

VISION

September 2015



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



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Time flies! A year has gone by and there is great satisfaction that we as a board have been able to achieve tasks that has helped OZCF move forward. Another new year for our boards term and there is great excitement on upcoming events.

We had a successful EGM and AGM on July 19, in what can be termed as a landmark decision, the membership body of the Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation (OZCF) voted unanimously to move forward with building a consecrated Dar-e Mehr with Dadgah Fire, followed by the installation of a consecrated Adaran Fire, on the ten acre property owned by the OZCF in Oakville, Ontario, Canada. This will be the first such Place of Worship in North America and will enable North American communities to ordain priests locally and conduct the inner liturgical ceremonies such as Vendidad and Yasna.

I would like to thank both ZSO and OZCF entertainment committees for organizing yet another successful Navroz event at the Red Rose Convention Banquet.

Stay blessed, always.

Percy Agreras Dastur
President, OZCF



The OZCF has a very exciting summer of events planned for you. Below are some upcoming events for the near future.

Events

Sep 5, 2015	Favardegan
Sep 6, 2015	Dasturji Kookadaru Baj
Sep 9, 2015	Trip to Aga Khan Museum
Sep 27, 2015	Grand Parents Day
Sep 20, 2015	OZCF Car Rally
Oct 2, 2015	Lecture by Thrity Umrigar
Oct 3, 2015	NAMC Series Lecture

Need a Mobed?

Our Mobeds are available to help in times of need to offer their guidance & services to the community. Please contact:

Ervad Bamji Xerxes	(905) 702-1034
Ervad Bulsara Firdosh	(905) 824-7692
Ervad Dastur Mehbhad	(416) 917-9195
Ervad Dhabar Jamshed	(905) 819-0089
Ervad Kotwal Nozer	(905) 820-0461
Ervad Madan Xerxes	(416) 254-0685
Ervad Panthaky Jal	(905) 568-4946
Ervad Zarolia Kobad	(647) 887-9213

The OZCF prayer room and facility is not open regularly. For personal requests, you may contact the following:

Prayer Room Access	Nozer Kotwal	905-820 0461 nskotwal1@gmail.com
Hall Rentals	Cyrus Gazdar	647-294 6462 cygazdar@yahoo.ca
ZRCC Coordinator	Armaity Anandasa-gar	905-271 0366 armaity.a@gmail.com
OZCF President	Percy Dastur	416-930-9666 president@ozcf.com
Webmaster & Facilities	Rumi Jasavala	905-257-7864 rumijas@hotmail.com

ZOROASTRIANS TO BUILD FIRST CONSECRATED PLACE OF WORSHIP OF NORTH AMERICA IN OAKVILLE, ONTARIO

In what can be termed as a landmark decision, the membership body of the Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation (OZCF) voted unanimously at the July 19, 2015 Extraordinary General Meeting to move forward with building a consecrated Dar-e Mehr with Dadgah Fire, followed by the installation of a consecrated Adaran Fire, on the 10-acre property owned by the OZCF in Oakville, Ontario, Canada. This will be the first such Place of Worship in North America and will enable North American communities to ordain priests locally and conduct the inner liturgical ceremonies such as Vendidad and Yasna.

The Place of Worship Advisory Committee (PWAC) with the explicit mandate of the membership will now commence implementation of the development. Next steps involve applying for the required permits and approvals, finalizing architectural and engineering reports and developing construction plans for the proposed building.

A global fundraising program is being developed to move forward on the approximate, Canadian \$2.7 Million (US\$2 Million) project.

We have established the 'Gift of Vision' program, through which interested donors or groups may wish to donate towards construction materials or volunteer professional services for the building of the consecrated Place of Worship.

We are also graciously accepting monetary donations. For more information regarding contributions, please contact Mr. Phil Sidhwa, Chair, PWAC (philsidhwa@hotmail.com) or Mr. Marzi Byramjee, Chair, PWAC Fundraising Committee (marzi@regalpresscanada.com). Please stay tuned for more information.

