

Sunday Z-Classes at Dar-E-Mehr

Dates - Fees - Policies

(2023 - 2024)

We are excited to announce the beginning of the 21st year of PZO Z-class at Dar-E-Mehr. Thank you all for your contributions and the gift of your presence. This is the second year in a row where both ZANC and PZO have joined hands to support grounding our children in the wonderful philosophies of our religion, helping them meet other Zarathustis and nurture the bonds of camaraderie and friendship that will last them a lifetime.

Mission:

The Z-class program, guided by the spirit of righteousness (Asha), dedication, and service, seeks to educate and inspire individuals and the Zoroastrian community by:

- Building a safe and communal environment through fostering a sense of belonging,
- Empowering students to apply Zoroastrian philosophy in everyday life, • Preserving our unique modern and ancestral heritage.

Z-class strives to give students roots so they can soar.

Registration:

There are two ways to register:

- Online registration and payment
- Bring the form to the first day of class.

Deadline:

The deadline for registration is the first day of classes.

Family engagement plan:

The Hama-Zoori / family engagement Program helps foster a strong sense of community. Parents present a wealth of skills, talents, and resources, which adds to the breadth and depth of our community and enhances our well-being.

As families work together to create better classes, we can:

- Sustain Z-classes and related programs.

- Instill values without a word spoken.
- Children who see their families aiding in the classroom, at snack time, at celebrations, and on the playground will know the value of being an active member of the community. The effect is like a dropping of a pebble in the water. The ripples spread out indefinitely to our community at large.
- Let us bring this spirit and strength of Hamazoori to ourselves and our community.

Families Commit to signing up for a minimum of 4 hours/ per child in the Parent Participation Category of their choice per semester.

- For example, 2 children= 8 hrs / per semester.

Families commit to attending workshops related to Z-class philosophy.

Families Commit to attending “Parent Meetings”

- Attend to get information and stay connected with fellow parents and teachers. This is the best forum to get answers to your questions and offer your suggestions

Families can make a difference by participating in various voluntary and mandatory work essential to the success of classes.

- **Snack:** Student families are asked to sign up at the beginning of each term to bring a healthy snack for the students. This is meant to nurture bodies and spirits and model a shared responsibility to function and care for our community.
- **Z-class essential tasks:** Z-classes take extraordinary effort to function. As part of your registration, we have a signup sheet for opportunities to help. Jobs are a great way to give back to the community. Most jobs involve setting up, running activities, and cleaning afterward.
- **Events:** There is a great need to assist during our community events throughout the year. Sign up at the beginning of each term to help with the z-class sponsored celebrations (Yalda, Norooz, Gahanbars...), play, Park Day, movie nights ... and many other events we enjoy.

Participation is based on the honor system, you are encouraged to participate.

However, there is also the option of buying your volunteer hours. If, for any reason, you are not able to fulfill these responsibilities, please let us know, so other arrangements can be made.

Calendar:

(Z-classes follow the Santa Clara County guidelines for Coronavirus safety protocols and community feedback. Please be flexible to change from in-person to online classes as

needed)

Semester	Dates	classes / cost
Sept – Dec	September 10 September 24 October 8 October 22 November 12 December 10* (Yalda)	Religious class only: \$55 (\$45 **) Parents and me (under 4yrs): Minimum \$20 donations for supplies Religious + Dance class: TBA
Jan – May	January 14 January 28 February 11 February 25 March 10 March 24* (Norouz) April 14 April 28 May 5* (Graduation)	Religious class only: \$70 (\$55 **) Religious + Dance class: TBA Religious classes (Full year): \$120 (\$95 **) (10% discount)
* Special Events: Please plan for an extended day ** Sibling discount: 20%		

(Scholarships are confidential & available to anyone requesting)

(The minimum age requirement is age four by September for PRE-K/K)

Full-year payment option: If you choose to pay for the entire year at once, you can benefit from a 10% discount on your tuition for the year.

Religion Classes: 10 am – 11:30 am

We will know how many classes we'll have based on enrollment and the age and make-up of our students. We aim to keep our children connected through cross-age activities. The teachers continue to meet weekly to collaborate and discuss the content of the lessons for the classes. We use many resources to fit the needs of our community of learners.

Dance Classes: TBA

The class is intended to be co-ed across ages. It is a great Community-building activity. Depending on enrollment, we can separate or combine for different age groups.

Note to parents:

We continue to need everyone's help in developing and maintaining our community and these classes. The rewards are immeasurable, and the challenges are workable. We have some old challenges and some new ones because of our growth.

Please join in if you have any input, want to teach a class, or contribute in any way. Please email us at pzozclass@gmail.com.

Parenting Tips:

Help your children follow your lead by demonstrating the importance of this community through:

- **Commitment:** Children follow our lead in taking z-class seriously. Volunteering, respecting rules/deadlines, and attending events can model commitment and family values for your kids.
- **Be on Time:** Meeting in the temple for group prayer is disrupted when students arrive late. Further, children have a more challenging time adjusting to what is happening, so model punctuality for your child.
- **A Safe Place:** It is a priority in Z-class to keep everyone's bodies, feelings, and belongings safe (including animals and the environment). Please be proactive and let a teacher know if you see a problem.
- **Fun:** Don't force the kids to come to Z-class, but first-timers may need more encouragement to try. Once they give it a good try, then it is their decision. Kind but firm boundaries are crucial to help children develop in a healthy way, and we strive to keep these classes a fun place for kids to return to.
- **Supervision:** Children who are not in class must be supervised by their parents. If you are carpooling, please make it a priority to assign an adult to keep an eye on your child. This is for the safety of your children, as Dar-E-Mehr is ample space!
- **Visiting Policy:** Only teachers and registered students are allowed into classrooms. Z class is an open and welcoming space for members of our community to learn, collaborate, and get involved. We must also emphasize, however, that classes are focused on the youth. Thus, please be respectful of our boundaries and rules when coming to visit or bringing guests.
- **Interruptions:** Please refrain from interrupting while classes are in session. After class and during events is a great time to mingle with other students and families! Everyone is welcome to attend the "prayer time" at Dar-E-Mehr with Z-class.
- **Fees:** Paying for the classes is another symbolic form of your commitment and support of our classes, for your children to know that you are committed. The fees pay for supplies and help maintain our precious Dar-E-Mehr and dance teachers (ex., salaries, costumes).

- **Scholarships are available:** No one should be excluded from our community because of financial reasons. We are all immigrants and know what it's like to survive in different parts of our journey. (Please note: It has been the policy that the newly arriving families will not pay any fees for the classes during the first year of immigration while attending our classes. It is one way for our community to extend a welcoming hand.)
- **Student Expectations:** Because Z-class is community-based, students must understand and uphold the expectations. If any individual has a specific issue, they are encouraged to speak with one of the teachers.
- **Respect:** Keep the bodies and feelings of other students, teachers, parents, and animals safe. Cooperation and clean language are also expected of students, and cell phones and electronic devices must be put away during classes.
- **Spirit of inclusion:** Please make an effort to include everyone. If you choose to go to an event with others in the class (e.g., birthdays, playdates, parties) and everyone in your class is not invited, do not talk about it at Z-class.
- **Keep our space clean:** Students are expected to help clean up after activities, class, and events. No littering.
- **Regular attendance:** To help students develop healthy relationships in the classroom and follow lesson plans, we strongly encourage students to refrain from missing more than two classes. Please email zclasspzo@gmail.com or contact your teacher directly to notify them as soon as possible.
- **Genuine participation:** Come with an open mind and willingness to engage in activities fully, sharing, questioning, and listening to help keep the classes meaningful and create a dynamic learning environment. "Open mind, open heart, and open arms."
- **Have fun!**

Thank you for your support!