ND: Today is Saturday May 3, 2014 at the ZAH. I am Nozer Dungora and Zeeba Kayani and we are interviewing Hoshang Sethna today. Good morning Hoshang.

HS: Good Morning.

ND: How are you?

HS: Fine, thank you. How are you guys?
ND: Good, good.

ZK: Good.

ND: Looking forward to this! So Hoshang, tell us a little about yourself—your childhood and your background.

HS: Childhood --- well I was born in Karachi, grew up in Karachi, had my schooling done, and for the first six years of school --- I was in Karachi. Then my father was transferred to Sukkur, there was a big barrage there he was a civil engineer. So we studied in, I studied actually, in three schools while I was in Sukkur for about five or six years. First was Parsi school and then of course then they only had education until that standard, then I moved to St. Mary’s school, same happened, after a certain time they didn’t have the class, so I went to another local school there.

ND: So St. Mary’s was in Karachi or Sukkur?

HS: Sukkur, Sukkur. I am talking about Sukkur now.

So after Sukkur my father was transferred back to Karachi in 1946, and then I went to St. Patrick’s school, in Karachi, graduated, did my matriculation from there and then I went to the DJ Sind College for the first two years of Science, and then I went to the NED Engineering College to do for Mechanical Engineering. And from there after mechanical engineer… how far do you want me to go on?

ND: Go on.

HS: I will tell you the whole thing.

After graduating from there my father sent both myself and my younger brother both to England for further studies. So we went there 1955, 1956, no sorry ’55, ’56 and 1957 came back home in ‘58 after completing the studies. Then we had our own business you know, we used to, I used to do ship repair work. Had a whole shop and machinery and a contract for the --- what do you call it, the local shipping companies there. I was there till we, my wife and I, decided to move to United States. Up to there we had our own business.

ZK: I am going to go back just a little Hoshang Uncle…you said you and your brothers. How many siblings do you have?

HS: Six.

ZK: Six, and out of the six how many are boys and how many are girls.

HS: Total children we are four boys and three girls. So I have three brothers and three sisters.

ND: Where are you in the order?
HS: I am, I am the oldest.
ND: Oh you are the oldest.
ZK: Oldest! So you were the example setter! (All laugh)
ND: How much difference between you and the youngest?
HS: Yes. The youngest was born in 1944 so about 13 - 14 years difference.

(0:4:00)
ZK: So averaging every two years...
HS: Yes, yes.
ZK: Out of all of them, are all of them still living?
HS: Yes.
ZK: Are they all in India or Pakistan or everywhere?
HS: All are still alive in Pakistan. My one brother has got the Canadian citizenship but
jumps back and forth between the two countries.
ZK: So describe your childhood home, your town or your surroundings.
HS: Childhood home was, --- we had a huge lot, about four acres lot, and the house
was, about six bedrooms, and it was my grandfather’s house incidentally. And, of
course when my father got married, there was plenty of room there so he, he came from
Bombay, my father came from Bombay. And because my grandfather, mother’s father,
was a civil engineer also, and then he went for a job, and my father gave him a job also
and his daughter also! (All laugh).
ND: Oh so you got your (?) Bapaji’s house.
HS: Yes, --- as I said we we lived there till 1940, 1941 and then as Is aid we moved to
Sukkur and when we came back the house was sold, because my grandfather had
passed away, and my grandmother moved to Mumbai to stay with my uncle and there
was nobody there in the house, so while we were in Sukkur the family sold the house,
and when we came back we stayed with our uncle, another uncle…
ND: Mama?
HS: My mother’s mama. Till we got a house there, we moved to Parsi colony and we
stayed there till of course, till we came to the States. Then I got married in 1967.
ND: So was the transition from Karachi to Sukkur a big transition for you? Do you
remember? Did you like moving to Sukkur? Or was it something ---
HS: Oh yes, yes! Sukkur was very nice, we had our own a government house, huge
government house with a separate colony, total different colony. All the government
homes all the bungalows for the government officers were in that colony there. It was exclusive colony, very well looked after and maintained, everything…nice and --- in general we had a very good time in Sukkur. Still remember that – it is a really good memory.

ND: Were there any Zoroastrians in Sukkur at that time?

HS: Yes there were about, not very many. About --- there were about I would say, a small Parsi colony of about six or seven houses. Just a very, very small community, the total community would be, I think, I would say about a total of forty people.

ND: But now nobody lives there?