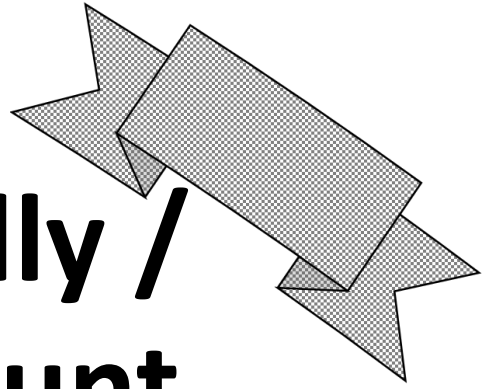
OZCF's OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS

On Tuesday, August 18, 2015, after the Navroze Jashan, four amazing volunteers—Bejon Sidhwa, Khorshedbanu Jobani, Dhun Gazdar and Sam Gazdar, were felicitated for the outstanding contribution to OZCF since its inception.

The OZCF board had unanimously voted that this recognition was long due. The announcement was kept a surprise and the smile on the faces of these amazing people was most rewarding for all present at the event. They are our role model volunteers.



From Left to Right: Bejon Sidhwa, Khorshedbanu Jobani, Dhun Gazdar, Sam Gazdar & Percy Dastur at the recognition ceremony



OZCF Car Rally / Scavenger Hunt

Date: Sunday September 20, 2015
Time: 9:30 am – 10.30 am registration
Location: Starting point – OZCF-ZRCC

Jus for a day of excitement and adventure!

Arrive with your team in the morning for coffee and a light breakfast and make sure your car is decked out in your team colors.
 Drive off with your team and solve the clues.

Lots of prizes to be won. A great family day out!

End the day at the ZRCC for the trophy presentation and lunch.
 Spectators and team supporters are welcome to arrive at 12.30 pm for lunch and the trophy presentation.

Price: participants \$25 per head non members \$30
 Spectator Rates: \$15 and \$20 for non members

To register contact Gulrukh Patel at
 905 542 0237 or email: cawasgul@gmail.com



A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL VOLUNTEERS

The OZCF Fundraising Committee and the Board of Directors would like to thank all the volunteers who helped make the "*Jashan in the Baug*" such a great success. Over six months of planning culminated in what one can only describe as the best event the OZCF has had so far. This of course would not have been possible without the enormous support and dedication of our volunteers. One can look back and see that the OZCF has never looked as good as it did that day, with the pristine grounds and majestic tents. There were numerous tasks that were carried out that brought everything together on the day which allowed all the 700 attendees to enjoy the day and the event go off flawlessly. The success of any great event is visible when for example; difficult things such as managing the 200 cars parking was made to look so simple. We had dedicated volunteers work for 12 hours a day leading up to the event and also starting at 5 am to artistically create chalk stencils on the walkway and the runway carpet, hanging torans and setting the service tables and the stage ready for the *jashan*. We would like to thank the kids who took part in explaining the *jashan* ceremony and entertaining the attendees with singing and dancing. We simply could not have done it without you !

Make this event part of your history by purchasing a "*Jashan in the Baug*" DVD.

Jashan DVD's are on sale for \$15. To purchase one, send your cheque made out to OZCF to Kermin Byramjee at 288 Alscot Crescent, Oakville, ON L6J 4R4.

YOUNG ZOROASTRIAN ACHIEVERS



DELNA PATEL

Daughter of Vistasp & Kanizehn, granddaughter of late Aloo Wadia has excelled in her Baking & Pastry Management Course at George Brown College and received the Cacao Barry Award in recognition for representing the Best in Class 2014-2015. She is also the 2015 Valedictorian for the Chef School. She excels in making wonderful chocolates and cakes for which she takes orders. You can check out her blog at <https://whiskfoldbake.wordpress.com/>. Delna is currently enrolled in the post-graduate Advanced French Patisserie program at George Brown.

SONYA ANKLESARIA



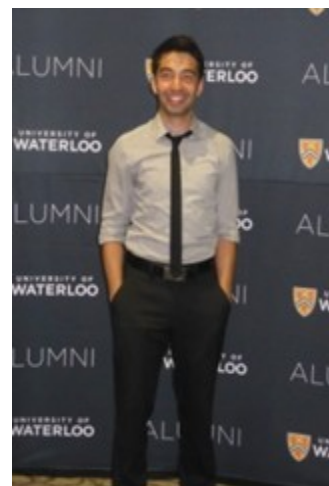
“Heartiest congratulations to Sonya Anklesaria of Toronto, Canada on completing her Bachelor of Arts degree with Honors and Distinction from the University of Toronto. Sonya has completed a double major and minor, while working two jobs throughout her university career, as both a retail supervisor at a franchise drug store, and as a civil servant for the Federal Government of Canada. She also volunteers once a week at an elementary school as an in-school mentor with her local Big Brothers and Big Sisters organization. She makes time for fitness, believing that a healthy lifestyle is just as important as academics. Whoever said 24 hours in a day were not enough was wrong!

