SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

TIME: Different timings for each group

DATE: October 10, 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

Disclaimer and Authorizations – When attending any events at ZHCC premises, please abide by all the State of Texas and Harris County regulations prevalent on the day. The attendee(s) will NOT hold ZAH or any board member or the organizer(s), responsible for any COVID-19 related or any other sickness, accidents and/or mishaps either to themselves, to their vehicles or any other vehicle(s), person(s) and/or property. All the rules, regulations and disclaimers are effective upon members entering ZHCC premises on the "day of the event" and shall remain effective until they leave the ZHCC premises that day.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, October 10, Fasli Mehrgan and Maediozarem Gahambar Flyer attached

Friday, December 31, 2021 – New Year’s Eve Celebrations

LIBRARY – BOOK REVIEW

By: Aban Rustomji


In her newly launched biography of the Parsi Community, titled ‘The Tatas, Freddie Mercury and Other Bawas’ (published by Westland), Delhi-based journalist and author, Coomi Kapoor shares an engaging and intimate history of the Parsi community, highlighting prominent personalities, stories, achievements and the continuing successes of our minuscule but exceptional community. Coomi delves deep into exploring the essence of what it means to be a Parsi in India, and how integral the community and its contributions are to India.
The infamous controversy between Ratan Tata and Cyrus Mistry seemed to have spurred Coomi Kapoor into getting on with the biography, which explores the history of the community through its most prominent names, and how they transformed cities with their entrepreneurial genius.

A good part of the book explores the Tata-Mistry controversy. The history of India, over the last century or so, is filigreed by the contributions of Parsis in every field, including nuclear physics, music, industry, arts, medicine, military, law, et al, with personalities like Dadabhai Naoroji, Dinshaw Petit, Homi Bhabha, Sam Manekshaw, Jamsetji Tata, Ardeshir Godrej, Cyrus Poonawalla, Zubin Mehta and Farrokh Bulsara (aka Freddie Mercury). The cast of characters in her book is as wide as it’s varied, from businessmen, lawyers, doctors, academicians, to politicians, including the unassuming Feroze Gandhi overshadowed by wife Indira Gandhi; cultural mascots – Zubin Mehta and Freddie Mercury; Lovji Nusserwanjee Wadia – Nusli Wadia’s descendant and founder of Bombay’s shipping industry.

The role of Parsi women in education, philanthropy, the arts and even in India’s independent struggle, offers interesting insights into their early emancipation. Amongst them is mentioned the Bombay-born revolutionary leader, Bhikhaiji Cama, known for unfurling the precursor of the Indian flag at a conference in Germany, almost 40 years before the country won its Independence! Coomi Kapoor articulates the story of Parsis as incident-filled adventures – from dominating the trade with China to becoming synonymous with Bombay, once, arguably, a city defined by its Parsis… from the business success of the Tatas, Mistrys, Godrejs and Wadias to such current contributions as the manufacturing of COVID-19 vaccines by the Parsi-founded Serum Institute of India (SII). The numbers of the Parsi community may be dwindling, but since our arrival in India from Persia, centuries ago, the community’s contribution to our adopted home has been extraordinary.

(Parsi Times 17th July 2021)

ATASH KADEV REPORT – AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2021
By Persis Behramsha
It is hard to believe that we are already into the tenth month of 2021!

October 2021 Behram Roj Jashan is sponsored by families of Meher & Gev Anklesaria, Diana & Adil Balsara, Lyla & Raymie Daroga, Farzana & Kayomarz Sidhwa and Farzana & Darius Wania. Thank you for your support to help us continue with the monthly Behram Roj Jashans.

We will soon be celebrating the Fasli Mehrgan and Maedyo Gahambar on Sunday October 10, 2021 generously sponsored by Thrity, Kersi, Zubin, Mona, Zaran, Grecy, and Zarius Engineer. Jashan Prayers will be held at the Atash Kadeh, followed by lunch at the ZAH Center.

Friends, Donors and Sponsors do wonders for the Atash Kadeh. They facilitate and support the monthly sponsored Behram Roj Jashans, offer Machis, request private Jashans, and visit as often as possible, individually, and in groups. Families regularly dedicate their time cleaning the prayer halls, and it seems that Sukhar, Loban, and much...
needed items somehow magically get donated when there is a dire need. Hutrish and Jamshed Irani, many thanks to both of you for donating large amounts of Sukhar throughout the year.

To all those that regularly attend our Zoom weekend Boye prayers, it is always great to see you. We are happy that our out-of-town guests can feel as though they are physically present.

We will soon be announcing the After Life Prayers rate plans and program since we have received many inquiries regarding that.

Our Mobeds Maneck Sidhwa and Pervez Gonda are always at your service. They are happy to accommodate Machis and Jashans remotely for anyone who yearns to offer prayers but cannot be physically present. If anyone wishes to attend the Weekend Boye Prayers, Behram Roj Jashans, Gahambar Jashans, Muktad Prayers via Zoom, please save the perpetual link given below or access it through the Atash Kadeh tab on the ZAH.ORG website, where you will find more information like rates, schedules, etc..

ZOOM LINK: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4192191997?pwd=JASHAN
Zoom meeting ID: 4192191997
Password: JASHAN

On an amusing note - Aban Rustomji, we thank you for playing the Pony Express between the ZAH Center and the Atash Kadeh for all the requested package deliveries between both the buildings. We know you must be happy to get all those 10,000 steps for your daily quota!

May Ahura Mazda keep our Atash Kadeh blessed continuously.

Please email AtashKadeh.ZAH@gmail.com or call Persis Behramsha 713-294-7747, for any questions or more information

The Atash Kadeh Committee

YOUTH GROUP REPORT
By: Roshni Chikhliwala
ZAH Youth Group Vice President

On September 12th, 2021, the youth group participated in the Annual ZAH Carnival. The youth group sold Beef Samosas, Beef Seek/Sheesh kabobs, and Chicken Cutlets. We made approximately $265 net profit.

A special note of thanks to the following folks: Khursheed Hormuzdi, who generously went out of her way to order and picked up the food items and Kermeen Kanga for bringing the rotli. On the day of the Carnival, the youth group showed up early, set up the tables, and ran the stalls. Thank you to all the youth parents for their support and donations.

Please come out for the Youth Group Blood Drive on October 10th during the Gahambar.

Finally, a big thank you to our Mentors, Teachers, and the Youth Group Officers and members.
22nd ANNUAL ZAH CARNIVAL

The 22nd Annual ZAH Carnival was held on Sunday, September 12, 2021 and it was a great success. A total of $10,051/- was donated to the ZAH (Food & Other $7,500+ and Cash donations $2,500+). Thanks to each and every one of you who attended the Carnival, cooked food, purchased food online or at the Carnival, made craft items and volunteered time. Some families drove by to pick up their pre-ordered food and left. The others bought snacks, enjoyed catching up with their friends and enjoyed the entertaining music rolled by our dear Gary. Due to the current situation everyone wore masks and no games were played for the kids.

This year 18 food items were placed on the ZAH website for pre-order purchase. All food items were cooked and donated by various families mentioned here: Tanaaz & Edul Chikhliwala prepared Fish Sas and Khitchri, Turkey Pattie and Paatra Fish; Jasmine & Yazdi Mistry Chicken Dhansak and Rice; Diana Balsara Chicken Curry; Yasmin Engineer Rice for curry; Minaz & Nozer Dungor Sali Marghi; Roshan Gazdar Chicken Haleem and rotli; Farzana Sidhwa Chicken Kaleji; Khursheed Dastur Goat Meat Kabobs; Rustom & Fiona Setna Grilled Chicken Tikka legs and Breast; Persis Behramsha French Beans and Fried Fish; Arnavaaz Vakharia from Dallas Paapi with Meat Balls & rotli; Kamal Unwalla Rai Potatoes; Tannaz Machhi Poories for potatoes and rotlies; Delna Minwalla Masoor; Yasmin Engineer & Yasmin Medhora Egg Chutney Pattie (prepared by Gulmohar); Tehmi Dastoor and Amna Mistry Parsi Custard and Yasmin Medhora Mithai boxes (pista, saffron and kopra).

All the above food was first sorted by item and then bags were put together according to each person’s order. This stall was manned by Parniaz Vimadalal, Yazdi & Jasmine Mistry, Parveen Irani, Arzin & Sorab Italia, Minaz & Nozer Dungor, Khursheed & Barjor Dastur, Roshan Behramasha, Zia Anklesaria, Dilnaz Mory and many others.

The snacks sold on the day of the Carnival, not mentioned above, were prepared and/or donated by Becky Byramji (Beef Cutlets - BBQ Village); Roshan & Percy Behramsha (Falooda); Yasmin Medhora Mango, Pista and Mint Chocolate Chip Kulfies; Jasmin & Percy Katrak Bhelpuri and Dahi Batata Poori dry ingredients; Yasmin Medhora prepared spicy and sweet chutnies; Nergish Davier, Pervin Sidhwa and Zarina Elavia boiled & cut potatoes 5 lbs each; Kershaw & Cyra Byramjee cut kothmir, chillies, onions, etc. for Bhelpuri stall. Nergish Davier, Pervin Sidhwa, Dilnaz Mory, Minaz Dungor and Nargis Cooper helped at the Bhelpuri stall. Arzin Italia manned the miscellaneous food stall.

The Rustomji room was the place to be! Youth group kids sold Beef Shish Kabobs, Beef Samosas, Chicken Cutlets and donated $625/-. Khursheed Hormuzdi bought items from Farida behn with youth group funds; Middle group kids donated $409/- to ZAH by selling Goat Biryani, Mava Cakes, Water, Tea and Sodas. Banafsheh Mondegarian donated Mava Cakes and the parents chipped in for the rest of the items. The kids took care of their booths. Thanks to all the parents of the Sunday School groups and their teachers for helping out throughout the Carnival.
Asho Farohars were hand made by Cyrus Desai and donated $210/-. Ariana Anklesaria helped him in spray painting some of the farohars. Cyrus and Delna Surveyor made wooden projects, bead magnets, etc. and donated $569/-. Thanks to the Surveyor and Desai parents for encouraging their children to fund raise for ZAH. Bingo is always fun. Tannaz Machhi and Khursheed Hormuzdi assisted with the Bingo games. The 2 first prizes were donated by Naushad Mehta; 2nd prizes by Zia Anklesaria and 3rd prizes by Yasmin Medhora. Diana Balsara put up the décor items and signs on the walls; Khursheed Dastur printed all the to go food bag labels. The setup in the parking lot was done by Arzin, Sorab, Nerius and Khushroo Vimadalal. The Rental stalls were interesting - Rashna Oak sold handmade envelopes and cards; Mitra Khumbatta and Zubin Mistry sold chocolates by Moderately Cool Baking Company and Delna Minwalla sold curry masala, jams and pickles.

Since cars is one of Nerius Mehta’s passion, he wanted to share it with all at ZAH. He said “it is always a fun experience when people see nice cars and an even better when one gets to sit and ride along with the car owner”. Hence Nerius convinced the following owners to give car rides around the Center: Arish Rustomji Ferrari 812 Superfast; Khushrav Nariman Mercedes Benz AMG GT S; Kershaw Khumbatta Aston Martin DB11 and Rayhan Nariman Tesla Model S P100D. Everyone who bought tickets thoroughly enjoyed the rides.

$405/- from this stall was donated to ZAH and will be used for future basketball court upgrades.

All proceeds collected by each stall on the day of the Carnival were directly given to the assigned Accountant for that day Barjor Dastur. Later the accounting of the carnival was given to our ZAH Treasurer, Farokh Billimoria. Thanks for the support of the web team rep. Kayo Sidhwa for setting up the website, monitoring the site at least twice a day for deleting the duplicate entries immediately, work on issues and sending reports to the Entertainment Committee reps. Thanks also to Arna and Khursheed for sending the several reminders via eblasts.

Last but not the least ZAH appreciates the generosity of the following families for their cash donations: Annonymous, Naozer Behramsha, Kershaw Byramji, Homi & Nargis Cooper, Rashmi Desai, Rohinton & Maharukh Deputy, Farida & Neville Divecha, Aloow Dubash/Tata, Kersi & Thrity Engineer, Homi Erani, Zenobia Guzder, Shernaz Mama, Jehanbux & Shireen Mehta, Farida Merchant, Dina Mody, Zubin Mory, Yasmin & Shapur Pavri, Arish Rustomjy.

THANK YOU          MERCI          GRACIAS
(More Pictures on Pge10 & 11)
Recognizing our Achiever!

Rayomand Katrak was born in India but spent most of his childhood growing up in Houston, TX. From a young age, he was very involved with the Zoroastrian Association of Houston; Rayomand became an Ervad at age 12 and has continued to perform his duties till this day. He was also an active member of the Youth Group through various leadership roles and became the president his senior year of high school.

Rayomand then attended Baylor University in Waco, Texas and graduated with a B.S. in Health Science Studies and minor in Biology in 2017. During his time there, he continued to grow his leadership skills, as he held multiple officer positions, notably president of the Indian Subcontinent Student Association. In addition to his leadership roles, Rayomand continued to serve the community around him and won the “Outstanding Service Coordinator” award from Baylor University in 2015. In 2018, Rayomand started his current journey at Texas A&M University Health Science Center as a medical student. Despite being busy with medical school, he helped found “Dare to Dream”, a tutoring program for elementary school children to help them prepare for their STARR exams. He is the current service chair for the Houston campus and was selected to be a member of the Gold Humanism Honor Society.

Rayomand is a fourth-year medical student currently applying to family medicine residency programs. He was recently awarded the FEZANA Jerry and Celeste 30th Anniversary Endowed Scholarship for 2021. He could not have come this far without the emotional and financial support from the Zoroastrian community that has continued to encourage his academic career. Thank you to everyone who helped him get this far!

YOUR TEAM LEGACY
HOMI DAVIER, VISPI SAGAR, FARZAD SUNAVALA

SHOP USING AMAZON SMILE AND SUPPORT ZAH

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support ZAH every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you are shopping for anything on Amazon please do the following:

1. Go to ZAH.org
2. On Left side of Page there is a link to go to Amazon smile. Click on this link
3. When you are taken to the smile.Amazon.com page you will be asked to choose your Charity.
4. Type ‘Zoroastrian Association of Houston’ in the search bar. Then select it when it appears.
5. You will then be automatically taken to the Smile page
6. If you are using Google Chrome as your browser on a MAC then they will ask you to install an extension. Say Yes. This extension will automatically take you to the Amazon smile page whenever you open your browser.
On March 27th Madeleine Kapsalis, founder of Interfaith Teens, reached out to the ZAH asking for a teen who would be willing to put together a video on Zoroastrianism. Kaemerz Dotiwala and Nozer Dungor, the Youth Group teachers, assigned this task to Neville Kanga and Mahtab B. Dastur.

The first step for Neville and Mahtab was to reach out to Madeleine, and understand what she was looking for. After receiving the questions she wanted answered, Neville and Mahtab split the questions in half and bounced potential answers and ideas off each other. After months of researching and debating the different ways to put this video together, they decided to make a PowerPoint presentation which would explain Zoroastrianism and its characteristics. Finally, on August 1st, they sent Madeleine the completed video. It was met with “What a wonderful presentation on Zoroastrianism! Thank you SO much! The presentation is a great way of helping teens understand Zoroastrianism!”. Since then it has been distributed to fellow members of ZAH, and has been received with astounding reviews and high praise.

Neville and Mahtab understand that their religion is unique and they hope that their video will help others understand Zoroastrianism, and allow fellow Zoroastrians to be even more proud of their faith!

This video as well as a link to the website, Interfaith Teens, is attached below - please feel free to watch and share with others!

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yDvA0y0DfDxA3mFvYRXivQjezDSe-li/view
https://www.ifteens.org/religions.html

THE PATH TO SELF EMPOWERMENT - MY MEDITATIONS WITH GRANDMA – BY TENAZ SUNAVAŁA

Mark Twain said “The most important days of your life are the day you are born and the day you find your purpose”. I feel grateful and blessed to have found both.

My book, ‘The Path to Self Empowerment - My Meditations with Grandma’ is available on Amazon - worldwide. It is available in paperback and Kindle!

The book is my journey of self-discovery and wisdom and the quest to find the 4 keys of life to the Path of Self Empowerment. Acceptance, Gratitude, Forgiveness and Self Love. We often forget that in order to empower others, we must first empower ourselves. These four keys are essential to unlock and maneuver our own personal and spiritual growth and welcome endless possibilities. Balancing our physical realities form healthy mindsets! The message of the book will resonate with all of us - especially in these forever changing times.

To buy click here https://tenazsunavala.com/

In addition, Tenaz conducts Meditation and Self Empowerment workshops and sessions. To learn more, read her blog and to reach out to Tenaz, please visit her website!
Click on this link: https://worldtabletennis.com/description?articleId=610

WORLD TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS FINAL

The World Table Tennis Championships Final are going to be held in Houston, TX from November 23-29 (Thanksgiving Weekend). This is a premier international event and being organized in USA for the first time. In fact, it is the first time outside of Europe and Asia!!

Here is the flyer with link for the event and how to purchase tickets.

2021 WORLD TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW

Be a part of history when the World Table Tennis Championships come to the Americas for the first time ever. Watch the action unfold in Houston, Texas, as the world’s best table tennis players compete for a world title at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

Nov. 23 – Nov. 29, 2021

But hurry! Tickets are limited, so purchase TODAY!

Questions? Email tickets@houstonsports.org or call 713-308-5920 WorldTableTennis.com

AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR AT THE CENTER

By: Arnavaz Sethna

Monday morning, October 4 began as usual. However, upon my return from our daily walk, I got a frantic call from our cleaning lady at the Center. All I could get from her Spanish rattle were the words “animales”, “photo” and “mensaje”. So I checked my messages and sure enough Banessa had sent a picture of toilet paper strewn about in thick layers.

Since I couldn’t see any animal, we both started using google translator. I asked her if it were a “rato” or “serpiente” and she wrote back “es como tacuache” after a couple of more messages, I finally figured out that it was a possum, and she was very scared that it might bite her. OMG. Think fast, Arna, think fast. Blink!! Yezdi.

Called our ever-ready, ever-obliging Yezdi Engineer and explained the situation. He quickly went to the Center. From there he sent a clearer picture. The critter had made a nice bed from the toilet roll paper – one full roll and a half.

Between Yezdi and Banessa, they started pushing the Possum on his toilet roll bed towards the exit door by the kitchen. Yezdi said the critter enjoyed the free ride and just sat there, at times even sleeping. By the door, the bed got ruffled by the mat and the little critter tumbled out. That was his cue to run away.

Yezdi checked out the Center for any openings through which this Possum could have come but he couldn’t find any. His advice

“PLEASE KEEP THE DOORS CLOSED ALL THE TIME”

Yezdi – we can’t thank you enough.
SPORTS COMMITTEE – Sheroy Haveliwala
To all you parents who want to have their kids get interested in cricket, and learn how to play it well.

PROFESSIONAL LEVEL CRICKET COACHING
with Hara Cricket Academy @ India House

Fees: $200 / Student For 8 Sessions | Boys & Girls Age 7 - 14

(50% of the fees will be refunded upon successful completion of the course)

Experienced Coaches with training from
Brijesh Patel’s Cricket Academy (India) and Joe Root’s Academy (UK).

HARA’s Consulting Head Coach Biju George, was India’s National Women’s
Team’s Coach, IPL Coach (Sunrisers Hyderabad & Kolkata Knightriders)

Participants (Boys & Girls) have great opportunity to make it to the
US Cricket national level team

Interested participant will be selected / referred
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Coaching from HARA Cricket Academy includes agility, fitness,
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Limited Seats.
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Link to enroll: https://www.indiahouseinc.org/makepayment/
MORE PICTURES OF THE CARNIVAL

Bingo Table

Bhel Puri – Group Effort

Craft, Food & Beverage – Middle Grp

Chocolatiers

Home-made envelopes & Greeting Cards

Chauffeur Driven Car Rides *for a price*

SOME ATTENDEES
MORE PICTURES OF THE CARNIVAL

From out of town Dallas & Boston

D J GARY
FASLI MEHRGAN AND MAEDIOZAREM GAHAMBAR

SUNDAY OCTOBER 10, 2021     JASHAN STARTS AT 11:00 A.M.

JASHAN PRAYERS WILL BE HELD AT THE ATASH KADEH

LIMITED CAPACITY     NO WALK-INS

Masks required indoors except while actively eating or drinking. For anyone over Age 12 please attend only if fully vaccinated to help protect yourself and our ZAH Family and Friends.

RSVP LINK WILL BE PROVIDED SHORTLY

If registered by Sunday October 3rd, 2021
Members: Ages 11 & Up: $11; Ages 4-10: $7
Non-Members: Ages 11 & Up: $16; Ages 4-10: $10
Ages 3 & Under Gratis
Starting Monday October 4th, 2021 Rates $16 & $10

GAHAMBAR SPONSORED BY:
KERSI, THRITY, ZUBIN, MONA
ZARAN, GRECY &
ZARIUS ENGINEER

ZAH COMMUNITY GRATEFULLY THANKS OUR ERVADS FOR PERFORMING THE GAHAMBAR JASHAN

** Membership rate applies if 2021 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.

For questions please contact:
Arzin Italia (713) 679-4998

Organized by: ZAH Entertainment Committee