HS: Nobody there. All gone (?) The Fire temple also, school and the dastoorji’s house the priest’s house was all in one sort of, complex. And that’s all gone now.

ZK: So Hoshang Uncle, when you say, compared to now, to what happened in the past. What was important in history? Or during that time? What were you guys aware of?

ND: The partition? Were you there during the partition?

ZK: How did it affect you? As a family?

HS: Well … the partition really did not affect us so much, because the transition was so, sort of… it was not as if the whole community was moving out or something coming in. It was just a transition over a period of time, slowly, slowly, slowly, so it did not, sort of, bother us much.

ND: Did people look forward to the partition? Or accept it?

HS: Yeah, yeah accept it. There were so many people, …yeah, it was just, well there was, well, I will say one thing, there were so many people not really in favor of the partition and so many just took it as granted. Because when they say you will all be separated from friends and family, so many people have friends and family in India and Pakistan there will be all divided. There are so many views about this thing, a lot of people just took it for granted…it has to be there, so it has to be there!

ND: Was Karachi a lot more diverse at that time – before partition?

HS: Karachi was not as diverse as after partition because a lot people moved in from India and slowly, gradually, I am talking about years after that, a lot of people from the northern part of Pakistan they moved into Karachi and it was, it was ---

ND: Changed?

HS: Changed, and well nothing to be very ---

(0:10:00)
HS: It was, before partition it was 300,000 people there; after partition I think it was --- 30,000, no not 30,000 - 300,000, whatever, some ridiculous amount –

ND: Let me take a different tangent. When you got into Engineering College, was it difficult to get into Engineering College at that time?

HS: No, no. Because if you had certain sort of marks, and there was another portion, the school belonged to a Parsi - Nadirshaw Edulj Dinshaw that is called NED Engineering College and there were certain seats reserved for Parsis.

ND: OK I see.

HS: So it was not a problem for me to get into there.

ND: Now your business, that you said, with the ships, was that something your dad had started or you started.

HS: No, no I started it.

ND: OK you started it, I see. Then what made you think about moving?

HS: Yes that is – we don’t have any children. My wife’s sister is with the American Field Service and she stayed here in the states for a few years, and at that time it was not so difficult to get a citizenship, or if you asked for it…and when we applied for citizenship here we were the only ones, there was nobody there, in fact they asked me when would you like to go? I was shocked, I said I have my business here, I just can’t drop everything and go. The reason why we decided to at least try out and see if we would like it here is that we didn’t have any children, so let us go and see. My sister could sponsor us those days it was very, very easy.

ND: So your sister was already here?

HS: She was already here, I’m sorry, sorry my wife's sister. She was already here and she could sponsor anybody, in those days any American could sponsor anybody.

ZK: It was a recommendation.

HS: Yeah, yeah. (Laughs)

ND: So was she the first member of the family to be here?

HS: Yes, my wife’s family. My joint family Yes she was here and she said why don’t you come on here, we would like to have you here. So I said why not go and try. So what we did was, I did not close my business I did not do anything like that. We said let us go try out and see how it is. If we like it we will stay otherwise we will come back.

Then we came here, and what we did, I bought a car, a station wagon, another family also with us, our friends, very close friends and we toured all over the United States just to see where we would like to settle down. Because when we first came in we came to New Jersey to you know, to Arnavaz’s sister’s house and I said: I am not staying here,
it’s too cold, I don’t like snow. So we went down we came, Houston was not even in our itinerary. So we came here to Houston, and we stopped at downtown, and we said do we know anybody here? And Arnavaz said yes I know a Zarine Boyce, and we said where do we find out where she is? And we looked up the phone book and there was one Sethna also, Nergish Sethna. So we were just going through the …

ND: Directory. Phone directory.

HS: She did not pick up the phone. So I said let us go, let us get out of here. And as we were getting out we saw a phone and said why don’t we try one more time. We tried and she picked up the phone. Yes Zarine does live here but she only comes here on Wednesdays and Thursdays - she lives in College Station. So what we did was, she said why don’t you come and have a cup of tea and then go. It happened to be a Sunday …

ND: So who was the person talking to you?

HS: Nergish Sethna. And she said why don’t you come here and have a cup of tea. We are having a committee meeting also here, ZAH meeting.

ND: There was a ZAH in 78?

HS: 1974, ’75 yes already established and they used to have the meeting in Nergish Sethna’s house. Happened to be …Kaomez was there and …I forget

ZK: Katy Irani?

