



WHAT'S NEW, PRES?

Happy New Year! We celebrated the Shehenshahi Parsi New Year on August 16, 2021.

The 39th Mukta prayers were organized and went very smoothly with the assistance of our dedicated volunteers led by Putli Mirza, Roshan Rabadi and Hoshang Udwadia and all the Mobeds who conducted the prayers. On behalf of the Board we would like to recognize these persons and appreciate all that you do to make the Mukta prayers run smoothly year after year. Thank you all.

Wanted to also recognize our youngest Mobed Navroze Antia and Xerxus Dastur, who are our future in continuing our prayers, customs and traditions.

Thanks to the IT team, Pedram Yazdani for always keeping the community updated, and ensuring everyone has access to the prayers online.

As is tradition every year - the Board announces the annual scholarship winner at our Navroze Jashan. This year's scholarship winner is Taronish Chothia who received the ZSO Scholarship 2021. He was recognized at our Jashan and awarded the prize. We all wish Taronish success in his studies at Ryerson University.

Mark your calendars for September 12, 2021 at 5pm for ZSO 50th Year Anniversary celebration and show. This will be such an exciting event filled with stories, pictures and memories which has been in the works and been organized by a team run by Afreed Mistry. Check your emails for further updates and links to the online event.

In closing, I would like to add my appreciation to our community who has supported us financially and even more precious with their time to help keep our traditions alive and connected through these challenging times. I look forward to meeting you all in person very soon at the Darbe Mehr.

With Gratitude,

Mitra Jam
President, ZSO

Virtual Yoga with Mitra

Happy to announce that Virtual Yoga classes will resume again starting Wednesday, September 8th, 2021. Classes will take place from 6:30 pm to 7:15 pm and will be online. The class is Hatha based yoga and includes body strengthening. Encourage your friends to join!

Please look out for the email with the link in your inbox.

MGDM – UPDATE

Keeping the health and safety of our custodian and members as top priority, as well as following the changes under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) for places of worship and the specific conditions which include limiting capacity and ensuring that public health measures are followed such as face coverings, physical distancing and environmental cleaning and disinfecting, the ZSO Board of Directors has decided to CLOSE the Mehraban Guiv Darbe Meher (MGDM) until further notice.

All upcoming visits to MGDM are cancelled except for any post-funeral prayers with a limited capacity of 10 people including the priest and custodian. These bookings MUST be booked by contacting Hoofrish Patel (evp@zso.org).

When visiting the MGDM please be reminded of the following mandatory requirements and guidelines:

- Use the online [self-assessment tool](#) before every visit to the MGDM
- Wearing a non-medical mask/face covering is **mandatory**
- Bring your own prayer book and head covering
- Maintain a social distance of two meters/six feet
- Follow entry and exit signs
- Social gatherings, including those that occur before or after a prayer service remains suspended
- Avoid opportunities for the virus to spread through touch, either directly or indirectly through surfaces and objects, including objects that may be used in rituals or ceremonies

Suspended Services

- Drop in visits
- Social gatherings, including those that occur before or after a prayer service remains suspended
- Navjote, weddings and other close contact activities
- Consumption of food and drink remains suspended
- Indoor singing, use of instruments and choir service
- Sharing and distribution of materials and objects such as books, scarves, caps, water, etc.

We continue to encourage all our members to watch our prayers online. Please subscribe to the ZSO YouTube channel at the following link and turn notifications ON to be alerted of all upcoming events.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3aC8WOPppyeQFjcTcFcaGQ>

We thank you for your patience and appreciate your cooperation.

ZSO Board

Condolences

Bahram Namiranian, on August 12th. Beloved husband to Farideh and father to Sam Houman and Triti. May his soul rest in peace.

Muktad Report 2021

This year marked the 39th year of Muktad Observances at Darbe Mehr. Once again, we had to observe Muktad under the worldwide pandemic of Covid19. Due to the many restrictions and measures needed to avoid the spread of infection, we were not allowed to serve any food or cook on the premises. The number of community members who were allowed to attend the prayers or pay their respects was restricted to 50 members in specific time blocks. This number included our Mobeds, helpers and volunteers.

Ervad Hoshang Udwadia organized all the Mobeds for the various prayers throughout the day. We had the 3 Satum prayers and Afringan and Farokhshi prayers in the morning. We had the Ghambar Prayers on the 4th Gatha. On the last Gatha day, we had the early morning prayers at 4:15 a.m. when we bid farewell to all our Asho-Farohars.

Ervad Hoshang Udwadia and Ervad Mehbad Dastur stayed at the Darbe Mehr through the day to perform all the prayers. Our senior Mobed, Ervad Athavian Bamji came early in the morning for the Morning Satum and Farokhshi and Afrigan prayers, together with our youngest mobed Ervad Navroze Antia. Ervad Xersis Dastur was able to join on the 4th Gatha for all the prayers. We owe all our Mobeds our deepest gratitude for being there for all our religious functions. We must also thank Ervad Khushroo Bharda, who has always been there for our early morning prayers for the past 6 years. Our thanks to the parents of Ervad Navroze Antia for bringing him everyday and even in the early morning so he could participate in all the prayers. We are all blessed with such dedicated and devoted Mobeds.

The food items for the breakfast, lunch and dinner Satums were donated, prepared and delivered by designated families. This was organized by Putli Mirza. We specially thank Roshan Rabadi who prepared the 7:00 a.m. Satum at home and brought it over every morning. The fruits for the prayers and other required items were purchased by Goolu Bharucha every alternate day. The Malido, Sev, Rawo, Bhakra, Batasa, Poori, and other sweet items were brought in by designated community members. We sincerely thank them all. Year after year all these faithful community members have supplied us with items needed for our Afrigan and Farokshi prayers.



This year, all the members attending the prayers had to register with Hoofrish Patel. 353 members of the community attended the prayers over the 5 Gatha days, additionally, over 48 members visited on Navroze, and 40 members attended the Navroze Jashan. The Khordad Sal Jashan was attended by 37 members. All the prayers were streamed On-line, and, on the average, 40 members watched them daily.

Altogether about 425 Diwas were lit during the Gatha days. We thank Sam Gandhi for preparing all the Diwas and additional cleaning and disinfecting all the frequently used areas through the day. Sam worked for us for all the 5 Muktad Days, and on Navroze Day. He was ably helped by our caretaker, Farookh Farhadian. Farookh also monitored the live feed of all the prayers from the Prayer Room. Our thanks to the IT team, specifically to Pedram Yazdani and Meherwan Wadia, for streaming all the prayers. Everything went perfectly! Our many community members got the opportunity to hear and watch the prayers from their own homes. During the prayers we remembered 680 souls of our dear departed ones.

Our Muktad committee received tremendous support from our ZSO Board of Directors. Our ex-President Mashya Amroliwalla and our current present President Mitra Jam helped us to carry on this important tradition. Anahita Ogra, Mashya Amroliwalla, Mitra Jam, Putli Bharda, Aimie Mirza Shiamak Katrak, Yasmin Khory, Havovi Patel, and Hoofrish Patel volunteered at the entrance on various days to register members attending the prayers. Our special thanks to Hoofrish Patel for registering the members from her home and organizing all the volunteers.

Mehernaz Dehmeri assisted our treasurer Afshin Homaie by keeping our accounts. Our cash and cheques donations this year came to \$11,920 which was a generous amount considering that very few people could attend the prayers in person. Our expenses were \$2c926.81. Thank You to them both for managing our accounts this year.

