



Volume 28: Issue 6

June 2015

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

TIME: 11.30 a.m. - Middle Group/ 10:30 a.m. - Children's group.

DATE: June 14, 2015

Children's Session: Sunday School is at 10.30 am this month. Topics for this month:

- Stories from the Shahnameh (continued)
- Gujarati alphabet, songs
- Father's Day project

Middle Group: This group starts at 11:30 a.m. and is for the children in the middle school.

Youth Group: Sarosh Collector conducts this session. Age group – Senior school

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fri to Sun, June 26 – June 28 - ZAH Z-CAMP 2015. Registration now open. Details below.

Sunday, July 5, 2015, all day – Tirgan Festival

Friday, July 10, 2015, 6 pm – Library Event – see flyer

Saturday, July 25, 2015 – Youth Desi Night

Tuesday, August 18, 2015 – Navroze Hambandagi

Saturday, August 22, 2015 – Navroze celebration

MEETINGS

GOLDEN GROUP	Fourth Sunday of each month. Interested? Please call Zarine Balsara at 281-304-6611
LIBRARY COMMITTEE	First Sunday of each month at 11:00 AM. Interested in helping? Or would like more information, please call Aban Rustomji at 281-493-1275 or e-mail her at aban@coatingindustries.com

REPORTS

LIBRARY REPORT

By Jangoo Mistry

Do not miss our next Event

A fascinating evening is coming your way. On July 10, we are honored to present Brigadier Behram Panthaki and his wife Zenobia Panthaki, authors of the much-acclaimed book, ***“Field Marshall Sam Manekshaw: The Man and His Times”***.

We have all heard of Sam Manekshaw's courage, his character, and the dedication to his troops and country. The life of this distinguished soldier is portrayed by two distinguished authors who worked closely with him and shared many of the historic events that changed the geo-political landscape of the region. Through anecdotes related by Behram and Zenobia Panthaki we get a unique insight into the man's ideals, his military acumen, his mannerisms and his sense of humor.

A Navar and a Martab serving the community in Maryland and Virginia, Brigadier Panthaki himself boasts a distinguished 30-year military career that earned him twelve military honors. Zenobia Panthaki accompanied her husband on his frequent postings to many small cantonment townships all over India and became involved with the running welfare programs for soldiers' wives and children, has run the Army School, and worked for the World Bank for 28 years until her retirement in 2012.

The book has received over 60 positive reviews. To quote: "From beginning to end this delightful narrative simply races along, providing an intimate, witty and scintillating story of a superhero – Sam's humanism, his notations on official files, his colorful language and his doodling". And again: "An excellent book that is a labor of love and a tribute to the great Sam Bahadur. A delightful tale woven with great dexterity and garnished with a profusion of photographs that brings out the well-rounded personality of a proud soldier, a military leader par excellence, and a great human being. This gem of a book is a must for your coffee table."

This book, with over 200 photographs, is dedicated to the men in uniform who have laid down their lives defending their country and to their widows who have also sacrificed so much. The book will be on sale at the discounted price of \$35, and autographed by the authors. *A major portion of the royalty will be donated to the War Wounded Foundation of India and the War Widows Welfare Assn. of India.*

Please see the flyer for further details, and plan on joining us for this unique event.

Save these Dates for our Annual Gala

The ZAH Library has finalized the dates for its annual gala function for **October 9, 10 and 11**. We have already received commitments from Rashna Writer and Roshan Rivetna to present issues vital to the future of Zoroastrianism in North America. We are planning to have a "Meet and Greet" for the speakers on Friday, October 9 in the evening, followed by the main program on Saturday, October 10. The next day, Sunday, will be a 2-hour informal question-and-answer session.

More details will be forthcoming as the time draws near, but for now, please put these dates on your calendar for an informative and entertaining event that is not to be missed.

