



Zoroastrian Association of California July 2017

2016-2017 Executive Committee

President – Tehmi Damania Vice President – Perinne Medora Treasurer – Rooky Fitter
Joint Secretaries – Parvez Erani and Deelnavaz Tarapore Program Chair – Prochi Mistry
Youth Coordinator – Shirley Limath

UPCOMING EVENTS

Picnic in Irvine Mason Park: Sunday, July 30, 2017 @12:00pm

The annual ZAC picnic in the park will be held in William Mason Park, Irvine on Sunday, July 30, 2017 in Shelter 1 @ 12 Noon. This is our annual picnic in the Park replacing the walk-a-thon. Those interested can still walk or jog around the park. The menu, by popular demand . . . Dhansak Dal, Rice, Kavab, Kachumbar and Samosa.

ZAC's popular outdoor event this year will have organized games for children and adults and some team sport and a tug-of-war. The highlight of the day will be **Katy's special Crazy Hat Competition** where the owner wearing the most creatively made crazy hat will get a prize. So get creative and put on your thinking hat (pun intended). There will be prizes for other games too. There is no need to bring any dessert since it will be sponsored by Xerxes and Diana Commissariat.

In a park it is very difficult for us to accommodate people who just show up at the last minute. We really want everyone to have a good time and enjoy themselves so your cooperation with prompt **RSVPs will be appreciated.**

\$15 for Adults and children under 12 are FREE. RSVP is a MUST.

Please call Katy Khambatta at 858-450-0190 (evenings only) or email khambatta@sbcglobal.net or call Deelnavaz Tarapore 909-606-0017 or email: dtarapore@zacla.org.

Muktad Prayers – August 7 -17, 2017

The Muktad prayers in the ZAC Atash Kadeh will commence this year on Monday August 7, 2017. Prayers will be held at 5:30 pm every evening from Aug. 7th – 16th followed by chasni. On the 17th (New Year) prayers will be performed at 4:00 am followed by a Khusalinu nu Jashan and a machi. **The Atash Kadeh will be open all day for those who wish to pay their respects.**

If you wish to place a vase for your dear departed on the Muktad Table please deliver it to Zarrir Bhandara by July 31st. Likewise, if you wish for your deceased family and friend's names to be recited please send them to Zerkxis at zrbhandara@gmail.com by the 31st.

You may also bring offerings of flowers, fruits and cooked food – in small quantities.

For more INFO please contact Zarrir Bhandara at zrbhandara@gmail.com

Shehenshai New Year Celebration: Saturday, August 19, 2017

Let's all meet with Family & Friends to celebrate our Shehenshai New Year on August 19, 2017 @ the ZAC Center.

Please complete the attached form and RSVP NO LATER THAN August 15th

Event pricing is as follows – Members - \$35 per person Non-Members - \$50 per person EVERYONE after August 15th, irrespective of age - \$75

Children (5-10 years) - \$15 Children Under 5 yrs. FREE

*If anyone needs assistance to pay for the function or correspondingly wishes to sponsor a fellow member, please contact Tehmi at 949-583-9973 by **August 10th.***

This is a Pre-Paid Function. You MUST send in the completed form with your check or fill in the form online and pay with PAYPAL at www.zacla.org by August 15th.

Absolutely NO EXCEPTIONS please!!

ZAC Sports Day: Sunday August 27, 2017

Our 8th ANNUAL ZAC CARROM & TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT will be held at the ZAC Center Sunday, Aug 27th, 2017. Kindly book this Fun Day and come down with family and friends to try your hand at Table Tennis, Carrom & Rounders.

Please RSVP only for lunch by Aug 25th, 2017 to Yasmin Gundevia @ 949 419 1096 or yasmingundevia@gmail.com or Phiroze Gundevia @ 714 833 7936 or

Phiroze.gundevia@gmail.com. Ticket for lunch is \$15. Lunch Menu...veggie/chicken biryani, masala dal, cachumber and ice cream. Sponsors required for Prizes.

Registration starts at 11am; Practice Time: 11am -11-30am; Games start: 11-30am sharp; Lunch will be served at around 12-30 pm.