Thank You to all our donors, who donated in cash and kind with everything from all the food items, flowers, the oil for the Diwas and so many forms of service. The supply of sandalwood and Loban was very short this year as few people could travel to India. We were helped by generous donations of the same by Khushru & Pearl Chothia, Cyrus & Ruby Tampal, Mehroo & Dara Homavazir and Hoshang Surty. Many other members also brought in extra Sandalwood, Tacho and Loban. Thank You to everyone. We continue to request all community members to bring in a supply of Sandalwood, Tacho, Loban and Kakras whenever they travel to India or Pakistan. All these items are difficult to import.



This year the roses were donated by Dhun & Sarosh Contractor, together with Putli & late Noshir Mirza. Anahita Ogra and her daughter Ava made the Toran for the Kebla in the prayer room for Navroze. The garlands and the Toran bought by us for the Gatha days were beautiful and enhanced the ambience of the prayer room. Everything was just perfect as we remembered all our loved ones who have passed on, leaving behind a rich legacy for our future generation.

Last but not least, thank you to all the 22 volunteers who spent their Saturday cleaning up the Darbe Mehr prior to the Mukhtad prayers and all the utensils needed for the prayers, including polishing our big Afargan in the Prayer room. This clean-up was done under the leadership of Khushru & Pearl Chothia. Thank you one and all for getting our Darbe Mehr ready for our Gatha Days as it has been done for the past so many years.

Following the Gatha days, our Navroze Jashan was held on August 16th. It was led by Ervad.Athavian Bamji and assisted by Ervads Hoshang Udwadia. Mehbhad Dastur & Ervad.Navroze Antia. The Jashan was live streamed for the community, while 36 people attended in person. The On-line stream was watched by 131 community members. After the Jashan, our President Mitra Jam thanked our Mobeds for their services rendered during the Mukhtad days. She also acknowledged the work put in by the Mukhtad Committee, and all the volunteers who helped through the Mukhtad Days.

We would like to acknowledge our caretaker Farokh for all his work done through the year, and all the extra hours he puts in during the Muktaḍ days. Our Thanks to Sam Gandhi who has worked with us so diligently and always with a smile for the past many years. It would be difficult to accomplish so many chores without the help of these two gentlemen. I would also like to personally thank the Muktaḍ committee for all their hard work and the co-operation that they have given me for the past so many years. My special Thanks to Roshan Rabadi and my Co- Chair Khurshid Engineer for their hard work and support. The other members of our committee are Katy Panthakee, Guloo Barucha, Sarosh Dastoor, Hoshang Surty, and Zarine Dordi.

On August 21st, we held our Khordad Sal Jashan. It was led by our young Mobed Ervad Navroze Antia, assisted by Ervads Hoshang Udwadia and Xerxis Dastur, About 37 community members were in attendance and the Jashan was also live streamed for the community at large. It was watched by 91 members. All the other items needed for both Navroze and Khordad Sal Jashans like Fruits, flowers, dry fruits, Daram, Malido, Sev, Rawo etc. were donated by our community members.

Once again, even with all the Covid restrictions, we were able to conduct our prayers and all our rites and rituals in full measure! Thank you to all our Mobeds, volunteers, our donors and our President along with the Board of Directors. We would also like to thank and remember Arbab Rustom Guiv and his nephew, Mehraban Guiv for giving us this beautiful place of Worship where we can get our community together and preserve all our rites and rituals. We remember them in all our prayers. We thank Ahura Mazda for the many blessings bestowed on our community. With blessings from all our Asho-Farohar, we hope to work together in Peace and Harmony for many years to come. Beyond our 50 Years that we have completed this Year! Happy and Glorious Golden Jubilee to the entire community! We are all BLESSED beyond measure.

Report submitted by Ervad Hoshang Udwadia & Putli Noshir Mirza on behalf of the Muktaḍ committee.

The 'Clean Up' Crew - Muktaḍ 2021

Adil Bulsara
Mehrnaz & Roya Dehmeri
Mashya Amroliwala
Farokh Farhadian
Yasmin & Farokh Khory
Yezdi Sheriar
Kaizad Tafti
Kersi Khambatta
Khushru, Spenta, Zruvan Chothia
Khushru Patel
Dara Homavazir
Kashmira & Ishaan Prasad
Gulcher Bastani
Benjamin, Sophia, Kashmira Irani
Kaizad Tafti
Yazad Tafti



Report submitted by Putli Mirza and Ervad Hoshang Udwadia

The Spirit of Zoroastrianism in Practice – Submitted By Pervin Sorabji

On our recent trip to Calgary, we were privileged to be invited by Ervad Burzin Atashband, his wife Renaz and daughter Mahrrin to their home. Here is a truly selfless family who have converted their walkout basement into a prayer hall for anyone to use for their time of need and reflection.



Ervad Burzin is a simple and remarkable Zoroastrian who was determined to attain his Navar credentials inspite of all odds. We were so impressed with them and am compelled to share this with our fellow Zoroastrians.

If need be you could get in touch with Ervad Burzin at br_atash@yahoo.com or at 403-975-9228. Well done. We are proud of you.”

Freedom – India's Independence Day – submitted by Farida Bamji

What is freedom?
To live and breath free
As well freedom of thoughts
Words and Deeds

Humanity is exhausted
With War Hatred Violence
How about opening the "blinds
As well as the shades and drapes
And let the sunshine in
Because humans as a whole
Want To live and breathe free!!

No one can't force
Their will on others
Especially on women
Cause they are not
A mound of clay
To be maimed raped
Bruised abused and battered
Molded in anyway
So unchain the
Shackles of tyranny
As humanity wishes
To live and breathe Free!!!

Newsletter Requests

Please note that the deadline for receiving submissions for the ZSO newsletter is the 20th of each preceding month. Any materials received after this date will be published on a best-effort basis.

Editor: Armaity Bamji

Please note that all requests for inclusions in the ZSO NL should be emailed to newslettereditor@zso.org
Please copy Hoofrish Patel at evp@zso.org for approval.

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Miscellaneous

ZSO Contacts:

Emergency situations: Khushru Chothia (416) 677-7555

Messages on the auto-dialer: Pedram Yazdani at admin@zso.org

- **Please copy Mashya Amroliwalla at president@zso.org for approval**

Renting MGDM hall (for post-funeral prayers/rituals or for private functions): Hoofrish Patel at evp@zso.org

Newsletter advertising rates:

Inserts: \$200 *Quarter page/Business card:* \$55 *Half page:* \$75 *Full page:* \$125

Miscellaneous two-liners: \$15

10% discount for 12 consecutive months of advertising.



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اهنودگات - یسن ۲۸ - بند ۸

ای که بهترین هستی و با بهترین راستی هماهنگ هستی. از روی مهر برای فرشوشتن دلیر، برای خودم و یارانم درخواست می کنم؛ و به همگان بفشایش نیک اندیشی را برای همیشه، در سراسر زندگی ارزانی بدار.