Sonya is now proceeding in September to do her Master’s Program at The Ryerson University on a partial scholarship. She speaks many languages, enjoys learning new ones and hopes to continue working for the Federal Government of Canada, aspiring to one day work overseas at a Canadian embassy. Well done Sonya – you make us proud. You are an inspiration to our Zoroastrian youth to follow role models like yourself.”

FARHAN PANTHAKI

Farhan was born in Mumbai, India, and lived in Dubai, U.A.E for 7 years before moving to Mississauga, Canada in 2000. He has just completed a five year program in Honors Mechanical Engineering, with an option in Management Science, at the University of Waterloo in Ontario, Canada, and received his BASc. qualification. After graduating, Farhan has accepted a full time position with *Apple Inc.*, working as an Operations Program Manager on the iPhone team in Cupertino, CA, USA. He is also actively involved in the Zoroastrian community, has performed numerous religious ceremonies and has even been the lead Dasturr during the Muktd and Navroz prayers for the ZSO and OZCF.

In the past, Farhan has also taken many leadership roles, the most notable of which was his selection to be the Mechanical Engineering Class Academic Representative and act as an ambassador to represent over 120 students. He is still getting involved wherever possible, and in recognition of his achievements, he has been selected as the University of Waterloo Engineering Class of 2015 Valedictorian. Farhan is a role model to our youth in Canada and has achieved success through hard work and dedication. He is a great example of just how far commitment, perseverance, and enthusiasm can get you.



GRAND NAVROZ CELEBRATION BY OZCF & ZSO

The OZCF and ZSO held a joint function to celebrate Shahenshahi New Year on Saturday, August 22 /2015 at the lovely Red Rose Banquet hall in Mississauga, Ontario.

The evening commenced with around 200 guests being entertained by the talented, homegrown singer Fiona Engineer (daughter of Nelly and Hormuzd Engineer) who serenaded us with 2 songs followed by a pre-dinner dance session led by DJ Melwyn. A delicious meal was washed down by liquor from the open bar, as patrons bought raffle tickets. Thank you to Rayo Irani who graciously donated the raffle prizes as well to all who attended the evening ensuring it was a resounding success.

A special thank you to the entertainment committee's Anaita Ogra (from ZSO) and (from OZCF) Arnawaz Dhabhar, Hormuzd Engineer, Jeroo Madan & Zarina Gutta, led by its chair Mahveer Javat for an enjoyable function.



NEWS FROM THE SENIORS' CORNER

DATES TO REMEMBER & ENJOY

GRANDPARENTS DAY—27 Sept. 2015 at OZCF 11.30 am (FREE ENTRANCE) A fun filled occasion with games and delicious curry- chaaval and pizza and cake and mint tea to eat and enjoy with the grand children. There will also be lots of fun games and prizes for children. All seniors are welcome even without grand children.

MOVIE MATINEE—Watch the movie of your choice along with tasty snacks. Entrance \$5. Oct 25, 2015 at 1.30pm

TRIP—Don't forget our exciting visit to the Aga Khan Museum. 09 September 2015 .

HISTORY PROJECT UPDATE

The Seniors' sub committee has some exciting news about our history project that was initiated with UTM (University of Toronto) earlier this year. Dr. Enrico Raffaelli, a scholar in Zoroastrianism has talked with the Department Director of South Asian Studies about our project and both are enthusiastic to assist and guide us in realizing this project. Dr. Raffaelli will personally help in the development of our questionnaire which will record the varied histories that we come with and the changes we see taking place (with particular reference to some of our religious customs and practices) as observed in our present day life experiences in Toronto. In the fall we hope to meet with many of you individually to record the journey of our diasporas in an attempt to preserve our rich and varied cultural and religious heritage for our future generation of Torontonians.

For information on any of the above please call Minnie Mirza at 905-825-8188 or email to minnie.mirza@gmail.com

Muktad: A Celebration for 5, 10 or 18 Days

By Ervad Gustad Manekshah Panthaki

Currently Muktad is celebrated for a period of 5, 10 or 18 days. Many in our community are rightly puzzled and would like to know why there is not a 'standard' length for this commemoration. What follows is brief account to explain the rationale for this variation.

