

FEZANA *bulletin*

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UPCOMING DATES

Through Jan 24, 2016

Parsi Silk and Muslin from Iran, India and China Exhibition; East West Center, Honolulu, HI. [East West Center Arts Program](#)

Through September 2016

Persepolis: Images of an Empire. [Oriental Institute – Univ of Chicago](#).

December 25-27, 2015

Iranshah Udvada Utsav (IUU); Udvada, India <http://www.iuu.org.in/>

Dec 28, 2015-Jan 2, 2016

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

February 18-19, 2016

2016 Winter Youth Assembly at the United Nations, New York City. Visit faf.org

March 9, 2016

Nowruz program at Oriental Institute, Chicago. Sponsored in part by FEZANA and ZAC-CHI. oi.com

March 12, 2016

Nowruz program at Oriental Institute, Chicago. Sponsored in part by FEZANA and ZAC-CHI. oi.com

March 14-24, 2016

CSW60 (Commission on the Status of Women) Conference. United Nations, NYC. CSW60

March 19-May 29, 2016

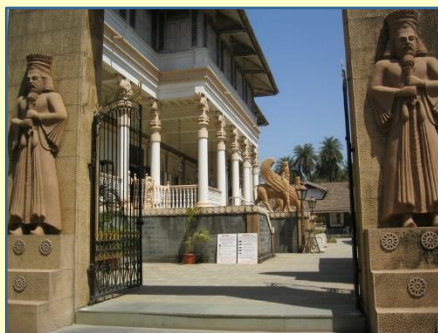
International Everlasting Flame Programme MoMA India; Parzor: UNESCO.

April 29-May 1, 2016

FEZANA AGM. Novi, Michigan admin@fezana.org

First Ever Iranshah Udvada Utsav

The first Iranshah Udvada Utsav (IUU) celebration takes place over a three-day period from December 25-27, 2015 in Udvada, Gujarat, India. Inspired and supported by Hon'ble Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, who speaks highly of the Zarathushti community's unparalleled contribution towards India's nation building, the IUU will host thousands of Zarathushtis this December who will travel to Udvada from throughout India and from abroad to partake in the festivities. Prime Minister Modi recognizes that Udvada (home of the Iranshah Atash Behram, the most sacred Atash Behram in India) showcases the history of the Parsi community and it was his keen desire to project Udvada as a place of



harmony, religious tolerance and opportunities. Thus, after much hard work by its core project team, the first ever festival at Udvada has been organized, with the hope that it becomes an annual tradition.

The program includes Parsi naataks, entertainment acts by children, youth and adults of our community, Udvada heritage walks, treasure hunt, religious talks and other youth programs. Workshops and presentations are also planned which will showcase Parsi culture and traditions. There will be a bazaar with stalls of Parsi foods, traditional clothing and religious items.

Representatives from FEZANA and many Zarathushtis from North America are planning to attend the IUU event. Look for reports in the January *FEZANA Bulletin* and in the *FEZANA Journal*. For more details, visit <http://www.iuu.org.in/>. □

ZAC-LA Recognizes Its New Mobedyars

Excerpts from an article by Dilnavaz Shroff



The graduation ceremony of six new Mobedyars and the presentation of their certificates, was a wonderful and inspirational occasion at the Zoroastrian Association of California Center in Orange, California. The ceremony was preceded by a Jashan, performed by Ervads Zarrir Bhandara, Zerkxis Bhandara and the new Mobedyars who were bestowed this honor. The six Mobedyars who were presented with their certificates were, Eric and Jimmy Colabewalla, Vistasp Shroff, Goolcher

Rustomi, Houtoxi Contractor and Navaz Modi.

This Graduation ceremony was the culmination of a two-year course for training Mobedyars conceptualized by Ervad Zarrir Bhandara, the ZAC-LA's officiating priest for California and other learned community members of ZAC-LA, who felt there was



Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America (FEZANA)


President
Katayun Kapadia
president@fezana.org

Registered Address
5750 S Jackson Street
Hinsdale, Illinois 60521

Administrative Office
8615 Meadowbrook Drive
Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527

Phone: 630-468-2705
E-mail: admin@fezana.org
Web: www.fezana.org

 Facebook: [FEZANA](https://www.facebook.com/FEZANA)

 Twitter: [#FEZANA1](https://twitter.com/FEZANA1)

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



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a need for Mobedyars to be a part of the ZAC-LA community due to its growing Zoroastrian population and with that, of course, the growing demand to perform religious ceremonies. Thus, the two-year Mobedyar course was formulated, to enable the community to have trained and willing Mobedyars, who would assist the priests with rites and rituals and who would also guide the community in all religious matters, as and when needed. □

Petition to Create a Religious Arm of the United Nations

At the 6th Parliament of the World's Religions (PWR), FEZANA hosted panel discussions on "Petition to the United Nations (UN) Secretary General (SG) for setting up a Religious Arm of the UN" (the Petition). Besides Rohinton Rivetna, Khosro Mehrfar, and Homi Gandhi from FEZANA, there were Dr. Harbans Lal and Bhai Sahib Satpal Singh Khalsa from the Sikh Community on the panel.

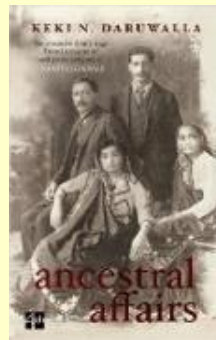
At the PWR, hundreds of people had signed the Petition. However, at the end of the panel presentation, many individuals and other faith leaders wanted to involve their groups and communities in signing this Petition. So the Panelists have decided to put this Petition online for signature.

Please circulate this information to your communities and members. For details about the Petition visit [FEZANA website](http://www.fezana.org) or visit <http://www.unreligiousarm.org/> to view and sign the petition. □

BOOK AWARENESS



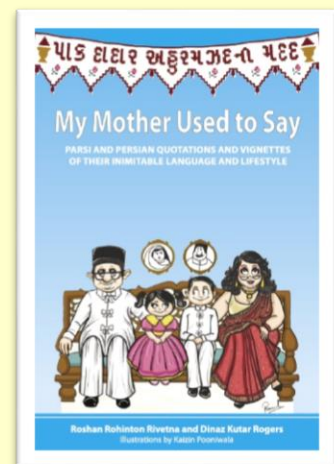
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Ancestral Affairs by Keki N. Daruwalla is a family saga with a grand sweep from the opium wars to the freedom struggle to the Partition of the subcontinent. Seldom have the events of 1947, and their fallout, been described in such humane detail and with such droll humor in Indian fiction.

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<http://www.fires-fezana.org/>

Now Available



My Mother Used to Say: Parsi and Persian Quotations and Vignettes of their Inimitable Language and Lifestyle
By Roshan Rivetna and Dinaz Kutar Rogers
Illustrations by Kaizin Pooniwala

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