

# FEZANA *bulletin*

July 2015 / VOLUME 5 • ISSUE 7



## UPCOMING DATES

August 5-7, 2015

[Youth Assembly at the United Nations](#). NYC.

August 9, 2015

*Application Deadline: E3!*  
*Ambassadors (see page 2) [E3!](#)*  
[Ambassadors information](#)

August 17, 2015

*Deadline: 2016 Guru Nanak Interfaith Prize Nominations*  
[Hofstra University](#), Hempstead NY.

September 1, 2015

*Submission Deadline: 2016 Nowruz Banner Contest*  
[Farhang Foundation contest](#)

September 1, 2015

*Submission Deadline: 2016 Proposals for Performing Arts pieces that visualize the story of Nowruz at LACMA.*  
[Farhang Foundation at LACMA](#)

Sept 5-6, 2015

*Zoroastrian Unity Cup Games.*  
Redondo Beach, CA.  
[www.zathletics.com](http://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>

December 25-27, 2015

*Iranshah Udvada Utsav (IUU);*  
Udvada, India

Dec 28, 2015-Jan 2, 2016

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

## Recipients Announced for FEZANA Subsidy to Attend 6WZYC2015

Thirty-two applicants have been approved to receive the FEZANA Subsidy for Zarathushti youth from USA and Canada to attend the 6th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress (6WZYC2015) in Auckland, New Zealand in December 2015.

FEZANA thanks the 6WZYC2015 Subsidy Committee (Sherazade Mehta, ZANT; Zain Mavalvalla, ZSBC; Mahrukh Motafram, ZSWS; Tashan Mistree, ZAPANJ, and Saghar Javanshir, ZANT) for their efforts in evaluating the applicants. Subsidy recipients are:

**Sherazad Bapasola, ZAPANJ**

**Autusa Behroozi, ZANT**

**Armand Behroozi, ZANT**

**Sharoozi Bhoopi, ZAGNY**

**Rustom Birdie, ZANC**

**Rosheen Birdie, ZANC**

(Has since declined due to schedule conflict)

**Zarah Birdie, ZANC**

**Mehernaz Bodhanwala, ZAGNY**

**Tanya Dordi, ZSO**

**Naasha Dotiwala, ZAH**

**Sanaya Hormozdyaran, ZAMWI**

**Nadia Jam, ZSO**

**Jennifer Kapadia, OZCF**

**Keemia Karavi, CZC**

**Noshir Khumbatta, ZAH**

**Mitra Khumbatta, ZAH**

**Keshvar Merchant, ZSO**

**Viraf Nariman, ZAH**

**Nazneen Pashutanizadeh, PZO**

**Nilu Pashutanizadeh, Sacramento**

**Mehrzad Pashutanizadeh, ZAC**

**Hanoz Santoke, ZAC**

**Mahfrin Santoke, ZAC/TMZA**

**Arian Sasani, ZSBC**

**Rohan Shroff, ZAPANJ**

**Anahita Sidhwa, ZAC**

**Ninoshka Singh, ZAPANJ**

**Kyra Singh, ZAPANJ**

**Natasha Singh, ZAPANJ**

**Darius Tamboli, ZAH**

**Cumbysis Tampal, ZSO/OZCF**

**Diana Vania, ZSO**

Each recipient has been awarded a \$625 subsidy. FEZANA is proud to support these young Zarathushtis in their endeavors to attend the World Youth Congress. □

## An Invitation to Participate: Commission on the Status of Women - February 2016

**Priority theme: *Women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development***

Zarathushtis interested in participating in the annual meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women at United Nations Headquarters in New York City can contact the Co-Chairs of the FEZANA UN NGO committee [Afreed Mistry [afreedmistry@gmail.com](mailto:afreedmistry@gmail.com); and Behram Pastakia [bpastakia@aol.com](mailto:bpastakia@aol.com)] with a copy of their curriculum vitae and a letter of intent showing how they would promote the mission and vision of the United Nations.

