SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

TIME: Different timings for each group

DATE: August 8, 2021

Children’s Session: The Sunday School session starts at 11.00 a.m. Join in by Zoom

Middle Group: The Sunday School session at 10:00 a.m. - physically & Zoom

Youth Group:

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, August 6 to 15 – Muktad Prayers
Monday, August 16 – Navroze Hambandagi at Atash Kadeh
Saturday, August 21, 2021 – Khordad Sal and Navroze function
Sunday, September 12, 2021 – Carnival – after Sunday School
Friday & Saturday, October 1 & 2 – Library Event
Sunday, October 3, Fasli Mehrgan and Maediozarem Gahambar
Friday, December 31, 2021 – New Year’s Eve Celebrations

REPORT

LIBRARY REPORT
By: Jangoo Mistry

Celebrating Zoroastrian Authors
As mentioned before, the ZAH Library is making plans to organize a gala 2-day event on the weekend of October 1 (Friday) and October 2 (Saturday). It will showcase the wide range of talented authors in the Zoroastrian community in North America. The framework of the program for the two days has been decided, and we can now reveal some more details of what we are planning.

Friday, October 1

The Friday evening program will be devoted to honoring our very own Bapsi Sidhwa who has been recognized worldwide for her contributions to fictional literature. We plan to announce and establish the biennial Bapsi Sidhwa Literary Award for excellence in literature (fiction, or short stories). The main objectives of the award are to recognize the literary production of works written by South Asians and to inspire young writers, especially writers of Zoroastrian background who share Bapsi’s heritage. We seek to remember and celebrate the accomplishments of Bapsi Sidhwa with this award and honor literary
ZAH EXECUTIVE MEMBERS
Dungor, Nozer – Chairman
Gandhi, Kamalrukh
Hormuzdi, Khursheed
Katrak, Percy
Khambatta, Kershaw
Dastur, Khursheed – Secretary
Billimoria, Farokh – Treasurer
FEZANA Rep – Nazanin Sarkari

OUR ERVADS (PRIESTS)
Boomla, Noozar
Buchia, Kyrus
Dastur, Barjor
Dastur, Darius
Desai, Adi
Desai, Farrokh
Firozgary, Bahrom
Gonda, Pervez
Kanga, Neville
Katrak, Rayomand
Katrak, Vispi
Khambatta, 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

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Behramshah Family

expressions that represent the rich characters, setting, and laughter of thoughtful topics found in her novels and essays.

The evening will feature a brief recap of Bapsi’s life and career by Rich Levy, a short video prepared for the evening by Sadiq Uqaili, and a “fireside chat” with Bapsi. The evening will culminate with the formal unveiling of the Bapsi Sidhwa Literary Award. Details on the process to review and judge winners will also be announced at that time. We hope to give out the first award in October 2022 for books published in 2020-2022.

Saturday, October 2
The morning session will feature the prolific author Boman Desai who has just published his new book, “A Googly in the Compound: a novel of the Raj”. Many of you will recall that Boman Desai was featured in our ZAH Library event as the author of his book “Trio” back in 2015. This time, he will do a book reading of his new book and unveil to us a symphony he has written. Listening to this talented artist will be a unique treat for us.

After lunch, four Houston authors will share with us their experiences and struggles encountered in the publication of their work. A moderator will lead them through this interesting discussion.

History of ZAH
The afternoon session will conclude with a presentation and discussion of the history of our Association -- from the early days of its inception to the subsequent additions to the Center, and the establishment of the Atash Kadeh. A small group of three (Arnavaz Sethna, Jehangir Shroff, and Rustom Engineer) has started working on this project which the Library Committee is spearheading. It is interesting to note that Adi Desai was the first recorded Zoroastrian to arrive in Houston as a student at Rice University way back in 1959! An effort like this has been long overdue. We need to record for later generations the history of Zoroastrian Association of Houston and those who had the vision and the foresight to organize the fledgling community when it was just a handful of committed individuals. Our history will also serve as an inspiration and demonstration to other cities of how an Association can be formed and how it can be expected to grow and prosper.

ATASH KADEH REPORT
By Persis Behramsha

The month of July seemed to have been very popular for Machis. Our Mobeds are very happy to perform these and other ceremonies and always ready to be of service.

We were overjoyed that a family from overseas chose to come to Houston to have the Navjote ceremony performed at our Atash Kadeh, for their two children. It was a lovely ceremony and well attended by family members. It was very heartening to hear the children pray beautifully, know about our religion and ask questions with interest.

The month of July ended with the monthly Behram Roj Jashan, which was sponsored by Sanober, Aderbad, Darius & Alyssa Tamboli along with Persis & Naozer Behramsha & family. Sanober and Aderbad were busy with the ongoing Youth Camp that weekend, but they
made time for the Jashan - thank you both. As always, we thank our sponsors for making it easy to continue with this tradition.

The beginning of August brought about a flurry of activities to get ready for the Muktad Prayers, which are now in full swing. The beauty and serenity at the Atash Kadeh is even more enhanced during the Muktad days - the prayers, the flower vases with vibrant colors, the Boye ceremonies, the devotees, and all the Mobeds that pray with their hearts. Please come and visit any time - everyone is welcome.

Just as we were beginning to feel normalcy, we began to see a rise in the Delta Variant cases in and around Houston. We are taking precautions and require Masks inside the Atash Kadeh again.

Special thanks to our dear friend Mahrukh Deputy, who quietly takes it upon herself to care for the many items like polishing and sparkling the Khumchas, cleaning the Candle Holders, laundering the Prayer Sheets so beautifully that they look almost brand new, and the many offers of shopping for supplies, and small gestures that make life easy for us.

We will have Hum Bandagi on Navroze Day, August 16, 2021 at 6 p.m. - please join us.

We also plan to have Hum Bandagi on August 21, 2021 Khordad Saal Day. More details will follow.

Please remember to support the Atash Kadeh so we can continue all our traditions and draw more folks from far and wide and be a prime example of how we can create harmony and togetherness.

For more information please contact us either by email at: AtashKadeh.ZAH@gmail.com or by Phone at: 713-294-7747.

**YOUTH GROUP REPORT**

The Youth event was such a great success that Manashni will be issuing a Special Edition dedicated just to the event. You will see how the idea took root, the entertainment and the mount raised, all planned, organized and implemented by our talented youth
The 2021 Z Camp was held on July 31 & August 1. Due to Covid surge, some adjustments needed to be made. A Manashni Special Edition will be issued shortly giving details of the fun-filled two day activity with more pictures.

OBITUARY

Jamshed Mobed, beloved husband of Roshni Mobed, father of Jarafshan & Tehmus Mistry (New Zealand), Jarafreen & Darius Bharucha and Tanaz Mobed, brother of Perviz Dinshaw Sethna, and grandfather of Yazdy, Xerxes, Nariman, Freyana, Jeremiah, Jade, Zecheriah and Neimian, passed away on August 6, 2021.

LET MY GOOD THOUGHTS REGULATE MY WORDS AND DEEDS, AHURA MAZDA

From Homage Unto Ahura Mazda by Dastur Dr. Maneckji N Dhalla

Neither mountains separate me from thee, nor oceans keep me far from thee. My own evil thoughts keep me aloof from thee. The evil thoughts that emanate from the depths tempt me. Help me to force Akoman's evil thoughts to sleep, the sleep of death.

I will not let my evil thoughts hide thee, Ahura Mazda, from my sight. I will not let my evil words veil thee from my mind. I will not let my evil deeds screen thee from my heart. I will wake at dawn with Vohuman's good thoughts. I will plant the seeds of goodness in the garden of my mind and cultivate it and water it and weed it, until they grow into fragrant thoughts. As the wind of Vayu stirs the trees, so will I make Vohuman's good thoughts stir my soul. I will invoke Vohuman to put good thoughts into my mind. I will think Vohuman's good thoughts. I will live Vohuman's good thoughts in every fiber of my being. I will let Vohuman's good thoughts find expression in my words and deeds.

As thy loyal subject, O King of Kings, faithfully and dutifully will I lay at thy feet my yearly tribute of good thoughts and good words and good deeds.
22nd ANNUAL ZAH CARNIVAL
SUNDAY, September 12, 2021
12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. at the ZHCC

It’s time for our ever popular ZAH Carnival. All items are limited and will be on a “First Come First Serve” basis until stocks last. So please book online when informed and pay by Pay Pal (preferred)

Donations are always welcome

Bring your chairs, SIT IN OUR PARKING LOT to eat or IN THE CENTER, chit chat with friends, play Bingo and enjoy.

Our Middle group, Youth group and others will be selling a variety of snack items like Bhel puri, Cutlets, Samosas, Falooda, Tea, Kulfi and much more

Craft sale by ZAH kids; Rental tables available

Please bring cash or checks for the parking lot goodies

Order Online at the ZAH website when informed the following items and more:

Fish Sahas & Khitchri; Chicken Dhansak & Rice; Shrimp Curry & Rice; Sali Marghi; Kajoo Gos; Chicken Kaleji; Beef Pattice; Fish Chutney Cutlets; Goat Meat Kabobs; Beef Rolls; Grilled Chicken Tikka legs; Grilled Chicken Tikka Breasts; Paapri; Potato Poori; Akoori Masala; Parsi Custar; Mithai

If you have any questions, please call Arzin Italia, 713-679-4998 or Yasmin Medhora, 713-301-1521