



## Newsletter Jan - July 2021

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### In this Issue...

- Editor's note
- Community News
- Appeals
- Upcoming Events
- Future Events
- Useful Links
- Membership Forms

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### ZANC BOARD 2021

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EDITORS'  
NOTE

Dear ZANC Community,

It's been a while since our last newsletter, but we're excited to re-engage our community while the dangers of COVID-19 are slowly coming to an end.

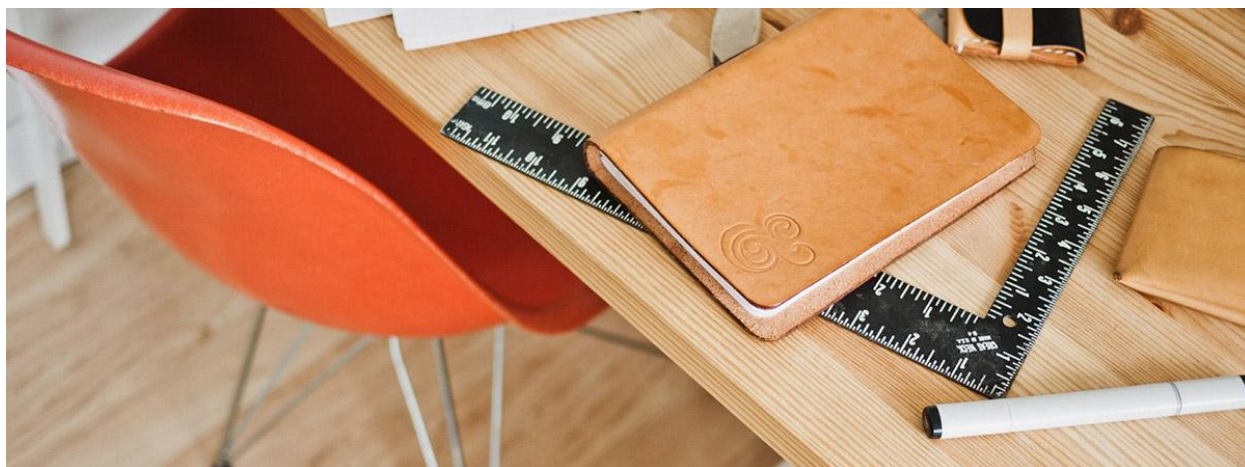
Moving forward, newsletters will be strictly digital. If your email is not listed, please go to the following link, and list your email in ZANC's directory. <https://www.zanc.org/mailling-list/>

If you are an active member in our community and want to reach out regarding any community related news, please reach out to [board@zanc.org](mailto:board@zanc.org) , so we can ensure that your story is told.

If you are working with a company that has a matching program, please consider ZANC to be the beneficiary for the matching contribution.

Cheers!

Azita Patel and Sharon Pithawalla



## ZANC Board Update

The ZANC Board is very excited to announce the newest addition to our board, **Azita Patel** !

Azita is pursuing her Masters in Medical Product Development Management at San Jose State University while also working full time at Roche as a Systems Engineer. In her free time she likes to go to unwind at the beach, hit the gym, or meet up with her fellow Z friends. In the true spirit of serving the community, she has agreed to join our ZANC board as Member-at-Large in addition to juggling her other priorities. Her great talent, skill and experience will be an asset to our board! Her aim during her tenure on the board is to work together to unify and beautify our Zoroastrian community.

Please join us in welcoming Azita on-'board'!



# FEZANA Establishes Professorship in Zoroastrian Languages & Literature at the University of Toronto



UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**



**FEZANA**  
FEDERATION OF ZOROASTRIAN  
ASSOCIATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA

Announcing The Establishment Of

## **FEZANA PROFESSOR**

of

**ZOROASTRIAN LANGUAGES & LITERATURE**

at the

**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**

June 16, 2021

FEZANA reaches milestone fundraising goal of \$1.1 Million (USD) in partnership with the University of Toronto, establishing first-ever FEZANA Professorship of Zoroastrian Languages and Literature at the University of Toronto.

Transformative and sustainable for future generations, the endowed professorship advances the academic study and understanding of Zoroastrianism and its contributions to the world.

[READ MORE ON THE WEBSITE](#)



# NAVJOTE

Congratulations to Zyah Batliwalla Varma (Age 9) and Rohan Batliwalla Varma (Age 5)  
Proud Parents: Zeena Batliwalla and Arjun Varma.



# Visits to our Dar-E-Mehr

The Dar-e-Mehr is officially open at the following times (Appointments are no longer necessary):

- Tuesdays/Thursday/Friday -- 8:00am – 12:00 noon & 4:00pm – 7:00pm
- Saturday & Sunday -- 8:00am – 7:00pm (no break)
- Monday & Wednesday – Closed all day

If you have any symptoms of sickness please don't come to Dar-e-Mehr. Please bring your own head covering and candles. Avesta is available to the public.