گهنبار پینه شهیم گاه

براساس گاهشماری زرتشتی گهنبار پینه شهیم گاه از ۱۲ تا ۱۶ سپتامبر خواهد بود. این گهنبار سومین گهنبار سال جدید است و طبق سنت زرتشتی و اسطوره آفرینش باور بر این است که در این زمان زمین آفریده شده است. گهنبارها شش بار در سال و هر بار در مدت پنج روز برگزار می شوند. معمولاً هر خانه ای گهنباری را در سال بر عهده داشته است. در روز گهنبار افراد به همراه موبد به خانه فرد می رفتند و پس از خواندن اوستاهای در پیوند با گهنبار، با مجموعه ای از میوه های خشک (لُرک) یا نان یا فورشت از افراد پذیرایی می شد.



امروزه مخصوصاً در کشورهای غربی، زرتشتیان برای گهنبار در سالن های درمهر جمع می شوند و ابتدا اوستای بایسته توسط موبد خوانده می شود و پس از آن از افراد پذیرایی می شود و افراد با یکدیگر دیدوبازدید دارند. افرادی از جامعه هزینه های مربوط به هر چهره گهنبار را پرداخت می کنند و شرکت کنندگان در گهنبار هم فیراندیشی ها خود را برای درمهر پیشکش می کنند.

شوربختانه در وضعیت کنونی امکان گردهم آیی وجود ندارد اما معمولاً به صورت آنلاین اوستافوانی انجام می شود که می توانید به صورت زنده از کانال یوتیوب انجمن زرتشتیان اونتاریو ببینید. با فرستادن پک یا به صورت آنلاین مبالغ فیراندیشی خود را به انجمن ارسال نمایید.

انتخابات هیات مدیره کانون فرهنگی زرتشتیان ایرانی

کانون فرهنگی زرتشتیان ایرانی زیرمجموعه ای از انجمن زرتشتیان اونتاریو است که بیشتر بر بخش ایرانی و به ویژه زبان فارسی تمرکز دارد. این کانون در طول سالیان تلاش کرده که جشن ها و



فرهنگ ایرانی را در بین خانواده ها و به ویژه نسل جوان زنده نگه دارد. امسال با

وضعیت پیش آمده و نبودن امکان گردهم آیی، کانون تلاش کرد تا باز هم از راه آنلاین جشن ها و مراسم را اجرا کند.



براساس برنامه همیشگی، انتخابات هیات مدیره جدید کانون در تاریخ ۱۷ اکتبر ۲۰۲۱ ساعت ۱۱ صبح آنلاین برگزار خواهد شد که لینک آن را دریافت خواهید کرد. بسیار خوب است که همکاری بیشتری در کانون داشته باشید. برای این تا تاریخ ۱۰ اکتبر آمادگی خود را با فرستادن ایمیل به kanoun@zso.org اعلام نمایید.

کمک مالی به انجمن های ایران

شوربختانه به دلیل همه گیری کووید ۱۹ در همه جای جهان و به ویژه ایران، وضعیت اجتماعی و اقتصادی بسیار نابسامان شده است. با وجود دفترهای انتقال پول می توانید به راحتی به مساب انجمن های زرتشتی ایران برای کمک به نیازمندان خیراندیشی کنید. بسیار مهم است که در این زمان مبلغی را هر چند کم به طور مرتب به این امر اختصاص بدهید.

کانال تلگرامی کانون فرهنگی زرتشتیان اونتاریو

با پیوستن به گروه تلگرامی کانون فرهنگی زرتشتیان ایرانی از افبار و برنامه های جامعه آگاه شوید. نشانی این کانال تلگرامی را به آگاهی دیگران هم برسانید. نشانی کانال تلگرامی: <https://t.me/zsokanoun> با کانون به نشانی kanoun@zso.org نیز می توانید در تماس باشید و نظرها، پیشنهادها و خبرها را بفرستید.

پشتیبان مالی انجمن را به یاد داشته باشید

به دلیل وضعیت موجود در پیوند با ویروس کووید-۱۹، محل درمهر و انجمن بر روی عموم بسته می باشد. این وضعیت تا آگاهی رسانی دولت استان اونتاریو ادامه خواهد داشت. با توجه به عدم حضور افراد در محل درمهر، کمک های خیراندیشی نیز کاهش یافته است، در حالی که هزینه های ثابت انجمن و درمهر باید پرداخت شوند. امیدواریم مانند همیشه پشتیبانی و کمک شما اعضای انجمن ادامه داشته باشد. کمک های مالی خود را با فرستادن چک یا پرداخت آنلاین ادامه بدهید. با توجه به اقدام دولت اونتاریو در بازگشایی مرحله به مرحله مکان های عمومی و تجاری، انجمن زرتشتیان اونتاریو نیز در حال برنامه ریزی برای بازگشایی مرحله به مرحله درمهر است. خبرهای در این زمینه را از راه ایمیل انجمن دریافت خواهید کرد.

ورزش و سلامتی



با توجه به در خواست وزارت بهداشت کانادا و به منظور جلوگیری از گسترش ویروس کرونا هیچ گردهمایی و رویداد ورزشی برگزار نخواهد شد. اما تلاش کنید که با انجام ورزشی های فردی یا خانوادگی مانند راه پیمایی یا انواع نرمش یا استفاده از برنامه های آنلاین ورزش کنید. ورزش در سلامت تن و رومیه اتان بسیار موثر است.



اگر می توانید برنامه های ورزشی را به صورت آنلاین برگزار کنید، کانون و انجمن را از این موضوع باخبر کنید تا دیگر اعضا هم به شما پیوندند.

لطفاً مق عضویت خود را به انجمن پرداخت نمایید

با پرداخت مق عضویت خود، هم انجمن را از نظر مالی پشتیبانی کنید و هم این که هم‌ا‌زوری خود را با انجمن و جامعه نشان بدهید. مق عضویت خود را می‌توانید به صورت آنلاین از تارنمای انجمن یا با فرستادن چک و پر کردن فرم مربوط پرداخت کنید. فرزندان تان که به فوشمالی بزرگ شده‌اند و زندگی جدیدی تشکیل داده‌اند و دوستان و آشنایان خود را برای پیوند به انجمن از راه پرداخت مق عضویت برانگیزید.

نشر نوشته در بخش فارسی خبرنامه

در صورتی که مایل به انتشار نوشته‌هایی کوتاه در مورد تاریخ، دین، سنت یا موضوع‌های اجتماعی هستید می‌توانید نوشته خود را به فارسی و حداکثر در هفت خط برای انتشار در بخش فارسی خبرنامه به نشانی ایمیل کانون بفرستید. در صورت طولانی بودن، این نوشته‌ها می‌توانند در چند بخش و در هر شماره منتشر شوند. طبیعتاً این نوشته‌ها در صورت نیاز پس از نظرخواهی و داوری افراد متخصص منتشر خواهد شد. انتشار نوشته به مجله خبر خبرنامه هم بستگی خواهد داشت.

مناسبت‌ها و رخدادهای ماه گذشته

رخدادها

پیوند ازدواج مهشاد فسرویانی و فرزانه تاجاکرا را شادباش می‌گوییم.

به دنیا آمدن دنا فرزند ندا پورکیانی و وهرام همتی را شادباش می‌گوییم.

درگذشت فریدون فسرویانی را به فویشان و نزدیکان آن روانشاد آرامش باد گفته و برای بازماندگان تندرستی و دیرزیوی آرزومندییم.

درگذشت بهرام نمیرانیان را به فویشان و نزدیکان آن روانشاد آرامش باد گفته و برای بازماندگان تندرستی و دیرزیوی آرزومندییم.

