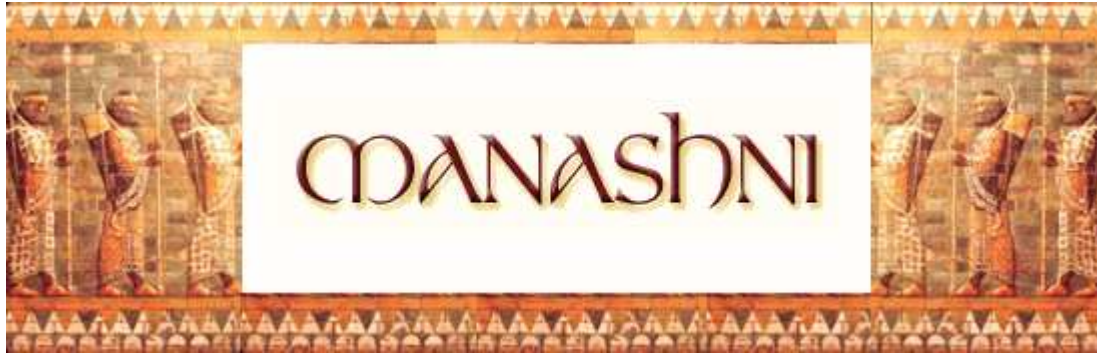


Zoroastrian Association of Houston
8787 W. Airport Blvd.
Houston, TX 77071



SUNDAY SCHOOL

PLACE: ZHCC, 8787 W. Airport Blvd., Houston, TX 77071 Tel: 713-270-9339
TIME: 11:00 AM
DATE: December 12, 2010

Children’s Session: This month the “**Let’s Learn Gujarati Together**” session will NOT take place as Khursheed Dastur will be out of town. Khursheed has requested that the children practice at home what they have learnt so that they can talk to her in Gujarati when she starts the class in January.

Sunday school will begin promptly at 11.30 am. Vehishta would like to remind the parents to bring their children’s artwork completed on the canvas boards that she had provided them. Those who bring in their completed work will have a chance to have it displayed in the Sunday School room before the Congress. Once again, the topic for the artwork is “The Amesha Spentas make my world beautiful”.

Middle Group: This group is for the children in the middle school. In November the middle group had a lock-in session. Friyana Sidhwa made a presentation to everyone about making this group as a formal working group with a distinctive name, complete with a slate of officers and their duties. A name has been chosen and will be announced in the next Manashni. The names of officers will also be announced after they have held their elections. At this lock-in Rayhan Nariman read the essay that was published in the last Manashni. Their fun time was watching a movie and playing games.

Senior Group: Sarosh Collector conducts this session. See a write up by the Youth Chair.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 29th to Dec 31st – North American Zoroastrian Congress in Houston. A brief overview is provided

February – Tentative Date February 13, 2011. Visit to George Bush Library at College Station, TX. Details will be announced in January Manashni

MEETINGS

GOLDEN GROUP	Fourth Sunday of each month. Interested? Please call Zarine Balsara at (281) 304-6611
LIBRARY COMMITTEE	First Sunday of each month at 11:00 AM. Interested in helping? Or would like more information, please call Aban Rustomji at 281-493-1275 or e-mail her at aban@coatingindustries.com

REPORTS

LIBRARY REPORT by Jango Mistry

Your Library now has a fresh new look in time for the North American Zoroastrian Congress. The wall between the entrances to the Library has been repainted and now displays pictures of our ancestors in traditional garb that were submitted by members of our community. Professional mounting of the pictures and the captions below each picture make them even more interesting. Ties to our past keep our heritage alive and strengthen the roots for our younger generation. Next time you are at the Center, be sure to check out our picture wall. The pictures will bring a smile to your face and make you proud.

In the showcase below the television, we have displayed our Houston community authors and their works. This display has also been updated with three more published books and the authors. We are proud of the significant accomplishment of these authors and wish them continued success in their professional lives.

Watch for our next Library function being planned for February 2011. More details in the next issue of Manashni.

