

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Reflections and resolutions are commonplace this time of year. We are coming off of a spirited year and I am brimming with praise, to you the membership for your patronage and commitment to the OZCF's cause.

Together, with the indefatigable drive of our volunteers and the enthusiastic support of our members, it is a combination certain to propel OZCF to another memorable year. Look out for Ghambars, movie days, various parties, jashans, scouting activities, food fairs, yoga, zumba, a golf tournament and much more.

In the year ahead, the Board will continue working closely with all our sub-committees who remain committed to providing you, the members with experiences religious, cultural and communal. Check out what some of them have been up to lately.

The Place of Worship Advisory Committee continues to work closely with the Town of Oak-ville in the lengthy process over the Atashkadeh project. We've just come off another highly successful Jamva Chaloji event. The Scouts Group have been actively involved in various activities. Dr. Neville Panthaki mediated an interactive session on faith, fellowship and religion in the first of seven Asha Vahishta seminars, leaving those in attendance in a pensive and contemplative mood. See below for an in-depth review. And we celebrated New Year's Eve and rang in 2017 just a few days back. Many thanks to our Entertainment Committee for organizing the event.

Please remember to fulfill your membership requirements and pay your fees and/or forward any changes to personal information on the attached membership form.

...continued on page 2

Pg Topics

01 President's Message

02 PWAC Report

03 Jamva Chaloji

04 Scouts Group

05 Religion Corner

06 FEZANA News

07 Announcements

08 Advertisements

09 Advertisements

10 Membership Form

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 Mehbad	(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 Anan- dasagar	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

.... Presidents Message, continued from page 1

You may set up a one-time annual prepayment where either your bank account or credit card will be debited at the beginning of each year. Set it and forget it.

2017 promises to be a significant year, one where we will celebrate Canada's sesquicentennial, celebrating 150 years of being a tremendous country.

Satiated and sated, having feasted through the festive season, it is time to hit the ground running. Lots to do, so let's get started.

Feelin' pumped and primed! Hope you are too! Happy New Year everyone!

Cyrus Gazdar, President

PWAC REPORT—PHIL SIDHWA

In 2016, the Place of Worship Advisory Committee (PWAC), together with the membership accomplished various objectives towards fulfilling our vision of building a consecrated Atashkadeh with consecrated Atash-e-Adaran fire on our OZCF property. It was a busy year focussed on communicating our message across North America, collecting funds and dealing with governments on planning matters. We conducted a large public relations campaign that included developing a glossy brochure and letters of appeal that we sent to Zoroastrians across Ontario and organizations worldwide.

Our fundraising efforts were rewarded by the outstanding generosity of our membership and today we stand with a sizeable \$2.4M in cash and pledges designated specifically for this project. We now have approximately \$800,000 in cash and the rest in pledges, from one to five years. Some of this money will now enable us to conduct planning and architectural work while working with government agencies.

We have met several times with staff, senior officials and councillors, of both the Town of Oakville and Regional Municipality of Halton. We are working towards an exemption of the interim by-law that prohibits new development in the North Oakville East Secondary Plan boundary, prior to installation of water infrastructure which is expected in about five years. It is essential to understand that our land is already designated "Transitional Zoning" that allows places of worship and the other developments proposed in our future masterplan, once the water supply is in place.

A question often asked is whether the consecrated Atashkadeh and consecrated Adaran fire will be built immediately. To clarify, in Phase One we will only build a consecrated Atashkadeh that will house an Atash Dadgah fire. In Phase Two, the consecrated Atash-e-Adaran fire will be enthroned within the consecrated Atashkadeh and a full time mobed will be hired to look after the fire.

We were interviewed by and submitted various articles to journals such as FEZANA, Parsiana, Hamazor, and Parsi Khabar. We were interviewed by local media that wrote articles and broadcast our project on CBC Radio. We made various presentations within and outside our community including at the FEZANA AGM and at ZSO and Kanoun group meetings. We have received many overseas inquiries about our project which have materialized in some donations.

We are now using a Donations Management software system designed for non-profit organizations as a secure platform to manage donations being received for the Agiary project. It also enables us to issue charitable tax receipts for income tax purposes and create reminder letters when pledges are due. This is an efficient system for data tracking and will provide updates on our financial situation.

Our Religious sub-committee comprised of various mobeds and scholars is already looking at the process required to develop a consecrated place of worship, in consultation with experts in India and Iran. Our Governance and By-law sub-committee is looking at ways to manage and operate the facility, possibly with involvement of other associations.

Finally, thanks to the generosity and support of the membership and leadership of our elected boards, we have come a long way, from setting our early roots to establishing a deep and solid foundation for future generations. While we have been successful in raising funds, we still require the community's ongoing generosity to put us over the top to fulfil our \$3M target for now. Please continue to give whatever you can, for at the end of the day this project belongs to all of us – today and tomorrow.

If you should require more information about this project, please feel free to contact philsidhwa@ozcf.com.

Jamva Chaloji

On December 4, 2016, the OZCF hall was bursting with food, fun and laughter as the annual Jamva Chaloji brought in crowds to buy, savour and take away from a menu of over 50 items all made by 13 vendors from the local Parsi / Irani community. Special thanks to Entertainment Committee comprising of Armaity Anandasagar, Shirin Chaturvedi, Hormuzd Engineer, Zarina Gutta, Adil Bhesania and Jeroo Madan for the endless hours spent organizing this ever-popular event.

Also, a Big Thank You to:

- Neville Patrawala, Tauzer Dalal and Arnavaz Dhabhar for stepping up and helping out with the cash/coupons.
- Tanya Bharda and Farshad Engineer from our Youth Committee, who assisted in setting up the hall and also during the event.
- The OZCF Scout group and their leaders Cyrus Banker, Kaiomarz Suntoke, Tanya Bharda and Xerxes Madan for preparing and selling Bhelpuri and chai on behalf of the OZCF and also assisting with the clean up after the event.
- Our vendors, quite a few of whom were new to selling their foods at JC. You offer our community a variety of choices for our palates to savour.



GARSHASB SOROOSH'S NASA PROJECT: TERPS IN SPACE

Dr. Behram Pastakia, Chair of FEZANA's Information Receiving & Disseminating committee informs that Garshasb Soroosh, (see <u>FEZANA Journal – summer 2016 issue</u>) is part of the Zarathushti Youth Without Borders Program and has represented FEZANA at the United Nations at the High-Level Meeting of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS+10) in December 2015 at the UN Headquarters in New York.

Gary Soroosh studies Physiology and Neurobiology as a senior at the University of Maryland, College Park. He has been conducting biomedical research at the National Institute of Health for 5 years, leading projects that ranged in focus from molecular neuroscience to microbial pathogenesis. In addition to research, Gary dedicates much of his time as a leading member of RAD-AID International, a global health non-profit committed to improving access to radiology in developing regions of the world. On campus, he is president of the American Society for Microbiology Student Chapter, Quality of Care Representative to the University Health Center, and a member of the Student Health Advisory Committee, in addition to volunteering at free clinics in the College Park area. In his free time, Gary enjoys writing, playing golf, and performing classical Persian drums. https://fezana.org/garshasb-sorooshs-nasa-project-terps-in-space/



TAX RECEIPTS: Tax receipts will be mailed out in the early part of this year. You will receive a receipt for a general donation and a separate one if you made a donation for the Place of Worship.

HELLO FROM 100TH OAKVILLE ZOROASTRIAN SCOUTS GROUP

As another school year begins in September, so does our Scouting year. The year 2015-16 was closed off on a very positive note with 3 of our Scouts, Vahishta Suntoke, Fardeen Dastur and Darius Banker being awarded the Chief Scouts of Canada honours. This award has only been achieved by two other Parsi Scouts in Canada. They were also the recipients of our internal Best Scout Awards. From the Cubs section, we had Jehan Billimoria and Aresh Daruwalla share the Best Cub Scout Award. Kudos to them and what a great accomplishment by these youngsters. Our scouting year ended on a positive note with our Hawaiian themed fundraiser.

Looking ahead, starting September 2016, our group enrolment staying at 40 strong, we embark into the new scouting year. We have had several Cubs swim up to Scouts and also our little Beaver munchkins move up to cubs, with the addition of some new Beavers. Overall, a very healthy and expected transition for a new Scouting Group. With this Scouting year, several changes have also been made by Scouts Canada, with the introduction of the new CANADIAN PATH program format. This gives our little Beavers an opportunity to achieve badges for activities they complete. We have completed our annual hike along the Credit River in mid October, enjoying beautiful fall colours. For the near future, we have some camping and other volunteer activities lined up for all our groups through November and December.

Another big event for our Scouts will be the Canadian Jamboree in Halifax in July 2017. We have 17 Scouts and 4 Leaders enrolled for this big event, and as with any other such major trip, a lot of planning, preparation and cost will be involved. We subsidize all activities for the children, and this one being no exception, we would like to give as many Scouts as possible the opportunity to attend this great event, and benefit from its experience. We will focus our fundraising activities for this year to raise funds towards this trip. Stay tuned as we progress through our 2016-17 Scouting year for updates. For any registration inquiries, donations or contributions, please contact our Group Commissioner, Scouter Khushroo Bharda 416-312-8066 / email: kbbharda@hotmail.com or Treasurer, Scouter Kaiomarz Suntoke 416-856-3544 / email: ksuntoke@hotmail.com. We would like to thank all our leaders and leaders-in-training for their time and to thank all the parents who encourage their children to join this great Scouting program, and commit to bringing them for every meeting. And above all we appreciate our children, who enthusiastically participate in these events and make it all possible. And finally, a hearty Thank You to the OZCF for being our group sponsor and allowing us the continued use of the OZCF facilities for meetings and various scouting events.



RELIGION CORNER

Asha Vahishta Seminar – Session 1: Subjecting Faith and Fellowship to Trial by Truth and Fire

The Religious & Lecture Committee organized the 1st Asha Vahishta seminar at the OZCF on December 17, 2016. Dr. Neville Panthaki, who conducted the session, explained the rationale and flow of the topics for the seminar series. As he pointed out, one cannot logically and competently converse about the minutia of Zoroastrianism, without first investigating belief itself. The discussions were highly interactive and participants were encouraged to define and share their perspective on:

- Faith, Fellowship and Religion and then on
- Truth/Logic and Zoroastrianism

Through thought provoking questions, Dr. Panthaki mapped the dynamic relationship each aspect shared with the other. The seminar was highly appreciated and all participants were looking forward to the next topic in the series. The title of the 2nd Seminar is "I'm Zarthoshti; Who am I?" and will be held on January 14, 2017 at the OZCF at 1 pm.



ELOCUTION COMPETITION



On November 20th, 2016, students in the Religion Classes participated in the elocution competition at the Darbe Mehr. Forty-eight students from both the East and West End religion classes spoke on topics such as the Seven Creations, Ahura Mazda's role in their lives, charity, the arrival of Parsis in India and our changing culture. A delicious lunch was catered by Prochi Gazdar. Our judges Athravan Bamji, Meher Irani and Manichey Tampal had a very difficult task choosing the winners. Once again the participants showcased their excellent knowledge and speaking abilities. We are very proud of all of the participants. Winners below;

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5
First—Aiden Kalra and	First—Cyrus Bharucha	First—Arash Karai	First—Zubin Warden	First—Navroe Antia
Iyanah Khory	and Anaiya Khory	Second—Yazad Major	Second—Zermesh Irani	Second—Sarosh Daver
Second—Shahan Irani	Second—Aryana	Third—Farha Suntoke	Third—Jasmyne Pitha-	Third—Neville Bhesania
Third—Mitra Choitha	Mahmoudzadeh and		wala	
	Darayus Pithawala			

DESIGN A FEZANA LOGO

OVERVIEW

In 2017, the Federation of Zoroastrian Association will celebrate 30 years of its founding. To mark the occasion, FEZANA announces a competition to design a logo for the organization. The new logo will become the official logo of FEZANA and will be used on FEZANA website, social media sites, business cards, letterhead, posters, souvenir trinkets and gifts, or anywhere else FEZANA chooses. This document describes the official requirements and rules of the competition. By entering, participants agree to be bound by these contest rules. Violating any rule or not following instructions may eliminate participants' eligibility. FEZANA has the right to disqualify any entrant at any time at its sole discretion.

ELIGIBILITY

The contest is open to citizens of any country. The contest is not open to FEZANA Executive Council members, Members of the judging panel and their immediate family members. Contestants are permitted to work in groups. The maximum size of the group will not be more than 3 persons. However, only one (1) prize will be awarded regardless of group size.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES AND HOW TO ENTER

The contest is open from 12:01 a.m. November 01, 2016 US Eastern Standard Time and closes at 11:59 p.m. February 28, 2017 US Pacific Standard Time. Late submissions will not be considered.

The winner(s) will be selected and announced at the unveiling of the logo at the FEZANA 30th Anniversary Gala in Houston on April 29, 2017 All entries must be submitted electronically to FEZANA by email at logo@fezana.org

Submissions must include the full name(s) of the person(s) who designed the logo, email address, postal address, and telephone number.

One or more submissions per person is acceptable. Each submission must be sent in a separate email.

There is no fee to enter the contest.

LOGO DESIGN GUIDELINES AND PARAMETERS

The purpose of this contest is to design the official logo of Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America (FEZANA). FEZANA represents 26 member associations and 15 small groups in the United States and Canada.

The logo should have a Zoroastrian theme and reflect FEZANA's Mission. It may reflect any aspect of Zoroastrian religion, culture, architecture, iconography, social custom, tradition, philosophy, etc. that the artist chooses. It should be professional in appearance and appropriate for a North American charitable organization like FEZANA. It should have universal appeal, but be of relevance – stylistically and otherwise – in North American society, and particularly, in the North American Zoroastrian communities that FEZANA serves.

Notwithstanding these requirements, young artists who may not have the technological tools to create professional looking logos are encouraged to participate. If the artist's concept and design win the competition, FEZANA will assist in transforming the design into a functional logo. As such, artists of all ages are encouraged to participate in the competition.

