



ZANC MONTHLY BUZZ



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We invite you to share your life updates for inclusion in future newsletters. [Email us](#) your news so we can celebrate these milestones together with the community. **All content must be received by the 20th of the month to be included in next month's edition.** Thank you! We look forward to hearing from you.

Editor's Note

Dear ZANC Community,

June brought plenty of sunshine and community spirit, highlighted by two wonderful first-time ZANC events - the Bazaar Fundraiser and our Senior Tea & Trivia. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who volunteered, attended, and helped make these events such a success. It was wonderful to see so many familiar and new faces coming together to connect and create lots of memories. Looking ahead, July brings two more community favorites - the ZANC Picnic and Youth Z-Camp. These events rely heavily on the support of our amazing volunteers, so if you're able to assist with setup, registration, food service, or cleanup, please reach out to our Events Team (events@zanc.org).

In next month's edition, we'll be showcasing local ZANC businesses as we support the remarkable talent within our community. If interested, please submit a half page horizontal flyer with your business name and contact information and email it to newsletter@zanc.org for submission in our August issue. Wishing everyone a summer full of sunshine and smiles and a fun and safe Fourth of July!! 🇺🇸 Happy Reading 🇺🇸

FUTURE EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

DATE / TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Sun, July 12th, 11 am - 4 pm	Picnic in the Park	Foothills Park, Palo Alto
July 23rd - 26th	Youth Z Camp (see below)	Dar-e-Mehr
Aug 10th -14th, 4:30 pm	Muktad Prayers	Dar-e-Mehr
Sat, Aug 15th, 11 am	Navroze Jashan & Potluck	Dar-e-Mehr
Sat, Aug 15th, 6 pm - 11 pm	Navroze Dinner Party	Shubham Halls, Sunnyvale
Sun, Aug 30th, 12 pm - 3:00 pm	“Patio” Competition	Dar-e-Mehr



Z YOUTH CAMP HAS LIMITED SPOTS ONLY!
CLICK [HERE](#) to Register before it is Sold Out!
Questions? [EMAIL](#) the Z-Camp coordinator



UPCOMING EVENTS

REGISTER NOW FOR THE ZANC PICNIC JULY 12th, 11 AM - 4 PM AT FOOTHILLS PARK, PALO ALTO



Join us for a fun filled day with delicious food, cool drinks, games at the [Oak Grove Picnic Area](#) in Foothills Park.

Ticket Prices:

- Member Adult (10+) - \$20
- Member Children (5-10) - \$10
- Non-Member Adult (10+) - \$40
- Non-Member Children (5-10) - \$15
- Kids under 5 - Free

**Registration
 Deadline: JULY 2nd**
[CLICK HERE TO
 REGISTER](#)

Registration Required: Please note that the entry to the Park is limited and only registered guests on the official guest list can enter!

Questions? Email events@zanc.org

SPOTS STILL AVAILABLE - GRAB YOURS BEFORE WE SELL OUT

MUKTAD PRAYERS AND NAVROZ JASHAN INFORMATION



Muktad Prayers & Navroz Jashan

Mon-Fri, August 10 - 14 at 4.30 PM

Muktad Prayers

Saturday, August 15 at 11 AM

Navroz Jashan & Potluck Lunch

(bring a savoury dish to share)

At Dar-e-Mehr

10468 Crothers Rd, San Jose, CA 95127

Offerings of flowers, fruits, dried fruits, malido, sev, ravo, etc. are always welcome and partaken/shared by all present.

If you wish to include deceased family members' names in prayers, please email Ervarad Kobad Jamshed:

kobadj@hotmail.com

Append the father's name to male names. Append the husband's name to female names if married or the father's name if unmarried.

A donation of \$30 per name is suggested.

Checks should be made out to ZANC and mailed to Er. Kobad Jamshed - 1115 Polynesia Drive, Foster City CA 94404.

For questions please contact board@zanc.org

REGISTER TODAY FOR THE 2026 ZANC NAVROZ PARTY

Get ready for a rocking Navroz Party – dress in your finest, bring your dancing shoes, and get ready to enjoy a night of fab food and fun music

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



ZANC
ZARTHOSHTI ANJUMAN of
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

2026 NAVROZ PARTY

JOIN THE ZANC COMMUNITY FOR A FUN-FILLED NAVROZ PARTY!
BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR AN EVENING OF GREAT ENTERTAINMENT, DANCING, FESTIVITIES AND DELICIOUS FOOD.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2026
6 PM – 11 PM
SHUBHAM HALLS
GRAND HALL ROOM
1208 APOLLO WAY, SUNNYVALE, CA 94085

TICKETS
ADULT MEMBER \$70
CHILD MEMBER (5-12YRS) \$25
CHILD UNDER 4YRS FREE

ADULT NON-MEMBER \$90
CHILD NON-MEMBER \$45
DONATE A TICKET \$70

LIMITED AVAILABILITY! PLEASE SIGN UP BY AUGUST 5th!
Purchase tickets before they are sold out!
Register at www.zanc.org

For questions, financial assistance or carpooling,
please contact events@zanc.org

RECENT EVENTS



A FUNDRAISER BAZAAR

It was a fantastic day at the ZANC Bazaar Fundraiser on June 7th, where around 100 people came together to enjoy delicious food, shop for arts and crafts, play games, and enter our raffle for a chance to win one of three exciting prizes—all while raising funds for ZANC's ongoing initiatives.



Many more fun pictures on the ZANC Facebook page

An Afternoon to Remember: ZANC's First Senior Tea



ZANC's first-ever Senior Trivia, Tea & Treats event on June 20th, was a wonderful success, bringing our senior community together for an afternoon filled with friendship, laughter, and delicious food. Our guests enjoyed two lively rounds of trivia, exciting bingo games, and plenty of friendly competition, all while reconnecting with old friends and making new memories. The afternoon's centerpiece was an authentic English High Tea featuring an abundant spread of savory and sweet treats, hot tea, and homemade specialties lovingly prepared by our talented volunteers. What began as a simple afternoon gathering blossomed into a memorable celebration of community and lots of “majja masti” 😊



👉 Team “Wise Guys” win Trivia # 1



👉 Team “Champs or Not” win Trivia # 2



👉 The happy bingo winners with their prizes



COMMUNITY NEWS



Attention Bay Area Youth (ages 18-35) Join the ALL NEW Youth Group Chat Connect, Learn, and Grow Together!

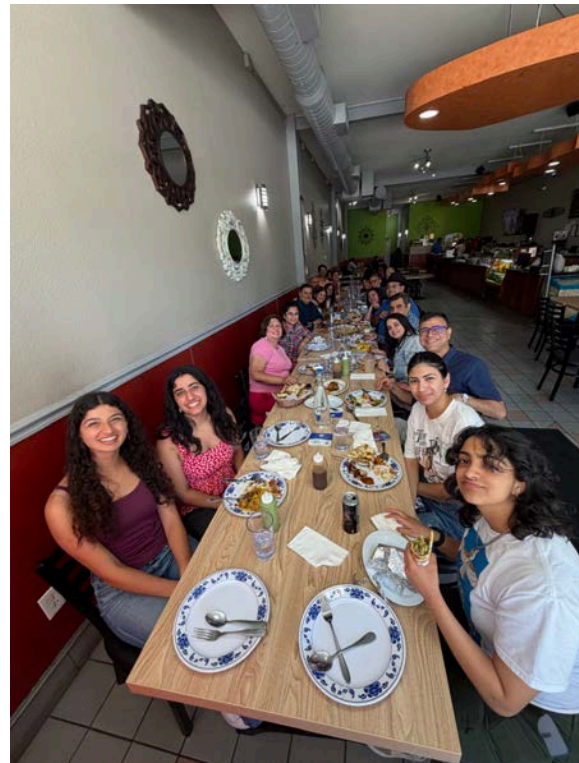


ZANC Youth Coordinator Zara Minwalla has launched a new WhatsApp group designed to keep our youth connected, engaged, and in the loop! This vibrant space will be a hub for building friendships, sharing ideas, and staying updated on upcoming events and opportunities. If you know anyone between the ages of 18–35 who would love to be part of the fun, have them reach out to Zara to join!

JOIN TODAY: Call Zara at 925-984-0243 or email her at zaraminwalla@gmail.com

ZANC Foodies Group Lunch Meetup - from Bazaar to Biryani

A spontaneous meet-up on Sunday, June 7th brought around 30 bazaar volunteers together at [Karimi Restaurant](#) in San Jose. After the ZANC Bazaar wrapped up, the hard working crew decided to enjoy a delicious spread of goat biryani, creamy malai chicken, succulent lamb chops, and more. Only Parsis would spend four hours at a food-filled bazaar



and then head straight out for another feast! It was the perfect way to end a wonderful day of community togetherness.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH



CHUTNEY & EGG PATTICE with Firuza Vadiwala

ABOUT THE CHEF

Firuza's culinary journey began at 12, helping her mother, Gool, with the legendary lunch tiffin service for Godrej employees, a business that skyrocketed from a single shared lunchbox to catering for seventy people daily. Growing up, Firuza never wanted to eat out for her birthday because when your mom is the local culinary queen, the ultimate treat was asking her to make any special dish you were craving. Pattice is a masterclass in Parsi culinary technique, preserved exactly as Firuza's mother and grandmother made it. A recipe built on brilliant family techniques and, above all, patience. Firuza laughs remembering her early attempts after getting married. Did she quit? Never. Casualties were eaten and she persevered. It's exactly why she encourages everyone to try the recipe, as the triumph is all in the technique! While Firuza loves to cook for her family, Pattice is instantly evocative of her mother, especially paired with masoor ma gosht, her mom's famous, sold-out combo. If Firuza could cook a meal for anyone, it would be Palau Dar for her late mother, the ultimate tribute to the queen who taught her that with right technique and some grit, nothing is too difficult to master.



INGREDIENTS

1 extra large Russet Potato
2 boiled Eggs
1 to 2 tbsp Unsalted Butter
¼ tsp Salt
½ tsp Pepper
2 tsp Rice Flour
2 Eggs
¼ cup Breadcrumbs
⅓ cup Ravo
Salt & Pepper
Oil for Frying
Chutney:
5 cloves Garlic
2 inch piece of Ginger
6 leaves of Mint
¼ cup fresh sliced Coconut
3 Thai Green Chilies
1 handful Cilantro
1 tsp Jaggery (or sugar)
¼ tsp Salt
3 tbsp Lemon Juice
Optional: ½ slice bread or breadcrumbs

DIRECTIONS

🍴 4 servings

1. Chutney: blend garlic, ginger, mint, coconut, chilies, and cilantro in blender. Add little water at a time to get a thick consistency. Add jaggery, salt, lemon juice, and continue to blend until smooth and creamy. **Chef's Tip:** add bread to get a thicker chutney! Place in freezer while preparing other ingredients (or in fridge if making day before).
2. Cook potato fully submerged in water, in InstantPot for 15 mins high pressure. Once cooked, peel off skin (it should have split open while cooking). Do not worry if it breaks.
3. Using a ricer over a bowl, squeeze the potato through the ricer. Catch water that squeezes out and discard. Add butter to potato and let it melt while adding salt, pepper, and special binder ingredient...**rice flour!** Mix well, keeping mixture soft, smooth, and fluffy. Make a ball with a small amount to confirm it is not sticky and doesn't separate.
4. Cut boiled eggs in half, across shorter width side. Season with salt and pepper.
5. Make 4 smooth balls from potato mixture. Place 1 ball in your left hand and make a hole in the middle of the ball. Turn the ball so the hole is facing you, then place your right thumb in the hole and continue to make the hole larger while also slowly turning the ball. It should end up looking like a small cup. Add 1 tbsp chutney inside and then add ½ egg with cut side facing down. Close the hole by lifting the sides of the potato mixture over the egg and smooth out into a ball. Refrigerate overnight or at least 3 to 5 hrs.
6. Fill small saucepan halfway with oil and heat on high. In a shallow bowl, beat 2 eggs with pinch salt and pepper. In a plate mix breadcrumbs and ravo. **Chef's Tip:** for frilly crust, add a little water to beaten egg mixture. Coat 1 pattice in crumb mixture, gently sprinkling on top but do not pat down so ball shape remains. Dip pattice in egg mixture, wrap completely, then gently place into pan (oil should be very hot). Repeat with second pattice, cooking only 2 at a time. Gently scoop some oil over pattice while it cooks, and swiftly turn over when one side is golden brown. Remove from pan once golden brown all over and place onto paper towel lined plate. Serve warm.

Written by Sanobar Mehta

Z-CLASS UPDATES

Many Pieces, One Community: The Farohar Mosaic Project



The students of Z Class spent many months creating the Farohar Mosaic that now brightens the hall of our Dar-e-Mehr. Under the guidance of **Delzin Choksey**, students worked in stages to bring this beautiful mosaic to life. This artwork is the result of steady hands, patient effort, and the joyful energy of our community's children. [Watch the video!](#)

Preparation: First, the Farohar design was sketched onto the plywood base. Students, teachers, and parents then decorated the border tiles with markers and paint, creating colorful pieces that each carried a name, a wish, or a hopeful thought for the year ahead.



A quick study of the materials and colors later, the border tiles were carefully placed.

Laying out the first tiles: The high school students began the project by laying the very first tiles, following a hand-drawn sketch of the Farohar. Their task was to place each tile with careful precision, ensuring that the symbol's shape remained uniform and cohesively balanced.





Building the Background: The 4th and 5th graders continued the work of carefully building the background one tile at a time. They filled the surrounding space with patience and attention to detail. Their efforts helped bring depth, color, and character to the sketched outline

Adding vibrant color: The 1st through 3rd graders carefully selected and placed colorful tiles, helping to brighten the mosaic and bring energy to the design. Their enthusiasm and tireless efforts were truly commendable for their age group.



Wrapping it all up: The middle school students brought speed and efficiency to the project, moving the work forward with confidence and focus. With a growing understanding of the mosaic process, they quickly placed the remaining tiles, helping large sections of the design take shape.



And finally: Our kindergartners also got their hands on the mosaic, proudly adding their own colorful touches.

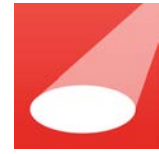


If you pause by the mosaic, take a moment to read the names along the border and appreciate the months of dedication behind every inch of this artwork. Throughout the project, each class learned not only about mosaic as an art form, but also about the ancient relief art of Iran and the Farohar of the Yazd Fire Temple that inspired this piece. What began as individual tiles and separate contributions gradually came together to form a lasting symbol of our shared heritage, creativity, and community spirit. The students' teamwork, focus, pride, and joy are truly embedded in every part of this mosaic.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Diana Commissariat



This month, we celebrate a remarkable young woman whose dedication, passion, and spirit of service continue to make a difference in our community.



My name is Diana Hormazd Commissariat, and I'm a junior at University of Southern California, studying biological and health sciences. My dream is to work in healthcare, specifically pediatrics, because it blends everything I love: helping people, science, and working with kids.

One experience that really confirmed this passion for me was partnering with the Stanford Blood Center to host blood drives at my high school. I coordinated hundreds of donors, volunteers, and nurses, and while it was definitely a challenge, seeing the direct impact of my work was incredibly rewarding. I was also involved in research on the gut microbiome and its influence on both physical and mental health, an area that continues to inspire me with its potential to reshape the way we understand wellness.

Outside of academics, I love making jewelry, exploring new foods, and fashion. I love spending time with my family and friends, being outside, and taking advantage of the beautiful Southern California beaches, hikes, and weather.

The Zoroastrian community and religion are so important to me, and they have shaped my values of service, compassion, and resilience that guide everything I do. Last year, I was honored to be awarded the Dhunmai and Dosabhai Gandhi Scholarship from FEZANA. I also had the joy of serving as a junior counselor at Z-Camp in San Jose. I have grown up attending this camp, so stepping into a leadership role and giving younger Zoroastrian campers the same supportive, close-knit experience I had was an unforgettable full-circle moment.

