

manashni

Volume 38 Issue 5 - May 2024

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HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY TO ALL THE BEAUTIFUL MOTHERS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

PLACE: ZHCC

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

TIME: Different timings for each group

DATE: May 12, 2024

<u>Children's Session</u>: The Sunday School session starts at **11:00 a.m. in-**

person and by Zoom

<u>Middle Group</u>: The Sunday School session at 11:00 a.m. – in-person & by

Zoom



<u>Youth Group</u>: The Sunday School session at 10:00 a.m. In person





In loving memory of Katie Irani 1933- 2024 By: Aban Rustomji

Katie Irani, a radiant presence within the Zoroastrian community of Houston was a cherished soul whose imprint of compassion, generosity, and unwavering commitment illuminated countless lives.

Dr. Katie Irani, a cornerstone of the Zoroastrian Association of Houston (ZAH), transcended titles to embody the very essence of a humanitarian, a nurturing mother and grandmother, and a beacon of hope for all in need.

Katie and Dinshaw (Doc) Irani embarked on their journey in Houston in 1969, choosing to raise their children Adel and Maynaaz. Katie, a devoted partner to Doc, epitomized strength and grace as a female role model. As a founding member of ZAH, Katie's influence was pivotal in shaping the organization into a vibrant nexus of cultural exchange and support. Her vision and leadership fostered unity and solidarity, knitting together the tapestry of the Zoroastrian community with bonds of shared heritage.

Her impact rippled far beyond her immediate family, embracing the Zoroastrian diaspora with open arms. Katie's medical expertise was a salve for ailments, and her compassionate spirit served as a guiding light for all who sought her aid. Her profession as a doctor was not merely a career but a vocation, where she ministered to patients with the same care and dedication she poured into her community.

ZAH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Aderbad Tamboli – Chairman Percy Master – Secretary Lyla Daroga – Treasurer Zia Anklesaria – Member Nikita Gagrat – Members Zubin Mistry – Member Fiona Setna – Member Nazanin Sarkari – FEZANA Rep

OUR ERVADS (PRIESTS)

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

KATIE WITH HER GRANDKIDS



DINSHAW IRANI FOUNTAIN



Before the establishment of the Atash Kadeh, there existed a prayer room—a humble space curated by Katie with utmost reverence. Her philanthropy extended to the donation of a fountain, a tribute to Doc Irani, which served as a symbolic gateway to the ZAH Center. This fountain, inspired by Iranian design, not only adorned the physical space but also became a sanctum for spiritual reflection and communal gathering, enriching the lives of all who crossed its threshold.



Katie on her 90th Birthday

Beyond her community contributions, Katie's philanthropic endeavors left an enduring legacy on Houston's landscape. As a mother and grandmother, her love knew no bounds, imprinting upon her family the values of compassion and service. Her infectious joy and ability to connect with all ages endeared her to many, leaving an indelible mark on hearts far and wide.

In honoring Dr. Katie Irani's memory, let us pledge to perpetuate her legacy of love, kindness, and selflessness. May her soul rest in eternal peace, cradled by the love and gratitude of all whose lives she graced. Though her physical presence may be no more, her spirit resonates within the hearts of those privileged to have known her—as a friend, mentor, and cherished member of the Zoroastrian family.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, June 2, 2024 – Maidhyoarem Gahambar
Friday, July 12 – 14, 2024 - ZAH Z-Camp 2024
Friday, July 12, 2024 – Library Event, talk by Sarah Stewart
Sunday, July 14, 2024 – ZAH Library/FIRES - Gen Z Survey Event
Saturday, July 20, 2024 - Youth Fundraiser
Thursday, August 15, 2024 - Navroze Humbandagi
Saturday, August 17, 2024 ZAH Navroze Function
NORTH AMERICAN ZOROASTRIAN CONGRESS – Dec 29, 2024 –
Jan 1, 2025 – Keynote Speaker announced – See flyer below

REPORTS

LIBRARY REPORT

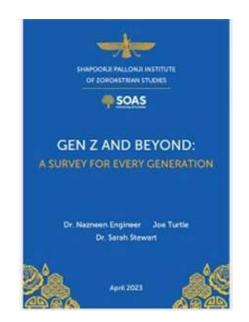
By: Jangoo Mistry

Register for the Exciting Library/FIRES Event Coming Soon
On the evening of Friday, <u>July 12</u>, the ZAH Library has planned a very interesting event, in a new setting. The event will be in the restaurant "Indian Summer" in Sugar Land and include dinner followed by a talk by Sarah Stewart. Sarah is no stranger to ZAH having given us many discussions over the years that have been enlightening and interesting.

