



The World Zoroastrian Organisation



World Zoroastrian House

THE WORLD ZOROASTRIAN ORGANISATION
World Zoroastrian House, 1 Freddie Mercury Close
Feltham, TW13 5DF, UK

**Annual Report
&
Financial Accounts**

For the year ended
31 December 2024

Registration No 1510380

Charity No. 1023334

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



Dear Members, Donors and Supporters,

It gives me great pleasure in presenting WZO's Annual Report and Accounts for the year, 2024. It has been a year of increased activities, increased income, increased charity giving and, increased costs of operation. Like other charities, our individual donations are still not at our pre-Covid levels however, we were fortunate to receive a few legacies which has allowed us to increase the amount we can give to those in need. The income from hiring of the lovely hall at the World Zoroastrian House (WZH) for private hires is continuing to increase. We would like to do more but this is always dependant on the donations and legacies we receive.

In 2024, WZO increased the number of social and cultural events fulfilling one of its 3 primary objectives of disseminating knowledge on Zoroastrians and Zoroastrianism. A number of the lectures and seminars were simultaneously available via Zoom thereby increasing its audience. The cultural events on important Zoroastrian dates have been organised to mimic how they would be celebrated by Zoroastrians in Iran.

WZO continues to collaborate with other Zoroastrian organisation at various levels. It also plays its part in working with the local Interfaith and other organisations in Feltham where WZH is located. Fali Madon, WZO's resident priest is on the committee of the local Interfaith group.

WZO is in safe hands as it is fortunate to have a talented group of committee members and supporters to ensure its place in the future. It exists for the benefit of all Zoroastrians. It wants to do more and for that it needs more of you to contribute your time, your talents and your donations to achieve it.

I want to personally thank each and every one of you for playing your part in the success of WZO.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'DS Motivala'.

Darayus S Motivala
Chair, WZO
chair@w-z-o.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It gives me great pleasure to present this year's Annual Report of the World Zoroastrian Organization (WZO). This past year has been one of both reflection and progress as we continued to strengthen our community, preserve our values, and look to the future with optimism.

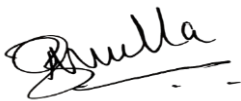
The WZO has remained steadfast in its mission to serve as a unifying body for Zoroastrians worldwide—building bridges across borders, generations, and perspectives. Through our collective efforts, we have supported welfare initiatives, promoted education, nurtured cultural identity, and fostered dialogue on issues that matter to our community.

I am deeply grateful to our dedicated members, volunteers, partners, and well-wishers who have given their time, expertise, and generosity to sustain and grow our work. It is through your commitment that the WZO continues to thrive as a beacon for Zoroastrians everywhere.

Looking ahead, I would especially like to reach out to our younger community members. Your fresh ideas, enthusiasm, and global outlook are invaluable to the future of the WZO. We warmly welcome you to get involved—whether through volunteering, sharing your skills, or simply joining our programs and events. This is your organization as much as it is for the generations before you, and together we can ensure it continues to grow in relevance and vitality.

On behalf of the WZO, I extend my gratitude to each of you for your trust and support. Let us continue to work hand in hand—for the prosperity, unity, and enduring strength of our community.

With Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Benafsha Mulla', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Benafsha Engineer – Mulla
President
World Zoroastrian Organization

Notice of WZO's AGM on 28th September 2025

AGM NOTICE

7 September 2025

NOTICE is hereby given that an **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of **The World Zoroastrian Organisation Limited** will be held on Sunday 28th September 2025 at **World Zoroastrian House and via Zoom at 3:00 pm BST precisely**, to transact the following business.

1. To receive and adopt the Committee's report and accounts for the year ended 31st December 2024.
2. To elect members of the Managing Committee in place of the following, who retire in accordance and (3) of the Articles of Association, and being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

UK Committee Members

Armaity Engineer
Ervad Jimmy Madon
Prof. Zenobia Nadirshaw
Mrs Zerbanoo Gifford

Overseas Committee Members

Russi Ghadiali(Singapore)
Mr Darius Mistry (New Zealand)
Mr Kayomارش Mehta (USA)
Mr Fariborz Rahnmoon (Canada)

If you wish to nominate some other members of the Organisation for the Managing Committee, please send in your nomination, together with the written consent of your nominee, to reach the Honorary Secretary not later than 72 hours before the time arranged for the meeting. Nominations received thereafter will not be accepted.

