

FEZANA *bulletin*

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UPCOMING DATES

April 21, 2018

ZAH Library Event, Houston TX. Speakers: Dinyar Patel (“HER TOO: Dadabhai Naoroji, the Grand Old Man of India, Pioneer of Women’s Education”) and Cyrus Rivetna (“Building for the Future – Using Architecture to Perpetuate Religious Practice in North America”). <http://zah.org/>

April 26, 2018

FEZANA Pre-AGM Sessions. Hosted by CZC. vp@fezana.org

April 27-29, 2018

FEZANA Annual General Meeting. Hosted by California Zoroastrian Center. vp@fezana.org or admin@fezana.org

May 11, 2018

Annual International Nurses Day at the United Nations. United Nations, New York City.

(Dates continued on page 4)



JAMSHEDI NOWRUZ GREETINGS FROM FEZANA

FEZANA wishes good health, happiness, peace and harmony on this Jamshedi Nowruz to fellow Zarathushtis and friends across North America and worldwide.

Hamaspathmaidem Gahambar Celebrated Across North America

On March 17, 2018 many FEZANA Member Associations and small groups celebrated *Hamaspathmaidem Gahambar*, (the last of the six Gahambars in a year) and the Panjeh Meh prayers prior to Jamshedi Nowruz. We salute those communities who are reviving this tradition.



Zoroastrian Association of Metropolitan Washington D.C. [ZAMWI].

[Above] Yasmin Ghadiali, from New York, speaks to those community members gathered about the need for Bone Marrow Donors. Earlier, Erv Behram Panthaki talked about the value of perpetuating the ancient Iranian tradition of Gahambars: Yazaad (to Pray); Saazad (to Participate); Khuraad, (To Partake); and Daahad (to Give), a communal celebration to be held at the right time on the seasonal calendar.

□



Zoroastrian Association of Chicago, [ZAC-CHI] Burr Ridge, Illinois

Hosted by WZCC-Chicago and ZAC-CHI, the Second Annual Hamaspathmaidem Gahambar celebration and Panjeh Mah prayers with audience participation was well received.



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

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

Bids Invited to Host 2019 FEZANA AGM

FEZANA invites bids from all interested Member Associations and Corresponding Members to consider hosting the 32nd Annual General Meeting of FEZANA in 2019.

If your association or small group would like to bid for hosting the 2019 AGM, please send a formal letter of intent to Arzan Sam Wadia FEZANA Vice-President at vp@fezana.org, with cc to Percy Master (Secretary) at secretary@fezana.org

All bidding associations/groups shall be required to make a 10 minute presentation at the upcoming FEZANA AGM at the California Zoroastrian Center in April 2018. The deadline to receive the bids is March 31, 2018

For smaller groups, this is a wonderful opportunity to be involved with FEZANA and to make connections to the broader North American Zarathushti community.

General expectations of the local host group are outlined in the FEZANA AGM Hosting Guidelines which can be downloaded [here](#). □

Message to the WZYL Forum at ASHA Centre

The **World Zoroastrian Youth Leaders Forum (WZYL)** at the ASHA Centre (www.ashacentre.org) in Gloucester, England from March 16-25, 2018 brings together 25 next generation leaders from across the globe to help envision and shape the future of the Zoroastrian community.

In a message to the Next generation attendees, Homi Gandhi, FEZANA President, remarked:

“Your community has nominated you to attend this Forum because we believe that you have the qualities and hold dear those Zarathushti values that are bound to change the world for the better. The world needs change.

The world needs *you!*

Give your community, and your children, a reason to be proud of your present-day accomplishments, just as you teach them to hold our past in high esteem.”

Read Homi Gandhi’s full remarks on Fezana’s website or [click here](#) for direct link. □

Celebrating Jamshedi Nowruz in Your Community

Jamshedi Nowruz Initiative Reformatted Cards Available



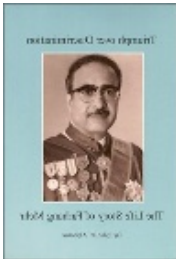
As an extension of our Jamshedi Nowruz Initiative in ways to celebrate and sharing traditional sweets at Nowruz with your neighbors, new, updated gift tags are now available upon request. These tags include small write up that highlights the connections and meaning of Nowruz and the symbolism of giving sweets at this occasion. See article in *FEZANA Journal*, Winter 2017 for inspiration in starting this tradition in your community. □



BOOK AWARENESS



This month we pay tribute to Farhang Mehr - a remarkable man, modern, liberal and secular, who lectured and travelled the world speaking about the Zarathushti faith and spreading its peaceful creed of truth and goodness.



