

# VISION

SEPTEMBER 2016



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



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The arrival of autumn allows us to hit the pause button and reflect on a fun-filled summer.

Let's rewind to a time of heightened excitement when, on the heels of our most successful gala, the new Board of Directors was formed which quickly got down to business to ensure a seamless transition. Events soon followed religious and non-clerical alike. Mukta prayers were well attended with a donation drive initiated this year for clothing, food, books and toys. The Navroz dinner function ensued with the ZRCC sold out to capacity.

The Gala and Tea Party Committees TEamed up to organize a Tea Party to raise more money for our Place of Worship.

For sporting enthusiasts, there was the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Cricket Dhansak with this year's version being especially momentous (see write up below for these events). Playing in October are the Movie Matinee on the 29<sup>th</sup>, the Halloween Party on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and Grandparent's Day upcoming on the 1<sup>st</sup>.

Fast forward to year end which will be capped off by the New Year's Eve function.

As we approach the harvest season, we have much reason to give thanks and enjoy the fruits of our labour over the past few months. While much work lies ahead, we will achieve our goals systematically, unitedly and with certainty.

Can't wait for the future to unfold as these are exciting times indeed for our organization and community.

### Need a Mobed?

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

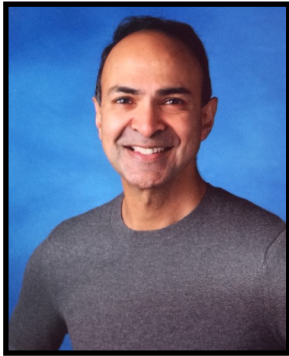
Bamji, Ervad Xerxes	(905) 702-1034
Bulsara, Ervad Firdosh	(905) 824-7692
Dastur, Ervad Mehbhad	(416) 917-9195
Dhabar, Ervad Jamshed	(905) 819-0089
Kotwal, Ervad Nozer	(905) 820-0461
Madan, Ervad Xerxes	(416) 254-0685
Panthaky, Ervad Jal	(905) 568-4946
Zarolia, Ervad Kobad	(647) 887-9213

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 Ananddasagar	905-271 0366 armaity.a@gmail.com
OZCF President	Cyrus Gazdar	647-294-6462 president@ozcf.com
Webmaster & Facilities	Rumi Jasavala	647-885-1759 rumijas@hotmail.com



## OZCF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016—2018



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President



**Morvarid**  
Vice President



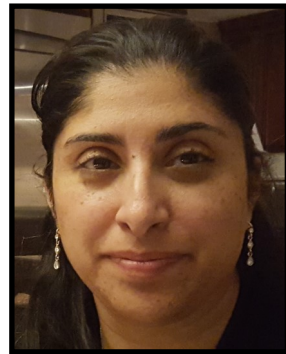
**Neville Patravala**  
Secretary



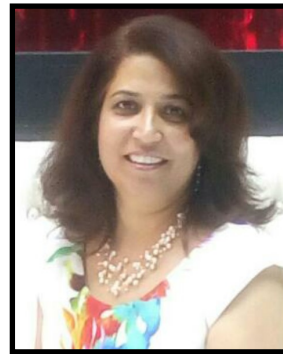
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**Farshad Engineer**  
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**Rushad Bharda**  
Director



## NAVROZ JASHAN AND DINNER



On August 17<sup>th</sup>, followers of the Shahenshahi calendar feted Zoroastrian New Year 1386 YZ the world over. Attendees at the ZRCC witnessed a Jashan and celebrated with dinner thereafter. The Navroze function succeeded the Muktab ceremonies five days prior to where priests, young, elderly and first-timers all prayed day and night during our holy days, the Gathas.

Many thanks to Jeroo Madan and Arnavaz Dhabhar and their band of volunteers for organizing the function which had the hall packed to capacity. While food is always a talking point at any Zoroastrian function, the Jashan was just as noteworthy. This was because six young Mobeds: Kevan Madan, Palash Mullan, Fardin Mullan, Nekzad Illava, Kamran Panthaki and Armaan Panthaki performed the entire ceremony without a senior Mobed to officiate the prayers. Nekzad, Fardin, Palash and Kevan followed this up by solely invoking divine blessings at Khordad Sal prayers, five days thereafter. This bodes brilliantly well for our community knowing that we can call upon many younger Mobeds to perform prayers for various functions. A huge shout out to all of our Mobeds for the staunch service which you provide to our community! Navroze Mubarak everyone!





## OZCF TEA PARTY



The OZCF held its first ever large scale Garden Tea Party at the ZRCC on Sunday August 28<sup>th</sup> with over 85 members in attendance.

Scones, sandwiches, tarts, quiches, cakes and of course, High Tea, were all prepared and served. On display were fedoras and chapeaus, caps and stetsons as members donned their best headgear. However, it was hats off to all on the Gala Committee and Tea Party Committee consisting of Cawas and Gul Patel, Kamal Driver, Armaity Anandasagar, Niloufer Bhesania, Niloufer Mavalvala, Roshan Byramjee Roxane Kharwanwala, Zeenia Kola, Yesna Bhesania and Kermin Byramjee who had prepared so much of the food on daintily decorated tables. A classical guitarist was on hand to perform as well, creating just the right ambiance to the afternoon.

Thank you to all our members who sponsored all the food, drink and entertainment resulting in 100% of the proceeds going towards our Place of Worship fund. Bit by bit we're getting there folks, closer and closer to realizing our dreams of building our very own Place of Worship!

A lovely afternoon epitomized by "*chai peeyay neh mujah kuroh!*"





## 8th Annual Cricket Dhansak in Memory of Bejan Sidhwa

Saturday September 17, 2016 saw the OZCF hold its 8th Annual Cricket Dhansak. This event was marked as being played in memory of Bejan Sidhwa whose passion for cricket was well known. The wonderful summer weather decided to leave us for the day with dark clouds and intermittent rain throughout the match; yet the pitch looked pristine, surrounded by nicely cut short grass. Despite the weather, many turned out not just for the cricket but to pay respects in celebration for Bejan, whose wonderful life of athleticism and love for the game of cricket was known to many.



The day started off with past, current and future cricketers and spectators showing up to pay a few minutes of respect for Bejan. Everyone gathered under the patio and Rumi Jasavala made a short but poignant speech that touched upon Bejan's love of the game and his dedication to helping lay the matting at each of the previous Cricket Dhansak events. A small collage of pictures of Bejan playing cricket was presented to Phil & Dinoo Sidhwa. This was followed by a short prayer led by Ervad Xerxes Bamji along with a one-minute silence of respect.

The 38 players were split into two teams and each team played out 35 overs where everyone got to bat and bowl. The teams were split into 'Team Engineer' & 'Team Umrigar', two Parsi cricketers whom Bejan was very fond of. The game ended with an exciting climax with Team Umrigar needing only to score one single run off of the last ball to win. The score ended as a tie but was a fitting end to well fought and fun-filled game of cricket.

The OZCF Sports Committee would like to thank all those who showed up for the Cricket and for Dhansak in the evening. They provided snacks for lunch with Dhansak prepared by Prochi Gazdar. The Dhansak was accompanied by a slide show featuring Bejan and a separate slide show prepared by Cambeez Mulla of the Zoroastrian Cricket Club's tour of the UK in 2006. The evening ended with a framed action picture of Bejan playing his favourite sport being presented to his son Phil.

In addition, the OZCF Sports Committee would like to thank the many volunteers who helped lay the pitch; the preparation of which took a lot of hard work over a period of two months. We look forward to the next Cricket Dhansak in 2017.

Congratulations to Tyrone Ghaswala of Kitchener, ON who received FEZANA's Endowed Scholarship for Excellence. He is currently pursuing his PhD in Pure Mathematics at the University of Waterloo. Best wishes in all your academic pursuits Ty!

Congratulations to Maheyer Shroff of Mississauga, ON who was awarded with the Dowlat Minocher Vesuna / WZO Canada Endowed Scholarship by FEZANA .







On Sunday Sept. 18, 2016, five scouts from 100 Oakville Scouts Group & their dynamic Scouter Khushroo Bharda volunteered to work at our Zoroastrian scattering Grounds at the Glen Oaks Cemetery. They cleaned, scraped, sanded, washed and repainted the Cairn (small monument) under the direction of our ex-scouter Noshir Dastoor, and Noshir Mirza.

