



MANASHNI SPONSORED BY

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday, July 8 – Golden Group Get Together
- Saturday, July 22, 2023 – Youth Group Fund Raiser – see flyer
- Saturday & Sunday, July 29 & 30 – NAMC Mobed Training
Hosted by ZAH
- Sunday, August 6 to 15 – Muktaf Days
- Wednesday, August 16 – Navroze Hambandagi – 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, August 19 – Navroze Function
- Friday, August 25 – Library/WZCC Event
- Sunday, October 1 – Fasli Mehrgan & Maedyozarem Gahambar

REPORTS

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

By: Yasmin Pavri

Please join us **August 25th** for a joint event by the ZAH Library and WZCC when we present “*Triumphs and Tribulations: a film producer’s story*” by Cyrus Bharucha. Cyrus Bharucha is a multi-talented writer, producer, and director who has made significant contributions to the film industry. Cyrus spent several years as the producer and director of *On Wings of Fire*. In his presentation, Cyrus will speak about the trials, tribulations, and triumph of the role of a producer. See flyer below for more details. The event will begin at 6:30 with light refreshments followed by the talk and end with a potluck dinner. Although the event is free, please register online at <https://zah.org/events/library-wzcc-event/> so we can get a head count.

Our 24th annual lecture series will be held on **November 11-12, 2023** with guest speaker Jenny Rose and Houston’s Meheryar Rivetna. Save the dates and look for the flyer with details in the next few weeks.

Over the years we have been given donations of several books that are duplicates of books we already have in our collection. We are excited when we get requests to send these duplicate books to interested individuals or associations. Sacramento is the latest association to show an interest in acquiring several books. Other associations including Toronto, Vancouver and Oregon have also been recipients of donated duplicate books.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

PLACE: ZHCC
8787 W. Airport Blvd.
Houston, TX 77071
Tel: 713-270-9339

TIME: Different timings for each group

DATE: July 9, 2023

Children’s Session: The Sunday School session starts at **11:00 a.m. in-person and by Zoom**

Middle Group: The Sunday School session at **11:00 a.m. – in-person & by Zoom**



Youth Group: The Sunday School session at 10:00 a.m. **In person**



ZAH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Aderbad Tamboli – Chairman
Percy Master – Secretary
Farokh Billimoria – Treasurer

Zia Anklesaria – Member
Nikita Gagrath – Members
Kershaw Khumbatta – Member
Fiona Setna – Member

Nazanin Sarkari – FEZANA Rep

OUR ERVADS (PRIESTS)

Noozar Boomla
Kyrus Buchia
Barjor M Dastur
Darius B Dastur
Farrokh Desai
Pervez Gonda
Neville Kanga
Rayomand Katrak
Vispi Katrak
Noshir Khumbatta
Zubin Kotwal
Dara Masani
Khushrav Nariman
Shapur Pavri
Bahmanshah Sanjana
Kurush Sanjana
Kayomarz Sidhwa
Maneck Sidhwa
Yazad Sidhwa
Peshotan Unwalla
Freyaan Vimadlal
Khushroo Vimadlal

JUNE BEHRAM ROJ JASHAN – SPONSORED BY *Rohintan & Mahrukh Deputy*



Another exciting news - Moobedyar Pariya Mavandi reached out to us for a few images of the handwritten Avesta manuscript (lithograph) as she is working on her final thesis which is about this topic. She needed 5 pictures of the manuscript including the colophon. We wish Pariya every success in this academic pursuit about our ancient Zarathustra scriptures and glad we were able to help. We are very proud our ZAH Library is making its mark in the academic world.

ATASH KADEH NEWS

By: Persis Behramsha

June celebrations began very festively with the monthly Behram Roj Jashan. It was a great turnout thanks to sponsors Mahrukh and Rohintan Deputy who generously sponsor a yearly Behram Roj.

The Maidyarem Gambhar was celebrated next, on June 4, 2023, with another wonderful turnout. We thank Natasha Kanga for explaining the significance of the Gambhar. Thank you to the anonymous Gambhar donor for sponsoring so generously.

A lot of effort goes into organizing each Gambhar. Thanks go out to all donors and volunteers, ZAH Entertainment and Atash Kadeh Committees. Thanks to Malida volunteers Zarina Elavia, Yasmin Medhora and Pervin Sidhwa. Thanks to Roshan Behramsha, Aban Chhor, Nargis Cooper, Mahrukh Deputy and Arzin Italia for graciously volunteering with the setup and fruits.

To make the month even more interesting, the Atash Kadeh hosted the North American Mobed Council AGM on Saturday June 24, 2023. Approximately 15 Mobeds participated along with several joining via Zoom. The evening dinner and entertainment provided by the ZAH Youth Camp kids was enjoyed by everyone. Ervad Khushrav Nariman introduced and acquainted everyone with the merits of each visiting Mobed, after which visiting Mobed, Ervad Adi Sidhwa, explained the meaning of the Boye ceremony which gave a good understanding on its significance.

