

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Nazneen Kharas-Khumbatta**

Ms Kharas-Khumbatta was born in Karachi, Pakistan in 1962, obtained a degree in geology and moved to Houston to earn a master's degree in geology from the University of Houston. She was raised in Karachi in a middle-class family but since the age of 9 she dreamed of moving to the United States. Her family came from a long line of followers of the religious sect called Zoroastrian, an ancient religion that predates Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

The weather in Houston is similar to Pakistan which attracts many families to live in the area. Nazneen and her family enjoy a successful life in Sugar Land.

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Interview Summary

Places / Businesses

Houston, Texas

India

Karachi, Pakistan

New York

Pakistan American Cultural Center

Sugar Land, Texas

University of Houston

Events

Nazneen moved to Houston to pursue a master's degree in geology from the University of Houston after graduating from college in Karachi, Pakistan.

As a 9 year old, she and her father watched the flight of Apollo 11 to the moon. Her dad said

“when you grow up, you must make an attempt to go to America.”

She and her family are long followers of the religious sect Zoroastrian. It is an ancient religion that predates Christianity, Judaism and Islam.

Many families from Pakistan select the Houston area because the climate is very similar – hot and humid.

Nazneen talks about her son and daughter and the successful life she and her husband have enjoyed in Sugar Land.

She is happy that her children are doing well and will marry and provide grandchildren.