SARAH STEWART

SOAS UNIVERSITY, U.K.







Coming all the way from London, she will give us a talk titled: <u>The Path to Modernity: Zoroastrians in Iran speak about their Religious Lives</u>, Sarah will draw upon the research she carried out in many cities in Iran, including urban areas like Tehran, Kerman, Ahwaz, and Yazd, as well as rural Yazdi villages. She will examine how these places have adapted religiously since the Islamic Republic's establishment. We have gained some knowledge about this topic over the years from bits at various times. But, if you're like me, you will want to know the real situation based on *first-hand scholarly research*, giving us a unique opportunity.

Comparing their ways to the ways of the Parsi community in India and the diaspora overseas, Sarah will explore how people have managed to change from traditional to modern practices, particularly in their death ceremonies. She will look at the dismantling of the *dakhmeh system* in Iran, against the preservation of the *Towers of Silence* in India and the Brookwood cemetery.

Sarah Stewart is a distinguished academic, specializing in Zoroastrianism, holding the title of Reader Emeritus at SOAS. She previously served as the Shapoorji Pallonji Reader and co-chair of the SOAS Shapoorji Pallonji Institute of Zoroastrianism. Stewart's research focuses on the contemporary Zoroastrian living tradition, showcased in her collaborative works like <u>Voices from Zoroastrian Iran</u>, <u>Volumes 1 and 2</u>, based on extensive fieldwork and recorded interviews.

Notably, Stewart curated the acclaimed exhibition <u>The Everlasting</u> <u>Flame: Zoroastrianism in History and Imagination</u> at the Brunei Gallery, SOAS, in 2013 and later at the National Museum in Delhi in 2016. She has also developed an introductory online course on Zoroastrianism, available on the website, FutureLearn, offering accessible insights into the religion's history, beliefs, and practices.

Sarah Stewart has proved herself to be an eminent scholar and an invaluable asset to our community. It will be a privilege to have her with us and listen to her thoughts. This promises to be a memorable event and some of us can hardly wait to listen to her. The talk will be presented following a really scrumptious dinner in an attractive setting. Already, there is a great deal of interest in this event but seating in the restaurant is limited. So please be sure to register for the event at your earliest to avoid disappointment. All event details are provided in the attached flyer.

Gen Z and Beyond: A Survey for Every Generation

That same weekend, on the morning of Sunday, **July 14**, we will be hosting Sarah Stewart at the ZAH Center, along with a team of people coming from New York, for a most interesting presentation. We have often had questions about Zoroastrians all over the world, their beliefs, how they practice religion, their social habits, and how they engage with others in their community. In addition, the survey also sheds light on attitudes towards intermarriage and children of intermarried Zoroastrians.

Many of us will remember filling out a worldwide survey and giving our input on these and many other fascinating questions. The Gen Z survey was an ambitious and comprehensive study conducted jointly by Shapoorji Pallonji Institute of Zoroastrian Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. The 200-page report by Principal Investigator Dr. Sarah Stewart, Dr. Nazneen Engineer (Project Manager), and Joe Turtle (Analyst) provides tremendous information and insight to help us understand the current Zoroastrian populations worldwide.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS



BEHRAM ROJ JASHAN SPONSORS APRIL 1, 2024



ADAR MAHINO-ADAR ROJ PARABH JASHAN SPONSORS



ADAR MAHINO-ADAR ROJ PARABH JASHAN SPONSORS



We are indeed fortunate to have this informative, insightful, and thought-provoking session brought to us right here in Houston. This review and discussion of the *Gen Z and Beyond* survey results will be key in outlining a suggested roadmap to help Zoroastrian communities in North America flourish while maintaining their identity. Hear the report findings, discuss takeaways, and share your aspirations for the community to help answer the question, *"Where to from here?"*

Come, listen, and make your thoughts heard during this unique and thought-provoking session

Books For your Children, your Grandchildren – and even You!

