

FEZANA *bulletin*

April 2018 / VOLUME 8 • ISSUE 4



INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

ZFN Network • p1

Scholarships Announced • p1-2

What Will Your Legacy Be? • p3

ZHCC 20th Anniversary • p4

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.
<http://fezana.org/2018-fezana-annual-general-meeting/>

April 27-29, 2018

FEZANA Annual General Meeting.
Hosted by California Zoroastrian Center. <http://fezana.org/2018-fezana-annual-general-meeting/>

April 29, 2018

FEZANA Post-AGM WZCC Event.
Hosted by CZC-Valley Center
<http://fezana.org/2018-fezana-annual-general-meeting/>

May 11, 2018

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

(Dates continued on page 3)

Announcing Formation of the Zoroastrian Faculty Network – A Joint Project of the GWG and WZCC

Dr. Farrokh Mistree has been a long term advocate for WZCC to develop a Zoroastrian Faculty Network (ZFN) that would empower Zarathushti students to create economic, cultural & intellectual value. GWG represented by Farrokh Rustomji and Behram Pastakia were to find ways of helping students from India to gain admission into foreign universities and address related questions.

After some discussions at the recent WZCC AGM in Bangalore and GWG discussion in Mumbai it was felt that a Joint Project between WZCC & GWG would enable us to attain this objective on a more sustainable and fast track basis. This concept was passed by Neville Shroff who also endorsed it.



As such this is to announce the formation of the ZOROASTRIAN FACULTY NETWORK.

Its Vision, Mission, Desired Outcomes and Initial Action Proposals are outlined on the FEZANA website (<http://fezana.org/zoroastrian-faculty-network-formed/>)

We are targeting to complete the initial Action Proposals before the WZC in Perth this June, at which time we can provide an update and discuss further.

Core Team:

- GWG: Farrokh Rustomji (India); Behram Pastakia (USA)
- WZCC: Yazdi Tantra (India); Edul Daver (USA)
- Academia: Dinyar Pestonjee (India); Farrokh Mistree(USA)

You are invited to provide names of people in academia who would like to become members of the ZFN. □

2018-19 FEZANA Academic Scholarships Applications Invited

FEZANA is happy to announce that the FEZANA Academic Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications for the 2018 Scholarship Cycle.

The FEZANA Scholarship Program was started in 1998 to recognize academic excellence and provide Zarathushti students in university programs financial assistance to study at institutions in the U.S & Canada

Applications are invited for the following **FEZANA ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS**

- Mehraban and Morvorid Kheradi Endowment Scholarship for Academic Excellence: The FEZANA Scholar
- FEZANA 25th Anniversary Endowment Scholarship For Academic Excellence
- Morvarid Guiv Endowment Scholarships
- Purvez and Aban Rustomji Endowment Scholarship
- Banoobai and Maneckshaw Kapadia Endowment Scholarship for Financial Assistance



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

President
Homi D. Gandhi
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)

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

FEZANA Bulletin is
distributed to addresses
listed in the FEZANA
directory; to individuals
included on the FEZANA
group lists and to those
requesting information
about FEZANA.
To opt out, contact:
admin@fezana.org

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

- Dr Minocher Rustom Vesuna and Dowlat Minocher Vesuna WZO Canada Endowed Scholarships
- Sheroo Darabsha Kolsawala Endowed Scholarship
- Jerry and Celete Kheradi 30th Anniversary Endowed scholarship for Graduate students
- The 30th Anniversary Alumni Scholarship
- Yasmin and Shapur Pavri Endowed Scholarship

All scholarships are open to Zarathushti applicants who have obtained admission for attendance at institutions of higher learning (accredited degree-granting colleges or universities) in USA or Canada.

Deadline for application is August 01, 2018

Applications to be made ONLINE only.

All referee letters should be sent electronically directly by the referee to academicscholarship@fezana.org

Scholarships for the academic year 2018-2019 will be awarded in September 2018.

Read the entire requirements section on the FEZANA Website --
<https://fezana.org/scholarships/academic/>

If you have further questions email academicscholarship@fezana.org

2018-19 FEZANA Performing and Creative Arts Scholarships -- Applications Invited

Applications are now open for FEZANA's Performing and Creative Arts Scholarships for study in an arts related program and/or to further study in a field relating to the Performing, Creative or Fine Arts.

