



## FEZANA Age-Appropriate Lesson Plan

**Subject Category (circle one):** Religion/Ceremony    History    Prayer    Gathas  
Comparative Religion    **Shahnameh**

**Age Group (circle one):** **PreK-K**    Grades 1-3    Grades 4-5    Grades 6-8    Grades 9-12

**Lesson # (if applicable):** 4

**Subject of the Lesson:** King Hushang

### **Background Knowledge for the Teacher:**

Hushang was the son of Siamak and grandson of Keyumars. After King Keyumars died, Hushang became the king. While Hushang was king, there were a lot of new discoveries made to help people. One of the biggest discoveries was when they accidentally made a fire.

One day, King Hushang was riding toward the mountains with a group of companions when a large snake appeared. Hushang threw a big stone at the snake with all of his strength but missed the snake and hit another stone. Sparks flew out and set fire to some dry leaves. The fiery nature of flint was discovered. King Hushang was smart and realized that if he hit two flintstones together he could make sparks and if the sparks fell on dry leaves, they would start burning. He gave thanks to God that he discovered how to make fire. When night came, King Hushang and his companions made a mountain of fire and gathered around it. They had a feast that night. The feast was named "Sadeh" and it is King Hushang's legacy to us. King Hushang discovered iron and how to work with iron; the methods of agriculture and irrigation; he learned how to domesticate certain animals; how to make clothing from the fur of animals. Hushang was king for 40 years. He had a son named Tahmuras.

### **Lesson for students:**

Teachers should begin the lesson by asking students what they remember about the first story in the Shahnameh. If students do not remember anything, review some key points about it. The teacher will use the information in the "Background Knowledge for the Teacher" section to go over the second story. After reading the story to the students, the students can work on the activity listed below.

### **Activity for Students:**

After reading the story, the students can make a fire with a cup and paper pieces

### **Sources:**

*Shahnameh: The Persian Book of Kings* retold by Elizabeth Laird

*Shahnameh: The Epic of the Kings* by Abolqasem Ferdowsi (Translated by Reuben Levy)

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