

manashni

Volume 36 Issue 6 – June 2022

MANASHNI SPONSORED BY

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

TIME: Different timings for each group

DATE: June 12, 2022

<u>Children's Session</u>: The Sunday School session starts at **10.30 a.m. inperson and by Zoom**

<u>Middle Group</u>: The Sunday School session at **11:00 a.m. – in-person & by** Zoom



Youth Group: The Sunday School session at 11:00 a.m. In person



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 June 12, 2022 – Tirgan Festivities – 1:30 pm after Sunday School. All age groups up to and including College going Youth.

Saturday July 23, 2022 - ZAH Youth Fundraiser 2022 – See flyer Friday July 29 to Sunday July 31, 2022 - Z-Camp 2022 – See flyer Saturday August 6 to 15 – Muktad Prayers at Atash Kadeh Wednesday, August 16, 2022– Navroze Hambandagi at Atash Kadeh Saturday, August 20, 2022 – Navroze function

Sunday, October 2, 2022 – Fasli Mehergan & Maedyozarem Gahambar

Friday, October 7 & 8, 2022 – Library Event

Sunday, October 9, 2022 – Carnival after Sunday School

REPORT

LIBRARY REPORT

An Evening with ZYNA

We at ZAH are always trend setters and we encourage Z kids locally and nationally. How many of the readers know about ZYNA, a FEZANA youth committee – *Zoroastrian Youth of North America*. And how many know that ZAH has two representatives on the ZYNA Committee? Probably not many!!! Our ZAH reps are Dr. Rayomand Katrak and Zenia Sunavala.

ZAH EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Katrak, Percy – Chairman Gagrat, Nikita Hormuzdi, Khursheed Khumbatta, Kershaw Mistry, Jasmine Dastur, Khursheed – Secretary Billimoria, Farokh – Treasurer Sarkari, Nazanin – FEZANA Rep

OUR ERVADS (PRIESTS)

Boomla, Noozar Buchia, Kyrus Dastur, Barjor M Dastur, Darius Desai, Farrokh Firozgary, Bahrom Gonda, Pervez Kanga, Neville Katrak, Rayomand Katrak, Vispi Khumbatta, Noshir Kotwal, Zubin Masani, Dara Nariman, Khushrav Pavri, Shapur Sanjana, Bahmanshah Saniana, Kurush Sidhwa, Kayomarz Sidhwa, Maneck Sidhwa, Yazad Unwalla, Peshotan Vimadalal, Freyaan Vimadalal, Khushroo _____

FLOWERS IN BLOOM



BEHRAM ROJ JASHAN - SPONSORS



In order to bring the awareness to the community about ZYNA, ZAH Library & FIRES, scheduled an event honoring this committee of enthusiastic Z youths on May 13, 2022.

The evening started with Aban Rustomji welcoming the attendees and invited Rayomand to talk about ZYNA.

In a well prepared Power Point presentation, Rayomand talked about ZYNA – its mission to address the problems facing Zarathushti youth of today and tomorrow, to promote North American Zarathushti youth leadership and educate the youth to further the knowledge and understanding of the Zarathushti faith, its heritage, theology, doctrine, history, culture etc. and develop an effective communication network among Zarathushti youth in North America.

Rayomand pointed out that the Main Objectives - A Voice For Youth, Religious Education, Philanthropy & Service, Professional Development, Social Network and Advocacy. Some of the activities ZYNA organizes are, Yoga Classes, Supporting Refugees, and other games events. And, of course, since all these events require funds, ZYNA has a Finance & Fundraising committee that Manages the fiduciary responsibilities of the organization and assists the copresidents in their organizational capacities. After a Q & A session, the entertainment began.

For NoRouz 2022, ZYNA had arranged a virtual variety entertainment program where some live and some recorded programs were aired. It ranged from Male Tenors to female sopranos, Indian movie songs and classical Indian dancing. To fit the timing for our event, not all the items were shown. Those interested can view the entire ZYNA program on You Tube at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ST87Wsk-L0

After a pot luck dinner where an array of salads, hot dishes and desserts were laid out. And that brought a satisfactory end to the evening.

