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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: September 13, 2020

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

Middle Group: The Sunday School session at **10.30 a.m.** by Zoom



Youth Group:



MANASHNI SPECIAL EDITION – HONORING OUR MEDICAL & HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS.
PLEASE CLICK ON THIS LINK: <https://vimeo.com/448163896>

ALL ZAH EVENTS CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

COPING WITH COVID

PRAYER VIGIL

Ervad Peshotan Unwalla continues to conduct humbandagi prayer session at 5:30 pm Central on Saturday and Sunday to combat the pandemic and for the health of the community and humanity.

Click on below link to join. We welcome everyone to join him. Ervad Peshotan is assisted by Ervad Neville Kanga, Ervad Darius Dastur, Mahtab Dastur, Natasha Kanga, Cyrus and Neville Masani, Sabrina and Sanaea Warden, Natasha Dungor and Roshni Chikhliwala.

Prayer Session link:
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72166471218?pwd=dWhFamZZVmloQnVnZUZrY2ILOG1Xdz09>

Meeting ID: 721 6647 1218
 Password: NIRANG
 (Password is case sensitive)

We would also like to invite the Ervads in our community to join us during these prayer sessions so that we can pray together for the well-being of our community and humanity.

ZAH LIBRARY



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**ZAH EXECUTIVE MEMBERS
2020**

Dungor, Nozer – Chairman
Gandhi, Kamalrukh
Hormazdi, Khursheed
Katrak, Percy
Khumbatta, Kershaw
Dastur, Khursheed – Secretary
Billimoria, Farokh – Treasurer

OUR ERVADS (PRIESTS)

Boomla, Noozar
Buchia, Kyrus
Dastur, Barjor
Dastur, Darius
Desai, Adi
Desai, Farokh
Firozgari, Bahrom
Gonda, Pervez
Kanga, Neville
Katrak, Rayomand
Katrak, Vispi P.
Khumbatta, Noshir
Kotwal, Zubin
Masani, Dara
Nariman, Khushrav
Nariman, Viraf
Pavri, Shapur
Sanjana, Bahmanshah
Sanjana, Kurush
Sidhwa, Kayomarz
Sidhwa, Maneck
Sidhwa, Yazad
Unwalla, Peshotan
Vimadalal, Freyaan

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

By Jangoo Mistry

Activities at your Library

By now, most of us have adjusted to the new realities of everyday life. While we are working from home, shopping with masks, or watching Netflix, a few dedicated people have been catching up with house cleaning jobs.

Over the years, we have received donations of several books which are duplicates of the ones we already have in our library. This growing collection of duplicates needed to be properly organized and stored so that we can lay our hands on a book to hand out when needed. To this end, Yezdi Engineer and Aderbad Tamboli have put up shelves in the storage closet of the Purvez Rustomji Room. And he has reinforced them so they can hold all the duplicate books that we have. Aban, Arnavaz and Yasmin have volunteered a lot of their time listing the duplicate books and putting them in numbered boxes. This way we can find them for anyone who asks for a copy. This was a huge effort and our thanks to the three stalwarts for their diligence.

Among the large collection of books we received from Alayar Dabestani were several books in Farsi. In order to catalog these books, we enlisted the help of Banafsheh Mondegarian.

As a result, the FIRES catalog will have a sizable collection of books written in or translated to Farsi. The Farsi books are in a separate section of the catalog so that interested readers can locate them easily.

YOUTH GROUP REPORT

By: Roshni Chikhliwala

On August 30th, at the request of parents and kids, the Youth group hosted a College Admissions Planning seminar. We invited Gabrielle Dulys, who was previously an admissions Officer at the University of Chicago, and Daniel Valenti previously with Harvard College to speak about trends in the admissions process. They both work for Ingenious Prep, a College admissions consulting company. They spoke to the students and parents about the college application process, and what to do to differentiate yourself in the admission process. We had people from Austin, Dallas, and Houston who attended this ZOOM webinar.

On September 20th, we will be hosting a second college session where Bob Carlton from College Matchpoint will be presenting.

If you or your child is in 8th grade or higher and would like to attend this session, please contact Roshni Chikhliwala - roshnichikhliwala@gmail.com.

Thank you for all the help from the Youth Group Officers and Mentors as always.

ATASH KADEH



Atash Kadeh Prayers ZOOM Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4192191997?pwd=JASHAN>

Zoom meeting ID: 4192191997

Password: JASHAN

MUKTAD PRAYERS

Prep Set up



MUKTAD PRAYERS – AUGUST 2020



SPENTOMARD GATHA DAY PRAYER



ATASH KADEH NEWS

By: Persis Behramsha

Muktad preparations were in full swing even before the month of August started. In spite of attendance restrictions, folks were eager to attend and pay respect.

Beginning with early morning ritual of Kebla cleaning, washing vases, replacing fresh flowers, to performing the last Boye ceremony, Mobed Pervez Gonda did a fantastic job maintaining an efficient routine every day. Mobed Maneck Sidhwa along with Mobed Pervez Gonda rendered heartfelt and sincere prayers every single day during the Muktaads, as they do always. We thank Mobeds Khushrav Nariman, Noshir Khumbatta and Zubin Kotwal for joining, whenever they could.

Our Atash Kadeh was adorned with colorful flowers for our Asho Farohars; lit with many Divas, and abounded with plenty of Sukhar requested by various families.

All Prayers were Live Streamed every day and many expressed how blessed they felt to be connected even from afar.

Delicious Malido generously donated by Avan Bhathena, Mahrukh Deputy, Yasmin Medhora, Manek Nariman, and Pervin Sidhwa was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. We were careful to box this before placing them for the prayers, to avoid any contamination.

We thank donors Shernaz-Feroze Bhandara, Persis-Naozer Behramsha, Nargis-Homi Cooper, Tehmi-Firdaus Dastoor, Nina-Adil Eduljee, Roshan-Yezdi Engineer, Yasmin-Rustom Engineer, Nazneen-Kershaw Khumbatta, and Manek-Khushrav Nariman for preparing food for Satum daily.

We also thank Kayomarz Sidhwa and the Web Team for initiating and monitoring the Muktaad RSVPs.

The final "Pachhli Raat Nu Prayers" continued, until dawn broke and as we saw the Sun rise, we wished everyone Navroze Mubarak. That evening, after the Boye, we celebrated Navroze with Hambandagi Prayers.

Khordad Saal also was celebrated with special Hambandagi prayers. Natasha Dungor recited the translation very eloquently, as always.

We are grateful to our Mobeds for the prayers, and also to Mobed Soli Dastoor for joining us and enlightening us with new prayers and messages during Weekend Boyes.

We are thankful that our families and friends are well and we pray for everyone's good health and safety.

Though we still do not gather in large numbers, we encourage everyone to visit the Atash Kadeh whenever possible and whenever comfortable. The Atash Kadeh is open to everyone; our Mobeds are always happy to see you, whenever you get a chance to visit. Please maintain all guidelines for social distancing, wearing masks at all times inside the Atash Kadeh, sanitizing, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS

EMMA KOLAH Her love for trees



SANDALWOOD TREE



VIVIDH VAANI



વિવિધ વાણી એક સંગ્રહ છે જેમાં વિવિધ વાણીઓનાં રસોડાઓ આપવામાં આવ્યા છે. આ પુસ્તક ૧૯૯૪માં પ્રગટ કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. આ પુસ્તકમાં ૬૫૦ જેટલાં રસોડાઓ આપવામાં આવ્યા છે. આ પુસ્તકને લેખિકા મેહરબાઈ જાડાજીએ ૧૯૯૪માં લખ્યું હતું. આ પુસ્તકને ૧૯૯૪માં પ્રગટ કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું.

SANDALWOOD TREE

By Emma Kolah – 8th Grade

The Sandalwood tree is a valuable fragrance and wood used in the Agiyari. It has a very significant meaning in our religion.

Before I begin to talk about ways we could plant a Sandalwood tree in our center, here is some useful information about Sandalwood trees. Sandalwood trees are native to southeast Asia, Australia, and various island regions.

