



**MANASHNI SPONSORED BY**  
**SETHNA FINANCIAL GROUP LLC, ZARIR J. SETHNA, CLU®, ChFC®, LUTCF®**  
**WWW.SETHNAFINANCIALGROUP.COM**  
**OFFICE 713-963-4229**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

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

**TIME:** Different timings for each group

**DATE:** January 13, 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 **11.00 a.m.**



**Youth Group:** Sarosh Collector,  
Kaamerz Dotiwalla conduct this session.



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**2019**

**Thursday, January 17, 2019 – Library organized Museum visit**  
**Saturday, February 2, 2019 – Jashn-e-Sadeh – Details given**  
**Sunday, February 10, 2019 – Interfaith Event at ZHCC**  
**Sunday, March 10, 2019 – ZAH Annual General Meeting**  
**NoRouz & other March Events – Dates to be announced**  
**Saturday, April 6, 2019 – Surviving an Active Shooter Training**  
**See below for timing**  
**Sunday, April 14, 2019 – ZAH Annual Carnival**

**REPORTS**

***Library Committee Report – by Aban Rustomji***



Happy New Year!

2019 promises to be an exciting year for all of us as we look forward to the opening of the Atash Kadeh in March. Several committees are meeting and planning for this historic event and the library will be featuring a novel exhibit.

We may be calling on you for loan of display materials.

A specially designed tour, conducted by Vehishta Kaikobad, *Garden Paradise: the magnificent Safavid carpet from the Burrell Collection, Glasgow*, is scheduled at the MFAH on January 17, at 6:00 pm. Join us on a remarkable global and educational journey as we glimpse at visions of Paradise. See flyer for details.

We continue to meet monthly, catalog books, answer queries, and plan for upcoming events. A special thank you for the community's support

***Youth Group Report - By Cyrus Mistry***

Happy New Year 2019 to all Manashni Readers!!! Here's what's happening with your Youth Group...

In December 2018, we, as the ZAH Youth Group, hosted the 2018 Christmas Party for the youth, middle, and elementary groups. We decorated our new Christmas tree, played games such as musical chairs, and danced to Christmas music. Elementary and middle group members exchanged Christmas gifts, while the youth group played White Elephant.

## EC MEMBERS 2018

Daroga, Lyla  
Dungor, Nozer  
Haveliwalla, Sheroy – Chairman  
Katrak, Jasmine  
Sethna, Sweta  
Khumbatta, Mitra – Treasurer  
Master, Percy – Secretary

Mistry, Jangoo – ZAH Representative to  
FEZANA

## YOUTH GROUP OFFICERS 2018 - 2019

Sidhwa, Yazad – President  
Mistry, Cyrus – Vice President  
Italia, Zara – Treasurer  
Mehta, Natalya – Secretary  
Hormuzdi, Dina – Historian  
Master, Zubin – Web Master

## MIDDLE GROUP OFFICERS 2018 – 2019

Italia, Zal – President  
Kanga, Neville – Vice President  
Chikhlwala, Roshni – Secretary  
Kanga, Natasha – Treasurer  
Dungor, Natasha – Historian

## OUR ERVADS (PRIESTS)

Boomla, Noozar  
Buchia, Kyrus  
Dastur, Barjor  
Dastur, Darius  
Desai, Adi  
Desai, Farokh  
Firozgary, Bahrom  
Gonda, Pervez  
Kanga, Neville  
Katrak, Rayomand  
Katrak, 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

Youth group members brought cookies, ice creams and some yummy treats and drinks for all to share. Pizza was donated by our very own Minaz Aunty and Nozer Uncle Dungor, and the Youth Group would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their generosity and thoughtfulness. All who attended the Christmas Party had a wonderful time.