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE RERPORT

By Entertainment Committee

The Maidhyarem Gahambar (Dae Mahino) was celebrated at the ZHCC on Sunday, 5/31/15. This event was attended by 313 attendees. An estimated sum of \$5,250/- (includes 22% on expenses) was given to the ZAH towards this event. The ZAH EC and the Entertainment Committee thanks the following families who sponsored the Gahambar in its entirety:

Zia & Rustom Anklesaria
Nali & Danesh Desai
Arzin & Sorab Italia
Nazneen & Kershaw Khumbatta
Elvia & Ronnie Patel
Sonia & Ron Rash
Sharaine & Zubin Wakil
Nazneen & Mehlie Warden

The morning started with the beautiful prayers performed by our very own Ervad Rayomand Katrak, Ervad Noshir Khumbatta, Ervad Khushrav Nariman, Ervad Shapur Pavri, Ervad Bomanshah Sanjana and Ervad Maneck Sidhwa. ZAH thanks all our Ervads for their continuous support to the community.

The prayers were followed by acknowledgments and thanks by the ZAH EC member Aderbad Tamboli. Of course the highly enjoyable chaasni was served next. The delicious nuts and the juicy fruits hand cut by our sponsor families and volunteers were very refreshing. The yummy malido was prepared and donated by Maharukh Deputy, Arzin Italia, Sillie Mehta and Kamal Unwalla.

Lunch was next. The mouthwatering goat meat dhansak & kachooobar along with shredded chicken & naan arrived at the center from the Himalaya Restaurant. The delicious lunch was enjoyed by all. The dessert bar comprised of the heavenly gulab jamuns made by Chef Kairasp Lashkari and the irresistible mango kulfies made by the sponsor families with a lot of love for the community.

The Sponsors have expressed their appreciation of the heartfelt & sincere jashan prayers conducted by our Ervads. They have also thanked the Entertainment Committee, the EC and all the volunteers who helped to make the function flow smoothly. Also thanks to Kairasp for the lovely food.

Gahambars are not only to celebrate with food abundantly offered to the attendees, but also occasion for Zoroastrians to express their thanks to Ahura Mazda through charity. Other than the above mentioned eight sponsors of this event, donations were also received from the following attendees:

Anonymous \$60/-; Roxan Bastani \$100/-; Villie & Perviz Daboo \$20/-; Yezdi & Roshan Engineer \$11; Homi & Aban Erani \$10/-; Piloo & Arni Ilavia \$100/-; Noshir & Arnavaz Kharas \$31/-, Farah Khumbatta \$25/-; Bahadur & Shirin Sarkari \$50/-; Rohinton & Nazanin Sarkari \$150/-; Jal & Shermeen Sethna \$21/-; Yazdi & Shahnaz Sidhwa \$21/-; Noshir Sidhwa \$50/-.

Finally thanks to Arzin & Zal Italia, Homi Daruwalla, Nozer, Minaz & Farida Dungor and Yasmin Medhora for the hall set up, paper products, sodas, RSVP's, registration desk; Arna Sethna and Maharukh Deputy for the jashan setup; Farrokh Firozgari for mikes, music and coordination; Fiona Setna and Tenaz Sunavala for chaasni prep; Zia Anklesaria, Arzin Italia and all sponsors for the chaasni prep, lunch, dessert, left overs and managing the overall event. Thanks to the ZAH Web Team for the RSVP setup and replies. A special thank you to our ZAH Treasurer, Kayo Sidhwa for working the detailed accounting for the event that same evening.

YOUTH REPORT

By Vispi Katrak – Youth Group President

As Summer break is starting, the youth is beginning to prepare for their Annual fundraiser on July 25th, so stay tuned for more news on that soon! This year's show will consist of dancing, acting, dandiya, and many prizes for our audience members, so be sure to attend!. You will not regret it! In fact, all proceeds from this fundraiser will be donated to help the ZAH parking lot!

Also on July 5th the Youth will be hosting a Tirgan festival! We will start off with a prayer led by the Youth Mobeds leading up to fun activities and games filled with lots of water balloons! All Zarathushtis of Houston are invited. Attendance will be free for all.

Many members of the youth will also be attending the Z-camp to be involved and help out the younger kids inside our community. Past youth group members will also be attending, so we are very excited! Let's have a great camp with endless memories!

The 2014-15 Youth Group would like to thank the community for their nonstop support! Without it we would not be as successful, so thank you! Please remember to mark the two dates above on your calendar (July 5th and July 25th).

MISCELLANEOUS

**Final Reminder - Registration to close soon - <http://zah.org/events/zah-z-camp/>
ZAH Z CAMP 2015 June 26th – 28th 2015**

This will be the final reminder for the camp as online registrations close on June 14th, 2015. No late registrations allowed!!