As is the tradition, the midnight Boye at the Atash Kadeh was the highlight of the evening. Everyone that entered the Atash Kadeh were in awe of the beautiful setup that greeted them. The entire Kebla area was lit only with tealight candles along with the beautiful fire of the Afarganyu. Several young Mobeds, the youngest 11 years old, collectively performed the Boye, which was led by visiting Mobed, Ervad Zarrir Bhandara.

We still need sponsors for:

Sunday September 3, 2023 – Farvardin Mahino Farvardin Roj

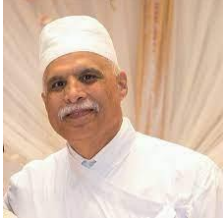
Monday September 4, 2023 – Behram Roj

Wednesday October 4, 2023 – Behram Roj

Friday November 3, 2023 – Behram Roj



Cawas Desai



Tehemton Mirza



Kyrus Buchia

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MUKTAD



MUKTAD PRAYERS



NAMC

The much-awaited Lecture Series of North American Mobed Council (NAMC) was held on Sunday June 25, 2023 in the ZAH Rustomji Room. Ervad Cawas Desai discussed Religions in Pre-Zoroastrian Iran; Ervad Tehemton Mirza highlighted the Ecology in Zoroastrianism; Young Ervad Kyrus Buchia of Houston, reflected about Asha – Righteousness. He explained that Asha is like a compass that guides you, however, the ultimate decision is up to you. He emphasized that his parents always taught him that the hands that help are holier than the lips that pray and encouraged everyone to show their good thoughts, words and deeds in dealing with everyone on a daily basis. A short Q&A session was held after the lectures before lunch was served.

Muktad

The Bhandara Atash Kadeh will be holding the holy Muktad prayers from Sunday August 6, 2023 through Tuesday August 15, 2023.

We encourage everyone to attend the prayers during the 10 days, to pay respect to our dearly departed family members. Since we have quite a few folks from out of town, who would like to participate, we will Live Stream the prayers as well.

Please be on the lookout for the Online Sign Up and more details shortly.

Muktad Rates are \$300 for the entire 10 days. This includes Sukhar, Loban, Fruits, Nuts, Flowers, Mobed charges and up to 4 names of dearly departed. Additional names are \$50 per name for the 10 days.

Please bring your Muktad Vases (labeled with your name at the bottom of vase) to the Atash Kadeh, between July 29, 2023 and August 3, 2023 between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Your Atash Kadeh Committee:

- Khushrav Nariman (Chairperson)
- Feroze Bhandara
- Shernaz Bhandara
- Rohintan Deputy
- Persis Behramsha

MISCELLANEOUS

MAIDHYAREM GAHAMBAR

By: ZAH Entertainment Committee

The Maidhyarem Gahambar was celebrated at the ZAH Center on Sunday, 4th June 2023.

We would like to thank one anonymous donor for her/his generosity which helped us keep the gahambar event rates low. Otherwise we would have had to charge \$25+ for the event. Thank you for the generosity of all our donors who came forward to help defray the expenses for the event.

MAIDHYAREM GAHAMBAR



Iranian Mubeds from Florida



What can we serve you?

Have fun playing TT



Retirees having fun playing Table Tennis

The Jashan was performed at the Atash Kadeh with a good attendance. Malido, Chasni and Fruits were served in the foyer. After the jashan was over people came to ZAH to enjoy the delicious Goat Dhansak and turkey kavab catered by our very own Naushad Mehta for which the Entertainment Committee is incredibly grateful. Everyone enjoyed the jalebis from Raja's and the ice cream to top off the meal.

The main hall and the atrium were very beautifully decorated. We would like to thank all the volunteers who helped us, especially our Youth Group Volunteers (Diana Sabawalla, Zal Italia, Mahtab B Dastur, Darius B Dastur) and young adults (Rohan Hormuzdi, Yazad Sidhwa, Zubin Master). We are truly blessed that our younger generation willingly comes forward to help out and pay it forward to our community.

We would also like to thank the Atash Kadeh Committee for organizing the Jashan and many thanks to all our Mobeds who performed the Jashan.

All the donations received, and all the money collected was given to ZAH. A total of \$1657 was the surplus from the event which was donated to ZAH. This was due to the generosity of our many donors. Thank you very much!

We would like to thank the Web Committee and the Manashni team for their help. We would also like to thank all the volunteers for registration, setup and clean up.

SPORTS COMMITTEE NEWS

By: Percy Behramsha

Do you know what the single biggest problem of society is today, globally? Screen time! Too much time on the screen (iPhone/iPad, PC, TV etc). Need of the hour - **Mind & Body!**

Your ZAH Sports Committee likes to remind you of the various opportunities at our Zarathusti Heritage & Cultural Centre (ZHCC). We have Carrom, Board games, Table Tennis, Basketball, Volleyball, Cards etc. Members are invited to join in the fun and make this our '*Parsi Gymkhana Style*' active & Sportive community.

A few of us have been playing Table Tennis every week, it's a lot of fun (some friends grab a bite too, after the workout). See some pictures of players in action. You may play at your convenience, hope to see more participation.

Percy Behramsha
For ZAH Sports Committee

**HIGH SCHOOL GRAD
FREYAAN VIMADALAL**



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OUR PERFECTING WORLD



OUR GRADUATE

HIGH SCHOOL

Freyaan Vimadalal (Ervad) graduated from Clements High School Cum Laude. He will be attending University of Texas in Dallas as a freshman in August 2023. Freyaan was a very active member of the Clements High School Debate team competing at the local, state and national levels. Freyaan also received academic achievement awards from Clements High School.

Freyaan is an active member of the ZAH community - serving the community as a Mobed and an Officer for the Youth group. Freyaan participated in multiple fundraisers and programs at the ZAH Center as a moderator and Master of Ceremonies (MC). Freyaan was the proud recipient of the 2023 Legacy "Cyrus R. Desai" award for excellence in education and community affairs.

Freyaan aims to graduate with a major in International Business and a minor in Political Science.

**EXCERPTED FROM *OUR PERFECTING WORLD*
BY DR. DASTOOR M. N. DHALLA**

Those who think that the creation of the proletariat regime alone could remove the wrongs of the present capitalistic order.

Some recent reformers have advocated the creation of an international proletariat movement—just as the Labor and Socialistic movements have become international—to urge the proletariats of all countries to prepare for the final substitution of proletarian communism for the capitalist order throughout the world. They look for the realization of their ideal by evolutionary, rather than by revolutionary, methods. They propose that the State should purchase all industrial concerns from private owners, giving them government bonds in return, control all means of production, distribution, and exchange, and conduct them just as it conducts the Post Office, Telegraphs, and other similar activities.

Under this system the institution of property will be respected. The world will continue to have its rich and the poor, but all wealth will be in the form of government securities, and the owners individually will have no voice in the management of industry, the power being vested in the hands of peoples' parliaments. New colossal fortunes will not come into existence, and the old ones could be reduced by heavy income tax, the levy on capital, and by the death duties.

ZAH Z-Camp 2023 – An 11-year journey of Leadership, Empowerment and Innovation!

By Z-Camp 2023 Team

When is the next Z-Camp? Can we have the Z-Camp twice a year? Please let us know as soon as you fix the date.... Statements like these from kids and parents characterize and epitomize the camaraderie and fun that our kids have at the ZAH Z-Camp each year.

This edition of Z-Camp was a different and distinct one of all we have had so far as ZAH was co-hosting the American Mobed Council (NAMC) AGM as well as a lecture series over the same weekend. This double header running in parallel was a pleasure to host and although it brought its own logistical and organizational challenges, the organizing committee faced them with the usual ZAH credo of “getting it done whatever it takes”.

It has been eleven years (yes, 11) since we started this unique one-of-a-kind landmark event that caters to ages 5 to 22. This was also the 5th year our ZAH Young adults (22 – 29 yrs. part of the original campers since inception), were planning, organizing, and executing the entire Z-Camp setting an example of empowerment and leadership for others to follow. This year we had some NA Zoroastrian associations/FEZANA visitors who came over to have a look at the way we go about conducting the camp and hopefully replicate in their local associations. As always, we started our preparations for this gigantic but fun task almost 3 months in advance.

This year the ZAH Z-Camp 2023 was held over the weekend from June 23rd to 25th and was attended by over 90 kids (under 29) from Greater Houston, Dallas, Austin, Los Angeles, Seattle, San Diego, etc. We had over 15-17 sessions with most of them conducted and judged by our young (25-40 yrs.) experts in their respective professions.

Day 1

At around 7.00 pm on a scorching humid Friday, the organizing team along with the helpers got in and were extremely energized to begin what was a culmination of some real hard work for the past 3 months. The first contingent of campers trickled in, the out-of-towners followed and by 8.30 pm almost all were at the ZHCC. Desi dinner was served and within no time there were just some skeletal remains with most dishes showing the shiny foil tray bottoms.

This year the theme was “Camping under the Stars”, and some of the key activities during the two days were Scavenger Hunt, Iron Chef “camp-friendly” cooking session, Zoroastrian Family Feud, practicing sustainability in a camping environment, developing non-profit organizations, scouting activities, building tents, and above all making some Smores.