10 Days of Muktad: Farvardin Yasht verse 49 very clearly states that the Muktad celebration be 10 days in length:

Yao visadha avayeinti Hamaspathmaedaem paiti ratum, aat athra vicharenti das pairi khshafno, avat avo zikhshnaonghemnao
 "Who (Fravashis) on the occasion of Hamaspathmaedem (gahambar) come to the streets, and move about for ten nights towards those desiring help". (Translation by M. F. Kanga)

Other evidence for 10 days of Muktad can be found in the: Pahlavi Vendidad 8:22; Persian Rivayats of Kaus Kamdin; Saddar Bundahesh 52:1-3; and the Dinkard Book 8, ch 7:10-13.

The 10 days consist of: the last five days (roj Ashtad to Aneran) of the last month Spandarmad, combined with the five Gatha days. These 10 days are collectively known as the Farvardegan days. The first five days (days 1-5: roj Ashtad to Aneran) are known as Panj-i-keh, meaning the lesser five days. The second period of five days (days 6-10: the Gatha days) are known as Panj-i-meh, meaning the greater five days. These latter days (6-10) are considered highly venerable because: they represent the last five days of the year, they are intercalary days, they take the name (Gathas) of scripture attributed to Zarathushtra, and because they coincide with the days of celebration for a Gahambar (Hamaspathmaedem).

From 10 to 18 Days for Muktad: As aforementioned, Muktad (10 days) should begin on Astad roj. However a tradition arose by which Ashishvangh roj (one day before Astad roj) was added as part of the Muktad commemoration, because it served as a day for the preparation and organization prior to the onset of Muktad. Muktad, as a celebratory period was also extended into the first six days of the new year (of Fravardin mah) because of events such as: New Year's day (Navroz), the consecration of Rapithwan Jashan on the third day (roj Ardibehesht), and Khordad Sal on the sixth day. Finally, a 'last' day of departure/farewell was added to Muktad (Amardad roj, Farvardin Mah). Thus, the tradition of celebrating Muktad for 18 days arose.

From 10 to 5 Days of Muktad: Due to the scarcity of Mobeds, time and financial constraints in contemporary and diasporic conditions, a few years ago it was decided that Muktad may be celebrated for a shorter 5 day period, commemorating the Panj-i-meh or 'greater five days' of the Gathas. This is a measure of convenience due to circumstances.

RELIGION CORNER

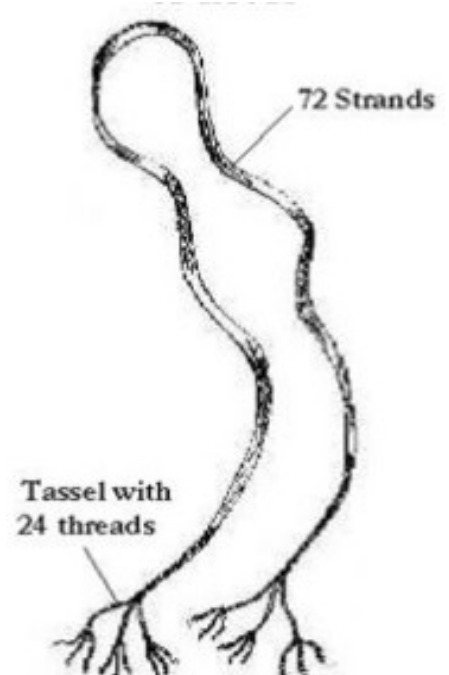
Every time we buy a new Kusti, we ponder on the question : "How long do we need to buy?" A Kusti is measured on a *Gaj* basis; a *Gaj* being approximately 27 inches long. Kusti's are sold on *Gaj* and quarter, half and three-fourth lengths.

Er. Dr. Ramiyar P. Karanjia (Principal of the Dadar Athornan Institute) has written an article in JAME JAMSHED. He mentions that besides the 3 rounds of our waist, we should add an extra 10 inches to allow for

- 1) looseness around the waist
- 2) front and back knots
- 3) for two lars
- 4) shrinkage over a period of time on account of regular washing

So how long Kusti do you need to buy? The formula: **[(Waist length in inches x 3) + 10] divide by 27**. Based on this the following chart will help.