The ZAH Library has received a set of books that take you through elementary concepts starting with the life and teachings of Zarathushtra to all other aspects of the religion, culture, and history. Meher Cawasji of Karachi gifted these books and Shernaz Bhandara hand-carried them to us. The 5-book series, written under the guidance of the National Curriculum Council of Pakistan is for students from first to fifth grade. The books, varying from 60 to 100 pages, have material that is presented in a clear, readable, and engaging manner. The colorful format is sprinkled with puzzles, activities, and quizzes that promote learning in a fun and exciting manner.

While written for school students, I assure you that all five books contain material that you may not know or simply remember. Come to the Library and browse the books. You will surely want to own your own copy.

Atash Kadeh News

By Persis Behramsha

April brought in a lot of activity at the Atash Kadeh. The month began as usual with the monthly sponsored Behram Roj Jashan. This Jashan was generously sponsored by Aileen & Naddir Patel joined by their family from Canada.

The Adar Mahino & Adar Roj Parabh was graciously sponsored by Hufrish & Jamshed Irani with family visiting from India and Sanober & Aderbad Tamboli and family.

To all of the sponsors, a big *Thank You* for helping us put on the many pounds with all the delicious food layout.

Our generous sponsors for every Behram Roj and Parabh help keep our traditions going. Every one of these Jashans is organized with a lot of care and pride. Every one of these Jashans is for the benefit of the whole community, so please feel free to attend any of these events whenever you can. All sponsors are happy to have more participants at their Jashans.

The monthly Gatha Session has been postponed to May 19th due to the conflict in dates with other events. More information on the next Gatha session will be e-blasted at a later date. We will be posting the recordings of past sessions for those interested in viewing them. A new feature has been added to the Atash Kadeh menu on the zah.org web site. To make it easy to pay for different prayers online with immediate confirmation, a link has been added to the Atash Kadeh tab "Click Here to Pay for Prayers". This has been very useful, since we get requests from out-of-town folks and also when someone decides on



25TH ANNUAL CARNIVAL People Enjoying Food



Edul & Farida



BHEL PURI



YOUTH GROUP TABLE



short notice to request any prayers. We would like to thank Aderbad Tamboli for thinking of this and facilitating this feature.

Please check out the link: Atash Kadeh Prayer Payments | ZAH

We welcome Sheroy Haveliwala who has agreed to be the Finance Representative for the Atash Kadeh.

If you are interested in helping out at the Atash Kadeh, please feel free to contact one of the Committee members. We are happy to assign tasks for volunteer hours if any of our youth need them.

Ushta Te

MISCELLANEOUS

25th ANNUAL ZAH CARNIVAL

By: Yasmin Medhora

The 25th Annual ZAH Carnival was held on Sunday, April 14, 2024. A total of \$10,500/- plus was donated to the ZAH. Thanks to each and every one of you who attended the Carnival, cooked food which was sold at the stalls, purchased food at the Carnival and volunteered your time. The hall was buzzing with people as they were shopping, eating and enjoying the music played by our very own DJ Gary.

All food items were cooked and donated by various families mentioned below: Tanaaz & Edul Chikhliwala - Turkey Pattice, Turkey Cutlets and Paatra Fish with chutney; Dilnaz & Zubin Mory - Paapri; Khursheed & Barjor Dastur - Goat Meat Kabobs; Parveen Irani - Masoor ma Gos; Pervin & Vispi Sagar - Chicken Tikka legs grilled: Minaz & Nozer Dungor - Chicken Dhansak & rice; Pratima & Hirenbhai of Bhojan and Yasmin Medhora all items and trimmings for Bhel, Sev Poori and Dahi Batata Poori; Becky & Kershaw Byramji - 5 lbs potatoes for dahi poori; Nargis & Homi Cooper - Beef Mayo Rolls; Aloo Dubash and Farida & Neville Divecha - Jerdaloo Gos; Tenaz Sunavala - Sali Marghi; Arni & Piloo Ilavia - Pora Sandwich, Akoori Sandwich Okras, etc.; Jessica & Jamshed Dubash - Chana Dar; Nikki and Eric Gagrat - Chicken Farcha; Villoo & Pervez Gonda, Yasmin & Rustom Engineer and Roshan Aunty Sethna contributed for Scotch Eggs (made by Gulmohar); Persis & Naozer Behramsha - French beans and Fish; Kamal & Peshotan Unwalla - Rai Potatoes; Farida & Kamal Merchant - Poories for rai potatoes; Katy Ghandhi and Khursheed & Yezdi Hormuzdi - Beef Kheema: Aileen & Naddir Patel - Fish Saas & Rice and Bhinda ma Lamb; Rita and Paterusp Cooverii - Dahi Vada: Firozi & Rustom Sabawala - Batasa packets; Arnaz & Jehangir Mistry, Zarina & Jamshed Elavia and Farzana & Kayo Sidhwa - Parsi Custard; Roshan & Percy Behramsha -Falooda with Icecream; Mahrukh & Rohinton Deputy - Sev & Dahi; Yasmin Medhora - Mango and Pistachio Kulfi; décor, all signs, to go boxes, table cloths, etc.