ZAH YOUTH GROUP REPORTS By Zenia Sunavala - Secretary

The Youth Group continues to hold fund-raisers for the Youth Congress in Vancouver next July. We truly appreciate the continued support of the ZAH community. Our next fund-raiser is a raffle of three beautiful paintings donated by Avan Bhathena. (Please see the attached flyer). Tickets will be sold prior to and during the Congress from December 29th-31st. We also hope that all of you attending the Congress watch the entertainment on the 29th (opening night) as many of the Youth are showcasing their talent.

In addition to raising money, the Youth continue to volunteer at various Community Service Events. We are planning to volunteer building homes at the Habitat For Humanity shelter for the second time. Our future volunteering events include the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer and the KSLB Trash Off.

Also, we did a Food/Clothing drive about three weeks ago. The donated food items will be donated to East Human Needs Ministry. As for the clothing, we are still collecting lightly-used clothing items (even warm clothes, blankets, etc.) to donate to Star of Hope. Please feel free to drop off your clothing items on December 18th around noon because the Youth will be at the Center. Any money donations would be greatly appreciated too. Thanks to all who helped out and donated!

On December 18th, the Youth will be cleaning the Youth Room and painting a chalkboard wall on one of the walls of our room. We hope that this will make learning more convenient and fun for us and the future generations of Youth. In order to bring in the Christmas spirit, we will also be having a 'Secret Santa' game within the Youth Group.

We hope to start fresh in the New Year with many activities that help us learn more about our religion and follow our three basic principles, Good Thoughts, Good Words, and Good Deeds. Please See Flyer Attached

NAZC PROGRESS

The count down has begun – only about two weeks left and everyone is geared up to having a wonderful congress. Apart from the Congress activities, there are Pre-Congress activities for which one does not have to be registered for the Congress.

PRE-CONGRESS ACTIVITIES

December 28, 2010

WZCC activities: World Zarathushti Chamber of Commerce has arranged a Tour to Ocean Star Oil Rig Museum in the morning. In the evening, at the Gala Dinner, you can meet Jehangir Mehta, Chef and Entrepreneur – contact zarirs@sbcglobal.net See attached flyer.

Youth Social: For youth ages between 18 – 40, a social at *Status Lounge* – contact Zeeba.Kayani@gmail.com See attached flyer.

CONGRESS – STARTS DECEMBER 29, 2010

Starting with a Grand Jashan where all *navars* who will be attending the Congress, have been invited to participate. Opening Ceremonies will set the tone of the Congress theme – Preserve, Protect, Perfect. After the National Anthem, Choir and short welcome speeches are completed, the journey on the “*Silk Road*” begins. Besides being a combination of enrichment and entertainment, this presentation will bring to light the importance of Iran as a conduit of cross cultural network in trade, art and religions of the ancient worlds.

All the speakers are experts in their fields and their topics are relevant to Zarathushti interests and needs. They are young scholars, published authors, sought after speakers, and upcoming leaders of our community. And for the first time, there will be “mini-congress” for children ages 5 to 12 with programs to stimulate the young mind.

NextGenNow, a youth group, serves as an incubator for innovative ideas, leadership cultivation and action-oriented initiatives. They hope to mobilize a new generation of Zarathushti bridge builders interested in paving a pathway for more sustainable and resilient Zarathushti communities in the years and decades ahead. *View From the Top: Towers of Success* where young dynamic professional individuals who have risen to the challenge in their professional fields will share their experience and energize the youth

The Exhibit Committee has gathered articles of history and culture, religious implements, original *garas*, *jhabhlas*, *topies*, unique silver *sais*, etc. A table can be rented to sell your wares. Interested individuals may contact Meher Rustomji at meherp@gmail.com

The three-day entertainment extravaganza begins with Zarathushti Symphony Orchestra (ZSO) that made its *début* at the 7th World Zoroastrian Congress in Houston in 2000. We have five young musicians from ZAH who will be playing in this orchestra. The entertainment continues with the production of “*Those Were The Days*” recreating the past musical era interspersed with Bollywood Dancing. A hilarious *gujarati natak* followed by musical evening is open to anyone – please contact Hoshang Sethna (hsethna@comcast.net) if you want tickets for just *Natak/Musical evening*. Grand finale encompasses the Closing Ceremony and the New Year’s Eve Gala.