## Z Thoughts

### The Zoroastrian Portraits Project: Bay Area Edition

by **Azita Patel**



In an effort to unite the Parsi and Irani Zartoshti communities, Natalie Kanga and Shahzad Bhiwandiwalla gathered 18 Zoroastrian families from the Greater San Francisco Bay Area to participate as cultural models in a book called The Zoroastrian Portraits Project. The purpose behind this book is to display to our community members that though we may be different, we all have common grounds, greater than just being Zartoshti. This book is meant to be a centerpiece for families, a talking point, a way to get the conversation going, the conversation being the united front of Parsis and Iranis in the Bay Area Zoroastrian community.

This book will only be available in a physical copy, not in digital copy. This book will be printed in Fall 2020. 100% proceeds will go towards the new Zoroastrian Center of Northern California. If you are interested in getting a copy of The Zoroastrian Portraits Project, the book is selling at \$200. Please contact Shahzad Bhiwandiwalla via email at ([shahzadbphotography@gmail.com](mailto:shahzadbphotography@gmail.com)) for more information.

Furthermore, if you have any ideas on uniting our Parsi and Irani communities, please reach out to a ZANC board member, and we will try to make your idea a reality!



In honor of ravanshad Dr. Housang Khatibi, Mrs. Fereshteh Yazdani Khatibi, her children, and her brother Mr. Shahbahram Yazdani-Beioky have dedicated **\$22,500** towards scholarships, \$1,500 each for fifteen deserving Zoroastrian students.

Send application and all supporting documents only by Email to [khatibischolarship@gmail.com](mailto:khatibischolarship@gmail.com)

Download the application [here](#).

Application Deadline is: **July 31, 2021**

**VISIT THE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO**

## PZO Landscape Committee

It's with great joy to announce that the "Landscape committee" (LC) has been created by a number of PZO community members with a vision of improving DareMehr's unused landscape and making it more accessible and enjoyable for our community.

Our goal is to take advantage of DareMehr's beautiful landscape and location to create functional, relaxing, spiritual outdoor spaces that display the Zoroastrian symbolisms and philosophy, for various community-gathering functions.

The LC's bylaw has been approved by PZO Zenhardaran and we are pleased to start planning with the support of PZO Anjoman and PZO Zenhardarn. We plan on having ZANC's cooperation as well. Together we are stronger in building for the future generation.

We need additional volunteer members to join the committee to help with coordination, planning and implementation. We are also excited and looking forward to hearing all your suggestions and ideas in order to collectively make our DareMehr a sanctuary for ourselves and our children. Making it a must-see destination for our larger Zoroastrian community.

Please contact the Landscape Committee's members through LC email: [lc@pzo.info](mailto:lc@pzo.info)

# The Ava Project



In celebration of World Environment Day and World Ocean's Day (June 8, 2021), a family painting online event was hosted by FEZANA on June 5, 2021 for the Ava Project aimed at educating the community about the importance of water and its conservation. The youth painted a scene of trees and water and in the breaks, and while the paint was drying, the youth spoke about the importance of water in our world and ways in which we can conserve water. The painting session was led by ZANC's youth member, Parinaz Dastur. Well done Parinaz!

The FEZANA Ava Project was launched in January 2021 to help achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Developmental Goals which will come due in 10 years in 2030. To know more about the AVA Project and to get involved, visit: <https://fezana.org/theavaproject/>





# SOAS PhD Survey on 'Zoroastrians-by-choice' and 'Zoroastrians-by-birth' in California



Ruzbeh Vistasp Hodiwala is a Ph.D. student at SOAS, University of London, where he is researching '[Zoroastrians-by-Choice](#)' and their interactions with '[Zoroastrians-by-Birth](#)' under the supervision of Professor Almut Hintze. He has recently launched two English-language surveys to be completed by the 'Zoroastrians-by-Choice' and 'Zoroastrians-by-Birth' (those born to at least one Zoroastrian parent) respectively and will shortly launch a Persian version for Zoroastrians-By-Choice.

The geographical focus of his Ph.D. project is on North America and a few countries in Europe. The anonymous survey will supplement his in-person fieldwork, which he plans to resume in October 2021 in the United States and Canada. He intends to spend at least 4 months in California out of his 10-month long fieldwork in North America and devote considerable time meeting and interacting with Zoroastrian members across CA.

 <b>SURVEY - I</b> For Zoroastrians By-Choice	 <b>SURVEY - II</b> For Zoroastrians By-Birth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ You were born into a non-Zoroastrian family – where both mother and father are/were born non-Zoroastrians/ they were legally assigned a non-Zoroastrian identity at birth and you accepted the Zoroastrian identity by undergoing a Sedreh-Pushi ceremony.</li><li>✓ You/your family publicly identified as non-Zoroastrians but privately remained Zoroastrians, therefore you accepted the Zoroastrian identity by undergoing a Sedreh-Pushi ceremony.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ If you are a Zoroastrian who was born into a family where 'both' the parents or 'at least one parent' – mother 'or' father is/was born a Zoroastrian.</li><li>✓ You can undertake this survey if you have not undergone a Navjote/Sedreh Pushi ceremony but identify yourself as a Zoroastrian.</li></ul>

You will see additional information on the eligibility criteria after accessing the survey and have the option of proceeding to another survey based on your eligibility. If you are still unsure about which survey to complete, please contact the researcher at [ruzbeh\\_hodiwala@soas.ac.uk](mailto:ruzbeh_hodiwala@soas.ac.uk) or by completing the contact form at [www.neozoroastrianproject.com/contact](http://www.neozoroastrianproject.com/contact)

If you are a 'Zoroastrian-by-choice' who has not undergone a Sedreh-Pushi ceremony and would like to participate in the project, please contact the researcher.

**به زودی!**  
**Coming Soon!**

**نظر سنجی ۱: برای نورزشتیان**  
**Survey – I : For Zoroastrians-By-Choice (in Persian)**

For further information and to access the Survey through URLs kindly visit [www.neozoroastrianproject.com](http://www.neozoroastrianproject.com)

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COMMUNITY  
APPEAL

## ADVERTISE IN OUR DIRECTORY

We are in the process of updating the ZANC Directory. If you would like to place an advertisement in the 2021 ZANC Directory, please email your advertisement to the ZANC Board at [board@zanc.org](mailto:board@zanc.org) by August 6th.

Here are the rates:

- Front inside (color) and back inside cover: \$250
- Back outside cover: \$400
- Inside page: \$100
- Half Page \$70

## DONATE

Now you can donate for ZANC General Fund, New Community Center or Dare-Mehr Maintenance or Repair directly using Debit/Credit Card or PayPal at <https://www.zanc.org/donation/>

**This is an urgent personal appeal from the President of the Parsi General Hospital (P.G.H.).** [[See letter here.](#)]

These past months COVID-19 has turned our lives upside down. People all over the world are suffering medically, physically, emotionally and financially. COVID-19 has caused extreme hardships and demands on the medical institutions and medical caregivers. The P.G.H.'s financial needs during the global pandemic are greater than ever before.

We thank our friends from USA and Canada for your tremendous support, encouragement, and generous donations in the past for a very worthy cause- taking care of our sick and needy. However, in this situation of dire need, we have decided to make this special appeal this year to our community members for support of our P.G.H.



UPCOMING  
EVENTS

## Muktad Prayers and Navroze Jashan

Muktad Prayers (**Weekdays**)  
Prayers start at **5:00 pm** sharp.  
At Dar-E-Mehr  
August 11-13, 2021

Muktad Prayers (**Weekend**)  
Prayers start at **11:00 am** sharp.  
At Dar-E-Mehr  
August 14-15, 2021



**Offerings of flowers, fruits, dried fruits, malido, sev, rawo etc are always welcome and partaken/shared by all present.**

If you wish to include deceased family members' names in prayers, please e-mail Ervard Kobad Jamshed ( [kobadj@hotmail.com](mailto:kobadj@hotmail.com) ) with the details. A donation of \$30 per name is suggested. Checks should be made out to ZANC and mailed to Er. Kobad Jamshed - 1115 Polynesia Drive, Foster City CA 94404

## Navroze Jashan

Prayers will begin at **5:00 pm** sharp at the San Jose Dar-E-Mehr on Monday, August 16, 2021.

Seating capacity will be limited to 40 people and will be provided on a first come first serve basis. To secure your place, please contact Ervard Kobad Jamshed ( [kobadj@hotmail.com](mailto:kobadj@hotmail.com) ). We are looking into the availability of internet at the Dar-E-Mehr to determine whether we will be able to provide Zoom for the Muktad and Jashan.

# Zoroastrian Volleyball Tournament



**1st**  
**VOLLEYBALL**  
**TOURNAMENT**

PZO and SZA Present

**AUGUST 14**  
**SACRAMENTO**

**Lunch**  
Location: SZA Community center  
**Games start at: 3 pm**  
Location: 3727 Bradview Dr, Sacramento

**TOURNAMENT FORMAT:**

- 6 plays will play for each team with minimum 2 females on the court.

**REGISTRATION:**

- Registration form will be submit to captain by email.
- Please email us with your team information by July 31 st .
- Please email us if you are not part of a team and interested to join one of our teams.

