During the academic year 2011-2012 the FEZANA Academic Scholarship Program Committee received 23 applications for the FEZANA scholarships: the Mehraban and Morvorid Kheradi Endowment Scholarship, FEZANA 20th Anniversary Endowment Scholarship, the Banoobai and Maneckshaw Kapadia Endowment Scholarship and the Khorshed Panthaky Endowed Scholarship for Undergraduate studies.

The FEZANA scholarships are awarded for a combination of academic excellence, need, extracurricular activities and community service.

The Mehraban and Morvorid Kheradi Endowed Scholarship is awarded for ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE ($5000) and the recipient named the FEZANA SCHOLAR. (This is for Academic Excellence PLUS involvement in the community services. Financial need is factored out).

The FEZANA 20th Anniversary Endowed Scholarship is awarded for Academic Excellence plus involvement in community service ($3000) to a graduate student.

The Banoobai and Maneckshaw Kapadia Endowed Scholarship ($1000) is based on academic standing and need.

The Khorshed Panthaky Endowed Scholarship for Undergraduate studies ($3000) is based on academic excellence and need.

As the committee had decided earlier, the applications were divided into two categories: undergraduates (15) and graduates (8).

To make the judging process more objective, we added four judges for the undergraduate and graduate category.

Based on the cumulative scoring of the judges in each category, the following were awarded the scholarships.

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS
THE FEZANA SCHOLAR FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND OVERALL ACHIEVEMENT
The Mehraban and Morvorid Kheradi Endowed Scholarship ($5000)
Dinshaw Mistree, Ph.D Candidate in Political Science at Princeton University Dissertation on Corruption in the Indian Political System

20th FEZANA ANNIVERSARY ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP ($3000)
Sheena Driver Business Administration with emphasis on leadership Masters program at John F Kennedy University, CA.

THE KHORSHEDE PANTHAKY ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FOR UNDERGRADUATES ($3000)
Bahman Zohour Chemical Engineering, University of California, Los Angeles;
Zenia Tarapore  Business Administration (specializing in Marketing and International Business), Sir Wilfred Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario

THE BANOOBAI AND MANECKSHAII KAPADIA ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP ($1000)
Ervad Cyrus Panthakee Economics, Sir Wilfred Laurier Univ., Waterloo, Ontario

FEZANA SCHOLARSHIPS
GRADUATES ($2000 each)
Azvina Mehta  Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine, Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine, Toronto, Ontario
Azar Noorifirouz  Master in Physical Therapy at California State University, Northridge
Maziyar Boustani  Master in Geography Information Service, California State University

UNDERGRADUATES ($2000 each)
Navzad Dabu  Broadcast Journalism, Boston University, MA
Shiavax Rao  Major in Life Sciences, University of Toronto, Ontario,
Ervad Bahrum Firozgary  Biochemistry and Cellular Biology, Rice University, TX.

TOTAL OF ALL FEZANA ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS: $15,000
TOTAL OF ALL SCHOLARSHIPS: $ 27,000

Each year the candidates are exceptional and there is always a good geographical spread among the winners. We hope the program will continue to attract this high caliber of applicants.

This year the scholarship program received 2 additional endowments, totaling $125,000.

$100,000 from Aban Rustomji in memory of her husband and scholarship committee member, Purvez Rustomji. The scholarship of $5000 will be named Purvez and Aban Rustomji Endowed Scholarship for an undergraduate student who demonstrates financial need as well as academic achievement.

$25,000 was received from the Trust of Morvorid Guiv which will endow 2 scholarships of $1000 each to a graduate and an undergraduate student.

$15,000 was received from Cawas Kapadia as an addition to the Kapadia Endowment Fund in memory of his parents. This will enable the scholarship to be increased to $2000 to an undergraduate student who demonstrates financial need with academic achievement.

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of FEZANA, Dr and Mrs Jerry Kheradi has increased the award for the FEZANA Scholar to $10,000 for the 2012-2013 competition only.

It is also heartening to see the mushrooming of scholarship programs across the continent by associations as well as by private individuals. We continue to receive requests for scholarships from students all over the world.

To give more publicity and raise more awareness of this scholarship program, efforts were made by the Dr. Jerry and Celeste Kheradi and the committee members to present the scholarship cheques and special certificates at community functions where and when possible. An article with the bios of the winners together with their photos is published each year in the spring issue of the FEZANA Journal. The Spring 2012 issue of the FEZANA Journal contains information on all the scholarship winners. We hope this will attract and generate more funds for this program.
This year, we are requesting the FEZANA Board to allocate a sum of $15,000. This will maintain 6 scholarships of $2,000 and the endowed scholarship of $3000. The Academic Scholarship fund has received $2892 in donations.

We encourage other families and past recipients to think of the Scholarship program in their donations, legacies and bequests.

Starting from the 2011 annual competition, the applications were filled online. This eliminated mailing costs to both the applicants and scholarship committee. The committee would like to thank Coomi Gazdar and Aban Rustomji for their help in creating an electronic form.

The Panthaky fund was a time-limited fund with an initial donation of $30,000 from which 2 scholarships of $3000 were to be given till the money lasts. This scholarship has been given to 2 students for the past 4 years. And this will be the last year for awarding this scholarship. We hope that another donor will come forward.

The Academic Scholarship committee thanks the FEZANA officers for giving us this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the future generation of Zarathushti youth. We also thank the webmaster and the FEZANA Journal for publicity on the web and in the journal.

On my personal behalf, I would like to thank each and every member of the committee and all the judges for the excellent work they do so diligently and with such professionalism. My special thanks to Ratan Mistry, the FEZANA Treasurer for his diligent work in sending out the cheques to the winning candidates in a most timely and efficient manner and for maintaining records and clarifying the fund balances at the present time. Thanks also to Zenobia Damania, our office administrator for handling the certificates to the winners.

Respectfully submitted

Dolly Dastoor Ph.D Chair FEZANA Academic Scholarship Committee

Committee:

Ervad Poras Balsara Ph.D (Dallas)
Shernaz Bamji Ph.D (British Columbia)
Jesse Palsetia Ph.D (Ontario)
Zena Irani (Pennsylvania)
Katayun Kapadia (New Jersey)
Fareshteh Khatibi (California)
Jerry Kheradi M.D. (Rhode Island)
Rashid Mehin (California)
Rostam Shahrokh (British Columbia)
Anahita Sidhwa (Dallas)
Ratan Mistry Ex-Officio, Treasurer, FEZANA
Bomi Patel Ex-Officio, President, FEZANA

What advances a community is not so much to prop up its weakest and most helpless members, but to lift up the best and most gifted, so as to make them of greatest service to the community

-- J.N. Tata