



Dear OZCF Members:

The coronavirus outbreak that has infected thousands of people in more than 100 countries has been **declared a pandemic** by the World Health Organization on Wednesday, March 11, 2020.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus made the announcement as the number of people infected with the novel coronavirus rose to more than 118,000 in 114 countries, with 4,291 deaths.

Considering these announcements, the OZCF Board in consultation with the Religious and Lectures committee Chairs, taking into consideration the health and safety of our congregation **have decided to not hold any community prayers / gatherings at ZRCC until further notice.**

March 15th to March 19th, 2020 (Muktad Prayer Days)

The up coming five days of Fasli Muktad ceremony will be held but on a very limited basis as follows:

- Muktad table will be set up with “Anjuman Behras (vases)” in the prayer room as usual and looked after by the Mobeds for five days.
- Limited prayers, by Mobeds only, will be performed daily. **There will be no communal participation.**
- Prayer room will be open for individuals to come and pray and pay their respect to their dearly beloved, however, the number of participants at a time will be monitored (Remember the 2-meter distance rule).
- You may bring flowers for the prayers.
- All prayer books will be removed from the prayer room. **Bring your own prayer books.**
- There will however be no formal gatherings or food served during this time.
- **If you have any sign of fever, cough, sneeze please stay away.**

The upcoming Navroze Jashan and Dinner celebrations on Saturday, March 21st 2020 are also cancelled. Refunds will be mailed out to members who have already paid their dues. Please contact jeroo.madan@ozcf.com or via phone 647-339-0052.

We appreciate everyone’s understanding during this difficult time and would like you to keep a look out for any further OZCF event changes that may need to be addressed during this period of uncertainty.

Staying informed is key to keeping perspective on the rapidly evolving situation with COVID-19. The coronavirus outbreak is a rapidly evolving situation, and updates are being provided by [Health Canada](#) and [Canada Travel Advisory](#).

We would like to remind everyone to:

- No physical contact, use “Namaste or Victory sign” to greet one another.
- *Avoid close contact with people who are sick.*
- *Stay home when you are sick. This will help prevent spreading your illness to others.*
- *Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue, or your elbow, when coughing or sneezing.*
- *Clean your hands often to protect you from germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.*
- *Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.*
- *Consult your healthcare provider if you or a family member shows symptoms of illness*

Stay Safe!

Neville Patrawala
President, Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation