



# ZANC

ZARTHOSHTI ANJUMAN *of*  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Newsletter Date: Jul - Sep 2018

## ZANC Board 2018

### President:

Bomi Patel  
408-264-4395  
president@zanc.org

### Vice-President:

Adil Engineer  
408-750-6446  
adileng@gmail.com

### Treasurer:

Ratan Mistry  
408-421-1911  
ratanmistry@hotmail.com

### Secretary:

Ehler Spliedt  
650-624-8888  
nazehler@aol.com

### Board Members:

Kathleen Chothia  
925 577-6989  
kathleen\_chothia@hotmail.com

Khurshid Gandhi  
650-813-1895  
khurshidgandhi@yahoo.com

Meher Mistri  
650-948-1660  
meher526@gmail.com

### Trustees:

Kersi Daruwalla  
408 641-1437  
[kersi1042@yahoo.com](mailto:kersi1042@yahoo.com)

Yezdi Dordi  
650-462-9932  
[yezdi@dordi.us](mailto:yezdi@dordi.us)

Erach Tarapore  
925-284-2719  
[etarapore@gmail.com](mailto:etarapore@gmail.com)



## Z-Camp 2018 July 26th - July 29th For Ages 13 - 17

For more information and to register please visit [www.zcamp.info](http://www.zcamp.info)  
A chance to be with and know other Zoroastrian kids  
Strengthen the sense of identity and pride of being a Zoroastrian  
Summer Camp experience with team building games.

### ZANC members can now advertise in the newsletter!

Current rates per issue are:

Business Card Size (3.5" X 2")	\$20.00
Quarter Page Size (3.5" X 5")	\$40.00
Half Page Size (3.5" X 10" or 7.5" X 5.5")	\$75.00
Full Page Size (7.5" X 10")	\$125.00
To sponsor an issue and get recognition:	\$200

Contact [board@zanc.org](mailto:board@zanc.org) for more information or to place an ad. The ZANC board has the right to reject ads for any objectionable content.

## Community News:

**Deaths:** Mr. Burjor Faramroze Italia on May 17, 2018 in Mumbai, India. Husband of Nergish, father of Keki, Minoo and Cyrus, father in law of Viloo, Claudia, Pearl and grandfather of Arnosh, Arzan, Dennis

Seema Navin Sahni on May 26, 2018 in San Jose CA. Daughter of the late Dolly Engineer of San Jose. Wife of Navin and mother of Sheetal, Sonali and Jitu

Mr. Viraf Bharucha (86y) on June 12, 2018 in Houston TX. Husband of Rashna Bharucha, father of Armaity (Viraf) Patel, Cyrus (Diana) Bharucha and Darius (Jarafreen) Bharucha, grandfather to Arzaan, Zain, Sanaya, Nariman, Jasper and Freyana

## In Memoriam

**Ervard Jehangir Noshirwan Sidhwa**, Panthaky of Parsi Saddar H J Behrana Agiary (Karachi, Pakistan) passed away May 17<sup>th</sup> 2018 (Roj: Shehrevar, Mah: Dae). He was born on March 10, 1926 in Udwada. His father was a teacher and a Navar at the Jeejibhoy Dadabhoy Agiary in Udwada. His grandfather was a teacher and a full mobed at the Avesta Madressah in Udwada. Jehangirji got his early education in Gujarati and English in Udwada, becoming a Navar at the age of 12. He worked in Udwada as a mobed for 6 years, and from 1944 to 1948 worked in Mumbai's Boyce Agiary in Tardeo.

