SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

TIME: Different timings for each group

DATE: September 12, 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:

Disclaimer and Authorizations - 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, September 12, 2021 – Carnival – after Sunday School

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

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

REPORT

LIBRARY REPORT
By: Jangoo Mistry

Celebrating Zoroastrian Authors - Event Postponed
As mentioned before, the ZAH Library was making plans to organize a gala 2-day event on the weekend of October 1 and October 2. It was organized to showcase the wide range of talented authors in the Zoroastrian community in North America.

During the event, we planned to announce and establish the bi-annual “Bapsi Sidhwa Award” in her presence. The award, for excellence in literature by a Zoroastrian author, was to include a trophy and cash award of $1,000 to be awarded bi-annually. In addition, various Zoroastrian authors were to be featured over the two days.

Unfortunately, Covid is still very much with us, and conducting a live event with people in close proximity is not a safe proposition. The Library Committee has therefore decided, at their September meeting, that going forward with our plans would not be in the interest of attendees, putting them potentially in harm’s way. The event is postponed till a later date when the program can be safely executed.

Most of the work for the event has already been done and we are going to continue working with a few remaining items so that we are
First Day of Muktad

Totally ready to have the event as soon as things improve. Work on the “History of ZAH”, which was also to be presented at the event, will also continue.

We apologize for the postponement and are looking forward to announcing the event in the near future.

Oral Histories Update

A reminder: All oral histories of our Zoroastrian first-generation members can be accessed by simply going to Google and typing in Houston Archive followed by the name of the person whose life story you are interested in listening. For example, “Houston Archive Rohinta Deputy” will bring up Rohinta’s oral history. While the earlier interviews are in audio mode only, most recent interviews are in video format. Do learn about the fascinating experiences and struggles of our fellow members and the legacy they leave behind for their family and friends. If you are inspired to record your history as well, contact Aban Rustomji or Jangoo Mistry and we will help you make it happen.

Atash Kadeh Report – August-September 2021

By Persis Behramsha

August started off with the Holy Muktad days. Preparations were in full swing for flowers, fruits, nuts and everything necessary for the prayers. We continued to Zoom prayers to enable everyone to participate. Hum Bandagi followed the daily prayers. Each day we gathered outside the Atash Kadeh for Chasni; each day we were thankful for a wonderful place to have the Holy Prayers and appreciate the serenity and its sanctity.

Our wonderful Mobeds started their days very early and were the last ones to leave. Mobeds Pervez Gonda, Maneck Sidhwa, Khushrav Nariman, Noshir Khumbatta and Neville Kanga, we are so grateful to you all - we could not accomplish this without your dedication and willingness.

The culmination of these days is only possible with the immense degree of volunteerism from so many.

Thank you to the following families who willingly gave their time to contribute towards the daily Malido, Satum Food and refreshment: Shernaz & Feroze Bhandara, Persis & Naozer Behramsha, Rushna & Nauzer Billimoria, Bakhtawar & Kershaw Byramji, Nargis & Homi Cooper, Mahrukh & Rohinta Deputy, Yasmin & Rustom Engineer, Villoo & Pervez Gonda, Nazneen & Kershaw Khumbatta, Yasmin Medhora, Maneck & Khushrav Nariman, Ketu Tamboli, and to Anav Bhathena, Zarina Elavia, Arzin Italia and Pervin Sidhwa for your offer to make Malido. Such amazing generosity from everyone!

We concluded the Muktad prayers with Pachhli Raat Prayers at 4 am early morning on August 16, 2021. We celebrated Navroze Evening with Hum Bandagi as we have done in the past with Arnavaz Sethna leading the prayers. Vehishta Kaikobad happily read the translations over Zoom where many others joined to celebrate.

We celebrated Khordad Saal with a special Ham Bandagi after the evening Boye ceremony. Once again Arnavaz Sethna was ready and willing to lead the prayers and Monajat. Mobed Maneck Sidhwa, Shernaz Bhandara, Kaemerz Dotiwalla, Vehishta Kaikobad, and Nazneen Khumbatta joined in to make it more festive.
Farvardegan (Mah Farvardin Roj Farvardin) prayers were special this year. We had added participation from our out-of-town guests Feroza Jussawalla of Albuquerque NM, Armin & Eric Karanjawala of New Jersey, and Vira and Arzan Mehta of Dallas TX, along with Shernaz & Feroze Bhandara, Nargis & Homi Cooper and Nazneen & Kershaw Khumbatta of Houston. Thank you all for joining together to sponsor this Jashan. Special thanks to Mobed Noshir Khumbatta for accompanying Mobed Maneck Sidhwa. 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.

September 2021 Behram Roj Jashan was sponsored by Pearline & Sarosh Collector family who are ready and on standby to happily fill in any void. You inspire us with your willingness to give freely - thank you. Special thanks to Mobeds Khushroo Vimadalal and Zubin Kotwal for accompanying Mobed Maneck Sidhwa.

Everyone is welcome to the Atash Kadeh. Please email AtashKadeh_ZAH@gmail.com or Phone 713-294-7747, for more information.

The Atash Kadesh Committee

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MISCELLANEOUS

PARTICIPATE IN THIS ONCE IN A LIFETIME PROJECT

ZAH has been invited to participate in a Legacy Project, “Zoroastrian Footprints Worldwide” https://wzc2022.nyc/footprints/. It will be highlighted and featured at the 12th World Zoroastrian Congress to be held in NYC July 1 - 4, 2022.

“Zoroastrian Footprints Worldwide” aims to document a brief history of every Zoroastrian Community worldwide through photographs, and all Zoroastrian related buildings/structures within these communities including the history of these structures. A user-friendly website will be provided for the input of the collected data.

We at ZAH are always a step ahead. A ZAH history project is already in the works. We also have a wealth of pictures and images that are available on ZAH Library google drive. And we need web savvy people to upload the material on the portal.

We would like to invite YOU to volunteer to work on this project. Our first meeting will be held mid-September to set up a timeline and tasks to be undertaken.

I hope to hear from you.

Aban Rustomji - aban@coatingindustries.com
Nozer Dungor
Nazanin Sarkari
BIRTH

Ruth Nergesh Mistree, born 8lb 5 oz - to Behram Mistree and Kristen Lurie, on September 7, 2021 in Sunnyvale, California. Grandparents Farrokh & Yashfara Mistree, Uncle Dinshaw Mistree, Aunt Fareeza Doctor and cousin Hormazd D. Mistree, happily welcomed the new arrival in their family.

PAKISTAN DAY AWARDS – ROSHAN BHARUCHA
Excerpted from Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf
North West Central region, Balochistan

Mrs Roshan Khursheed Bharucha was awarded “Sitara_e_Imtiaz (Star of Excellence) for her dedication, commitment and services in the field of Social Services. The Press Release states, in part, “… this award is … a blessing for the entire public of Quetta Balochistan, we will extend our deep cooperation, full support and will stand shoulder to shoulder on her vision.”

Roshan is the mother of ZAH Members Sharaine Vakil and Thrity Eric Engineer.

TEACH ME TO PRAY AHURA MAZDA
From: Homage Unto Ahura Mazda
By Dastur Dr. M. N. Dhalla

Prayer transforms my inner life, Ahura Mazda. It creates me anew. I rise from my prayer refreshed and strong, active in body and agile of mind, enlivened of heart and quickened in spirit. I rise a better man with a radiant countenance, purified thought, tranquil mind, clear heart and buoyant spirit. I pass into religious exaltation.

Let me not pray amiss and let me not say my prayer perfunctorily. I cannot pray amid the distractions of my mind. Help me to control my mind and bring it back from aimless wanderings and recall it in thy presence and concentrate on thee. Give me strength to pray with a single and an undivided mind.

Incline thy ear unto me, Ahura Mazda, when I pray. Feeble are my words, but they rise spontaneously from my heart. I will pray with devotion swelling up from my heart to my lips. My lips will speak the language of my heart and express with my tongue what is hidden in my heart. My heart and soul go out to thee in prayer.

I shall not neglect my prayers, for it starves my higher nature and spells my spiritual impoverishment. I will begin and end my day with prayer and with devotion behind my prayer. I will pray with a resolve to lead a righteous and a Zoroastrian life, Ahura Mazda.
Dear Friends, with your support of my Spring Fundraiser this year, I was able to raise over $10,000 for our future ZAKOI (Zoroastrian Association of Kentucky, Ohio & Indiana) Center. These fundraisers each year, are taking our community closer to our goal, and I cannot even express how incredibly grateful I am for all your support. Thank you all most sincerely! We know that with the progress we are making, it is a matter of a few more years before we have our own ZAKOI Worship Center.

I have some great news for this fundraiser! There is an anonymous donor who has most graciously agreed to match my fundraiser earnings up to $10,000!!!!! So, if I am able to earn $10,000 again in this fundraiser, the impact will double with this generous matching donation, and $20,000 will be raised for our ZAKOI Worship Center. SO PLEASE SUPPORT MY FUNDRAISER GENEROUSLY!

Once again, I'm reaching out to you to please support my 2021 FALL Fundraiser, to continue to raise funds for our future ZAKOI Worship Center. I have once again a list of some delicious treats you can serve for the holidays as well as beautiful silk scarves with Floral prints and Zoroastrian Asho Farohar Motifs. These products can be great gifts to put into Holiday gift baskets for your friends and family! Please see all the items listed below that are for sale this fundraiser.

The treats for sale are:

1. Badam ni Boi is for $20
2. 1 Box of Toots (1 lb) for $20
3. Bhakras are $20 for a doz
4. Mava Cakes $36 / doz (or half Dozen for $18)
5. Vasanu $37/lb
6. Badam Pak or Kaju Pak $45/lb
7. Batasas $35/lb
8. Homemade Dhansak Masala Powder 220 gm jar $35 (you don't need other spices to make dhansak dar except this. You can use this to cook meats, vegetables, other dals, etc. You can use a sprinkling of this as a final garnish to any dish. You can add sprinkling of this in your Vegetable or Meat biryani rice as well.)
9. Homemade dry (no refrigeration) Curry masala kit $50 (you can make curry from this kit for as little as 2-3 people or up to 12 people)
10. Homemade masala for frying or baking fish/shrimp, or eggplant slices - 220 gm jar $35
11. Parsi Pickles & Chutneys made by E. H. Kolaas in packages: 400 gm package $32; 200 gm package $22 (these only come in Bombay duck and Prawn pickles)

We will try our best to get your favorite flavors but there’s no guarantee we can get all these flavors.
The Pickle flavors are lagan nu Carrots & Raisins, Mango gor keri, Mango Methiyu, Lemon, Bombay Duck, Lemon-Chillies, Mixed Vegetables, Prawns, Green Chillies.

The Chutney flavors are Lemon & Dates, Mango-Raisin, Mango Murabba, Mango Chhunda, Garlic Chutney.

Avanne Silk Scarves with Florals and Zoroastrian motifs (see pictures in the attached pdf) - $75 each (you can specify which one you want. Quantities are limited, so order early).

**Shipping and Handling:**
I will use the most reasonable mailing source for you. A medium size priority mail flat rate box costs $16, and the large flat rate box costs $22. I may also use a plastic container to pack the mava cupcakes, the batasas and the bhakras, to keep them intact in transit, which will cost under $5 for packing cost.

Please feel free to contact me directly with your orders. My contact info is bfdesai@aol.com, and ph 513-560-0581 (text or call)

**Payment:** Checks can be made to Bakhtavar Desai, or you can send payments to me via PayPal, Venmo, or Zelle. If you wish to just send a donation, you can make check to 'ZAKOI CENTER FUND', or use any of the other payment methods, too. I'll send you a tax-deductible receipt as soon as I can.

**Deadline** to receive your orders: 10th October 2021 for everything else, but 30th September for Achars/Chutneys, & LED Candles/Candleholders. I WILL GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR HELP IN SENDING IN ORDERS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. It takes time to make the items, so the earlier I receive the orders, the better.

I will start processing shipment of all orders from first week of November.

Please celebrate a joyous Thanksgiving & Holiday Season by supporting this fundraiser and using and gifting our products:

Thanking you all once again, and many good wishes to all of you for a Happy Fall Season!

Bakhtavar Desai
President, ZAKOI
bfdesai@aol.com
513-560-0581
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

We request you RSVP and pay online for this event

Organized by: ZAH Entertainment Committee