Sandalwood trees can grow to be 10ft shrubs or 30ft trees. Sandalwood needs full sunlight, well-drained soil, and a host plant that fixes nitrogen into the land.

While the process of planting and maintaining a Sandalwood tree may be complicated, I believe the youth will be able to take care of our tree for generations. Sandalwood trees may take anywhere from 15-25 years to fully grow and mature. Planting a Sandalwood tree will start a new tradition for youth members to take part in.

The trickiest part of the process is finding a sapling or seeds. Due to sandalwood trees being over-harvested, they are hard to come by. I have reached out to local plant nurseries about the availability of any trees. Here is where we must come together as a community if anyone has connections or knows of ways we could get a sapling, please reach out.

Once we do find our tree, we will have to give it lots of care to get started. Sandalwood trees must have a host plant that produces fixed nitrogen, a natural fertilizer, building a fence around the tree will help prevent wild animals from eating the leaves.

It will be a challenging journey, but once we succeed, this will be a very heartfelt symbolic addition to our lovely center and Agiyari.

BOOK REVIEW

TASTEFUL TREASURE

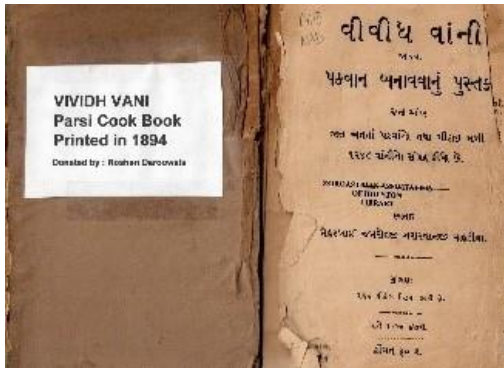
By: Aban Rustonji

There are many items in our library collection that deserve highlighting their historical importance, uniqueness, beauty, or fascinating content. And then we have several cookbooks in the 641.5 section. The COOKBOOK - ubiquitous, practical, and underappreciated. Little does one realize these books are time capsules, for they tell us their stories and to enrich our understanding of lives before ours.

Vividha Vaani by Meherbai Jamsetjee Wadia. Self-published in 1894, is in one of our treasures. The pages are brittle; the cover faded; the binding is fragile. All the entries are alphabetically listed, and you could be looking at custard recipes one moment, only to encounter a variety of cutlets on the next page. This is only a partial listing written by Meherbai Wadia, who died prematurely at 31 in 1897 of the plague.

The recipes are from an era where all cooking was on wood stoves, probably without running water and, most certainly, no refrigeration.

VIVIDH VAANI – COVER PAGE



This unique book offers an in-depth look at the possibly hard life of a Zoroastrian home-maker of those times. Eight types of akuri, 76 varieties of pickles, 36 flavors of ice cream, 60 ways to cook eggs, 16 ways to make omelets, and 32 for cutlets; 27 kinds of custards, 57 cakes not including 17 cheesecakes.

Later editions of this cookbook were the efforts of Meherbai's mother, Piroja, who dedicated it to Dr. Kaikhushroo Bahdurji of the Parsi Fever Hospital, who gave patient and compassionate treatment to her most beloved, one and only child during the bubonic plague. The books were handsomely bound in cloth with text embossed and gilt. Each edition featured a different image on the cover illustrating the changing times. The first edition features a young woman, almost a girl, cooking on a wood-fired stove placed on a low platform. The 1901 edition features a middle-aged woman, a Parsi matron, with an apron tied over her sari, stirring a pan on a coal-fired *sigri* (stove) placed on a wooden table. The third edition has a decidedly modern woman, with her hair done up in a bun, working at a kerosene stove set on a countertop with shelving underneath.

Passed on from generation to generation, later editions of *Vividha Vaani* became family heirlooms. From being a book of reference, it became an object of reverence not to be discarded even after it fell into tatters.

Ed Note:

This book was presented by Nano & Roshen Daroowala on October 25-26, 1993 at our library Inauguration.