In Jan 2019, the Youth group is going camping to Martin Dies Jr. State Park. We will leave on Jan 4th and return on Jan 6th. At the state park, we plan to go fishing, canoeing/kayaking, hiking, and attending daily events hosted by park authorities. Farzad Sunavala, our new Youth Group Mentor will join us on this trip along with adult chaperones - Yasmin and Noshir Medhora, Dilshad Hormazdi, Jasmine and Yazdi Mistry. We thank all our adult volunteers in advance for taking the time and effort to help us with this camping trip.

In January, the Youth group officers will go over the agenda for February and publish it to all youth members and parents. Once again, we wish all our ZAH members a very happy and successful new year.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Our newly ordained young Navar



Congratulations to Ervad Darius Barjor Dastur.  
*By Ervad Barjor and Austi Khursheed B Dastur*

By the grace of Ahura Mazda, Ervad Darius B. Dastur, was ordained as a Navar on December 24 (Roj Ava Mah Amardad Y.Z.1388) at Rustom Faramna Agiary in Dadar Parsee Colony, Dadar, Mumbai.

Darius is the son of Ervad Barjor M. Dastur and Austi Khursheed B. Dastur, brother of Austi Mahtab B. Dastur, grandson of late Austa Mehernosh B. Dastur and late Austi Nargesh M. Dastur and Ervad Hoshang J. Buchia and Austi Perin H. Buchia.

Under the guidance of **Ervad Peshotan J Unwalla** and his parents, Darius learnt his Navar prayers in Houston, Texas. **The Navar ceremony was performed by Ervad Aspi Katila and Ervad Jehan Darbari.** Darius is currently in the 4th grade and is an avid sports player. He is fond of drama and greatly enjoys playing chess.

Our heartiest congratulations to Darius on his persistence and all the hard work he put in for becoming an Ervad. We wish Darius good luck in all his future endeavors and pray that he spends many years in His dedicated service and serving our Zoroastrian community and glorious religion.

### Quotable Quotes –

The Moving Finger writes; and, having writ,  
Moves on: nor all thy Piety nor Wit  
Shall lure it back to cancel half a Line,  
Nor all thy Tears wash out a Word of it.

— Omar Khayyám

## MEMBERSHIP DUES

### CATEGORY AND RATES

Patron Family Membership	\$500
Patron Single Membership	\$250
Patron Senior Family M'brshp	\$250
Patron Senior Single M'brshp	\$125
Family Membership	\$275
Family Senior Membership	\$ 65
Associate Membership	\$275
Single Membership	\$135
Single M'ber Head of Hshold	\$150
Single Senior Membership	\$ 40
Student Membership	\$ 25

**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>

## Membership 2019

Happy new year to all of you!!

This is a gentle reminder to sign up for or renew your ZAH Membership.

We are truly blessed by Ahura Mazda to have such a beautiful Center and vibrant community in Houston. In addition we will soon have an Atash Kadeh that we are very excited about it.

As you know, ZAH membership dues are a vital part of the funds needed to maintain the Center and the association. So we urge all of you to renew your membership or join the association

Annually, our Center's total operating expenses far exceed ZAH's membership revenue. It is the responsibility of **EACH ONE OF US** to preserve our Zarathushti heritage and keep our community together and united, and the first step to that is to ensure that our spiritual and social home, our Center, is well maintained and we continue to have an active association. **We all benefit from our wonderful community in Houston and have for so many years, and this is a way to give back while getting tax benefits! Please note that non-member charges for paid events are going to be considerably higher so it is a win win to get your membership in now and take advantage of the lower member rates throughout 2019!**

To renew your membership online, click [HERE](#)

Please make sure that you select the correct category. For e.g. All married couples even without children need to opt for Family membership and not Single membership.

To become a new member please contact Percy M. Master (ZAH Secretary) at [percyMMaster@gmail.com](mailto:percyMMaster@gmail.com)

You can also pay your dues via check made out to "ZAH", and mailed to:

The Treasurer  
ZAH 8787 W Airport Blvd  
Houston, TX 77071

Please do not forget to include type of membership (Family/Student/Senior, etc) and "Membership 2019" in the memo line of your check.