**WIN A  
TROPHY &  
CASH  
PRIZES**

**ZSCPLUS@GMAIL.COM**  
**4086582399**

Made with PosterMyWall.com

First Volleyball Tournament of Northern California Zoroastrians will be held on Saturday, August 14th in Sacramento. Click [here](#) to Register as a team or an individual. Registration will end on July 31st.

Download the registration form [here](#).

## Religion Classes

Date	Topic
August 21st, Khordad Sal	The Birth of Asho Zarathushtra The Lofty Spiritual Status of Asho Zarathushtra
September 19th	The Miracles of Asho Zarathushtra and His Missions.
October 17th	Why do all our prayers begin with Khshnothra Ahurahe Mazdao? Ahura Mazda- the Creation and it's Final Goal
November 21st	Asha , Ashoi, the Prayer "Ashem Vohu"
December 19th	Manthra Prayers

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FUTURE  
EVENTS

## 12th World Zoroastrian Congress - 2022 NYC



The 12th World Zoroastrian Congress (WZC) is co-hosted by ZAGNY (Zoroastrian Association of Greater New York, and FEZANA (Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America).

The WZC returns to the United States after 22 years and is expected to attract 1500 attendees from all over the world. Planning is under way for attendees (including teens and children) to enjoy an unparalleled WZC with engaging programs, dynamic cultural events, interesting exhibits, unique marketplace offerings, and sensational entertainment. This exceptional three-and-a-half-day event coincides with the July 4th weekend celebrations creating a one-of-a-kind New York City experience!

The WZC will be held at the [New York Hilton Midtown](#), giving attendees the opportunity to stay in the heart of New York City for the event.

[VISIT THE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO](#)



Please reach out to [chairzgame2020@gmail.com](mailto:chairzgame2020@gmail.com) if you would like to become an ambassador for your community or volunteer for the Games. This is a great way to help the community and make everlasting friendships.

[VISIT THE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO](#)

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## USEFUL LINKS

### ZANC Group Facebook Page

This group on Facebook is a closed group for ZANC members, and friends of ZANC.  
Facebook Group Link <https://www.facebook.com/groups/zancnorcal>

### Some parsi Nataks

Bawaji ka time Aayega -

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6lEXmLwSyXE&ab\\_channel=prakashstudio](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6lEXmLwSyXE&ab_channel=prakashstudio)

Parsi Natak Madan Ni Mansik Hospital -

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZCJRHunSPPM&ab\\_channel=MehbadDastur](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZCJRHunSPPM&ab_channel=MehbadDastur)

Gherno Gahambar: A Parsi Gujarati Play Performed by Members of the Zoroastrian Association of Metropolitan Chicago

1. Title and Credits <https://youtu.be/p6F1FOFzdpl>
2. Act I, Scene 1 <https://youtu.be/4ljNXS7c7CY>
3. Act I, Scene 2 <https://youtu.be/kzyucmuglwU>
4. Act II, Scene 1 <https://youtu.be/nFphPlsprPA>
5. Act II, Scene 2 <https://youtu.be/7Gvgxmi43UU>

Pestonjee na parakram -

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DeMurWu0M6g&feature=youtu.be&ab\\_channel=ZoroastrianAssociationofGreaterNewYork](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DeMurWu0M6g&feature=youtu.be&ab_channel=ZoroastrianAssociationofGreaterNewYork)

### FEZANA Resources

Fezana Talks - <https://fezana.org/category/talks/>

FIRES - FEZANA Information Research Education System - <http://fires-fezana.org/> A wealth of information at your fingertips and continuously growing.

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## Membership / Renewal Form 2021

### ADULT 1:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Month and Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Profession: \_\_\_\_\_

### ADULT 2:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Month and Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Profession: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Apt #:

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_



## INFORMATION ON CHILDREN LIVING WITH THE FAMILY OR IN COLLEGE

### Child 1:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number:(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Month and Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### Child 2:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number:(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Month and Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### Child 3:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number:(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Month and Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### Child 4:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number:(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Month and Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

## INFORMATION ON PARENTS LIVING WITH THE FAMILY

### Parent 1:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number:(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Month and Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent 2:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number:(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

Month and Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

### Dues:

Family	\$150
Individual	\$75
Seniors	\$35
Students	\$25
Life Membership	\$3,000

### Options to pay membership:

**1) PayPal** -- <https://www.zanc.org/membership/>. [Go to [www.zanc.org](https://www.zanc.org) and click on the Membership tab.]

**2) Check** -- Make checks payable to ZANC. Please send a check to Kerman Deboo at 4357 Krause Street, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

Please help us by updating our membership information.

### Options to update membership information:

**1) Online** -- Fill online form available on <https://www.zanc.org/membership/>.

**2) Mail** Please send this filled form to Kerman Deboo at 4357 Krause Street, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

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