HS: Yes, Katy Irani and four or five people were there. I met Kaomez and he said why don’t you stay here?

(0:15:00)

HS: He said I know some other people who you could go into business with them. Stay here and I will take you tomorrow, Monday and introduce you. Monday lasted for another week and we stayed and then we decided we are coming back to Houston.

ND: Did you stay at her place? Nergish Sethna’s place?

HS: Yes, and then we said we have decided we are coming here and we went back to New Jersey, and I flew back to Karachi and Arnavaz stayed here. She tried to look for a job in New Jersey and she just could not find one. So we had an old (?) typewriter and she would type, type, type and where ever she went she would get a no, no, no nothing!. So I called her from there and said we have decided to go to Houston so why don’t you just pick up your stuff and go to Nergish Sethna’s she is willing to keep you there. She said ok and it was a Labor Day weekend she came here.

ND: She flew in? She flew from NJ to here?

HS: She flew from NJ to here. Of course she stayed with Nergish Sethna who was very, very nice to us. Then she said I will take you to an agency and you try and see if you
can get a job. She went there and they said there is a job here, but it is a temporary job, would you like to stay there. She said yes, anything, and she went there and she stayed there for five years!! (All laugh)

It was very good because she had studied French also, and they had some French connections and they did not want to let her go. So if something is in your destiny everything just falls into place!

ZK: So, Hoshang Uncle, what was that plane ride back for you? When you decided Houston was it and you went back to NJ and then back to Pakistan. What were the emotions like and what was ---

HS: Let me just go and sell up my business and come back. So it took me a little while but not too long. I just sold it, in fact I had a partner. So in the end when I came here I left it to my partner and said just sell it and give me my share back, then we will go from there. So I just flew back picked up my car from NJ and I drove down to Houston.

ZK: So being the oldest sibling how did your brothers and sisters take the news of you moving?

ND: And your parents? Were your parents alive at that time?

HS: Yes, my father was alive. My mother had passed away. My father was not very happy. It so happened that when he came here, in 1981 he came here, and looked around and was very happy I had settled down. He stayed with me for about six months and that was when he started Sunday school. We said why don't you start Sunday school, and Faroukh Mistry was also here, and they got together and started Sunday school.

ND: So it was actually your dad that started the Sunday school!

HS: Yes

ND: Very nice.

HS: Yeah, yeah. He was here for six months and then of course he went back and since then the Sunday school was there. I think for 17 years we had Sunday school at our house, till the Center was built.

ND: Now I think you skipped one major event. How did you meet Arnavaz?

HS: Secret!! (All laugh). I am kidding!

ND: Was it an arranged marriage? Was it a love marriage?

HS: We knew each other. My sister, Piroja, and Arnavaz were at school together. And you know, one thing led to another. They were getting together, and Arnavaz was coming to my house sometimes. One thing led to another and we started going together, and we said let's get married.
ZK: So who made the first move?
HS: (Laughing) Arnavaz!! (All laugh) No, no!!
ZK: I can believe that!
ND: And both your families were happy? There were no concerns?
HS: No, no there were no concerns. Both were very happy.

(0:20:00)
ND: Now when you first came here and took the tour of the US, you went to a lot of cities?
HS: Yes. What we did was Washington first, from Washington we took the northern route went to all the states to, what’s it called? Where you have the falls and geysers and all that ---
ZK: Niagara?
HS: No not Niagara.
ZK: California?
ND: Yosemite? Montana? Yellowstone?
HS: Yes, Yellowstone and then to Washington state and California and then down to Las Vegas came up from CA to Nevada, and from Nevada to TX and to Houston and then just took a tour back.
ND: Did you do that in every city? Opened the telephone directory to see if there were other Parsis?
HS: No, no not really.
ND: You did not do that in LA? (All laugh).
HS: No, no.
ZK: So what was your impression of Vegas?
HS: Vegas? Very nice, good.
ZK: What was your impression of the cities, I can imagine coming from India and Pakistan, coming to the wider streets, what your impression of driving here …was
HS: Of course, we liked it very much, really enjoyed it and were impressed with what we saw.
ZK: Even though you did not find Houston till much later in your tour, did you feel that this is it, America is the place for me to be, or did you only feel that once you were in Houston?
HS: You are right about that. So many of our old friends were here. The climate was good, it was exactly what we wanted. People were so friendly and everybody was trying to help us, and we just said this is our home now.

ND: What was the exchange rate at that time? Do you remember?