Day 2

Registrations and breakfast (yummy Wendy’s) started around 9:00 am followed by the official opening of the Z-Camp at 10:00 am sharp. As usual, we began with the invocation by our young camper Mobeds and housekeeping announcements for the campers divided into 4 teams with around 18 in each team. After some ice breaker sessions and Scavenger Hunt, it was time for the ever-popular Iron Chef session. The campers cooked and prepared some innovative yummy dishes and once the dishes were judged, it was time for some delicious Chinese lunch which the campers enjoyed to the fullest. Once the afternoon sessions got over we started to prepare to welcome our NAMC guests for the combined Gala dinner. We had some appetizers with a scrumptious Tex-Mex dinner laid out particularly for our out-of-town guests together with some yummy desserts which were gobbled up by one and all.

After dinner the guests made way to the main hall where NAMC had their introductions with President Tehemton Mirza addressing the crowd followed by FEZANA President Arzan Sam Wadia presenting a token of appreciation to our local outgoing FEZANA Secretary, Percy Master. It was time for the presentations by the campers where they displayed and discussed their plans of creating and developing their non-profit organizations.

One of the highlights of the camp was the Ushahen Geh BOI ceremony at midnight at the Atash Kadeh. Before the BOI ceremony, Mobed Adi Sidhwa gave a short description of the BOI ceremony and its significance. Once the presentations were over all the attendees made way towards our Atash Kadeh where 7 of our young Mobeds conducted the BOI ceremony under the wise guidance of Mobed Zarrir Bhandara from Zoroastrian Association of California (ZAC-LA).

Day 3

The final day started early and after a hearty breakfast and the morning invocation, the sessions started. Although it was a tremendously hot Sunday morning, the kids were in their usual happy mood with the kiddies’ group having the most fun on the gigantic waterslide arranged and donated by Sharmeen and Jehangir Irani. Once the outdoor sessions were

completed it was time for impossible engineering where the teams competed against each other with their engineering skills. In parallel the NAMC was conducting the lecture series and once both the sessions concluded, all the campers and attendees were treated to a delicious Mediterranean meal with ice-cream and cake to cool down everyone in this treacherous heat that has engulfed Texas and around the country.

Finally, it was time for the Zoroastrian Family Feud followed by the coveted results where the team “Comet SWOOSH” stole the honors and was awarded the first place but for us everyone who participated was a winner. Most importantly, our Z-Camp allowed kids to acquire skills and get ready to face challenges in their future endeavors besides making new friends and long-lasting relationships. Finally, thank you to all the donors, young adult volunteers, helpers, mentors, presenters, judges, parents and our campers without whom this camp would not be possible. See y’all back in 2024!

Note: A detailed report with lots of photos will follow as a Manashni Special Edition in the next month/s.

Z-Camp 2023 Team – Alyssa Tamboli, Ashtad Boomla, Danielle Dubash, Darius Tamboli, Freya Daroga, Friyana Sidhwa, Katie Master, Kyle Jensen, Natalya Haveliwala, Nerius Mehta, Nikita Engineer, Rayhan Nariman, Rayomand Katrak, Rhea Engineer, Vispi Katrak, Yazad Sidhwa, Zenia Sunavala, Zubin Master.





ENTERTAINMENT, FOOD, BINGO, GAMES
AT THE NEXT....

YOUTH FUNDRAISER

When: Saturday, July 22nd, 2023 at
7:00 PM

Where: Zarathushthi Heritage and
Cultural Center

Admission fee: \$35

SEE YOU THERE!

Power of the Producer

Trials, Tribulations and Triumphs

of a movie executive

August 25, 2023



ZAH Library, home of FIRES, along with our co-sponsor
The Houston Chapter of WZCC
is proud to present
Cyrus Bharucha



Cyrus Bharucha is a multi-talented writer, producer, and director who has made significant contributions to the film industry. Cyrus trained as a photographer and joined the BBC film department as a camera-man. He worked on various programs for the BBC, from dramas to documentaries, music, current affairs, and more. He became a producer in the Current Affairs department producing and directing stories around the world, including the floods in Pakistan, Watergate, and the Yom Kippur War to name a few. In 1976 Cyrus came to the USA and joined PBS where he produced and directed over 80 shows, two of which were nominated for an Emmy. He was a founding producer of CNN where he put out the first day's program in 1980. Cyrus spent several years as the producer and director of *On Wings of Fire*. In his presentation, Cyrus will speak about the trials, tribulations, and triumph of the role of a producer. Cyrus will use his documentary-drama *On Wings of Fire* as an example of the role a Producer plays in the making of a movie. Most people think all a producer does is raise money. Cyrus will explain the role and how young people can get into the business today.

- **Date: Friday, August 25, 2023**
- **Time: 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm Light refreshments**
- **7:00 pm Program - *Power of the Producer***
- **8:00 pm Pot Luck dinner**
- **Event is free - Please register online for head count [Library/WZCC Event - ZAH](#)**