ATASH KADEH

By: Persis Behramsha

Do April showers bring May Flowers? Not sure how much of this holds true, but we are certainly seeing a beautiful bloom of flowers everywhere around us.

A beautiful mix of colors greet and invite you on the path to our Atash Kadeh. This is the magical creation of folks like Jamshed Elavia, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to create the colorful artwork on our ZAH grounds. Great job Jamshed!

Almost immediately after the Atash Parab, it was time for our Monthly Sponsored Behram Roj. Our ardent supporters Pearline and Sarosh Collector & family along with Nergish and Homi Davier & family were our generous sponsors for the May Jashan. Thank you to both families for your deep commitment. Thank you Rayomond Collector for highlighting the importance of Behram Roj at the end of the Jashan.

We have now modified the Evening Boye timings. Beginning June 2022, every Wednesday, the Evening Boye will be performed at 5:30 p.m. All other days, the Evening Boye will be held at 5:00 p.m..

Evening Machi requests can be accommodated at a slightly later time.

CLEANING THE ATASH KADEH



Mahtab & Diana



Freyaan





Shanaya



We make every effort to keep the Boye timings consistent, but there may be a need for modifications on short notice, some times, without prior announcements

Our weekend Zoom Boye will now be on Saturdays at 5:00 p.m. and continue on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. We thank our Natasha Kanga, for her interest in praying the Humbandagi during the weekends. We love having you and would be happy to have anyone else participate.

Our Sponsored Behram Roj Jashan calendar has filled up very quickly this year. We have Saturday December 3, 2022 open, if anyone wishes to sponsor.

We also have another important day - Farvardin Mahino Farvardin Roj, Farvardegan Jashan, open for Saturday September 3, 2022.

It is extremely uplifting and gratifying to see our wonderful Youth connect with our Atash Kadeh in various capacities. A few weeks back, after their Sunday School, some of the Youth accompanied our very dedicated Tanaaz and Edul Chikhliwala. They did a marvelous job detailing every corner. Thank you to all our youths - Roshni Chikhliwala, Mahtab Dastur, Zal Italia, Diana Sabawala, Shanaya Vakil and Ervad Freyaan Vimadalal.

Thank you ! Thank you ! Thank you !

MISCELLANEOUS

YOUTH FUNDRAISER - JULY 23, 2022

We hope you started registering for our upcoming Youth Fundraiser. It will be an entertaining evening with a **Fashion Show, Flash Mob Dancing, and Standup Comedy, DJ, and more** planned for Saturday, July 23, 2022 at ZAH. Please read through the details and sign up for this event, send in your donations, and purchase raffle tickets to win a **hand embroidered stole, with a hand embroidered matching batwa (purse) graciously donated by our very own Farida Dordy -** <u>http://zah.org/events/zah-youth-fundraiser-2022/</u>.</u>

We are also very excited to inform you that this year we have a magnanimous donor who will match a dollar for dollar of your donations, so please open your hearts and your wallets for this worthy cause while being entertained by your kids, grandkids and great grandkids.

Here are some additional details: **Event Date and Time:** Saturday, July 23, 2022, 7:00 PM onwards

Event Description: International Fashion Show, Flash Mob Dancing and Music, Standup Comedy, Dancing with DJ Gary, and more...

Cost: \$35 per person (children under 5 FREE)

Event Date and Time: Saturday, July 23, 2022, 7:00 p.m. onwards

Event Description: International Fashion Show, Flash Mob Dancing and Music, Standup Comedy, Dancing with DJ Gary, and more...

RAFFLE







Darien Ethan Cyrus Jidina Mahtaab

Purpose: 50% of the net profits will be donated to our Atash Kadeh, 50% of the net profits will be used to subsidize Youth Congress fees, ZAH Elementary, Middle & Youth Camps, Volunteer Activities, Lock-ins, etc.

