

MANASHNI SPONSORED BY

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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: October 8, 2023

Children's Session: The Sunday School session starts at 11:00 a.m. in-person and by Zoom

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



Youth Group: The Sunday School session at 10:00 a.m. In person



UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, October 20 – WZCC Event – Wills and Trusts – See flyer

Saturday, November 4 – A Play from Shahnameh: Gordafarid - The Fearless Warrior. See flyer below for more details.

Friday, November 10 & Saturday, November 11 – Library Event
Speakers: Professor Jenny Rose and Meheryar Rivetna. See flyer below

New Year's Eve Gala – Sunday December 31, 2023

North American Zarathushti Congress – December 29, 2024 to January 1, 2025

REPORTS

LIBRARY REPORT

Our next eagerly awaited Library event is our 24th Annual Lecture Series, held on **November 10 and 11, 2023**, with talks by two speakers.



The morning of Saturday, November 11, will be a talk by Professor Jenny Rose, our special guest speaker from the UK. Jenny's talk ***Sheer-e-Shireen: Zoroastrians adding Sugar to the Milk*** will explore the significant contributions Zoroastrians made to society with some examples of the ethos of "good deeds" carried out by 21st century Zoroastrians in Iran, India, North America, and the UK and how we the Zoroastrians of North America, particularly at ZAH, might further sweeten our immediate community—philanthropy at its best. Dr. Rose has been producing educational materials relating to the Zoroastrian religion for several decades and is currently co-editing a volume for Routledge titled *The Zoroastrian World*.

ZAH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Aderbad Tamboli – Chairman
Percy Master – Secretary
Farokh Billimoria – Treasurer

Zia Anklesaria – Member
Nikita Gagrati – Members
Kershaw Khumbatta – Member
Fiona Setna – Member

Nazanin Sarkari – FEZANA Rep

OUR ERVADS (PRIESTS)

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



The second speaker, after lunch, is our Houston's Meheryar Rivetna. The title of his talk is ***Politics and Power: the Birth of Younger Avesta***, which deals with the evolution of Zarathustra's Gathic teachings to contemporary practices and beliefs. After retiring from Merck & Co., where he held scientific research, sales, and marketing positions, he immersed himself in an intense study of the Zoroastrian religion.

Meheryar is, the author of *Zarathustra: The Man and the Message*. It is an in-depth study of the Zoroastrian religion to dispel the myths contradicting Zarathustra's teaching.

Friday, as usual, will be our popular Meet and Greet with cheese & wine, introduction, and getting to know Jenny Rose, ending with a Potluck dinner after the talk. See the detailed program in the flyer below.

Please register online before Monday, November 6, 2023, at <https://zah.org/events/library-event-8/>

New Books @ your Library

Discover the latest literary gems waiting for you to explore in our fiction section.



Award-winning Zoroastrian authors Nev March and Thrity Umrigar have crafted new books that will transport you to worlds of rich narratives that resonate with our heritage. In *The Spanish Diplomat's Secret*, the third novel in the series, Nev March (Nawaz Merchant) takes you on a vivid journey through a transatlantic voyage in the summer of 1894. Join Captain Jim Agnihotri and Lady Diana Framji as they embark on a voyage that

unravels one passenger's secret at a time.



The Museum of Failures by Thrity Umrigar is an immersive story about family secrets and the power of forgiveness—Nev March's intricate mysteries and Umrigar's poignant storytelling offer a unique fusion of culture and literature. Immerse yourself in their pages and experience the vibrant tapestry of our traditions woven into captivating tales.

YOUTH GROUP REPORT

By Sabrina Warden

Youth Group Report for the Blood Drive:

This past Sunday, October 1, 2023, the ZAH Youth hosted a blood drive by The Gulf Coast Regional Center, a non-profit organization that is accredited, licensed, and recognized by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as well as numerous local and state officials and authorities. During the Gahambar, on October 1st, 2023 we were able to get 13 donations, saving over 39 lives. Thank you to each and every person who donated and helped spread the word!! :)

BEHRAM ROJ JASHAN



BEHRAM ROJ SPONSORS



BEHRAM ROJ JASHAN ATTENDEES



ATASH KADEH NEWS – For September 2023

By: Persis Behramsha

The hot weather persisted during September but that didn't deter the activities throughout the month!

This month began with the important day of Farvardin Mahino Farvardin Roj, (September 3, 2023), which is held very sacred by Zarathushtis. This day is popularly known as Farvardian in Gujarati language. The day is set aside to revere and worship Ahura Mazda by performing a Jashan to adore and remember all Good Souls. This special Jashan attended by many community members, was sponsored by Shernaz & Feroze Bhandara and family with contribution from Dilber Bulsara and Abhijit Kulkarni.

