ZANT Upcoming Events

- **Jul. 25**: North American Mobeds Council IZS - Vandidad – A Book of Prayers or A Book of Laws (01:00pm)
- **Jul. 30 - Aug. 1**: ZAH Z-Camp
- **Aug. 21**: ZANT Shenshai New Year & 10th Anniversary
- **Aug. 29**: North American Mobeds Council IZS - Ahunavad Gatha for Funeral Prayers? (01:00pm)
- **Oct. 16**: ZANT Annual Carnival

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Board of Directors

- **President**: Spenta Irani
- **Vice President**: Mahervan Karbhari
- **Treasurer**: Farzeen Elavia
- **Secretary**: Kurush Dehnugara
- **Social Director**: Karin Nayar
- **Director**: Dilnawaz Rustomji
- **Director**: Pearl Surti

ZANT Address:

**Zoroastrian Center of North Texas**
1605 Lopo Road
Flower Mound, TX 75028-1306

We welcome and encourage feedback from our community. Please send comments or suggestions to president.zant@gmail.com or mail to ZANT, 1605 Lopo Road, Flower Mound, TX 75028-1306.
Dear Members,

Wishing all our Members a Happy 4th of July,

We sure hope you all are enjoying the nice weather and the few cooler days we are having in Texas with your friends and families. As summer approaches so does the Z-camp in Houston for the Z-youth. This year the camp is back in person and details are included in later sections of the NL. Hope many of our youth can join the camp.

Work at the center is slower than normal as there is shortage of material and we are working with the Contractor to get everything patched up as quickly as possible. To date all the sheetrock patching and painting is completed, loose tiles have been fixed and the new kitchen cabinets are installed. Now we are in the process of installing the base boards, doors, followed up with staining, sealing, cleaning, carpeting and stocking up the center. We hope to be completed by the end of July and have the center ready for the Shenshai Muktad prayers. If the center is ready earlier, we will also plan a Jashan to welcome our new occupancy. Be on a look out for e-news related to this item. A few pictures are included to show the progress:

As we continue to construct and re-construct our center and learn from the past, one famous line from Steve Martin comes is very applicable, “Thankfully, persistence is a great substitute for talent.”

ZANT Board
NAMC Institute of Zoroastrian Studies announces the formation of a Monthly Discussion Group.

“Zoroastrianism – Outside the Box”

Objective: Collective learning from a free flow of ideas and opinions on religious and cultural topics while respecting views and opinions of others.

Join us on last Sunday of each month at 2 pm EST, 1 pm CST, 11 am PST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date: Sunday</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Jal Panthaky</td>
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<td>August 29, 2021</td>
<td>Ahunavad Gatha for Funeral Prayers?</td>
<td>Firdosh Bulsara</td>
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Zoom Link:  [https://zoom.us/j/98448391402?pwd=Nm1vZHVCMEJRY09hdjZhb3NJeGpsZz09](https://zoom.us/j/98448391402?pwd=Nm1vZHVCMEJRY09hdjZhb3NJeGpsZz09)
Meeting ID: 984 4839 1402  Passcode: NAMCIZS

For more information, please contact Ervad Kobad Zarolia at [Kobadzarolia@gmail.com](mailto:Kobadzarolia@gmail.com)

These events are facilitated by the NAMC Institute of Zoroastrian Studies to promote knowledge through free but respectful discussions and debate. The views and opinions expressed during these discussions are those of the presenters and participants and do not reflect the official policy or position of the NAMC.

For more information, please visit [https://namcmobeds.org/](https://namcmobeds.org/)
AN INTRODUCTION TO ZOROASTRIANISM

NAMC Institute of Zoroastrian Studies

Presents an online summer certificate course:
AN INTRODUCTION TO ZOROASTRIANISM
Faith, History, Modernity and Connections with Major Religions

Start Date: July 5, 2021
On-line classes: Saturdays at 2 pm EDT starting July 10, 2021

Course Description:
This course will provide the student with a brief introduction to Zoroastrianism, its doctrines, rituals, practices, and history, giving the student a window into Zoroastrianism and its influence on other succeeding faiths and raise appreciation of this ancient, relevant, and living faith in our modern society.

Instructors:
Eravad Tehemton F. Mirza        Mr. Kayomarsh P. Mehta

Course Curriculum: [https://namcmobeds.org/online-course-an-introduction-to-zoroastrianism/](https://namcmobeds.org/online-course-an-introduction-to-zoroastrianism/)

To Register, please email: vicepresident@namcmobeds.org

For more information, please visit [https://namcmobeds.org/](https://namcmobeds.org/)
Dear ZANT Community,

Please join us on **Saturday, August 21st, 2021** to celebrate **Shenshai New Year** and our **ZANT Centers 10th Anniversary**. We will have a short children’s performance followed by dinner and dancing. If you would like your child to participate in the performance, please contact Karin Nayar at **zantsocialdirector@gmail.com**. Details of the event will follow in an E-blast.