Waist in inches	Kusti length required
18	2.4 <i>Gaj</i>
20	2.6 <i>Gaj</i>
24	3.0 <i>Gaj</i>
28	3.5 <i>Gaj</i>
32	3.9 <i>Gaj</i>
36	4.4 <i>Gaj</i>
40	4.8 <i>Gaj</i>
44	5.3 <i>Gaj</i>
48	5.7 <i>Gaj</i>
52	6.1 <i>Gaj</i>
56	6.6 <i>Gaj</i>
60	7.0 <i>Gaj</i>



NAMC LECTURE SERIES

Saturday, October 3, 2015, 10:00 am at OZCF

Fees: \$5.00 per person (Light Lunch will be provided)



SPEAKERS AND THEIR TOPICS:

Ervad Firdosh Bulsara:

Vendidad – Zarathustra's "Instruction Manual" for better living.

Ervad Tehemton Mirza:

Power of Vohu Mana (Good Mind) in Zoroastrianism.

Ervad Xerxes Madan:

Spenta Armaiti – The Caretaker of Earth.

Mobedyar Khushroo Mirza :

Asha Vahishta – Our Tour Guide for Good Living.

To Register, Contact: KHUSHROO MIRZA – (905) 825-8188 | minkhush@sympatico.ca

LECTURE BY THRITY UMRIGAR

SUGAR IN MILK

Date: October 2, 2015 at 7:00 pm

Place: UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, MISSISSAUGA
3359 MISSISSAUGA ROAD, MISSISSAUGA
Building IB150

The lecture is open to everybody, and it is hoped that as many people as possible from the Zoroastrian community will attend.

In her talk, Thrity Umrigar talks about how growing up as an ethnic and religious minority in India contributed to her outsider-insider take on literature and fueled her growth as a writer. Growing up a Parsi and attending Catholic school in a predominantly Hindu city, gave Umrigar a naturally cosmopolitan, multicultural view of the world. She will also talk about how the "origin myth" story of the Sugar in Milk has informed her own life as an immigrant to America.

RELIGION CORNER

Farvardegan (S) prayers will be held on Saturday September 5th at 11:00 am at OZCF followed by Chasni.

Dasturji Kookadaroo Baj prayers will be held on Sunday September 6th at 11:00 am followed by lunch.

Paitishahem Ghambar (F) will be celebrated on Sunday September 13th at 11:00 am followed by lunch.

Lunch for September 6 and 13 Jashan

The cost of attending the Jashan & lunch is \$5.00 per person; children up to the age of 20 years are free. If you plan to attend please give your name to Ervad Nozer Kotwal (905) 820-0461 stating how many adults and/or children, veg. or non-veg., will be attending, a.s.a.p. but not later than September 3rd.

Donation of fruits, dry fruits, flowers, Sukhad, Loban, Tachho, etc. is always welcomed at these prayer meetings. Please also volunteer to clean up after the event.

If you and/or your friends wish to sponsor the Ghambar or any other religious event in the future please contact Ervad Nozer Kotwal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW BORN S

Big brother Cyrus and big sister Arnaz would like to announce the arrival of their baby brother Aryan Bharucha on June 20, 2015. Proud parents are Parvana and Burzin Bharucha.

Kamran Jivraj, son to Tanaz and Alim Jivraj; niece to Navaz Khory;

grandson to Farouk and Yasmin Khory and Amin and Naseem Jivraj, was born on June 18, 2015.

Big Sister Syrah is very excited to welcome her new baby sister Zarah with her mom Pearl Panthaky and dad Kerman Merwan together with her Mamma and Papa Meher & Jal

Panthaky and her grandma and grandpa Khorshed and Kersi Merwan.

NAVJOTES

Zaul, son of Ramesh and Morvarid Fereidooni was initiated into the Zoroastrian faith on Friday July 3rd, 2015 at Spencer's At the Waterfront in Burlington.

Navjote of Nush, son of Neville and Namisha Majra was performed at OZCF Hall in Oakville on July 4th,

2015.

Natasha and Eric Patel, children of Firoozi and Neville Patel, grandchildren of Aban and Dinshaw Dastur and late Dolly Homi Patel, held their Navjote at the Darbe - Mehr on July 8, 2015.

Zarius Wadia Hajiani, son of Tanaz Wadia Hijani and Mo Hajiani was initiated into Zoroastrian faith on July 12, 2015 at Chandi Grand, in Toronto.

