

#### Vision September 2017

#### **President's Message**

We are in the midst of making final preparations for this year's main fundraiser which is the golf tournament on Sunday September 17<sup>th</sup> at the Caledon GCC. Don't golf, no worries. You may still come out for the dinner portion and lend your support. View the website for further details and contact Chisty Bulsara at bulsarafc@gmail.com to attend.

Multifold uses of our property will highlight where the proceeds will go. Take last month's Navroze function, attended by 150+ members. Just prior to this, many members were present during the observance of the Muktad period throughout the five Gatha days. At the end of June and the start of July, we had the Scout's Annual Fundraiser after which the first ever Tirgan function at the ZRCC was held. Next came the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Cricket Dhansak, followed by the Annual Picnic. These were back-to-back events taking place over successive weekends and drew out hundreds of folks, enabling them to enjoy our lovely 10-acre facility.

Yoga, zumba, lectures, parties, religious observances, scouts, sports and private functions are just some of the diverse array of events requiring frequent use of our property. Do the math and you will discover that thousands of people are using our facilities throughout the year.

Volunteers, scouts and the Facilities Management Committee all go to great lengths to ensure the facilities remain in excellent condition. As you can imagine, this comes at a cost;

\$75,000 annually in maintenance and upkeep

expenditures. As a result, all proceeds from the fundraiser will go to the General Fund.

Our growing numbers will continue to drive even greater traffic to our property. Your support will be significant in ensuring that we provide the best possible facilities for all to enjoy. Looking forward to seeing you at the golf dinner.

Cyrus Gazdar, OZCF President





#### **ANNOUNCEMENT-BIRTHS**

Baby boy **Yazdan**, born to Farrahnaz Bulsara and Tyrone Ghaswala in Kitchener on August 10th. Brother to Scherezade and grandson to Rukshan and Jehaangir Bulsara of Rideau Lakes, Ontario and Jimmy and Armin Ghaswala of Perth, Australia.

**Reah Shekdar** born on June 20th to proud parents Binaisha and Narius Shekdar and grandparents Hira & Zarir Todiwalla (Chicago, IL) and Yasmin & Jehangir Shekdar (Karachi).

#### ANNOUNCEMENT—WEDDING

Jal and Meher Panthaky celebrated their milestone 50th Wedding Anniversary on the beach along with their family and friends in beautiful Riu Palace Bavaro in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic on July 24.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT-OBITUARIES**

**Katie Dinshaw,** wife of Dinyar, mother of Porus Dinshaw, Rukshan Bulsara and Marook Sidhwa passed away peacefully on September 2, 2017 at the age of 90.

Katie also leaves behind nine grandchildren and five greatgrandchildren.

Condolences to the Dinshaw family.

Mrs. Daisy Rattan Suderwalla of Mississauga, ON, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Homiand Mackoo Tata (both deceased) of Mumbai, India, announces with a most heavy heart the recent passing of her two younger siblings.

**Zarin Mehta**, wife of Meher Mehta (of Jamshedpur), mother of Ashrat, mother-in-law of Shabnam and grandmother of Nazrene, passed away on May 22, 2017 in Mumbai.

Her brother, **Naval Homi Tata**, husband of Judy, father of Homiyar and Jim and grandfather of Kyle, Erika and Ian, passed away in Winnipeg, MB on August 14, 2017. May their souls rest in eternal peace.

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 Anandasagar 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

#### 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

*DHABHAR*, *ERVAD JAM-SHED* (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

#### INDIA V PAKISTAN CRICKET GAME

July 24, 2017 marked the first India v Pakistan cricket game held at the OZCF grounds. The turn out was fantastic, with many new faces coming out to play Cricket. The two team captains, Kaivan (Pakistan) and Mahiyar (India) tossed a coin that was won by Pakistan. The Pakistan team, seeing favourable weather conditions and a flat batting surface, decided to bat first. The openers making a steady start, knocked of some quick singles with intelligent batting, leaving the big hitting middle order to come in. With some great batting and less then perfect fielding from the Indian, the Paksitan team made 170 runs off the 30 overs.

Confident of making those runs, the Indian openers also started off at a blistering rate of 7 runs and over. However, some tight bowling and excellent catching in the outfield, the middle order was left too much to do. The Indian team ended their innings on 132 runs, handing victory to the Pakistan team.

It is important to see so many people coming out for such events and having fun, meeting each other after some time and generally making the most of the OZCF field.

This being the trial run of this format, and being so successful, the sports committee will be organizing a best of three series next summer with a revolving trophy and some individual awards. Please keep reading the OZCF Newsletters and email blasts.

