SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

TIME: Different timings for each group

DATE: August 11, 2019

Children's Session
The Sunday School session starts at 10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

Middle Group: The Sunday School session at 10.30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, Sept 29, 2019–Fasli Mehrgan/Maedyozarem Gahambar
Friday, Oct 11 – 13, 2019 – Annual Library Event – Flyer attached
Sunday, Oct 20, 2019 – Picnic – details to be announced
Thursday & Friday, Oct 24 & 25 2019 – Ervad Parvez Bajan –
Saturday, Nov 9, 2019 – “It’s a Miracle” – a Play by Shahnaz Sidhwa
Tuesday, Dec 31, 2019 – NAZC 2020 New Year’s Eve Fund Raiser

REPORTS

Library Report
By Jangoo Mistry

The Annual Library Gala

This annual event is fast approaching. The three-day program will start on Friday evening, October 11, and run through the morning of Sunday, October 13. As always, the program will start with a meet-and-greet and a short talk on Friday evening, continue with a full day on Saturday of talks and discussions, ending with a gala dinner and some entertainment. Sunday will be a wrap-up and face-to-face discussions with speakers and other experts.

We are proud to present Almut Hintze who is recognized worldwide as a scholar of Indo-Iranian studies and Zoroastrianism. Since 2010, she has been Zartoshty Brothers Professor of Zoroastrianism at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, and is now the Co-chair of the Shapoorji Pallonji Trust. She will give two talks.

In her first talk, Dr. Almut Hintze will discuss the fascinating Multimedia Yasna project that for the first time will use Virtual Reality to understand the words and the rituals associated with these hymns of Zarathushtra.

Her second talk will focus on the fate of the soul after death and its imagery in our Zoroastrian sacred texts. She will examine the way in which the encounter of the soul with its belief, or daēnā, is elaborated in the Avesta.

Our second speaker is Kersi Bhikhaji Shroff, a founding member of the Zoroastrian Association of Metropolitan Washington
EC MEMBERS
2019
Daroga, Lyla
Dungor, Nozer - Chairman
Hormuzdi, Khursheed
Katark, Percy
Sethna, Sweta
Dastur, Khursheed - Secretary
Khumbatta, Mitra – Treasurer

YOUTH GROUP OFFICERS
2018 - 2019
Mistry, Cyrus – President
Hormuzdi, Dina – Vice President
Italia, Zara – Secretary
Mehta, Natalya – Treasurer
Bastani, Niousha – Historian
Sarkari, Rukhshana – Web Master

MIDDLE GROUP OFFICERS
2018 – 2019
Kanga, Neville – President
Dungor, Natasha – Vice President
Patel, Anjalee – Secretary
Kanga, Natasha – Treasurer
Dastur, Darius – Historian

OUR ERVADS (PRIESTS)
Boomla, Noozar
Buchia, Kyrus
Dastur, Barjor
Dastur, Darius
Desai, Adi
Desai, Farokh
Firozgany, Bahrom
Gonda, Pervez
Kanga, Neville
Katirak, Rayomand
Katirak, Vispi P.
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
Vimadalal, Freyaan

(ZAMWI), an Attorney at Law, and former Division Chief in the Law Library of Congress. Beginning in 2013, Kersi has traveled extensively in Central Asia and the Caucasus (in Azerbaijan) and volunteered to work with expeditions led by Russian archaeologists at three ancient, pre-Islamic sites in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

In his talk, Mr. Shroff will take us on one of the great adventures of recent times in the important discovery of the Middle Ages. By giving us first-hand accounts of expeditions led by Russian archaeologists that he volunteered for, he will reveal how archaeological remains in the ancient regions of Bactria, etc. provide rich evidence of sacred structures, artifacts, and mural paintings that depict the practice of Zoroastrianism.

For the evening entertainment, plans are underway by Vehishta Kaikobad, Tanaz Choudhury, and Lyla Daroga. The program is going to be unique and lots of fun. The attached flyer provides details of all three talks and the program for three days.