While FEZANA, as a Non-Governmental Organization, in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and the Department of Public Information of the United Nations, will facilitate ground passes and security clearance for selected candidates and provide access to the meetings and discussions, the costs for travel, visas and stay in New York City will be the responsibility of the participants themselves. See more at: <http://www.unwomen.org> □



Federation of  
Zoroastrian  
Associations of  
North America  
(FEZANA)

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



SCAN HERE  
FOR MORE  
FEZANA INFO

## An Invitation to Participate in the Infrastructure Development in North America

By the FEZANA Infrastructure Development Committee

**“A dollar in your pocket will remain a dollar but when mingled with 20,000 others it will become \$20,000. That is the power of Collective Giving.”**

We have known that infrastructure is the life blood of any community. In North America our Zarathushti infrastructure needs are to be developed in order that our community survives and prospers. To name a few: we need a Community headquarters, we need Athornan institutes, we need learning centers. There is a long list of services we need to provide. All of this requires funding and the only source is us. If we put our minds and hearts to developing our infrastructure, we can do it. The suggestion is that each man, woman and child contribute a small sum of \$10 each year towards the cause.

We are requesting FEZANA Member Associations to spread the word and collect \$10 from each individual for the development of infrastructure in North America. There is, of course, no compulsion, but a kind word will go a long way. There are 20,000+ of us in North America which implies that the target ought to be \$200,000 annually. Can you imagine what the sum might have been if we were to have started this drive 30 years ago?

Associations may collect the cash and send a check for the total collections to FEZANA or make an online payment as stated below.

Checks should be made out to FEZANA, but please write the words "FEZANA INFRASTRUCTURE FUND" in the memo section of the check.

Mail your check to :  
Nilufer K. Shroff  
FEZANA Treasurer  
Post office Box 3873  
1175 Marlcrest Road,  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034.

Or donate online with credit card using the link  
<http://fezana.org/funds/infrastructure-fund/>  
Donations to FEZANA are tax deductible.

### E3! Ambassadors Program

#### APPLICATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 9, 2015

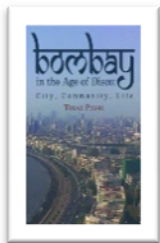
The E3! Ambassadors Program, sponsored by the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (WHIAAPI), is a youth engagement program that discovers, develops, and defines a new generation of leaders committed to advocating for AAPIs. The E3! Ambassadors Program affords young leaders the opportunity to brainstorm and implement their own unique ideas to help improve the overall quality of life for AAPIs across the country

FEZANA encourages Zarathushti youth to participate and shine in this excellent program. Member Associations and Small Groups: please circulate among your membership and encourage our Youth to take the lead.

For more information and application visit the [WHIAAPI website](http://WHIAAPI.org).



## BOOK AWARENESS



*Bombay in the Age of Disco* by Tina Pavri is a personal and historically powerful memoir that weaves together the experiences and aspirations of a young girl and a city on the cusp of this transformation. Tina Pavri is a professor of Political Science at Spelman College in Atlanta.



*Imperfect Fragments* by Deenaz P. Coachbuilder is a collection of reflective, intimate poems that draw upon the wisdom of the author's Zoroastrian faith, the sensual literary traditions of her native India, and the invigorating contradictions of living in modern California. It is a book that can easily be picked up and turned open at any page: closing it is much more difficult. Deenaz is a resident of Riverside, California, since 1981.

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

## ZAH Hosts the Authors of *Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw: The Man and his Times*



**Ret. Brigadier Panthaki and Zenobia Panthaki field questions from the crowd at ZAH on July 10.**

On July 10, the Zoroastrian Association of Houston (ZAH) hosted Retired Brigadier Behram Panthaki and Zenobia Panthaki -- authors of the book *Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw: The Man and his Times*. During the event, the guests of honor spoke of their close association with Sam Manekshaw and related many stories and anecdotes including the Field Marshal's ability to hold politicians' feet to the fire, his love for the simple soldier and his unique and often wicked sense of

humor. The Panthakis made a similar presentation the next day at the ZANT Center in Dallas.