If interested in playing more cricket at the OZCF, please do contact Rumi Jasavala at <a href="mailto:rumijas@hotmail.com">rumijas@hotmail.com</a>



#### **RELIGIOUS CLASSES**

The dates for both the East End and West End are as follows:

East End Address: Darbe Meher, 3590 Bayview Av. Toronto

West End Address: John Fraser Secondary School, 2665 Erin Centre. Blvd,

Mississauga

All classes run from 11.30am to 1.15pm

East End West End

September 17 September 24
October 1 October 15
October 22 October 29
November 5 November 5

November 19 November 26 (essay contest dates)

December 3 December 10

Please note that registration is still open for children who have not registered. If you need an enrolment form, please connect with Khurshid Engineer at Khurshid.engineer@rbc.com or call her at 416-520-8325. Your child has to be 6 years old and in grade 1 to attend the classes.

#### LOOKING FOR HELP

The OZCF is looking for volunteers who are willing to help out maintain the field during the summer months of May to October. This would involve scheduling time with the Facility Management Committee in performing tasks such as cutting the grass, cleaning the grounds.

Please contact Rumi Jasavala at rumijas@hotmail.com

#### ANNOUNCEMENT—ACHIEVMENTS

#### Mithra's Black Belt Autobiography

We would like to Congratulate Mithra Hormuzd Chothia (son of Hormuzd & Khushamin Chothia) from Canada for an unimaginable achievement at a tender age of 8 to earn his "First Degree Black Belt" on July 30<sup>th</sup> '2017. Mithra is the youngest Black Belt practicing Shotokan Karate from Wellness Martial Arts.

Mithra started his journey in Karate in 2013, at the age of 3 and a half years old. Following his elder sibling's footsteps, Taronish H. Clothier and Kayishmand H. Chothia already 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Black Belts going for their 3rd Degree. In Mithra's words: "From my training I have learnt that anything is possible at any age. My Power Weekend taught me Teamwork."

Mithra's hobbies outside of karate are swimming and bicycling. Mithra's future goals are to go for his 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Black Belt and when he grows up he wants to be an Undercover Cop.

Earning a Black Belt is a momentous achievement in one's life. Dedication, commitment, patience and indomitable spirit are some of the traits necessary to accomplish such a feat.

A remarkable achievement for someone so young we congratulate Mithra and wish him continued success through his journey.



#### **BOOKKEEPER NOTICE**

The OZCF Board is looking to hire a bookkeeper to assist the Treasurer with bookkeeping in Quick Books. This will entail entering all of our revenue and expense transactions along with other aspects like preparing bank reconciliations and schedules. This will require a few hours of entering information into our Quick Books system once a month and information will be provided by the Treasurer.

If you are interested in lending your expertise, please contact the Treasurer at <a href="mailto:treasurer@ozcf.com">treasurer@ozcf.com</a> and he will provide you with details regarding the scope of work and to discuss compensation.

#### **BOMAN DESAI**

Writer Boman Desai has authored a book titled: *TRIO: the Schumanns and Brahms*. Accolades and endorsements include those from composer Zubin Mehta and *Kirkus Reviews*, the doyen of reviewing agencies in the United States (and arguably, the world), who awarded it a star (awarded to only 2% of all books they review). *Kirkus* also listed *TRIO* as part of their Best Books for 2016.

For an in-depth summary, click on the attached link:

https://parsikhabar.net/books/boman-desai-trio-a-novel-biography-of-the-schumanns-and-brahms/15912/

You may read more about the book on Amazon (12 reader reviews, all of them 5 stars): <a href="https://www.amazon.com/Trio-Novel-Biography-Schumanns-Brahms/dp/1504915895">https://www.amazon.com/Trio-Novel-Biography-Schumanns-Brahms/dp/1504915895</a>

Boman can also be reached at <a href="mailto:boman@core.com">boman@core.com</a> or at (773) 327-7950.

#### Prayer and Nature -By Farida Bamji

As dawn starts to break The woolly fluffy clouds give way Golden sun slowly stirring in his "bed" "Rubbing his eyes, slowly arising Wondering "what's my agenda today?"

His "golden arms" stretching, streaming
Through the branches of trees
Various colourful birds
Begin to "chirp" & "tweet"
Fluttering their wings, singing in full throated ease:
"Good Morning everyone!: May you pass your day in Peace"

Flowers of beautiful shapes and hues Wafting (Waving) to passers by saying "Good Day to you"! Emanating aromas attracting the birds & bees Enticing them to spread the aromatic "seeds" (Divine Message).

Our various pristine Prayers Gathas, Yashts, Afarghans etc. Are like assorted flowers Of colourful shapes & hues When recited sweet scented aromas Emanate from within Dispelling the gloom & doom

As said before pen may be more Powerful than the sword But the most potent of all Is the power of the Word! Choicest Happiness

Farida Bamji





### OZCF Golf Fundraiser

September 17, 2017

#### **OZCF** Website

Visit the OZCF Website at www.ozcf.com

#### **OZCF Membership**

Become a member, be kept informed, participate, enjoy yourselves....