PAST EVENTS

Adar Mahina nu Parab

As previously announced in the newsletter, the four designated Mobed Sahibs, Zarrir and Zerkxis Bhandara, Arda Minocherhomjee and Khushro Unwalla were there bright and early to perform the first Fareshta Ceremony in our Atash Kadeh at 10:00 am on April 22. As per tarikat, the obligatory Baaj before a Fareshta had already been performed in the Anjuman Atash Behram in Mumbai. The beautiful ceremony was enjoyed by all who attended. After the humbundagi Zarrir and Zerkxis presented a shawl to both Arda and Khushro. This was followed by Dolly Malva presenting a shawl to Zerkxis in recognition of his service to our community.

A delicious lunch of Dhun Dar and Patia cooked by Reshma Rustomi was enjoyed by all. We would like to thank the following people for bringing the chasni for the jashan. Malido: Katy Alamshaw, Dogdo Arjani, Hootoxi Minocherhomjee, Reshma Rustomi and Perviz Tarapore. Ravo: Persis Choksy, Ruzbeh Daruwalla, Mitra Irani, Rhoda Lakdawalla and Deelnavaz Tarapore. Sev: Aban Nauzer Commissariat and Vira Santoke. Fruit and Nuts: Dolly Malva, Aban Kapadia, Banu Irani, Zarin Govadia, Katy Irani and Katy Spenta. Sutarfeni and Mithai were brought by Deenz Coachbuilder and Farah Unwalla. Thank you all for your contributions for the Fareshta and to the

Mobed Sahibs for performing a beautiful ceremony. We apologize if we have inadvertently omitted anyone's name in the list of contributions.

Maidhyozarem Ghambar

This Ghambar was sponsored by Parwin Bamboat in memory of her dear husband Rohinton Bamboat on April 30, at the ZAC Center. It was well attended by members/non-members. After the jashan, lunch was served prepared by the family. The tasty food was enjoyed by all. We appreciatively acknowledge the Bamboat Family for hosting the Ghambar.

Zerbanoo Gifford

An afternoon with Zerbanoo Gifford, a joint event by ZAC and CZC was held on Sunday, May 7 at the California Zoroastrian Center in Westminster. Dr. Ali Makki, CZC Board member gave the welcome address for our two guests for the book reading. Farida Master the accomplished biographer and author of the book titled 'An Uncensored Life' started by reading excerpts of the book and recounting anecdotes of how it all began. She then called Zerbanoo to the podium to take over and the afternoon was an exciting adventure for all who listened enthralled as Zerbanoo spoke with passion about her trials and how she overcame and broke all boundaries and becoming the first Asian woman in modern British politics elected as a Liberal councilor. There were about 80 people who attended on a Sunday afternoon and sat spellbound. Many were thrilled to have their copy of the book being autographed by both Farida and Zerbanoo.

Ladies Club – Ashdeen Lilaowala

Ashdeen Lilaowala was the guest speaker at the last ladies' club which was held on June 11th. He is a well-known textile designer and gave a very informative and descriptive talk of the Parsi embroidery gara which is his brand of fashion highlights.

The talk was very enlightening as to the scope and depth of re-creating the art of embroidery gara which was a dying trade till designers like him have given a new life to it. He describes this art very aptly as "painting with a needle".

Members and non members who attended in large numbers that day were treated to amazing workmanship and a wide variety of products like garas, saris, other apparel, stoles, scarves and clutch bags which were on sale or could be ordered.

Annual General Body Meeting

Was held at the ZAC Center on June 25, 2017. A delicious lunch prepared by Reshma Rustomi was served before the meeting to around 100 members and some non-members. The meeting started with the approval of the minutes and a report by the President Tehmi Damania. Our Treasurer Rooky Fitter read the Treasurer's Report and thanked Nauzer Commissariat for his service to the community as the Independent Accountant for the last few years. Phiroze Tarapore was once again elected as the Independent Accountant for 2017.

Next, a discussion regarding the children's play area was held and it was decided to form a subcommittee for this matter. The subcommittee members would be Laila Bodhanwala, Xerxes Commissariat, & Ruzbeh Daruwalla. Zarrir Bhandara was appointed as the Election Officer for the

elections for the new Executive Committee in the November General Body. The children's play area project had been started by the committee because there was a need to raise the walls before gates could be installed at the Center. Naturally, the cost of the gates will exceed the \$20,000 spending limit so the committee requested it to be increased to cover the cost involved. This was agreed by the members.

