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UPCOMING DATES

August 1, 2017

United Nations DPI/NGO
Intergenerational Dialogues
event. New York City.
<http://bit.ly/2sBgZ23>

August 6, 2017

Zoroastrian Association of
Quebec (ZAQ) 50th Anniversary
Celebration. **Saint-Laurent, QC.**
<http://www.zaq.org/50years>

August 28-30, 2017

67th United Nations DPI/ NGO
Conference. New York City. UN
Headquarters.

September 2-3, 2017

[10th Zoroastrian Unity Cup
Soccer Tournament](#), Redondo
Beach, CA

October 14, 2017

[Society of Scholars of
Zoroastrianism \(SSZ\) Conference.](#)
Detroit, Michigan.

(Dates continued on page 4)

Zoroastrian Association of Quebec Set to Celebrate 50th Anniversary



The Zoroastrian Association of Quebec (ZAQ) was the first Zoroastrian association to be established in North America in 1967. This year, the Zoroastrian Association of Quebec (ZAQ) celebrates 50 years of serving the Zoroastrian community of Quebec with devotion and loyalty. To commemorate this special occasion, ZAQ has organized a gala dinner event to be held on Sunday, August 6, 2017.

FEZANA congratulates ZAQ for celebrating this unique first event in the history of the North American Zarathushti community. Fifty years ago, how could the original founders of ZAQ have known that they were indeed planting the seeds of Zarathushti heritage in the Western diaspora. Since then, ZAQ and its members have been at the forefront in terms of leading the North American Zoroastrian community.

This milestone offers a wonderful opportunity to reflect upon the history of ZAQ and the important contributions it has made to the personal lives of its members and also to the North American Zarathushti community. ZAQ has paved the way for the next 25 associations on the North American continent.

As ZAQ marks 50 years of success, it has every reason to be proud of its past and excited about its future. FEZANA is proud to announce the celebration of ZAQ's Golden anniversary by declaring August 6, 2017 as "ZAQ Day". Happy 50th Birthday, ZAQ! □

Zoroastrian Prayer at Interfaith Concert in Washington D.C.

Communities of different Faith Traditions come together with song, music, dance and chant



(L to R): *Left to right: Yasna Goshdashti, Jamshid Parsinejad, Shahrzad Nasrabadi recite a verse from the Gathas to begin the Annual Interfaith Music Concert in Washington D. C.*

The next Interfaith music concert will be held at the Washington Hebrew Congregation on Embassy Row in the Nation's capital, in November 2017. Details at: www.ifcmw.org □

The Choir of the Zoroastrian Association of Metropolitan Washington Inc (ZAMWI) sang "We are the World" (lyrics by Michael Jackson) at the historic AME Church a few blocks from the White House, as part of an annual celebration every November to bring diverse communities together in harmony.

The concert serves as a venue to recognize individuals in the community who make significant contributions to promote the dual objectives of the Interfaith conference of Washington D. C., nurturing dialogue to deepen understanding and taking action to promote social justice.



**Federation of
Zoroastrian
Associations of
North America
(FEZANA)**

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Archived issues of the FEZANA Bulletin are available on the FEZANA website at:
<http://fezana.org/publication/bulletinarchives/>

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To opt out, contact:
admin@fezana.org

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

FEZANA Executive Welcomes New Treasurer



FEZANA is happy to welcome Shirin Jahanian, of New Jersey, who has joined the FEZANA Executive as FEZANA Treasurer. She replaces outgoing Treasurer, Nilufer Shroff, and will serve out the remaining term through 2018. FEZANA gratefully thanks Nilufer Shroff for her dedication and service to FEZANA, and looks forward to working with Shirin.

Shirin Jahanian is a Certified Public Accountant and Accounting educator. She is an owner of Jahanian Taxes, a company she founded to help small business owners having unpredictable cash flow, low profitability, insufficient growth and paying higher taxes. She has served the Zoroastrian Association of Pennsylvania and New Jersey (ZAPANJ) as treasurer. She is currently serving two condo associations as treasurer. She is life member of ZAPANJ and resident of Voorhees, New Jersey where she lives with her husband.

Shirin Jahanian can be contacted at: treasurer@fezana.org. For mail correspondence: P.O. Box 185, Gibbsboro Post Office, 65 Kirkwood Road, Gibbsboro, NJ 08026-0185 □

Pre-Register for the 2018 Parliament of the World's Religions

FEZANA is pleased to share that the next Parliament of the World's Religions (PWR) will be held from November 1 to 7, 2018 in Toronto, Canada, within driving distance of many of our North American Zoroastrian communities.

As with the previous Parliament in 2015, FEZANA is coordinating the Zarathushti presence at this Parliament. Zoroastrians have attended every single Parliament since the first one in 1893, so we hope we have a strong turnout again this year.

More than 10,000 people are expected to participate in the 2018 Parliament. The Parliament of the World's Religions was created to cultivate harmony among the world's religious and spiritual communities and foster their engagement with the world and its guiding institutions in order to achieve a just, peaceful and sustainable world. More information about the 2018 Parliament of the World's Religions is available at: <https://parliamentofreligions.org/parliament/2018-toronto/toronto-2018>.

FEZANA would like Zarathushtis from all over the world who are interested in attending the PWR to avail of the super saver group registration rate for groups of 10 or more. **(US \$ 260). You can pay this amount online on FEZANA's website at: <https://fezana.org/2018-parliament-worlds-religions/>**

FEZANA will complete the group booking formalities and you will receive a direct link to go in and complete your personal registration. Registration covers entry and attendance to all sessions of the Parliament. If you have questions before you register, please email pwr@fezana.org **Please note that the early bird deadline is 11:59 PM on August 1, 2017.**

To read about FEZANA's participation at the 2015 Parliament of World's Religions, in Salt Lake City, Utah; USA read the in depth coverage starting on page 26 of the [FEZANA Journal Winter 2015](#) issue.



BOOK AWARENESS



Parsee Prakash, being a record of important events in the growth of the Parsee community in Western India chronologically arranged. Vol. 1 compiled by Bomanjee Byramjee Patell. Publisher, Bombay, Duftur Ashkara Press 1888

This very rare and valuable book is for reference use only at FIRES library.

Read more about the new donations received by FIRES on page 4.

Visit our website at <http://www.fires-fezana.org/> and listen to Aban M Kabraji's keynote address on Memory and Identity.

World Zarathushti Community Awards: Call for Nominations

As part of the 11th World Zoroastrian Congress to be held in Perth, Australia, in June 2018, the following World Zarathushti Community Awards will be awarded. Nominations of the prestigious Awards Program are currently being accepted. Some details are as follows:

Award Categories

The Awards shall be given away in six categories as listed below, at a glittering ceremony that will take place on June 3, 2018, at the Astral Room, Crown Complex, Perth, Australia.

1. **Z Iconic Award (Highest Award)**
2. **Community Service Award**
3. **Science/Technology/Engineering/Medicine and Applied Sciences Award**
4. **Social Entrepreneur Award**
5. **Outstanding Young Zarathushti Award**
6. **Art/Design/Literature/Culture Award**

Full award guidelines and the Award Nomination Form are available at the following link: <https://zoroastrians.net/2017/02/20/world-zoroastrian-congress-2018-awards-nominations-invited/>

All Global Working Group (GWG) Leaders/Representatives are requested to promote this program in a big way in their respective regions. Please send nominations to wzcawards@gmail.com

Deadline: The last date for receiving nominations will be no later than midnight EDT of **October 31, 2017**. No late entries shall be accepted.

If anyone wishes to submit any nominations, it would be advantageous to work with FEZANA External Affairs Committee to see that the necessary formalities are appropriately completed. Kindly contact External Affairs Committee Chair, Bomi Patel at [bbtes9 \(@\) gmail.com](mailto:bbtes9@gmail.com) □

Registration is open for Iranshah Udvada Utsav, 2017

Building upon the success of the First Iranshah Udvada Utsav held in December 2015, the Foundation for Development of Udvada and Udvada Samast Anjuman take the opportunity to announce that the next 'Iranshah Udvada Utsav' will be celebrated on **December 23-25, 2017** at Udvada, Gujarat, India. Registration is open and earlybird registration deadline is August 31, 2017.



The Iranshah Udvada Utsav is conceptualized as a Zoroastrian cultural festival at Udvada where in Zarathushtis from all over the world would be able to visit Udvada to pay homage to 'Iranshah' as well as to participate in the celebrations of fun, food and festivities held over the three days.

The Iranshah Udvada Utsav is the brainchild of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, and is promoted by Gujarat Tourism.

For more info, or to register, visit: <http://www.iuu.net.in/>



UPCOMING DATES

(Continued from page 1)

September 10, 2017

[Unity Walk 2017: Know Your Neighbor](#); Embassy Row, Washington D.C.

November 3-5, 2017

ZAH Library Lecture. Guest Speaker, Dinyar Patel. Topic to include Dhadabhai Naoroji. Houston.

December 14-16, 2017

WZCC Annual Global Meet. Bangalore, India. wzccglobalmeet@gmail.com

December 23-25, 2017

Iranshah Udvada Utsav. Udvada, Gujarat, India.

June 1-4, 2018

11th World Zoroastrian Congress, Perth, Australia <http://11wzccperth.com.au/>

July 29 - August 1, 2018

InterReligious Conference. Washington DC

November 1-7, 2018

[Parliament of the World's Religions](#). Toronto.

Inspirational Donations to FIRES



FIRES (FEZANA Information Research Education System) gratefully acknowledges the following recent donations to its collection:



Shapur K Irani lovingly packed his entire collection of books in large and small tea cartons and sent them on to Houston as a donation in memory of his beloved parents Khudamurad J. and Motibai S. Irani. The history of Irani Tea begins in Pune, India, dates back to the 1950's where Shapur was part owner of the Bombay Tea Depot, a successful tea shop in Pune. After immigrating to the United States in 1954, he came up with a unique blend of quality black tea and Irani Tea continues to offer the highest quality tea at an affordable price.

