

ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF HOUSTON

MANASHNI

Volume 32: Issue 2

February 2018

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

TIME: Different times for each group

DATE: February 11, 2018

Children's Session

The Sunday School session starts at **10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.**

Middle Group: The Sunday School session starts at **11.00 a.m.**



Youth Group: Sarosh Collector, Kaemerz Dotiwalla and Faraidoon Pundole conduct this session.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, March 21, 2018 – Jamshidi NoRouz Humbandagi
Details to be announced

Saturday, March 24, 2018 – Jamshidi NoRouz Celebration
Details to be announced

Saturday – April 21, 2018 – Libray Event
Details to be announced

Sunday – June 3, 2018 – Maidhiyarem Gahambar
Details to be announced

PLEASE NOTE: THE ANNUAL CARNIVAL EVENT HAS BEEN MOVED TO SEPTEMBER.

REPORTS

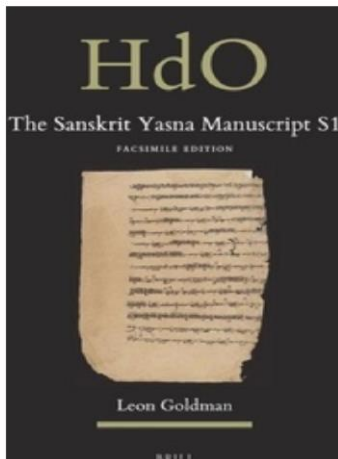
Library Committee Report – by Aban Rustomji

Library inventory

If you have wondered why the books in the library have post-its and not in their usual upright position, it is because we are taking inventory. We are half way through the process and are looking for additional volunteers to help complete it. Many thanks to Roshan and Tanaya Behramsha, Kermeen Kanga and Arnavaz Sethna for their help on a Thursday morning to start this project.

Book Awareness

The Sanskrit Yasna manuscript S1 by Leon Goldman. Brill, 2018, has been added to our collection. The manuscript S1 is one of the chief witnesses to the Sanskrit Yasna, containing the Avestan text of the Zoroastrian Yasna liturgy together with a Sanskrit translation and commentary. This book contains the complete, full-color set of facsimile images of S1. What is noteworthy about this print copy is that the manuscript was restored by positive interventions of many notable scholars and an anonymous FEZANA donor who matched the needed contribution by Columbia University. The restored manuscript resides at Columbia University.



MEETINGS

GOLDEN GROUP

Fourth Sunday of each month.
Interested? Call Zarine Balsara at
(832) 288-2436

ZAH LIBRARY

First Sunday of each month at
11:00 a.m. If you would like more
information, please call Aban
Rustomji at 281-493-1275 or e-mail
her at aban@coatingindustries.com

QUOTES FROM AVESTA

Hero Worship

(From *Daily Dips into Avesta* by
Dr. Maneck B. Pithawalla)

Avesta

Yenghe Hatam aat yesne paiti
vangho
Mazdao Ahuro vaetha ashat hacha
yaonghamcha tanscha taoscha
yazamaide

Gayehere marethno ahsaono
fravashim

Ashimcha fravashimcha yazamaide.

Kavoish vishtaspahe ashaono
fravashim yazamaide

Isatvastrahe ashaono fravashim
yazamaide

Translation

We adore the men and women who
among the living ones are good for
adoration and whom Ahura Mazda
has known through holiness.

We adore the Farohar of
Gayomard, the holy.

We adore the Farohar of Spitama
Zarathushtra, the holy.

We adore the Farohar of Gushtasp,
the Kyanian King.

We adore the Farohar of Isatvastra,
the holy.



Mark your calendar for April 21

Mark your calendars for our next featured program on Saturday, April 21. Our invited speaker is Dinyar Patel, who is arguably the most recognized present day scholar on Dadabhai Naoroji, the "Grand Old Man of India". Dinyar, who incidentally was born in Houston, is an assistant professor of South Asian History at the University of South Carolina. He received his PhD from Harvard University in 2015 for his dissertation on Dadabhai Naoroji, which he is currently revising into a biography. He is co-editor of "Dadabhai Naoroji: Selected Private Papers" (Oxford University Press, 2016), a treasured volume that is in our collection.

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE:

JASHNE SADEH:

FYI: The first ZAH Jashne Sadeh function was held on February 3, 1996 on the property of Firoze Bhandara in the Katy area. Please read the interesting information in a separate write up given by Arna Sethna.



The 2018 Jashne Sadeh event was celebrated at the ZAH Center on Saturday, February 3, 2018 and was attended by estimated 205 plus people including children. The ZAH received an estimated amount of \$300/- plus from this event (includes 22% on expense).