HS: Oh it was about Rs. 12 rupees to the dollar. Now it is about Rs.106 to about 108. (All laugh).

ND: You had no problem transferring any of your funds over at that time?

HS: No there was no problem at all.

ND: No issue at all.

ZK: So, Hoshang Uncle, what was your first big purchase? You guys said you bought a car was that your first big purchase - besides your ticket here of course.

HS: Yes, and then of course, after about a year to a year and a half the biggest purchase was the house.

ZK: So how much was developed in Houston?

HS: Houston was nothing what it is now. When we moved into the house, the neighborhood, there were cows grazing and you know, sort of and on the other side of the road, Murphy Road, was all farmland and jungle and …

ZK: So it was still sugar land.

HS: Yes, still sugar land. Ask me about Sugarland. Sugarland was all developed in front of us.

ND: How did you decide about that part of town, not like say, Clear Lake?

HS: We tried so many different places, and this one, when we just walked into the house and said this is it!

ND: So it felt like home?

HS: Yeah, yeah

ZK: So what were your neighbors like? Were they predominantly white?

HS: Oh they were mostly, um, young professionals in that area.

ND: What about the wider desi (Indian) community?

HS: Well, they were mostly in um not, not in that area. Not in the Missouri City area. But they were mostly in the Hillcroft, Chimney Rock area at that time. Now of course they are spread out all over the place.

ND: Was there the Beltway 8 at that time?
HS: No, Beltway 8, um … there was Highway what do you call…

ND: 610?

HS: 610, was the only one, then BW 8 was built.

ND: Tell us a little bit of the Parsi, the Zoroastrian community at that time.

(0:25:00)

HS: The Zoroastrian community like I said was there were about, I think, about 10 - total somewhere between 35-40 people, that’s all; then gradually people started coming in when they saw that Houston was developing at that time. A lot of people got transfers from their offices, and people moved in and gradually as they saw the community growing up a lot of people started moving in. Of course, now we are close to, over 600 people now.

ND: So would you say the community was helpful to you?

HS: Very helpful, very helpful. Yes, extremely helpful. Especially Nergish Sethna and the family - they were the real reason why we are here now.

ZK: They held (?) you and they didn’t let you go! (Laughs)

ND: So would you say, you settled down in America because you didn’t want to live in Pakistan anymore? Or was it more that America was better? Or what pulled you?

HS: Hmm…Of course, it was much better, and a new way of life and we could always go back to see the family whenever we wanted to. So we just decided…

ND: So more of a pull than the push?

HS: Yes, yes, correct.

ND: Alright. What do you miss the most about Pakistan?

HS: The family, that’s all, there is nothing else there!

ND: Right, right. While settling down in America what was the most difficult change to your lifestyle?

HS: I really don’t think there was anything. We didn’t really find --- everything just seemed to, sort of fall in place. And umm, then afterwards when I first came in I started my own shop, repair shop, an automobile repair shop. I said let me try automobile repair shop because I was into automobiles also. But it didn’t work out because of the workers. when they got their pay on Friday they got drunk! Every Monday morning I would have to go to their apartments and drag them out and say come on let’s go to work!! And it just drove me crazy!

And in the meantime, of course I knew Zarine Boyce, and Merwan, of course, and we had become very friendly. And I told him about this, my problems, and he said why don’t
you come and join us? You are a mechanical engineer and I need a mechanical engineer. I said OK.

So I also invested the money in their company, a little bit, to sort of get a share, and also I started working there. I was very happy working there. I used to go to Venezuela and go all over the place repairing turbo machinery and generators and all that. I was very happy. After that there was no problem at all.

ZK: So there wasn’t, umm --- what made you --- When you came to America did you always just want to be your own boss?

HS: Yes. I had never worked for anybody till I came here and worked here for Dr. --- for Merwan Boyce.

ZK: So initially when you opened your business you still wanted to be your own boss?

HS: Yes. Yes, but then of course I said let me try them. I was also a partner, a very small partner, just 10% partner in their company. But, whatever it was, I was okay.

ND: But Arnavaz was working throughout?

HS: Yes she was working for Dynergy. And then of course it changed to, was bought over by BP, and finally she retired from BP.

ZK: So socially, what were your social habits? What did you guys do for like, entertainment?

HS: Well we like to, drive around tour around so we used to go to New Orleans sometimes; we drove to Las Vegas because my wife likes Las Vegas

ND: Las Vegas! Wow a long drive!