Youth group: Arzin & Sorab Italia - Goat Chops. Chicken Cutlets, Chicken Samosa and Beef Shish Kabobs purchased from Farida Begum, ordered and brought by Khursheed & Yezdi Hormuzdi. Water and Sodas were also sold here. Thanks to all Youth Group students and parents for helping out in various ways.

DELNA WITH HER MOTHER



PINATA LOOT



YEZDI'S TABLE



RASHNA OAK'S TABLE



Middle group: Nazanin Sarkari - Beef Kheema Rolls; Banafsheh Mondegarian - Cookies; Nikita Gagrat - Fudge Brownies; Simin Masani - Dhoklas; Nina Godiwalla - Hot Dogs; Nazneen Warden - Veggie Samosa; Anahita Nariman, Dilnaz Mory and Zia Anklesaria contributed for Cup Cakes. Thanks to all Middle group students and parents for all their help.

Vehishta Kaikobad and Khursheed Dastur's Sunday school kids had the always popular Fish Pond stall managed by Sharmeen Irani and Perzen Akolawala. Thanks to all students and parents of this group for pitching in to buy the toys and helping at the stall. Also thanks to Sarah & Rayo Collector who sold Aloe Vera Plants.

Delna Surveyor with the encouragement of her parents made various items like cross stich frames, candles, etc. and donated \$291. Gift Card Walk was a lot of fun managed by Zia Anklesaria and Fiona Setna. The Gift Cards were donated by Zia & Rustom Anklesaria. The Piñata filled with yummy candies was a big hit and it was donated by Meher & Zubin Vakil. As usual Bingo was played and the winners were given gift cards donated by Naushad Mehta and Yasmin Medhora. The Bingo tickets were sold by Khursheed Hormuzdi and the bingo numbers were called by Pervin Sagar and Khursheed Hormuzdi. Naushad Mehta also donated a hamper with lots of goodies bought by Homi & Nargis Cooper. The Cake for the "Guess the Weight of the Cake" game was donated by Naushad Mehta too. The winner requested Nozer Buchia to auction the cake and that fetched extra \$80/-. Lots of table mat sets were donated by Nozer & Persis Buchia for sale. Balloons for décor were donated by Parveen Irani. Dart game was organized and managed by Sheroy Haveliwala. The Hula Hoop game was played by sporting guys and gals which entertained the crowd.

Stalls were rented by Yezdi Engineer (paatla, chutney, plants); Delna Minwalla (jellies, masalas, various food items); Banafsheh Mondegarian (children's ware on Etsy and Florals); Rashna Oak (handmade Cards, Bags and Envelopes); Nazanin Sarkari 'Scentsy' products and Nikita & Frannie Engineer (Jewelry, Rings on Etsy).

All proceeds collected by each stall on the day of the Carnival were directly given to our Accountants for the day Vispi Sagar and Naozer Behramsha. Thanks to the Web Team, BMC team and Arnavaz & Khursheed for sending the eblasts. Also thanks to all of you who took pictures during the Carnival.

Thanks also to volunteers not mentioned above – Firoze Cooper, Meher Maxa, Aban and Farzan Chhor, Yasmin and Sheroy Haveliwala, Shernaz Boomla, Nilufer Surveyor, Noshir Bhathena and Neville Divecha. Mahtab and Darius Dastur came early to help. Also thanks to everyone who helped at the Carnival in some way or the other.