The celebration commenced with the beautiful prayers recited by Ervads Bomanshah Sanjana, Bahrom Firozgary and Yazad Sidhwa. The guests were then requested to proceed outdoors where a fire was lit in the land behind the main hall. Traditional melodic songs and dancing took place around the fire. Adults and children enjoyed this part of the event.



**EC MEMBERS
2018**

Daroga, Lyla
Dungor, Nozer
Haveliwalla, Sheroy
Katrak, Jasmine
Sethna, Sweta
Khumbatta, Mitra – Treasurer
Master, Percy – Secretary

**YOUTH GROUP OFFICERS
2017 - 2018**

Mehta, Nerius – President
Mistry, Cyrus – Vice President
Sidhwa, Yazad – Treasurer
Mehta, Natalya – Secretary
Hormuzdi, Dina – Historian
Master, Zubin – Web Master

**MIDDLE GROUP OFFICERS
2017 – 2018**

Vakil, Shanaya – President
Italia, Zal – Vice President
Patel, Anjalee – Treasurer
Chikhliwala, Roshni – Secretary
Dungor, Natasha – Historian

OUR ERVADS (PRIESTS)

Boomla, Noozar
Buchia, Kyrus
Dastur, Barjor
Desai, Adi
Desai, Farokh
Firozgary, Bahrom
Gonda, Pervez
Kanga, Neville
Katrak, Rayomand
Katrak, Vispi
Khumbatta, Noshir
Kotwal, Zubin
Masani, Dara
Nariman, Khushrav
Nariman, Viraf
Pavri, Shapur
Pundole, Faraidoon
Rashidi, Farhood
Sanjana, Bahmanshah
Sanjana, Kurush
Sidhwa, Kayomarz
Sidhwa, Maneck
Sidhwa, Yazad
Unwalla, Peshotan

Later, all guests feasted on the lavish Potluck dinner of estimated 70 plus dishes brought by families to share with others. There was a variety of home cooked gourmet Persian rice, kabobs, cutlets, dals, hummus, veggies, salads, chicken and beef dishes, pastry puff patties, sandwiches, pasta, pizza, etc. Everyone enjoyed tasting the various dishes and took the left overs home.

Thanks to Toshar Mondegarian for donating the wood for the fire and helping out to start the fire along with Nosh Medhora and Farrokh. We are proud of young Cyrus Desai and Shireen & Ariana Anklesaria who worked a lot of chores right before the function started.

The ZAH would like to thank all attendees, our Ervads, donors and volunteers for making this function a grand success.

SUPER BOWL LII (52):

The superb Super Bowl party was held at the ZAH Center on Sunday, February 4, 2018.

There were estimated 75 fans who had a great time cheering their teams. The wonderful half time show, the unique commercials and the exciting last quarter of the game and touch downs was enjoyed by one and all. The lucky winners of the Football pool were happy with their winnings.

No event is successful without yummy food. All viewers relished the potluck brought by families which included appetizers like bhel, patrel, dips, heavy finger foods, cutlets, biryani and desserts.

Thanks to Zia Anklesaria, Arzin Italia and Tenaz Sunavala of the Entertainment Committee for coordinating this event. Also thanks to Rustom Anklesaria, Danesh Desai and other helpers for setting up the projection in the hall. Thanks to all children and adults who volunteered during the event and at cleanup. This was a truly fun event.

A brief History of the ZAH Jashn-e-Sadeh.

The first ever ZAH Jashn-e-Sadeh celebration took place on **February 3, 1996** on the property of Feroze and Shernaz Bhandara in Katy, Texas as we did not have our Center at that time. Bahram Varjavand and Fereshteh Khatibi took the lead in planning this event and the first ever Sadeh event was born. It was scheduled for February 3, 1996. Fire Permit was obtained for a bonfire which required the Fire Engine to be present throughout the duration of the fire.

After the event both, Bahram Varjavand and Fereshteh Khatibi thanked Feroze and Shernaz Bhandara for the use of their property and all those who helped, both financially and physically.

Sadeh has since continued to be celebrated at the ZAH Center as enthusiastically as the first one. Due to cost constraints, we now have a small campfire ring behind the building in which the bonfire is lit.

Below is the account of the Jashn-e-Sadeh event as reported in the *MANASHNI* of March 1996.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

CATEGORY AND RATES

Patron Family Membership	\$500
Patron Single Membership	\$250
Patron Senior Family M'brshp	\$250
Patron Senior Single M'brshp	\$125
Family Membership	\$275
Family Senior Membership	\$ 65
Associate Membership	\$275
Single Membership	\$135
Single M'ber Head of Hshold	\$150
Single Senior Membership	\$ 40
Student Membership	\$ 25

Manashni Surcharge \$ 15
For Printed/Mailed copies

Definition of Categories

Family Member

Parents and their children under 18

Family Senior Member

One spouse is over the age of 65

Single Member

Unmarried individual over the age 18

Single Senior Member

Individual over the age of 65

Single Member Head of Household

Single parent with children under 18

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK

PAYABLE TO: ZAH

AND MAIL TO:

ZAH Treasurer
8787 W Airport Blvd.
Houston, TX 77071

Or pay online:

<http://zah.org/?event=zah-annual-membership-2018>

Saturday, February 3, 1996 will leave an indelible mark in the minds of Zoroastrians of Houston!! The freezing cold evening started like any other "fare", a "bazaar" or by whatever you name you call it. A large tent was pitched with gas heaters burning to keep it warm as it was the coldest day for Houston since 1989.