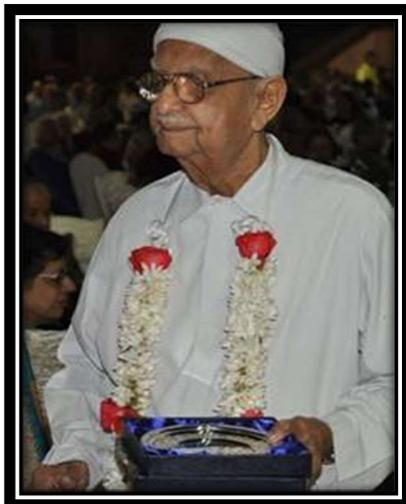
In 1948, after partition, and on the invitation of Mobed Jamshedji Magol, Jehangirji located to Karachi and began working at the Karachi Saddar Agiary. His career also saw him working with Mobed Dinshawji Magol and Dinshawji Charna till 1971, and then with Jina Bhadha from 1971 until 1999. During this period, Jehangirji was the resident mobed at the agiary and made his daily rounds to the agiary at midnight for the Ushahen geh boi, alongside performing all the other typical Zoroastrians ceremonies.

From 1999 until his passing, he remained the resident Mobed and Panthaky at the Saddar Agiary also lovingly called "The King of Saddar Agyari". Celebrating a total of over 70 years as Mobed, we believe he holds the record for the longest serving mobed in Pakistan's history. Having a melodious prayer voice which echoed in the Agiary and whom people love listening to he will be remembered in our hearts for a very long time.

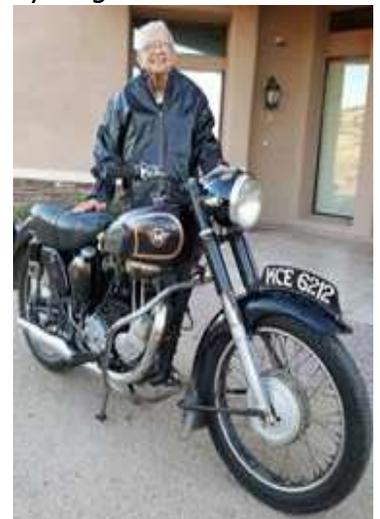
Through his years and as he aged, his spirit never wavered. He enjoyed life and devoted his time to the service of the Parsi community, often performing jashans and navjotes even when he was on vacation in the U.S. In some cases, he performed lagans and navjotes on several generations within a family, over his 70+ years.

Jehangirji's sweet and often comedic nature was known to all. He could relate to children and adults of all ages. He was well known as the "Motorcycle Dasturji or Flying Dasturji" in Karachi as he rode around in his younger years on his beloved 1955 Matchless motorcycle, which he maintained in pristine condition. At over 80 years, he finally retired from riding.

Jehangirji is survived by his younger son in Phoenix, Arizona, Ardeshir (Ardy) and his wife Rushna, daughter of Godrej & Ruby Kerawalla of the San Francisco Bay Area, and an older son Pervez, his wife Shireen and their daughter Benafsha of Dallas, Texas.



Er. Sidhwa, felicitated by Karachi Parsi Community



With his 1955 Matchless and original Matchless bike jacket!

# PICNIC



Date: July 22 (Sunday), 2018

Time: 11.00 am

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

**Price: Adults: \$15.00      Children (5 – 12y): \$10.00      Children (under 5 y): Free**  
**Non-members: +5.00 per person**

Do bring your lawn chairs, games, sunscreen, towels and water. Relax in the shade or join in the fun – water balloons, races, tug-of-war etc. 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 Foothills 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: Foothills 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 [kathleen\\_chothia@hotmail.com](mailto:kathleen_chothia@hotmail.com) or 925 577-6989

## ZANC PICNIC 2018

**Price: Adults: \$15.00      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 (+ \$5): \_\_\_\_\_ X \$5 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Registration Deadline: July 15<sup>th</sup> or till capacity is reached. Register online at [www.zanc.org](http://www.zanc.org) or by mailing a check (made to ZANC) to:  
Kathleen Chothia 3308 Glencoe Circle, San Ramon, CA 94582.