HS: Yes! When my brother came here with my brother’s wife, my sister-in-law, and then we took them around. Whenever someone comes we like to take them in the car and go around all over the place. (Chuckles). I like driving around.

ND: Do new people coming into Houston; new Zoroastrian families stay with you like you did with Nergish Sethna?

HS: Yes, Yes. Actually my, all my nephews, my brothers’ and sisters’ sons they came here for education to U of H (University of Houston) they all stayed with me. Our house was just full of people, (laughing) their friends used to come in and go out and we did not even know what was going on. (Laughing). They had a good time. All of them studied here but they’d say no, no we are all going back we are not staying here. (0:30:00)

Every one of them, of course they went back, but all of them are back here in the States! (Laughs).
ZK: The drive over here is --- what was the most, like, impactful thing for you guys? How should I say it - the impact of USA, to say Oh my God, I can make it. What was your first impression when you got off the plane?

ND: What built your confidence?

ZK: What built your confidence to …?

HS: Oh, as I said ---

ND: You know it is difficult to leave everything established behind and start in a new place.

HS: I know I know…

ND: There has to be some driver.

HS: I know. Yeah,

ND: Either you have as issue with the partner over there or ---

HS: No no nothing at all, absolutely nothing. When we came here also, as I have said I truly believe in destiny. Because when we came here also as I said just --- no issues, we could not see any issues, everything just kept falling into place, sliding into place, one thing into another.

ND: Did you ever encounter racism in America?

HS: No, not really not really,

ND: Even in the early days?

HS: Even in the early days. No, no not really no.

ND: Did you see racism at all? Like was there …Did you feel that there were people of all races were against blacks, or against Hispanics? That type ---

HS: I did see lot of people against blacks because, you know, they were sort of, I don’t know how to put it, --- people avoided them, let’s say that…

ND: People avoided them, because things were less integrated, like neighborhoods and all were less integrated.

HS: Yes, yes.

ND: OK, I see, I see.

HS: There were certain areas east of us that were totally, you know, black. The total community was black and all that.

ND: But you did not personally did not feel any, or have any unfair experiences?

HS: No, no.
ND: How would you best describe yourself? Do you consider yourself American first or Indian, or Pakistani, or Pakistani American or Zoroastrian American or Pakistani Zoroastrian, or I mean, how would you label yourself?

HS: When I came here, umm, and, of course we had to stay with a green card for five years, and after five years, when we went for the swearing in ceremony the first thing I did when I came home, I already had my flag and everything ready, and I had the post and I hoisted my American flag and I said now I am an American! (All laugh). So I am an American!

ZK: So it was never an identity thing, of giving up one identity. You felt American because you were welcomed in America?

HS: Yes absolutely, absolutely!

ZK: You are American! (All laugh). What was the political culture that was happening then that you gravitated to?

HS: Here or ---

ZK: Yes here. When you first moved here, the political culture that was happening here with was it early 70s...?

ND: 70s was a little later on. Let’s see Carter’s time, let’s say Carter’s time at that time?

ZK: Yes who was the President when you came?

HS: President? Oops gosh you got me there.

ND: Let’s see ‘78 would be after Carter, because, ‘71 was the Iran revolution right?

HS: Yes, yes at that time

ND: Were you there at that time? Hostages and all that?

HS: No, no. When they had the, what you call, the hostage situation, no we were in Karachi then.

ND: Karachi. Okay, so you came after that.

HS: Yes, after that.

ND: So how do you, and you don’t have to answer this. Ideologically do you consider yourself a Republican or a Democrat of Independent?

HS: Republican

ND: Republican, okay and what made you choose that way? Ideologically?

HS: Yes, because my views did not fall in place with what the Democrats were ---

ND: Let me reverse back a little bit. Okay?
HS: Yes.

ND: The Parsi community of Karachi, what you see then, and what you see today. What is the biggest difference?

HS: Hmm ---

ND: Let me elaborate a little bit. Was there anything like intermarriages at that time?

HS: Oh, I see what you mean. No, there was no such thing as intermarriages at all! If somebody married outside the community oooh! Everybody was like, a big thing!

ND: A big thing. When you were growing up?

(0:35:00)

HS: Yes when I was growing up. But now, of course, not many, like you have in India. There are a few people, there are intermarriages, but now everybody just takes it in stride, just accept it, there is nothing you can do

ND: Yeah, nothing you can do.

The community itself, was it much bigger at that time?

HS: Oh yes. Oh yes. When I was there, there were about 5000 people maximum. Now everybody is trying to get out of there. Whenever they get a chance they move out of there, and now I think there are about, a maximum 1200.

ND: Now in your own house, in your own family, were there practices followed that are not practiced today? Like for example, in the olden days we hear about when women had their periods, they had to go into a separate room…or something like that. Was that followed in your house at all?

HS: No, no. Yeah. There were certain restrictions, like, they would not go into the prayer room or prayer place, they had that sort of control on them. But not like we used to have in the really olden days when they were isolated in a separate room No, no.

ZK: So would you consider your upbringing to be modern, liberal or conservative? Your parents, how did, what--- were they strict?

HS: Parents were very --- parents were not strict at all. They let us, do, of course they controlled us, taught us things. If we did something wrong they would say you are not supposed to do that, do this. But not like ---

ZK: There was discipline but they were not strict?

HS: Yes, yes.

ND: Tell us about the three years you lived in England? How did you like (?) your time there?
HS: Oh yes, we had a wonderful time! Again the same thing. I bought a car (all laugh) and every weekend my brother and myself and another friend of ours, who was there also, we used to go out all over the place; I’ve toured all of England and part of Scotland. I have not been to Ireland.

ND: Living in America for all these years, from a Zoroastrian perspective, what are the things we should keep and what are the things we should discard, going forward?

HS: Hmm ---

ND: Can you think of something? Like do you think we should still have some ceremonies, some traditions?

HS: Yes! Religion is something that should be a part of you. That is something that you should not let go anytime! You can enjoy yourself as much as you want, do whatever you want, but prayers and religion and beliefs mostly, you must stick to the beliefs and work accordingly and live accordingly.

ZK: So religion for you is part of your identity?

HS: Yes, absolutely, absolutely!

ND: What would you think were your – were there anything that you would consider things in your life you have done, as failures? That there is no way you would do it again, consciously, if you knew better.

HS: Hmm --

ND: Or successes? Could be a success also. Something you can see, this is definitely, -- I never realized could be that important but that was really important. Or it really turned out very well?

HS: Hmm…that is a really good question but I am trying to figure out an answer!

ND: That’s fine you don’t have to …

HS: Yeah I don’t know …actually you might say we were really blessed. I have never had this --- People go into trauma and say what the hell did I do, and that sort of thing? We were moderately, not doing or going into extremes, and like to follow a middle of the road path. And that way we did not fall off either this side or that side. Try to --- didn’t go to extremes. So that way we were sort of safe.

ND: Were you in Houston during the oil crash of the early 80s?

HS: 80s yes.

ND: You were?

HS: yes in fact I had bought some oil wells when I came here (laughs).

ND: You had! Oh wow!
HS: Yes! I had six oil wells when I first came here, in the Seguin area. And then of course the market crashed. (All laugh). And then I lost quite a lot of money and then I had to just sell them off for pennies.

ZK: So in the movies, the 1950 movies, they say Texas was either cattle or oil, you were an oilman! (Laughter).

(0:40:00)

ND: So I hear a lot of people lost their jobs in Houston and everything, in the early 80s?

HS: Yes.

ND: Did it a big impact on the community?

HS: Yes, for a lot of people, it was a tricky situation for a lot of people. Fortunately, I was with a job, and our job was not totally unrelated to the situation

ND: What about this 2000 stock market crash? Were you guys impacted by it at all?

HS: Sorry?

ND: The 2000 stock market crash? Were you guys ---

HS: Yes, yes. No, I did not invest too much with that. I did lose a little bit but was not too much into --- In fact, I have zero investment in the stock market now, whether it goes up or down, I don’t care! (Laughter). I don’t want headaches (?).

ZK: So what would the Hoshang today tell the 22 year old Hoshang, or the 25 year old Hoshang to be aware? What is one advice that you would give yourself --

ND: Or to youngsters today or somebody like our age?

ZK: Of our age for exploring a new place or whatever.

ND: From your learnings?

HS: Yes, I would say, venture out and see what is outside your door, just don’t stick to one place and just say I am not happy, but unless you go out and see for yourself what there is on the other side of this world, you cannot sort of ---

ZK: Limit yourself?

HS: Yes, only then you will, for yourself, can find out if this is something that you need, you want to expand, you want to improve yourself …

ND: So take chances?

HS: Without taking chances you cannot do anything. You will just be stagnant like a piece of wood!

ND and ZK: Ok thank you Hoshang!
HS: Thank you!

(0:42:17)

Interview ends