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52 Kids have registered already with very limited spots left so hurry up and join all your friends for a weekend camp full of fun, games, sports and more...

Cost: \$25 per camper

**When : Friday June 26th, 2015 9.00 pm – Sunday June 28th, 2015 3:00pm
Friday June 26th @ 9:00 PM onwards**

- Pre-Camp Sleep Over for Outstation participants, ZAH Youth Group and Older participants ONLY

Saturday June 27th and Sunday June 28th

- Ages 10 and Up – (Bring your sleeping bag and pillows)
- Ages 5-9 – Day Camp Only (Sat 10:00am – 9:30pm and Sunday 9:00am – 3:30pm)

Parents please join us on Sunday June 28th @2:30pm for wrap-up, awards and more...

Please fill in the name of the Campers and their T-shirt size accurately. As the dues are kept at very low levels, donations are always welcome to defray the cost. Please email Kayo Sidhwa at kaysid@hotmail.com if you would like to contribute towards the camp expenses.

LIBRARY EVENT

Meet the Authors of the Book - *Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw: The Man and His Times*

Brigadier Behram Panthaki and his wife Zenobia Panthaki will be in Houston on July 10 for a presentation on their book on Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw. The authors have visited various cities in the U.S. and have sold many copies of this book. They are coming to Houston. ZAH Library is hosting the book sale and book signing event. **Please see attached flyer for more details.**

Book sale is at a discounted price of \$35 during this promotion. A major portion of the royalty will be donated to the War Wounded Foundation of India and the War Widows Welfare Association of India.

We are sure many families would like to have this book for their children and grandchildren to know about their heroes.

Admission is free. Complimentary refreshment will be served.

TIRGAN FESTIVAL

On **July 5th** the Youth will be hosting the Tirgan festival! We will start off at **11:30am** with a prayer led by the Youth Mobeds leading up to fun activities and games filled with lots of water balloons! If everyone could also bring one dish, we would like everyone to share lunch together as a potluck. All Zarathushtis of Houston are invited. Attendance will be free for all!

Tir, or more properly, Testar (Av. Tishtrya), is the Yazad presiding over the Star Sirius, brightest star in the sky, and of rain. Testar Yazad is thus especially invoked to enhance harvest and counter drought.

Due to this, we will uphold our tradition and celebrate with water games! Kids will have a great time with Slip n Slides and water balloons! Everyone is welcome, thank you!

If you are attending please do bring bathing suits/extra clothes and towels. Also, donations to help cover the cost of the event are very welcome.

Zarathushti Youth Without Borders Saturday, 7 November 2015 Washington D.C.

Registration for the 7th annual 2015 RAD-AID Conference on Radiology for Developing Countries is now open!

Please attend the 2015 RAD-AID Conference on **Saturday, November 7, 2015**. Due to RAD-AID's new affiliation with the United Nations and WHO, this year's meeting will be held at the **WHO Headquarters in Washington DC** at the Pan American Health Organization Building near the Lincoln Memorial.

Presentations will include projects on global radiology from Nicaragua, Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, Laos, Nepal, India, Haiti, China, Bhutan, and much more. This is a great opportunity to meet people and join RAD-AID's teams serving across the globe.

RAD-AID Chapter members, or those interested in forming a chapter, are also urged to attend the RAD-AID Chapters Round Table Meeting November 8th in DC. CME and CE for physicians, technologists and nurses will be available for this meeting as in prior years.

We hope to see you and please register ASAP because last year's conference was 100% booked 2-3 months ahead of the meeting. Questions about the meeting can be emailed to:

Gary Soroosh, Associate RAD-AID Conference Manager, at [gsoroosh \(@ \) rad-aid.org](mailto:gsoroosh@rad-aid.org).
Sincerely, RAD-AID Team

OUR GRADUATES

College Graduates

Zareen Bhandara graduated Summa Cum Laude (highest honors) with a 3.91GPA, from the University of Houston and earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Psychology. She will take some time off to take the GRE, conduct research and then continue her education by attending Graduate School. Shernaz and Feroze are extremely proud of their daughter Zareen's achievements.

