



Zoroastrian Society of Ontario



February 2023
Newsletter



Presidents Message

I hope we can all do our best to enjoy the winter wonderland in Canada, which gives us more reasons to get together in the upcoming months at the Mehraban Guiv Darbe Mehr (MGDM).

We thank the youth committee for organizing a successful, sold-out New Year's Eve event at the MGDM. We also thank the ZSO youths for hosting the Zoroastrian Youth of North America (ZYNA) "Social Night" last month along with the weekend-long retreat at the MGDM.

Jashne Sadeh which is the festival of fire was celebrated at the end of January; a festival celebrating the purity, warmth, and light offered by fire. The evening started with the reading of the Gathas and was filled with joy, entertainment, and children's performances.

The 100th Scouts are organizing their annual Valentine's Day dinner on Saturday, February 11th. Please see the pamphlet for details. To avoid disappointment please register early.

We thank Farokh Farhadian, for his 7 years of service at the MGDM and welcome Viraf & Dilkhush Bhesania as the new custodians. I know our community will make them feel welcome.

Kanoun adult & children religion classes in Farsi have begun and the dates and times coincide with the ZSO children's religion classes. Please contact [Katy Behdinan](#) for registration.

We have for many years purchased compostable plates and cutlery but sadly they all seem to be randomly disposed of in either recycling or the garbage bins. We thank **Armaity Homavazir** for reigniting the **Green Initiative** at the MGDM to help us become more conscious of our carbon footprint when we gather together. From now on, we will be more diligent in properly separating garbage from recycling and from compost during our large gatherings and dinners.

For a few years now, the Kanoun has brought to our attention that due to the ongoing situation in Iran, many non-Zoroastrians who have been neither born nor married into the religion have strong desires to learn about and practice Zoroastrianism. Currently, the ZSO does not have a policy on this very sensitive topic of conversion and is just beginning to open conversations to form a committee. The ZSO has reached out for guidance from the North American Mobeds Council and our own Mobeds regarding setting standardized policies and procedures on this important matter.

We are proud to announce that the ZSO has been approved for Gaming Delta Bingo – A Good Community Fund Raising Initiative as a charity we have been chosen after rigorous interviews and paperwork to be part of Gaming in Toronto. This is a huge achievement that will bring in much-needed revenue to our community. We are looking for volunteers to give two hours of their time per year. For more information, please contact Shiamak Katrak at execofficer1@zso.org.

*Wishing you all Tandorosti, **Mitra Jam**, ZSO President - president@zso.org.*

ZYNA Retreat

What is ZYNA (Zoroastrian Youth of North America)?

ZYNA is a committee of FEZANA, which represents the Zoroastrian youth population of North America. The committee encompasses many aspects of youth involvement — from the education of our religion, leadership development, and providing a social community base. Youth grow up in areas or relocate to places that do not have a large Zoroastrian youth base. In fact, these Zoroastrian youth are amongst the very few in their local community. Special events such as retreats and congresses help facilitate this social interaction as well as the educational aspect of Zoroastrianism.

Extracted from: www.fezana.org/committees/zyna/

Zoroastrian Youth of North America Get Together To Build Connections, Discuss Goals, and Strategize for 2023

The very idea that youth from across the US and Canada would travel miles by plane and car, to spend an amazing four days with one another, is just spectacular. Some couldn't wait any longer and went a day early to meet as many people as they could. Since a majority of ZYNA (Zoroastrian Youth of North America) have met multiple times online through Zoom and other platforms over the years, it did not take long for everyone to be fully acquainted in person, laughing, and having an absolute blast. Over the course of the 5 days in Toronto, we did everything from cheering at an NBA Raptors game, all the way to sing the night away at a karaoke bar. As members of ZYNA, we recognize how important it is to be aware of how many of us are, become friends, and look out for one another in this constantly changing world.

The fact of the matter is, by being connected we can support one another in every situation. ZYNA members were able to sit and discuss important events and opportunities for this year of 2023; from sub-committee



Zoroastrian Youth of North America Meet in Toronto

discussions to large group discussions that will affect how we accomplish our goals this year and beyond. We were also very excited to meet Professor Toledo during our trip, who is currently a Professor of Zoroastrian Studies at the University of Toronto. Members of ZYNA were able to ask a lot of important questions regarding the study of Zoroastrianism and the literature or languages involved. We discussed event planning, important dates to be present for, and how we can make ZYNA more visible for Zarathusti youth across the globe so we can become more connected and build more of our community.

A huge thank you to ZSO and OZCF for allowing us to use their event spaces for discussions and prayers, it was very much appreciated, and we had an amazing time!

Written by: Jennifer Bugli

Pani Puri Social Night with ZYNA

Nothing is better than a bunch of Zoroastrian youth socializing and playing games while having the added bonus of unlimited pani puri for free! So it was no surprise when over 90 Zoroastrian youth came together on January 13th, 2023 to not only eat the delicious pani puri but have the opportunity to mingle and make connections with people within Toronto and across North America.

As the crowd began to assemble around 6-7 p.m., they were pleasantly surprised to see many new faces, including over 20 Zoroastrian youth leaders from around North America (e.g., LA, Texas, Vancouver) that comprised of the ZYNA (Zoroastrian Youth of North America) committee. With many familiar and new faces in the crowd, the name tags given to all guests proved useful. The hall was set up in a welcoming space with table tennis tables, card and board games, an art station, and at the center of it all was the pani puri station. There was entertainment all over the place for the people to enjoy whenever they pleased.

As the evening went on, the excitement within the crowd was building and people were eagerly awaiting to taste the pani puri. Fravash Chothia and Tahsheen Daruwala gave the perfect “how-to” on making and eating them and the temptations just got stronger. As soon as the demonstration ended, people’s plates were filled up with pani puris.



Pani Puri 101: A guide for beginners

The evening continued with everyone coming together and strengthening their bond with other youth. As a new friend Yarnie Shahparst recalls, “It’s hard growing up and living abroad and not being surrounded by people of the same beliefs and views, so the social night is exactly what we needed as it was nice meeting young Zoroastrians and making lifelong connections”.

With ZYNA members being around for their weekend retreat, it was great to talk to them and learn about their experiences and the cities they came from. Their perspectives on how to get more involved, and how to make a difference locally and

internationally within our community were vital and enjoyed by everyone. The pani puri social night was one of the highlights of the ZYNA retreat as it was the first time ZYNA youth had a chance to get together with other youth in Toronto. According to Tanya Hoshi, an active member of ZYNA and ZSO, “the pani puri was delicious and the games were a lot of fun to play. I think everyone walked away having met someone new that evening and forming the beginning of new friendships”.

To stay up to date on future events, make sure to renew your ZSO membership so you get the latest emails. For other updates make sure you’re following the ZSO Facebook Page and ZSO Youth Instagram: @ZSOYouth.

Written by: Jacksis Kodia

ZSO Environmental Initiative

On January 28, 2023, a group of like-minded Zoroastrians gathered at the Zoroastrian Society of Ontario ('ZSO') for a potluck think tank session to collectively find solutions to the community's ongoing problems with the reduction of single-use plastic and other materials being used and not being disposed of in an orderly manner. The recurring issues were brought up, and an intense brainstorming session ensued. The objective behind this entire movement is to replace single-use plastic and other materials with alternative items such as biodegradable or eco-friendly plates, cups, and cutlery to protect the environment and go green. The group will hold a meeting shortly to discuss the next steps. In this regard, any contributions and recommendations from like-minded Zoroastrians are appreciated. You can get in touch with Paruksheen Dhunjisha at paruksheend@gmail.com.



Environmental Change Committee

Written by: Sohrab Bihwandiwalla

New ZSO Caretakers - Viraf and Dilkhush Bhesania.

