

FEZANA DELEGATION TO ATTEND THE 64TH UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN CONFERENCE IN MARCH 2020

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FEZANA will be participating at the 64th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) conference to be held in March 2020 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA. Marking the 25th anniversary of the 4th World Conference on Women in 1995, this year's theme will focus on the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action – the most progressive blueprint for advancing women's rights. The team representing FEZANA is comprised of a diverse group of individuals from USA, Canada, Pakistan and New Zealand.



Ferzeen Dadabhoy (Auckland, New Zealand) – Analyst by profession, with a Bachelor's in Business, majoring Management and International Business. Ferzeen is passionate about giving back to the community and raising awareness on the work done by various NGOs. In her leisure time, she likes to use her event planning skills to create fundraisers to support various NGOs and is always looking for unique ways to support NGOs that work with kids.



Miraal Mavalvala (Pakistan/Canada) – Graduate student at McGill University pursuing a Master's degree in Public Health. Born and raised in Pakistan, Miraal has worked with organizations including the Aga Khan University, WHO Sri Lanka and Palladium in the areas of Maternal and Child Health and Sexual and Reproductive Health. She recently completed her graduate placement at the Pan American Health Organization in Washington D.C., where she worked in the Department of Public Health Emergencies.



Sanaya Master (New Zealand/Canada) – Sanaya conceptualized and organized the first World Zoroastrian Youth Leaders Forum at the ASHA Centre in Mar 2018. She has been a speaker at global and local Zoroastrian events including the 7th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress in LA, USA and the Jamshed K Pavri Seminar in Vancouver, Canada. In Aug 2019, Sanaya attended the 68th UN Civil Society Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah and compiled the Rapporteurs Report. She has also been the Guest Editor of the FEZANA Journal twice.



Shirin Mehri (Karachi, Pakistan) – Shirin's passion for an equitable educational and social landscape continues to be evident in her professional and volunteer work. After successfully completing projects in education in UAE, Tanzania, Azerbaijan and the US, Shirin is leading a project on family-friendly workplaces in Pakistan focusing on availability of childcare services. She holds a Masters degree in Entrepreneurial Leadership from Babson College and an undergraduate degree in Economics & Finance from SUNY Plattsburgh.



Afreed Mistry (Toronto, Canada) – FEZANA's main representative to the United Nations. She is also the Co-Chair of the FEZANA UN-NGO Committee. Afreed has attended 7 Commission on the Status of Women conferences and 1 UN DPI NGO Conference.



Behram Pastakia, MD, FACR (Washington DC, USA) – Chair of the Zarathushti Youth Without Borders initiative of FEZANA, and Co-Chair of its UN - NGO Committee is a practicing radiologist in Metropolitan Washington D.C. He is part of RAD-AID International (www.rad-aid.org), an NGO which promotes health care in low resource countries, through education, innovation and entrepreneurship.

About FEZANA: Founded in 1987, FEZANA serves as the coordinating body for 26 Zoroastrian member associations and 15 corresponding groups throughout the United States and Canada. The Federation promotes the study, understanding and practice of the Zoroastrian faith, represents the interests of its member associations, and carries out philanthropic and charitable activities worldwide. FEZANA was placed on the Roster of NGO's in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the UN in 1997 and is registered with the Department of Global Communications.

Collaboration for the workshop at the United Nations comes from FEZANA (www.fezana.org), Asha Centre (ashacentre.org), Pakistan Business Council (<https://www.pbc.org.pk>), Aahung (aahung.org) and Shirkat Gah – Women's Resource Centre (shirkatgah.org)

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