The questions came fast and furious: 'why are our military heroes relegated to cantonments, why aren't their statues erected on Main Street? 'Did Sam have a falling out with Indira Gandhi? Is that why he was denied the perquisites of a Field Marshal?' Some sought clarification on a statement by Pakistan's ex-Army Chief and President, General Musharaf, who was but a Captain during the 1971 war, that had he been deployed in the eastern sector, Pakistan would not have had to face defeat.

Brig. Panthaki fielded the questions with calm and élan: 'The last deserves no answer. Really, do you believe a Captain can change the course of a war? 'Sam may not have agreed with Mrs. Gandhi's policies and her imposition of the emergency, but he maintained a respectful, cordial relationship. As to why our military heroes are housed in cantonments, that question should be posed to our politicians.'



**Ret. Brigadier Panthaki signs his book for ZAH members, Arnavaz and Hoshang Sethna**

The Panthakis have been travelling and promoting *Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw: The Man and His Times*. Last October they were invited to the Kushwant Singh Literary Festival in Kasauli (near Simla). Their book was awarded a cash prize of Rs.50,000, and in keeping with their pledge to direct major portions of the proceeds of the book to the War Heroes and their families, the cheque was handed over to the President of the War Wounded Foundation.

To date, among many events, they have made presentations at Zoroastrian Associations in Toronto, Miami, Orlando, Tampa and also at the World Bank in Washington, DC.

These events have been also attended by the wider Indian community. In Houston, the Panthakis were live on HumTumRadio, a local Houston channel, for an hour and a half as questions continued to pour in. In the fall the Panthakis will present their book to the local Zoroastrian community in Washington DC. □





## COMMUNITY CONNECTION

**Call for Submissions:  
Nowruz 2016 Visual and  
Performing Arts**

SUBMISSION DEADLINES:  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

The Farhang Foundation is sponsoring two competitions for the Visual and Performing Arts centered around Nowruz 2016 celebrations:

**Nowruz Programming  
Proposals for Farhang  
Foundation's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Nowruz Celebration at the  
Los Angeles County  
Museum of Art.**

Artists, Writers, Directors and performers are invited to create a dynamic and immersive theatrical experience in honor of Nowruz. See more details at [Farhang Foundation at LACMA](http://Farhang Foundation at LACMA).

**2016 Nowruz Banner  
Contest.**

Aspiring and veteran graphic artists are invited to submit original designs that conceptualize Nowruz. Artwork will be displayed on street banners throughout Los Angeles and on marketing material. For details see [Farhang Foundation](http://Farhang Foundation).

## Global Announcement from NAZC 2017

**GET ONBOARD!**  
18<sup>TH</sup> NORTH AMERICAN ZARATHUSHTI CONGRESS

VANCOUVER  
ALASKA

THE FIRST EVER ZARATHUSHTI CONGRESS ON A CRUISE  
JULY 2017 | 3755Z

WWW.NAZC2017.ORG  
INFO@NAZC2017.ORG  
HTTP://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NAZC2017

We are looking forward to hosting an amazing Congress in 2017 and hope you can join us!



Thank you,  
**NAZC2017 Executive Committee**  
[info@nazc2017.org](mailto:info@nazc2017.org)  
[www.nazc2017.org](http://www.nazc2017.org)  
[www.facebook.com/nazc2017](http://www.facebook.com/nazc2017)

## Parzor E-Catalog Available



The Parzor Foundation for Preservation of Vulnerable Human Heritage, initiated through the Unesco Parzor Project, has since 1999, undertaken research in various fields, working towards the promotion and preservation of Parsi Zoroastrian heritage and culture. Items purchased through the Parzor catalog go only towards furthering the research objectives of Parzor. Visit [www.unescoparzor.com/parzor-craft](http://www.unescoparzor.com/parzor-craft) or contact nilouferparzor (@) gmail.com to receive an e-catalog.