ZAH CARES



CONTACT DETAILS OF CAREGIVERS

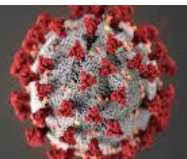
Davier, Homi	832-428-4285
Balsara, Diana	281-794-2080
Behramsha, Persis	713-294-7747
Chhor, Aban	832-794-0820
Collector, Sarosh	713-882-8465
Dungor, Nozer	832-758-8331
Engineer, Yasmin	832-276-0502
Italia, Arzin	713-679-4998
Katrak, Jasmin	713-320-5075
Khumbatta, Nazneen	832-867-8006
Rustom, Shaheen	713-301-1356
Sagar, Pervin	832-532-2100
Sarkari, Shirin	281-844-1284

ZAH CARES

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE: OUTDOOR SAFETY TIPS

We know, we know, everyone is talking about safety & giving out the same directions however we feel that it's the right time to do so NOW since the TEXAS infection rate seems to be increasing while the rest of the Nation is steady. So here is our take on what safety is about.

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) INFORMATION



How to safely see friends and family

Coronavirus fatigue is real. (We get it too!) But the virus is still in your community and it's important to keep doing **all that we've talked about to stay safe**. If you are planning to attend a socially distanced gathering to see friends or family, here are a few ways to do so safely.

- 1. Outside is better than inside.** If you want to see someone, meet at a park, in your yard, in a driveway, or on a patio. Meeting outside is less risky because you have better airflow, more space to keep your distance (6 feet), and direct sunlight.
- 2. The fewer people, the better.** The more people at a gathering, the harder it is to stay 6 feet away. Plus, each of those people has had contact with others who may have the virus. And not everyone follows the same rules. So, friends at a distance in your driveway? Great. A cocktail party in your living room? No go.

**MASKS
BY MASKETEERS
AVAN BHATHENA & TEAM**



**DR. DASTUR
MANECKJI NUSSERVANJI DHALLA**



3. **Wearing a mask matters.** A mask (or other face covering) protects the people around you by limiting the number of droplets coming from your mouth. Wear one outside the house.
4. **BYOE (bring your own everything).** If you're going to have a gathering with food or drinks, have each household bring their own food, drink, utensils, plates, and cups. And avoid sharing. It's less fun that way, but much safer.

It's time for your flu shot

This year, it's more important than ever to get a flu shot. The symptoms for coronavirus and the flu are similar. While there's no shot for coronavirus yet, there is one for the flu. So don't wait. Call your doctor to schedule your shot or find a pharmacy near you.

Finally our safer at home tip

If you're following your social distancing rules, you hopefully won't need to quarantine at home. But just in case, make sure you have a 14-day supply of your prescriptions and any other food or medical supplies you need. It also comes in handy if you live in an area that has a busy hurricane season.

Questions? We are always here for you.

EXCERPTED FROM "OUR PERFECTING WORLD"

By Dr. Dastur Maneckji Nusservanji Dhalla

Religion and race prejudice. A race is a biological group with ethnic peculiarities which could not be easily obliterated. These are the diversity of the colors of skin, distinctiveness of physiognomy, and dissimilarity of temperaments. The color of the skin plays the most prominent part in distinguishing one race from another. The Biblical accounts try to explain the existence of the black, brown, yellow, and white races of mankind by depicting them as the progenies of Shem, Ham, and Japheth, the three sons of Noah. Mankind may or may not have evolved from one original stock, but long before the time that man was able to record his doings intelligently, many a variety of human species, differentiated by the color of the skin and the physiognomy of features, had already appeared on earth.

The great religions of the world unite in teaching that God recognizes only two classes among mankind, the righteous and the wicked, and does not judge anyone on the strength of what caste or color he represents.

Buddha and Jesus among the prophets and the Stoics among the philosophers preached the doctrine of the Brotherhood of Man. This ideal of brotherhood has ever stood before mankind as a beacon-light and has influenced human life with varied success. Social and economic interests of society, however, are more immediate and exacting than its spiritual interests, and weak humanity is striving to reach this ideal of brotherhood in its own imperfect way. In spite of the assurance of religion that racial distinctions are of no significance in spiritual matters, the fact of paramount importance in the temporal affairs of man is that the distinctive physical characteristic of the color of the skin has always kept races apart from one another and embittered their relations with one another.