To promote Zoroastrian scholarship amongst our youth, the ZAH Library held an essay competition which was open to all Zoroastrians under 25 residing in the United States and Canada. Topic: “*The Shah Nameh: A Glorious Past – A Prologue to the Future*”. The winner of this essay is Mitra Khumbatta. She will be reading her essay at the Congress.

If you are still hesitant, buy a raffle ticket and take a chance to win two registrations. **See attached flyer.**

WEDDING

Wedding bells rang for Noshir F. Kharas, son of Thrity and Feroze Kharas and Arnavaz S Medhora, daughter of Soonu and Jal Godiwalla of Dallas, TX on November 26, 2010..

Wedding Bells also rang for Farhad Shroff, son of Rohinton (brother of Jehangir Shroff of Houston) and Farida Shroff of Chicago and Persis Gandhi, daughter of Firoze and Katy Ghandhi and sister of Khursheed Yezdi Hormuzdi, on November 27, 2010. The newly weds will be living in Seattle, WA.

Manashni and its readers wish the newlyweds a long and happy married life together.



Houston Chapter

WORLD ZARATHUSHTI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

TOUR

Visit the Ocean Star Oil Rig Museum —one-of-a-kind Museum located in Galveston, Texas. Step aboard a retired jack-up rig and enjoy 3 floors of exhibits and interactive displays illustrating the story of offshore oil and gas from seismic technology to exploration and production.

Tour starts at Hotel Intercontinental, Houston

Date: December 28, 2010

Time: Start 12:30 sharp— Return 4:30 pm

Cost: \$25.00 per person (includes entrance fee)

Reservations: Zarir Sethna zarirs@sbcglobal.net
or (713) 963-4229

Payment by checks only. Checks to be made to "WZCC—Houston" and mailed to: Zarir Sethna, 2211 Crescent Palm Lane Houston, TX 77077.

Check must be received by December 10, 2010.



GALA DINNER

Speaker: Globally skilled restaurateur and entrepreneur, Iron Chef finalist Jehangir Mehta, will talk about :
"Passion & Risk: Two Sides of the Success Coin".

Hotel Intercontinental, Houston, TX

2222 West Loop South, Houston

Date: December 28, 2010

Mixer: 7:00 — 7:30 pm—Dinner & talk 7:30 — 9:00 pm

Cost: \$40.00 per person

Reservations: Zarir Sethna zarirs@sbcglobal.net
or (713) 963-4229

Payment by checks only . Checks to be made to "WZCC—Houston" and mailed to: Zarir Sethna, 2211 Crescent Palm Lane, Houston, TX , 77077.
Check must be received by December 10, 2010.

WZCC PRE-NAZC2010 PROGRAM—December 28, 2010



**FIFTEENTH NORTH AMERICAN ZOROASTRIAN CONGRESS
HOUSTON, TEXAS
DECEMBER 29 - 31, 2010**

**WIN 2 REGISTRATIONS PLUS
2 "NATAK & ADI TAMBOLI" TICKETS...
A \$700 PACKAGE!!!**

For Tickets Contact: Persis Behramsha

Phone: (281) 859 1302 ~ Email: persisbehramsha@netscape.net

Drawing: Sunday, December 12, 2010 at ZHCC

Cost: \$10 for 1 ticket; \$25 for a pack of 3 tickets. Please make checks payable to "ZAH NAZC 2010". Checks due by 11/30/2010.



Official Rules:

1. The NAZC 2010 raffle will be conducted according to the terms of the Raffle Enabling Act, and per regulations described in Chapter 2002, Charitable Raffles, Occupations Code, Texas Codes Annotated.
2. You must be 18 years or older to participate and purchase a raffle ticket.
3. The raffle ticket will be void where prohibited by law.
4. The cost of each raffle ticket is \$10. You can purchase a pack of 3 tickets for \$25 each.
5. Each raffle ticket will be identified by a unique serial number.
6. Tickets will be issued via mail or in person within 10 working days after payment is received by an authorized NAZC 2010 representative.
7. The final drawings for this raffle award will be held at the Zarathushti Heritage and Cultural Center, 8787 West Airport Blvd, Houston, Texas 77071 on Sunday, December 12, 2010.
8. No cash prizes or cash value of prizes will be awarded to winners of the raffle.
9. Notification of winning tickets will be published in the ZAH Newsletter Manashni. Winners will also be notified via phone, email, and by mail within 10 business days of the drawing. The winner will be required to hand over the winning ticket in person or via registered mail to claim an award. If the NAZC Committee is unable to contact the winner in 3 attempts, each attempt made via phone, email, and mail at 5 day intervals, the award will be considered a donation to NAZC 2010.
10. The NAZC 2010 Committee retains the authority to cancel the Raffle at any time in its sole determination, including due to lack of ticket sales. Refund checks will be mailed out to existing raffle ticket holders, within 10 business days of such cancellation.
11. The NAZC 2010 Raffle Rules, Terms, and Conditions described above are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances or where required by law. All changes will be published and sent to existing raffle ticket holders and prospective raffle participants within 2 to 10 business days of the change.