The planning for this eagerly-awaited event is already in full swing, and we are fortunate that well-known Zoroastrian scholars and researchers have committed to sharing their insights and knowledge with us. For the first time, this annual Library event is presented in conjunction with FIRES and the Society of Scholars of Zoroastrianism. Many out-of-town guests are also interested in attending. Please mark the dates (October 11, 12 and 13) on your calendar, and RSVP to Anavaz Sethna (ahsethna@yahoo.com or call 281-468-4988) at your earliest convenience. Earlier RSVPs really help us in proper planning for the event. Use this link to register and pay online.
http://zah.org/events/library-fires-event/

Art Displays in Purvez Rustomji Room

In the last Manashni, we talked about the enhancements to the Purvez Rustomji Room that included tracks close to the ceiling to display blown-up pictures, posters, and other items as required for appropriate meetings.

We are working on posters of Agiyaris and Atash Behrams in India, Pakistan, and Iran. Darayus Kolah, Yazdi Engineer, and Cyrux Rivetna have a collection of pictures and will select the ones that are best suited for making into posters. The 20” X 30” posters will be accompanied by a bullet-point write up of levels of Atash. This display will complement nicely the excitement of our new Atash Kadeh.

Ervad Parvez Bajan’s visit to the U.S. October

Ervad Bajan will be in Houston for talks over two days, October 24 and 25. Due to a non-member rental at that time, the event is tentatively planned for the Atash Kadeh foyer. Dr. Bajan’s topic for the first day is: “Advent of Zarathustra as Paigambar (Messenger), and his revelation of the monotheistic teachings of Ahura Mazda and/or Zoroastrianism - A way of life.” On the second day, Ervad Bajan will talk about Episodes from the Shahnameh Kirtan. More details will be forthcoming.

Youth Group Report

Youth Group election for Officers was held and the new slate of officers are:
MEMBERSHIP DUES

CATEGORY AND RATES

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<td>Student Membership</td>
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**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 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

**President-** Cyrus Mistry
**Vice President-** Dina Hormuzdi
**Secretary-** Natalya Mehta
**Treasurer-** Zara Italia
**Historian-** Niousha Bastani
**Webmaster-** Rukshana Sarkari

**Seminar for College Bound Students**
Dr. Farrokh and Dr. Janet Allen have graciously traveled to Houston and conducted a seminar for college bound students and their parents at ZAH every year. This year they will join us again on Sunday, Oct 13, 2019. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

Some highlights of this seminar are listed below

**Date and Time:** Sunday, Oct 13, 2019 from 1:00 - 4:00 pm

**Venue:** Zarathushti Heritage and Cultural Center (ZHCC)

**Title:** Seminar for College Bound Students and their Parents

**Speakers:** Janet K. Allen and Farrokh Mistree

**Who should attend:** Middle and High school students and their parents (Grades 8 though 12, but all others are welcome)

**If you’ve attended last year:** Please bring a DRAFT of your Statement of Purpose as per Slide 4 of the attached presentation. Dr. Janet Allen and Dr. Farrokh Mistree will provide some valuable feedback.

**RSVP:** Cyrus Mistry - CyrusMistry123@gmail.com

Please mark your calendars and RSVP at your earliest so we can plan for snacks and refreshments. I hope you will all attend. Flyer attached.

**Middle Group Election Results**
The Middle Group election for Officers was held and the new slate of officers are:

President – Neville Kanga
Vice President- Natasha Dungor
Treasurer- Natasha Kanga
Secretary- Anjalee Patel
Historian - Darius Dastur

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Shehanshahi Navroze Celebrations**
The Shehnshahi Parsi New Year was celebrated with fanfare at ZAH on Saturday, the 17th of August. Coincidentally the New Year day fell this year on a Saturday so the evening started with a Humbandgi (celebrated for the first time in the Bhandara Atash Kadeh) followed by a Boi Ceremony. After the prayers the function then moved to the Atrium with scrumptious and delicious appetizers served by Agas Restaurant.

The evening program started with a Welcome speech by our Current Chair – Nozer N. Dungor who introduced the rest of the current ZAH EC (Lyla Daroga, Khursheed B. Dastur, Khursheed Hormuzdi, Percy Katrak, Sweta Sethna and Mitra Khumabtta).

Sweta Sethna was our dynamic MC for the evening and introduced our Chief Guest – the Hon. Consul General of India – Dr. Anupam Ray. Dr.
Ray gave a nice short speech praising the contribution of the Parsi community in the development of India and noting that this was one of the few invitations he actually seeks and looks forward to attending.