Food: Scrumptious appetizers, dinner, and desert.

Games/Door Prizes: We will play BINGO and also give away lots of door prizes through the evening

Raffle: \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20, to win an exquisite hand embroidered stole and matching batwa (purse).

As always, your ZAH youth group is looking to you for your guidance and support. Your generosity will be sincerely appreciated by all ZAH Sunday School members, so please <u>register</u> and join us with your Family, Zarathushti and Non-Zarathushti Friends, and Colleagues. Thanks in advance,

Your ZAH Elementary, Middle, and Youth Groups

MIDDLE GROUP ACTIVITIES

By: Nazanin Sarkari

Another "fun" activity was planned for the middle group Sunday School students - an essay competition. Topic – Pick a Zoroastrian from any field that has attained prominence in that field that you would like to be (try to pick one closer to modern times). They can be from any part of the world. Write your essay to illustrate why you would like to be that person. Illustrate some features that you would like to emulate and some that you would like to change if that were you.

Kudos to the 5 stalwarts that took the plunge and gave us the following write ups:

Tehemton Udwadia – Jidina Mory Shiamak Davar – Darien Vimadalal Jehangir Mehta – Mahtaab Mondegarian Freddie Mercury – Cyrus Desai Ratan Naval Tata – Ethan Gagrat

The participants were evaluated on creativity, adherence to the topic, point of view, grammar and spellings, length (not to exceed 600 words). The criteria were specified by the judges Shirin Sarkari and Shernaz Boomla. We very much appreciate their time and effort towards participating in this event and giving us their professional evaluation.

All participants received a gift card to Chik-fil-A. The first prize, a gift certificate for Target was donated by the Chiniwala (Scotland, UK) family, second and third prizes were gift cards to half priced books.

The top 3 placements were Jidina Mory, Darien Vimadalal, Ethan Gagrat. Congrats to all and hope to see more participation next time. Very proud of your efforts!!!

ZAH Z-CAMP 2022

Attendees of 2021 Z-Camp



Activity - 2021



BASKET BALL EVENING



SONIA RASH



ZAH Z-CAMP 2022 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS By: Z-Camp Team

We are very excited to announce that this year we will be celebrating 10 years of ZAH Z-Camp. We will be hosting the camp from July 29 - July 31 2022 so please mark your calendar and save the date.

The camp will start on Friday, July 29 at 7pm for all our out-of-town attendees, ZAH mentors, Youth Group members and all 18+ participants. On Saturday, July 30 at 10am, we will welcome all the Middle group and Kiddie group campers.

Any Young Adults (aged between 22 and 28) interested in volunteering for the Z-camp, please contact Kayo Sidhwa at <u>kaysid@hotmail.com</u> or (832) 802-3036. Duties and roles for volunteering will be assigned by organizers as per requirements. All Z-Camp Mentors (aged between 18 and 22) will register as camp attendees and assigned teams as always.

Stay tuned for registration and other details!!

Please Note: For the safety of all our camp attendees, we would strongly recommend all (over 5) to be fully vaccinated (both doses and one booster) or have a negative test result under 48 hours before the first Z-Camp day. All safety protocols and requirements will follow soon.

BASKET BALL EVENING

On the evening of Friday May 27, 2022, about 15-20 kids from the Middle Group and above played basketball on the court at the center. The kids and many of their parents enjoyed the opportunity to avail of the community's hard work to renovate the court, where people of all ages enjoyed the new facilities and the refreshments provided by the Mory family over the course of a fun and relaxed evening.

We hope that this may be the first of many such evenings where members of the community gather together and invoke the friendly yet competitive spirit of team sports.

SONIA RASH

Sonia Rash, daughter of one of the original ZAH Members Mehelli & Zenobia Behrana, is running for Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3, Fort Bend County. She has won the primary election, and will be on the mid-term election ballot on the democratic ticket.

