

## Amplifying Women's Voices at CSW 65

**Dec. 7, 2020 New York, NY** Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America (FEZANA) will be participating at the 65<sup>th</sup> Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) conference to be held in March 2021 hosted by the United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA. This year's theme will encompass the overarching theme of women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development with a focus on women's full and effective participation in public life, the elimination of violence, and the path towards gender equality. The team representing FEZANA is comprised of a diverse group of individuals from USA, Canada, and England.



**Adina Mistry** (New York, USA) is an undergraduate student at Cornell University, majoring in Biological Sciences with a concentration in Neurobiology and Behavior. She serves on the Executive Board for Cornell University's Emergency Medical Services and is a COVID Ambassador on campus. She is an active member of the Zoroastrian Association of Greater New York and has served as a delegate for FEZANA's UN NGO committee since 2015.



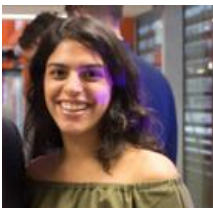
**Ana Verahrami** (Colorado, USA) earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Cornell University in 2017 and is now completing her Masters in Ecology at Colorado State University with a focus in conservation biology. She is the Co-Chair of the FEZANA Zarathushti Youth Without Borders Committee, a Zoroastrian Return to Roots Fellow and has served as a delegate for the FEZANA UN NGO committee since 2017.



**Anisa Ostad** (Northern Virginia, USA) is an undergraduate student at George Mason University where she is majoring in Legal Studies and serving as the institution's Student Government Secretary of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, among her involvement in other organizations on campus. She is keen on continuing to support people of all backgrounds and their goals. She is also involved in her Zoroastrian community, having served as a chair of the Z Games Committee.



**Dr. Ayesha Rabadi-Raol (Ed.D)** (Toronto, Canada) is an experienced early childhood educator and teacher educator. She has 18+ years of teaching experience in Mumbai, New York, and Toronto. She is developing DiversiThink: An online platform for early childhood teachers and young children to engage in conversations about diversity, equity, and inclusion. Ayesha has earned many prestigious scholarships and fellowships and is grateful to her Zoroastrian community for the support towards her higher education.



**Sheherazad Kapadia** (London, England) is training towards becoming an Occupational Therapist, and her academic research focuses on health equity. Currently, Sheherazad serves as the Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe (ZTFE) Young Zoroastrian President and she works alongside national interfaith organizations to improve the dialogue on social justice within faith and belief institutions.



**Tenaz Sunavala** (Texas, USA) was the owner of a successful business, later went the corporate route, and is currently an author. Tenaz was a presenter at the World Zoroastrian Chamber of Commerce - Houston Chapter for Houston Women Entrepreneurs. She currently serves as a community volunteer for NGO- DAYA-Houston as an advocate for women's empowerment. Tenaz's book – discussing how to balance your physical and spiritual realities and empowering yourself from within is the key to leading a life of contentment – is set to be released early 2021!



**Afreed Mistry** (Toronto, Canada) is FEZANA's main representative to the United Nations. She is also the Co-Chair of the FEZANA UN-NGO Committee. Afreed has attended eight Commission on the Status of Women conferences and one UN DPI NGO conference at the UN Headquarters.



**Behram Pastakia, MD, FACR** (Washington DC, USA) is the chair of FEZANA's Zarathushti Youth Without Borders committee, and Co-Chair of its UN NGO Committee, and is a practicing radiologist in Washington D.C. He is part of RAD-AID International ([www.rad-aid.org](http://www.rad-aid.org)), an NGO which promotes health care in low resource countries, through education, innovation and entrepreneurship.

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