Fram Haveliwala graduated with Honors in Business Management from the Mays School of Business Management at Texas A&M University in May. He is enrolled in the Masters Program at the Mays Business School at A&M for a Master's Degree in HR Management.

Viraf Nariman graduated from Trinity University with BS in Finance

High School Graduates

Kyrus Buchia graduated from William P. Clements High School in Sugarland, TX. Kyrus plays basketball. Several universities have contacted him and would like recruit him into their university basketball teams. Kyrus will be making a decision soon regarding the University of his choice.

Rohan Chakraborty graduated from Seven Lakes High School in Katy, TX in top ten of the graduating class of over 1000 students and received National Merit Scholar Corporate award. He will be pursuing Chemical Engineering at Berkeley, CA. Rohan is also an Eagle Scout and completed high adventure camps - Philmont and Northern Tier. Rohan is a second degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do. Other achievements include representing his Middle school and High school at the National Science Olympiad tournaments from 8-12th grade and won numerous State and National medals. In his Senior year, Rohan was the captain of the Seven Lakes SciOly team and won first place at Nationals in one of his events (Forensics). Rohan also received a gold medal every year in high school for the National Spanish Exam (Spanish 2, 3, 4, and 5). First place in Houston Area Foreign language competition 11th grade (Spanish).

Vispi Katrak graduated from Langham Creek High School in CyFair, TX. He will be pursuing higher studies at University of Texas, San Antonio. Vispi will be majoring in Management Information Systems.

Friyana Kayomarz Sidhwa graduated from Harmony School of Science - High in Sugar Land on May 31st 2015 and will be pursuing a Bachelor's Degree this fall at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX. Friyana will be majoring in Management (Specialization - Human Resources) with a minor in Journalism.

NAVJOTE

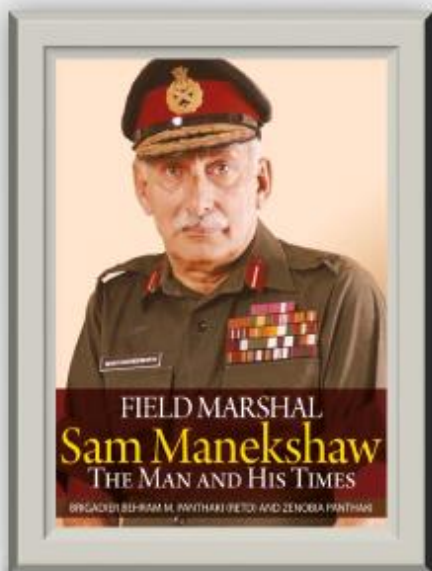
Cyrus and Delna Surveyor, children of Nilufer and Darius Surveyor had their Navjote Ceremony on the morning of 23rd May 2015, Roj Adar, Mah Dae, 1384 Y.Z.

Heartiest Congratulations and Best wishes to Cyrus and Delna.

OBITUARY

Hilla Manchershah Davierwalla, mother of Homi Davier, Kashmira Commissariat, and Benaifer Tarapore; mother-in-law of Nargesh Davier and Marzi Tarapore and grandmother of Jenistene Davier and Piran Commissariat, passed away early morning June 6, 2015 in Mumbai, India

MANASHNI and its readers convey their Heartfelt Condolences to the bereaved families



India's First Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw

The Man and His Times

Authors

BRIGADIER Behram Panthaki & Zenobia Panthaki

Coming to ZAH on

July 10, 2015

PROGRAM

6:30 PM—Meet & Greet

7:00 PM—Program

The book "Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw—The man and his times" is dedicated to men in uniform who laid down their lives defending their country and to the widows whose sacrifice is in equal measure.

The authors will speak about their close association with Sam Manekshaw: his ability to hold politicians' feet to the fire, his love for the simple soldier, his unpredictable use of the carrot and stick and his unique and often wicked sense of humor.

Book sale is at a discounted price of \$35 during this promotion and authors will be pleased to autograph copies. A major portion of the royalty will be donated to the War Wounded Foundation of India and the War Widows Welfare Association of India.

Don't miss this event!



Zarathushti Heritage & Cultural Center
8787 W. Airport Blvd
Houston, TX 77071

Contact: Arnavaz Sethna
Phone: 281 499 1832 or
asethna@comcast.net

Light refreshments will be served