Some of the Members may remember Sonia as a Soprano singer at ZAH events. With a Bachelor's in political science, Sonia went on to pursue her studies in law, and is an Honors graduate of Texas Southern University's Thurgood Marshall School of Law. She came out of Law School with a passion for helping the underdog and began her Law career as an associate with The Hall Law Firm where she dedicated herself to working for civil rights, personal injury, and complex litigation.

We wish her best of luck in her political career and look forward to seeing her as a Senator one day!!!

OUR GRADUATES

High School



Isabelle graduated Summa Cum Laude and with AP recognition from the The Woodlands College Park High School. She was a member of the National Honor Society, and a member of both the varsity golf and swim teams for her high school.

Isabelle has received an academic and athletic scholarship from the University of Maine, where she will attend school this fall. She plans to study Environmental Engineering.

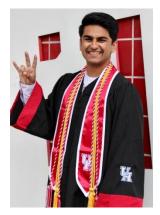
Bachelor's Degree



Jeh Z. Mory graduated from the University of Michigan's Stephen M. Ross School of Business Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor's in Business Administration (BBA) with concentrations in Finance and Accounting and a Minor in Computer Science. Jeh was also named a James B. Angell Scholar and was awarded University Honors. After graduation, Jeh will be working as an Investment Analyst in the Structured Credit fund for Guggenheim Partners, a leading Wall Street asset manager, in their Santa Monica, CA office.



Anushka Oak graduated from the University of Houston Honors College Summa Cum Laude with a BS in Biology and a BA in Spanish. She has been involved in two cognitive neuroscience research labs since her freshman year and participated in programs by the Office of Undergraduate Research and Major Awards (OURMA), such as Houston Scholars, which have focused on funding and mentorship in research. Through OURMA, she received various scholarships such as the Houston Early Research Experience, Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship, and Provost's Undergraduate Research Scholarship. Her research focused on dual-tasking and support vector machine learning, and the effects of aging and genetic variation on cognition and language. Next, she will be traveling to San Sebastian, Spain through a Fulbright research grant to do pre-doctoral neuroscience research at the Basque Center on Cognition, Brain, and Language. After completing the Fulbright Program, she will be attending the Interdisciplinary Program in Neuroscience at Georgetown University for her doctorate in neuroscience.



Nerius N. Mehta graduated from the Jack J. Valenti School of Communications at the University of Houston with a Bachelors of Arts in Strategic Communications and a minor in Business Administration. Nerius was the captain of the first place bowling team for the spring semester league at the university and was on the Dean's List. After graduation, he plans on working at Cillies's until finding work.



Dr. Rayomand Katrak graduated from Texas A&M Medical School on May 21, 2022. He is a member of the Gold Humanism Honor Society. He will be attending Memorial Hermann Southwest for his Family Medicine Residency.



Dr. Shayan Bhathena graduated from Baylor College of Medicine on May 24th, 2022, after completion of the Care of the Underserved Pathway and after induction into the Gold Humanism Honor Society. She will be staying on at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston to complete her residency in Combined Internal Medicine & Pediatrics. Following residency she hopes to pursue a career in primary care.

THREE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

1. MNE Scholarship

The MNE Scholarship is a need based scholarship for students enrolled at any accredited University, College, Community College, or accredited vocational or IT or advanced technology related institute with credible certifications. A \$3,500 and a \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded in August 2022

The scholarship criteria and application forms are on the ZAH website: Click here to access the forms.

The deadline for submitting applications is July 31, 2022

NOTE: YOU MAY APPLY IF YOU MEET ALL OTHER CRITERIA EVEN IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS SCHOLARSHIP IN THE PAST.

Thank you. The MNE Scholarship Committee

2. FEZANA Scholarship

FEZANA just announced their 2022-23 Scholarship invitation:

- FEZANA academic scholarships for graduate and undergraduate students
- Scholarships in the fields of various creative arts: Encompassing the performing arts, theatre studies, dramatic arts, music, instrumental and vocal, including performance and theory of music. Dance studies, drawing, painting, sculpture-theory, and practice other fine arts, including design and graphic arts
- FEZANA community service award: All academic scholarships are open to Zarathushti applicants who have obtained admission for attendance at institutions of higher learning (accredited degree-granting colleges or universities) in USA or Canada. Students from overseas must have studied in the US or Canada for at least two semesters before applying. Creative arts scholarships are available to any Zarathushti applicant who is pursuing a program in the creative arts (performing arts, fine arts, culinary arts, etc.)