He was followed by a short introduction and speech by Sri Preston Kulkarni who is the Democratic Candidate for Congress from the Fort Bend area next November.

The speeches were followed by a colorful medley of Bollywood Dances by the youth dancers of Arzan Gonda's Rhythm India Dance Company which delighted the audience.

This was followed by Dinner and dessert. This year, one of the highlights was that youth volunteers helped in bringing dinner for our seniors.

Approximately 310 people attended. ZAH received approx $1700 (including 22% maintenance and utility cost)

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped set up ZAH hall. Thank you also to: Percy Katrak family, Khursheed Dastur family, Avan Bhathena, Roshan Behramsha, Lyla Daroga, Yasmin Medhora, Fred Bhader, Aspi and Persis Colah, Frannie Engineer, Nazanin Sarkari, Yazad and Farzana Sidhwa. A special thank you to Jasmine Mistry and Yezdi Mistry for organizing Youth Group kids to help the seniors with dinner and themselves being constantly attentive to their needs of the Seniors during dinner. A special Thank you also to the Talented Banafsheh and Toshar Mondegarian who created the beautiful centerpieces for each table.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped make this event a success. The kids had a blast dancing to DJ Norris. However we missed our DJ Gary. Last but not the least we would like to thank the EC for their support and help. The Entertainment Committee welcomes your constructive feedback and ideas on how we can improve and make our future functions better.

Your ZAH Entertainment Committee (Arzin Italia, Nozer Dungor, Farrokh Firozgary, Banafsheh Mondegarian, Zia Anklesaria, Fiona Setna).

ZAH Picnic

ZAH Picnic will be held on October 20, 2019 at Sugar Land Memorial Park from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please bring a covered dish. ZAH Entertainment Committee will provide sodas and dessers.

From your Executive Committee

Safety and Crime Prevention information:
We are happy to announce that important safety and crime prevention information will be included in some issues of Manashni so please look out for those. "Surviving An Active Shooter" brochure from the Houston Police Department is included in this issue. Future issues may include topics like "Back to School Safety", "Burglary Prevention for your Home", "Cyber Safety", "Senior Citizens Crime Prevention", "Sexual Assault Prevention". If you have any questions, please contact Sweta Sethna at swetasethna@hotmail.com or (832) 316-5845."
OBITUARY

Kety Piloos Patel, mother of Phiroozhy Jamshedji and Dilshad Karanjia, grandmother of Aaresh and Farzain Jamshedji, Zaine and Zanarah Karanjia, great-grandmother of Armin Jamshedji, passed away in Houston, on September 10, 2019.

AMAZONSMILE – ZAH INITIATIVE

Dear Community members,

As you all know, we always try to look for different avenues to raise funds and acquire donations for our Center so we would like to draw your attention to the initiative AmazonSmile that we have put in place a while ago. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support ZAH every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to ZAH. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you need to select Zoroastrian Association of Houston as your charity to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. They will remember your charity after that for every visit.

So dear community members, whenever you think of shopping on Amazon please remember to shop on AmazonSmile at http://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-1945923 or https://smile.amazon.com/ and support ZAH. This is a really quick, easy and free money that we are eligible to and need to take full advantage of.

Here are some FAQs that will give you a fairly good idea of how easy it is to make a contribution to ZAH whilst doing something which you have always done.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?
To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to AmazonSmile to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?
Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked “Eligible for AmazonSmile donation” on their product detail pages.

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?
Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How much of my purchase does Amazon donate?
The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. From time to time, we may offer special, limited time promotions that increase the donation amount on one or more products or services or provide for additional donations to charitable organizations. Special terms and restrictions may apply. Please see the relevant promotion for complete details.

Can I receive a tax deduction for amounts donated from my purchases on AmazonSmile?
Donations are made by the AmazonSmile Foundation and are not tax deductible by you.
YESTERDAY’S GIFTS.....TOMORROW’S ASSETS

PRESENTED BY
Zoroastrian Association of Houston
FEZANA Information Research Education System
Society of Scholars of Zoroastrianism

DATE
OCTOBER 11 - 13, 2019

Venue
Zarathushti Heritage and Cultural Center
8787 West Airport Boulevard
Houston, Texas

Full Program Details
www.fires-fezana.org

Registration
$30 for Entire Conference or $10 for Lunch or $20 for Gala Dinner. Lecture attendance free.

For info or RSVP contact Arnavaz Sethna ahsethna@yahoo.com

Professor Almut Hintze

Kersi Bhikhaji Shroff

The past in the present: the ancient Zoroastrian ritual of the Yasna in sound and written word
A Talk By Professor Almut Hintze

Central Asian Arts & Archaeology: Selected Zoroastrian Themes and Sites
A Talk By Kersi Shroff

Zarathushtra’s Vision: Wisdom For The Ages
A Talk By Professor Almut Hintze

Young Mobeds
A Panel Discussion
2019 LECTURE SERIES – PREPARING FOR COLLEGE
SPEAKERS: Dr. Janet K. Allen and Dr. Farrokh Mistree
Sunday, Oct 13, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

ESSAY WRITING
Tips & Pointers

ACT & SAT
Planning and Prep

KEY TOPICS RELATED TO COLLEGE ADMISSIONS
➢ Admission Dos and Don’ts for College
➢ Application Process for Colleges
➢ Questions regarding SAT, ACT, and the Importance of AP courses when securing admissions
➢ Writing your College Essay

SCHOLARSHIP RELATED DISCUSSION
➢ How to apply for Scholarships?
➢ Is the ZAH Scholarship Application Online?
➢ ZAH Scholarship Essay Writing Tips

RSVP: Cyrus Mistry - CyrusMistry123@gmail.com
The Houston Police Department makes available to the citizens of Houston “Surviving An Active Shooter” presentations which incorporate the run, hide, fight principles.

The Active Shooter presentation is approximately 1.5 hours in length and incorporates several videos. It is appropriate for all ages high school and older. This presentation may be arranged at no charge by contacting:

Stephen Daniel
Senior Community Liaison
Public Affairs
Houston Police Department
713-308-3246
Stephen.Daniel@Houstonpolice.org

Emergency 9-1-1
Police Non-Emergency
713-884-3131

For General Information, Contact Your Local Police Station (Numbers Provided Below) or Contact Public Affairs at 713-308-3200

For more information, visit www.houstonpolice.org

Surviving An Active Shooter
Run, Hide, Fight

HOUSTON POLICE STATIONS
Airport-Bush 281-230-6800
Airport-Hobby 713-845-6800
Central 713-247-4400
Clear Lake 281-218-3800
Eastside 713-928-4600
Kingwood 281-913-4500
Midwest 832-394-1200
North 281-405-5300
Northeast 713-635-0200
Northwest 713-744-0900
South Central 832-394-0200
South Gessner 832-394-4700
Southeast 713-731-5000
Southwest 713-314-3900
Special Ops. 832-394-0000
Westside 281-584-4700

Keep Houston SAFE
In an era when senseless killing seems to be far too common, the question is, “if you are the victim of an Active Shooter, will you know what to do?”

How would you defend yourself against an active shooter?

Run — Hide— Fight

Run
- Have an escape route and plan in mind
- Leave your belongings behind
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow
- Help others escape, if possible
- Do not attempt to move wounded people
- Prevent others from entering an area where the active shooter may be
- Keep your hands visible
- Call 911 when you are safe

Hide
- Hide in an area out of the shooter’s view
- Lock the door or block the entry to your hiding place
- Silence your cell phone (including the vibrate mode) and remain quiet

Fight
- Fight as a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger
- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter
- Commit to your actions... your life depends on it

When Law Enforcement Arrives:
- Remain calm and follow instructions
- Put down any items in your hands (i.e., bags, jackets)
- Raise hands and spread fingers
- Keep hands visible at all times
- Avoid quick movements toward officers such as holding on to them for safety
- Avoid pointing, screaming or yelling
- Do not stop to ask officers for help or direction when evacuating

Information to provide to 911 operators:
- Location of the active shooter
- Number of shooters
- Physical description of shooters
- Number and type of weapons in possession of shooters
- Number of potential victims at the location

Additional Safety Instructions:

The first officers to arrive at the scene will not stop to help injured persons. Expect rescue teams to follow the initial officers. These rescue teams will treat and remove the injured.

Once you have reached a safe location, you will likely be held in that area by law enforcement until the situation is under control, and all witnesses have been identified and questioned. Do not leave the area until law enforcement authorities have instructed you to do so.