



The World Zoroastrian Organisation

World Zoroastrian House, 5 Hanworth Road, Feltham. TW13 5AF

Charity No 1023334

Website: <https://www.w-z-o.org>

(Globally supporting Zoroastrianism, its people and traditions)



The Chairman, Shahpur F Captain, and the Board members of the WZO wish you and your family a happy, healthy and prosperous 2020. We will soon be sending you the WZO calendar of events for 2020.

We would like to invite you, your family and friends for Jashne Sadeh which will be held for the first time at the World Zoroastrian House.

Jashne Sadeh - Sunday 2nd February 2020

WHY CELEBRATE JASHNE SADEH?

For Zoroastrians the most important natural element is Fire which is why we call our temples Fire Temples, or Atashkadeh or Agiaries. Although we don't worship Fire, we show our respect to it since it is the symbol of Asha Vahishta – the right way to live. Fire of course also gives us warmth, security, the chance to cook and above all light. So the ancient Iranians celebrated the discovery of Fire with a special festival because they knew how important it was in their daily lives. Jashne Sadeh is a joyous occasion which occurs about 100 days & nights before Nowruz.

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The tradition according to Ferdowsi's Shahnameh relates that when Shah Hoshang was out hunting, he came across a snake at which he threw a rock. It struck another rock and sparks flew out which showed a way to create fire without having to wait for one of the 7 natural ways that Fire used to occur (eg lightning strike, haystack fire etc). This was the origin of the celebration.

Nowadays where it is possible to celebrate in traditional style, Sadeh is observed by lighting a bonfire at sunset in a central location. In the past, during the day people used to go and gather twigs, branches and desert scrubs from the wilderness while children went door to door knocking for firewood and then piled it all at an agreed central location. At sunset, people would gather around it while a group of Mobeds recited Atash-Niyayesh in reverence of fire and ignited the bonfire. Then the crowd that had gathered greeted each other and distributed sweets and other delicacies among themselves.

The overall idea, typical of most Zoroastrian festivals, is to have fun while also acknowledging the wonder of nature.

So join us in the celebration of Sadeh on Sunday 2nd February 2020 at the World Zoroastrian House.

All are welcome.

Time of arrival 2.30 pm



The program will start with a Jashan ceremony at 3pm and this will be followed by the outside fire activities. After the activities around the outdoors fire, we will have a light dinner inside the building followed by dancing till 10 pm.

Tickets £10 per person.

To book for the event please confirm by Monday 27 January. You can make payment over the telephone using your debit/credit cards.

Please call Manijeh Parki on 07956 805341 manijeh.parki@w-z-o.org or Shahin Bekhradnia on 078258 19258 secretary@w-z-o.org

Avesta Recital Classes at the World Zoroastrian House

Avesta recital classes will be held every 3rd Sunday of the month conducted by **Vista Hoshang** (a teacher) from 3pm - 5pm starting in January 19th 2020.

It would be helpful if anyone planning to attend could indicate so that Vista will know the size of the class. There will have to be restricted numbers so those who register their interest at the earliest will get priority.

Please email Shahin Bekhradnia at: secretary@w-z-o.org or you may text Shahin indicating your interest to register at **078258 19258**.