The monthly Behram Roj Jashan immediately following the Farvardegan Jasahan was graciously sponsored by families of Tehmi & Firdaus Dastoor, Yasmin & Rustom Engineer, Zarina & Jamshed Elavia, Aban & Homi Erani, Yasmin Medhora, Arnaz & Jehangir Mistry and Shirin & Bahadur Sarkari.

We are always grateful to all our generous sponsors for the many community Jashans we hold at the Atash Kadeh. It is very heartening to see so many attendees and also really enjoy the comradery after the Jashan when everyone gathers outside in the foyer to "eat, drink and be merry".

Our very first Gatha Study Group met on September 10, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. conducted by Meheryar Rivetna. Meheryar imparts his knowledge through extensive research on the phenomenal teachings that Zarathushtra left for humankind. These are 1-hour lectures, with presentations, designed to be interactive and folks are encouraged to partake in discussions towards the end of the sessions. One of the reasons this group meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month is to encourage the Youth to attend these sessions, prior to their regular Sunday School session. These lectures are also Live Streamed for the benefit of out-of-towners who wish to join.

We will be opening up the schedule for Behram Roj Sponsors for 2024, so please let us know if you have a preferred month that you would like to host. Besides the Behram Roj, we also encourage folks to pick Parab days of your liking to sponsor Jashans.

As we have done in the past, we can perform Machis, Jashans, and any other prayers remotely and Zoom them so anyone can participate from anywhere. Folks have traveled from far to have their kids' Navjotes performed at our Atash Kadeh and they absolutely love the experience.

Ushta Te
Atash Kadeh Committee

MEHERGAN & MAEDIOIZAREM GAHAMBAR JASHAN



MEHERGAN & MAEDIOIZAREM GAHAMBAR VOLUNTEER SERVERS



WEDDING



DASTUR DR M N DHALLA



FASLI MEHERGAN GAHAMBAR

By: ZAH Entertainment Committee

The Fasli Mehrgan & Maediozarem Gahambar was celebrated at the ZAH Center on Sunday, October 1, 2023.

We would like to thank our anonymous sponsor family for the delicious Persian food spread from Reza as well as all our other donors and members that came for the event and contributed to it.

We had a large turnout of approximately 202 people (including kids) and made a net profit of approximately \$2,935 that was given to ZAH. The Jashan was performed by our mobeds at the Atash Kadeh and the chasni and fruits were served in the Atrium at ZAH. This was followed by a presentation on the Zoroastrian Museum Proposal by ArZan Wadia (President of FEZANA) along with Aderbad Tamboli and Aban Rustomji.

The ZAH youth group had also organized a blood drive and volunteers were able to go and donate blood. The main hall and the atrium were well decorated in a Fall theme. We would like to thank the Atash Kadeh Committee for organizing the jashan, the Web Committee for helping us with registrations and updating us with the RSVP's received, the Publication Committee for their help in advertising the event, and all the volunteers for helping us with decorating the hall, registration, setup, serving food and cleaning up.

WEDDING:

Dr. (Ervad) Bahrom Firozgargy, son of Mahnaaz & Farrokh Firozgargy was married to Dr. Tara Braun, daughter of Paula and Dr. Joe Braun on September 23, 2023 in Austin, Texas. The families also hosted a reception at the ZHCC in Houston, Texas the following Saturday evening, September 30, 2023. Bahrom's grandfather, Mobed Merhraban Firozgargy blessed the couple with a beautifully recited tandarosti prayer and sent the recording as he was unable to attend in person. Mahnaaz and Farrokh sincerely thank and appreciate the love and support provided to Bahrom by the Zoroastrian community over the years.

EXCERPTED FROM *HOMAGE UNTO AHURA MAZDA* By Dr. Dastur M N Dhalla

Zarathushtra drew the lowly and lonely, the needy and neglected towards him and embraced them in his sympathetic heart. Enthuse me, Ahura Mazda, to consecrate myself to a life of service. Inspire me to live my life to sanctify the life of men. Help me to bear the burden of my brethren and relieve their bare needs. Enable me to make any one human life happy by a single hair's breadth between dawn and dusk every day. Strengthen me to bear aloft the light of knowledge, to do ameliorative work to further health, to right the wrongs, to straighten the crooked, to assuage the sufferings, to spread truth, to lessen the sorrow, and gloom of my neighbors, to fight falsehood and injustice, vice and wickedness, disease and death.



Friday, Oct 20th, 2023

Zoroastrian Heritage & Cultural Center

8787 W. Airport Blvd,

Houston, TX

Dinner at 7 p.m.

Event at 8 p.m.