2010 NAZC SOCIAL





DECEMBER 28, 2010
NORTH AMERICAN ZOROASTRIAN CONGRESS
2010 SOCIAL
AT STATUS LOUNGE
9:00PM - 1:00AM
\$2 DRINKS ALL NIGHT

\$20 Entry Fee includes Transportation,
 Light Appetizers and Soft Drinks
 9pm: Lobby Pick Up
 1am: Return Trip Back

For more information please contact
 Aaresh Jamshedji at 281-216-3032
 2404 SAN JACINTO ST.
 WWW.STATUSHOUSTON.COM

Pre Congress Social

[Ages \(18-40\)](#)

[State IDs will be required to enter](#)

[NO College or School ID's Accepted](#)

8:30pm - Boarding Transportation to go to the Lounge

9:00 pm - Leaving the Hotel Lobby

1:00am - Arriving at the Hotel Lobby

Reservations/RSVP:

ALL Reservations MUST be made by December 15th, 2010

Zeeba Kayani - Zeeba.kayani@gmail.com or 281-610-6593

[Payment by Cash or Checks only.](#)

[\(For RSVP individuals only\) Cash Payments 28th \(10:00am to 6:00pm\)](#)

Intercontinental Lobby at the NAZC 2010 Registration Desk

Checks to be made to "Aaresh Jamshedji" and

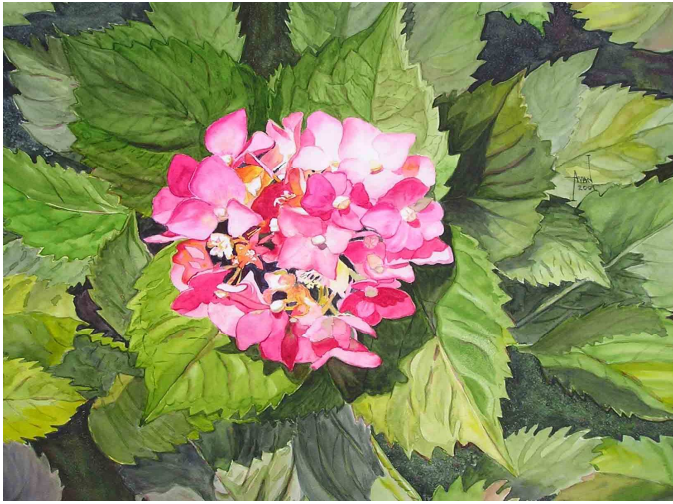
Mailed to: Zeeba Kayani, 2710 Grants Lake Blvd, K4, Sugarland, TX, 77479.

**** Checks MUST be received by December 20th, 2010****

ZAH Youth Group Fundraiser 2010-2011

Paintings by Artist *Avan Bhathena*

Limited editions, hand signed, numbered and framed.



Raffle #1

HYDRANGEAS

Tickets \$5 each or 5 for \$20

Watercolors, Giclée

Size 27"x31", framed



Raffle #2

FAROHAR

Tickets \$3 each or 5 for \$10

Mixed Media, Print

Size 19"x25", framed



Raffle #3

DIVINE FLAME

Tickets \$3 each or 5 for \$10

Mixed Media, Print

Size 15"x18", framed

www.ArtByAvan.com

To purchase tickets, please email zahyouthgroup@gmail.com with your name and phone number. We will email you back with your ticket number, so please take note of it. **Cash only, please!** Thank You.