



What's ^{Up} BawaZ



President's Message

Dear Friends,

ZANZ has taken on a very important assignment: To host the 6th World Youth Congress in December 2015. The ZANZ committee has great faith in our youth, who have taken on this challenge and are being very responsible about it. Rest assured that we are working closely with them and they have shown ample talent and capability to organise the event.

To make the Youth Congress a success, we need your full support and backing. Not only are we looking for support from our community in New Zealand, but from all Zorastrians all over the world. This is a global event, and we look forward to all of us getting together to make this happen for all our youth.

Please feel free to contact the ZANZ committee with any ideas or suggestions you may have regarding the Youth Congress or any other matters. They will be greatly appreciated and be given due consideration.

Looking forward to serving the community to the best of my abilities.

Dilshad Shroff
President—ZANZ

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Young Achiever
ARZAN TODYWALLA

Arzan is 13 years old. Studying at Bucklands Beach Intermediate School and is a House Captain.

He is a talented soccer player and recently won the Young Achiever Award at Indian Sports Awards 2014 organised by one of the esteemed publication, Indian Newslink in New Zealand.

He has been described by Fencibles United AFC's coach, Justin GREEN as a " Truly remarkable person and wonderful mentor to the younger players".
Arzan was also awarded the Fencibles Player Of The Year 2013.

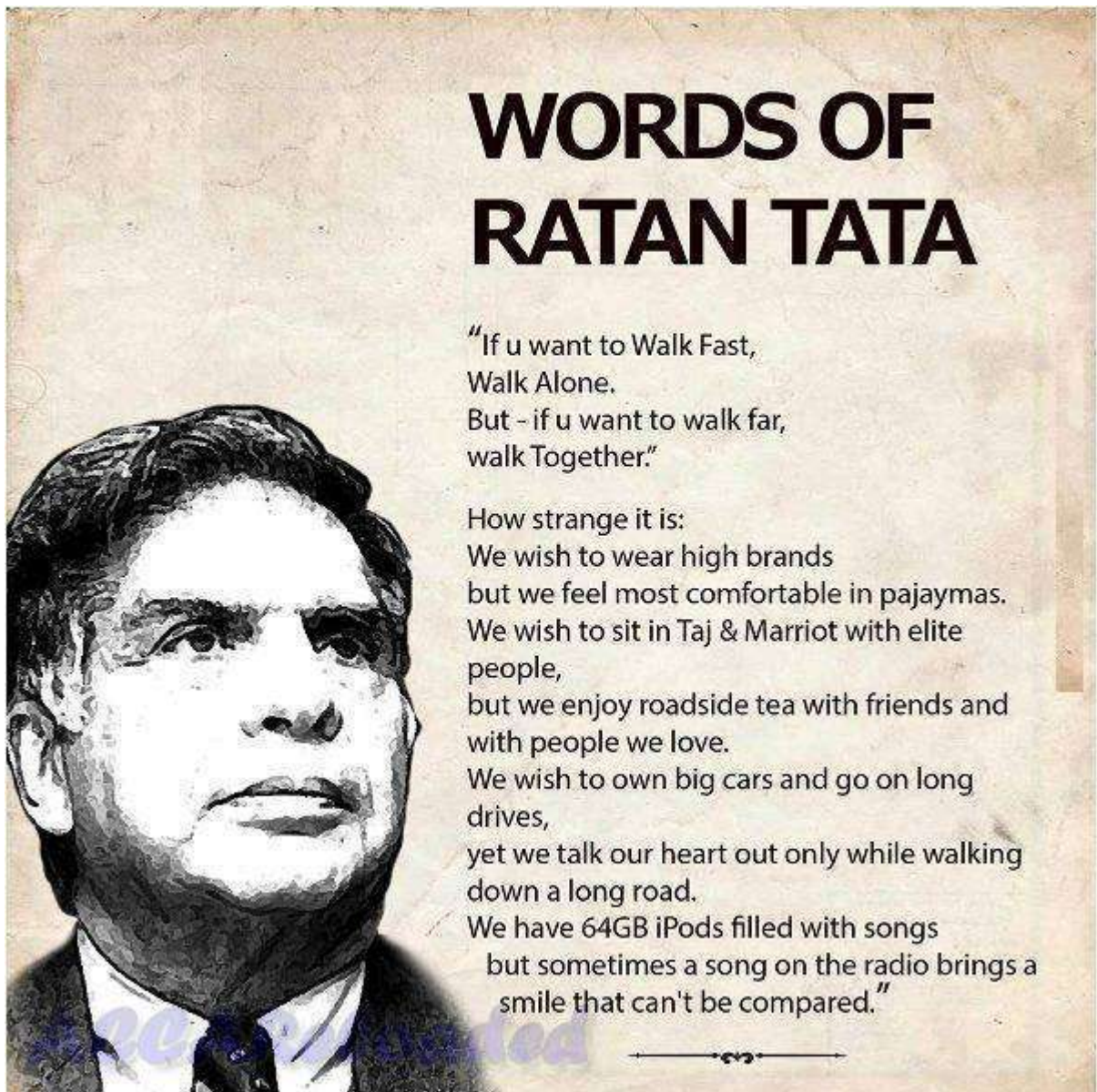
As well as this, he was a member of the AFF Federation Talent Centre in 2013 and 2014 and was named in the tournament team for the NZCT Aims Games. This year he has continued to thrive having played in the Australian National Futsal Championship where he was named in the ALL STAR TEAM.