**ZANT’s Annual Carnival** will be held this year on **Saturday, October 16th, 2021**. We will have an evening filled with games and delicious food. If you would like to cook for the carnival, please contact Karin Nayar at **zantsocialdirector@gmail.com**.

**ZAH Z- Camp** is back again and will be held in-person at ZHCC **July 30th-August 1st**. Online Registration closes July 17th, and there is a limit of only 15 out-of-town spots available (for kids over 12 years). Day camp is available for kids aged 5-12 years. For additional details please contact Delnaaz Irani **delo.irani@sbcglobal.net** or Kayo Sidhwa **kaysid@hotmail.com**.
TREASURER’S CORNER

Listed below are the memberships and donations received in the month of June 2021.

**General Fund Donations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charity On Top Foundation</td>
<td>$21.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amazon Smile Donations</td>
<td>$31.61</td>
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**ZOMF Donations**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Karl Mistry</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shahrokh Shakeri</td>
<td>$100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nowzar Dinyarian</td>
<td>$600</td>
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The cost of maintaining the center is approximately $2,500 to $3,000 per month. If anyone would like to help with that, please contact the board.

**Memberships**

Nowzar Dinyarian
ZANT Membership Form
(Nov. 1, 2020 to Oct. 31, 2021)

To avoid misspelling of names please print all the information on this form clearly.

Family Name: ___________________________ Home Phone#: ___________________________

Email: ___________________________ Cell Phone#: ___________________________

Home Address: ___________________________

(Street Address) (Apt #) (City) (State) (Zip)

Please list names of members/children and provide any additional information (for “Age Range”, please specify, <35 or 35-65 or >=65):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member’s Name</th>
<th>Age Range</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Children’s Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
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- ZANT members may access the Zoroastrian Center of North Texas (ZCNT) by card key. Please read Card Key Access Form on our website zant.org for details.
- Donations to ZANT Center Operations and Maintenance Fund (ZOMF) may also be included. Please read the ZOMF Pledge Form card key and other details, including free ZCNT rental on our website zant.org.
- ZANT Newsletters are delivered by email or accessible from the ZANT website. If you prefer a newsletter mailed to your home, please add a $25 annual fee.
- Please complete this form (and ZCNT card key liability form if requesting a card key) and mail the form(s) with your check to ZANT, 1605 Lopo Road, Flower Mound, TX 75028-1306

Membership rates per person:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Membership (@ $50)</td>
<td>$________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Membership (19 yrs. &amp; older) (@ $25)</td>
<td>$________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Citizen Membership (65 yrs. &amp; older) (@ $25)</td>
<td>$________</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life Membership (@ $1,500)</td>
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Subtotal $________

ZCNT Card Key (@$50) $________
ZOMF Donation $________
General Fund Donation $________

CHECK # TOTAL $________

For the purposes of membership in this Association a Zoroastrian shall be defined as: A person who is a believer and a follower of the religion as propounded by Zarathustra and one who has been initiated in the religion in accordance with the customs and religious practices followed in the community in which he or she currently or previously resided.

Regular & Life Membership is open to all Zarathushtis and their spouses over 18 years of age.

I certify that I meet the above membership requirements.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________
AmazonSmile—Grow Donations For ZANT

Smile, ZANT is now registered for Amazon Smiles Charity Program. With no additional effort your personal purchases can help ZANT. All you have to do is instead of going to Amazon.com, go to smile.amazon.com, login, select ZANT (Zoroastrian Association of North Texas) as your charitable organization of choice and Shop away.

Alternatively, you may use Your unique charity link: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/75-2282878

In the Amazon App, navigate to the top left, click the dots, then go to programs and features(where they have Amazon fresh, Amazon go etc.) You will find Amazon smiles there, then turn that on, find our charity and shop away.

For every purchase made, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to ZANT.

Below is a little more information about the program and step by step instructions.

Go ahead and Shop Away -- you're doing it for a good cause :)

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop AmazonSmile, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. You can choose from over one million organizations to support.

Signing up is easy! Here’s how to shop AmazonSmile:

1. Visit smile.amazon.com
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com credentials
3. Choose a charitable organization to receive donations, or search for the charity of your choice
4. Select your charity
5. Start shopping!