All academic scholarships are open to Zarathushti applicants who have obtained admission for attendance at institutions of higher learning (accredited degree-granting colleges or universities) in USA or Canada. Students from overseas must have studied in the US or Canada for at least two semesters before applying. Creative arts scholarships are available to any Zarathushti applicant who is pursuing a program in the creative arts (performing arts, fine arts, culinary arts, etc.)

Award Criteria – Graduate applicants will be rated on Scholastic Achievement, Extracurricular Activities, and Community Service., undergraduate applicants will be rated on Scholastic Achievement, Financial Need, Extracurricular Activities, and Community Service.

Application Forms - Application forms are available from the FEZANA website at www.fezana.org/scholarships.

Completed applications should be submitted online by July 15, 2022 (11:59 EST).

2022-2023 academic year, scholarships will be awarded in September 2022.

And there are multiple endowment scholarships too.

For detailed information please visit FEZANA website at www.fezana.org/scholarships.

3. DR. HOUSHANG KHATIBI SCHOLARSHIP

The "Dr. Houshang Khatibi Scholarship" awards \$1,500 each to 15 <u>deserving Zoroastrian applicants</u> residing in the USA who are in pursuit of higher education and have shown or are willing to show commitment to the Zoroastrian community. This application must be filled out completely, submitted only by Email to: <u>khatibischolarship@gmail.com</u> by July 31, 2022. Late applications are Not accepted. Applicant must be a full time student at an accredited US college or university, or a full time student who is graduating from high school and has been accepted to an accredited US college/university. Make sure to include your acceptance letter. Priority will be given to applicants who have not previously received this award twice.

Applicant Name:			
Address:			
City:	State:	_ Zip Code:	
E-mail: Telephone: Cell:			
Name of University: Major:			
Overall Grade point average	e (GPA):		
Class level	University location		

Please answer all of the following in form of short essay (maximum of 1000 words):

- Provide a personal statement briefly describing yourself and your family.
- Why should you receive this award?
- What are your career goals?
- The Zoroastrian community needs our youth to be involved in the community. Describe any contribution you have made to the Zoroastrian community or are planning to do for Zoroastrian community.
- If next year this scholarship is offered again, what would you do this year for the Zoroastrian Community to be eligible for next year's scholarship?
- Describe your financial needs

Note: This merit-based scholarship mainly awards students with academic achievement. However, applicants' financial need and their service to Zoroastrian community will be considered.

Transcript: Attach a copy of your current transcript. Unofficial/internet copies are acceptable.

Please attach and send this application, your essay, transcripts, college or university acceptance letter (even if you are graduating from high school), and all supporting documents in One single email to: <u>khatibischolarship@gmail.com</u>

All applications will be read after the above deadline. If all documents are not included in one single email your application will not be processed. Do not include links to shared documents, please attach them to your email.

SIGNATURE:	
DATE:	

- * If selected, the scholarship fund may be given to the institution directly
- * All information will be kept confidential within the scholarship committee
- * Bullet points above are not weighted equally
- * Scholarship recipients' names will be announced publicly





Z-CAMP 2022 10TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

ZAH CENTER - HOUSTON, TX

JULY 29 - 31 2022

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT | OUT OF THE BOX THINKING | LIFELONG FRIENDSHIPS

FOR DONATIONS AND/OR REGISTRATION QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT KAYO SIDHWA AT KAYSID@HOTMAIL.COM ANY YOUNG ADULTS AGED 22-28 INTERESTED TO VOLUNTEER FOR Z-CAMP SHOULD CONTACT KAYO SIDHWA AT KAYSID@HOTMAIL.COM