For more info: Please contact [kathleen\\_chothia@hotmail.com](mailto:kathleen_chothia@hotmail.com) or 925 577-6989

## UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
<b>Local:</b>		
ZANC Picnic	Jul 22 2018, 11.00AM	Foothills Park, Palo Alto
Muktad Prayers & Navroze Jashan	Aug 12- 17, 2018,	DM
Navroze Dinner	Aug 25, 2018	Dougherty Station Community Center, San Ramon
Ghambar	Sept 15, 2018	Berryessa Community Center
<b>National/International</b>		
2019 World Zoroastrian Youth Congress	Summer 2019	Los Angeles CA, USA
2020 North American Zoroastrian Congress	Dec 2020	Houston TX USA
2022 World Zoroastrian Congress	2022	New York

### Class of 2018 CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!!

**Priyanka Gundevia:** Graduated from New York institute of Technology with a Masters in Business Administration (MBA)

**Zarine Kakalia:** Graduated from Mission San Jose High School, Fremont, and will be going to University of California, Berkeley to pursue her passion in Environmental Science!

**Anosh M Dumasia:** Graduated from American High School, Fremont and will attend San Francisco State University to study Mechanical Engineering.

**Carl Canteenwala:** Graduated from UC BERKELEY with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science/Electrical Engineering. He will continue his education at UC Berkeley pursuing a Masters in Mechanical Engineering.

**Zehan Mistry:** Graduated with Honors and High Distinction (Dean's List Scholar) from the University of Toronto (St. George Campus) with a Bachelor of Science in Life Sciences double majoring in Neuroscience and Physiology. Zehan plans to pursue a career in medicine and is applying to medical colleges for the academic year 2019-2020.

# CONGRATULATIONS!

Want to see it in color?? Check out the ZANC newsletter in color at [www.zanc.org](http://www.zanc.org). There you can also find Dar-e-Mehr hours, directions, the Parsi calendar and much more...

# SHAHENSHAHI



## Navroze Dinner

Saturday August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

6.00 PM at

**Dougherty Station  
Community Center**

City of San Ramon  
17011 Bollinger Canyon Road,  
San Ramon 94582



- ❖ **Gara & Dagli Parade (Participation Prizes!)**  
(Register at the door)
- ❖ **Photo Booth**
- ❖ **Music, Dancing & DJ**
- ❖ **Raffle for a cruise to Mexico!**
- ❖ **...and more fun!!**



**LIMITED SPACE, PAYMENT GUARANTEES RESERVATION**

Registration accepted till August 15<sup>th</sup> 2018 or till capacity reached (whichever is earlier)

For your convenience: pay on line at [zanc.org/navroze](http://zanc.org/navroze)

-----Tear Sheet

### Navroze Aug 25<sup>th</sup> 2018 Dinner Reservations

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

**Early Bird Registration before Aug 15<sup>th</sup> for members**

Adult	_____	x \$ 35.00
Children 8 – 14yrs	_____	x \$ 20.00
Children 5 – 7yrs	_____	x \$ 10.00
Children under 5yrs	_____	free

**Non-members or Registration after Aug 15<sup>th</sup>**

Adult	_____	x \$ 40.00
Children 8 – 14yrs	_____	x \$ 25.00
Children 5 – 7yrs	_____	x \$ 15.00
Children under 5yrs	_____	free

Please make checks out to ZANC and mail before August 15<sup>th</sup> to

Adil Engineer 6124 Oak Forest Way, San Jose, CA 95120 Tel# 408-750-6446 ([adileng@gmail.com](mailto:adileng@gmail.com))

**Contact Adil to register or to purchase raffle tickets (\$5ea. or 5 tickets/\$20). Tickets also available at event.**

Or you can pay on line at [www.zanc.org/navroze](http://www.zanc.org/navroze)

## Muktad Prayers & Navroze Jashan Details

Muktad prayers and a Navroze Jashan will be held at the DM as follows:

**Sunday August 12 at 10.30 am**

**Monday August 13 at 5.00 pm**

**Tuesday August 14 at 5:00 pm**

**Wednesday August 15 at 5.00 pm**

**Thursday August 16 at 5.00 pm**

If you wish to have the names of your departed family members included in the prayers, please inform Ervad Kobad Jamshed- 650-572-1085 or [kobadj@hotmail.com](mailto:kobadj@hotmail.com) before **AUG 8<sup>th</sup>**. Suggested donation per name is \$20. Please provide full name including father's name and whether Osta or Behdin.