Kroger Community Rewards Program

Dear Community Members,

As you all know our association is enrolled into the Kroger Community Rewards Program. Your participation is essential. When you buy from Kroger our association gets .5% every time you make a purchase. This program does not affect your fuel points. We encourage everyone to join and participate in the Kroger Community Rewards Program.

Please follow the instruction as below:

Visit http://www.kroger.com. Once logged into their Kroger account they can search for ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF NORTH TEXAS either by name or WT497 and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a rewards card.

*Customers must have a registered Kroger rewards card account to link to your organization.
*If a member does not yet have a Kroger rewards card, please let them know they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger.

REMEMBER, purchases will not count for your organization until after your participants register their rewards card. Participants must swipe their registered Kroger rewards card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Kroger rewards card when shopping for each purchase to count.
Dear Kids and Parents,

After a very challenging year, we are so excited to announce that the ZAH Z-Camp is back again and will be held at ZHCC from July 30th - August 1st in person. We have been monitoring the COVID-19 situation and we appreciate all the love and support you have given us since 2013. Health and safety are paramount for us and we will endeavor to follow all the guidelines as per the Texas state laws during the entire course of the camp to protect all participants, volunteers, and their families. To ensure everyone’s safety here are some key guidelines:

- For 12 and under - Masks STRONGLY RECOMMENDED at all times except when eating, drinking, or when socially distancing is possible; they will not be eligible for sleepovers.
- For 12+ - It is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED that they wear masks at all times except when eating, drinking, or when socially distancing is possible; if you are not vaccinated, it is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED to get yourselves vaccinated or at least get negative tested 2 days prior to the camp.
- General - All Attendees, Counselors, Volunteers and Parents, if you are sick or not feeling well 2 days prior or at check-in, please inform the camp organizers immediately via phone/email and your entire registration fee will be refunded.
- Parents of minor kids & adults (18 and over), kindly ensure that you understand the risk of Covid-19 while attending Z-Camp and sleepovers without masks.

**Online Registration closes on July 17th or earlier** if capacity reached. Due to safety protocols, no late registrations will be allowed with only 15 (over 12 yrs.) Out-of-Town spots available so please register here >> ZAH Z-Camp 2021.

- When: Saturday, July 31st, 2021 10:00 am – Sunday, August 1st, 2021 3.00 pm
- Friday, July 30th, 8:00 PM onwards for out of towners and Youth Group and over attendees ONLY
- Ages 12 and Over: Camp overnight (Bring your sleeping bag and pillows)
- Ages 5-12: Day Camp Only (Sat 10:00am – 11:00pm and Sun 9:00am – 3:00pm)
- Cost: $30 per Z-Camp attendee
- Camp Dinner with Kids (Sat evening) - $15 per person

Parents/Grandparents and guests (limited capacity due to current situation) please join us on Saturday, July 31st at 7:30 pm for "Camp Dinner with Kids" (registration required) and on Sunday, August 1st at 2:30 pm for the final event, awards and more! All kids, ages 5-25, come see your old friends and make new ones at a weekend camp which has always been great fun.

As the prices are extremely subsidized, please consider being a Sponsor or Donate towards the camp. If interested, please email Kayo Sidhwa at kaysid@hotmail.com. We look forward to seeing you at the Camp!

Thank you,

ZAH Z Camp 2021 Team
FEZANA reaches milestone fundraising goal of $1.1 Million (USD) in partnership with the University of Toronto, establishing first-ever FEZANA Professorship of Zoroastrian Languages and Literature at the University of Toronto

Transformative and sustainable for future generations, the endowed professorship advances the academic study and understanding of Zoroastrianism and its contributions to the world

Burr Ridge, Illinois, USA, June 16, 2021 – FEZANA, the Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America, at its 34th Annual General Meeting announced it has reached its matching fundraising goal of $1.1 million (USD) in partnership with the University of Toronto, officially establishing the FEZANA Professorship of Zoroastrian Languages and Literature at the University of Toronto. This milestone achievement will transform and advance the study of Zoroastrian languages and literature in the Western hemisphere for future generations, and marks an historic moment for FEZANA, its member associations and small groups, and the hundreds of patrons who donated to turn concept into reality.

A worldwide search for a candidate to fill the position shall begin in the summer/early fall, with the goal to have a selected candidate in place to start their position at the University of Toronto in July 2022.

“The establishment of the FEZANA Professorship at the University of Toronto creates an academic milestone for the Zoroastrian community in North America,” said FEZANA President Arzan Sam Wadia. “In our more than three decades of FEZANA’s existence, this has been the single largest capital project we have initiated, and its completion is deeply gratifying to the entire community. What is truly unique is the collective participation of individuals and institutions from around the world. FEZANA will forever remain grateful to every donor who helped realize this dream.”

“This generous gift from the FEZANA community propels our Zoroastrian studies program as a leader on the global stage, greatly elevating its significance and contribution to the study of Zoroastrianism,” says Tim Harrison, chair of University of Toronto’s Department of Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations (NMC), in which the professorship will be based. “This professorship will help us greatly increase the number of students able to read and understand the ancient languages of Avestan and Pahlavi, and advance research and publications on the translated texts and their context in history. Ultimately, it will help raise awareness of Zoroastrianism around the world.”

The milestone project was initiated in 2019 by FEZANA under the leadership of Homi D. Gandhi, immediate past President of FEZANA.

“It is important for faith-based organizations like FEZANA to invest in scholarship and educational opportunities for their communities and the world at large,” Gandhi said. “By fostering a greater understanding of the tenets that guide our lives, we can better understand other faiths who may believe differently, and in turn, achieve a global unity based on cooperation and understanding.”

The concept of an endowed professorship was first presented in 2017 at FEZANA’s 30th Annual General Meeting, by Erv. Dr. Jehan Bagli who had met with University of Toronto representatives to broach the idea. Dr. Bagli worked closely with Gandhi, and both devoted energy and enthusiasm toward the fundraising effort. In total, more than 250 generous donors supported the cause, including Zoroastrian individuals, associations, institutions and foundations in the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Australia, India, Europe and North America.
FEZANA reaches milestone fundraising goal of $1.1 Million (USD) in partnership with the University of Toronto, establishing first-ever FEZANA Professorship of Zoroastrian Languages and Literature at the University of Toronto

Transformative and sustainable for future generations, the endowed professorship advances the academic study and understanding of Zoroastrianism and its contributions to the world

FEZANA recognizes the following religious, academic and executive leaders for their behind-thescenes leadership and guidance that helped advance the cause: Ervad Arda-e-viraf Minocher-homjee, President, North American Mobed Council; Behram Irani, FEZANA Fundraising Lead; Sean Elavia, FEZANA General Counsel; and Professor Yuhan S-D Vevaina, Bahari Associate Professor of Sasanian Studies at The University of Oxford.

“The inestimable and multi-generational value of investing in religious and historical education is not simply a utilitarian concern, but a fundamental tenet of Zoroastrianism to be found in every stage of Zoroastrian literature, from the Avestan sacred texts to those written today in the global diasporas,” Oxford’s Prof. Vevaina commented. “FEZANA is to be truly congratulated for its profoundly forwardthinking commitment to the highest levels of academic scholarship on Zoroastrianism, and I genuinely hope this is the just beginning of many more endowed positions to come which will reflect the geographic and demographic diversity of Zoroastrians living and thriving across the breadth and depth of North America and beyond.”

“The FEZANA Professorship in Zoroastrian Languages and Literature at the University of Toronto ensures a foundational religion, and its heritage will be studied in perpetuity,” said Prof. Jamsheed K. Choksy, Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Department of Central Eurasian Studies at the University of Indiana - Bloomington. “This is a much-needed undertaking of enduring value.”

Zoroastrians are followers of one of the world’s oldest monotheistic religions founded by the prophet Zarathushtra more than 3,000 years ago in ancient Iran. Zoroastrians have long served as bridge builders in interfaith dialogue, believing in truth, righteousness, charity, beneficence, respect and care for the environment, and the ultimate triumph of good over evil.

Zoroastrianism flourished as the imperial religion of three Persian empires, those of the Achaemenians, Parthians and Sassanians, and was the dominant religion from Turkey and eastward to China during those times. North America’s Zoroastrian community includes those who arrived from the Indian subcontinent, known as Parsis, and those who came directly from Iran seeking religious freedom.

About FEZANA

Founded in 1987, the Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America (FEZANA) represents a diverse and growing Zarathushti community in the western diaspora. Guided by the blessings of Ahura Mazda and the teachings of prophet Zarathushtra, the non-profit federation serves as the coordinating body for 27 Zoroastrian associations and 14 corresponding groups in Canada and the United States. The activities of FEZANA are conducted in a spirit of mutual respect, cooperation and unity among all member associations, and with due regard for the Zarathushti principles of goodness, truth, reason, benevolence, implicit trust and charity toward all mankind. Visit www.fezana.org and follow FEZANA on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook @TheFEZANA.
Start Spreading the News...

https://wzc2022.nyc

World Zoroastrian Congress

2022

For details: https://wzc2022.nyc/