Entries must be submitted as JPEG, PNG, TIFF, AI, CDR or EPS files. Entries can be in color or black and white. Contestants are advised to avoid gradients and half-tones. The logo must be easy to use, handle, resize, and manipulate for all reproduction purposes. It should be visually appealing on both small (as small as 2 cm x 2 cm) and large scales.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Entrants affirm their submissions are their own original work, have not been copied from others or from previous designs, including their own, and do not violate the intellectual property rights of any other person or entity.

Submissions become the sole property of FEZANA and may be used for any FEZANA purposes, including, but not limited to, display on websites, business cards, letterhead, posters, and other materials.

FEZANA shall have the right to adapt, edit, modify, or otherwise use the winning submission in part or in its entirety in whatever manner it deems appropriate.

FEZANA reserves the right to choose not to use the winning entry as described in these contest guidelines. FEZANA reserves the right to use any other entry for promotional or business purposes in the future. If the winner is determined to have violated any rules, he/she will be required to forfeit or return the prize, even if the determination is made after the prize has been awarded.

DETERMINATION OF WINNER AND PRIZE

The winning entry will be selected by a panel of design, marketing and public relations professionals. Their decision will be final and no further correspondence shall be entered into.

Entries will be judged on their visual appeal, adherence to the concept prompting the contest, quality of design, and ease of reproduction for the purposes stated above. The prize for the winning entry is US\$ 501. This prize remains the same regardless of the size of the team submitting the winning entry. The winner will be notified via email and announced on FEZANA's website, at the unveiling at the Gala in Houston and possibly through other media.

DISCLAIMER

FEZANA is not responsible for lost, late, misdirected, incomplete, illegible, or otherwise unusable entries, including entries that are lost or unusable due to computer, internet, or electronic problems.

FEZANA reserves the right to cancel or modify the Contest and award the prize by alternate means if fraud or technical failure is determined at any time by FEZANA, including after the submission window has closed.

FEZANA is not liable, for the purpose of winner and prize notification and delivery, in the event the contest winner has provided incorrect, outdated, or otherwise invalid contact information.

INQUIRIES

For any inquiries, clarifications, questions or comments please email Arzan Sam Wadia, Vice-President, FEZANA at vp@fezana.org Website: https://fezana.org/logodesign/

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OBITUARIES

We are sad to announce the passing of Maneck (Mickey) Rustomji Driver, age 82 on Sunday December 11th at 1:30 am in Montreal, Quebec. Our condolences to his wife Aban and daughters Farida (Mississauga) and Jennifer. May his soul rest in peace.

Our condolences to all the bereaved families

DATES FOR RELIGION CLASS

East End (Darbe Mehr) West End (John Fraser Secondary School)

January 8 January 22
January 29 February 5
February 26 February 26
March 5 March 5

April 9 April 9 (Joint Session at Darbe Mehr - Parabh and LPP)

April 23 April 23 May 7 May 7

May 28 (Joint Session at Darbe Mehr - Annual Day)

ASHA VAHISHTA SEMINAR SESSIONS

Jan 14, 2017 - I'm Zarthoshti; Who am I?

Feb 11, 2017 - Is Zoroastrianism a Team Sport? My Spirituality vs. Your Religion

Mar 11, 2017 - Inheriting and Bequeathing Faith Apr 8, 2017 - Performative Aspects of Faith

May 6, 2017 - Last Remains: Burial, Cremation, or Donation

June 3, 2017 - Inheritance vs. Conviction: The Future of Hereditary Male Mobedi



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- To those who have limited funds but a good credit score, I help them to acquire funds for Investing in Franchise (I work with half a dozen Financing Institutions).
- To those who want to come to USA without waiting for years for a Green Card and come over here within a few months, I help them for their E2 Visa (entire family).
- To those who do not want to come to USA but want to Invest in Franchise in their own respective country.
- YES, I do offer a referral fee of \$1000 \$2000 to those who refer a client, who ultimately ends up Investing in a Franchise.



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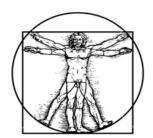


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CALLING ALL STUDENTS!

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



MEMBERSHIP FORM

January 01 to December 31, 2017

	Membership Application	n: New	Renewal					
Membership Category / Fees								
Youth Individuals of age 19 to 24 years \$40	Single Individuals of age 25 and below 65 years \$100	Seniors Individuals of age 65 y and above \$50	Family ears Includes years \$150	r children up to age 18				
APPLICANT INFORMATION								
First Name:		Last Name:						
Address:		Apartm	nent No:					
City:	_	Province:	Postal Code: _					
Home Phone: ()		Cell Phone: ()					
Email:								
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