

## ZANC Board 2017

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Respected Mobed Sahebs and community members of Northern California,

Please join me in congratulating and thanking Nazneen Spliedt who served as ZANC President from 2004-2016. As she steps down after a successful run for 12 years, I understand that I have big shoes to fill.

At the Navroze function on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March I was happy to meet with you all. It was a delight to meet old friends and make new. It was a pleasure to see, meet and know so many new members. Our ZANC community has grown and is growing larger every month.

For those new members that I did not get a chance to meet, let me introduce myself. I am Bomi Patel, your ZANC President. I migrated to U.S. in July 1991, and joined ZANC on my arrival. My wife Binaifer and I were very well received and welcomed into the community. We were new to the area and did not know anyone, but thanks to late Nilufer Vania (RIP) who introduced us to the larger community, we felt comfortable settling in the Bay Area.

I joined the ZANC board as a member and since then have been very active in the ZANC community. I served in various positions including President of ZANC from 1994-2004, and as a ZANC Trustee since then. I continued serving in the Zarthushti community at local and federation levels, and was elected as 6<sup>th</sup> FEZANA President 2008-2012, and as Global Vice President for World Zarathushti Chamber of Commerce 2013-2015.

Currently, I am the Chair for FEZANA External Affairs committee, representing the North American Zarthushtis at the Global Working Group. I am once again back as your president, and look forward to working with one and all.

On Sunday March 26, 2017, the Sacramento Zoroastrian Association celebrated the opening of their new Dar-e Meher in Roseville Ca. I congratulate SZA community on this milestone event. Many of our ZANC members were present to witness the opening jashan performed by our own Dasturji Kobad Jamshed, and to a grand dinner thereafter.

As we move on with the year 2017, ZANC has a daunting task of building our new community center. As member of Capital campaign committee, I request you all to actively participate in the current survey and register your opinion. The survey is strictly confidential and your opinion will be added to our pool, so as to get a majority view as to how we should proceed. The new center will help build a stronger community for generations to come. Remember If you build it, they will come.

I also want to thank the Sunday School teachers and coordinators, for their time and energy spent in making the curriculum interesting for our kids. On Sunday March 19, over 70 adults and kids attended the Navroze Jashan and Sunday school thereafter. ZANC's Sunday School is held every third Sunday of the month. I request all parents to encourage their kids to attend the same.

Looking forward to meeting and working with you all in Hamazori.

Your President,  
Bomi Patel





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## Zarthoshti Anjuman of Northern California

### Annual Report 2016

2016 was another active year for ZANC, in spite of not having been able to use the facilities at the Dar-e-Mehr for any large events, except Sunday classes

The following Events and Activities were organized by ZANC during the year.

**Ice Skating** evening at Winter Lodge in Palo Alto on January 24th

**Nowruz /Navroze** was celebrated on March 19th with an Afghan dinner & DJ at Teen Centre in Elizabeth Park, Fremont. Our AGM was also held at the same time.

**Special Fund Raiser Dinner- on May 14th** -to raise funds for our new Community Centre was held at the Los Altos Youth Centre with parsi 'bhonoo' and a raffle, which raised \$21,000.

**Annual Picnic on July 17th** at the Foothills Park in Palo Alto

**Mukhtad prayers** were held from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> August at the Dar-e-Mehr

**Parsi New Year** was celebrated on August 21st with lunch at Sakoon Indian Restaurant

**Annual Ghambhar** was held on Sept 24th at the Berryessa Centre, with cooking at the Dar-e-Mehr. The food was transported to the Centre

**Halloween Costume party and Bingo night** on October 29th with Italian pasta dinner and prizes for the best costumes, plus candies and goodies for all kids

**Children's Religious Classes** - every 3rd Sunday of the Month from September to June, followed by pot-luck lunch

The President and Secretary represented ZANC at the annual FEZANA AGM in Detroit from April 28th - 30th

### Memberships

As at the end of 2016 and for FEZANA's count we have 586 adult paid up individual members, 18 & over. We have 56 Life members with a total of 252 paid-up membership units.

### Dar-e-Mehr

The Joint ZANC/PZO Committee is headed by Erach Tarapore and has met on a regular basis throughout the year. The Capital Campaign Committee, headed by Darayush Mistry has taken the lead with a small committee. They started the campaign by calling members, talking to them and explaining about the need for a new Community Centre & soliciting their opinions and thoughts. As at the end of 2016, we have \$392,000. - in a separate Savings Account & CD in the name of ZANC in the Capital Campaign Account.

In 2016 ZANC paid \$16,350. as our share towards the maintenance costs of the Dar-e-Mehr, which includes an honorarium for the caretakers.

### Many Thanks

To Er. Kobad Jamshed for performing the prayers for our 5 Mukhtad days as well as performing Jashans for Navroze and during Ghambhar.

We thank our Sunday school teachers- Annahita Jasavala, Homai Kasad, and Delnavaz Dastur for continuing with the children's religious education.

We record our heartfelt thanks to Annahita Jasavala who 'retired' after 20+ years of running the Sunday Classes as at the end of the school year in August 2016. Her shoes will be hard to fill.

We thank Benafsha Irani for stepping in and leading the young kids group

To Darius Kasad for maintaining and running the Web Site

To the 2016 Board- Adil Engineer, Ehler Spliedt, Parizad Bharucha, Meher Mistri, Khurshid Gandhi, Zarina Bhandari & Parizad Patel

## **ZANC Annual Report 2016 (contd.)**

To all of our Community, your participation, support and trust means a lot to us, especially at this important time in our history.

As I step down from the position of President after 16 years of serving on the Board, I would like to thank the Community for giving me the opportunity to get to know so many of you and forming friendships and for giving me the unique pleasure to serve and represent the Community here as well as within the North American Diaspora. I will certainly not 'fade away', but hope that the Millennials & Generation Z will step forward to take up new challenges facing our community and for the future progress of all Zarathushtis, young & old in the Bay Area and beyond.

Nazneen Spliedt  
March 25, 2017

### **A BIG THANK YOU from NAZNEEN**

Dear ZANC Community,

From the bottom of my heart I would like to thank ALL of you for the support, love, admiration, and help that I have received from all of you in my 15 years of service on the Board of ZANC.

It is always an honor and a privilege to serve any community and specially our Zarathushti community in Northern California. It has helped us make life-long friendships here. I thank all those who gave their time to serve on the Board.



Nazneen Spliedt, Bomi Patel and the ZANC Board

My special thanks to the 2016 Board- Adil, Parizad, Meher, Khurshid, Zarina & not least of all Ehler, your help and support made all the hassles worthwhile, and to the Trustees - Erach, Bomi & Zareer for your confidence and always willing advice.

I wish Bomi and all the present board members good luck, as we face the uphill task of working together with you on our future Community Centre.

*Atha jamyat yatha afrinami - may it be as we wish*

*Ushta te*

*Nazneen*



Date: July 23 (Sunday), 2017

Time: 11.00 am

Foothills Park, Palo Alto  
3300 Page Mill Road  
OAK GROVE PICNIC AREA

Price: Adults: \$15 Children (5 – 12y): \$10.00 Children (under 5 y): Free  
Non-members: Add \$5.00

Do bring your lawn chairs, games, sunscreen, towels and water. NO alcohol please.

Directions: From I-280 North or South, exit on Page Mill Road to Arastradero Road WEST, which turns into Page Mill Road for about 4 miles (uphill). Enter Foothill Park (on right side of road) and at first fork in road (Near Lake), turn left. At next fork in road, turn right and continue till you read OAK GROVE. Parking area is on left.

PLEASE NOTE: Foothill Park is a private park – only people with prior reservations and on the official list will be admitted. You will not be able to join us if your name is not on the list!

For more info: Please contact [meher526@gmail.com](mailto:meher526@gmail.com) or 650-948-1660

## ZANC PICNIC 2017

Price: Adults: \$15 Children (5 – 12y): \$10.00 Children (under 5 y): Free  
Non-members: +5.00 per person.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

# Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Children (less than 5y) = \_\_\_\_\_

#Children: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# Vegetarians = \_\_\_\_\_

# Non-members: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$5 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due: = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Deadline: July 17<sup>th</sup> or till capacity is reached. Register online at [www.zanc.org](http://www.zanc.org) or by emailing [meher526@gmail.com](mailto:meher526@gmail.com) and mail your checks (made out to ZANC) to:

Meher Mistri 110 Concord Circle, Mountain View, CA 94040 -

For more info: Please contact [meher526@gmail.com](mailto:meher526@gmail.com) or 650-948-1660





## 10<sup>th</sup> Zoroastrian Unity Cup Soccer Tournament

Labor Day Weekend -  
September 2-3, 2017

Aviation Park -  
Redondo Beach, CA



## 10th Zoroastrian Unity Cup Soccer Tournament

Labor Day Weekend

September 2-3, 2017

Aviation Park

1935 Manhattan Beach Blvd

Redondo Beach, CA 90278

<http://www.zathletics.com/>



# FEZANA

FEDERATION OF ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA

The Zoroastrian Youth of North America (ZYNA) committee is happy to announce a new **Zoroastrian Youth Mentorship Program**! The aim of this program is to help young Zarathushtis advance on their educational and professional trajectories. ZYNA is rolling out this program for the next academic year (2018-2019) application cycle.

We are seeking young Zarathushti professionals across North America who are willing to act as a mentor to Zoroastrian students in the process of applying to college or university. **If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please take 5-10 minutes to fill out our questionnaire by April 21**, which will provide us with information about your education and work background so we can match you with a mentee interested in the same school or field of work. Please also mention this program to your family and friends who may be interested.

A link to the mentor questionnaire can be found at  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSewVTO9XDlaD1EhvjjMcAlhv7cR4VJHmGuD7r1XomeFKRwx1w/viewform?c=0&w=1>

At present, we are focusing on undergraduate university applications; in the future, we plan to include graduate program and professional mentorship services as well.

We look forward to the community's support for Zoroastrian students. If you have any questions, please contact us at [zyna@fezana.org](mailto:zyna@fezana.org).

Sincerely,

Fareeza Doctor Mistree, Vahbiz Karanjia, and Diana Vania  
ZYNA Co-Chairs

## Community News:

**Births:** A girl NAVAZ MOTAFRAM to Shanaya and Pirzad Motafram in Los Altos CA on March 27, 2017. Sister to Viraf and granddaughter to Silloo and Erach Tarapore.

A boy AZAD MORAS KASAD born to Roshni Kasad and Ajith Mascarenas on December 21, 2016 in Berkeley, CA

**Deaths:** Parvez Mistry (80y) husband of Freny in Mumbai on January 4, 2017. Father to Ratan (Pervin), and Shenaz (Cyrus) Bhote, and grandfather to Yazata, Tiraza, Zehan, and Jamsheed

Khorshed Cawas Writer of Concord, on January 25<sup>th</sup> 2017. Wife of the late Cawas Writer and mother of Dinar Dinyar Pavri of Pleasant Hill and Parvez Writer and Kaikhushru Writer. Grandmother to Rezwan & Azarmeen Pavri, Numazer & Shermeen Pavri and great grandmother to Farah, Tahm, Zar & Ava.

Ervad Sorabji Chhor (93y) in Granite Bay, CA. Husband to Nergish, father to Hilla (Homi) Sadri, Jeroo (Darius) Captain, Parizad (Hormuzd) Sethna, and son Khushru (Aban), and grandfather to Aban, Shiraz, Tanaz, Behroz, and Rustum

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

| EVENT                                    | DATE                  | LOCATION                   |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Local:</i>                            |                       |                            |
| ZANC Summer Picnic                       | Jul 23, 2017, 11.00AM | Foothills Park, Palo Alto  |
| Muktad Prayers                           | Aug 12 - 16, 2017     | DM                         |
| Navroze Function                         | Aug 20, 2017 (Lunch)  | Sakoon Restaurant, Fremont |
| Ghambhar **NEW DATE                      | Oct 7, 2017 (Dinner)  | Berryessa Community Center |
| Costume & Bingo Party                    | Oct 28, 2017          | TBD                        |
| <i>National/International</i>            |                       |                            |
| 2017 FEZANA AGM                          | Apr 28 - 30, 2017     | Houston TX, USA            |
| 2018 World Zoroastrian Congress          | Jun 1 -4, 2018        | Perth Australia            |
| 2019 World Zoroastrian Youth Congress    | Summer 2019           | Los Angeles CA, USA        |
| 2020 North American Zoroastrian Congress | TBA                   | Houston TX USA             |

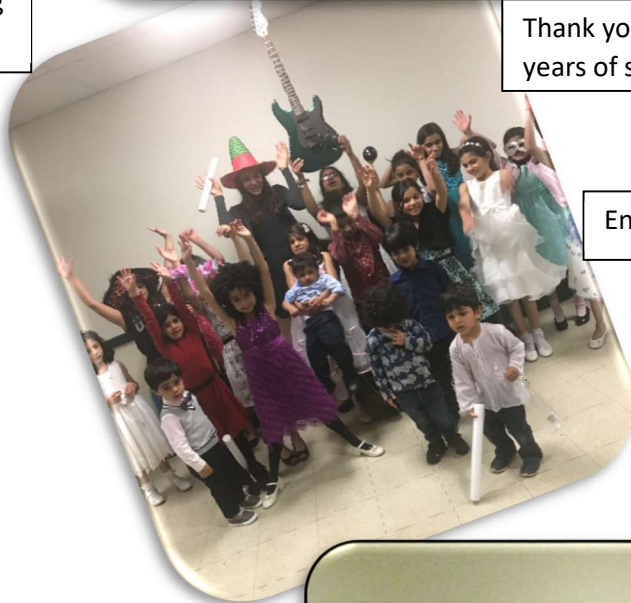
## Navroze Dinner, March 2017 - A fun time!



Outgoing President Nazneen Spliedt and Incoming President Bomi Patel address the crowd



Thank you Nazneen for your years of service to ZANC



Enjoying the function!



The Crowd listens to Dasturjee Kobad Jamshed (right) and the Capital Campaign Committee at the Navroze function.







# FEZANA

FEDERATION OF ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA

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
- Dr. Minocher Rustom Vesuna and Dowlat Minocher Vesuna WZO Canada Endowed Scholarships
- Sheroo Darabsha Kolsawala 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. Scholarships for the academic year 2017-2018 will be awarded in September 2017.

For eligibility, selection criteria, forms and more information, please visit  
<https://fezana.org/scholarships/academic/>



Z-Camp 2017 will be held from July 27th - July 30th. Kids 13-18.

Join us this summer for Z-Camp, held at the San Jose Darbeh-Mehr. Please fill out one online application per camper at

<http://www.ZCamp.info/application.html>

Check out [www.zanc.org](http://www.zanc.org) for Dar -e-Mehr hours, directions, the Parsi calendar and much more!





## A Life Well Lived

**Sorab Burjorji Chhor** passed away peacefully in the early morning hours of Friday March 31, 2017.

From Nargol to Nagpur to Northern California—the journey of his life was a joyous adventure. Born in Nargol, September 22, 1923, he moved to Nagpur and started his career at the tender age of 14 years as an apprentice to Jehangir Panthaky, General Manager for Empress Mills—simultaneously going to night school to get his High School diploma.

Sharp witted and intelligent, his passion for learning was boundless. This passion continued well into his later years-- and although he did not have the opportunity for a college education-- he seized every opportunity to learn something new, something exciting. More recently, his grandchildren became his tutors: from them he enthusiastically learned how to use the latest electronic gadget, iPad and smart phone with ease and dexterity. He had a passion for cars and would proudly display his first driver's licence he acquired in 1942. He continued to drive his own car days before he passed--doing errands for others, visiting friends who were ill or helping his retired buddies to get to their doctors' appointments.

*Zarthushti* to the core he never missed his daily visit to the *Agiary* in Nagpur, rain or shine. He not only loved reciting his favorite *Avesta* prayers twice daily with joy—he actually put the prayers into practice. Honesty and integrity were deeply ingrained in his character--a well-known fact among his colleagues and clients. He was the first appointed Chief Representative for Unit Trust of India, and knew all the tax laws with detailed perfection. He was a financial advisor to countless families in Nagpur who for generations trusted Sorab to handle all their investments.

He reached out with love and affection to every person who crossed his path. It was amazing how he always had a cheerful word, a piece of practical advice or the right words of consolation and hope for an aching heart. He had a genuinely positive outlook on life—so infectious, no one around him could languish in despondency. He managed to see the bright side of the worst situation, giving guidance from his profound store of ancient wisdom combined with practical knowledge.

Charity came naturally to him. There are countless families in Nagpur he helped financially in his own quiet way. "The left hand shall not know what the right hand giveth," was his dictum. Even while struggling financially himself, he never missed a Thursday to distribute free food to the impoverished folk at Taj Baug in Nagpur where he was fondly known as "Parsi Baba."

During the last few years he was most excited to learn about the new *Dar e Meher* coming up in Sacramento. On March 26 of this year he very happily sat alongside his grandson Rustum—whom he had tutored patiently for his *Navar* ceremony some years back. He was one of the seven priests who participated in the prayers led by Ervad Kobad Jamshed for the *Dar e Meher* opening in Sacramento. Five days later, after reciting *Sarosh Yasht Vadi* and *Sarosh Yasht Hadokht* late in the night, he went to sleep... He crossed over with ease in the early morning hours of *Roj Sarosh, Mah Avan*. He looked relaxed and peaceful--a blissful ending to a life well lived! He is survived by his wife of 70 + years, Nergish, son Khushrav, daughters Hilla, Jeroo & Parizad; and grandchildren: Aban, Shiraz, Tanaz, Behroz and Rustum.

Dear ZANC Community Members:

We would love to share your good (and sad) news with everyone in the community: Births; Navjotes; Graduations; Weddings; Professional awards, Deaths, etc.

We urge you to please let us know of such events in your family and urge your friends to send in their news too. It is an important part of our community's life, and often, a source of pride for everyone.

Please email Khurshid ([khurshidgandhi@yahoo.com](mailto:khurshidgandhi@yahoo.com)) with this information.

Submissions may be edited for clarity, space etc. Final decision to publish content lies with the ZANC Board.

Thank you and looking forward to your input.