The following youth participated: Fardeen Dastur, Zal Nagarwala, Vehan Nagarwala, Karmin Bamboat & Cyrus Gazdar. Our heartfelt thanks to the participants & their parents for driving them to the cemetery. It is very heartening to see our youth involvement in community affairs. Article submitted by Noshir Mirza.



We are fortunate that our parents and grandparents came to Canada and worked hard to ensure a bright future for us. We have been blessed as a successful and affluent Zoroastrian community in Canada and it is time to give back to the lesser privileged. There are many people in Canada who do not have the same opportunities as we do. Thanks to the Zoroastrian Community for donating Food, Clothing, Books, Shoes and Toys at the Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation (OZCF) Youth Drive during the Gatha Days in August 2016. The drive was a huge success and the youth are extremely grateful for your generosity. Your donation will go a long way. Collectively we will eradicate Poverty in Canada.

On Friday September 2<sup>nd</sup>, nine Zoroastrian Youths went to Seva Food Bank to deliver the donated food, toys and books. The youth sorted out the food and placed the items on the respective shelves. They helped by dividing vegetables to bagging diapers to filling rice into bags. In addition, they received a walkthrough around the Food Bank on how things work for their clients. They also donated their time to help with the other tasks that were assigned to them.

"Parsi, thy Name is Charity" has been proven time and again. Our youth truly lived up to our forefathers by following our Zoroastrian Doctrine of Good Thoughts, Good Words and Good Deeds.

The Youth at OZCF are committed to working towards giving back to our communities. Stay tuned for more philanthropic work being spearheaded by our youth. Thank you to the entire Zoroastrian Community for your donated items. It was very well appreciated.



**Ayathrem Ghambar (F) Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup>**

We will be celebrating Ayathrem Ghambar (F) on Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup> at the ZRCC. The Ghambar Jashan will commence at 11:00 am followed by lunch. 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 at (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 October 13<sup>th</sup>. 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 this Ghambar or any other religious event in the future please let Ervad Kotwal know.

**FIRE SIDE CHAT**

The next Fire Side Chat will be held on Saturday **OCTOBER 30, 2016** @4:00 pm at the residence of Gulrukh and Cawas Patel at 5893 Long Valey Road, Mississauga. ON. L5M 6J6.

The main topic for discussion will be "**Concept of God in Zoroastrianism**".

Those wishing to attend please contact Gulrukh Patel at 905-542-0237, or email at [gulrukh.patel@gmail.com](mailto:gulrukh.patel@gmail.com)

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.

**NEW GROUP FORMED FOR DISCUSSIONS ON ZOROASTRIANISM**

The parents of children attending Religion Classes at John Frazer School have formed a group for discussions on the Zarathushti faith.

This group, conducted by Khushroo Mirza, meets at John Frazer School, while the children are attending their religion classes, from 11:30 am to 1 pm.

The first session was held on Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016, and was attended by 10 parents.

The topic was "Introduction to Zoroastrianism."

**The next session will be held on Sunday October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 11:30 am.**

**The topic will be "ZARATHUSHTI RITUALS AND THEIR SIGNIFICANCE".**

**HALLOWEEN PARTY**

Date: **Saturday October 22, 2016**

Time: 6pm

Venue: OZCF

Cost: Members: Adults = \$15, Under 12 = \$10  
Non-Members: Adults = \$20, Under 12 = \$15

Join us for some Ghoulis Games, Freaky Fun & Frightening Food...

Contact: Armaity Anandasagar at [armaity.a@gmail.com](mailto:armaity.a@gmail.com) or at 905-271-0366 by October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Mail cheques to: 1150 Saginaw Crescent, Mississauga, ON, L5H 3W6. See OZCF website for the flyer.

**GRANDPARENTS DAY**

Date: **Saturday, October 1, 2016** at 11.30am

Venue: OZCF

OZCF invites you & your grandchildren to the **Grandparents Day Celebration**

Delicious Chicken Ras Chawal for Grandparents and Pizza for the Grandkids, followed by Dessert

*An afternoon of Games, Prizes, Fun and Laughter*

**Note:**

Seats are limited so register by contacting Minnie Mirza at:

Phone: 905-825-8188 Email: [minnie.mirza@gmail.com](mailto:minnie.mirza@gmail.com)

See OZCF website for the flyer



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONGRATULATIONS ON BIRTH

Zoe Ava, a girl, to Anita and Mehrdad Irani on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Grand-daughter to Ronny and Delbar Irani and Fredoon and Pervin Khory, great grand-daughter to Sheroo Mistry.