3. To elect the Chairman from amongst the members of the Committee for the year 2025/2026.
4. To re-appoint the Honorary Auditors, Ward Divecha Limited, for the year 2025/2026.
5. To transact the other usual business of an Annual General Meeting.

The Proxy form, Financial report and the Annual report are all available at WZO's website at www.w-z-o.org/agm-reports.



If you informed us previously that you would like a printed copy in Abbreviated or Full format then they are either enclosed with this Notice or will be posted to you separately.

If you no longer wish to have a hard copy then please let us know by emailing to membership@w-z-o.org.

According to the Constitution, non-members may not be admitted to the meeting; however, interested Zoroastrians will be welcome but not entitled to vote.

A personalised proxy form is enclosed for your use which should arrive not later than 72 hours before the time arranged for the meeting.

The AGM will be held on 28th September 2025 at 3:00 pm BST.

Kindly confirm if you would like to attend the AGM. Prior registration is a must. If you do wish to attend the online WZO Annual General Meeting then inform WZO by emailing at agmproxy@wzo.org Details to join the AGM via ZOOM are given below.

Topic: WZO AGM 2025

Time: Sep 28, 2025 3:00 PM

BST time Join Zoom

Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86850157544?pwd=ZZ7LEdeqZjQlD5djKWQl3vXbyScaQW.1>

Meeting ID: 868

5015 7544

Passcode: 282951

Thank you and with kind regards

Yours faithfully,

Tirdad Sorooshian

Honorary Secretary, WZO

secretary@w-z-o.org

Minutes of WZO's AGM on 26th October 2024

Minutes of the 44th **Annual General Meeting** of the World Zoroastrian Organisation held on Sunday 06th October 2024, in person at WZH commencing 4.00 pm and online via Google Meet.

Present:

Mr Rumi Sethna (Chair)
Mr Tirdad Sorooshian (AGM Meeting Chair)
Plus 30 WZO members

The AGM started with a short prayer led by Ervad Fali Madon, WZO's resident priest.

1 AGM Notice

Benafsha Engineer - Mulla, read out the notice convening the meeting.

2 Chairman's Report

WZO Chairman, Mr Rumi Sethna, gave a report on the workings of WZO during 2023-2024. A copy of his report will shortly be available on the WZO website, www.w-z-o.org/agm.

3 Annual Report and Financial Statement

Tirdad Sorooshian asked if there were any questions or points raised on the Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023. The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

4 Re-election of Committee Members

Darayus Motivala read out the names of the members standing for re-election: -

UK Committee Members

Rumi Sethna
Rustam Dubash
Darayus Motivala
Manijeh Parki

Overseas Committee Members

Meher Amersey (India)
Homi Khusrokhan (India)

Proposer – Mr Dinyar Modi

Seconder – Ms Benafsha Engineer – Mulla

All the UK and the Overseas International Committee Members standing for re-election were unanimously elected.

New members to the WZO Committee

Nominations for election to the WZO Committee were received from:

Mr Athravan Sett - 21st April 2024

Mr Vohu–Friyan Sett- 21st April 2024

Proposer – Zerbanoo Gifford

Seconder – Rumi Sethna

Mr Khuzan Irani - 12th May 2024

Proposer – Manijeh Parki

Seconder - Darayus Motivala

Athravan and Vohu – Friyan were unanimously elected to the WZO Committee. Khuzan due to personal reasons, will not be standing for election.

5 Election of Chairman

Tirdad Sorooshian read out the list of names of the new WZO Committee.

1	Mr Darayus Motivala	UK	14	Mr Athravan Sett	UK
2	Mr Dinyar Modi	UK	15	Mr Vohu-Friyan Sett	UK
3	Mrs Armaity Engineer	UK	16	Mr Homi Khusrokhan	India
4	Ms Benafsha Engineer-Mulla	UK	17	Mrs Meher Amersey	India
5	Ms Shahin Bekhradnia	UK	18	Mr Maneck Bhujwala	USA
6	Mrs Zerbanoo Gifford	UK	19	Dr Parmis Khatibi	USA
7	Mr Jimmy Madon	UK	20	Mr Kayomarsh Mehta	USA
8	Mr Rustam Dubash	UK	21	Mr Kersi Shroff	USA
9	Mr Tirdad Sorooshian	UK	22	Mr Fariborz Rahnamoon	Canada
10	Dr Zenobia Nadirshaw	UK	23	Mr Sam Vesuna	Canada

Commented [BE2R1]: WAITING FOR UR EMAIL

11	Ms Manijeh Parki	UK	24	Mr Russi Ghadiali	Singapore
12	Mr Rumi Sethna	UK	25	Mr Darius Mistry	New Zealand
13	Ms Pia Sutaria	India			

Commented [DM1]: This is just the UK committee. It should be the whole committee including the Sett brothers.

Darayus Motivala was the only nominee who indicated his agreement to stand for election. Darayus Motivala was unanimously elected Chairman for the year 2024 – 2025.

Darayus Motivala took over the Chair of the meeting for the rest of the AGM.

6 Honorary Auditors

Darayus Motivala thanked the Auditors Ward Divecha Limited for their services to WZO. Darayus Motivala asked for a proposer and seconder to retain Ward Divecha Limited as auditors.

Proposer – Mrs Armaity Engineer

Seconder – Mr Dinyar Modi

They were unanimously re-elected as Auditors.

7 Any Other Business of AGM

Darayus Motivala requested members that if there were any points to raise relating to the AGM.

Darius Potel inquired whether any committee member works for the Auditors. Darayus informed that was not the case.

Rohinton Irani mentioned in the past he was aware of Shahpur Captain maintaining the stocks and share portfolio of WZO, he was querying if WZO still has a stock and share portfolio. Rumi Sethna mentioned there is a Finance committee consisting of Rustam, Dinyar and himself, who carry out the required action based on the advice from the stock broker. Rohinton Irani mentioned he had spoken to Rumi on his visit to the centre and was astonished to notice Sammy and Ursula Bhiwandiwalla photo not displayed at the centre, when they have served the committee for numerous years. Rumi apologised for not raising this with the committee and mentioned it will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

There being no other business pertaining to the AGM, Darayus Motivala declared the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to all present.

WZO's Events in 2024

BOI CEREMONIES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



Our resident priest Ervad Fali Madon continues to perform a weekly Boi ceremony every Sunday. The Boi service is broadcast live on our website <https://www.w-z-o.org/live/> and on our WZO Facebook page,

<https://www.facebook.com/worldzoroastrianorganisation>, which can be accessed without a Facebook account. The ceremony is seen by Zoroastrians from around the world.

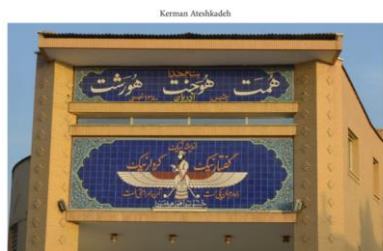
Unless otherwise noted, all events noted below were held at our recently inaugurated World Zoroastrian House (WZH) in Feltham, Surrey.

Jashn- e Sadeh, Sunday 28th January 2024



To start off 2024, on Sunday 28th January, WZO celebrated the festival of Jashn-e Sadeh at the World Zoroastrian House (WZH) , Feltham, Surrey, UK. The popular event brought together old friends and new ones from several regions including Tajikistan and Kurdistan, who joined our regulars. After prayers in Honour of Fire, and a talk explaining why Fire is so prominently mentioned and revered in our philosophy, we had a spectacular performance on the Daf (handheld drum/tambourine, the Ney (reed flute) and the DohTar. Following a procession to an outdoor Fire led by several of the players on their Daf, a delicious meal was served. The joyous event came to an end after the participants merrily danced away the evening.

Esfandegan/Sepandarmazdegan, Saturday 17th February 2024



For the very first time, the WZH hosted a Esfandegan/Sepandarmazdegan festival which is an ancient celebration held in honour of Women, Love, Nurturing, & Earth. It is believed that the festival, in fact, provided the original inspiration for St. Valentine's Day. The occasion was marked by the recitation of love poems by the famous poets, Khayyam, Hafez and Ferdowsi. Mr. Bahram Ghiassyy additionally entertained the audience with his own poetic compositions. We were also fortunate in having Mr. Peyman with us who gave heavenly renderings of music on the Santur. The importance of the GAN festivals was explained as being the monthly celebrations held when the name of the month and the day of the month coincides in the Zoroastrian calendar. After a sumptuous afternoon High Tea, some folks played backgammon, a number of couples danced to contemporary music, and others just chatted among friends and caught up with the news.

The event was preceded by a presentation and a practice session of Meditation led by Mobedyar Navaz Vatcha, followed by a Q & A session on various aspects of our religious practices and beliefs. Resident Priest Fali Madon, Mobedyar Navaz and Ms. Shahin Bekhradnia happily fielded the questions that were raised.

Nowruz on Saturday 23rd March 2024



The celebration of Nowruz 2024 brought a festive crowd of around 125 revellers together. The traditional Haft Sheen table was prominently displayed at the entrance reminding us that Nowruz celebrates the return of life and the awakening of nature after a long winter. The chance to get onto the dance floor started immediately, encouraged by the popular choice of contemporary Persian music. While DJ Navid was making his selection of music to play for the dancers, those still at their tables or at the bar, experienced the brilliant magic tricks performed by Guy Parker. Some of the tricks were spectacular and the farewell act was performed in the centre of the hall so that everyone could see him. The magician certainly added value for money. For many, the best part of the evening was the traditional Nowruz meal: excellent starters of Salad Olivieh, Mirza Ghassemi & Persian Lavosh bread were placed on the tables to accompany drinks from the bar, while awaiting the main courses to be served: Sabzi polow with fish Shirin & Reshteh polow with chicken, and a vegetarian khoresht Bademjan (vegetarian aubergine stew). Everyone who could got back onto the dance floor joyfully when the meal was over and the DJ intermingled requests including some Golden Oldies as well as the latest pop music. A lovely evening was enjoyed by all.

Afternoon Lunches - Sunday 5th May and 15th June



WZO recently hosted its first two afternoon lunches, designed to encourage our older members to come together and enjoy each other's company during the day. Both events saw a wonderful turnout, with members and guests delighted to reconnect over good food, laughter, and friendship.

The afternoons were filled with fun, featuring lively games of Bingo, a delicious meal that everyone thoroughly enjoyed, and plenty of dancing as the celebrations carried on into the early evening. A raffle was also held, helping to raise valuable funds for the WZO General Fund.

We are grateful to all who joined us and look forward to hosting many more such occasions in the future.

World Zoroastrian Youth Leadership Forum 2.0 24th May – 2nd June 2024



WZO headed the organization of the World Zoroastrian Leadership Forum 2.0, together with several other Zoroastrian organizations from North America and India. The Forum hosted at the ASHA Centre, which is sustained and functions under the

leadership of Zerbanoo Gifford, also of WZO's Management Committee, with a strong financial contribution from WZO.

Facilitated by Adrian Locher, speakers at the Forum included: Alexander Gifford – "The Hero's Journey"; Maris Meos – "Finding Harmony"; Jenny Rose – "Personal Reflections on Study Trips to Iran"; Dr Meher Engineer – "Resilience & Resourcefulness: A Quantum Perspective"; Shahin Bekhradnia – "Ecology in Zoroastrianism: an autobiographical and philosophical exploration; Amrolia, "Zarathushtra".

Key Programmes held during the Forum were: The Four Temperaments – using older psychological models of behavioural analysis in interpreting the characteristics of individuals or groups.; Global Youth Mobeds Community to examine ways in which the global youth mobed community (defined to include mobedyars and those in training) could support each other and take up more community work; The Hero's Journey, a group exploration of Humata (Good thoughts) based on personal stories and the trials faced by many young leaders, and an assessment that considered the life and story of Zarathushtra himself.

The young leaders also experienced, for the very first time, a dedicated space for Zoroastrian culture and prayer that is found at WZH's Setayesh Gah and its substantive library. The youth leaders were profoundly moved by the experience.

Zerbanoo Gifford received a standing ovation for her efforts in creating and sustaining the ASHA centre, and its impact in promoting the values of Zoroastrianism in the UK, in the EU and across the world.

WZO trustees, too, were given special praise for being the "Diamond" sponsors of the forum.

WZO's Annual Seminar, Sunday 2nd June 2024 at 10:30 am



Hosted at the WZH, the Annual Seminar included talks by:

Dr. Mehrbod Khanizadeh, on “The final chapter of Zoroastrian scholastic activities in the early Islamic period.”

Professor Michael Shenkar, on “Zoroastrianism in Sogdiana.”

Professor Christian Sahner on “How Zoroastrians argued with Muslims in the Early Islamic Period.”

The Seminar was attended by over 65 participants who were fully impressed with the knowledge and information of the covered periods conveyed by the exciting speakers. The full-day program included lunch, provided by WZO.

Muktad (Prayers for Deceased) per Shahenshahi calendar – Monday 5th August, 2024 - Wednesday 14th August



Muktad prayers are dedicated to the souls of our departed loved ones, known as *Fravashis* in the Zoroastrian faith. These ten sacred days are a time to honour, remember, and seek blessings from them. Families welcome the spirits of their

ancestors into their homes or prayer halls with offerings of flowers, fruits, food, and prayers, believing that during this period, the *Fravashis* visit to bless the living with protection, guidance, and strength.

At WZH, our resident priest, Ervad Fali Madon, solemnly performed the Muktrad prayers, with families visiting the centre daily to pay their respects and participate in the rituals.

Shahenshahi Navroz Dinner & Dance on 17th August 2024



A beautiful evening, with delicious food catered by Farida Vora and a raffle. Everyone danced the night away to tunes played by Ashwood. Guests enjoyed the night and helped raise £2,200 towards WZO's general fund
“ Thank you Armaity, Anahita and Fali for a wonderful evening last night. Everyone I spoke to very much enjoyed the event and the food was a hit A special thanks to Tehmi and Homai for helping with the decoration” – Dolly Contractor
“ It was a wonderful event. Armaity and Anahita did brilliantly. Thank you from all of us for a brilliant event – Zerbano Gifford

Farvardegan Service on 08th September 2024



This year marked the 37th Anniversary of the “United Farvardegan Prayers”, initiated by the late Noshirwan F. Cowasjee. The service was conducted at Brookwood Crematory. It was a beautiful event, where everyone came together to remember the departed souls of loved ones. There were snacks and tea/coffee available for all guests to enjoy.

Jashn-e-Mehregan on Sunday 6th October, 2024



Jashn e Mehrgan is celebrated around the Autumn Equinox as a counterpoint to Nowruz which is at the Spring Equinox. While Nowruz celebrates the rebirth of life when all plants reappear to provide the food we need as well as the pleasure, Mehregan marks the end of the agricultural year when all the harvests are in and stored, ready to provide sustenance throughout the winter to livestock and humans. The celebration occurs when the day of Mehr (16th day of each of the 12 months which consist of 30 days) occurs in the month of Mehr which is the 7th month.

At WZH we were fortunate to have the company of Dr Ravi Khetrapal who has regularly shared his knowledge with us, and did so again, illustrating his talks with wonderful photos from historical sites around Iran, or pictures from books and miniatures. Alongside his talks, Zartosht Safari played his beautiful melodies on his Setar and Ney (reed pipe). A pot luck shared meal was greatly enjoyed by all participants.

A traditional sofreh table was laid with the traditional items which are displayed at all GAN festivals. Lork made of 7 dried fruits and 7 varieties of nuts was handed out to all present.

WZO and ZTFE Joint Event - Welcoming Mobed Dr Mehraban Pouladi from Iran on 20th October 2025



The opportunity to welcome Mobed Mehraban Pouladi to the UK and watch him perform the Jashan in a traditional Iranian manner was much appreciated. Mobed Pouladi spoke about the work that the Mobed's Council of Iran (of which he is the head) undertakes on behalf of the community there. Representatives from both organisations worked tirelessly, before and on the day to ensure that the event went smoothly and enjoyed by all who attended.

Remembrance Day Parade in Feltham on 10th November 2025



Councillor Karen Smith was joined by Deputy Lieutenant, Rosi Prescott and The Leader of the Council, Councillor Shantanu Rajawat. All laid wreaths at the services and joined others in remembering the sacrifice of the Armed Forces community and people lost to and touched by war. Remembrance Sunday invites people of all faiths, cultures, and backgrounds to remember in their own way. WZO joined the local people and community leaders at the commemorative events. Those gathered joined ceremonies across the UK, and around the world, in holding a two minutes' silence at 11:00 am.

Arabian-themed Lunch on 15th December 2024



At an intermittent afternoon event, WZO members enjoyed a scrumptious Arabian-themed lunch, while listening to the tunes of R & R, who played soft rock, country, reggae and pop. After lunch, everyone was on the dance floor shaking a leg. There was a small raffle draw which took place, helping to raise £600 for our general fund.

Shab e Yalda/Chelleh on 21st December 2024



This was a celebration of the shortest day/longest night of the winter solstice, known as Shab e Yalda/Chelleh. A large number of people joined in wearing red, and to recite both English and Persian poetry, to listen to live classical Persian music and to share the joy and celebrate together. A beautiful table setting was laid with many traditional items. The customary Aash which is traditionally consumed on this occasion was served and appreciated by the large crowd who chose to come together despite Christmas being so close at hand.