Please mail checks (payable to ZANC) to Er. Kobad Jamshed, 1115 Polynesia Dr. Foster City CA 94404

**Navroze Jashan on Friday August 17 at 6.00 pm followed by potluck dinner.**

## ZANC Sunday School 2017-18 .... Another great year!

*By Dianne Patel*

The ZANC Sunday School held at the Dar-e-Mehr has enjoyed wonderful growth this past school year. The classes divided into 2 groups (ages 5-12 and middle/high school kids) are taught by our wonderful and dedicated teachers – Benafsha Irani and Homai Kasad. Benafsha's 13-year-old daughter, Ava, is a remarkable aide to her mom and assists the kids with all their projects while adding a creative component to the class. Benafsha teaches the younger group which now has roughly 15 students & Homai teaches the older kids' group which has about 8 students. The younger kids read simple stories about the religion and learn the various Zarathushti customs such as Gambhar, Navroze, Navjote etc. etc. They are kept engaged with



651lbs food donated by Sunday School families to Second Harvest Food

hands-on activities such as making "chalk" designs (and learning its significance) or "setting a Jashan table" so that even the youngest of children are able to get involved with the class in many ways. The older students start learning about the deeper meaning of scriptures/books, prominent Dasturs, translations of ideas and the history of the religion. There is a specific curriculum for each class and the children are expected to do a bit of reading ahead of time, research topics and present ideas in the class. Homai also keeps it engaging by setting up teams to play games to test their subject knowledge and awarding prizes to the winners.

Last past year, the younger kids group got a chance to gain experiences outside of the typical classroom environment as well. At one class session, Benafsha invited a yoga instructor to teach the kids about meditation and the art of mindfulness. They were exposed to the concepts of connecting with themselves

focusing on silence and inner peace while doing some hands-on yoga activities. During the May Sunday School, the young adults (and their parents) got a chance to attend an informative session, led by Dinsha Mistree, about University Applications. Dinsha, who is currently a lecturer at Stanford, and sometimes interviews prospective students, held an informal talk about the various aspects of the selection process and graciously offered to help the rising seniors with their college essays and applications. The community is extremely grateful for people like him who happily volunteer their time to help the next generation achieve their goals! Finally, the last Sunday School in June



Bulbs planted in decorated pots for Jamshedi-Navroze



Making beautiful "Chalk" designs

was an outing to the Lick

Observatory in San Jose. The event was well attended by both groups and everyone got to enjoy a behind the scene tour and history of the Observatory while taking a look at the Great Lick Refractor in the 36-inch telescope dome. It was a truly awesome experience and a fun end to the school year. All classes are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month at 11:30 am followed by a pot-luck lunch. There is an annual nominal fee of \$25/child (\$10/sibling) to help cover the costs of materials. Every effort is made to keep the lunch items to "Parsi dishes" so that our kids can know about our Parsi cuisine and how it specifically relates to our culture. There is usually a delicious spread of dhansak, papeta-per-eeedu, kheema, curry chawal, frenchbeans, salads, ravo, jalebis...and so forth.

Our thanks go out to the teachers for giving so much of their time and effort to educate our kids and also to those parents who show up consistently and volunteer with the potluck lunch including the set-up & clean-up. Thank you also to Nazneen Spliedt who works hard in the background to ensure that everything is running smoothly at each Sunday School session and also to all our guest speakers who give back to the community. It is this dedication and collaborative effort that brings together these young kids and instills in them an understanding of the importance and legacy of their religion!! After all who knows – someday in the future, someone from this very group of fine young kids could be teaching about the Zoroastrian Religion to another young crop of Zarthustis!!



Dinsha Mistree discusses nuances of college applications with interested families



At Lick Observatory, San Jose

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) 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.