#### Canadian Jamboree 2017 (CJ'17)

A Jamboree is a large gathering of Scouts at a regional, national or international level. Since 1949, Scouts Canada has organised a national level camp every 4 years. This year, about 4,200 Scout-aged youth and leaders from across Canada met at Camp Nedooae, Elderbank, Nova Scotia from July 8–15.

Importance for a scout:

- Interact with Scouts from different regions, customs and cultures
- Meet, share and exchange their experience and impart knowledge to others

At this Jamboree, in Nova Scotia, 100<sup>th</sup> Oakville Zoroastrian Scouts group sent 14 scouts, which included 5 girls and 9 boys, and 4 leaders. The Jamboree was mostly represented by Scout groups from Canada, but some groups from other countries like New Zealand, Liberia, Scotland, England and Thailand did send a small contingent. They all came to celebrate Scouting and explore more, as to what it feels like to be and live the life of a scout. Some of our scouts even made friends with youth from a scout group from Kelowna, British Columbia.

The mascot for CJ'17 was Puffy the Puffin. In the **MAIN AREA**, there was a cut out and our group took pictures there.

At the Jamboree, there were 6 sub camps; Gold Rush was the sub camp for our scouts group. Our group was divided in to 2 patrols.

All members of each sub camp got special colored scarves with the jamboree emblem with a woggle and of course, a wrist band for onsite security. Our Gold Rush sub-camp scarves were orange.

Over the duration of the camp, our 100<sup>th</sup> Oakville group took part in many different activities such as:

- Silver Dart, where we learnt about remote controlled airplanes
- Geocaching, which is where our tracking skills were tested
- Hiking
- Catamaran 160 making a raft using pool noodles and twine and all patrol members had to paddle and remain afloat
- Paddle Boarding learnt basic skills and ways to stay on the board (and climb back on)

During the week, the camp had daily themes which we could follow. There was Suspender Sunday, Mustache Monday, Tacky Tourist Tuesday, Wild West Wednesday, Flag Friday.

An exciting personal activity at all Jamborees is Badge trading. Scouts would go around trading badges and get the bragging rights for the numbers and quality of badges collected. During any free time, Scouts would move around different sub-camps to try and get unique badges.

A typical day would be:

- Wake up, change and arrange sleeping bags and haversack
- Prepare and have breakfast; clean up
- ♦ Go to 1<sup>st</sup> activity
- ♦ Come back for lunch and clean up
- Get food for the next day
- ◆ Go for the 2<sup>nd</sup> activity
- ♦ Have some Snack
- Free time − interact with other groups
- Prepare & eat dinner; cleanup for the day
- ♦ Lights out

<u>Learnings:</u> Staying with fellow scouts for a week, one learns how to adapt to a situation, work as a team and share duties so everyone can be accountable as well as enjoy the wonderful experience.

#### Vahishta and Farha Suntoke



#### Canadian Jamboree 2017 (CJ'17) Pictures









#### **2017 SUMMER PICNIC**

The OZCF Annual Picnic had a chane in venue for this year. Due to the high water levels, the Coronation Park had cancelled the picnic permits issued. The entertainment committee put their heads together and came up with a "Chalo Chowpatty" Chaat Picnic at the OZCF on July 16, 2017. During the afternoon, OZCF was rife with the smell of freshnly made batata vadas and idli sambhar. This would not have been possible without the assistance of Himanshu and Daksha Shah, Yasmin Menon, Pilsi Desai who helped in making the pani puri, vadas and the Paapri chaat. The vada pavs were a big hit with the spicy chutney. All this was followed up with Biryani and Kebabs to top off the evening. The brought back pleasant memories of a typical evening spent on the Chowpatty beach with mouth-watering goodies.





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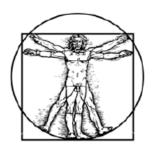
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#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The OZCF is flourishing and needs your help.

- Be a volunteer for your community
- Get High School hours
- Simply come and help
- Be proud and be part of what OZCF stands for

Light is Life, when Darkness is Death and Life is Heaven, as Darkness is Hell. Everything good is Light.

- Dasturji M. N. Dhalla

Thank you! For over 20 years, the Zoroastrian community of Ontario has provided tremendous support to Operation Eyesight Universal.

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#### August 2017 Muktad / Navroze Write Up

In August, the Shahenshahi followers celebrated the Zoroastrian New Year 1387 YZ the world over. It was no different at the OZCF. It started with the 5 days of Muktad ceremonies where priests young and elderly prayed day and night during the holy Gatha days. The meals and the prayer items on the Gatha days were generously sponsored by the community. On Navroze, we had a Jashan followed by a sumptuous dinner.

The Jashan and Dinner were well attended with the hall packed to capacity. The Jashan was performed by our young mobeds, Armaan Panthaki, Hormuz Javat, Kevan Madan and Nekzad Illava. We are blessed as a community to have young mobeds to perform prayers for various functions. Many thanks to the Entertainment Committee (Shirin Chaturvedi, Zarina Gutta, Adil Bhesania and Jeroo Madan) and our community volunteers for making this event a grand success. This was followed by the Khordad Sal prayers five days thereafter. Khushroo Mirza, Xerxes Madan, Khushroo Bharda, Hormuz Javat, Nekzad Illava and Kevan Madan performed the prayers.

#### Jeroo Madan









#### **Religious-Lecture Announcement**

There will be a lecture at ZSO Dar e Mehr (MGDM) - 3590 Bayview Ave., North York, on September 30, 2017 after the Shenshai Ghambar Jashan by Dr. Dinyar Patel at 1:30/1:45 pm. The title of the talk will be "The Evolution of Zoroastrian Diaspora.

Dr. Dinyar Patel is Asst. Professor in the History department of University of South Carolina where he gives courses on modern Indian History, Indian Nationalist Movement, and The British Empire. He graduated from Stanford University, California receiving B.A. with Distinction. He was the recipient of the Firestone Medal for best honors thesis on the subject 'Building Imperial Delhi: The Politics and Symbolism of a

Firestone Medal for best honors thesis on the subject 'Building Imperial Delhi: The Politics and Symbolism of a New Capital for India'. He received his Doctorate from Harvard for his dissertation on the subject of 'The Grand Old Man: Dadabhai Naoroji and Evolution of the Demand for Indian Self-Government'.

He is a recipient of a number of fellowships among which are those from Harvard graduate society, Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation, Harvard Department of History, Harvard Divinity School and FEZANA scholarship.

Among his many research interests are topics such as Modern South Asia; British Imperial History; modern and ancient Iran; urban, architectural and Parsi history, and Zoroastrianism.

His talk, during the centennial year of the death of Dadabhai Naoroji, will cover the role of Heritage in **the evolution of Zoroastrian Diaspora** in the east and in the west. We look forward to a large attendance of our members to listen to this interesting topic of immense historical interest to all Parsi/Irani Zarathushtis.

#### **Upcoming Religious events**

#### Paitishahem Ghambar (F) Saturday September 16th

We will be celebrating Paitishahem Ghambar (F) on Saturday September 16<sup>th</sup> at Z.R.C.C. 1187 Burnhamthorpe Rd. East, Oakville. 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 (905) 820-0461 stating how many adults and/or children, veg. or nonveg., will be attending, a.s.a.p. but not later than September 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.

#### Avathrem Ghambar (F) Saturday October 14th

We will be celebrating Ayathrem Ghambar (F) on Saturday October 14<sup>th</sup> at Z.R.C.C. 1187 Burnhamthorpe Rd. East, Oakville. 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 (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 11<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.

## Asha Vahishta Seminar/Colloquium II: #1 Reading Zoroastrianism from Christian Perspectives:

#### **Insights into Faith and Fellowship Development**

Join us for the recommencement of the Asha Vahishta Seminar Series colloquia. Having explored thematic issues of faith and fellowship over the last year, we now begin to move into specialized and focus topics where we will utilize our previous understandings and discussion as a lens of investigation.

One of the failures of all faith and ethnic communities is to remain self-absorbed, as part of their introspection process. It is likely that the range of options and answers become limited when one's view is restricted to the 'has been traditionally for us' realm. Broadening one's outlook with an understanding of other faith and sociocultural groups, allows for a deeper connection to one's own faith and fellowship.

Herein, we begin a series of lecture and discussion type seminars to determine what lessons Zoroastrians and Zoroastrianism can learn by way of a cross-cultural examination.

Our first session in this series will broadly deal with Christianity, and what insights into faith and fellowship development may be discerned from 'Reading Zoroastrianism from Christian Perspectives'.

#### The 1<sup>st</sup> Session of Phase II is being held at the OZCF:

Title - Reading Zoroastrianism from Christian Perspectives

Date - September 30, 2017

Time - 1:00 pm onwards for 2-3 hours. Refreshments provided

The lectures are run by the OZCF Religious Committee with **Dr. Neville Panthaki** leading the sessions in an interactive environment.

If you plan to attend please contact Ervad Nozer Kotwal at (905) 820-0461.

For those who would like to join in via **Skype**, please contact Ervad Xerxes Madan at <u>xerxes madan@hotmail.com</u>

A gentle reminder to participants to bring with them a pen. Paper shall be provided.