Membership & Communication

WZO's membership is open to all Zoroastrians, their spouses and their children. Non-Zoroastrians can become Friends of WZO. A Membership form can be downloaded

from the website at <https://www.w-z-o.org/membership/> . Alternatively, you can request one by email to membership@w-z-o.org

WZO wants the Zoroastrian youth to take part in its activities. It has therefore decided to reduce the Life membership from £125 to £50 for people under 35.

WZO urges their Ordinary members to upgrade to **Life/Family membership** which decreases its administrative burden. Please do get in touch with the WZO representatives in USA, Canada, Pakistan, New Zealand and India if you wish to upgrade your membership to Life.

In the UK and other areas, please contact the Membership Secretary Mrs Anahita Madon at membership@w-z-o.org for all membership issues. Many members have responded positively to our requests for receiving mailers via email. Please consider whether you can reduce WZO's cost by agreeing to receive its Mailers by email.

Website and Social Media

WZO emails members who have subscribed to its newsletters. If you have not subscribed to it as yet, kindly do so by emailing them at membership@w-z-o.org and your email ID will be added to its emailing list for updates about upcoming WZO events and communications.

WZO events and communication are also updated on its website at <https://www.w-z-o.org> and also on their Facebook and Instagram pages (#world_zoroastrian_organisation) which provides information of all WZO events and news related to Zoroastrianism worldwide.

WZO urges its members to please share with them Community related and Interfaith news. If you have participated in a programme, they would be happy to share this with their members worldwide.

WZO LIBRARY

The WZO Library at WZH is open to all. It is a reference library and, therefore, no books will be lent out. Fali Madon, our resident priest and his wife, Anahita Madon, our Administrative Assistant, have now taken on the task of preparing an inventory of all the books in the library.

Interfaith Activities

WZO took part in an interfaith silent walk for peace from Trafalgar Square to Parliament Square and back and offered prayers for peace alongside the many other faith leaders who participated in this moving public display of solidarity with all who are in conflict. Another similar walk is planned for May 12th at midday.

WZO took part in the Remembrance Day Parade on 12th November in Feltham and laid a wreath on behalf of all Zoroastrians. In the march, there were representatives from all the armed forces, local schools and associations, and from the various faith-based organisations.

Helping the Organisation

WZO can only continue to do its work in the community if it is supported by its members and supporters. There are various ways you could help WZO serve the community.

1. WZO requests you and your family members to become its Life Members / Patrons (if you are not one already). Please do encourage your friends to also become members. WZO's membership is open to all Zoroastrians, their spouses and their children. Those people who are interested in Zoroastrianism and WZO but do not qualify for full membership can join as Friends of WZO.
2. Volunteering your time and knowledge for the successful running of WZO, the community centre and its amenities. You may well have skills and expertise in areas to supplement those of the committee members. WZO is particularly looking for Young Zoroastrians to help shape its future to meet the needs of the next generation.
3. Please consider WZO in your will for a lasting legacy.
4. Please consider donating to WZO's General Fund as it gives them the flexibility to use your donation to the most pressing expenditure they face. At the time of your donation, you can indicate how you would like your donation to be used and they will do our best to honour your wish. The WZO Committee wants to thank many of their supporters who donate regularly to them through a Standing Order.
5. A community that looks after its priests who serve the flock with fairness and consideration should be supported by the laity. Please consider using the priestly services offered by WZO.
6. Donate whatever you can when you visit the Worship room to cover the cost of purchasing Sukhar and Kathi. Alternatively, please donate these items to WZO.
7. Please consider renting the hall at WZH for your next event. The facilities include audio-visual, air-conditioning, commercial kitchen and parking. Please remember that the Satayesh Gah is also available on the premises. There are reduced rates for WZO members. Please contact Anahita Madon anahita.madon@w-z-o.org, for details and bookings.

Security and maintenance of the community centre

While the World Zoroastrian House sits in a pleasant garden setting, there are many security and maintenance issues in a public area. Therefore, WZO needs to secure the grounds around the property with protective landscaping.

WZO needs your wholehearted support: attitudinal, physical and also your financial commitment to maintain these premises so WZO can continue the work of its various charitable activities. The World Zoroastrian House is a stepping stone to further increase their activities. Their charitable activities are posted on the website on a regular basis. Kindly donate generously through its website www.w-z-o.org/donate.

Supporting Zoroastrian Communities Worldwide

WZO carries out its charitable works worldwide, in partnership with other, mainly Zoroastrian charitable organisations, and through its own Trust Funds. WZO representatives in UK, Canada, USA, Pakistan and New Zealand collect substantial sums towards charitable activities. During the year, WZO endeavoured to fulfil its obligations towards community requests for medical treatment and aid, educational grants and loans for higher education, lectures and seminars for the furtherance of religious education, interfaith and social and religious activities.

