Congress of Bukharian Jews of the USA and Canada

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President of the Congress of Bukharian Jews of USA and Canada

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Coordinators of the Congress

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BJ THEATER OF SEMYON ALILOV "VOZROZHDENIE", NY
BJ THEATRE - STUDIO OF MIRAKY MISHIEV
BJ NEWSPAPER "THE BUKHARIAN TIMES", NY
BJ ORGANIZATION "ESTRENNA AMLIKA"
BJ "LADIES' WORLD" MAGAZINE, NY
DRUHBA, RELIGION WOMEN DIVISION, NY
BJ MAGAZINE "NADEJNOST", NY
BJ CLUB "ROSHNOI" (QUEENS), NY
BJ DANCE SCHOOL "MALIKA" (QUEENS), NY
BJ MUSIC & DANCE GROUP "SHASHMAKOM" (QUEENS), NY
BJ FOUND "EDUARD NEKTALOV"
BJ FOUND "IZHAK MASHIEV"
BJ FOUND "BUKHARA", NY
BJ FOUND "SAMARKAND", NY
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BJ FOUND "FERGANA"
BJ FOUND "SHAKRISABZ"
BJ FOUND "CHARVEN"
BJ FOUND "KARMINA"

To: **LEADERS OF THE COMMUNITY, RABBIS, HEADS OF THE BUKHARIAN-JEWISH CENTERS AND PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS**

August 14, 2017

Hereby we inform you that on August 13, 2017, the Third Assembly of the Congress of Bukharian Jews of the USA and Canada was held in the Bukharian Jewish Community Center's Ceremonial Hall. In the course of the lively and lengthy discussion of the report made by the President of Congress, Boris Kandov, members of the Congress Board, rabbis, community and public organizations' leaders as well as presidents of the Funds, unanimously adopted a responsible decision:

1. Set the sizes of cash gifts (per person) for weddings – $100, for anniversaries, *Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, Mûysargirons, Brit Milahs*, held in the evening – $70. If such events are held in the morning, the gift should not exceed $50.
2. Set the size of cash contribution for funeral repasts in the amount of $25- $30.
3. Establish that a funeral repast marking the first anniversary in the wake of the death of a deceased should be completed no later than 9:00 pm.

The above decisions were made in furtherance of the longstanding and numerous appeals of members of our community over the excessive financial burden that they have had to bear for years.

Due to the need to participate in various kinds of celebrations and funeral ceremonies, not every family has been able to provide for their own essential items of expenditure, in particular, **payments for keeping children in Jewish day care centers, their education in schools, yeshivas, colleges and universities.** Acute financial problems are especially experienced by younger families who need significant savings amounts to **pay off their student loans, apartment rents, mortgage payments, household, transportation and other expenses, etc.**

The situation is aggravated by the fact that recently the number of family celebrations and commemorations in the community has increased significantly, requiring new additional expenses and personal participation in such functions.

These events, given their present duration, also lead to a significant reduction of the parents' quality time with their families. Subsequently, the educational role of their communication with the children is reduced, as well as effectiveness of discussion and resolution of the emerging family problems. In essence, dissociation of the generations is taking place, which is fraught with many negative consequences.

The children's poor performance at school, their distancing from the family, the community, their addiction to drugs, etc., arise from the lack of proper control over the children's education and leisure.

In view of the foregoing, we earnestly ask you to read this document for several consecutive Saturdays in synagogues and at community events. We hope for your understanding and look forward to your cooperation, for our common mission is to improve the lives of the Bukharian-Jewish community members, to help their families use day care centers and teach children in yeshivas.

Congress of Bukharian Jews of the USA and Canada

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