We are happy to introduce and welcome our new custodians at the Mehraban Guiv Darbe Mehr (MGDM), Viraf and Dilkhush Bhesania.

Kindly make them feel welcome and please be patient as they settle in.

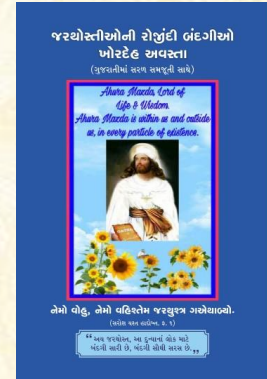


Submitted by: ZSO Board

Book Release - Daily prayers for Zoroastrians

The eternal value of our Zoroastrian's daily prayers, both in this life and in the life beyond death can dawn upon us only when we come to understand our prayers, and actually lead the life of Righteousness, inculcated in the lofty words of such prayers. Late Framroz Rustomjee of Colombo had tried to help every Zoroastrian to know, and to understand the meaning of the prayers in daily use, committed to memory by writing and publishing a book "Daily Prayers for Zoroastrians with explanation in simple language" in 1959.

Mr. Rayoman S. Ilavia of Surat (India) has made sincere efforts to translate some of our basic prayers from this book into Gujarati language and published a beautiful little book in 2022.



*Mr. Rayoman S. Ilavia's
Translation of Daily
Prayers for Zoroastrians*

For the English version - <https://www.spentamultimedia.com/flipbooks/Daily-Prayers-Of-The-Zoroastrians/>

For the Gujarati version - <https://zoroastrians.net/2022/12/23/parsi-book-jarthostio-ni-rojindgi-bandagio/>

Written by: Rayoman S. Ilavia

Seniors Corner Dates

Following are the dates for Seniors' Events Dates for February 2023.

Friday, February 10, 2023.....11:00 AM

Friday, February 24, 2023.....11:00 AM

Byram Dinshawji Avari Passes Away



Byram Avari Passes Away at 81

Asian Games double gold medallist sailor, hotelier, business tycoon, politician and honorary consul of Canada, Byram Dinshawji Avari, passed away after a brief illness here on Sunday. He was 81.

Known better as a hotelier, business tycoon and politician, who represented his community of Zoroastrians in the National Assembly of Pakistan for a number of years, he was also the Chairman of the Karachi Parsi Anjuman. The Avari monogram of a yacht carried the biggest clue to something he held very dear to his heart. As a champion sailor, Mr. Avari was not just the Commodore of the Karachi Yacht Club, a position he held in 1976 and 1980, but he was also a gold medallist in sailing.

He became a member of the National Assembly a number of times and played a significant role in highlighting some crucial social issues about minority rights. But later, he decided to withdraw from politics. Following that

he turned his attention to his hotel business. He was the chairman of the Avari Group of Companies operated by himself with his sons, the eldest of whom he had named after his father. The group owns and operates the Avari Hotels chain, which includes five-star deluxe hotels in Karachi and Lahore and the beloved and historical Beach Luxury Hotel. The group also manages hotels in the United Arab Emirates and Canada. A kind-hearted soul, Mr. Avari had several times allowed the use of his hotel halls for free along with free catering whenever there was a need for a good cause.

Mr. Avari had been in the hospital for the last 20 days for an intestinal infection. He was responding quite well to medication, too, until the last week when his infection levels went up. He leaves behind his wife and sailing partner Goshpi Avari, two sons Dinshaw and Xerxes, and a daughter Zeena.

Written by: Shazia Hasan - Dawn Magazine

This article has been edited and condensed from the original publication

New Years Eve Celebration

To commemorate the last day of the year, the ZSO decided to host an exquisite New Year's Eve Party. The theme for this year's celebration was Casino Royale. So, combining the glitz of the casino with the glamour of New Year's Eve, the Youth and Entertainment Committee hosted a celebration to ring in 2023, Vegas Style.

The night consisted of casino games, various door prizes, an incredible DJ, unlimited dinner, and appetizers throughout the night along with a cash bar. The floor was open for people to dance the night away, along with a photo booth, and an unforgettable New Year's Eve countdown that brought together the whole Zoroastrian community in high spirits. Some of the youth volunteered to direct and deal the casino games consisting of Black Jack, Texas Hold'em, and Roulette. At all times, the tables were extremely packed, as the crowd absolutely loved it! Everything was free, participants got poker chips free of cost so no one lost their competitiveness while simultaneously enjoying the games. Meanwhile, everyone was posing at the photo booth to capture these memories forever.

A variety of appetizers and food was served to cater to everyone's liking. The cash bar was humming throughout the night and was never empty! Electrifying and upbeat music was playing which brought everyone into action on the dance floor thanks to the in-house DJ, Araash Chothia. As the time came closer to the New Year, everyone gathered on the dance floor, with non-alcoholic champagne being handed to the entire crowd. The hall was filled with every person passionately counting down each second until the clock struck twelve. At that moment, the whole of ZSO united and wished each other. It was truly a moment full of love and joy. To conclude the event, various door prizes were distributed among the winners. Everyone left the hall with big smiles on their face, ready to ring in the new year!

This event was another fundraising event to help send the youth of Toronto to London to be able to attend the World Zoroastrian Youth Congress in July 2023. We would like to once again thank all of our volunteers and sponsors who brought this event to life and such a supportive crowd without which this event would have been impossible! We hope to see you all in future events our Youth Committee will be planning throughout the 2023 year.

Written by: Nasha Makujina



Casino Royale Themed New Year's Party at the ZSO

Book Review by Burzin Bhesania

Summary:

This Fezana special edition focuses on the life of King Cyrus II and The Cyrus Cylinder. King Cyrus II, also known as Cyrus the Great, is known as one of the greatest kings of all time. The book describes his life, religion, governance style, and more. The Cyrus Cylinder is an ancient clay cylinder with Babylonian inscriptions. The book describes the entire history of the cylinder and where it resides now.



Opinion (What did you think of the book? Why?):

I personally enjoyed the book. It goes into great detail about Cyrus the Great's life, and the Cyrus Cylinder. I liked that the author talked about the full journey of the Cyrus Cylinder, starting from its creation, and then finally residing in a British museum. I love history texts and learning more about my religion, so this book was great for me! Overall, it was super informative and I enjoyed the book a lot.

Recommendation (Would you recommend this book to others? Why?):

I would recommend this book to anyone interested in learning more about Zoroastrian history, its rulers, and priceless artifacts. This book is wonderfully written and is able to keep anyone engaged for a long time.

Mental Health Corner

Overwhelmed? Stressed? Anxious? Or Know Someone Who Is?

Here is very powerful simple exercise you can do

Step 1. Think of just two things that are causing you stress and anxiety and write them down on a piece of paper. Your worst-case scenario. It could be an event, people, situation, etc.

Step 2. Reflect on what happened then...The worst-case scenario that you imagined...Did the event, person, or situation happen as bad as you thought it would? Most likely and a high percentage the answer is a big NO!

Step 3. Now understand and accept what caused your fear and anxiety.... Not taking action is what causes the mind to make the situation seem more dire and causes our minds to build stories that cause us to spiral downwards into even more terror and anxiety.

Taking action like you just did by writing down your thoughts. Just the mere act of taking action, lets your mind stop the fear of the outcome and lets your anxious imagination of the worst things happening go away. We always believe the worst and our minds make up stories and illusions that most likely will never come true or will never happen.

This is why we practice these relaxation techniques so that we do not get overwhelmed and instead focus on making things better and seeing the light at the end of the tunnel.

Write to us. Do let us know how effective this was for you. Each individual will have different techniques that work best for them. I will leave you with a beautiful quote from A. D. Posey "Take a deep breath, Inhale peace, Exhale happiness."

Written by: Dilnavaz Shroff

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: Araash Chothia **Assistant Editor:** Bahram Jam

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.

Miscellaneous

ZSO Contacts:

Emergency situations: Khushru Chothia (416) 677-7555

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

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

Kanoun Representatives for September 2022-2023 are as follows, if you have any questions please contact these individuals for Kanoun events:

Miss Negar Khodadai
Miss Khorshid chehr Zandian
Miss Katayoon Behdin

Miss Faranak Mavandadnejad
Mr Mehran Behdinin
Mr Shahram Goshtasbi

Mr Shervin Iranzade

Please copy Mitra Jam at president@zso.org for approval

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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اشتودگات - یسن ۲۹ - بند ۱۱

کی راستی، آن آیین آفرینش؛ منش نیک، آن راهنمای خرد و شهریاری، آن بخشنده نیرو و توانایی به سوی من خواهند شتافت؟ ای مزدای دانا، این آیین و دین تو را که به نام انجمن مغان و همبستگی جهانی بنیاد یافته، بپذیر. ای اهورا، به ما کمک کن، ما چشم به راه لطف تو می باشیم.

پیام فرنشین انجمن

امیدوارم که همگی ما بتوانیم با برنامه ریزی از زمستان کانادا لذت ببریم. زمستانی که باعث می شود دلیل بیشتری برای گردهم آمدن و در کنار هم بودن در ماه های آینده در درمهر مهربان گیو داشته باشیم.

از کمیته جوانان سپاسگزاریم که برنامه بسیار خوب شب سال نو میلادی را در درمهر برگزار کردند. همینطور از جوانان انجمن سپاسگزاریم که در ماه گذشته مهمان «جوانان زرتشتی امریکای شمالی» در درمهر بودند.

جشن سده که جشن آتش است در پایان ماه ژانویه برگزار شد. این جشن پاکی، گرما و نور است که از سوی آتش هدیه می شود. این جشن با خواندن گاتها و با شادی و فعالیت های توسط کودکان برگزار شد.

صدمین اسکوتها در حال برنامه ریزی برای گردهم آیی سالیانه داوطلبانشان در شنبه ۱۱ فوریه هستند. لطفا بخش اطلاعات را در این باره ببینید.

ما از فرخ فرهادیان به خاطر ۷ سال خدمتش در درمهر سپاسگزاری می کنیم و به ویراف و دلخوش بسانیا خوش آمد می گوئیم. می دانم که جامعه به آنها خوش آمد خواهد گفت.

کلاس های دینی برای کودکان و بزرگسالان کانون به فارسی شروع شده است. با توجه به این که تاریخ و ساعت برخی از این کلاس ها با کلاس های دینی کودکان هم پوشی داشته است، لطفا با کتی بهدینان تماس بگیرید.

برای سالها ما بشقاب ها و وسایل قابل کمپوست شدن را استفاده می کردیم، اما متأسفانه به نظر می رسد که این وسایل در سطل های بازیافت یا زباله قرار می گرفتند. با سپاس از آرمیتی هماوزیر که برنامه سبز را در درمهر شروع کرده است که به ما کمک خواهد کرد که هنگامی که در برنامه ها دور هم جمع می شویم به کم کردن ایجاد کربن کمک کنیم. از این به بعد، دقت بیشتری در جدا کردن درست کیسه های بازیافت و کمپوست خواهیم داشت.

در چند سال گذشته، کانون توجه ما را به این موضوع جلب کرد که با توجه به وضعیت ایران، بسیاری از غیرزرتشتیان که نه در این دین به دنیا آمده اند و نه ازدواج کرده اند، علاقه دارند که درباره دین زرتشتی بیشتر بدانند و طبق آن رفتار کنند. در حال حاضر، انجمن سیاست مشخصی درباره این موضوع خیلی حساس ندارد. انجمن با کنکاش موبدان امریکای شمالی در پیوند است تا بتوان سیاستی استاندارد را در این زمینه پیشنهاد داد. این شروع یک گفتگوی باز در این باره است تا بتوان کمیته ایی را در این باره شروع کرد.

اگر هر نوع ایده یا نوشته ایی در ارتباط با خبرنامه ماهیانه دارید، لطفا آن را در یک متن وورد و به آدرس ایمیل newslettereditor@zso.org بفرستید.

درمهر برای هر نوع رزرو برنامه های خصوصی قابل دسترس است. برای این لطفا به هوفریش پتل evp@zso.org بنویسید.

برای ساعت باز بودن درمهر و همه برنامه های آینده لطفا به تارنمای انجمن مراجعه کنید.

با آرزوی تندرستی برای همه شما، میترا جم، رئیس zso، president@zso.org

کلاس های دینی کودکان و نوجوانان

جمعه ۳ فوریه از ساعت ۶ پسین در محل درمهر کلاس های دینی کودکان و نوجوانان توسط کانون فرهنگی ایرانیان برگزار می شود. این کلاس های آموزشی به همراه برنامه های آموزشی و تفریحی خواهد بود. با شرکت فرزندانان در این برنامه ها آنها را با دین و فرهنگ خود آشنا کنید.

گردهم ایی ورزشی!

هر دوشنبه از ساعت ۷ پسین گردهم ایی ورزشی در درمهر برگزار می شود. می توانید برای بازی تنیس روی میز در این برنامه شرکت کنید یا این که برای تماشا و دیدوبازدید به درمهر بیاید. اگر می خواهید تنیس یاد بگیرید، هم می توانید در این برنامه شرکت کنید. هر دوشنبه در این گردهم ایی ورزشی و دیدوبازدید شرکت کنید.

گردهم ایی ماهیانه سال دیدگان

سال دیدگان ایرانی در محل درمهر در روز سه شنبه ۳۱ ژانویه از ساعت ۹:۳۰ گردهم می آیند. این دورهمی با گفتگو، دیدوبازد و صرف چای و شیرینی خواهد بود. با شرکت در این دورهمی دیدوبازدیدی با دوستان داشته باشید.

بازگشایی درمهر مهربان گیو

روزهای باز بودن درمهر عبارتند از: دوشنبه (بعدازظهر)، سه شنبه (صبح و بعدازظهر)، چهارشنبه (بعدازظهر)، جمعه (صبح و بعدازظهر)، شنبه (صبح و بعدازظهر) و یکشنبه (صبح و بعدازظهر). ساعت های باز بودن درمهر را حتما از روی تارنمای انجمن ببینید.

بسیار مناسب است که مانند گذشته رفتن به درمهر را در برنامه هفتگی خود بگذارید.

پشتیبان مالی انجمن را به یاد داشته باشید

با پرداخت حق عضویت خود و نیز تشویق جوانان و افراد دیگر زرتشتی به عضویت، به وضعیت مالی انجمن کمک کنید. همینطور با شرکت در برنامه ها و نیز رفتن مرتب به درمهر تلاش کنید که بخشی از نیازی های مینوی و اجتماعی خود را برآورده کنید. امیدواریم مانند همیشه پشتیبانی و کمک شما اعضای انجمن ادامه داشته باشد. کمک های مالی خود را با فرستادن چک یا پرداخت آنلاین انجام بدهید.

انتقادهای، نظرها و پیشنهادهای خود را با کانون فرهنگی زرتشتیان ایرانی با ایمیل kanoun@zso.org در میان بگذارید.

با پیوستن به گروه تلگرامی کانون و آگاهی رسانی درباره آن به دیگران، از برخی اخبار و برنامه ها آگاه شوید.