News from the WZO Regional Offices



WZO Foundation, India formed in 2013, operates as a charitable trust from Delhi. The Foundation is now up and running and is able to receive and process WZO membership applications, receive and distribute funds and can process application for funds. Membership issues for WZO India should be sent to Meher Amersey (meher.amaersey@w-z-o.org). WZO offers its sincere thanks to Meher Amersey for her hard work in managing the Foundation.

WZO Trusts of India



World Zoroastrian Organisation Trust (Estd.1991), The WZO Trust for Women & Children (Estd.1993) and The WZO Trust Funds (Estd.1995) were established as independent Trusts under the provisions of The Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1951.

These 3 independent Trusts, collectively known as WZO Trusts, have been in the forefront of raising funds for various community centric welfare causes from donors – both institutions as well as individuals – from all over the world and disbursing them in India to individuals in various forms of distress.

These 3 independent Trusts are overall managed by a Team of Trustees comprising of nine individuals – Dinshaw K. Tamboly, Homiyar F. K. Madan, Aspi B. Ambapardiwala, Bachi D. Tamboly, Farrokh M. Kasad, Farzana Mojgani, Cyrus D. Vandriwala, Rohinton J. Contractor & Freyaz K. Shroff.

The Chairman of these Trusts is Dinshaw K. Tamboly, with Managing Trustees being Homiyar F. K. Madan at Mumbai and Aspi B. Ambapardiwala at Navsari. It is needless to mention that we old horses, Bachi Tamboly, Farrokh Kasad and self, who were part of the founding Trustees team (1991) will continue to be available to not only guide and support, but also work alongside them. Donors may rest assured that our Trusts will continue to function in the same vein for very many more years to come.

Multiple activities for the welfare and wellbeing of the Zoroastrian Community in India are undertaken by the WZO Trusts and support is also extended for the promotion of cultural and socio-economic environment.

It is only appropriate for me to begin by expressing on behalf of my colleague Trustees and myself our very sincere gratitude to all our donors for the continuing and abiding faith and confidence they repose in our welfare activities.

The principles and philosophy on which we have shaped our three Trusts have been to be completely transparent and accountable with donors, and to interact with kindness and compassion with our beneficiaries keeping intact at all times their self-respect and dignity.

These policies have resulted in donors, institutional as well as individuals, both from within India as well as overseas, extending support regularly to our Trusts as well as adding us as beneficiaries in their bequests. We truly appreciate the confidence reposed and support extended by each and every one of our donors, and assure all that Team WZO Trusts' will continue to function with the same levels of efficiency, transparency and accountability.

It gives me great pleasure to inform all our donors, friends and well-wishers that during **FY 2024 - 2025, our Trusts received between them Rs. 305,344,489 (USD 3,576,400)** by way of donations and bequests for which we express our very sincere gratitude to all our donors. I am confident we will have positive news to share with our esteemed donors, year upon year.

The major welfare activities undertaken by the WZO Trust's covers extending financial support for:

FARMERS REHABILITATION PROJECT:

Since 1991 we have been involved in the rehabilitation of 524 families of poor Zoroastrian farmers in 215 villages having expended Rs 72,900,000/-. The average cost of rehabilitating one family varies between Rs 200,000 to Rs 300,000 depending on the layout of their fields and the inputs required.

RURAL HOUSING PROJECT:

Over the years we have facilitated the improvement of life styles of Zoroastrian residing in rural areas by converting huts of 342 families into cottages made from brick and mortar. The cost of one cottage amounts to Rs 700,000.

SELF EMPLOYMENT PROJECT:

Ever since the project was introduced in 1995, we have extended interest free financial support to 1265 Zoroastrians across 131 rural and urban locations expending Rs 243,894,000/- till March 2025 towards being self employed in diverse professions of their choice. A maximum amount of Rs 1,000,000/- is considered for which repayments have to be made in 40 equated monthly instalments

MEDICAL SUPPORT:

We receive around 800+ requests every year for medical support towards reimbursement of expenses incurred on various illnesses and hospitalisation. After

undertaking due diligence on the appeals received, we recommend to various donors to extend support.

EDUCATION SUPPORT & YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

We raise funds from donors to support the pursuit of post graduate education within India and overseas. Every year we receive close to 200+ requests. We also support development of youth into evolving into good and mature citizens by encouraging and motivating them to excel in sports and undertake social activities.