Riya Arnaz Khambatta, born to Arnaz and Godrej Khambatta on July 25<sup>th</sup> in San Diego, CA. Congratulations to big brother Rohan, great-grandmother Villu Motishaw, grand-parents Hoshang & Katy Khambatta of San Diego and Sheriar & Gity Haveliwalla of Toronto.

## OBITUARIES

**Mrs. Khorshed Khambatta**, beloved mother of Zeena Bhathena, mother-in-law of Rushad Bhathena, grandmother of Karl and Kareena Bhathena, in **Mumbai** on Thursday June 30<sup>th</sup>. May her soul rest in peace.

**Eruch Mahava**, husband of Mehru Mahava and father of Zenobia and Percy on July 18<sup>th</sup>. Father-in-law of Kevlin and Catherine and grandfather to Jaden, Keana, Kalaya and Kaylana. May his soul rest in peace.

Armaity, Persius, Mary Jane, Natalie & Nicole would like to thank all our community members for the overwhelming support, love & kindness shown towards us during the sudden passing of our loving, caring & wonderful Husband, Father, Grandfather & Friend

**Dinshaw Kanga**. We thank our immediate family, Nephews, Nieces and their spouses for all their love, help & support. The prayers performed by our Dasturjis and food provided by many friends are also greatly appreciated. May Dinshaw's soul rest in Peace.

**Armaity Jamula**, wife of Bomi Jamula, passed away at 9:00 pm on Monday September 12<sup>th</sup> in Mumbai, India, aged 71. She was the Mother of Cyrus Jamula, Havovi Bardoliwalla and Tanaz Jamula, Mother-in-law of Anhaita Jamula and Farish Bardoliwalla, Grandmother of Iyanah and Aarish Jamula and Farzan and Rayaana Bardoliwalla. May her soul rest in peace.

*Our condolences to all the bereaved families*

## NAVJOTES

**Ashdin Hansotia** and **Yohan Hansotia** on July 1<sup>st</sup> in Mississauga.

**Ella Kapadia**, daughter of Hanoz and Ferzin Kapadia on July 1<sup>st</sup> in Mississauga.

**Danika Surkari** and **Katy Surkari** on July 17<sup>th</sup> in Vaughan.

**Zehan Mirza Rogers** son of Khurshid and Jeff Rogers of Colorado who celebrated his Navjote at his grandparents' farm in Melancthon, Ontario. His proud grandparents are Putli and Noshir Mirza and Janet and John Rogers of Michigan. The Navjote was celebrated

on July 23<sup>rd</sup> with family and friends. We welcome Zehan into our Zoroastrian fold and wish him all the best in the years to come with his parents and his sister Farah.

**Arman Sidhwa**, son of Shahroukh and Riah Sidhwa and brother to Jahan and Kashmira Sidhwa, grandson of Dinoo and Late Bejan Sidhwa and Nani and Roshen Wadia on August 6<sup>th</sup> in Weehawken, New Jersey.

**Sanaya and Anahita Medhora** on August 27<sup>th</sup> in Mississauga.

*Congratulations to all the families*

Congratulations to Tyrone Ghaswala of Kitchener, ON who received FEZANA's Endowed Scholarship for Excellence. He is currently pursuing his PhD in Pure Mathematics at the University of Waterloo. Best wishes in all your academic pursuits Ty!



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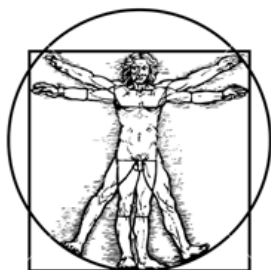
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## **CALLING ALL STUDENTS!**

Searching for youth with a passion for planning! The OZCF needs young volunteers for its Youth Committee. We're looking for enthusiastic young people interested in helping to organize events that would attract their peers. Know someone who would be interested? Email us at [president@ozcf.com](mailto:president@ozcf.com)