For application and details, please visit the FEZANA website:
<https://fezana.org/scholarships/performing-creative-arts/> .

Application Deadline: August 1, 2018

Like many Zarathushti Communities in North America, Zoroastrian Association of North Texas (ZANT) held the Panjeh Jashan (Hamaspathmaedaya Gahambar) at their ZANT Center on Saturday March 17 to remember the departed souls of the loved ones of fellow Zoroastrians. Jashan prayers were followed by a pot luck lunch. We salute ZANT and the other Zarathushti communities across North America who are reviving this pre-Nowruz tradition.





UPCOMING DATES

(continued from page 1)

June 1-4, 2018

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

July 3-8, 2018

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

July 14, 2018

4th Annual Kamran Seminar.
ZAMWI.

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)

What Will Your Legacy Be?

This year, consider making a legacy that enhances our community's future. FEZANA helps Zarathushti families, seniors and youth in many different ways. Significant initiatives you can support are:

1. Our religious identity is constantly evolving with the times. Help FEZANA fund a **Chair of Zoroastrian Studies** position at a reputable university. This scholarly role can mobilize the study of Zoroastrian scripture and share its immense relevance in today's complex world.
2. Support Zarathushti students with a **scholarship endowment**, or donation to an existing scholarship. Currently needs far outpace the existing funds available for scholarships. In 2017 we awarded 13 out of 67 worthy applicants with scholarships last year. Our goal is to help 50% of high caliber eligible applicants in coming years.
3. Share our vision to create **senior housing** in partnership with a local association. This can be a rental or condos adjacent to a North American Dar-e-Mehr, where retirees can participate and enjoy community events and keep active and engaged.
4. Assist smaller associations to build their **Dar-e-Mehr or community** center through a legacy or substantial gift. This is an ongoing effort to establish centers for our future generations in North America.
5. The "Achakan" group supports **archaeological excavations in the Paykand historical site in Uzbekistan**. This Sassanid era complex has sanctuaries with evidence of fire rituals. In 2015 ground-penetrating radar survey found remnants of other constructions beneath the palace, which can be excavated with adequate funding.

Zarathushtis can create a legacy through a donation to FEZANA in their will. Your attorney can help you add a simple Codicil, if you prefer.

Contact admin@FEZANA.org to connect to a knowledgeable point-person, share your philanthropy goal, and explore how you can shape the future of our community.

20th Anniversary Celebration of the Opening of the ZHCC in Houston



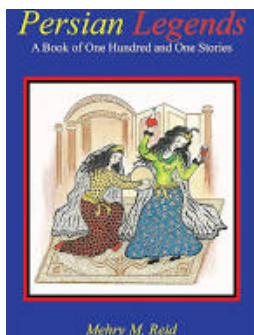
Twenty years ago, on 10 April, 1998, the Zoroastrian Association of Houston (ZAH) proudly moved into its home, the Zarathushti Heritage & Cultural Center (ZHCC), located at 8787 W Airport Blvd., Houston, Texas, where it has resided happily since. To celebrate this happy occasion, the ZAH Executive Committee invited the entire Houston Zarathushti community to a celebratory jashan followed by lunch, on Sunday, 8th April, 2018. A week before the event, a dedicated team of volunteers led by Yasmin Medhora and Arzin Italia worked hard to get the building ready for the grand occasion.



BOOK AWARENESS



Persian Legends: a book of one hundred and one stories
by Mary M Reid,
iUniverse Inc., 2011



Mary M Reid shares a memorable collection of legends and tales that provides a glimpse into Persian history, helps others appreciate ancient tales, and most importantly, preserves the legacy of folk literature for future generations.

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

Precisely on the dot of 11:00AM on 8th April, 2018, Sarosh Jehangir Collector, ZAH's beloved Youth Sunday School teacher for over 30 years, lighted the divo for the jashan, as eight Houston Mobeds started the jashan prayers, and the resplendent building was filled with the fragrance of sandalwood.

After the jashan, ZAH President Sheroy Haveliwalla presented a special plaque to Sam Bhadha, who had donated over \$100,000 to the ZAH to use for renovating the building, in memory of his parents. The plaque was then placed on the special donor's wall of the ZHCC, by Sam and his sister, Arnaz.

This was followed by a special celebratory lunch of dhan-dar and kolmi-no-patio, followed by a special 20th Anniversary cake proudly decorated with the ZAH logo.

ZAH Partners With Children's Museum of Houston for Nowruz Celebration



The Sunday School Groups from the Zoroastrian Association of Houston won accolades from the Children's Museum of Houston for being their community partner in their Navroz celebration held on site on March 24, 2018.



With the assistance of dedicated parents, youth and younger children, the ZAH group volunteered their time and effort to showcase our community with a beautiful Haft Seen Table display and a variety of hands-on projects. The highlight of the day was the spectacular performance by our talented kids ages 13 to 5, called *Haft Seen in the court of King Jamshid*. Liltling music, colorful costumes and beautiful dancing made the entire event very memorable.

Ms. Haniyyah Boxie, the Fine Arts and Cultural Educator, Children's Museum of Houston, in her letter to the community comments, "Navroz Celebration would not have been complete without the community partnership from the Zoroastrian Association of Houston."... "We received very positive feedback from our guests"... The performance was "The icing on the cake. The children were amazing." ... "We look forward to working with you on future collaborations."

We are so proud to be a part of our dynamic Houston community! Bravo ZAH !



2018 FEZANA AGM PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Reminder for all Attendees:
Please RSVP to admin@fezana.org and also please register separately for the Saturday night Gala at CZC. For updated details, visit [2018 FEZANA AGM page](#) on the FEZANA website.

Host: California Zoroastrian Center

Thursday April 26, 2018

9:00AM – 4:30PM

Pre AGM Sessions

Morning – North American Mobeds Council

Afternoon– FEZANA Interfaith Committee session and FEZANA Infrastructure Committee Discussion

Friday April 27, 2018

9:00 AM: FEZANA AGM Begins

Saturday April 28, 2018

9:00 AM: FEZANA AGM Continues

Sunday April 29, 2018

9:00 AM: FEZANA AGM continues and shall end at 1:00.

3:00 – 5:00 PM:

Post-AGM Session – WZCC Southern CA Chapter. Focus on encouraging youth to become entrepreneurs, businessmen and career professionals.

<http://fezana.org/2018-fezana-annual-general-meeting/>

NAINConnect 2018's Young Adult Summit

The Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action is pleased to host NAIN CONNECT 2018. The conference will be held at MacEwan University in downtown Edmonton. This is the second time that the Edmonton Interfaith Centre has hosted NAIN Connect. NAIN supports an interfaith movement that includes justice issues, community building and multiculturalism, and that welcomes people of all faiths and spiritualities. The movement respects diverse beliefs and brings communities together for mutual learning.

As part of this year's conference, the program committee is seeking **applications for participants for the Young Adult Summit**, to be held on the first day of the conference (Tuesday, July 31). The Summit will feature a full day of panels and workshops, focused on allowing participants to engage in meaningful conversations with one another and with various faith community leaders on a variety of topics related to this year's theme, 'Pilgrimage: Journeys of Discovery'. Summit participants are also invited to stay for the remainder of the conference, which will build on our first day together and allow us to share our conversations with other NAIN Connect participants, helping to inform their experience at the conference as well. There will also be opportunities to experience the city of Edmonton, including tours of some major points of interest.

For more information: <https://nain2018edmonton.ca/>

NOTE: EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION HAS BEEN EXTENDED THROUGH END OF APRIL .

□

A Decade for Action on Water (2018-2028) Launched by the U.N.

Zarathushtis are one of the earliest proponents of caring for the environment.

The new FEZANA logo, emphasizes the value of protecting the air, water and earth for future generations.(see FEZANA logo at top of this page)

In keeping with our Zoroastrian faith beliefs, the launch of the Decade Of Action for Water, provides us an opportunity to come together, to celebrate *World Oceans Day*, globally in our local communities, with like minded individuals, every year on 8 June ~ A worldwide community without Borders!

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/undesavoice/in-case-you-missed-it>



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



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