There were food stalls inside the tent and outside the tent were barbecue chicken and chelo kahab stalls. Zarthushtis from Iran, India and Pakistan were mingling together greeting each other and eating to their hearts content. The children, completely oblivious of the cold, played in their tent jumping up and down the trampoline and then the magic moment - Seven Mobeds, in one voice recited Atash Niyayesh in front of an 'Afaranganyu" - Atash Dadgah. With the Atash Niyayesh over, Peshotan Unwalla, in his melodious voice sang the praises of the Jashne Sadeh in Farsi language - even the children listened with rapt attention! And then Bahram, with a flaming torch ran out and set the bonfire ablaze. The flames rose 60 feet high and there was enchantment in the air. Everyone stood and watched the fire rise high in the sky and felt its warmth. After a while some went inside the tent which was kept warm by gas heating burners. With the music going full blast, everyone started dancing and having fun.

As the last embers of the bonfire died down the fire engine left with its wailing siren bidding us farewell. The looks of satisfaction on the faces of the Organizing Committee was enough to let the bystanders know that their hard work of the past weeks had paid off!! Is it any wonder why Bahram Varjavand and Fereshteh Khatibi so profusely thanked each other and everyone on the Organizing Committee?

MEMBERSHIP

2018 Membership is due. Mail your check today!! Please be guided by the category and rates given.

OBITUARY

Mehroo Dubash, mother of (Late) Veera Bharucha, Kamal Dubash, Jamshed Dubash, Gulmohar Bharucha, Rayomand Dubash; and sister of Roshan Sethna and Aban Patel, passed away January 15, 2018.

Tehmi Bhikhaji Mistry, mother of Darayus Mistry (Irvine, California), Late Bakhtawar Sahiar (Mumbai), and Yazdi Mistry (Sugar Land, TX) passed away peacefully last night, Wednesday, January 17, 2018 in Sugar Land, TX. She was 85 years old.

Piloos Patel, husband of Kety Patel, father of Phiroozhy (Aspy) Jamshedji and Dilshad (Pervaiz) Karanjia, grandfather of Aaresh and Farzain Jamshedji, Zaine and Zanarah Karanjia, and great grandfather of Armin Jamshedji, passed away early morning, February 6, 2018

MANASHNI and its readers convey their heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family

Insights from NAZC2020 Corner

The NAZC2020 Core Team is very excited to announce the list of Committee Co-Chairs and Volunteers for the NAZC2020 Congress Committees as seen below:

Committees	Chairs / Co-Chairs	Volunteers
Core Committee	Co-Chairs – Aderbad Tamboli / Kayo Sidhwa, Lyla Daroga – Treasurer, Percy Master – Secretary	
Program	Aban Rustomji / Poras T. Balsara (ZANT)	Nazneen & Mitra Khumbatta, Kaemerz Dotiwala, Vehishta Kaikobad
Entertainment	Kamalrukh Gandhi / Farzana Sidhwa	Gary Firozgary, Roshan Behramsha, Zeenia Mehta, Roshan Engineer, Tenaz & Zenia Sunavala, Yasmin Haveliwala, Diana Balsara, Kaemerz Dotiwala, Roshan Behramsha, Vehishta Kaikobad
Hospitality	Meher Patel / Rohintan Deputy	Nazneen & Mitra Khumbatta, Arzin Italia, Tenaz Sunavala, Jasmine Mistry, Nali Desai, Roshan Behramsha, Zia Anklesaria
Pre & Post Congress / Transportation	Yasmin Medhora / Farida Divecha	
Registration	Manek Nariman / Sweta Sethna	Nazneen Khumbatta; Cyra Kanga, Roshan Engineer, Roshan & Percy Behramsha, Nali & Danesh Desai, Diana Balsara, Friyana Sidhwa, Roshan Behramsha, Danielle Dubash
Website / Social Media / Apps	Danesh Desai / Erach Songadwalla (SA)	Percy Behramsha, Zenia Sunavala, Zubin Vakil, Zal Daroga, Yazad Sidhwa, Rayhan Nariman, Jehangir Mistry
AV and Technology	Sheroy Haveliwala / Khushrav Nariman	Percy Behramsha, Danesh Desai, Khursheed Dastur
Press and Public Relations	Mani Surkari / Zeeba Kayani	Diana Balsara
Publications	Khursheed Dastur / Ken Bhappu	
Exhibits / Booths	Mahrukh Deputy / Villi Bhappu	Behroze Daruwalla
Fundraising	Kayo Sidhwa / TBC	Sam Bhadha
Youth & Young Adults (Under 30)	Naomi Bhappu / Fram Haveliwala	Zenia Sunavala, Friyana Sidhwa, Rayomand & Vispi Katrak, Natalya Haveliwala, Mitra Khumbatta, Freya Daroga, Katie Master, Darius & Alyssa Tamboli, Viraf & Rayhan Nariman, Tanaya Beramsha
Kid's Program	Vehishta Kaikobad	Vehishta will organize her volunteers
Medical	Sanober Tamboli / Sorab Italia	Rayomand Katrak
General		Kershaw Khumbatta, Homi Davier, Fred Bhader