Coffee Chat with International Zoroastrian Youth – Sheherazad Kapadia

“Don’t hesitate to share your ideas or vision for the change that you seek. Try it out, have a go, keep nurturing your passion and learn along the way.” – Sheherazad



Can you please tell us a bit about yourself?

Hi my name is Sheherazad F. Kapadia. I am a Master's student in London, studying Occupational Therapy. My background is in children's mental health, and I have an interest in researching health inequalities. Today, conversations around wellbeing can often be limited to our physical health. I am passionate about broadening that dialogue, giving as much importance to our mental health, within our community and beyond.

... more interestingly, my other passions include eating chocolate, beating my brother at Monopoly, and going to

Nando's with my Grandma!

Your grandparents live with you; how do you keep them connected with the local Zoroastrian community? We have a lot of senior members who are avid readers of our monthly newsletters, how would you say we could do more to keep our senior members of the community engaged and connected during as well as post lockdowns?

Great question! For me, it is mutual. The great thing about my grandparents is their openness. We often chat about their childhoods and how the world/community was when they were growing up, and in turn, they listen to stories about the youth. This way, I learn about our culture's past, and they know about our community's future.

The pandemic has been a tough time for many of us. However, I feel that the global Zoroastrian youth has really stepped up. The online zoom events have been significant in connecting our community. My Grandma, for example, has been able to participate in a Zoroastrian fitness class run by a Young Zoroastrian called Danny Master. This has allowed her to maintain her physical and mental health whilst also being a great social activity. A whole new world has opened-up for her and it will surely be sustained past the lockdown.

You've done quite a fair share of travel yourself and currently serve on the FEZANA NGO committee, can you tell us a little about your experiences? Why do you like to volunteer on these social projects? Why do you think serving on these international organisations are important for the Zoro youth?

Yes, I love to travel. I really hope to see as much of the world as possible. I encourage more people to travel, there is never a good time and going in groups can be a great way to stay safe.

Volunteering is simply something I enjoy. I volunteer on social projects because they interest me, and I am passionate about making a difference. The people I meet are also a big part of why I enjoy working on social projects. I've learnt so much from my volunteering roles personally and professionally. Volunteering is very much a two-way street; it allows me to give my time to a cause I believe in, and in return I can use my skills to help others.

How important do you think it is to work closely and in collaboration with the international Zoroastrian organisations such as ZTFE (Europe), ZYNG (India), ZSO (Canada), FEZANA (North America), UK ZY, etc.?

Collaboration is key. The pandemic has brought a lot of pain, and I believe now more than ever is our time to come together as a community. Virtual events have been a significant catalyst, allowing for greater cohesion amongst the Zoroastrian associations worldwide!

Initiatives like this are small ways to foster a global voice and in bringing our international community closer. It is also about collaborating within our associations, ensuring that we socialize across the generations and learn from one another.

How excited are you co-chairing the upcoming 8th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress to be held in London, 2023? What are you looking forward to the most?

Very excited! It's an exciting time for the Zoroastrian Youth in the UK. I hope we can pull off an insightful congress for the international Zoroastrian Youth to enjoy. What I am looking forward to the most is bringing people together, helping youth find common ground, and building stronger foundations for the future of the Zoroastrian Community. I hope anyone who attends the congress leaves with a sense of hope for our community's future, alongside some thoughts about how they can contribute - just one goal, one change, one difference - that would impact our community for the better would make this meaningful.

Lastly, what message do you have for our young members reading this and in what ways can they make an impact?

I say, be yourself. Everyone has a strength, whether it is being a great listener, graphic designing or coming up with novel ideas. Your impact is whatever you believe you can bring to the table. One thing I love about the Zoroastrian community is our diverse skillset. We can all bring something different to the table, and I think it's time to harness those skills for growth. Don't hesitate to share your ideas or vision for the change that you seek. Try it out, have a go, keep nurturing your passion and learn along the way. Good luck to our youth!

Thanks, Sherri, for your volunteer work and inspiring the youth. Good luck and hope to see you all at the 8th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress!

Journey to Yazdegerd Castle

Synopsis

Dr. Edward Keall is a British-Canadian archeologist, and he is in his 80s. In his younger years, he became interested in the history of Iran as a student of history at a university in London. He then traveled to Iran, where he worked as an assistant to some outstanding Western archeologists on different heritage sites such as Persepolis, Pasargadae, and Susa. Upon his return, he headed to Canada and collaborated with the Royal Ontario Museum and then became a Canadian Citizen. In 1974, he was commissioned by the Royal Ontario Museum to go to Kermanshah, Iran. On this trip, he was accompanied by his wife and his two young children as well as a crew and excavation equipment. His relentless excavation operations in Yazdegerd Castle in Babayadegar area of Kermanshah led to significant historical discoveries dated from the Sassanid and the Achaemenid reigns. This mysterious castle which embodies an old civilization leaves Edward Keall with confusing accounts about the name of the castle of Yazdegerd III, the last king of the Sassanid Empire, and the magnificent architecture of the period.

Why this Documentary?

The Importance of Learning about the Cultural Heritage of Iran

Iran is one of the few countries which embodies in its old civilization and culture a collection of archeological hills, castles, palaces, temples, and places of worship, which make it unique when viewed in relation to other historical and architectural heritage sites as well as its fascinating anthropological variety.

Beside the discovered artifacts which speak of human existence dating back to hundreds of thousands of years as well as the advent of agriculture, animal husbandry, and villages going back to approximately ten thousand years ago, what makes Iran stand out among the other regions of the world is the birth of first cities, governments, writing systems, and trade in that land. The Elamites established the first government system in the south and south-west of the Iranian Plateau about five thousand years ago, and from then on, the history of Iran which is rife with many ups and downs took on a new shape and quality. In the 6th century BC, Cyrus the Great founded the great Achaemenid Empire and established a government never seen before that date. The Achaemenid Empire ruled the largest unified land of the period with its varied cultures and peoples, while making modern laws and policies which reflected the unique vision and wisdom of Cyrus the Great. From that period to the 7th century AD, the Achaemenids, the Seleucids, the Parthians, and the Sassanids were the dynasties that ruled the great expanse of the Southern Asia and left innumerable memories in their trails.

In the 19th and the 20th centuries, many historical curtains of mystery were removed thanks to the numerous archeological discoveries in every corner of this land, and Iranians were introduced to the grandeur of their past, the artisanship of their ancestors and their historical identity after centuries of silence and oblivion. Without a doubt, the Western historians and archeologists played a pivotal role in these discoveries, and if it were not for the works of these scholars, a great part of these discoveries would still be shrouded in mystery.

For the most part, what we know about the ancient writing and language in the Iranian Plateau as well as the discoveries in such areas as Persepolis or Parseh, Pasargadae and Susa among others, are thanks to the tireless efforts of the Western scholars.

Iran and a Buried Civilization

Iran and its several-thousand-year-old history with its ups and downs has been an area of interest for the orientalist of the world. It is a country whose name has been associated with such terms as terrorism and violence in recent years instead of being reminiscent of its historical grandeur and civilization, and this had been due to the political tensions between the Islamic regime and most of the Western countries especially the US.

Given the influx of Iranians immigrating to different countries in the past forty years seeking a better life, the second and the third-generation immigrants will feel an exuberant sense of pride once they are introduced to the rich and ancient history of Iran, and this will help them overcome any feeling of shame. Thus, they will have an opportunity to learn about the culture and rich and ancient civilization and history of their country and read it in a new light and draw lessons from it.

But what does this country offer that has drawn the archaeologists, scholars, and Iranologists to every corner of this country for more than one hundred years, to conduct historical excavation and explore its culture and time and time again discover a treasure of art or history in this land of mysteries using the modern technology and knowhow?

As a documentary filmmaker, I first learnt about this culture and the profound and meaningful civilization to a small extent. This was while I was making the film "Avaz Khoda" (Song of God), which is about the Tanbur players of Yarsan tribe, who are the followers of Mithraism and Zoroastrianism still living today, and by researching numerous books and written materials. Following the screening of this film in many academies in different cities and countries, a great majority of the young people were fascinated with this glimpse into this civilization, and the interesting medium of cinema which had ignited their enthusiasm for the history of their country and in particular its magnificent periods.

A while ago, I met a Canadian-British archaeologist by the name of Dr. Edward Keall, who is one of the directors of the Royal Ontario Museum and a retired professor of the University of Toronto.

His story and his passion for the history and civilization of Iran and the excavations and explorations he had done with his team in ancient sites in different cities of Iran and in particular the Castle of Yazdegerd in Kermanshah inspired me to make a documentary about him as it relates to Yazdegerd III, the last king of the Sassanid Empire.

Dr. Keall has valuable memories of his stay in Iran and his excavations in that country from 1967 to 1978, which is a source of pride for all generations of Iranians. This film will also serve as a token of appreciation to a non-Iranian scholar who has built a bridge between the buried cultural heritage of our ancient country and the modern Western world with his passion for archaeology.

Edward Keall: From London to Tehran

Edward Keall was born and raised in England. In 1962 while he was at university studying Ancient History, he bought a ticket and travelled to Iran to satisfy his adventure-seeking personality. Although he had no former familiarity with the country, he was soon impressed by what he calls a several-thousand-year-old culture and civilization. His first assignments included the excavations in Pasargad, the first capital city of the Achaemenids. He tried to learn the Farsi language. He has many stories to share about his interest in learning the teachings of Zoroastrianism and his attempts to see the Zoroastrian fire temples in Fars province and his arrest by the police. He talks about his adventures to see the inaccessible and remote archaeological areas and he sought shelter in a cave where he spent the night thirsty and starving, in the 60s and the 70s.

As for his most important project, Dr. Edward Keall says it was the excavation of the castle of Yazdegerd in Babayadegar region in Dalahoo in Kermanshah. Once, one of the students of the Persian Studies who was studying the Ahl-e Hagh people in Kermanshah happened to talk to Edward Keall about the ruins of the region. In 1964, Edward visited that region for the first time to start his research on the ruins of the castle of Yazdegerd. Shortly after, he left Iran and settled in Canada.

In 1975, he was commissioned by the Royal Ontario Museum to go to Iran and Babayadegar region to excavate Yazdegerd castle accompanied by his wife and daughter. He has many interesting stories to narrate about his stay in Iran including reaching the site of the castle which was very challenging with no roads or facilities and finding the relics belonging to the Sassanid period.

Note: Currently, the Royal Ontario Museum has dedicated part of the museum to display the discoveries of Dr. Edward Keall in Yazdegerd Castle.



Yazdegerd Castle and Different Accounts

There are different accounts regarding the naming the castle after Yazdegerd III, the last Sassanid King. According to the local people, Yazdegerd and his daughter, Shahrbanoo, took refuge in the castle following the Arab invasion, among

other accounts which have no basis. However, the discovered relics undoubtedly place this castle to a period before the Sassanids and the end of Parthians.

This collection has 10 structures including plastered walls, kitchens, gates, scaffolding, domes, and Davar Fortress. Davar Fortress is a construction left from the Sassanid period which has been used as a fire temple. It is located in the village of Baan in Gonbad, and it was repurposed as a glass making workshop during the Islamic period.

Registering an Archaeological Heritage from the Documentary Standpoint

Drawing on the life story of Dr. Edward Keall as the discoverer of this mysterious and historical castle, the documentary “Journey to Yazdegerd” aims to serve as a bridge between this archaeologist as a symbol of Western curiosity and adventure in discovering the cultural heritage of the East and Iran as a symbol of the East with its several-thousand-year-old history and culture. The objective is for the viewer, regardless of age, nationality, or race to be introduced to the glorious history of this ancient land and in particular the glorious reigns of its great rulers.

As a documentary filmmaker, I will attempt to create an interesting depiction for the general public and the enthusiasts, a documentary which will be capable of being screened in cultural and academic circles as well as in the film festivals. In view of the financial restrictions in creating this documentary, I as the director will endeavour to utilize the film archives and drawings to depict the subjects referred to by Dr. Keall about his life in Iran and the history surrounding the Yazdegerd Castle and the Sassanids as well as the archaeological monuments such as the Zoroastrian fire temple.



About the Director

Aref Mohammadi was born in Tehran. As well as studying Persian Literature at Azad University in the city of Karaj, he also completed a program of study in Film Making. Aref made a few short films and worked as an assistant director in professional cinema and theatre industry, gaining valuable experience.

In 1994 he immigrated to Germany and in 1999 to Canada. From then on, he collaborated with a number of Persian language media organisations as a journalist, film critic and TV program making director. He also graduated from a two-year program of study in Migrant Social Work Counselling from George Brown College in Canada, with an Associate Diploma. He gained valuable knowledge in the types of issues migrants face.

Since 2001, he has been working with various weekly magazines and websites on cinema, in Iran and abroad. In addition to reviewing domestic and foreign films, he has been in continued dialogue with noted Iranian artists.

A comprehensive collection of Aref Mohammadi's conversations, titled Iranian Cinema, Yesterday and Today, has been published in Iran.

His TV programs with titles such as, Film, Cinema and the World of Cinema has been received with popular enthusiasm in Persian Satellite Networks in many countries. In 2003, Aref established the cultural and artistic group called, Mowje No (New Wave), in Toronto, in order to hold gatherings where film aficionados would learn, critique, and review films.

In 2010, Aref was accepted to a Master's degree program in Digital Documentary Making at Ryerson University. His main focus, professionally, has been the Iranian cinema. He has given numerous lectures on the history of the Iranian cinema at the Universities of Ottawa, Calgary, Waterloo, Concordia, Toronto, Ryerson and Guelph.

He has made two short documentaries. The first one is entitled The Bus, and it is about the first woman bus driver in Iran. The second is called Bright Horizons, which is about the first female mechanic in Iran.

A survivor from Magadan – 2012 is his first feature-length documentary, which has received international acclaim and has been given a number of prestigious awards, such as The Best Documentary, in the Festival of Light in Los Angeles, Best Documentary by the Canadian Ethnic Media Association in Canada. The Toronto Star did a feature article on him for receiving these awards, expanding on Aref's cinematic activities.

https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2014/08/22/meet_aref_mohammadi_the_elwy_yost_of_persian_film_fiorito.html

Song of God, is his latest documentary that was released in 2018 with several successful screenings in Toronto and was met with unprecedented accolades for a documentary. Song of God has been screened in many film festivals of note in Canada, the USA, Europe and Asia and has won several premiums, such as Golden Fox (India), Best Documentary at San Francisco festival, and best film by the APTN in Canada.

<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm5125576/>

Journey to Yazdegerd Castle is Aref Mohammadi's latest effort that is currently in the post-production and completion stages.

سفر به قلعه یزدگرد

Journey to Yazdegerd Castle

خلاصه داستان Synopsis

دکتر ادوارد کیل باستان شناس انگلیسی- کانادایی که اکنون هشتمین دهه زندگی را پشت سر میگذارد، در سنین جوانی وقتی در دانشگاهی در لندن تاریخ باستان میخوانده به تاریخ ایران علاقمند میشود و به ایران سفر میکند و به عنوان دستیار باستان شناسان مهم غربی در سایت های مختلفی چون تخت جمشید، پاسارگاد، شوش همکاری میکند. پس از بازگشت، راهی کانادا شده و با موزه سلطنتی انتاریو همکاری میکند. چند سال بعد و با دریافت شهروندی کانادا در سال ۱۹۷۴، همراه با همسر و دو فرزند خردسالش با یک تیم و تجهیزات حفاری از سوی موزه سلطنتی به کرمانشاه اعزام میشوند. او پس از تلاش فراوان در حفاری قلعه یزدگرد در منطقه بابایادگار کرمانشاه به کشفیاتی تاریخی از دوره اشکانیان و ساسانیان نائل میشود. این قلعه اسرارآمیز با تمدنی کهن، ادوارد کیل را با روایت هایی سرگردان از نام قلعه یزدگرد سوم، آخرین پادشاه سلسله ساسانیان و شکوه معماری در آن دوران مواجه میکند...

انگیزه های ساخت این مستند

✓ اهمیت آشنایی با میراث های فرهنگی ایران

شاید کمتر کشوری را همچون ایران بتوان یافت که با قدمتی کهن در تمدن و فرهنگ، مجموعه ای از تپه های باستانی، قلعه ها، کاخها، معابد، پرستشگاه ها و بسیاری دیگر از بقایای تاریخی و معماری را با گوناگونی کم نظیر و چشمگیر مردم شناختی در کنار هم قرار داده باشد.

به غیر از آثار مکشوفه ای که نمایانگر قدمت حضور انسان از صدها هزار سال پیش بوده و میزبان نخستین کشاورزان و دامداران و روستاها از حدود ده هزار سال پیش است، آنچه ایران را از دیگر مناطق جهان متمایز می کند وجود نخستین شهرها، حکومتها، خط و نگارش، و داد و ستدهای تجاری است. قریب به پنج هزار سال پیش ایلامیان در بخش جنوب و جنوب غربی فلات ایران نخستین ساختار حکومتی را بنیان گذاشتند و از آن پس تاریخ پر فراز و نشیب ایران رنگ و بوی دیگری به خود گرفت. در سده ی ششم پیش از میلاد مسیح، کورش بزرگ با ایجاد امپراطوری وسیع هخامنشی بانی حکومتی شد که تا آن زمان نظیر نداشت. حکومت بر وسیع ترین سرزمین یکپارچه با فرهنگ ها و اقوام متنوع درون آن، همراه با وضع قوانین و مقررات نوینی که ناشی از درایت بی همتای او بود. از آن تاریخ تا سده ی هفتم پس از میلاد، سلسله های پادشاهی هخامنشی، سلوکی، اشکانی (پارتی) و ساسانی بر پهنه ی وسیعی از غرب آسیا حکمرانی کردند و یادگارهای بی شماری از خود به جا گذاشتند.

در سده های نوزدهم و بیستم میلادی، پس از قرنهای خاموشی و بی خبری ایرانیان از عظمت، پهنای و هنرمندی نیاکانشان، و به دلیل کاوشهای بسیار باستان شناختی در جای جای این سرزمین، پرده های رمز آلود بسیاری به کنار زده شد و بار دیگر هویت تاریخی ایران بر همگان آشکار گردید. بی شک جایگاه و تلاشهای باستان شناسان و مورخان مغرب زمین بر کسی پوشیده نیست و اگر نبود آنچه را که این کاوشگران و پژوهشگران کردند شاید بسیاری از این کشفیات هنوز در پرده ای از ابهام مانده بود.

بسیاری از آنچه را که از خط و زبان باستانی فلات ایران می دانیم، همچنین کاوشهای مناطقی همچون تخت جمشید یا پارسه، پاسارگاد، شوش و بسیاری دیگر مدیون تلاشهای خستگی ناپذیر آنهاست.

✓ ایران و تمدنی مدفون شده

کشور ایران با تمدنی چند هزارساله و با تاریخی پر فراز و نشیب همواره مورد توجه شرق شناسان جهان بوده است. کشوری که در سال های اخیر به دلیل تنش های سیاسی حکومت اسلامی پس از انقلاب با بیشتر کشورهای غربی و در راس آنها آمریکا نامش به جای یادآوری آن شکوه و تمدن با واژه هایی چون تروریست و خشونت برای بیشتر غربیان نا آشنا با تاریخ این سرزمین کهن عجین شده است.

با سیل مهاجرت ایرانیان بیشمار در چهل سال اخیر به کشورهای مختلف جهان با هدف زندگی و رفاه و امنیت بیشتر، نسل های دوم و سوم مهاجر وقتی با تاریخ و تمدن غنی چند هزار ساله کشورشان آشنا میشوند آن حس خودکوچک بینی جای خود را به غرور و مباحثات خشنود کننده ای میدهد که با افتخار از پیشینه کشورشان یاد کنند و از این طریق با فرهنگ و آموزه های پربار تمدن و فرهنگ کهن خود بیشتر آشنا شوند و آن را بازخوانی کنند و درس بگیرند.

اما این کشور چه دارد که بیش از صد سال است که باستان شناسان و محققان و ایران شناسان دنیا را به گوشه و کنار این کشور می کشاند تا به حفر تاریخی و فرهنگی این خاک مشغول شوند و هر بار بخشی از گنجینه های هنری و تاریخی این سرزمین پر رمز و راز را با استفاده از دانش و تکنولوژی پیشرفته که امروز در دست آنان است کشف کنند؟

به عنوان یک مستندساز بار اول و به هنگام تهیه فیلم آواز خدا " در مورد تنبور نوازان قوم یارسان که از بازماندگان آیین مهر پرستی و پیروان آموزه های زرتشت هستند" و با جستجو در کتاب ها و نوشته های بیشمار با قسمت کوچکی از این فرهنگ و تمدن عمیق و پر معنا آشنا شدم و پس از نمایش فیلم در جشنواره ها و شهر ها و کشورهای مختلف بسیاری از تماشاگران و به ویژه جوانان امروز از آشنایی مختصر با این تمدن شگفت زده شده بودند و معتقد بودند تا که به واسطه جذابیت رسانه ای چون سینما به آشنایی بیشتر با تاریخ کشورشان به ویژه دوره های با شکوه آن گرایش پیدا کردند.

چندی پیش با یک باستان شناس کانادایی انگلیسی تبار به نام دکتر ادوارد کیل آشنا شدم که از مدیران موزه سلطنتی انتاریو و استاد بازنشسته دانشگاه تورنتو می باشد.

وقتی با داستان علاقمندی او به تاریخ و تمدن ایران و کاوش ها و حفاری او و تیمش در مناطق باستانی در شهرهای مختلف ایران به ویژه کشف قلعه یزدگرد در کرمانشاه توسط تیم او آشنا شدم به فکر ساخت مستندی از او و ارتباط آن با یزدگرد سوم آخرین پادشاه ساسانی افتادم. قلعه ای که ویرانه های آن با رد پای آتشکده زرتشتیان یادگار بخشی از تمدن کهن و با شکوه از دوران ساسانیان میباشد.

دکتر کیل خاطرات ارزشمندی از اقامت و کاوش های چند ساله اش از ۱۹۶۷-۱۹۷۸ در ایران دارد که برای هر ایرانی از هر نسلی میتواند مایه مباحثات باشد و همچنین قدرانی از بیگانه ای که به واسطه شوق باستان شناسی پلی بین میراث فرهنگی مدفون کشور باستانی ما با جهان مدرن غرب شده است.

✓ادوارد کیل : از لندن تا تهران

ادوارد کیل که در انگلستان متولد و بزرگ شده است در سال ۱۹۶۲ و هنگامی که در دانشگاه، تاریخ باستان میخوانده با روحیه ماجراجویانه اش بلیتی گرفته و به ایران سفر میکند. او بدون هیچ آشنایی قبلی با این کشور خیلی زود تحت تاثیر فرهنگ و تمدن به گفته خودش چند هزار ساله این سرزمین قرار میگیرد. اولین ماموریتش همکاری در کاوش های اولین پایتخت هخامنشی پاسارگاد می باشد. تلاش میکند تا زبان فارسی را یاد بگیرد. او خاطرات بسیاری از علاقمندی اش به یادگیری آموزه های دین زرتشت، تلاش برای دیدن آتشکده های زرتشتی در فارس و دستگیری اش از سوی پلیس دارد. از ماجراجویی هایش برای دیدن مناطق صعب العبور باستانی و پناه بردن به غاری در شبی با تشنگی و گرسنگی در همان سال های دهه شصت و هفتاد میلادی.

دکتر ادوارد کیل اما مهمترین ماموریتش در باستان شناسی در ایران را حفاری قلعه یزدگرد در منطقه بابایادگار در دالاهوی کرمانشاه میداند. یکبار، یکی از دانشجویان مطالعات فارسی که روی مردم اهل حق در کرمانشاه کار میکرد در مورد ویرانه هایی در آن منطقه با ادوارد کیل صحبت میکند. ادوارد در سال ۱۹۶۴ برای اولین بار به آن منطقه میرود تا تحقیقاتش را روی ویرانه های قلعه یزدگرد انجام دهد. او مدتی بعد ایران را ترک کرده و مقیم کانادا میشود. در سال ۱۹۷۵ و اینبار با ماموریتی از سوی موزه سلطنتی انتاریو همراه با همسر و دختر خردسالش به ایران و منطقه بابایادگار برای حفاری قلعه یزدگرد اعزام میشود که حاوی داستان های جالبی در طی اقامتش در ایران و راه یافتن به محل قلعه که در آن زمان با نبود جاده و امکانات رفاهی بسیار دشوار بوده و کشف بقایای آثار باستانی مربوط به دوران ساسانیان میشود.

●مهم : در حال حاضر موزه سلطنتی انتاریو(Royal Ontario Museum) بخشی از موزه را به دستاورد های دکتر ادوارد کیل در قلعه یزدگرد اختصاص داده است و در معرض بازدید عموم قرار گرفته است.



• قلعه یزدگرد و روایت های سرگردان

در مورد نامگذاری قلعه به نام یزدگرد سوم، آخرین پادشاه ساسانی، روایت های سرگردان متعددی وجود دارد . به روایت اهالی بومی منطقه، یزدگرد و دخترش شهربانو پس از حمله اعراب به این قلعه پناه شده بودند و حکایت های دیگری که در اصل سندیتی ندارند، اما آنچه مسلم است نشانه بقایای اثری است که دکتر کیل به دست آورده و قدمت این قلعه را به قبل تر از دوره ساسانی و اواخر دوره اشکانی نسبت میدهد.

در این مجموعه ی باستانی ۱۰ بنا قرار دارد که می توان به دیوار گچی، آشپزخانه، دروازه، جای دار، تپه رش، قلعه یزدگرد، گچ گمبد، قلعه داور، نقارخانه و آشیه و اشاره کرد. در این میان قلعه داور بنایی باقیمانده از دوران ساسانیان است که به عنوان آتشکده مورد استفاده قرار گرفته است. این اثر در روستای بان گنبد قرار دارد و در دوران اسلامی به کارگاه شیشهگری تغییر کاربری داده است.

• ثبت یک میراث باستانی از دریچه فیلم مستند

مستند **سفر به قلعه یزدگرد** قصد دارد به بهانه سرگذشت دکتر ادوارد کیل به عنوان کاوشگر این قلعه اسرارآمیز و تاریخی، پلی بین این باستان شناس به عنوان نمادی از جستجوگری و ماجراجویی غرب در کشف میراث های فرهنگی شرق و کشور ایران به عنوان نمادی از شرق با تمدن و فرهنگی چند هزارساله بزند تا با تماشای تنها یکی از آثار باستانی کشف شده، بینندگان در هر رده سنی و ملیتی و نژادی با پیشینه این سرزمین باستانی و به ویژه دوران شکوه فرمانروایان این سرزمین اهورایی آشنا شوند. به عنوان کارگردان در ساختار این مستند با توجه به امکانات مالی تلاش خواهم کرد با استفاده از آرشیوها و فیلم ها و خلق نقاشی هایی در ارتباط با موضوعاتی که دکتر ادوارد کیل در ارتباط با زندگی در ایران و هر آنچه مربوط به تاریخ قلعه یزدگرد و ساسانیان و آثار و اندیشه های مربوط به آن دوران مثل آتشکده های زرتشتیان سخن میگوید، روایتی جذاب برای عموم بینندگان و علاقمندان به این موضوعات بسازم که بتوان در محافل فرهنگی و دانشگاهی و رسانه ها و فستیوال های فیلم به نمایش در آورد .



در باره کارگردان

عارف محمدی متولد شهر تهران، همزمان با تحصیل در دانشگاه آزاد کرج در رشته ادبیات فارسی، دوره فیلمسازی را نیز به پایان برد. همزمان با ساخت چند فیلم کوتاه، در تئاتر و سینمای حرفه ای نیز با عنوان دستیار کارگردان تجربه هایی را کسب کرد.

در سال ۱۹۹۴ به آلمان و سپس در سال ۱۹۹۹ به کانادا مهاجرت کرد و از همان زمان با رسانه های متعدد فارسی زبان به عنوان روزنامه نگار، منتقد فیلم و برنامه ساز تلویزیونی همکاری کرد. او یک دوره دو ساله مددکاری اجتماعی در شاخه مشاوره در امور مهاجران را نیز با مدرک فوق دیپلم از کالج جورج براون کانادا به پایان برد که انرا تجربه خوبی در شناخت مسایل و مشکلات مهاجران ارزیابی می کند. او از سال ۲۰۰۱ تا کنون با هفته نامه ها و سایت های سینمایی متعددی در ایران و خارج از ایران همکاری کرده و علاوه بر بررسی فیلمهای روز سینمای ایران و جهان، گفتگوهای زیادی با هنرمندان مطرح ایرانی داشته است. مجموعه گفتگوهای عارف محمدی تحت عنوان کتابی به نام **سینمای ایران، امروز، دیروز** در ایران منتشر شد. کانادای برنامه های تلویزیونی او با نامهای فیلم و سینما و جهان سینما در شبکه های ماهواره ی فارسی زبان با استقبال زیادی در کشورهای مختلف روبرو شد. عارف در سال ۲۰۰۳ گروه فرهنگی و هنری موج نو را به منظور برگزاری جلسات نقد و بررسی و آموزش سینما برای علاقمندان در شهر تورنتو تاسیس کرد.