Most importantly, I would not be who I am without the support of my family. My parents, Ambrose and Hormazd, have given me every opportunity to pursue my education, attend college, and explore the passions that matter most to me, and my younger sister Kyra inspires me every day with her creativity and humor. I am so thankful for their love and encouragement. 🥰



IN OTHER NEWS



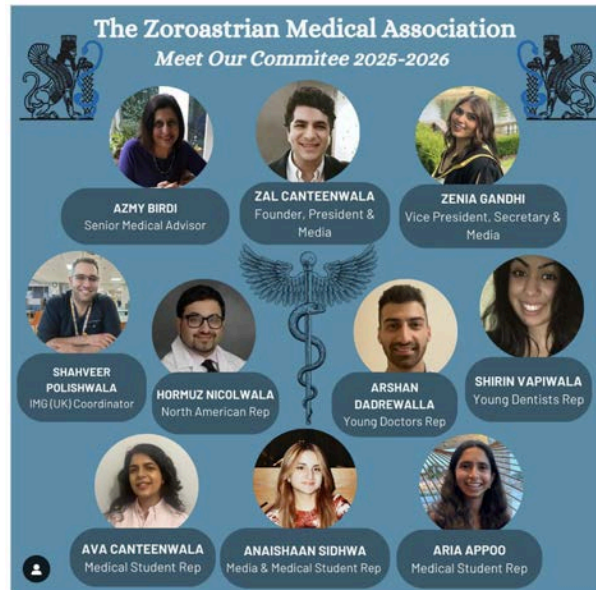
The Zoroastrian Medical Association (ZMA)

A global organization of Zoroastrian doctors and dentists fostering charitable endeavours, professional growth, and community initiatives.

Introducing our Zoroastrian Medical Association committee. After our successful London launch, we're connecting Zoroastrian healthcare professionals worldwide. Join our growing network of doctors, dentists, veterinarians and students via Instagram.

ZMA Instagram - click [HERE](#) to follow and be a part of this budding group

DM to join their WhatsApp groups!



The 13th World Zoroastrian Congress (WZC)

Inviting nominations for the World Zarathushti Community Awards

We invite our global community to nominate Zarathushtis for Awards in community service and professional achievement.

Nomination deadline: July 31, 2026

[CLICK HERE](#) for application info, selection process, T&Cs and the nomination form.

Questions? Email

awards.wzcs26@gmail.com



ARTS AND EDUCATION

NAMC SACRED PURIFICATION (BARESHNUM) RETREAT

An Immersive Experience in Bareshnum, the highest Zoroastrian purification ritual

When: July 8th - 12th

Where: Bhandara Atashkadeh, Houston, TX

Cost: FREE (sponsored by donors)

Limited Capacity - all registrations will be submitted to our selection committee and accepted registrants will be notified in writing of final decisions

Registration: [Click Here](#)

For application form use QR code or link: <https://www.namcmobeds.org/forms/23-source-registrations.aspx>

Sacred Purification (Bareshnum) Inner Renewal Retreat (Open to all Zoroastrians)

An Immersive Experience in Advanced Spiritual Purification. This four-day retreat offers a rare opportunity to experience Bareshnum, the highest Zoroastrian purification ritual traditionally undertaken by Mobeds before advanced inner-liturgical ceremonies. Modeled on advanced priestly preparatory practices, the retreat will focus on:

- Purification of body, mind, and spirit by Bareshnum ritual
- Ritual cleanliness, intention, discipline, and inner awareness
- Sustained five times a day prayer and contemplation
- Religious study and guided discussions
- Reflection and deeper understanding of Zoroastrianism

BHANDARA ATASHKADEH

Ideal for those wishing to experience traditional Zoroastrian purification ritual, disciplined ritual living and renewal through prayers, reverence, and reflection.

Limited Capacity.
Dates: July 8th to 12th, 2026
Where: Bhandara Atashkadeh, Houston, TX
Cost: This event (excluding travel costs) is sponsored by donors.
THIS RETREAT WILL BE EXPERIENTIAL, DISCIPLINED, AND TRANSFORMATIVE.

NAMC INSTITUTE OF ZOROASTRIAN STUDIES

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The New Revised Edition of Khordeh Avesta now available

[Dr. Kerman Daruwalla](#) is the project coordinator for the TISS-Parzor Academic Programme. Kerman completed his PhD from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London in 2021 for the thesis titled 'Becoming an Athravan: A study of the training of Zoroastrian Priests in India', for which he was awarded the European Research Council (ERC) Studentship during 2016-2019. He holds an MA in Avestan-Pahlavi from the University of Mumbai, and an MA in Iranian Studies from SOAS, London.

Kerman works as a Consultant for the Multimedia Yasna project at SOAS, where he has advised the project team on the interactive Yasna film, and supported them on the Gujarati ritual directions. His areas of interest include Zoroastrian ritual texts and Parsi Zoroastrian priestly

history and contemporary practice. In 2021, he co-authored a book with Dr. Céline Redard, titled 'the Gujarati ritual directions of the Paragnā, Yasna and Visperad ceremonies'. Kerman is an alumnus of Syracuse University, New York and the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad. (Source: [Parzor Foundation](#))

CONNECT AND CONTACT

Join ZANC WhatsApp Groups, Facebook and Instagram



- WhatsApp: [CLICK HERE](#) to join WhatsApp
- Facebook: [CLICK HERE](#) to join Facebook
- Instagram: [CLICK HERE](#) to follow Instagram



Stay engaged with other Zs, post pictures, and strengthen our community connections.

NOTE: You will still continue to get the ZANC monthly newsletter and event notices via email.

Maintain Active Membership: Active memberships are vital to ensuring the continued growth and success of our community here in Northern CA. Your membership dues go toward maintaining our Dar-e-Mehr, sustaining ZANC's operations, and funding valuable programs that benefit all members. [CLICK HERE](#) to join or renew your membership.

ZANC
ZAR THROUGHT AND MANS OF
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

2026 Executive Board

 Bonni Patel President	 Fredy Kadva Vice President	 Burzin Patel Secretary	 Zareer Bhatena Treasurer
 Jamshid Kekobad Member-At-Large	 Dilber Mistry Member-At-Large	 Zara Minwalla Member-At-Large	

All feedback & suggestions are welcome & encouraged:

General questions: email the [ZANC BOARD](#)

Membership: email the [ZANC SECRETARY](#)

Volunteering: email the [EVENTS COORDINATOR](#)



THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:

Stay connected with the ZANC Newsletter — your source for community news, announcements, and upcoming events. Please [EMAIL](#) us your personal milestones so we can celebrate and acknowledge them with the community. **All content must be received by the 20th of the month.**

Editor: Dianne Patel (newsletter@zanc.org)

Collaborators: Delzin Choksey, Kathleen Chothia

Contributors: Recipes (Sanobar Mehta) and NCZC (Erin Press)

And Finally...

WORLDWIDE RESOURCES FOR THE Z COMMUNITY

Many Zarathushtis in North America are often looking for websites that provide connections, food resources, and other useful services. Below is a compilation of websites that may be of interest to our community. **Please note that the Newsletter Team does not endorse, verify, or guarantee any of these websites. They are shared in good faith for informational purposes only and are intended to help community members connect, communicate, and access various resources.** As with any online platform, we encourage readers to exercise due diligence and verify the credibility of a website before making purchases, or engaging in transactions.

GLOBAL WEBSITES:

[FEZANA](#): **Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America.** The umbrella organization that represents Zoroastrian associations in North America.

[ZYNA](#): **Zoroastrian Youth of North America.** Organization to facilitate connections and foster the thriving development of Zoroastrian youth in North America.

[ZOROASTRIANS.NET](#): **Informational Website.** The site provides resources on religion, community news, and links to various Z organizations, businesses, and charities, aiming to unite and inform the global community.

[AZS](#): **American Zoroastrian Society.** Formed to help educate everyone in the teachings of Zarathushtra and provide an entirely inclusive and open worldwide community with equal membership opportunities for all.

[WZO](#): **World Zoroastrian Organization.** An international organization created to support Zoroastrians globally with aid, advocacy, education, and community.

FACEBOOK GROUPS:

[WWZ](#): **Worldwide Zoroastrians.** A facebook group created with a simple goal of bringing Zoroastrians from all over the world across all ages on one platform.

[PER](#): **Parsis Exchange Recipes.** A facebook group celebrating the everyday cook (Parsi or not) with a unique repository of recipes, food videos and culinary stories.

GOODS AND SERVICES:

[Ahura Bakehouse](#)

[Simply Bhonu](#)

[Fezana Shop](#)

[Zoroastrian Culture Shop](#)