

Vision

OZCF Newsletter
November 2018

In Perspective Drawing

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100th Oakville Zoroastrian Scouts Group

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"It always seems impossible until it's done." – Nelson Mandela

October 1, 2018 was a truly historic day for the OZCF, its members, donors and patrons, and indeed for all Zoroastrians in Ontario and North America. Historic it is, because The Town of Oakville Municipal Council unanimously approved the rezoning of our OZCF property, to enable us to build our new Place of Worship, and historic also, because this is the first time that the Town has approved a rezoning application in the North Oakville East Secondary Plan, without water and wastewater infrastructure. The approval is subject to certain conditions. PWAC is working diligently to comply with these conditions. Stay tuned for more announcements in January 2019.

As members, we are grateful and say Thank You to our Place of Worship Advisory Committee (PWAC) and its Chair, Phil Sidhwa, who has worked patiently and diligently over the last 4+ years, overcoming various challenges to get us to this stage. We also acknowledge the support of the previous Boards, who have worked in collaboration with the PWAC over the years. Your current Board of Directors continue to support the efforts of PWAC and its various sub committees, as we work collaboratively to make this long cherished vision and dream our reality.

Folks, this wonderful news brings us closer to achieving the number one objective of the OZCF constitution for which our organization is incorporated.

Religious Organizations

(a) To preach and advance the teachings of the Zoroastrian faith and the religious tenets, doctrines, observances and culture associated with that faith.

(b) To establish, maintain and support a house of worship with services conducted in accordance with the tenets and doctrines of the Zoroastrian faith.

Activities and more activities. This is what we intend to have at OZCF to provide our community with social and religious activities for families, children, youth and our seniors. In October, we had the hugely successful Oktoberfest and Dandiya events. In November, we have the culinary delight Jamva Chaloji Bazaar, which we all wait for and a Movie Night and Dinner. In the first week of December, our Youth are holding a Town Hall focused on understanding what our youth would like as activities from our Youth sub committee.

Hard to believe but we are fast approaching the wind down period to another year. I'd like to thank our members for their ever-present support, and to all the organizers and volunteers who put on events which cater to, and encompass, all members within our community; for children, their parents and seniors; spiritual and non-religious alike.

A special thank you to our Newsletter sub committee members and Jehangir Hansotia for helping us create the new look for our Vision Newsletter.

Finally, I ask that you pray for, and keep within your thoughts, those members of our community who are currently ailing. May Ahura Mazda assist them to a speedy recovery.

Until next time when we meet in 2019, stay blessed!

Natrawala

Neville Patrawala

President

Email: president@ozcf.com

Cell: (416)-846-0785

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

Neville Patrawala 416-846-0785
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 Jamshed (905) 819-0089

Katrak, Ervad Kerman (647) 444-7359

Kotwal, Ervad Nozer (905) 820-0461

Madan, Ervad Xerxes (416) 254-0685

Panthaky, Ervad Jal (905) 568-4946

Zarolia, Ervad Kobad (647) 887-9213

ANNOUNCEMENT



THE FIRE WITHIN PWAC UPDATE

We are extremely pleased to inform the community that on October 1, 2018, The Town of Oakville Municipal Council approved the rezoning of our OZCF property to enable us to build our new Place of Worship. Council unanimously approved the extensive staff report with positive recommendation to pass a By-Law to amend the North Oakville Zoning By-Law 2009-189. The report is available for viewing. A public meeting was also held in the council chambers prior to the decision and no objections were received. The approval is subject to meeting certain technical requirements of Conservation Halton, which PWAC is working through with our consultants.

This is the first time that the Town has approved a rezoning application in the North Oakville East Secondary Plan without water and wastewater infrastructure. This was a result of intense negotiations and strong collaborative relationships between OZCF and the Town of Oakville, Region of Halton and Conservation Halton.

PWAC will report back to the community prior to final approvals. We thank the community for their ongoing support and patience throughout this process.

May Ahura Mazda always bless our Community.

Phil Sidhwa

Chair, PWAC

APPEAL

It is unfortunate to hear yet another Zoroastrian family having undergone lengthy hospitalization and the financial hardship that inevitably comes with this. Please click on the attached link and read the tragic tale of Dilshad Shroff of Surat, India and how you can help.

