

VISION

OZCF Newsletter

In Perspective Drawing

IN THIS ISSUE

- 01. President's Message
- 02. Place of Worship Update
- 04. Announcements
- 07. Grant Approval
- 08. Religious Events
- 09. Youth Explosion
- 12. Seniors Update
- 13. Scouts Update
- 15. Srinagar Aramgah
- 17. Forms

OUR AFFILIATES

Member of:



We Support:



Home of:



100th Oakville Zoroastrian Scouts Group

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



"Inspiration is some mysterious blessing which happens when the wheels are turning smoothly." - Quentin Blake

How time flies! Hard to believe, but the current OZCF Board of Directors will complete their two-year term with the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held on June 26th, 2022 at the ZRCC, in accordance with OZCF By-laws 5.1 (Annual General Meeting). After a couple of years, we will be able to accommodate all members who wish to attend in person.

The current Board had a mandate of making OZCF sustainable in the long run. Financial sustainability will be a big part for revenue generation for the coming Boards. Towards this end, the Board has worked on an Investment Policy and revisited the Membership tiers for which an Extra Ordinary General Meeting (EOGM) is being called, in accordance with OZCF By-laws 5.2. The EOGM will precede the AGM on June 26th, 2022. This, coupled with election of the new Board, is an important matter for the membership and I urge you, our members, to attend in large numbers in support. The timing for both meetings will be communicated soon in the package which will be mailed and emailed around May 20th, 2022. Please note that as we move to a "greener" and sustainable operation, this will be the last year we will be mailing out the AGM package. Future AGM notifications will be via email.

It is encouraging to note that our Membership numbers have grown over the past 2 years. The Board appreciates the prompt renewals and always welcomes new members. It gives us the confidence that we are on the right track and the community values the efforts of our subcommittees in keeping all engaged. For those who have yet to renew their membership, please pay at your earliest convenience.

Your sub-committees continue to bring in events to keep the membership engaged. The **Youth team** is organizing a Blue Jays game on May 20th, 2022, and all 50 tickets have been sold out. This is the second event of the year organized and both have been hugely successful with youth supporting the committee's efforts. We will be holding prayers for **Zarthost-no-Diso**, as per Shenshahi Calendar, on Monday, May 23rd, at ZRCC, at 11 am. The **Fundraising sub-committee** is planning an event in the coming months. Stay tuned for further information.

Finally, as always, we wish Tandarosti to our community. Stay Safe and Stay Well!

Ushtaa Ahmaai Yahmaai Ushtaa Kahmaaichit! – Happiness to those who give happiness to others!

Xerxes Madan
President

PLACE OF WORSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Our engineers and architects are preparing the final submissions to the town for Site Plan Approval. Through ongoing discussions with staff at the Town, Region and Conservation Halton, all issues appear to be resolved and we will now submit the revised drawings and reports for final approval.

We will keep the community updated of progress and sincerely thank you for your continued patience and generosity to bring our Atashkadeh and Atash-e-Adaran to reality.

May Ahura Mazda always bless our community.

Phil Sidhwa

Chair, PWAC

| ADIL GAZDAR

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

HALL RENTAL RATES:

Please note new rates to rent the hall for social events. These rates are significantly lower than renting at halls and hotel rooms and allow members and non-members the entire use of our facilities.

Members: \$400

Non-members: \$500

Rental of Audio/Video equipment is \$100.

RATES TO ADVERTISE IN THE NEWSLETTER:

Members often inquire about rates to advertise in the newsletter. See the rate structure below:

Business Card	\$25 per issue	\$150 per year
1/4 Page	\$50 per issue	\$300 per year
1/2 Page	\$75 per issue	\$450 per year
Full Page	\$125 per issue	\$750 per year
Last Full Page	\$150 per issue	\$900 per year

If paid in full at the beginning of the year by the end of January, a 10% discount will be applied. There are six issues per year – January, March, May, July, September and November.

