



# G • U • R • J • A • R

## GUJARATI ASSOCIATION OF NEW ENGLAND

જ્યાં જ્યાં વસે એક ગુજરાતી ત્યાં ત્યાં સદાકાળ ગુજરાત



January 2024

### THE COMMITTEE

#### President

Parul Sanghvi  
978-459-2095

#### Vice President

Rachana Shah  
603-812-1596

#### Secretary

Jayesh Master  
857-891-6577

#### Treasurer

Shrenik Shah  
978-590-1843

#### Directors

Bharat Shah  
978-764-6777

Deval Kamdar  
978-409-1350

Soha Engineer  
978-328-6945

Meeta Shah  
781-239-3911

Maya Shah  
978-852-2150

Premal Trivedi  
978-828-5830

Shamin Patel  
617-750-7650

#### Board of Trustees

Chandra Vora  
Ramila Thakkar  
Bipin Parekh

Dear Gurjar Members,

As we welcome the New Year I am delighted to reflect on the successes of the past year and share our plans for the coming months.

#### Exciting news for our GURJAR members:

*Gurjar has partnered with Turkish Airline to provide our Gurjar members discounted tickets when flying Turkish Airlines. More details to follow via email. Keep an eye out!*

#### We started the year with three major objectives:

- Collaborating with various organizations in our community
- Attracting youth and offering activities that increase member participation
- Provide additional benefits to our members

Collaborating with various organizations in our community has been fruitful, and I'm pleased to report that our efforts have yielded significant benefits for our members. Thanks to the collaboration, we offered our members discounted tickets to a range of exciting events, including performances by Kinjal Dave to Shreya Ghosal. Due to the benefits our membership grew by 31 families in just six months, which is the highest growth rate we've seen so far!

Our Heritage event was a huge success, despite the possibility of being washed out by rain. We had 55 vendors and multiple performances that were highly entertaining.

As usual, our GURJAR garbas attracted the largest crowds. We had more than 20 volunteers that helped manage the crowds. We noticed a bottleneck while having the food vendor in the hallway during our first garbas, but the committee sprang into action and rented the cafeteria within a week for our next garba event. This decision resulted in a better flow of check-in and a pleasant food experience for all.



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Our signature Diwali gala event was yet another resounding success, with delightful food and music that was thoroughly enjoyed. During hectic days of Navratri & Diwali celebrations, the Committee took up the task of amending Gurjar constitution to streamline and align the language used in the constitution with that in the bylaws pertaining to the manner in which the life member fees can be changed. The amendment was discussed, authored and reviewed by the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee. The amendment was ratified by the membership at large in November 2023. A copy of the most current constitution is available on the Gurjar web portal.

Executive committee has crafted a comprehensive bylaw for Gurjar scholarships. This needs immediate attention as many US Universities do not require an applicant to submit SAT/ACT scores anymore which was required to be submitted for Gurjar scholarship applications till date.

I would like to RECOGNIZE the presence of our Board of Trustees. They represent the community and membership at large, and we, the Executive Committee, look forward to their guidance in all matters. Please feel free to share your ideas, feedback, and grievances with them.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Executive Committee, their spouses, and volunteers for their assistance and unwavering support. Without them, GURJAR wouldn't be the huge success it is today!

Wishing you all a joyous New Year filled with love, peace and prosperity.

Sincerely,  
Parul Sanghvi  
President of GURJAR





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## Gurjar Scholarship Rules & Application Template

The scholarship for children of Gurjar members who are entering college was set up in 1994, to appreciate the long-term support of our members. This scholarship is given to all college bound students of the life members. Funds are raised by various Gurjar events very generously supported by our attending members, event sponsors and well-wishers.

All graduating high school seniors of Gurjar Life members are eligible to apply. Gurjar members must be a life member for at least a year for their children to qualify. Awards will be presented at the Gurjar Annual General Meeting held around mid-May every year.

Although there are no requirements to submit the admission/acceptance letter, Gurjar Executive Committee reserves the right to solicit these from the applicants.

### Applicant Information

Student Name:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Name(s) of your Parents (Gujar Life Members):

Name of the High School you currently attend:

Name of the College you will be attending in the fall (if not finalized, please list the universities you have been accepted to):

### Additional Application Information:

1. The deadline for this application is April 25th.
2. Please note that applications submitted after the deadline will NOT be considered.
3. Students must email the completed application to the President of Gurjar at [gurjar.president@gmail.com](mailto:gurjar.president@gmail.com). Gurjar will acknowledge the receipt of the application via Email.
4. Please submit a photograph (JPG or PNG file) of yourself to be showcased at the Gurjar Annual General Meeting.
5. Students must volunteer at least 20 hours in the most recent academic year at an organization with ties to the Indian community. Gurjar will automatically accept hours volunteered at Gurjar. All other organizations must be approved by the Committee at the request of the student. Such requests should reach the president via email at [Gurjar.president@gmail.com](mailto:Gurjar.president@gmail.com) by April 25th.
6. Students are required to attend the Gurjar Annual General Meeting in order to receive the scholarship and may be asked to speak at the event.
7. Scholarship funds are sent electronically using Zelle. If the email address or phone number associated with the bank account you wish to have the funds deposited to is different from the ones provided in the previous section, please make sure to include that information in this application. If you do not have access to Zelle, email the President no later than April 25th.

### Essay Requirement (Mandatory)

Please write a short essay (max 750 words) about your involvement in the Indian community and contribution to Indian culture.



**GURJAR**  
**6 Doral Drive**  
**Chelmsford, MA 01863**

## **ELECTION NOTICE**

As per Gurjar's Constitution, Article VII, an Election Committee consisting of three members listed below has been formed. They will oversee all aspects of the election of the Directors of Gurjar for the year 2023-2024.

- |                 |              |                        |
|-----------------|--------------|------------------------|
| • Chetan Shah   | 978-390-2522 | shahcn06@gmail.com     |
| • Alkesh Shah   | 978-263-1036 | alkesh_shah@yahoo.com  |
| • Saroj Madhani | 508-633-6237 | sarojmadhani@gmail.com |

### **Open positions are:**

3 Directors for a Two-Year term

For those of you interested in serving as a Director, please review the eligibility requirements and fill the form provided on Gurjar website at [www.Gurjar.org](http://www.Gurjar.org). Submit the form and all other requested information to any of the Election Committee member no later than March 27th, 2024.

**<https://www.gurjar.org/nominations-for-gurjar-executive-committee/>**

We encourage all members who wish to help Gurjar with new ideas focused on smaller virtual groups to join us by participating in the Executive Committee. Whether you are a people-person or a back-office computer savvy person or a meticulous numbers person or an event planner - we are sure Gurjar will benefit from your participation.

**Make a difference - Join the Gurjar Committee**