<https://mailchi.mp/fezana/a-young-husbands-welfare-appeal-urgent-kidney-transplant-for-his-wife?e=9fcf0b4148>

LECTURE

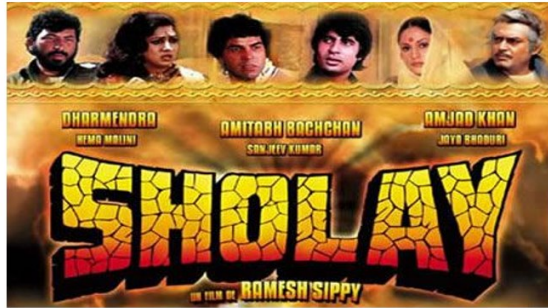
There will be a lecture at ZSO Dar e Mehr (MGDM) - 3590 Bayview Ave., North York, on Sunday November 25, 2018 after the Maidyoshem Ghambar Jashan by Ervad Dr, Soli Dastur. The talk will commence at 2 pm after lunch and it will be on Skype. The title of the talk will be "Evolution of our Afargaanyu and Significance of Rakhya".

Ervad Soli Dastur is a trained Chemical engineer who received his Doctorate at Northwestern University, Illinois. However, he drifted away to computer technology to develop marketing data analysis software to manage mass merchandising industries for Procter & Gamble.

He has been tirelessly performing priestly duties with zeal all across North America wherever he is requested. He was elected to the Executive board of the Zoroastrian Association of Florida for four years. He has visited several Anjumans during the Gatha Prayer days and is responsible for initiating Mukhtad prayers in Florida since 2009. He is an active member N.A. Mobed Council. He has been conducting religious classes from Tampa, Orlando and Miami as well as classes through teleconferencing. He also publishes regularly weekly Zoroastrian scripture extracts and has contributed articles in FEZANA and Hama Zor journals.

Soli is the recipient of Rohinton Rivetna Outstanding Zoroastrian Award from FEZANA 2010. We look forward to a large attendance for a very enlightening talk.

OZCF Entertainment Committee Presents Movie Night and Dinner



Date: Saturday, November 24, 2018

Doors Open: 6:00 pm

Movie Start Time: 6:30 pm

Theater: OZCF Hall, 1187 Burnhamthorpe Road E., Oakville

Cost: Members – Adult: \$15; Child (ages 5-10) \$10

Non-Members – Adult: \$20; Child (ages 5-10) \$15

Dress code (optional): Dress up as your favorite movie character and feel free to perform during intermission

Please **RSVP** to Shirin Chaturvedi at 647-407-4824/ cshirinm@hotmail.com

Payment must be made Online (due to potential Canada Postal strike)



OZCF ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

Presents

JAMVA CHALOJI BAZAAR

Where: OZCF

When: Sunday, November 18, 2018 **11.30 am** to 2.30 pm

Stock up your freezers with all delectable foods. Please pre-order by **November 9, 2018** from the attached list to avoid disappointment.

No orders will be accepted after the above date

Email your orders to: jeroomadan@ozcf.com

Please pick up your pre-orders on November 18th from the vendors by **1 pm**.

1- cooked with care 2-buy it with thought 3-save what will keep 4-homemade is the BEST!

OZCF - JAMVA CHALOJI

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2018

Hosi & Khushnuma Bamboat	Qty.	Price \$.
Beef Cutlets	1	\$2.00
Chicken Cutlets	1	\$2.50
Goat Bheja Cutlets	1	\$3.00
Frankie (Beef)	1	\$5.00
Chicken Farcha (leg & thigh)	1	\$5.00

Hormuzd Chothia	Qty.	Price \$.
Vasanoo	1 lb	15.00
Malido	1 lb	7.00
Ravo	1 lb	7.00
Gharab nu Achar	1 lb	15.00
Mawa ni Boi (small)	apprx 1 lb	11.00
Mawa ni Boi (Big)	apprx 2 lb	21.00
Chicken Dhansak Dal	1 box	7.00
Chicken Cutlets	4 pieces	7.00
Chicken Farcha	4 pieces	7.00
Mutton Dhansak Dal	1 box	8.00
Sali Boti (without salli)	1 box	8.00
Lagan nu Stew (Veg)	1 box	7.00
Plain Dhansak Dal	1 box	6.00
Pork Sorpotel	1 box	8.00
Kolmi no Patio	1 box	8.00
Tarelli macchi (Fried Basa Fish)	4 pieces	8.00
Falooda		2.00

