

**BETWEEN  
US**

The Children of Adam are limbs of each other  
Having been created of one essence.  
When the calamity of time afflicts one limb  
the other limbs cannot remain at rest.  
If thou hast no sympathy for the troubles of others  
Thou art unworthy to be called by the name of a man.  
Sa'di

**MOHSENI  
FOUNDATION**

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## **HAPPY NEW YEAR 1387**

In every Persian household, a few days prior to the New Year, a special cover is spread either on the Persian carpet or on a table. This ceremonial table is called cloth of seven dishes, (each one beginning with the Persian letter cinn). The number seven has been sacred in Iran since the ancient times, and the seven dishes stand for the seven angelic heralds of life: rebirth, health, happiness, prosperity, joy, patience, and beauty.

### ***The symbolic dishes consist of:***

1. Sabzeh or sprouts is usually either wheat or lentil and it represents rebirth.
2. Samanu is a pudding in which common wheat sprouts are transformed and given new life as a sweet, creamy pudding and it represents the ultimate sophistication of Persian cooking.
3. Seeb means apple and it represents health and beauty.
4. Senjed, the sweet, dry fruit of the Lotus tree, represents love. It has been said that when lotus tree is in full bloom, its fragrance and its fruit make people fall in love and become oblivious to all else.
5. Seer which is garlic in Persian represents medicine.
6. Somaq or sumac berries, represent the color of sunrise; with the appearance of the sun, Good conquers Evil.
7. Serkeh or vinegar represents age and patience.



## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

People often want to know what the purpose and the goal of the Mohseni Foundation is and I thought that the Newsletter would be a great place to address this question.

The Mohseni Foundation was created in part to act as a bridge between the Mohseni families; to enrich the community; and to help the underprivileged children of Arak.

The Mohseni's have spread and taken root throughout the world and in so doing have lost touch with one another. The Newsletter was created as a means to bridge this gap and to bring the families closer together.

We encourage everyone to write in and send photos of their loved ones so that everyone can be kept informed of the latest news.

The Foundation's main purpose is to give back to the community were the Mohseni's were raised. We have tried to do this by adding a cardiac wing at the hospital. And with your help and generosity buying clothes for Norouz for the young students of Arak has been a huge success. We also help by offering loans and scholarships to Araki and Mohseni students. Finally we are very proud of our visiting Clinician program at the Mayo Clinic.

Any donations that have been made by you for any endeavor have been and will continue to be matched by the Foundation in order to benefit our community in Arak.

We welcome any of your thoughts and comments and encourage you to let us know how we can make things better. We will continue on this rich and rewarding path for as long as we can with your continued support and encouragement.

## THE THIRD RECIPIENT OF MAYO CLINIC SCHOLARSHIP

The Mohseni Foundation is proud to present Dr. Hossein Ataei Fashtami with the "Professor Malek Scholarship". The scholarship is awarded once or twice a year to Iranian specialist that have been selected by Dr. Malek. The selected recipients enrolled in this program will go through a specialized course at the Mayo Clinic in the United States. They will then share their experiences with the doctors and medical students of Arak University. In a letter received from Dr Fashtami, he says: **"I would like to thank you and really appreciate for the opportunity that has been given to me by Mohseni Foundation."**

## SCHOLARSHIP AND LOAN FOR BAMI &amp; ARAKI STUDENTS

The board of Directors for scholarship and loans in Iran with the help of two committees in Kerman and Arak have started to award scholarship and loans to students. This program is funded from the interest of fifty thousand dollars which was deposited via the partnership between the Iran House of Greater Chicago and Mohseni Foundation. This is our first year of awarding loans and scholarships to Bami and Araki students. Bami students come from families who lost their parents at the tragic and devastating earthquake in Bam.

## ARAKI STUDENT

One enterprising young Araki student in engineering, Hamid Reza Mohammadi, has single handedly compiled all the great works of Persian poets and put them on line for everyone's enjoyment. For all those poetry enthusiasts please go to: <http://ganjoor.net/> to check it out.

*Life  
Life is an opportunity,  
benefit from it.  
Life is beauty, admire it.  
Life is bliss, taste it.  
Life is a dream, realize it.  
Life is a challenge, meet it.  
Life is a duty, complete it.  
Life is a game, play it.  
Life is a promise, fulfill it.  
Life is sorrow, overcome it.  
Life is a song, sing it.  
Life is a struggle, accept it.  
Life is a tragedy, confront it.  
Life is an adventure, dare it.  
Life is luck, make it.  
Life is too precious,  
do not destroy it.  
Life is life, fight for it.*

*Mother Teresa*

## THE SECRET!

*Of those who have traveled this  
lengthy road  
Who has come back to tell us  
the secret?  
So, over look nothing on this  
two-landed way  
Of just and need, for you won't  
come back*

## NOROUZ

*When the cloud has bathed the  
face of the tulip at New Years,  
Arise and make a firm  
resolution by the cup of wine  
For this green landscape on  
which you gaze today  
Will sprout again tomorrow  
this time from your clay.*



### MOHSENI FOUNDATION SERVICES ITS STUDENTS

On March 9th 2008 one thousand two hundred seventy five sets of Norouz clothing and footwear (C&F) were donated by Mohseni Foundation (MF) to a number of students from Arak.

There was a special ceremony for the distribution of these items in Arak just before the Persian New Year. The clothes and footwear were presented to the school principals who in turn were responsible for distributing them amongst the students.

The financial report provided by MF committee who was responsible for purchasing the clothes and footwear is shown bellow:

1. 645 sets of clothes and footwear for Bakhsh 1.
2. 615 sets of clothes and footwear for Bakhsh 2.
3. 15 sets of clothes and footwear via a separate donation.

All of the students who received C&F were chosen by a special committee in Arak a few months prior to Norouz. They received their C&F two weeks before the commencement of the Persian New Year and the Norouz Festival.

The average price of one set of boy's clothes and footwear which included an overcoat, shirt, shoes and socks was approximately \$ 30.00 (275160 Rials) The average price of one set of girl's clothes and footwear which was comprised of an overcoat, blouse, trousers, shoes and socks was approximately \$ 20.00 (275160 Rials). Each individual student received from the Mohseni Foundation a personalized Happy Norouz and New

Year card with their sets of clothing. All of the 1275 sets of clothes and footwear were packed in boxes labeled with the name of the school. The following is a list of the 51 relatives and friends residing in Iran who made a contribution:

Mr. and Mrs. Pari Khanbolooki, Ariandokht Hojati Ghaemmaghmi, Keyoumars Mohsenipour \$ Mr. Aftasi, Mehdi Kandi & his wife, Bahaaldin Modasser, Mahasti Ehteshamzadeh, Shirin Ehteshamzadeh Ghaemmaghmi, Anoosheh Hesami, Aryan-dokht Hojati Ghaemmaghmi, Abolfazl Khakbaz, Mazyar Keshavarz, Mohsen Khakbaz, Mohammad Khakbaz, Parvin Sajjadi, Akbar Mohseni, Dr. Mort-eza Mohseni & Mahindokht Modasser, Mohammad Hadi Saeidi, Rakhshandeh Faridi, Abolfazl Moshirian, Mojgan Moshirian, Majid Moshirian, Mana & milad Hojati Emami, Porandokht Khakbaz, Seyyed Abdolmajid Sajjadpoor, Farideh Fooladvand, Ensiyeh Sajjadpoor, Hayedeh Sajjadi, Zahra Sajjadpoor, Akram Farivar, Nasrin Farivar, Firoozeh Shokoohi Mohseni, Farzad Ahmadi, Mohammad Ahmadi, Fakhri Nahavandi, Dr. Allahiar Daneshmand & Mehrmah Tajbabakhsh, Golnaz Araki, Mahboobeh Matinpoor, Hamid Faridi Araghi, Alireza Sajjadi, Maryam Farivar Mohseni, Mehdi Farivar Mohseni, Toveh Amirmohtashami, Zari Sajjadi, Dr. Fakhteh Makkinejad, Azam Nekonam, Dr. Allahyar Daneshmand, Dr. Akbar Movahed Mohseni, Dr. Asadolah Movahed Mohseni, Taher Khakbaz and Fakhri Nahavandi.

Relatives and friends from of Iran donated a total of approximately 7,000,000 Rials which equals \$7,500.00. Mr. Seyed Majid Sajjadpoor donated 10,000,000 Rials or more than \$1,000 and is our highest contributor.

There were a few anonymous donations as well from people who did not want their names published. On the next issue of Between Us we will publish the latest and most recent update about this program and list all the relatives and friends from outside of Iran who have made a contribution.

On behalf of the Mohseni Foundation, The Araki students and their families, we would like to take this opportunity to thank from the bottom of our hearts all those who contributed to this great cause.