In other Business – Arda-E-Viraf Minocherhomjee the President of NAMC (North American Mobed Council) presented the goals of NAMC and asked all organizations like ZAC to support NAMC in any way possible so that NAMC can hold lectures and retreats for young Mobeds. Next in other business was Maneck Bhujwala's discussion on Mobedyar participation at ZAC jashans. Both Mobed Zarrir Bhandara and Arda-E-Viraf Minocherhomjee tried to explain that certain protocols have to be followed by both the Mobeds and the Mobedyars and that taking part in any religious prayers or ceremony may that be a Jashan or a Navjote or any other is not an entitlement or a right for anyone whether it's a Mobed or a Mobedyar. As it seemed that there was no end to this discussion it was finally put aside. Besides that Maneck also wanted to have a discussion on forming a Senior Citizen sub-committee and a Crisis Action Response Team. Both topics were just mentioned by him to all present. Lastly, Ruzbeh Daruwalla was asked to give an Update on the Endowment Fund and wanted the members present to change the way the funds are being invested; so an outside Investment Advisor – Adil Massani had been contacted who would going forward would help us make the investments.

Maidhyoshem Ghambar

This Ghambar was held on July 2 at the ZAC Center and was sponsored by the Deboo Family in memory of Hilla Deboo. Around 70 people attended the event. After the Jashan lunch was served prepared by Zerkxis & Zarrir Bhandara. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the Veggie Kofta Curry made by Zerkxis Bhandara. We thank the Deboo Family for sponsoring this Ghambar.

Ladies Club – Upa Yoga

At this Ladies Club on July 9, the Isha Foundation gave us an introduction to Upa Yoga with a simple demonstration video. Upa Yoga is a simple yet powerful system of exercise that activates the joints, muscles, and energy system. Upa Yoga activates this energy and also lubricates the joints, creating an instant sense of alertness and liveliness. Upa Yoga essentially means “sub-yoga” or “pre-yoga”. This was a session for beginners to get started. The term “Upa Yoga” is commonly used to denote “usefulness.” Based on a sophisticated understanding of the body's mechanics, it creates an instant sense of alertness, liveliness and brings ease to the whole system. Relieves physical stress and tiredness: Exercises the joints and muscles: Rejuvenates the body after periods of inactivity: Negates the effects of jetlags and long travel: Activates and strengthens the spine. Our thanks to the instructor Matt Palermo and Isha group organizer Gita Desai and the team of Isha volunteers.

The usual potluck lunch followed the session. This being a special visit by the Isha foundation Dal and rice was cooked by Khushnam Crawford Gandhi and tamota par edu was cooked by Dogdo Arjani. Many thanks to all for their contributions to lunch.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS

Arshya Homi Contractor Bodhanwala, born on December 29th, 2016 in S. California daughter of Laila and Homi, granddaughter of Dolat & Viraf Bodhanwala and Houtoxi & Farhad Contractor, sister to Iyana & Arshan, niece to Cyra (Farzin) Morena and Nozer & cousin of Ryaan and Riaa Morena.

Taronish Amroli achieved her Tae Kwon Do Black belt on May 6th, 2017 through the International Tae Kwon Do College in West Hills.

Navjote Mubarak

Congratulations to Dear Taronish & Behram on their Navjote Ceremony on April 15, 2017. Parents, Anahita & Mehernosh Amroli, and Grandmother Pervin Amroli who celebrated the event with family & friends.

Congratulations to our dearest Yashna Chichgar for completing her Navjote ceremony on May 27, 2017 (Dae Mahino, Gosh Roj). She celebrated in style with her closest friends and family. Her family is very proud of her and wishes her a Healthy, Wealthy and Joyous life as she starts her journey in the Zoroastrian faith.

Congratulations to **Zirak, Rayan and Tanaz**, children of Burzin and Mitra Engineer on their Navjote Ceremony on Wednesday, June 28th in Los Angeles.

Condolences

Dhunmai Dalal passed away peacefully on July 3, 2017 in Los Angeles, California surrounded by her loving family. She was the beloved wife of Phiroze, dearest mother of Hormazd and Zane, mother-in-law of Armita, dearest Grandmother of Shahyan, Arman, & Shireen and sister of Franey and Behroze. She will be greatly missed by her family, friends, and the community.