WEDDING

A very elegant wedding was celebrated on Saturday, June 27, 2015 of Diana Mehta – daughter of Keron and Firdosi Mehta to Piere Poujade – son of Nicole Graham and Richard Poujade at the gorgeous The Boulevard Club on Lakeshore Blvd. in Toronto. Congratulations to the couple and their families.

OBITUARIES

Mrs. Khorshed Zaiwalla, loving wife of Sam Zaiwalla, mother of Dinyar, Kaiwan and Rashna, grandmother of Krishaa. Dear sister of Meheru Ichhapporia (India), Bahadur, Phiroze (India), Rustom and Noshir (India) Doctor, sadly passed away on June 17, 2015 in Mumbai, India.

Dadiba Phiroze Mulla husband of. (Late) Gool, son of (Late) Behroze & Phiroze Mulla, father of Nogi & (Late) Niloufer Mazdi Shroff, brother of Noshir, Grandfather of Tushnamaity & Anosh Shroff, Naomi, Ava & Armin Mulla passed away on June 16, 2015

Ruhbin Mehta. Son of Mahrukh and Sam Mehta, Brother of Kermin Mehta.

He passed away in New York, USA on Saturday Aug 8th 2015. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Arnavaz Golwala beloved wife of Burjor Golwala and loving mother of Zarine Madan, Armaity Jasavala and the late Daraius Golwala. She passed away peacefully on Wednesday August 12th.

Our condolences to all the bereaved families



FIRESIDE CHAT ON ZARATHUSHTI RELIGION

Sunday November 1st, 2015 at 3 pm, at Gulrukh and Cawas Patel's house, 5893 Long Valley Road, Mississauga. The topic is "**Meaning and explanation of some more of our prayers**". Please register with Gulrukh at **905-542-0237**. Please note, in order to maintain the informal format of these discussions the first 25 people will be registered at this location, after which any overflow will be used to form a second group with the same topic, at another home. Please bring some Pot-Luck type food items.



THE GRAND INDIAN EXPERIENCE

Delhi-Agra-Jaipur-Udaipur- Goa -Mumbai
Departs January 31st, 2016

Land Only: USD \$2899 per person (Double occupancy)

14 day Tour escorted by Nilufer Mama

Early Booking Bonus of \$75* per person is offered if \$250 deposit is received by Sept 30, 2015

This price is guaranteed with a minimum of 15 guests

July 15, 2015

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Chandni Chowk
- Taj Mahal
- Amber Fort
- Lake Pichola
- Goa beaches
- Elephanta Island
- Mani Bhawan

January 31, 2016

Land Only	USD \$2,899
Single Supplement	USD \$1,290

PACKAGE PRICE INCLUDES

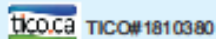
- Hotel accommodation
- Domestic flights
- Daily buffet breakfast & meals as specified
- Deluxe A/C coach
- Licensed English speaking guides
- Entrance fees to all the sites
- Bottled water in the vehicle throughout the tour
- Porterage services
- All applicable taxes

PACKAGE PRICE EXCLUDES

- International flights
- Airport transfers
- Early check in, late check out
- India Visa fees
- Meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Optional sightseeing and shows
- Travel insurance (mandatory)
- Drinks during meals, hotel extras and personal spending
- Tips (discretionary)



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 Tel: 416-962-2200 x 4216
 naomi@premiergroup.com
 Tel: 416-962-2200 x 4227



Day 1/Jan 31: Toronto-Delhi

Your journey will begin with a transatlantic flight to Delhi. Your friendly national tour guide will meet you at the airport followed by a transfer to the Taj Mahal hotel.

Day 2/Feb 1: Delhi (B/D)

Welcome to Delhi, India's capital city that sports a rich history spanning over 2,000 years. We will arrive in Old Delhi to visit Jama Masjid - the largest mosque in India and Chandni Chowk, known as The Moonlit Square of India. Enjoy some highlights of the city during the drive such as the Presidential Palace and the India Gate. In the evening we will visit the Akshardham Temple - a Hindu temple complex displaying a millennium of traditional Hindu and Indian culture.

Dinner and overnight at the Taj Mahal hotel.

Day 3/Feb 2: Delhi (B/D)

In the morning we will tour the highlights of Imperial Delhi which will include a visit to the Qutub Minar and a visit to Humayun's tomb, an outstanding monument in the Indo-Persian style, a precursor of the Taj Mahal.

Dinner and overnight at the Taj Mahal hotel.