عارف که در سال ۲۰۱۰ در رشته فوق لیسانس مستند سازی دیجیتال در دانشگاه رایرسون نیز پذیرفته شد بیشترین گرایش را به طور تخصصی روی سینمای ایران داشته است و در زمینه تاریخ سینمای ایران سخنرانیهای متعددی را در دانشگاههای اتاوا، کلگری، واترلو، کنکوردیا، تورنتو، رایرسون و گوتلف در کانادا داشته است.

او دو مستند کوتاه به نام های اتوبوس در باره اولین راننده اتوبوس زن در ایران و افق های روشن در باره اولین مکانیک زن در ایران ساخته است. بازمانده ای از ماگادان -۲۰۱۲ اولین مستند بلند او در چند جشنواره بین المللی شرکت و جوایز متعددی چون بهترین مستند جشنواره نور در لس آنجلس و بهترین مستند رسانه های قومی کانادا را نیز کسب کرد و روزنامه تورنتو استار کانادا به همین مناسبت مقاله ویژه ای را به عارف محمدی و فعالیت های سینمای اش اختصاص داد.

(لینک مطلب)

https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2014/08/22/meet_aref_mohammadi_the_elwy_vost_of_persian_film_fiorito.html

. آواز خدا (۲۰۱۸) جدیدترین مستند به نمایش در آمده او در سال ۲۰۱۸ می باشد که چند نمایش موفقیت آمیز در تورنتو داشت و با استقبال کم نظیری برای یک فیلم مستند مواجه شد. آواز خدا در فستیوال های معتبری در کانادا، آمریکا و اروپا و آسیا شرکت کرد و جوایز متعددی نیز همچون روباه طلایی (هندوستان) جشنواره ادیان (اندونزی) بهترین مستند جشنواره سانفرانسیسکو و بهترین فیلم رسانه های قومی کانادا را کسب کرد.

سفر به قلعه یزدگرد آخرین مستند عارف محمدی مراحل پایانی و پس از تولید را می گذراند.

(عارف محمدی در سایت معتبر آی.ام.دی.بی)

<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm5125576>



World Zoroastrian Organization, U.S. Region Ltd.

6943 Fieldstone Drive, Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527-5295

Phone: (630) 654-8828 . Fax: (630) 654-8838 . kayomehta@aol.com

Request Your Urgent Consideration for an Unfortunate Victim of a Tragic Accident

A young man Marzban Gustadji Panthaky (40), residing at Ava Baug, Navsari, India has met with a very serious accident on the Highway, whilst returning home from work at Udvada on August 24, 2021. He commutes daily on his bike from Navsari to Udvada and back as he works for the Udvada Anjuman on a salary of Rs.12,000 pm.

He has been admitted to I.N.S. Hospital at Surat, where he underwent emergency brain surgery due to multiple clots. His skull has been damaged for which open brain surgery has been done. He has also fractured his hips and there are multiple injuries on other parts of his body.

The road to recovery is going to be very long. The expenses on the present surgery is initially estimated to cost in the region of Rs.700,000 but I am sure with other surgeries on fractured hips and other parts of the body, extended stay in the hospital are going to escalate the expenses to around Rs.1,500,000 or more. (Approximately USD 25K).

The family is economically challenged and unable to afford the medical expenses. His wife is a small-time lawyer earning around Rs.10,000 to Rs.15,000 per month. The couple have a young son who is being trained to become a 'Navar', undergoing online training through Er. Dr. Ramiyar Karanjia of Dadar Athornan Institute.

Marzban Panthaky needs our help. With your assistance, we can help him meet his Medical Expenses in his hour of need. We request your generous Donations to help him recover from his condition. **Please donate generously to WZO US Region to provide the much-needed help.**

Kindly make your donation checks payable to "**WZO**" with a reference to "**Marzban Panthaky**" and mail them to **WZO US Region address**. Please make sure to provide your email address and phone number to facilitate sending a tax receipt for your kind donation.

Thank you very much for your Zoroastrian Spirit.

With kind regards,
Kayomars P. Mehta
President
WZO US Region Ltd.
6943 Fieldstone Drive, Burr Ridge, IL 60527-5295, USA.

kayomehta@aol.com
Res: 630-654-8828
Cell: 630-430-5296

Ushta ahmai yahamai ushta kahmai-chit.
Happiness to him, who make others Happy. Ushtavaiti Gatha, Yasna 43.

The mission of World Zoroastrian Organization is to be of service to all, by providing critical assistance and support to the needy anywhere in the world. WZO US Region Ltd. is a registered tax deductible 501(c) 3 charitable organization registered in USA. Tax Exempt I.D: 36-4236575.



DONATION FORM

Please complete the form below and send it along your donation cheque. This form will ensure we have your correct mailing address to send your tax receipt.

Tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$20 and higher.

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Please mail cheques to :
Zoroastrian Society of Ontario
Attn: Treasurer
3590 Bayview Ave
North York, ON, M2H 3S6

****All cheques payable to Zoroastrian Society of Ontario**



ZOROASTRIAN SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

3590 BAYVIEW AVENUE, TORONTO, ONTARIO M2M 3S6

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership Application: ☐ Renewal ☐ New Member Membership Year April 1st 20____ - March 31st 20____

Membership Category/Fees

<input type="checkbox"/> Family	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> Family senior
Includes children under the age of 18	Non-student over age 18	Full time student age 18-25	Age 65 and over	Both spouses age 65 and over
\$100	\$60	\$30	\$30	\$50

Applicant Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
Spouse Last Name: _____ Spouse's First Name: _____
Address: _____ Apartment/Suite# _____
City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____
Home Phone: (____) - ____ - ____ Cell Phone: (____) - ____ - ____
Email: _____ Age: _____ Signature _____

Dependent Information:

First & Last Name	Age

Select your communication methods: Auto dialer (US & Canada), E-Mail and SMS Messages (SMS within Canada Only)

Auto dialer voice messages: ☐ Home ☐ Cell ☐ Spouse Cell: _____

SMS Messages: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Newsletter: ☐ Email ☐ Spouse Email: _____ ☐ Regular Mail

Total Enclosed: Cash \$_____ Cheque \$_____

(All cheques payable to "Zoroastrian Society of Ontario" and mailed to Attn: ZSO Treasurer (Membership Form) 3590 Bayview Avenue, Toronto, ON, M2M 3S6). Please note the bank will **NOT** accept cheques payable to "ZSO".

☐ I have reviewed the ZSO Constitution & Bylaws* and agree to abide by them (*available on the ZSO website zso.org)

NEW MEMBERS must be introduced by two ZSO members in good standing and approved by the ZSO Board of Directors (BOD).

Existing ZSO Member

Print Full Name _____

Signature _____

Existing ZSO Member

Print Full Name _____

Signature _____

Approved by the ZSO BOD

☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature _____