

FEZANA *bulletin*

June 2015 / VOLUME 5 • ISSUE 6



UPCOMING DATES

July 1, 2015

Tirangan Jashan Prayers.
California Zoroastrian Center,
Westminster, CA, 7pm.

July 10, 2015

*Authors Brigadier Behram
Panthaki and Zenobia Panthaki.*
ZHCC, Houston. 6:30 pm.

July 12, 2015

*Authors Brigadier Behram
Panthaki and Zenobia Panthaki.*
ZANT, Dallas. 3:30 pm.

July 6-17, 2015

*Introduction to the Avestan
Language; Bhandarkar Oriental
Institute, Pune India. Parzor in
collaboration with SOAS.*
shrikant.bahulkar@gmail.com

July 15, 2015

*Application Deadline for
Vakhshoori Scholarships.*
<http://www.vakhshoori.org>

August 5-7, 2015

*Youth Assembly at the United
Nations, NYC.*

Sept 5-6, 2015

Zoroastrian Unity Cup Games.
Redondo Beach, CA.
www.zathletics.com

October 15-19, 2015

*2015 Parliament of the World's
Religions. Salt Lake City.*
[Click here.](#)

December 18-20, 2015

*World Zarathushti Chamber of
Commerce (WZCC) Annual
General Meeting. Panaji, Goa,
India. <http://wzcc.net>*

Dec 28, 2015-Jan 2, 2016

*6th World Zoroastrian Youth
Congress. Auckland, NZ*
<http://www.6wzyc.co.nz/>

OZCF Holds "Jashan in the Baug" in Toronto



On June 21, 2015 the Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation (OZCF), held an historic event -- "Jashan in the Baug" -- on their beautiful ten acre property located in Oakville, Ontario, Canada.

This event was organized specifically for two reasons: to recognize Mobeds who, for many years, have continued to provide religious services to

the Zoroastrian community in North America; and also to showcase the newly acquired Afarghanyu which has been donated from the Zanzibar Agiary to the Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation. It will eventually be housed in the OZCF Agiary.

The grand *Khushalinu Jashan* was held under two huge tents -- 100 ft. by 40 ft. -- each well decorated with beautiful flowers and table settings set up on the well maintained grass. The tents were fully packed by a sold-out crowd of over 650 Zoroastrians. There were well organized parking guides who efficiently parked well over 330 cars. The day started off with two youths providing a brief description of the Jashan, followed by religious songs by youths of the OZCF Religious Classes and welcome remarks by the organizing committee Co-chairs, Rumi Jasavala, Kermin Byramjee and OZCF President, Mr. Percy Dastur.

The Jashan was performed by thirty Mobeds including young and old from Ontario Canada. It was amazing to hear thirty Mobeds praying in synch. It really was an historical moment for North America.



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**NGO in consultative
status (Roster) with the
Economic and Social
Council of the United
Nations**



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a live band with lovely music. At the end there was a final raffle drawing for a trip for two to South Africa.

The entire event was shown via live streaming and viewed all over the world. With the Blessings of Ahura Mazda the weather turned out to be sunny and cool and the day was well spent by the Zoroastrians. It will be a memorable day for a long time to come. (Photos by Percy A. Dastur, OZCF) □

At the end of the Jashan there were speeches by Councillor Tom Adam of Oakville, Katayun Kapadia FEZANA President, Bina Behboodi, ZSO President, and by Percy Dastur, OZCF President. After the speeches, each Mobed was presented with a beautiful glass recognition award in the shape of a flame. All the Board members and the Jashan organizing committee members were also recognized. At the end of the speeches OZCF was presented with a Cyrus Cylinder replica by Homi Gandhi, FEZANA Vice President.

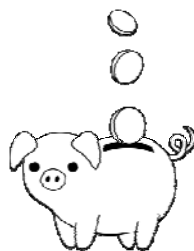
There were plenty of delicious dishes donated by local OZCF members for all to enjoy, including: Parsi favorites, fruits, dried fruits, malido, sev, dahi, ice cream, and cakes. The crowd was entertained by young Zoroastrian girls and boys singing and dancing throughout the day on the stage and

Video: Religions Are Urged to Unite to Preserve the Earth

This video introduces an initiative by Religions for Peace International (RFP). RFP is the world's largest and most representative multi-religious coalition advancing common action for peace by working to advance multi-religious consensus on positive aspects of peace as well as concrete actions to stop war, help eliminate extreme poverty and protect the earth.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_3EuybS9Mk
[approx 3 minutes]

The Power of Collective Giving



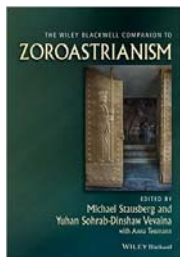
What can you do with \$10? How about supporting vital Zarathushti Infrastructure projects that could set a foundation for future generations of Zarathushtis in North America? **If every Zarathushti contributed just \$10 a year to the FEZANA Infrastructure Fund, just imagine the possibilities! Collectively, we can all make a difference.** Please consider making a donation to the FEZANA Infrastructure Fund. Send donations (marked "FEZANA Infrastructure Fund") to: FEZANA Treasurer, Cherry Hill P.O. Box 3873, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034)



BOOK AWARENESS



This summer FIRES encourages everyone to indulge in "book tourism" and make libraries and bookshops part of your vacation.



Our latest acquisition is the well awaited and much acclaimed, *The Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Zoroastrianism* by Michael Stausberg (Editor), Yuhon Sohrab-Dinshaw Vevaina (Editor) with Anna Tessmann.

This is the first ever comprehensive English-language survey of Zoroastrianism. Evenly divided into five thematic sections beginning with an introduction to Zoroaster/ Zarathustra and concluding with the intersections of Zoroastrianism and other religions, it reflects the global nature of Zoroastrian studies with contributions from 34 international authorities from 10 countries. Vevaina and Stausberg need to be lauded for this compendium.

Visit our website at <http://www.fires-fezana.org/>

Call for FEZANA Scholarship Applications

The below FEZANA scholarships are now accepting applications for 2015. **Note application deadlines are approaching soon.**

FEZANA Academic Scholarships

The FEZANA Academic Scholarship program is open to Zarathushti students who have obtained admission for attendance at institutions of higher learning (accredited degree-granting colleges or universities) in USA or Canada. More details see [FEZANA website](#). **Applications must be sent by July 15, 2015 to: academicscholarship@fezana.org**

FEZANA Excellence in Sports Scholarships

The objective of the Excellence in Sports Scholarship (EXISS) Fund is to provide financial support to young Zarathushtis, living in North America, who are performing exceptionally and at highly recognized levels in any sport. The purpose of the scholarship is to enable the recipients to get world-class training and/or study with experts in their field and thus fine tune and enhance their talent and capabilities. **The deadline for applications is July 31, 2015.**

If you or someone you know may benefit from this scholarship, we encourage you to apply. For more details, please visit <http://www.fezana.org/exiss-fund> or contact Niloofar Balsara at exissfund@fezana.org.

FEZANA Performing and Creative Arts Scholarships

Applications are invited from students in the field of Art, Music, Dance, Graphic Arts, Animation and other art forms. Eligibility and other requirements can be found on the FEZANA website (<http://fezana.org/scholarships/performing-creative-arts/>) **Deadline for applications is July 1 2015.** Applications to be sent to: Nazneen Spliedt, 12 Skypark Circle, South San Francisco, CA 94080

FEZANA Interfaith Activities Committee Seeks Volunteers to Participate in Regina NAIN Conference

FEZANA is a board member of the North American Interfaith Network (NAIN). With your cooperation, we can create awareness about our religion and community, by participation in interfaith events and organizations. Each year, NAIN holds an annual conference (NAIN Connect) at different locations in North America. Last year it was in Detroit, Michigan, and FEZANA Interfaith Committee Co-chairs, Shernaz Minwalla and Maneck Bhujwala attended.

This year, the NAIN Connect conference is in Regina, Saskatchewan, at Luther College, on July 19-22, 2015. The FEZANA Interfaith Activities Committee is seeking Zarathushtis, -- especially from nearby cities -- who can attend. Details of registration, etc. are available on the [Luther College website](#). Zarathushti Associations may consider sponsoring youth to attend.

Please forward this notice to local member lists and to anyone else who might attend. Also, please ask anyone who is attending, to inform the FEZANA Interfaith Activities Committee (Maneck Bhujwala (mbhujwala@social.rr.com) and Shernaz Minwalla (sjminwalla@gmail.com)). □