Day 4/ Feb 3: Delhi-Agra (B/D)

In the morning, there will be a drive to Agra on the newly built expressway. We will pass India's only international standard Grand Prix track the "Gautam Buddh circuit". There will be an afternoon visit to Agra Fort and then we will proceed to Mehtab Bagh from where we will have the opportunity to watch the Taj Mahal during sunset from across the river.

Dinner and overnight at ITC Mughal.

Day 5/ Feb 4: Agra-Jaipur (B/D)

Early in the morning, we will visit Taj Mahal. It is astonishing to see this extraordinary monument by the first light of day. Its beauty will create an unforgettable memory. The Taj Mahal, is one of the most elegant and harmonious buildings in the world. We then return to the hotel for breakfast and then check out. Later, we will drive to Jaipur stopping en-route at Fatehpur Sikri. This was the capital of the Mughal Empire and now it's a UNESCO world heritage site.

Dinner and overnight at the Fairmont Jaipur hotel.

Day 6/ Feb 5: Jaipur (B)

After an early breakfast, we will explore the Amber Fort. The Fort is surrounded by fortified battlements and overlooks the Moat Lake. Most fascinating perhaps, is the Sheesh Mahal (hall of mirrors). We then will continue to Jantar Mantar observatory and the City Palace which is now a museum housing a collection of great treasures. We will end the tour with a fascinating walk in the old city, starting from Hawa Mahal and observe some of the regions culinary delights, and local artists in their workshops.

Overnight at Fairmont Jaipur hotel.

Day 7/ Feb 6: Jaipur-Udaipur (B/D)

After breakfast we will leave for Udaipur, which is set on the shores of Lake Pichola and surrounded by hills. This city grew in complete contrast to the harsh deserts of the rest of Rajasthan. The lake itself is a romantic setting surrounding the gleaming white Lake Palace and the Jag Mandir. Relax or explore city's lively streets.

Dinner and overnight at Fatehgarh hotel.

Day 8/ Feb 7: Udaipur (B/D)

We will start with a tour of City Palace, which is one of the largest palace complexes in the world and boasts extraordinary craftsmanship. Next we get to visit the mid-

17th century built Jagdish Temple, in the old town. The afternoon is at your leisure, to stroll through the charming old city streets and browse the bazaar. At sunset enjoy a Shikara boat ride on the placid waters of Lake Pichola and view the city of Udaipur as it rises majestically above the lake in the middle of the Rajasthan desert.

Dinner and overnight at Fatehgarh hotel.

Day 9/ Feb 8: Udaipur-Goa (via Mumbai) (B)

We will fly to Goa via Mumbai. Goa is known as the 'Pearl of the East', home to some of the world's most beautiful beaches. The unending pristine beauty of the seascape, the mystical hills and groves, the swaying palms and the rhythmic pounding of the surf will lull you into a state of complete relaxation.

Overnight at Ramada Caravela Beach Resort.

Day 10-11/ Feb 9 & Feb 10: Goa (B)

Relax and enjoy two days of exploring the palm-fringed beaches of Goa that stretch for miles. Stroll down the beach or just bask in the sun and enjoy 'Feni' - an intoxicating drink made from cashew and coconut. Overnight at Ramada Caravela Beach Resort.

Day 12/ Feb 11: Goa-Mumbai (B/D)

In the morning, we will enjoy Old Goa with a visit to the Basilica of Bom Jesus where the silver casket of St. Francis Xavier lies. Then to St. Cathedral, the biggest church in the East and other landmarks. We will then depart for our flight to Mumbai, which is the economic power house of India.

Dinner and overnight at Trident Nariman Point.

Day 13/ Feb 12: Mumbai (B)

We start with a tour of the Elephanta Caves which is an hour away by boat. Return to the mainland and do a city tour of Mumbai visiting Mani Bhawan; Dhobi Ghats, Malabar Hill area; Prince of Wales Museum, the Rajabhai Clock Tower, Bombay University, the High Court and Victoria Terminus. Remainder of the day is at leisure for shopping in Colaba.

Overnight at Trident Nariman Point.

Day 14/ Feb 13: Mumbai (B)

You will enjoy your last day in Mumbai at leisure exploring Mumbai or take advantage of the special optional experiences in Mumbai. Then in the late evening, get ready to depart for the airport for your flight back home.

B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner

Price quoted in US dollars
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