain because they equally worked hard for Lohanas) and receive these awards for par excellence in their line of work and duty.

ODA Service Award on Nov 18, 2010. ODA stands for Ontario Dental Association and its service award is considered one of the most prestigious awards. The community joins us in congratulating **Dr. Vipin Mithia** for the award and thanks him for helping us beyond keeping our teeth clean

ॐ Condolences ॐ

We, the Lohana Community, still mourn Anni's tragic death in early November, and convey our condolences to the grieving families (Please see "A Tribute" by Lalitbhai Kanabar on Page 3 of this newsletter)

Shamaljibhai Raja

With sincere regrets, we announce the passing of Shree Shamaljibhai Raja of London, England (formerly of Nairobi, Kenya) on November 5, 2010. He was 90 years of age. Shamaljibhai is survived by wife, Labhuben Raja, brother, Devchanbhai Raja, and eight children and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The Raja, Majithia and Madhani families are grateful for the prayers sent and condolences received during their time of bereavement.

Aum Shanti Shanti Shanti

Ujamben Harjiwanbhai Majithia

Ujamben Harjiwanbhai Majithia, mother of Late Girish Majithia and mother-in-law of Sandhya Girish Majithia passed away in Charlotte, North Carolina (USA) on November 20th, 2010. She was 90.

Aum Shanti Shanti Shanti

Surendrabhai Chaganlal Tanna

It is with great sadness we announce that Surendrabhai Chaganlal Tanna, older brother of Bhavneshbhai Tanna and Krishnaben Chotai, passed away at the age of 62 years in Nairobi on November 27, 2010. Surendrabhai, had been shot near his home in Nairobi, about four weeks prior, and had come home after his second surgery, died of a heart attack. Krishnaben and Anjali were near his bed side when he died while Rameshbhai received the news at the Toronto airport upon his arrival from Nairobi where he had accompanied his wife and daughter for the sole purpose of spending some time with Surubhai.

Aum Shanti Shanti Shanti

Smitaben Hasmukh Tanna

It is with great sadness that we inform you that Smita Hasmukh Tanna, daughter of Jayaben Karia and sister of Ramesh, Deepak and Yatish Karia passed away in Atlanta on December 3, 2010 at about 3 p.m.

Aum Shanti Shanti Shanti

Dineshbhai Samani

It is with deep regret that we have to inform of the sad demise of Dineshbhai Samani, father of Rupali Dattani of Ottawa and Brother of Sumanben Raja (brother-in-law of Kantibhai Raja). Dineshbhai passed away on December 18, 2010 at the age of 58 in London, England.

Shantipath and bhajans in memory of the Late Dineshbhai Maganlal Samani, will be held on Sunday the January 9th, 2010 between 4.00 and 5.00 pm at Vishnu Mandir, Richmond Hill.

Aum Shanti Shanti Shanti

Hemlataben Majithia

It is with great sadness we inform you that Hemlataben of Toronto (originally of Lindi), mother of Lt Bharat and Nilesh (Sydney, Australia,) and mother-in-law of Premilaben Majithia passed away on December 26, 2010 at 8.45 p.m at a nursing home in Fort Erie. Kokilaben Parmar and Dharmishtaben, Hemlataben's daughters, reside in Buffalo (U.S.) and London (U.K.) respectively.

The Majithia, Parmar, Kakkad and Takwani families would like to thank the entire Lohana community for their thoughts, prayers and condolences received for the loss of our Ba, both at the Ram Mandir on December 30 and over the phone in recent days.

The support our families have received has been greatly appreciated.

Aum Shanti Shanti Shanti

Bhavnesbhai and Prasannaben Tanna, Rameshbhai and Krishnaben Chotai and families would like to thank the community for their support and attending the bhajans at Vishnu Mandir on December 19, 2010 for the late Surendrabhai Tanna.

Jai Shree Krishna