ZANZ Scholarship

ZANZ gives yearly scholarship of \$1000 to the most deserving applicant.

WZO kindly donated a further \$1000 towards the ZANZ Scholarship and thus there were two recipients Riyasp Bhandari and Karan Bhandari. We congratulate them both for all their hard work and great efforts that they have put in towards their studies and wish them every best in their future ambitions.





THE ZARATHUSHTRIAN ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND

&

THE ZOROASTRIAN YOUTH OF NEW ZEALAND



Invites you to join in on an

Unforgettable experience

28TH DEC-2015

2ND JAN-2016

Make lasting memories at,

THE 6TH WORLD ZOROASTRIAN YOUTH CONGRESS
AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

For more information and registration details visit -

www.6wzyc.co.nz



THE 6WZYC GREEN INITIATIVE

Support the 6th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress build a Greener future help offset the carbon footprint of their delegates! For every NZ\$10 donation, the Zoroastrian Youth of New Zealand will plant a native NZ tree at CUE Haven, a nature reserve by the Kaipara Coast.

For more information on CUE Haven please visit www.cuehaven.com. All donations will go towards the 6th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress.



**THE
6THWZYC
GREEN
INITIATIVE**

**BE KIND TO
MOTHER NATURE**

**DONATE \$10 TO
PLANT A TREE**

**SET YOUR ROOTS
INTO THE
BEAUTIFUL CUE
HAVEN**

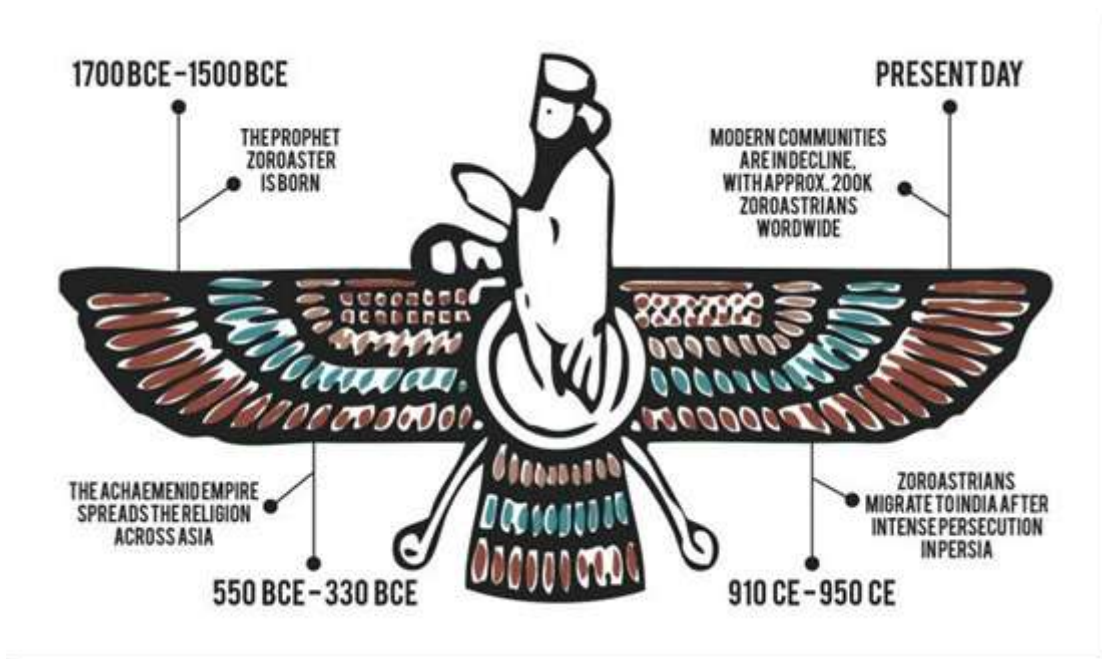
TO DONATE
Scan the QR code or Txt
ZANZ to 5464
Comment: GREEN "Your
name"
or
Direct transfer into
12-3233-0611957-00
Ref: GREEN "Your name"

 PRESENTS 
 a run riot comedy *Parsi Natak*
Jha Jov Ta Baira
 On 23 August 2014 at 6.30pm sharp
 \$30 \$25 \$20
 ઝહાં જોવ તહાં ભૈરાં
 ઝહાં જોવ તહાં ભૈરાં
 Written by: Dorab Mehta
 Directed By: Godrej Engineer & Cyrus Mehta
 Adapted by: Cyrus Mehta
 Production Manager : Benifer Irani
 Choreography by : Aafreen Mehta & Afrin Todywalla
 Cast in order of their appearance:
 Ritesh, Malcolm, Benifer, Maharookh, Ferzeen,
 Cyrus, Nivzer, Rati, Jal, Delnaaz & Avan
 Tickets available at:
 Om Sai, Pakuranga
 Yogiji's Food Mart, Mt. Roskill
 or from: Cyrus: 02102247483
 Benifer: 0210377262
 Where: The Selwyn Theatre
 203-245 Kohimarama Road,
 Kohimarama, Auckland
 Cash Food Stalls by
 Bombay Chinese Indian

Ancient Persian faith perseveres today despite declining populations, limited presence on campus

In an effort to further understand UTD's diverse population, what follows is part one in a four-part series exploring lesser-known religious communities, their traditions and their presence on campus.

Article By Dene Betz | The Mercury



Zoroastrianism is one of the world's most ancient religions over 3,500 years old. Originating in ancient Persia, or modern-day Iran, it was founded by the prophet Zoroaster, and it was once the official religion of both Persian Empires from roughly 550 B.C.E. to 330 B.C.E. and 220 C.E. to 650 C.E.

Although she isn't religious today, pre-law advisor Anne Dutia said she was raised in a Zoroastrian household.

"It was the world's first monotheistic religion," Dutia said. "The ideas of heaven and hell and the concepts of good and evil rooted from Zoroastrianism."

It is now one of the smallest practiced religions in the world with an estimated 200,000 followers worldwide, according to the World Religion Database.

Among the small number of sources found at UTD, all agreed: There is no organized Zoroastrian community on campus, but a small and active community exists in the DFW area.

As a monotheistic faith, Zoroastrians believe in Ahura Mazda, meaning Lord of Wisdom, who created the world. Followers of the faith believe fire represents God's light and wisdom.

Present-day believers are broadly split up into two groups: the Iranians and the Parsis. But, Zoroastrians are in their second diaspora with significant communities in North America, Europe and Australia.

Zoroastrians believe that the religion was revealed to Zoroaster by Ahura Mazda, and the prophet's words were recorded in five songs known as the Gathas.

The complete Zoroastrian scripture is sometimes referred to as the Avesta, after the language they are written in.

Zoroastrians do not worship Zoroaster himself but they do follow his teachings.

It is said that, in his teachings, Zoroaster let the people hear him first and then choose their own path . This approach to religion was a new idea, said electrical engineering professor and ordained Zoroastrian priest Poras T. Balsara.

Other religions had prescribed a ritual or compensation to be performed for bad deeds. Some even used threats, but Zoroaster emphasized the path of good should be followed by a person's own free will.

Shailaja Masarwala, an information technology and management graduate student, grew up in India with many Zoroastrian friends. From an outsiders view, it is a very peaceful and loving religion, she said.

Zoroastrians have many seasonal festivals where communal worship occurs. The biggest celebration is the NouRouz, or new day, which is the celebration of the New Year that occurs on March 21, the first day of spring. This is to celebrate the new life and the new plants.

Zoroastrians begin to pray at the age of seven when they are given a “sudreh,” a shirt, and a “kusti,” a cord, as part of their initiation into the religion.

In prayer, the kusti is wrapped around the sudreh three times to represent the three parts of the creed: good thoughts, good words and good deeds. Devout Zoroastrians pray this way several times a day.

The prayers are in an ancient language, Avesta, which even some of the lay priests do not understand, and the most devout pray five times a day, Dutia said.

A misconception about Zoroastrians is that they worship fire.

“Fire is to Zoroastrianism as the stone is to Islam and the cross is to Christianity,” Balsara said.

Another misconception is that Angra Mainyu, the entity of evil in Zoroastrianism, is a god, he said.

“He was not a fallen angel. He is like Ahura Mazda. He is uncreated,” Balsara said. “But, he is destined to be destroyed where Ahura Mazda is eternal.”

Unlike other religions, people cannot simply choose to be Zoroastrian. Traditionally, both parents must come from Zoroastrian descent, although mixed couples, where one parent is of Zoroastrian descent, are now being welcomed into the community.

Zoroastrians do not place a lot of emphasis on ritual worship, Balsara said.

“It is a reflective religion,” he said. “You are supposed to think about any action you are about to take — think about it, meditate about it, contemplate and then take action — and then any consequences that occur are your responsibility. The religion is therefore not prescriptive, there are no rules, and you are responsible for your own actions.”

<http://parsikhabar.net/history/decoding-religion-zoroastrianism/7357/>

Invitation for Providing Articles

Dear Friends,

This is our third edition and would like to invite one and all to send in articles for all to view :

The topics on which you can send us articles / write-ups (original please) are :-

1. Achievers - latest personal, academic, extra-curricular achievements of any Zarathushtrian (Irani and Parsi) individuals of New Zealand.
2. BawaZ Jokes / Cartoon Corner / Quizzes / Crosswords / Sudoku - Games, cartoon strips, jokes, etc. (no copyrights)
3. Kid's Corner - Kids can send their artwork or small write-ups.
4. Food Corner / BawaZ Recipes - Great idea to share recipes, all home cooks to shine and also some recipes for foods of significance e.g. sev, ravo, etc.
5. Thought of the Day / BawaZ Wisdom !! - Nice phrase or a moral based short story.
6. Local Community News - Happenings in and around other local communities. e.g. any interesting play, activity at a community centre which might interest the rest of the community.
7. Advertisements of Zarathushties owned Businesses - An A6 size advertisement can be submitted. One free advertisement per Zoroastrian person.
8. BawaZ Navjote Mubarak / Shaadi Mubarak Column - New stock/babies arrivals or additions to Parsi Clan and/or forthcoming Lagans).
9. Matrimonials Column (BawaZ Lagan.com).
10. Obituary - List of Zarathushties maran (death) and also Paidast, Sarosh nu Patru, Uthamnu, Varsi Prayers, Mukhtad/Gatha Prayers at Dadgah, etc.
11. Job Vacancy / Situation Vacant.
12. Rentals / tenancy wanted / House to sell / Business to sell

Do send in your write-ups, notices, adverts etc via email to newsletter@zanz.org.nz

Also kindly note that no religious controversies will be allowed in this Newsletter. Also the ZANZ editorial committee reserves the right as to which articles may make it to the final newsletter and which may not.