\$15 for Members

\$20 for Non-Members

RSVP: by Monday Oct 16th

Yasmin @ 713-301-1521riday

Topic: Estate Planning

Speaker: Marilyn S. Sims



We are privileged to have an esteemed professional in the field of Estate Planning present to us.

Ms. Sims concentrates her practice in the areas of Estate and Business Planning, advising clients and preparing estate, asset protection and business plans, by creating the related documentation and entities for clients ranging from very small to multi-million dollar estates.

Representative documentation in the estate planning area includes wills, living wills, general durable powers of attorney, medical powers of attorney, specific powers of attorney, living trusts, life insurance trusts, education trusts, children's trusts, supplemental needs trusts, family limited partnerships, charitable giving plans, guardian designations, disposition arrangements, beneficiary designations on non-probate assets, pre-marital and post-marital agreements, partition and transmutation agreements, and various other related planning and property agreements.

CLICK [HERE](#) TO REGISTER & DONATE

GORDAFARID THE FEARLESS WARRIOR

A CAPTIVATING STORY ABOUT THE BETRAYAL OF LOVE...



**WHEN: Saturday,
Nov 4, 2023**

**WHERE: ZHCC
8787 West Airport Blvd.,
Houston, TX 77071**

**Revel in a fun packed
evening reliving history
with action, music,
dance, and more...**

**Join your very own
Talented ZAH Director
and Cast Members**

**Enjoy a delectable
spread of appetizers,
dinner, and desserts**

**FOR MORE DETAILS
CONTACT**

JASMINE MISTRY

JasYMistry@gmail.com

(832) 236 4037

In person at ZAH and online on zoom.
Zoom [Link](#) Meeting ID: 870 3782 2697 Passcode: FEZANA



ZAH LIBRARY - FIRES
24th ANNUAL LECTURE SERIES
NOVEMBER 10 and 11, 2023



Sheer-e-Shireen: Zoroastrians adding Sugar to the Milk

The story of "Sugar in the Milk" is well known as part of the story of the arrival of Zoroastrians in India. Jenny Rose's talk will explore this perspective of significant contributions Zoroastrians made to society with some examples of the ethos of "good deeds" carried out by 21st century Zoroastrians in Iran, India, North America and the UK. Her experience indicates that such action can bring immediate benefit to an individual or a wider group, providing access to basic necessities - water, food, education, healthcare, and justice – which improve ("sweeten") their lives.

Dr. Jenny Rose has been producing educational materials relating to the Zoroastrian religion for several decades, beginning with her time as an advisory teacher in London, then as a postgraduate at Columbia University, and later as lecturer (professor) in the UK and the USA. Jenny's most recent book is *Between Boston and Bombay: Cultural and Commercial Encounters of Yankees and Parsis, 1771–1865* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2019). Currently a Research Fellow of Claremont Graduate University, she is co-editing a volume for Routledge titled *The Zoroastrian World*, which will include contributions from across the Zoroastrian world as well from the non-Zoroastrian academics.



Politics and Power: The Birth of the Younger Avesta

Meheryar's talk *Politics and Power: The Birth of the Younger Avesta* will deal with the evolution of Zarathustra's Gathic teachings to contemporary practices and beliefs. He will take us on a historical journey from ancient times to Zarathustra's sojourn on earth to modern times based on scholarly research and evidence.

Meheryar Rivetna was employed by Merck & Co. where he held positions in scientific research, sales and marketing. After retiring in 2016, he immersed himself in an intense study of the Zoroastrian religion. Meheryar is the author of *Zarathustra: The Man and the Message*. It is an in-depth study of the Zoroastrian religion with an aim to dispel the myths contradicting Zarathustra's teachings. Meheryar has also published articles on the Zoroastrian faith in the FEZANA Journal, Chehreh-Namah and Parsiana. He is on the library committee of the Zoroastrian Association of Houston as well as the FIRES committee, the education and research arm of FEZANA.

PROGRAM

Friday, Nov. 10, 2023

6:30 Pm - Wine & Cheese
7:00 Pm - Introduce and Getting to know Jenny Rose
8:00 pm - Potluck

Zoom Link for Lectures will be posted
Saturday Lunch—\$10.00
Register online at ZAH Website
www.zah.org

Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023

10:30 am—12:15 pm - Presentation by Dr. Jenny Rose

*Sheer-e-Shireen: Zoroastrians
adding sugar to the milk.*

Q & A

Group Activity Reports

12:15 pm - 1:00 pm - Lunch

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm - Presentation by Meheryar Rivetna -

*Politics and Power:
The birth of the Younger Avesta.*

Zarathusthi Heritage & Cultural Center
8787 West Airport Boulevard
Houston, Texas 77071