Shapur's love and knowledge of tea was equal to his love for books. He collected many wonderful books, some out of print now, including the unique *Shanameh* that the Shah of Iran printed and gifted to attendees for the 5000 year celebration of Iran. Shapur was ecstatic that his books would be preserved in FIRES' permanent home at the Zoroastrian Association of Houston. Sadly, the very day he was being recognized for his generous collection at the 2017 FEZANA AGM, he passed away.



In July 2017, an anonymous donor reached out to FEZANA Vice President Arzan Wadia to donate 50 + books, catalogs, pamphlets on Zoroastrianism. ArZan flew cross country, packed the books, and delivered them to Houston. This priceless collection includes Geldner's original *YasnaFasciculus* (8 volumes), the sought after *Parsi Prakash* Vol.1, and the donor's notebooks with carefully collected articles and primary source material. The collection is presently being cataloged for future readers and scholars to marvel.



Acclaimed author Bapsi Sidhwa, who resides in Houston, has donated an entire set of books authored by her, her books that have been translated in various languages, and a collection of essays and book on Zoroastrian religion. Bapsi's notes and letters are being edited and will hopefully be added to the Rice University collection along with her interview recorded as part of the ZAH's Oral History Project at the Woodson Digital Archives.

We are grateful to all our donors who enrich our FIRES collection and make a memorable impact on the lives of future generation. □

Kamran Seminar Video Available

The video recording of the third annual Kamran Seminar, is now available for viewing, featuring Professor Matthew Stolper, Professor of Assyriology in the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago, as the Kamran Fellow. The lecture, "*Achaemenid Royal Inscriptions and Achaemenid Administrative Documents: The Queen of Monuments and the Cinderella of Archives*," and the interview with Professor Stolper are posted here:

<https://zamwi.org/events/2017kamranseminar/>

Archives of the lectures from the previous Kamran Seminars can be viewed at the Kamran Seminar website: <http://www.thekamranseminar.com/> □

**COMING SOON...**

**FEZANA Journal
Summer 2017**

**Cover Story: "Happiness"
Guest Editor: Farishta
Dinshaw**

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FEZANA Journal! To subscribe or
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<https://fezana.org/publication/fj/>

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE

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**"Zarathushtra the Golden
Star"
By Pareen Lalkaka**

Printed in India
1st Edition - 1965 -

4th Edition - 2010 -
Published by The W.Z.O. Trust,
Mumbai and Printed at Union
Press 13, Homji Street, Fort,
Mumbai 400 001

<https://zoroastriansnet.files.wordpress.com/2017/04/zarathushtra-the-golden-star.pdf>

Historic Unveiling of the "Freedom Monument"

By Zarrir Bhandara

The unveiling of the historical freedom monument of Cyrus' cylinder, (similar to the statue of liberty on the East coast) was unveiled on Santa Monica Blvd in Century City, Los Angeles on July 4, 2017.



**Shabnam, Maneck Bhujwala,
Zerkxis Bhandara, Farhad
Choksy, Homi Gandhi, Zarrir
Bhandara, Tehmi and Manek
Damania**

A strong crowd of about 75,000 people attended the event, including our Zoroastrians gathered under the white flag of the California Zoroastrian Center. CZC was represented by Shabnam and FEZANA president Mr. Homi Gandhi, while the Zoroastrian Association of California was officially represented by president Mrs. Tehmi Damania, Mr. Maneck Bhujwala, Zerkxis Bhandara and Zarrir Bhandara. Also present were Maneck Bhujwala, Shehnaz Bhujwala, Cushrow, Gulshan, Jamshid and Kaiomarz Bhadha, Behram Deboo and Farhad Choksy. Many CZC members also attended the event.

According to the Freedom Sculpture website: "California Governor Jerry Brown, Los Angeles Mayor, Eric Garcetti and 5th District Councilman Paul Koretz (along with all 15 LA City Councilmen) sent messages of unequivocal support for this soon-to-be national landmark and great symbol to our shared humanity! But now the door is open and we need to seize on this opportunity that is before us to do much more."

Also, the CROWDFUNDING GOAL WAS EXCEEDED BY ONE MILLION DOLLARS! The sculpture has been designed by architect and engineer CECIL BALMOND

For more information please visit: <http://www.freedomsculpture.org/> □

Crowdfunding Campaign to Support the Making of Taq Kasra – A Documentary Film



Taq Kasra, an archeological landmark located in current day Iraq, once served as the capital of the Persian Empire in the Sasanian era, in the 6th century, and is considered by many to be the world's largest standing brickwork vault.

A Documentary film, entitled Taq Kasra, by Pejman Akbarzadeh intends to explore the history of this historic monument but is in need of funding to finish the project.

Production of this documentary is a big step to attract international attention to this iconic monument which could aid efforts to motivate those in power to take steps to register the landmark as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Although FEZANA cannot donate funds to this cause, we share this information with others who may like to support this undertaking.

For more information, or to donate, visit:

<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/persian-empire-and-taq-kasra-a-documentary-film-architecture#/> □