
Dear Reader

The special 2013 Summer issue of the Fezana Journal commemorating the visit of the iconic Cyrus Cylinder to five museums in United States from the British Museum generated a lot of interest on account of its universal and timeless message pertaining to Human Rights and Human Dignity. A request was made to have this issue available for the Spanish speaking community.

We were very fortunate to have Dr. Monica Riera, Senior Lecturer at University of Portsmouth, England, translate the English text and Dr. Shahrokh Khanizadeh for formatting the Spanish text to harmonize with the printed English version. We are grateful to both for their tremendous contribution of time and energy and to Dr. Carlos Riera Cervantes for facilitating this labor of love.

Best wishes,
Dolly Dastoor, Ph. D.
Editor-in-chief, FEZANA JOURNAL
Behram Pastakia, M.D., FACR
FEZANA, Publications Chair
www.fezana.org
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UPCOMING DATES

Oct 5, 2013-Feb 2, 2014
Power and Legacy: The Cyrus Cylinder and Persian Expressions of Kingship,
Oriental Institute Museum, University of Chicago.
http://oi.uchicago.edu/museum/special/cyrus/

Oct 11-Dec 14, 2013
www.theeverlastingflame.com

Nov 29 and Dec 16, 2013

December 21-22, 2013
Zambhala. Bardo, Goa, India.
www.zambhala.in

December 6-28, 2013
To Eternity and Back. Shirin Kumaana-Wadia Photography Exhibition, Mumbai. www.shirr.in

December 27-31, 2013

January 12, 2014
(DATES CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)
Activities Report from FIRES
By Meheryar N. Rivetna

FIRES – Voted For A Standing Committee
We at FIRES are delighted with the result of the Standing Committee vote and humbled at receiving overwhelming support. We pledge to enhance our services, work on the strategic plan and continue to encourage more of you to get involved with FIRES. The FIRES team is committed to making available materials on all aspects of Zoroastrianism for the dedicated researcher and those interested in learning more about this ancient faith. For more information on FIRES, please visit www.fires-fezana.org

New Books added to FIRES (ZAH)

The Everlasting Flame: Zoroastrianism in History and Imagination – Catalog
Farrokh and Yashfara Mistree have donated a handsome catalog from the recent exhibition held in London under the auspices of SOAS. It is an exhibit worth visiting and those planning to go to Mumbai, India for the Zoroastrian Congress are urged to stop in London and visit the exhibition. The exhibition is open until mid-December.

The Reshaping of Iran from Zoroastrian to Muslim: A history of cultural transformation
by Rashna Writer, examines the transformation of the country and its impact on the diminished Zoroastrian community. Publisher Edwin Mellen produced a paperback with a special price for the Everlasting Flame Exhibition and is available at this price until December 31, 2013. Hardback is available on amazon.com.

Dastur M.N. Dhalla Memorabilia
Golmohr Cantel, granddaughter of Dastur M. N. Dhalla, graciously donated a silver chest, scroll, family pictures and other artifacts belonging to the late High Priest of Karachi. These items are a welcome addition to the existing Dhalla Trust collection on display in the ZAH library. The silver chest, on a large wooden stand, posed a considerable problem in transportation from Ms. Cantel’s home in London to Houston. With patience and careful planning the chest and other items were transported across the Atlantic and will grace their new home in Houston.

Zarathusti Dinner Theater
The Zarathusti Dinner Theater Group presented “Cyrus the Great”, a play produced and directed by Shahnaz Sidhwa. The play enlightened the audience on the life of one of history’s most revered monarchs. The lavish costumes, elaborate set and props added to the success of the play. It was undeniably an entertaining evening.

Shahnaz Sidhwa very generously donated half the proceeds to the ZAH library. The committee is immensely grateful for this magnanimous gesture.
FEZANA is proud to present a complete version of the first edition (1951) of the Divine Songs of Zarathushtra, by Irach J.S. Taraporewalla, courtesy of Erv. Soli P. Dastur. Shared with permission, this extraordinary Zarathushti religious educational treasure is now available for download at http://www.fezana.org. Making this translation of the Gathas accessible to all is in keeping with FEZANA’s Second Strategic Plan in promoting resources for Zarathushti religious education. We are very grateful to the family and heirs of the author for granting FEZANA permission to share this valuable educational resource in the public domain and we are very thankful to Erv. Soli P. Dastur for his tireless efforts in making this project a reality.

South Florida Celebrates Gahambar Together

On Sunday, November 10, 2013, Zarathushris of South Florida gathered for a festive Gahambar in Miramar Regional Park, Miramar Florida. With over 160 people attending, it was an attendance record for the active Zarathushti communities of South Florida including: Miami-based, ZAF; Orlando-based, CFG; and Tampa-based, ZATAMBAY. Traditional Parsi “Bhonu” was served and enjoyed by all.

Zarathushti Participation in International Day of Prayers Interfaith Service

On November 10, 2013 in celebration of the International Day of Prayers, representatives of some fourteen different faith traditions assembled at the St. Paul's Basilica in Toronto to offer prayers for Persecuted Christians and those of other Religions.

After welcome and introduction by president of Toronto Area Interfaith Council the ceremony was initiated with the Smudging Ceremony by the First Nation People. This was followed by short prayers from different Faith groups. Representing the Zarathushti faith, Erv Jehan Bagli offered prayers from the Gathas that directed mankind to freedom from bondage, sovereignty of choice and moral justice.
The FEZANA UN-NGO Committee is looking for participants, on behalf of FEZANA, to attend the Commission on the Status of Women Conference at the UN Headquarters in New York in March 2014.

This year’s theme is, "Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls."

There is a limit on the number of CSW registrants representing FEZANA. If you are interested in attending the CSW Meeting, please send an email with your resume and letter of intent by December 13, 2013. The email has to be sent to ALL 3 of the following individuals:

Homi D. Gandhi (homidgandhi (@) gmail.com)
Behram Pastakia (bpastakia (@) aol.com)
Afreed Mistry (afreed.mistry@gmail.com)