Our heartfelt condolences to Dhunmai's family.

This is YOUR Newsletter. If you wish to "share" events in your life (Births, Deaths, Navjotes, Weddings, etc.) with the community via newsletter, please send an email to dtarapore@hotmail.com or dtarapore@zacla.org



Danish Bhandara, daughter of Tinaaz & Zarrir Bhandara, graduated from UCLA with honors earning a BA in World Arts and Cultures: Dance.

Farhad Choksy graduated Magna Cum Laude with Research Distinction from The Ohio State University with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and minors in Public Policy, Legal Foundations and Spanish. At Ohio State, Farhad was placed first in his category at the Richard J and Martha P Denman Undergraduate Research forum and was also recognized as one of the best overall students in the political science department receiving the Francis R. Aumann award for distinguished Senior achievement.

Meherzeen Engineer, daughter of Dilzeen & Ashtad Engineer -an honor roll student with scholar athlete recognition, graduated from Northwood High, Irvine. She will be going to London South Bank University for her BS in physical therapy and rehab sciences.

Shahnaz Fitter, daughter of Rooky & Khushroo Fitter, aced her Masters in Forensic Psychology from Mary Mount University in Washington DC.

Yavisht Fitter, son of Berges & Daisy Fitter graduated from California State University, Bakersfield with a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering in May 2017. He will be pursuing his Masters of Science degree from California Polytechnic - San Luis Obispo in Electrical Engineering this Fall.

Jenai Machhi, daughter of Hilla & Khushrow Machhi, graduated with a Masters in Accounting from USC and will start her career with KPMG this fall.

Cheyenne Mistry, daughter of Prochi & Jamshed Mistry, graduated from UCSD with a B.S. degree in Biochemistry with a focus in cell biology. Upon graduation, Cheyenne was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force. Her first assignment is at Hill Air Force Base, in Utah, as Bioenvironmental Engineering Officer in the Aerospace Medicine Squadron.

Neville Tarapore, son of Deelnavaz & Daraius Tarapore, grandson of Late Fali Kanga & Soonoo Kanga, graduated Magna Cum Laude on June 17, 2017 from the University of California in Irvine with a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Health.

Zena Taraporewala, daughter of Rukshana & Merzi Taraporewala, graduation from UCLA with Psychobiology as her major.

Reanna Unwalla Class of 2017, daughter of Farah & Dr. Khushro Unwalla, graduated from Citrus Valley High School with honors. She will be attending University of Redlands pursuing Environmental Science this fall.





ZOROASTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

Shahenshai New Year & Khordad Sal Function

Saturday, August 19, 2017
at the ZAC Center in Orange

Event Starts at 7:00 pm

Members Adults: \$35
Children ages 5-10: \$15

Non-Members: \$50
Children under 5: FREE

NON-MEMBERS and Members after August 15th pay \$75
ABSOLUTELY NO WALK-INS

FAMILY NAME: _____ Phone Number _____

ADDRESS: _____

Please enter EVERY Attendee's Name and Details in form below.
Incomplete forms will not be accepted.

	Individual Names Mem. /Non Mem.	Veg /Non Veg	CHILD Under 5 or 5-10 / ADULT	Amount Paid
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
	Use Additional Form For More Names			

TOTAL PAID: _____

Please send in your form and payment by August 15th.

By Mail to: The Treasurer – Rooky Fitter
Zoroastrian Association of California
1424 E. Walnut Avenue, Orange, CA 92867

OR

By using the event form ONLINE at www.zacla.org



1424 E. Walnut Avenue
Orange, CA 92867

To

ZAC Upcoming Events at a Glance

*All functions at the ZAC Center in Orange except those marked ***

****Picnic in Irvine Mason Park:** *Sunday, July 30, 2017 @ 12:00pm*

Muktad Prayers: *August 7 to 17, 2017 @ 5:30pm daily*

Shehenshai New Year Celebration: *Saturday, August 19, 2017 @ 7:00pm*

ZAC Sports Day: *Sunday August 27, 2017 @ 11:00am*

****10th Zoroastrian Unity Cup Soccer Redondo Beach:** *September 2-3, 2017*

Paitishem Ghambar: *Saturday, September 16, 2017*

Ayathrem Ghambar: *Sunday October 15, 2017*