We still require volunteers for a few key committees as seen above so if interested please send your nominations to the [NAZC2020 Secretary](#).

Important: All volunteers who have turned in their nominations are invited to attend a meeting with the Core Team and Committee Co-Chairs on Saturday, 3/31/18, at 11:30AM at the ZHCC. Additional details will be sent out soon.

NAZC2020 LOGO SUBMISSION

As you are aware, our Theme is **GENERATION Z: PROPELLING THE ZARATHUSHTI RESURGENCE** and now we need a suitable, attractive Logo to complement it. We have extended the deadline for submission of the NAZC Logo to February 28th 2018. As informed earlier, there will be a grand prize of \$150 for the best entry selected by the designated selection committee and here are some guidelines:

1. Should highlight the importance of Zarathushti religion and culture
2. A brief description of how it relates to and aligns with the NAZC2020 Theme above
3. Individuals can send one or more entries
4. NAZC2020 Logo artwork submission should be in JIF, JPG or BMP format and must be easy to use, handle, resize and manipulate for all reproduction purposes
5. The selection committee will consist of the NAZC2020 core committee and/or its selected judges
6. Entries should be emailed to the [NAZC2020 Secretary](#), Percy Master latest by Feb 28th, 2018

Thank you and Regards,
Your NAZC2020 Core Committee

Be Involved. Save Lives.

OUR MISSION IS TO SAVE LIVES by delivering cures to people diagnosed with life-threatening blood cancers through marrow transplants. But we can't do this important work alone. We work with amazing partners and volunteers like you to help the more than 14,000 patients in need of transplant. **JOIN US!**



Sharmin, a young Zoroastrian in Melbourne, Australia has recently been diagnosed with Chronic Lymphatic Leukemia (CLL). She has 2 boys, 11 and 7 years old, a wonderful husband that she has been married to for over 12 years and was living life before she was diagnosed.

Her doctors advised that in order to beat the cancer, she needs a bone marrow transplant. Unfortunately her sister was not a match for her. Sharmin is now relying on a complete stranger to save her life and searching the unrelated marrow donor database for a match. Anyone can be her match but the likelihood of finding a match will come from someone of the same ethnicity as Sharmin.

Please take 10 minutes of your time, visit the Be the Match booth, fill out a consent form and swab your cheek cells. You could be that needle in a haystack for a patient in need.

To be a donor you must be:

1. Between the ages of 18-44
2. Be willing to help any patient in need
3. Be in general good health

You can join online: <http://join.marrow.org/swabforsharmin>

**A simple cheek
swab can save a
life!**

Marrow Donor Registration Drive

March 24th from 7pm to 10pm
Zarathushti Heritage and Cultural Center
8787 West Airport Blvd
Houston, Texas 77071

Note:--The cheek swab samples only add your tissue types to the registry. Usually it takes six to eight weeks to test the samples. If you come up as a potential match, you need to go for a blood test (takes a few minutes just like an annual blood test), and usually the results come in 30 to 60 days. If you are chosen as a perfect match, then after the medical evaluation you donate through one of the following procedures.

PBSC (Peripheral blood stem cell) donation is one of two methods of collecting blood-forming cells for bone marrow transplants. This is a nonsurgical and most common way to donate today. You'd receive a drug that increases the number of cells in your blood stream that are used for transplant. These cells are gathered in an outpatient procedure. Usually donors go back to their normal routine in 1 to 2 days.

Traditional Marrow Donation is outpatient surgical process, performed under anesthesia. After donation you may have some short-term discomfort in your lower back. Usually donors go back to their normal routine in 2 to 7 days.

For more information contact

Gaytri Kapoor @ 281-780-1379

gkapoor@giveblood.org

**Marrow Donor
Program**

**Gulf Coast Regional
Blood Center**

BE THE MATCH®

BeTheMatch.org

NP20227 MAR 2015