Triumph Over Discrimination: The Life Story of Farhang Mehr
by Lyla M. Alphonse, 2000 .

The Life Story of Farhang Mehr is a biography of an exceptional person. It deals with Dr. Mehr's early life and education, his experience in OPEC and in Iran's oil and insurance agencies, and his achievements in politics, including his experience as the first Zoroastrian to serve as Deputy Prime Minister of Iran. It details his escape from Iran during the Islamic revolution of the late 1970s, his self-imposed exile in the United States, and his hopes and dreams for the future of Zoroastrianism, a centuries-old religion, and the Zarathushti community worldwide.

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

Register Today for the 2018 FEZANA AGM

Registration is open for the 2018 FEZANA Annual General Meeting (AGM), held over the weekend of April 27-29, 2018 and hosted by California Zoroastrian Center (CZC), in Westminster, California. If you are planning to attend, please inform FEZANA Administrative Office (admin@fezana.org) and FEZANA Secretary (secretary@fezana.org).

Visit <https://fezana.org/2018-fezana-annual-general-meeting/> for updated 2018 AGM info on the FEZANA website including transportation and hotel accommodation information.

Committee Chairs and Member Association Presidents are requested to submit their respective reports by April 1, 2018. If you have any questions, please contact FEZANA Administrative Office (admin@fezana.org) and FEZANA Secretary (secretary@fezana.org).

GENERAL SCHEDULE OF AGM WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY APRIL 26, 2018 / PRE-AGM ACTIVITIES

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 10:00am -12:15pm | Jashan followed by presentation by North American Mobeds Council (NAMC) |
| 2:00 - 5:00pm | Special presentations by FEZANA Committees |
| 5:30pm | Social Event by CZC |

FRIDAY APRIL 27, 2018

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 9:00am-5:00pm | FEZANA AGM DAY 1 |
| 6:00 pm | Dinner at ZAC-LA (1424 E. Walnut Ave., Orange, CA) |

SATURDAY APRIL 28, 2018

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 9:00am-5:00pm | FEZANA AGM DAY 2 |
| 7:00pm | Gala Evening at CZC Westminster (\$) |

SUNDAY APRIL 29, 2018

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 9:00am-12:30pm | FEZANA AGM DAY 3 |
| 1:00 pm | Boxed Lunch |
| 3:00 – 5:00 pm | POST-AGM event: WZCC meeting at CZC Valley Center in Los Angeles. □ |



UPCOMING DATES

(continued from page 1)

June 1-4, 2018

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

July 3-8, 2018

16th Zoroastrian Games.
California State University,
Carson, CA.
<http://zathletics.com/>

July 31-August 3, 2018

NAIN Connect 2018.
Edmonton, Alberta Canada

July 29 - August 1, 2018

[Reimagining Interfaith
Conference](#). Washington DC

November 1-7, 2018

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

December 29-31, 2020

North American Zoroastrian
Congress hosted by ZAH
(Houston)

Launch of the International Decade of Water for Sustainable Development 2018-2028



FEZANA
Supports the
United Nations
Sustainable
Development
Goal 6
(Clean Water
and Sanitation)

The President of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák identified sustainable development as a priority. Therefore, on **World Water Day, 22 March 2018**, he will launch the *International Decade for Action: Water for Sustainable Development 2018-2028* aiming to further improve cooperation, partnership and capacity development in response to the ambitious 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Clean, accessible is critical water for sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger, and it is indispensable for human development, health and well-being.

Read more at <https://www.un.org/pga/72/event-latest/launch-of-the-international-decade-of-water-for-sustainable-development-2018-2028/> □

North American Interfaith Network (NAIN) Young Adult Scholarships Offered

The North American Interfaith Network (NAIN) is offering their annual Young Adult Scholarship. The scholarship is open to anyone between the ages of 18 and 35 who is currently involved in some form of interfaith or other social justice work. Scholarship recipients receive a stipend to attend the annual NAINConnect conference, which will take place this year from July 31st - August 3rd, 2018 in Edmonton.

Application Deadline is April 4, 2018.

For more information, or to apply, visit: <https://form.jotform.com/80472600284149>

□

Welcome to the Newly Elected ZAGBA Board

We congratulate and welcome the newly elected **Zoroastrian Association of Greater Boston (ZAGBA)** Board, and look forward to future collaborations.

President: Zubin Talavia

Joint Secretary: Anahita Dastur

Vice President: Nazneen Vimadlal

Secretary: Jimmy Daruwalla

Treasurer: Supria (Sarma) Antia