HALL RENTAL RATES FOR FUNERAL SERVICES

Members: \$100 per day (over the 4-day period)

Non-members: \$150 per day

MEMBERSHIP:

A gentle reminder that it is that time of the year to fulfill your membership requirements for 2022. To start the renewal process, we have made it easy to be able to renew your membership using the following options:

1. Pay through your Credit Card or PayPal.
 2. Sending in a cheque is also available for those that wish to do so.
- You may set up for direct deposit payment so that your membership self-renews annually. [PAD form is attached](#) and also available online at www.ozcf.com

Here's the breakdown of the membership category and fees for 2022:

Membership Category and Fees				
Category	Youth	Single	Seniors	Family
Description	Youth are Individuals of age 19 to 24 years	Single are Individuals of age 25 to 64 years	Seniors are Individuals age 65 and above	Family Includes Spouses/Partners and children up to the age of 18 years
Fees	\$40	\$100	\$50	\$150

A Membership form has been included, should any changes be required to your personal information or you can make these changes yourself online at www.ozcf.com

Feel free to contact Shirin Chaturvedi at cshirinm@hotmail.com or Rumi Jasavala at rumi_jasavala@ozcf.com, for any assistance required in membership renewal.

Thank you to all for your kind support, as always.

- Membership Committee

OBTUARY:



Nargis Saher passed away peacefully, with her family by her side on March 2 at the age of 90. Nargis was the sister of Noshir Sethna and Rumi Sethna. She was predeceased by her sisters Freny Madon and Roshan Dehnugara. She was sister-in-law of Shavak Madon, Banu Sethna, Hilda Sethna and predeceased by Adil Dehnugara.

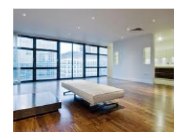


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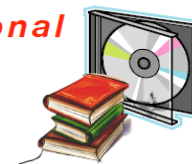
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GRANT APPROVAL

On March 18th, Ms. Effie Triantafilopoulos, MPP Oakville North-Burlington, attended the ZRCC to offer her congratulations in person on OZCF having been selected for two Ontario grants – a Seniors Community Grant towards the OZCF Seniors Meal Program and for Faith-based and Cultural Organizations to enhance safety and security measures. The Seniors Grant helped in keeping our seniors engaged over the past 3 months and OZCF is working on enhancing the safety measures in place at ZRCC utilizing the Faith-based Grant. OZCF sincerely thanks the Ontario government for considering our applications.



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 Anandasgar 905-271-0366
armaity.a@gmail.com

OZCF President

Xerxes Madan 416-254-0685
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 Mehbadi (416) 917-9195

Dhabhar, Ervad Jamshed (905) 819-0089

Katrak, Ervad Kerman (647) 444-7359 (Speaks Farsi)

Kotwal, Ervad Nozer (905) 820-0461

Madan, Ervad Xerxes (416) 254-0685

Panthaky, Ervad Jal (905) 568-4946

Zarolia, Ervad Kobad (647) 8879213

RELIGIOUS EVENTS AND UPDATES

ZARTHOST-NO-DISO (S) MONDAY MAY 23RD

OZCF will be holding prayers for Zarthost-no-Diso, as per Shenshahi Calendar, on Monday, May 23rd, at ZRCC 1187 Burnhamthorpe Rd. East, Oakville. The prayer ceremony will commence at 11:00am, followed by Chasni. If you plan on attending, please let Ervad Nozer Kotwal know at (905) 820-0461 **and no later than Friday May 20th**. Please also volunteer to clean up after the event.

If you wish to offer your home-made Malido, Ravo, Sev and/or dry-fruits, flowers, fruits, Sukhad, Loban, we ask that you make arrangements with Er. Kotwal.

MAIDHYOISHEM GAHAMBAR (F) – FRIDAY JULY 1ST

The Maidhyoishem Gahambar prayers as per Fasli Calendar, will be held on Friday, July 1st at 11:00 am at the ZRCC, 1187 Burnhamthorpe Rd. East, Oakville.

The Gahambar Jashan will commence at 11:00 am, followed by lunch. The cost of attending the Jashan & lunch is \$5 per person; children up to the age of 20 years are free. Members wishing to attend in-person must give their names to Er. Nozer Kotwal at (905) 820-0461 or at nskotwal1@gmail.com in advance, **and no later than Tuesday June 28th**.

If you wish to offer your home-made Malido, Ravo, Sev and/or dry-fruits, flowers, fruits, Sukhad, Loban, we ask that you make arrangements with Er. Kotwal.

All members who come to the property must follow the laid down protocols, bearing in mind the volunteer has the right to refuse a member from entry if they feel the member could be endangering the health and safety of others.

As with all messages OZCF has communicated to the community, we remind our members that while these stipulations require us to carry out our engagements differently, we must adhere to them in order to enhance the safety of our members, volunteers and Mobeds. OZCF appreciates your continued patience and understanding.

YOUTH EXPLOSION

The Youth Committee continued their initiative to recognize Zoroastrian youth who understand the importance of giving back to the community and taking on leadership roles to strengthen our organizations.

Zoroastrian Youth of the Month for March was Tanya Hoshi.



Tanya Hoshi has been an active volunteer within the Zoroastrian community for many years. She has been involved in various organizations, working to empower the youth within the Zoroastrian community.

After participating in the first Return to Roots, she enjoyed the experience so much, she decided to return again for subsequent trips. She has attended all 5 Return To Roots trips to date and spreads awareness about past and upcoming trips through FEZANA social media channels.

Currently she serves as Chief Social Media Officer for FEZANA. Her innovative ideas and a youth oriented approach has been vital in improving youth engagement within FEZANA.

We are immensely proud of Tanya and her services to the North American Zoroastrian community.

"Tomorrow's Zoroastrian legacy is all yours to build." - Tanya Hoshi

RAPTORS GAME

On March 24th the Youth Committee organized a Raptors game at the Scotiabank Arena, where 89 people attended the game, making it one of the biggest youth events. For many it was a chance to reconnect with friends after two years of restrictions, and some were mesmerized by their first ever basketball game.



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THE OZCF LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

TAKE A BOOK – SHARE A BOOK

The concept of “The OZCF Little Free Library” is to inspire readers and expand book access to everyone. The goal is to have a book available for every reader, irrespective of their age. With no limitations like time, space, or privilege, we believe people are empowered when they read a book that connects to them personally.

Our goal was to raise \$1000 to fund the building and maintenance of the library at the OZCF. The community has been incredibly supportive of our endeavour and led to us exceeding our goal within 24 hours, sitting at \$2,021.

The next step is to build the library. We discussed various options, including purchasing an already built one, but thought it would be more meaningful to have our own youth putting in time and effort to build this for the community. With the weather finally turning warmer, we will be scheduling a weekend over the next couple of months to start the building process.

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SENIORS UPDATE




OZCF Seniors Sub Committee Chairs receive congratulations and an award from the MPP for Oakville North-Burlington Ms. Effie Triantafilopoulos at the OZCF on March 18th, 2022.

We are happy to state that we have successfully completed our SENIORS MEAL PROGRAM on 6th March, 2022 and achieved all the goals required by the Ministry. We are grateful to the Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility for giving us the opportunity to strengthen the connectivity among our community and provide some cheer for our seniors during our long winter months.

- Minnie Mirza, Gulrukh Patel and Kamal Driver.

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SCOUT UPDATE

As part of National Volunteer week, kids from our own 100th Oakville Zoroastrian Scouts Group took part in an International Service project at the ZRCC on Sunday, April 24th 2022, to weave sleeping mats for refugees, flood victims and the poor in Africa, Chile and Haiti, among other countries.

These mats were made with the 4-litre outer milk bags which are now diverted from landfills and put to good use. Kids from all sections Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers took part in this session, and even some parents came out to participate. The kids and leaders had been collecting the bags for several months.

Four stations were set up for flattening, cutting, yarning, and the final stage of weaving the milk bags on the wooden frames which were borrowed from different groups of Mississauga Girl Guides. The process was explained by our OZCF member Armaity Anandasagar, who has been involved in this project since 2006, and has previously done sessions with our scouts as well as with the seniors. Every kid, teen and adult got a chance to circulate through the various stages of the production line while chatting away or playing music on their phones and generally enjoying themselves. It was wonderful to see how harmoniously they were working and taking on the different jobs, relieving the others who were already working at various stations.

Everyone who wanted to, also got a chance to try out the mats...to sleep on, sit on, and to make sure they were comfortable enough to be sent overseas. The kids got their short water/snack break and were treated to pizzas which they thoroughly enjoyed. Every milestone achieved to complete each stage of the process was celebrated with loud cheers from all. "Yay we finished flattening all the milk bags!", "Yay we finished cutting them all!", etc... Till the very end, the kids were so eager to complete the task on hand and weave each bag they had collected, that they finished using all bags making the last mat on the frame.

Finally, all the bags were yarned and mats were completed which gave the children the most accomplished feeling, as is evident from the pictures. It gave them a sense of pride for having taken part and successfully completing 5 large mats. It was such a day of self-achievement for the kids! The leaders were so proud that the children were able not only to help the community, but make a difference on an international level, while helping the needy and living our Zoroastrian values in all that they do.

Armaity too was so proud of the kids as she has worked on weaving mats with many groups - schools, churches, corporations, scouts and girl guides...and this is the only time that she saw the eagerness to see every milk bag used and so many mats completed in the span of a few hours! Thank you Armaity for guiding our kids with this project and to all those who helped the 100th Oakville Zoroastrian Scouts group complete another successful project.



SRINAGAR ARAMGAH

The Parsee Zoroastrian Aramgah (place of respite) at Badami Bagh, Srinagar is a little known gem of our community's history.

Many community members may not be aware that the Parsee Zoroastrian Aramgah at Badami Bagh, Srinagar is a heritage site that is part of the history of Kashmir.

As per records available, it was in the year 1893 that Maharajah Pratap Singh, the Maharaja of Kashmir, gifted by way of grant, a piece of land to the Parsee Zoroastrian Community in recognition of their services to the state, to be used expressly for the purpose of establishing an Aramgah.

After the state military authorities acquired a greater portion of the land to establish the Badami Bagh Cantonment Bazar, the Aramgah today admeasures approximately 1.53 acres. This comprises a Bungli consisting of two rooms and a verandah. There is also a hothouse along with a garden shed and living premises for a gardener / watchman and a cemetery. The surrounding area is an orchard of almond and walnut trees.

The Bungli is used to perform the prayers and obsequies of the deceased who are then buried in the cemetery.



With the absence of any Parsee Zoroastrian family residing in Srinagar since many years, the Aramgah is not in use but remains a historic monument in the history of the valley. The last funeral and interment were performed in 1986.

Mr. Khushman Tamboli of Rajkot who recently visited Srinagar during his commercial trip, came upon this little known gem of our community history, met with the armed forces / authorities who have requested that the gardener / watchman who look after the property be paid a stipend for their efforts.

WZO Trust Funds have willingly agreed to pay an annual stipend to the gardener / watchman who looks after the community estate.

Community members interested in visiting the Aramgah during their visit to Srinagar and wishing to pay their respects can reach Badami cantonment via Batwara chowk through Rajendra Dwar, where they should inquire with In-charge of Gate & obtain visiting permission from Administrator Commandant or relevant authority present at the time. The office No. of Badami Cantonment is 0194-2466575.

- Team WZO Trust Funds





MEMBERSHIP FORM

January 01 to December 31, 2022

Membership Application: ☐ New ☐ Renewal

Membership Category / Fees

II Youth	I 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
\$40	\$100	\$50	\$150

APPLICANT INFORMATION

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ Apartment No: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Home Phone: (_____) - _____ - _____ Cell Phone: (_____) - _____ - _____

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

☐ I (We) select OZCF as our Prime Membership Group for FEZANA membership

☐ I (We) do not require the VISION Newsletter by post. (you must include your email address above)

☐ I (We) would like to provide Donation. One time: \$ _____ or ongoing \$ _____ per: _____

☐ I (We) are interested in volunteering with OZCF

Total Enclosed: Cash: \$ _____ Cheque: _____ or Credit Card (paid via website): \$ _____

I have reviewed the OZCF By-laws available on the OZCF website www.ozcf.com, and agree to abide by them. By signing this form I give consent to OZCF to contact me by email / phone for announcements and requests.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

OZCF, 1187 Burnhamthorpe Road, East, Oakville, ON. L6H 7B3 | Tel: 289-725-8484 | www.ozcf.com



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

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