<https://t.me/zsokanoun>

100th Toronto Scouts Presents our Annual

VALENTINES DAY

Dinner & Dance

Saturday, February 11, 2023

6pm onwards

Mehraban Guiv Darb e Meher

3590 Bayview Ave, North York, ON M2M 3S6

Entertainment



Raffles

Dancing

Love

BLACK TIE FORMAL

Ages 0-5 Free

... Ages 5-10 \$25

Everyone else \$35

**CASH
BAR**

**RSVP VIA
ZSO WEBSITE**

MOSAIC INTERFAITH

A GATHERING OF COMMUNITIES FOR INTERFAITH DIALOGUE



“Mosaic Interfaith: Past, Present & Future” **A look at Faith in Action through the** **lens of Interfaith co-operation**

Sunday February 12, 2023
2:30 - 4:30pm on Zoom

As a part of World Interfaith Harmony Week we will present a retrospective on some of Mosaic Interfaith's more than 40 years of uniting in common purpose.



The afternoon will feature some highlights of the past, a challenge of the present; a look at Food Insecurity with guest speaker Dr. Mustafa Koç, professor at Toronto Metropolitan University, and what future steps we, as a faith community, might take.

In the spirit of helping to feed those who are hungry, we are encouraging all participants to contribute food items to a local food bank, food drive or soup kitchen or start a food drive of their own.



PLEASE REGISTER: <http://bit.ly/3WgJNqx>

For further information, please contact:
Fran Isaacs: thisisfran@yahoo.com or Shabnees Siwjee: shabnees@yahoo.ca

MOSAIC INTERFAITH WAS FOUNDED IN 1980 AND IS MADE UP OF
CONGREGATIONS REPRESENTING BUDDHISM, CHRISTIANITY, HINDUISM, ISLAM,
JUDAISM, SIKHISM and ZOROASTRIANISM



**ZSO YOUTH & ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE
PRESENTS**

SPORTS & KARAOKE NIGHT



**SAVE THE DATE
FEBRUARY 25, 2023**

DETAILS TO FOLLOW



"The valuables we have may impress others, but the VALUE we hold is enough to inspire others!"

"Help where you can, Give what you can".

The Zoroastrian Society of Ontario's (ZSO) Youth committee is actively hosting fundraising events to keep the youth engaged and involved in building a stronger community together. This year most of our activities are focused on raising funds to provide the youth an opportunity to attend the **8th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress (8WZYC) in London, UK (July 21 – 26, 2023)**.

The World Zoroastrian Youth Congress begun 25 years ago with a mission to bring together the Zoroastrian youth from around the world. It happens once in every four years. Over the years these congresses have brought together hundreds of Zoroastrian youth and enabled them to interact with others, as well as collaborate and work towards the challenges we face as a community. The intended age of these youth ranges from 18 to 37 years of age.

With your generosity and support, we are confident that once again we will be able to support our youths to discover new adventures and achieve experiences they would not have elsewhere. These social and engagement opportunities develop them into capable, confident, and successful individuals focused on giving back to their community and helping others.

Our goal is to raise \$40,000 to subsidize between 30-40 youths to give them an opportunity to engage and enhance their knowledge of our religion, create everlasting friendships with Zoroastrian youth from all over the world, and expand their connectivity within Toronto, and their greater worldwide network. The ZSO Youth have a fundraising vision to aid every youth from the ZSO to attend the 8WZYC. The total trip expense is likely to be over \$2,500 CAD per person (including airfare and accommodation).

As a token of appreciation, all official promotional sponsors (Bronze \$500+, Silver \$1,500+, Gold \$5,000+) will have their logo printed on the back of T-shirts given to all the ZSO youth attending the congress. For more information on sponsorship please contact Sohrab Bhiwandiwalla [email: Youth@zso.org | Call: +1(289)-886-2309].

Here is how you can donate;

1. **Online:** www.ZSO.org/donate → Select the option "ZSO Youth 8th WZYC Fundraiser". Electronic tax receipt will be issued right away.
2. **Cheque:** Payable to "Zoroastrian Society of Ontario". In the memo section kindly, mention "ZSO Youth 8WZYC Fundraiser". Please be sure to complete the [donation form](#) and attach it with your cheque. This will ensure we have correct mailing address to send the tax receipt.

We look forward to your continued support.

Thank you,

ZSO Youth Committee



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 \$25 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, M2M 3S6

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