**If you are a member for 2019 already, PLEASE ACCEPT OUR HEARTFELT THANKS AND APPRECIATION!**

If you have any questions, or need to confirm your membership for 2019, please email Sweta Sethna at [swetasethna@hotmail.com](mailto:swetasethna@hotmail.com) or Mitra Khumbatta at [Treasurer.ZAH.EC@gmail.com](mailto:Treasurer.ZAH.EC@gmail.com) with proof of payment.



## Youth Group Camping Trip

The Youth Group had a camping trip to Martin Dies Jr. State Park from January 4 to January 6, 2019. Cyrus Mistry, Vice President of the Youth Group, writes:

Hello Youth Members, Parents, Teachers, Mentors, and Camping Trip Volunteers,

I want to thank all who attended this year's ZAH Youth Group Camping Trip, especially our adult volunteers, Yasmin Aunty and Noshir Uncle Medhora, Dilshad Aunty Hormazdi, and my Mom and Dad, Jasmine and Yazdi Mistry who helped with this event, sponsored our meals for 3 days/2 nights, brought the needed food and supplies, and took time to stay with us at campsites and join us for all our out-door activities.

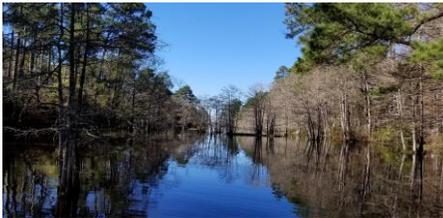


I also want to thank Farzad Sunavala, our youth group mentor for taking the time and effort to drive all youth campers to the camping grounds and back to our homes, and also spending 3 days with us. Thanks to you Farzad, we had even more fun!



Finally, I would like to thank Jehanbux Uncle and Sillie Aunty for graciously sponsoring the cost of campsites and activities. ZAH Youth sincerely appreciate your kind gesture!

As for our camping trip, we left on Friday, Jan 4th and returned around 8:00 PM on Sunday, Jan 6th. We played ball, went bicycling, kayaking, canoeing, watched the sun set by the lake, made s'mores, kept ourselves warm around a bonfire, and walked in the starry moonlit night. Noshir Uncle told us all about the different stars and we all had an awesome time. The meals and desserts were hot and delicious. The cabins, restrooms, and showers were centrally heated and very clean. The park was very well maintained and had a lot of fun activities for all age groups.



Attached are some pics of our trip. Hope you like them. And I hope you will all join us on our next camping trip.



## BIRTH

Baby boy, **Ari Gonda**, 7.4 lbs, 19.5 inches long, born to Arzan & Ruzbeh Gonda on November 30th 2018. Proud and ecstatic grandparents are Villoo & Pervez Gonda (Houston), and Meher & Khushru Patel (Mumbai).

**Logan Jimmy Sethna** was born on December 7 to Whitney and Jimmy Sethna. Sherry and Jal are the proud grandparents, and Sean is the proud uncle.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Shirin and Bahadur Sarkari have moved. Their new address is:

1818 Saxon Bend Trail  
Richmond, TX 77469



## OBITUARY

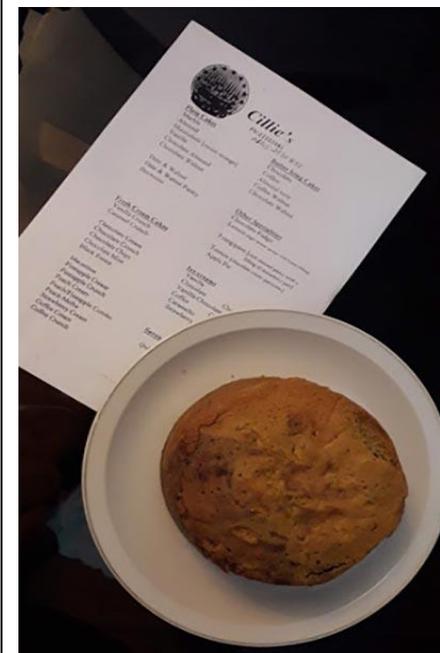
Farhad Ardeshir, a longtime member of ZAH, passed away suddenly on Monday, January 7, 2019.



Cillie's – A sweet token from the Parsis of Karachi  
Excerpted from an article written by: ***Farheen Abdullah***

**Situated inside a 100-year-old house in Parsi Colony, Karachi, Cillie's stands as a reminder of the inclusivity and tolerance that used to exist in Karachi post-partition, and how the minority communities still survive here in peace and harmony.** Upon entering the neighbourhood, which once housed many Parsi families, most of whom have now migrated to the West, a prominent shift in the city's energy can be felt. With low fenced houses, and single and multi-storey buildings, the locality stands in stark contrast with its adjacent areas of Saddar and M.A. Jinnah Road, which are full of the pollution of a bustling and congested metropolis. Driving into the quiet and calm streets of the Parsi Colony, the visitors are transported to a different zone, where their eyes do not meet high-rise glass buildings, but are instead welcomed by old brown stone structures with big windows and balconies, showcasing architecture from the late colonial period.

The business started in a house in Garden East, nearly 50 years ago, and was founded by a Parsi lady named Cilly, who now lives in Texas. However, the bakery was moved to its current location thirteen years ago, when the owner sold the previous house. The house in Parsi Colony is owned by a sweet lady named Bakhtawar, who greets the visitors personally, and even takes the newbies through the variety of desserts that they serve, ensuring great customer service.



Serving a range of desserts at surprisingly reasonable prices (some of which are as low as Rs.300 for a full cake), including plain cakes, butter icing cakes, and ice creams, Cillie's was actually the first bakery in Karachi to introduce fresh cream cakes. Though their menu now has 16 different flavours of fresh cream cakes, their classic plain cakes remain hard to beat. The marble cake, especially, is soft and succulent, and serves as a perfect combination with evening tea.

#### ***Marble cake***

While all desserts are entirely homemade, along with the mousses and creams used for the cakes, only a few delicacies are available for walk-in customers. All other orders need to be placed at least a day before. Since Cillie's does not have a dedicated social media profile, their main source of publicizing the place remains word of mouth, along with the strong network of fans that Cillie's has acquired over the years. In fact, the delicacies remain so popular amongst the Parsi Community that Naushad Mehta, Cilly's son, has opened an outlet of Cillie's Cakes in Houston, USA as well, and word has it that their products taste equally delicious.



#### ***Chocolate fudge, chocolate cream, and peach pineapple cakes***



Karachi may have witnessed the birth of numerous new and fancy cafes and bakeries in the last few years, but to say that the best flavours of the city are hidden in quiet corners like Cillie's would not be an exaggeration. Cillie's is a perfect representation of the strength of the Parsi community and how dedicatedly they have always served the people of Karachi. Though only a few Parsis remain in Karachi now, the community and its contributions need to be preserved as much as possible, and given the same level of respect as their Muslim counterparts



## ZAH Member wins Prize on Price is Right Live

Thursday, December 6, 2018 turned out to be a lucky day for one of our members, Huty Billimoria. Thanks to tickets that were gifted to her for Mothers Day by her sons, Jim and Eric, she attended the **Price is Right Live** show with her husband Farokh at the Smart Financial Center in Sugar Land, TX on that day. Unlike the taped daily show, Drew Carey was not the host for the event.

Out of more than 3,500 attendees that registered for their names to be called, Huty's name was one of the only 16 people called upon to compete during the course of the evening. There were 4 bidding games involving 4 people each. Each of the contestants in the 4 groups had to bid on the price of an item. The one who came closest without going over was then called on the stage to play for a bigger prize.

Huty's name was called for the second game, along with 3 others. The contestants had to bid on a Dell computer system. Huty bid \$950, and was followed by bids of \$750, \$1,400 and \$1,401. The actual price turned out to be \$1,079, making Huty the winner. Unlike the taped daily show, the winner does not get to keep the prize.

Huty then had to go on stage to play the "Cliff Hanger" game. The object of the game is to guess the prices of 3 items without falling off the cliff by being off by more than a total of \$25. She was perfect with a guess of \$20 on the first item. However, the second item almost lost the game for her. Based on a well-meaning attendee's suggestion, she bid \$60 for an item that cost \$40. She therefore had a margin of only \$5 to work with for the third item. Things did not look good for her at that time. She bid \$25 for the third item whose price was \$30. She squeaked through and won the prize with absolutely no room to spare! Her prize turned out to be a top-of-the line Weber Gas Grill, Cuisinart Tool Set for the grill, a Bradley 4-Rack Digital Smoker, and steaks for a year from Omaha Steaks. All in all, the prizes were worth over \$2,000.

Huty turned out to be the second highest of the four winners for the evening. The top winner won an all-expense paid vacation in Hawaii including first class airfare from Houston to Honolulu on Delta Airlines, worth \$5,500. However, unlike the taped daily show, the top 2 winners do not get to compete for the final Showcase. Two different attendees were called upon to play that game. Both had to bid on the same 3 items in the showcase. Since both of them went over the actual price of the showcase (\$21,000), neither received the 3 items (including a car) in the showcase.

The show itself was extremely entertaining. A fun time was held by all attendees (including our ZAH members) during the 90-minute show, in spite of a 3-hour wait between registration and the start of the show.



## Surviving an Active Shooter Training

We have arranged for the Houston Police Department to give a training on how to survive an active shooter to our community and friends.

Date: April 6, 2019 (Saturday)  
Time: 11 am to 12.30 pm  
Venue: ZHCC  
8787 W Airport Blvd.  
Houston, Texas 77071





A specially designed tour at the Museum of Fine Arts of Houston (MFAH)  
Conducted by Vehishta Kaikobad

**Garden Paradise:  
The Magnificent Safavid Carpet from the Burrell Collection, Glasgow  
Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 6:00 pm.**

**Meet at the American Gallery, MFAH, for a presentation and tour of the gallery.  
(American General Room is on a level above the cafeteria. Entry is through the white door opposite the café)**

Enter into the world of Persian garden and discover the secrets it unfolds of Pairi-daeza or as Xenophon remarks, of paradeisos – paradise. The presentation traces the history of Persian gardens from Pre-Islamic empires that were responsible for creating engineering feats and designs. Spanning over a period of three thousand years, the Persian Garden has been a focus of Iran's national imagination, influencing its art, literature and religious beliefs. Its inspirational role however, has extended far beyond the land of its origins by having a profound impact on garden designs around the world.

Join us on this remarkable global and educational journey as we glimpse at visions of Paradise.  
Please call Yasmin Pavri at yspavri@yahoo.com or Cell 281-731-3548 and reserve your place.



Admission is Free



**JASHNE SADEH  
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2019**

**At The Zarthushti Heritage and Cultural Center**

[Please Click Here to View Flyer](#)

**WE REQUEST YOU RSVP AND PAY ONLINE**

**Prayers: 6 p.m.**

**Sadeh Fire: Immediately Following Prayers**

**RATES: (Under 3 yrs. Gratis) RSVP Deadline: 1/26/19  
After RSVP Deadline Non-Member Rates Apply**

**ZAH Member : 11 years and up – \$20\*\*  
ZAH Non-Member : 11 years and up – \$30  
Member Children (3-10 yrs) : \$10\*\*  
Non- Member Children (3-10 yrs) : \$15**

**For questions contact:  
Benafsheh Mondegarian  
(832) 420-2586  
[bmondegarian@yahoo.com](mailto:bmondegarian@yahoo.com)**

\*\* Membership rate applies if 2019 membership has been paid – Non-member rates apply for all RSVPs and payments received after 1/26/19. Kids over 18 years must have separate membership from their parents – Member rates apply to out-of-town house-guests of members (if online RSVP, online payment, and check (if applicable) is received by 1/26/19 – 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.