



**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:** August 10, 2025

**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 **10:00 a.m. – in-person & by Zoom**



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



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Tuesday, August 5 to Thursday, August 14, 2025 – Muktaf Days**  
**Friday, August 15, 2025 – Navroz Humbandagi – 6:30 p.m.**  
**Saturday, August 16, 2025 – Navroz Function - See Flyer below**  
**Thursday, August 21 - Houston interfaith meeting**  
**Friday, August 22, 2025 – Interfaith Dinner Dialogue**  
**Sunday, September 28, 2025 – Fasli Mehrgan Gahambar**  
**Friday, October 10 and Saturday, October 11, 2025 – Library Event**

**REPORTS**

**LIBRARY REPORT**

By: Jangoo Mistry

**Come Celebrate With Us  
25 Years of ZAH Library**

Ever since the ZAH Library was established, it has strived to fulfill its mission to serve as a repository of Zoroastrian literature, history, and culture. Its impressive collection of over 1,300 books and rare artifacts is invaluable and the envy of Zoroastrians all over North America – in fact, all over the world. The library also houses some permanent displays from valuable historical collections. From time to time, it has also collected and displayed Zoroastrian items of cultural and historical interest (kusti-weaving, garas, wall of ancestors' photographs, etc.).

To further its mission of disseminating knowledge, the ZAH Library has consistently sponsored many distinguished speakers from around the world. In addition to lectures, we have shown movies and organized field trips to special museum exhibits. We are grateful to those of you who have attended these events and given us valuable feedback.

This year, the Library is proud to mark 25 years of its operation with a gala celebration in October. The Library Committee is working hard to organize a program that will be informative and entertaining.

## ZAH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Aderbad Tamboli – Chairman  
Percy Master – Secretary  
Lyla Daroga – Treasurer  
Zia Anklesaria – Member  
Nozer Dungor – Member  
Zubin Mistry – Member  
Fiona Setna – Member

## OUR ERVADS (PRIESTS)

Boomla, Noozar  
Buchia, Kyrus  
Dastur, Barjor M  
Dastur, Darius B  
Desai, Farrokh  
Gonda, Pervez  
Kanga, Neville  
Katrak, Rayomand  
Katrak, Vispi  
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  
Vimadalal, Khushroo

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## BEHRAM ROJ JASHAN SPONSORS BEHRAMSHA FAMILY



The 2-day program is going to feature two distinguished speakers,

Afshin Marashi



Daniel Sheffield



Professor Marashi is on the faculty of the University of Oklahoma and is a first-time guest of the Library. However, with previous appearances at ZAH, Dr. Sheffield, a professor of Near Eastern Studies at Princeton University, and author of several books and publications, needs no introduction. (Ed. Note: Dr. Sheffield speaks fluent Gujarati – be careful of your *Parsi Language* around him).

Professor Marashi is the founding director of the university's Center for Iranian and Persian Gulf Studies. Among his long list of credentials, he is also the author, most recently, of *Exile and the Nation: The Parsi Community of India and the Making of Modern Iran*. His talk will be on a topic that is going to be of broad interest to us. Despite having a shared history that stretches back many centuries, by the nineteenth century, Parsis and Iranians had largely lost contact with one another. He will talk about the new efforts that have been made to build bridges between the two communities.

Watch for further details in the next issue of Manashni and a flyer in your emails. For now, please mark Friday evening (October 11) and Saturday (October 12) up until about 3 pm or so for this interesting program.

## Atash Kadeh News – for July 2025 Manashni

By: Atash Kadeh Committee

Two Navjotes were celebrated at the Atash Kadeh in the month of July. It was a festive sight to see so many families enjoying the celebrations along with their children.

The monthly Behram Roj Jashan for July was sponsored by the **Behramsha family – Naozer, Persis, Zarin, Jorge, Darius, Zara, Jasmine, Justin, Jolene, Jocelyn, Kashmiri and Neville.**

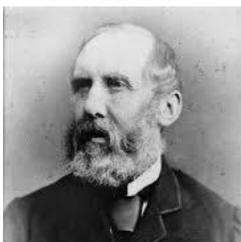
As Ervad Khushrav Nariman correctly reminded everyone after the Jashan, that we have been fortunate to have continuous monthly Jashans generously hosted by families since the inauguration of our Atash Kadeh in March 2019.

To make sure that this tradition is kept alive, the Atash Kadeh Committee had decided at the onset, that in the event there was no sponsor for a given month, the committee would host the Jashan. The fact that the committee has never had to do this, is a huge kudos to our community for constantly stepping up with so much enthusiasm every single month. Thank You.

**MEHERYAR RIVETNA**



**SAMUEL LAING**



**MUKTAD 2025**



**SPENTA MAINYU**



**COSMOLOGY – CREATION**



In the July session, Meheryar explained that the religion’s fundamental teachings are rooted in the Gathas which are the bedrock of our religion. His presentation articulates the information that it is critical to gain an insight in what constitutes the importance of the timeless words of wisdom in the Gatha versus.

The presentation covered the contributions of eminent Zoroastrians towards the betterment of their nation and society, consistent with Zoroastrian principles.

Samuel Laing, an English railway administrator and science writer, said in his book *A Modern Zoroastrian*: “The code of morality enjoined by the Zoroastrian religion is as pure as its theory is perfect”. That, in itself, is a compelling reason to study the Zoroastrian religion.

Muktad prayers begin on August 5, 2025 for 10 days. Our amazing volunteers at the Atash Kadeh have worked tirelessly to spruce it up especially to welcome the dearly departed souls we love, honor and remember.

Noshir Khumbatta thank you for single-handedly cleaning the Kebla and helping our dedicated Ervad Pervez Gonda to get it ready for the Muktabad days. Though we miss having our Ervad Maneck Sidhwa this Muktabad, at the Atash Kadeh, we wish him strength and good health while he recovers.

To our dear Shernaz Bhandara, Tanaaz & Edul Chikhlwala, and Mahrukh Deputy, we are so thankful to all of you, for your utmost dedication and thoughtfulness in tending to all the needs of our Atash Kadeh throughout the year. Thank you to Dilnaz Mory for helping with all the preparations that needed to be arranged for the Muktabad days.

***Frashokereti: Return to a Perfect World***

*By: Meheryar N. Rivetna*

Zoroastrian lore has it that Ahura Mazda, the Supreme Wisdom in nature, created a perfect world through its creative attribute Spenta Mainyu. The Gathas state that Spenta Mainyu has a counterforce, Angra Mainyu, a destructive force, there being polarity in nature. Angra Mainyu vowed to destroy the good creation with everything that conflicts with Ahura Mazda’s laws.

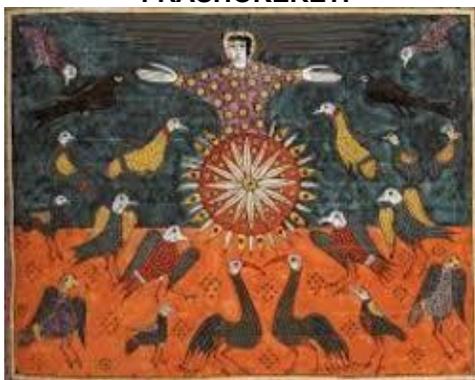
To avert Angra Mainyu’s adverse effects on Ahura Mazda’s creation, tradition alleges that humankind was created to help Ahura Mazda bring all of creation back to its original perfect state. This concept in the Zoroastrian religion is termed *frashokereti*.

Cosmology (the origin and development of the universe), according to Zoroastrian maxim, is divided into three stages: creation, the battle between good and evil and the final renovation, i.e., the ultimate triumph of good over evil. Frashokereti, thus, is an ongoing (continuous) process in which humans use their wisdom to move the world to a perfect state by rejecting iniquities in life with righteous thoughts, words and deeds. This process is termed *patvandishn i ō Frashkart*, which translates as the ‘continuous evolution towards Rehabilitation’. (1).

**ZOROASTRIAN COSMOLOGY  
BATTLE BETWEEN GOOD & EVIL**



**FRASHOKERETI**



**Haurvatat**

**Ameretat**



**E-MAIL CHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT**



The Gathas are explicit about this process. In Ha 30.9, humans must seek to emulate those who strive to move the world to a better place (perfection):

*At-**chhā**<sup>1</sup> tōi<sup>2</sup> vaēm<sup>3</sup> khyāmā<sup>4</sup> yōi<sup>5</sup> im **frashem**<sup>6</sup> **kerenāun**<sup>7</sup> ahūm<sup>8</sup>...*

Verily may<sup>1</sup> we<sup>3</sup> be like those<sup>2</sup> who<sup>5</sup> make the world<sup>8</sup> progress<sup>7</sup> towards perfection<sup>6</sup>...

The term *frashokereti* derives from the Gathic Avestan *frashem kerenāun*.

In Ha 50.11, we are again reminded to accomplish Ahura Mazda's call for humans to perfect the world:

*...dātā<sup>1</sup> anghēush<sup>2</sup> aredat<sup>3</sup> Vohū<sup>4</sup> Mananghā<sup>5</sup> haithyāvarshtā<sup>6</sup> hyat<sup>7</sup> vasnā<sup>8</sup> ferashtōtemem<sup>9</sup>.*

...the law<sup>1</sup> of life<sup>2</sup> is to accomplish<sup>3</sup> with a Good<sup>4</sup> Mind<sup>5</sup> the practice of virtuous deeds<sup>6</sup> thereby<sup>7</sup> perfecting the world<sup>9</sup> (which is) the Will<sup>8</sup> (of Ahura Mazda).

*Frashokereti*, to perfect an imperfect world, calls for all humans to continuously strive to better themselves and the world around them. This goal is realized when we incorporate the attributes of Ahura Mazda (Supreme Wisdom) within ourselves. In other words, the kingdom of Ahura Mazda (*Kshathra Vairya*)—a perfect state—for our Well-Being and total fulfillment (*Haurvatat*) is attainable for all time (*Ameretat*) by devotion or piety (*Armaiti*) to Truth and Righteousness (*Asha*) using one's Good Mind (*Vohu Manah*).

The essence of *frashokereti* can best be summed up as:

**Good, Better, Best  
Never let it rest.  
'Til your good is better  
And your better is best.**

(1). Zaehner, Robert C.; *The Dawn And Twilight Of Zoroastrianism*; Phoenix Press, London. (1961).

*(The views expressed in this article are solely those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the ZAH official policy or position)*

**E-MAIL CHANGE ANNOUNCEMENT**

Please make the following changes to the Shroff family email address:

For Avan: [avanshroff7@gmail.com](mailto:avanshroff7@gmail.com)

For Jehangir: [jkshroff3@gmail.com](mailto:jkshroff3@gmail.com)

## SAROSH RAYOMOND COLLECTOR



## NAVJOTE

Sarosh Rayomond Collector, son of Sarah & Rayomond Collector, Grandson of Pearline and Late Sarosh Jehangir Collector, had his Navjote Ceremony on July 26, 2025 at the Atash Kadeh. Sarosh was well prepared for his Navjote and recited the prayers fluently with the Mobed. He and his family wish to thank all who attended the ceremony and party.

Heartiest Congratulations and Best wishes to Sarosh.

## BABY REMINGTON RAYOMAND HORMUZDI



## BIRTH

With immense joy and gratitude, Rayomand & Sara Hormuzdi proudly announce the birth of their son Remington Ray Hormuzdi, born on July 12, 2025. Our hearts are full as we welcome this precious soul into our lives.

## FROM HOMAGE UNTO AHURA MAZDA

By: Dastoor Dr. M N Dhalla

Faith is the belief in the unknown, as belief is the faith in the known. Faith soars the highest heaven and dives to the deepest depth. Faith knows no bound and breaks through all barriers. Faith reads the secrets of the earth and deciphers the mysteries of heaven. Faith knows all and sees all. Faith asks not for facts, demands not proofs, and seeks no evidence. Faith thinks not, cogitates not and reasons not. Faith believes and believes wholly and unreservedly. Faith knows no "No"; it knows only "Yes". Faith makes the weak strong and the timid brave. Faith heals, faith creates, and faith moves mountains. Faith is power, a talisman that works wonders.

Faith is assertive and aggressive, authoritative and arbitrary, adamant and unreasonable, static and firm as a rock. Credulity is faith's failing and with credulity for its companion, faith believes what is possible and impossible, credible and incredible, anything and everything.

Omnipotent is faith, but not eternal. Faith is secure when reason is asleep. The child is angelic, for it knows not guilt and is shadowed not by sin. But the child does not always remain the child. With the breaking of the dawn of its mind, it ceases to be child. So is the childlike faith roused by reason and disturbed by doubt. Doubt is active, it seeks and ventures and risks. It lets not faith take everything on trust, it questions it at every turn and lets it not rest in the passivity of belief. Doubt, in its struggle, spells death of faith. When doubt assails me and faith grows dim and fails me, lead me, Ahura Mazda, from destructive doubt to reasoned faith. Let my faith be wedded to reason and let it be based on conviction. Give me faith and more faith, but not the blind faith. Give me the seeing and discerning faith of thy Armaiti and save me from the weakness of a credulous mind. O Vahishta Manah, Thou Best Mind

## DASTUR DR. M N DHALLA



# SHAHENSHAHI NEW YEAR

SATURDAY AUGUST 16, 2025 at ZAH CENTER

*Join Us for a Fun Filled Evening!!*

*Appetizers & Mixer: 7:30 – 8 p.m.*

*Entertainment Starts: 8 p.m.*

*Dinner: 9 p.m. followed by dancing!!*

**DJ Music!!  
Dance the Night Away!!**

**Questions? Contact:  
Yasmin Medhora:  
(713) 301-1521**

**Click on RSVP link provided separately**

**Elaborate Menu Catered From Aga's Restaurant**

**BYOB**

## **RATES: RSVP Deadline 8/10/25**

**\*\*Rates After RSVP Deadline**

**ZAH Member: 12 years and up - \$40 / \$65\*\* ZAH**

**Non-Member: 12 years and up - \$65 / \$75\*\***

**Member Children (5 – 11 years): \$25 / \$45\*\***

**Non-Member Children (5 – 11 years): \$45 / \$50\*\*  
(Under 5 years Gratis)**

**AT THE DOOR: \$75 PER PERSON**

**If paying by check, your check must be received by 8/10/25, at:**

**ZAH**

**Attn: Shahenshahi Navroze 2025**

**8787 West Airport Blvd**

**Houston, Texas 77071**

**PLEASE WRITE (IN THE MEMO FIELD):**

**- No. of ZAH members/non-members (12 yrs and up)**

**- No. of ZAH member/non-member children (5 – 11 years)**

**- Please write "Shahenshahi Navroze 2025" on the envelope**

**\*\* Membership rate applies if 2025 membership has been paid. 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 8/10/25)**

**- 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.**

**Organized by: ZAH Entertainment Committee**