Percy Daruwala	Qty.	Price \$.
Shrimp Curry rice with Kachumbar	1 box	10.00
Fish Curry rice with kachumbar & lime	1 box	12.00

Anita Commissariat	Qty.	Price \$.
Paneer	1 lb	8.00
Batasas	1/2 lb	5.00
Bhakras	1/2 lb	6.00
Beef Cutlets	1	1.50
Chicken Cutlets	1	1.50
Lamb Cutlets	1	2.00
Fish Cutlets	1	2.00
Papri with meat	1 box	10.00
Papri	1 box	8.00
Guvar with shrimp	1 box	10.00
Guvar	1 box	7.00
Curry Masala	1 lb	8.00
Patio Masala	1 lb	8.00
Dhansak Masala	1 lb	8.00
Green Chutney	1 lb	6.00

Farshad Engineer	Qty.	Price \$.
Tiramisu Cupcakes	1	3.00
Tiramisu Cupcakes	4	10.00
Mini French Chocolate Silk Pies	1	2.00
Mini French Chocolate Silk Pies	6	10.00
Strawberry & Dark Chocolate Cheesecake bites	1	2.00
Strawberry & Dark Chocolate Cheesecake bites	6	10.00
Mars Cheesecake Cups	1	3.00
Mars Cheesecake Cups	4	10.00

OZCF - JAMVA CHALOJI

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2018

Rashna Langdana	Qty.	Price \$.
Egg Chutney Pattice (min order of 3)	3 pcs	6.00
Chicken Pattice (min order of 3)	3 pcs	6.00
Beef Pattice (min order of 3)	3 pcs	6.00
Bhakras	500 gms	10.00
Chicken Cutlets (min order of 3)	3 pcs	6.00
Beef Cutlets (min order of 3)	3 pcs	6.00
Titoni	1 plate	10.00
Shrimp patio (tomatoes / eggplant)	1 plate	10.00
Patra Fish (min order of 3 pieces)	1	5.00
Papri	1 plate	7.00
Lagan nu stew (veg)	1 plate	7.00
Chicken Farcha and Potatoes	4 pieces	8.00
Dhana jeera masala	100 gms	4.00
sambhar masala	100 gms	4.00
Dhansak masala	100 gms	4.00
Garam masala	100 gms	4.00
Curry powder	100 gms	4.00

Fiona Engineer	Qty.	Price \$.
Chocolate Brownies packets	4 pcs	6.00
Chocolate Brownies packets	6 pcs	10.00
Bread Pudding Cups	2	3.00
Bread Pudding Cups	5	7.00

Perveen Katila	Qty.	Price \$.
Scotch Eggs	2	5.00
Malido	1 box	10.00
Gaur Papri	1 pkt	7.00

Virasp Umrigar	Qty.	Price \$.
Almond Batasa	1 pkt	6.00
Plain Batasa	1 pkt	5.00
Bori Cutlets	1	2.50
Chicken Farcha (drumstick)	1	2.50
Chicken Farcha (thigh)	1	3.50

Nargis & Khorshed Patell	Qty.	Price \$.
Dar ni Pori	1	15.00
Bhakra	1/2 lb	6.00
Batasas	1/2 lb	5.00
Nan Khatai	12 pieces	5.00
Pear Chutney	500 ml	8.00
Pear-Peach Jam	250 ml	5.00

Prochi Gazdar	Qty.	Price \$.
Chicken Farcha (leg & thigh)	1	5.00
Chicken Cutlets	1	2.00
Chicken Puff Pattice	1	2.00
Beef Puff Pattice	1	2.00
Goat Bheja Cutlets	1	3.00
Chutney Fish Fillet	1	3.00

Shireen Patel	Qty.	Price \$.
Banana Walnut Bread	6 inch loaf	7.00
Strawberry or Plum (if in season) Jam	250 ml	5.00
Round Paneer	6 inch	7.00

OZCF - JAMVA CHALOJI

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2018

Daulat Irani	Qty.	Price \$.
Christmas Plum cake with rum	1 lb	18.00
- with marzipan	1 lb	25.00
Christmas Fruit & nut cake	1 lb	18.00
- with marzipan	1 lb	25.00
Christmas Rum & Walnut	1 lb	18.00
- with marzipan	1 lb	25.00
Mini loaf rum fruit & nut cake	230 gms	9.00
- with marzipan		14.00
Mini loaf Plum with rum	230 gms	9.00
- with marzipan		14.00
Mini loaf rum and walnut cake	230 gms	9.00
- with marzipan		14.00
Aosh-e-mir	24 oz	10.00
Iranian Chicken & Berry Pulao	1 box	12.00
Yazdi cakes	6 pcs	8.00

Armeen's Cake & Bake Shop (Shireen Kavasji)	Qty.	Price \$.
Chicken or Beef or Potato Patties	1	1.75
Hunter beef Patties	1	2.50
Choco chip & Almond Biscotti	2 pcs	3.00
Cranberry & Orange Biscotti	2 pcs	3.00
Ginger Biscuits	1 packet	4.50
Christmas Cake	6 inch round	18.00
Christmas Cake with Marzipan	6 inch round	30.00
Baked chicken & Corn	1 box	10.00
Brownies	6 pcs	12.00
Coconut Squares	6 pcs	12.00
Date & Walnut Loaf	approx 1 lb	7.00
Almond Loaf cake	approx 1 lb	7.00
Moist Orange Cake	approx 1 lb	7.00
Pecan Tarts	2 pcs	4.00
Coconut Macaroons	1 packet	4.50
Egg and Cheese Sandwiches	1	2.25
Chicken Sandwiches	1	2.25



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OKTOBERFEST AT OZCF



The event was well attended and a lot of fun with oompah music, beer & pretzels. A German feast of schnitzel and a selection of sausages and sides was served to the guests and finished with apple crumble and ice cream. The room looked very colourful with table linens in the colours of the German flag. A lively evening that ended with karaoke and games.



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AYATHREM GAHAMBAR

GĀHĀNBĀR, Middle Persian name for the feasts held at the end of each season/period of the Zoroastrian year. In the Avesta, seasons are called Yāirya Ratavō. According to Dasturji Dhalla, the word Gahambar (Gasanbar in Pahlavi), has been linked to the word Yāirya Ratavō in the Avesta. The Avestan word Yare means year and Yāirya Ratavō means seasonal divisions of the year.

These seasonal festivals are of special significance to the Zoroastrians and occur six times in a year; they are a mix of agricultural periods and natural phenomena ones.

The 4th Gahambar of the year (Fasli or seasonal calendar) is called Ayāθrima or Ayathrem and occurs in the fall from 206th to 210th day (Meher Mah & from Roj Ashtad to Aneran; i.e. Oct 12 – 16 as per the Gregorian calendar). The meaning of Ayathrem is not clear, but it is believed to be homecoming and the time of nourishment. It is the time of the year usually linked with the breeding season of the cattle, when the animals are brought home to shelter before winter sets in.

The primary aim of the Gahambars was to thank Ahura Mazda for the different seasons as the prosperity of the world depended on it. During the Achaemenian period, the Gahambar celebrations were linked to Ahura Mazda's creations (sky/air, water, earth, plant, animals, humans) and the Amesha Spentas, the guardians of these creations. Being the 4th festival, Ayathrem Gahambar was linked with Plants, the 4th creation, and Ameretat or Amardad (Immortality) as the guardian.

There are 2 principal functions in the celebrations:

- Performance of liturgical ceremonies
- Solemn feasting after the services

The Liturgical ceremonies usually performed are:

Āfrīnagān ī Gāhānbār

Baj of Gahambar

Yasna of Gahambar, also known as the Visperad

Gahambar Pavi

The 1st two form the necessary services, but due to circumstances we can perform only the Afringan.

Although each Gahambar lasts for 5 days, the principal day is the last day when there is a solemn feast where members of a family or residents of a town assemble to eat and share food communally. The members volunteer to donate their time and money, prepare the food and serve the meals without regard to status. During the meal, Zoroastrians from all walks of life sit together, and the equal sharing of food with everyone, serves to help build and strengthen the community; where new friendships are formed, and old disputes resolved.

After Navroze, the Gahambars are considered to be the principal occasions for ceremonial gatherings. The Afringan of Gahambar mentions that it is the duty of a Zoroastrian to celebrate and participate in a Gahambar. The four words used so frequently in the Afrin "Yazad, Sazad, Khurad, Dehad" best suggest ways in which one can participate in the celebrations:

Yazad – by praying or joining in prayers

Sazad – manual service

Khurad – eating & participating in the feast

Dehad – by giving (cash or kind)

Gahambars are a demonstration of beliefs, principles and values in action and are an expression of piety in thought, word and deed. It reminds the Zarathushtis of their roots and the virtuous deeds they must perform in life, such as "Radih (charity)" and "Ratish (being truthful)".

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DANDIYA



For the first time in the history of OZCF, we had a dandiya session very timely along with the actual Dandiya season during Dussehra. The event was organized by Armaity Anandasagar to help fundraise to pay for the volunteer fees for several of our members who are helping out with the Children's Exhibit at the Interfaith Family Festival. The IFF is being held at the Parliament of World's Religions for the first time in its 125 year history !!

It was an evening of fun and dancing, with dinner provided in between. And since some of the zoroastrians were doing it for the first time, it was also hilariously funny to watch.

Some comments:



"We ALL really enjoyed the evening! (it was) Fun, lively and a totally different experience, thanks for organizing"

"Thank you for organizing the Dandiya and dinner. We thoroughly enjoyed it"

"When can we do it again?"

If you can dance with someone who is 84 years old as your dandiya partner and a 93 year old participant is impatient for the break to be over so the dancing could continue..... you know you are on to a good thing !! Well if everyone agrees, we shall have another session when winter is done.... we have already purchased the dandiya sticks, only need the people to dance !!

LET'S TALK

YOUTH TOWN HALL

*There's a Zoroastrian Youth Committee ?
 What do they do? Why should I get involved ?
 If you've got questions, we've got answers !
 If you've got ideas, we want to hear them !
 Join us on Dec 8, 2018 at 6 pm .*

DRINKS AND WINGS ON US!

AGENDA

- o Who are we and what do we do ?
- o Goals for 2018 - 2020.
- o Save dates for upcoming events.
- o Planning to attend the 2019 Youth Congress ? We can help!
- o Other events you would like to have ?
- o Cheer the Maple Leafs on the big screen for remaining game !

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I WANT YOU TO SPEAK UP!

OZCF YOUTH TOWN HALL

Followed by dinner

DECEMBER 8TH, 2018 @ 6 pm | COST: FREE

To register, send names to ozcfyouthevents@gmail.com or contact

Anahita Katila @ 647 808 5509
 Ruzbeh Rohinton @ 647 523 1537
 Adil Bhesania @ 647 985 0305

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INTERFAITH FAMILY FESTIVAL AT THE PARLIAMENT OF WORLD'S RELIGION



The Parliament of World's Religions (POWR) is coming to Toronto from November 1 to November 7, 2018. For the first time in its history, the 2018 POWR will have a children and family festival "Planting an Interfaith Garden".

The Parliament is the world's largest interfaith gathering, and this year it will welcome thousands of delegates to Toronto, from 80 countries that represent nearly 200 religious, spiritual and Indigenous traditions.

On September 25th there was a media launch in Toronto to create awareness among the locals titled "Planting for Peace". Children from different faiths were invited to make a flower and symbolically plant it in the Peace Garden outside City Hall in Nathan Philips Square. Of course mother nature had different ideas and it was a miserably cold and rainy day. However, that did not faze our Zoroastrian attendees. The event was then held indoors at the Sheraton Hotel across from the Peace Garden and the children planted their flowers around the beautiful water fountain. Each flower had a message of peace, inclusiveness, diversity and love.

Armaity Anandasagar took five youngsters from OZCF to this event.

Anushka and Megan Singh, Farah Suntoke, Farzan and Rayaan Bardoliwalla along with Er. Athavian Bamji attended the ceremony. John Tory, The Mayor of Toronto, attended and addressed the audience.



The children were asked to convey their thoughts and say a few words at the launch and this is what they said -

Megan: " Only when we are happy inside, we can spread love and peace to others. We practice Good Words, Deeds and Thoughts every single moment of the day and fill your heart with love and peace. We Believe in equality – be it gender, religion or any other criteria. We believe all are equal and live peacefully. We should use our hands to hug, let's make one world and see the colour of blood and not the colour of skin" .

Anushka: "Zoroastrians believe in one God, called Ahura Mazda. He is compassionate and peace loving. The ethical code for a Zarathushti is Good Thoughts Good Words, and Good Deeds. A Zoroastrian's message is to love and live peacefully, and be truthful and good in their thoughts, words and deeds. I wonder why people fight ? and why is there so much unrest in this world ? The only fight we should have is against ourselves to overcome the Evil in our minds"

A short prayer of Yatha Ahu Vairyo and Ashem Vohu was recited by the flowing waters by our small contingent to end the ceremony.

Thank you parents for bringing your children so early in the morning on a working day.

RELIGIOUS EVENTS FOR UPCOMING MONTHS FOR 2018

ASHA VAHISHTA INITIATIVE (AVI) CONFERENCE: NOV 10

Join us for the 3rd and final part of our theme “Transformative Education Requires Transformed Leadership!”

Dr. Louchakova-Schwartz will continue speaking to us about the emotional and mental stresses felt by immigrant and diasporic communities, due to their spiritual displacement within an urban 21st multicultural relocation.

Dr. Ruth Hayhoe will engage in a discussion concerning her impressions of the international Parliament of World Religions (PWR) which takes place in Toronto (Nov 2-6). Having witnessed Parliament interactions, observed Parliament presentations, and dialogued with the AVI, what does she think is the potential of faith communities to impact global discussions and to be relevant to the 21st century?

Finally, the AVI Conference chair holds an open forum discussion with OZCF Board Member(s) and anjuman participants regarding the future of the AVI. The context of the discussion will revolve around the current state of faith/fellowship in diaspora, the fate and future of Zoroastrianism

Session 1 (12:00pm-1:00pm): Louchakova-Schwartz

Spiritual Displacement and Immigration Stress.

(How alienation manifests within multicultural secular diasporic communities).

Session 2 (1:30pm-2:30pm): Hayhoe

Observations from the International (Toronto-2018) Parliament of World Religions

(Reflective theology is required for interfaith commitment).

Session 3 (3:00pm-4:00pm): Chair, OZCF Board Member(s)

What Happened, What Next? Zoroastrianism Once Engaged the World, But Now is Sequestered. Is there a future for the AVI in the Hearts/Minds of the Diaspora?.

(Assessing the cause and consequences of irrelevant faith in a cosmopolitan world).

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*January 1, 2010 to November 15, 2010. Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under agency contract.



100% Club Award

RELIGIOUS EVENTS FOR UPCOMING MONTHS FOR 2018 cont.

ZARTHOST-NO-DISO (F) WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 26TH

Zarthost-no-Diso (F) prayers will be held on Wednesday December 26th at 11:00 am at Z.R.C.C. 1187 Burnhamthorpe Rd. East, Oakville, followed by Chasni.

MAIDHYAREM GHAMBAR (F) TUESDAY JANUARY 1ST

We will be celebrating Maidhyarem Ghambar (F) on Tuesday January 1st 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 Dec 28th. 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.

JULY 1 - 6, 2019



World Zoroastrian Youth Congress

**PLANNING TO ATTEND THE
WORLD ZOROASTRIAN YOUTH CONGRESS
IN LOS ANGELES NEXT YEAR ?**


**Get in touch with a Youth Committee
member or join us at the Town Hall
meeting on Dec 8th, 2018 for details
and to know how we can help !**

Looking forward to seeing you in L.A.


Young Zoroastrians In Ontario


zoro_youth

**DONATE
BLOOD
TO SAVE A
Life**



IT'S IN YOU TO GIVE

Jan 12, 2019 | 9:00 am onwards
OZCF Hall or Heartland Blood Clinic. Will confirm
location by Jan 5th, 2019 based on number of donors

Check your eligibility to donate at blood.ca

Want to register or have any questions? Contact
Anahita Katila - 647 808 5509
Ruzbeh Rohinton - 647 523 1537
Adil Bhesania - 647 985 0305

PosterMyWall.com

AVI CONFERENCE SUMMARY: SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

The AVI (Asha Vahishta Initiative) Conferences continued, on September 22, with the first of a 3-Part programme (Part II on Oct 14, Part III on Nov 10). The main theme of the programme (all three parts): Making Spiritual Re-Imagining Actionable: Transformative Education Requires Transformed Leadership!

This 1st Part of the programme contained only one main speaker for the day. He spoke in conversation with the Chair, regarding the perspective of why humanism arose along with and as part of secular society. The main opinion offered, reflected the session title, that: Humanism and Critical Thinking: Rescued the World from the Tyranny and Dogma of Religion. And, that in fact the rise of atheism had more to do with the failure of institutionalized religion to provide adherents with a sense, rationale, and an emotional-atmosphere for salvation and enlightenment.

Immediately following the guest speaker, the second and last session of the day involved a conversation between the Chair, and two community members. Together they reflected upon what the guest speaker had suggested, and whether there were merits of this argument. Further and by extension, whether those arguments and logic could be utilized to explain the current malaise within diasporic Zoroastrian faith and fellowship.

This session produced firm and honest opinions regarding the causes and consequences of a diasporic inability to articulate 'vision statement' and 'operating system' for contemporary Zoroastrianism. Additionally, the lack of a clear resolution mechanism and governance/authority structure were cited, as contributing to faith anarchy (multiple beliefs, multiple contesting narratives, etc).

Similar to the conclusions of the previous AVI Conferences (Aug 18 and Aug 19), the session and audience participants affirmed that without inspired leadership, the possibilities for transformative education are reduced. Inaction was cited as the main culprit for the breakdown of fellowship and the loss of faith in contemporary circumstances, especially given the contrast with effective and rational systems of secular life which operate in parallel within all peoples' lives.

Following this session (#2 of the of conference day), and as an extension of the same topic which was brought forward during the second session of that conference day—the Chair was again asked about plans to continue the AVI. The Chair's response reiterated that concretization and actionability were the criteria requirements for any projected 'Phase III of the AVI'.

Towards that end, agreement was made to establish an AVI Working Committee.

Notice by OZCF to its membership, in regard to the establishment of the AVI Working Committee, follows:



For more details, please visit Maneck's website at

<https://maneckminwalla.wixsite.com/mysite>



Tell your kids! Tell your friends!

Register for the 2019 Zoroastrian Youth Congress

Who: 18-35 year old Zoroastrian Youth from around the world

What: Sign up for the World Zoroastrian Youth Congress today!

When: July 1-6, 2019

Where: Los Angeles, CA USA

Why: Learn about the Zoroastrian religion, network with peers and other professionals, and make new friends from around the world!

How: Click the "I'm an Early Bird" button below...use the code FIRST100 to get the early bird price of \$399.99! The ticket prices will increase significantly as time passes (up to \$599) so buy now!

What is a Youth Congress?

As the first youth congress took place in California in over twenty-five years ago, this congress is a milestone event where we can recognize the progress and shortcomings that our community have faced over the last twenty-five years as the original youth groups have now transitioned into adulthood. Now, it is time that we re-energize our youth and engage them again to build a better Zoroastrian community in an increasingly globalized world.

We plan on encouraging the youth to attend and take place in the **ABC's of the congress**.

Academic: What updates have taken place in our understanding of the religious and historical literature regarding Zoroastrianism over the last twenty-five years?

Business: What professional opportunities are Zoroastrians thriving in across the world and how can we continue to thrive professionally and entrepreneurially going forward?

AVI CONFERENCE SUMMARY: OCTOBER 14, 2018

The AVI (Asha Vahishta Initiative) Conferences continued, on October 14, with the second of a 3-Part programme (Part I on Sept 22 and Part III on Nov 10). The main theme of the programme (all three parts): Making Spiritual Re-Imagining Actionable: Transformative Education Requires Transformed Leadership!

This 2nd Part of the programme contained four speakers.

We were honoured to be able to speak to our first conversant, Arianna Vafadari, an internationally renowned mezzo-soprano of Iranian-French heritage. She enlightened us regarding her creative process and composition which lead to the development of the Gathas in song (which she performs globally). Many of her themes relating music to a universal, compassionate, and multifaceted language, were transferable lessons for the AVI in its attempt to re-imagine and re-claim.

This was followed by an equally stimulating conversation with Dr. Richard Foltz. He spoke to us about how the Iranians, throughout their history, have been a composite of ideas, cultures, and expressions. Hence, the aspects of identity and belonging are multi-centred and continuously re-imagined and re-claimed. Foltz also asserted that ZoroastrianISM (in the sense of a re-packaging and presentation of an indigenous faith, Daena Mazdayasni), was a 19th century framework resulting largely from Parsi interactions with British Protestants.

Next, the AVI conversed with Rabbi Michal Shekel, who was very kind in sharing some very comparable (to diasporic Zoroastrianism) Jewish faith/fellowship developments, with us. She was able to reflect upon the importance of how faith/fellowship is maintained in 21st century urban multicultural diasporic settings, and more importantly, how faith/fellowship lives as relevant expressions of daily life. She also provided us with many opportunities to examine our own plights, from the perspective of someone looking at another similar case (the Jewish diasporic identity).

Finally, we began a conversation regarding spirit injury, leading to immigrant alienation, with Dr. Louchakova-Schwartz. We are pleased that this conversation will continue, on Nov 10.

The take-away from this AVI Conferences day was that transformative education requires an equally motivated and transformed leadership, to initiate change within faith communities. Faith is a lived expression, not a ball-and-chain of history dragged along an increasingly farther and farther distance to the present. Fellowship is an atmosphere of belief, an emotional bonding of individuals who creatively re-imagine what it means to have faith and express faith within their secular circumstances.

MESSAGE FROM OZCF MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

As we approach the end of 2018 the OZCF Membership Committee would like to thank you for your patronage and support and request you to kindly renew your membership for the year 2019.

You have the flexibility to pay your fees online using PAYPAL/Credit Card or by CHEQUE payable to Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation and mail at 1187 Burnhamthorpe Rd East, Oakville, ON. L6H 7B3 with attention to Membership Committee. If you prefer to not be reminded every year regarding membership renewal please complete the attached Pre - Authorized Debit (PAD) Agreement and provide a void cheque. The membership form and PAD Agreement is attached in this newsletter

If you wish to deliver the membership cheque & form in person please drop them into our mail box or give them to Shirin Chaturvedi, Chair Membership subcommittee or Arnavaz Dhabhar our Board Liaison for the membership subcommittee.

We request all members to please fill in all details with full address and please indicate whether you would like to receive our bi-monthly newsletter via e-mail or by post.

KINDLY PROMOTE THE OZCF MEMBERSHIPS TO ALL YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY.



MEMBERSHIP FORM

January 01 to December 31, 2019

Membership Application: ☐ New ☐ Renewal

Membership Category / Fees

<input type="checkbox"/> Youth	<input type="checkbox"/> Single	<input type="checkbox"/> Seniors	<input type="checkbox"/> Family
Individuals of age 19 to 24 years	Individuals of age 25 and below 65 years	Individuals of age 65 years and above	Includes children up to age 18 years
\$40	\$100	\$50	\$150

APPLICANT INFORMATION

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
 Address: _____ Apartment No: _____
 City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____
 HomePhone: (_____) - _____ - _____ CellPhone: (_____) - _____ - _____
 Email: _____

DEPENDANT INFORMATION

1. First Name _____ Last Name _____ Age _____
 2. First Name _____ Last Name _____ Age _____
 3. First Name _____ Last Name _____ Age _____
 4. First Name _____ Last Name _____ Age _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



Pre-Authorized Debit (PAD) Agreement For Annual Membership Fees

Please debit my Bank Account Annually (attach VOID cheque) for

<input type="checkbox"/> \$40	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150
Youth	Single	Seniors	Family
Individuals of age 19 to 24 years	Individuals of age 25 and below 65 years	Individuals of age 65 years and above	Includes children up to age 18 years

Member Name:

Address/Contact Information:

Signature:

Date:

I may revoke my authorization at any time, subject to providing notice of (Payee to insert period – not to exceed 30 days). To obtain a sample cancellation form, or for more information on my right to cancel a PAD Agreement, I may contact my financial institution or visit www.cdnpay.ca

*Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation
1187 Burnhamthorpe Road East, Oakville,
ON. L6H 7B3*

Tel: (289) 725-8484

president@ozcf.com | www.ozcf.com

I have certain recourserights if any debit does not comply with this agreement. For example, I have the right to receive reimbursement for any debit that is not authorized or is not consistent with this PAD Agreement. To obtain more information on my recourserights, I may contact my financial institution or visit www.cdnpay.ca