Last but not the least ZAH appreciates the generosity of the following families for their cash donations: Becky & Kershaw Byramji, Maharukh & Rohinton Deputy, Kersi & Thrity Engineer, Anahita Kanga, Jehanbux & Shireen Mehta, Farida & Kamal Merchant, Tehmi & Firdaus Dastoor and Yezdi & Roshan Engineer. THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

ZUBIN MASTER





LIFE AFTER COLLEGE - EXCITING OR BORING

By: Zubin Master

At the outset, let me say, for me it is an exciting time of my life. My time in college was unique, and along the way, allowed me to pave my journey for the future.

Starting out, I always knew I wanted to work in aviation, and that is how I chose my major. It was a bit untraditional, but it worked for me and set me up for success. I decided to double major in both Supply Chain and Management, which allowed me to have a broader perspective inside the business world. At first, I thought it would be super difficult to juggle two majors, and it was, but with organization and time management it started to become easier. Throughout my college career, I really fell in love with Supply Chain because it showed me that without supply chain, a company cannot exist. I then joined my Sourcing and Procurement Organization (SPO) which allowed me to get an internship with United Airlines in their Airport Operations department. This was truly the professional highlight of my college career. Along my college journey, I met amazing life-long friends and created memories that I will never forget. From going to football games, basketball games, road trips, and even skydiving, these are the memories I will never forget.

Since graduating, and applying to 100+ jobs, interviewing 7 times, with 3 different companies, I finally got an offer working for Mesa Airlines (United Express), and it is a great steppingstone into the aviation industry. I was thrilled, especially because I got my flight benefits back.

As my first full-time job, it allows me to build my skillset and collaborate with professionals. It is a bit harder for me since my department is based in Phoenix and I am based in Houston. However, I make it work by ensuring I meet with them at least once a day. The highlight of my job is hands down free flights. They are a great perk of working for the airlines which is why it is so hard working in another industry. I make it a point to at least go once a month, even if I must go alone. Some places I have traveled to for free include Phoenix, Orange County, Nashville, New York, Aspen, Seattle, Chicago, Boston, Providence, Montreal, Washington DC, Lubbock, Toronto, and most recently San Deigo.

Everybody always thinks of the future, and as this is just a steppingstone position, in my future I would like to transfer over to a legacy airline such as American, United, or Delta. Since I am a people person, I would like to get an operational role that interacts with each department within the airline, like my internship, and start building my reputation from there. My end goal is to be a Managing Director of a hub airport.

In my future, travel is evident. I want to grow within the airline industry and leave a lasting impression.

ERVAD KAYOMARZ SIDHWA



NEW COMMITTEE WITH OUTGOING PRESIDENT ARZAN WADIA



VISPI KATRAK – REALTOR





FEZANA ELECTS NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE LED BY INCOMING PRESIDENT ERVAD KAYOMARZ Y. SIDHWA AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN CHICAGO

FEZANA, the Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America, recently announced a transition of executive leadership at its Annual General Meeting hosted by the Zoroastrian Association of Metropolitan Chicago, April 26 – 28, in Burr Ridge, IL. Voted in unanimously by FEZANA member associations, the new Executive Committee will be led by incoming President, Ervad Kayomarz Y. Sidhwa, who assumes the position following four transformative years as Vice President supporting the leadership of immediate past president, Arzan Sam Wadia.

Sidhwa, who previously served as Vice President, is the first Ervad (Zoroastrian priest) to be elected FEZANA President. In his address to member associations on Sunday, April 28, Sidhwa shared his vision and goals for FEZANA, building on the legacy and accomplishments of the previous four years.

"I am immensely grateful to Arzan for the foundation we have built over the past four years, and I couldn't be more excited about the opportunity to strengthen and advance FEZANA's interests and make a difference in the lives of Zoroastrians throughout the diaspora," Sidhwa said.

Kayo is a ZAH Member and is also the Co-Chair of the North American Zoroastrian Congress to be held in Houston in December this year. ZAH is very proud to have one of its members as the President of FEZANA.

The other FEZANA Executive Committee Members are:

Xerxes Commissariat Vice President

Xerxes Commissariat Treasurer – till another Treasurer is elected

Cody Patrovi Secretary

Farzin Avari Assistant Secretary

NEW REAL ESTATE AGENT

Exciting news! I've embarked on a new journey as a real estate agent in Houston! With a passion for homes and a dedication to helping you find your perfect space, I'm thrilled to be a part of this diverse industry. Whether you're looking to buy, sell, or invest, I'm here to guide you through every step of the process with undivided attention and transparency. Let's turn your real estate dreams into keys! Please feel free to text/call me at (281) 753-0948 or email me at vispi.katrak@garygreene.com.

Vispi Katrak REALTOR®

Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Gary Greene

Mobile: 281-753-0948 Office: 832-334-0001

15103 Mason Road, Suite A-1

Cypress, TX 77433

MEILEE NOVA MEDHORA





LADY SAKARBAI PETIT



Lady Sakarbai Petit

BIRTH

Baby girl Meilee Nova Medhora (pronounced May-Lee). Born Tuesday, April 30, 2024.

Proud parents Ashdin & Becca, Grandmas Yasmin Noshir Medhora and Sherry, Uncle Neville and Aunt Jessica are thrilled to welcome Meilee.

They also thank everyone for their good wishes.

OBITUARY

Dr. Katie Irani, wife of Late Dr. Dinshaw Irani, mother of Dr. Adel Irani and Maynaaz Irani Olson, sister of late Ervad Adi Rustomji Desai, Late Nergesh Sethna, Khorshed Desai (Mumbai), Freny Desai and Ervad Farokh Desai, Mother-in-Law of Dr. Natasha Irani and Matthew Olson, Grand Mother of Roxanna, Isabelle, Dinshaw and Josephine Irani and Madison, Sophia and Gabriella Olson passed away on Tuesday, April 30, 2024.

LADY SAKARBAI PETIT

Excerpted from Kisse-i-Gulistanbanoo

Lady Sakarbai was born on Roj 13 Mah 5 (Kadmi) YZ 1196 (13th January 1827). She was betrothed to the first baronet, Sir Dinshah Petit at the age of 11 on 27th February 1837 (Roj 1 Mah 6 (Shehanshahi) 1206 YZ).

She always supported her husband's charitable work. She was benevolent in her own right too, which benefitted many poor families and her distant relatives and she was loved by all.

A notable incident in Lady Sakarbai's life was narrated in Jam-e-Jamshed of 12th March, 1890 as follows:

One day this religious lady was riding in her two horse royal carriage towards Mahalaxmi. She stopped by a poor Parsi house of a bar tender (pithavala), to ask about the welfare of the wife who was working for her and who had been sick. The bar tender came out and as was the norm, joined both his hands and bowed to the lady and told her the condition of the mother. Just at that time, another lady friend of Sakarbai passed by in her carriage. Lady Sakarbai looked at her friend and smiled at her. Later the friend rebuked Lady Sakarbai and said "that day you were talking to a guy of the off-shop liquor place – its not wise to fraternize with such low people, you need to keep your distance being a lady". All lady Sakarbai said "I am so sorry that Ahriman must be around you, otherwise you would not utter such hateful words".

GENTLE REMINDER

Shehenshai Dae Mas Maidhiayarem Gahambar June 2, 2024

RSVP Deadline: Sunday May 26, 2024

Please click here to register

DO PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE EVEN IF PAYING BY CHECK



We request you RSVP and pay online for this event. Limited Walk-Ins!! Maidhiayarem Gahambar (Dae Mahino) SUNDAY JUNE 2, 2024

Jashan at Atash Kadeh - 11.00 am Gahambar Lunch at ZAH - 1.00 pm

PLEASE CLICK ON RSVP LINK PROVIDED IN THE EMAIL



For questions please contact:

Zia Ankleseria
(832) 646-0510
zsankles@gmail.com

RSVP Deadline: Sunday May 26, 2024 Members: Ages 12 & Up: \$15; Ages 5-11: \$12

Non-Members: Ages 12 & Up: \$20; Ages 5-11: \$15

Under 5 years - Gratis

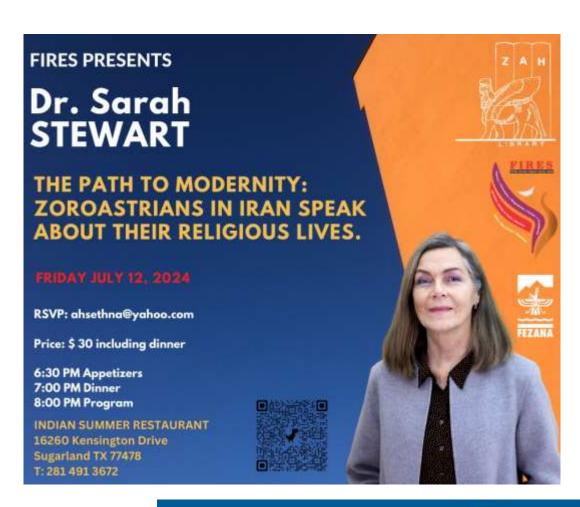
Starting Monday May 27, 2024: Rates Adult: \$20 & Child: \$15

WALKINS: \$30

ZAH COMMUNITY GRATEFULLY THANKS THE DONORS
&
OUR ERVADS FOR PERFORMING THE GAHAMBAR JASHAN

- ** Membership rate applies if 2024 membership have been paid. Kids over 18 years must have separate membership from their parents
- Member rates apply to out-of-town house-guests of members
- Our goal remains to keep these functions as affordable as possible so you as a ZAH member can attend and enjoy. However if you feel that you are unable to attend solely due to the cost please let us know. We have donations in place to subsidize your cost and we will guarantee confidentiality. Financial ups and downs are a part of most families life cycles. In a way, they are a blessing because they allow innovation, dedication and hard work to take root in oneself. Please use this facility and in better economic times, there will be plenty of opportunities to remember and help your own community members and your own association a thousand times over. Please note this is only available to current ZAH Members in good standing.

Organized by: ZAH Entertainment Committee







The North American Zoroastrian Congress 2024 to be held in Houston Texas from Dec. 29, 2024 - Jan 1. 2025 proudly announces world renowned star Mr. Boman Irani as the Keynote Speaker.

Boman Irani

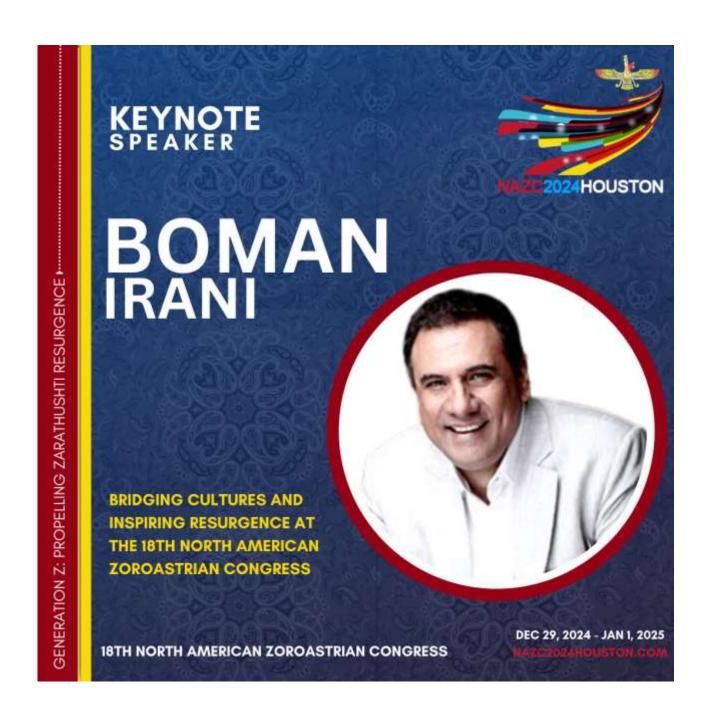
Bridging Cultures and Inspiring Resurgence at the 18th North American Zoroastrian Congress

Embracing the theme of "Generation Z: Propelling Zarathushti Resurgence," the 18th North American Zoroastrian Congress is poised to ignite a vibrant dialogue on cultural heritage, identity, and the evolving role of the Zoroastrian community in today's world. At the heart of this dynamic exchange will be the esteemed Bollywood actor Boman Irani, who will be the keynote speaker.

Boman Irani's journey from humble beginnings to Bollywood stardom mirrors the resilience and adaptability of the Zoroastrian ethos, embodying the spirit of resurgence and transformation. Born into a Parsi family, his ascent in the Indian film industry epitomizes the fusion of tradition with modernity, a theme central to the congress's discussions on empowering the next generation.

Boman Irani transcends boundaries as a beacon of cultural bridge-building, showcasing how embracing diversity and heritage can propel communities forward. His versatile talent, seamlessly transitioning between roles, mirrors the adaptability required to navigate today's multicultural landscape.

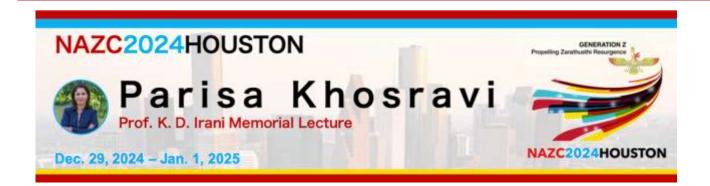
During his keynote address, Boman Irani will delve into the intersection of tradition and innovation, offering insights into how the Zoroastrian community can harness its rich heritage to inspire a new era of leadership and impact. His message will resonate with Generation Z, encouraging them to embrace their roots while charting new paths that honor the past and shape the future.



Boman Irani's philanthropic endeavors, rooted in the Zoroastrian principles of service and compassion, further exemplify the theme of resurgence. His commitment to social causes mirrors the congress's focus on community engagement and collective progress.

Attendees can anticipate an address that blends wisdom with wit. Irani will share anecdotes from his life's journey, illustrating the enduring relevance of Zoroastrian values in today's global society. His presence at the congress underscores the power of storytelling and cultural exchange in fostering unity and resilience.

By inviting Boman Irani as the keynote speaker, the 18th North American Zoroastrian Congress embraces the spirit of Generation Z: a generation poised to propel Zarathushti resurgence through innovation, inclusivity, and a deep-rooted commitment to heritage and community.



The North American Zoroastrian Congress 2024 to be held in Houston Texas from Dec. 29, 2024 - Jan. 1, 2025 proudly announces Parisa Khosravi as the distinguished speaker for the Professor Kaikhosrov D. Irani Memorial Lecture.

Parisa Khosravi

Unlocking Endless Potential

We are thrilled to announce Parisa Khosravi as the distinguished speaker for this year's Professor Kaikhosrov D. Irani Memorial Lecture, an event that celebrates excellence, leadership, and profound contributions to the global community. In her speech: **Unlocking Endless Potential**, Parisa Khosravi will give us a glimpse of how so many lives have been transformed because she refused to believe that "perception is reality."

Parisa Khosravi is a name synonymous with journalistic integrity, advocacy, and empowerment. With over three decades of experience as a veteran award-winning journalist and news executive, Parisa has left an indelible mark on the global stage. During her tenure as senior vice president for international news gathering, national news gathering, and global relations at CNN Worldwide, Parisa directed historic coverage of pivotal events that shaped our world. From the fall of the East Bloc to the Rwandan genocide, 9/11, the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, and the Arab Spring, Parisa's leadership and commitment to journalistic excellence have set a benchmark in the industry.

However, Parisa's journey is not just one of professional accomplishment but also of immense personal dedication. As mother to her son Payam, diagnosed with Autism at age 3, Parisa has worked tirelessly to help her son find his voice. Payam is now unleashing his brilliant mind and changing the world for many who need to find their voice.

Parisa is a passionate advocate for individuals with autism. Her work in this field has earned her recognition and respect, not just within journalistic circles but also among advocacy groups and humanitarian organizations. Parisa's advocacy extends to representing the Zoroastrian community at prestigious platforms like the Parliament of World's Religions, where she has served as a plenary speaker twice, in Toronto 2019 and Chicago 2023.



Parisa Khosravi's accolades include multiple Emmys, Edward R. Murrow and Peabody awards, the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, and numerous other humanitarian awards. Her commitment to journalistic excellence, coupled with her advocacy for marginalized communities, embodies the spirit of the Professor Kaikhosrov D. Irani Memorial Lecture, which seeks to honor individuals making a positive impact on society.

Her journey is a testament to the power of perseverance, empathy, and unwavering dedication to creating meaningful change.