ASSISTANCE TO THE ECONOMICALLY CHALLENGED:

Every year we raise funds to extend one time support to around 550 families in economic distress. Additionally, we raise funds and disburse them on a quarterly basis to 753 elderly and infirm in need of financial support.

FOOD GRAINS DISTRIBUTION:

We annually distribute food grains and food packets to 975 poor Zoroastrian families in villages of Gujarat and Maharashtra as well as in urban cities.

SUPPORT TO MOBEDS:

We extend financial support:

a) Rs 37,500 on a quarterly basis to 117 elderly Mobeds who have performed Mobedi on a fulltime basis and having retired live in conditions of indigence.

b) Rs. 39,000 on a quarterly basis to 31 widows of such Mobeds.

c) We annually receive requests from around 100 Mobeds seeking support towards their medical / hospitalisation expenses (Total average annual disbursements are in the range of Rs 7,500,000).

d) Since 1996 we have in association with Athornan Mandal been running a scheme that encourages and supports by way of financial incentives young full time Mobeds by evaluating the types of ceremonies they perform. Currently we have 70 such young Mobeds on the support list.

e) We have since 2017 co-founded the Empowering Mobeds Group that has held various events over the past four years that impart soft training skills that renew and rejuvenate the image of our Mobeds.

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTRES AT NAVSARI

We have established two interconnected Centres for Senior Citizens at Navsari. These are much sought after facilities where up to 50 senior citizens reside in a very vibrant and happy atmosphere.

SANJAN SANATORIUM:

Open to Zoroastrians from all walks of life. A popular retreat in verdant surroundings that provides clean, comfortable and economically priced boarding and lodging facilities for pilgrims, enjoyable vacations, group visits. One of the few community facilities that is completely green, solar powered and water harvesting facilities.

ECONOMY HOUSING AT NAVSARI:

We receive old dilapidated houses as gifts which we redevelop into apartment buildings by raising funds and provide decent accommodation for those in need at economical rents. We have so far constructed 18 such buildings. Our 19th building is presently under construction.

WZO US Region



The mission of WZO US Region Ltd. 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 ID: 36-4236575.

The 2024 year was another busy yet an extremely rewarding year for WZO US Region Ltd. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we were able to use their donations to support worthy and diverse charitable causes. Our activities are summarized under four major headings of Critical Medical Assistance, Scholarships to mitigate High Education Costs, Provide Welfare to the needy and to strengthen and support our Religious Institutions for posterity.

Fundraising for WZO Projects

Fund-raising is the life-blood of our organisation in supporting the community's needs. WZO made substantial disbursements towards medical assistance, education, relief of poverty and helping individuals with self-employment. Thanks to the generosity of its members and supporters, all over the world, WZO was able to finance activities that promote its objectives.

WZO funds

A list of the various designated funds held within WZO to support communities worldwide is given below:

Noshirwan F. Cowasjee Medical Benevolent Fund supports applications for assistance where family resources cannot meet the escalating costs of medical treatment. WZO requests donors to continue supporting this very worthy and humanitarian cause for the benefit of our community. During 2024, over £52,135 was given by WZO to deserving cases from this fund.

Educational loans

Throughout its existence since 1979, WZO has been working discreetly behind the scenes to reach out to young Zoroastrians, wherever they may be, in furthering their educational achievements. In 2024, over £11,100 was loaned to deserving students pursuing higher education.

Aloo Vatcha Education Fund generously started with the guidance of the Vatcha family continues to grow through donations and our fund-raising activities. Students seeking to achieve their academic ambitions face escalating fees towards higher education. WZO welcomes further support from their well-wishers.

The WZO General Fund serves a plethora of applications be they administrative or charitable, thus giving it the freedom to apply resources where urgently needed. In 2024, over £10,015 was given by WZO towards emergency relief. Support towards the implementation of any of its activities is essential for the effective working of the organisation and WZO would request our donors not to overlook the benefits of supporting the General Fund.

WZO has continued to donate Zoroastrians in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq for their welfare, the maintenance of their administrative offices and for the continuation of their religious activities.

WZO's ardent supporters

WZO extends its sincere appreciation to all their donors, big and small, for their munificent support and co-operation without which very little would be possible. They especially acknowledge, with immense gratitude, the extremely generous support received from:

1. World Zarathushtrian Trust Fund, UK towards general charitable donations and publications.
2. The Dasturji Dr. S. H. Kutar Benevolent Fund for relief of poverty, medical cases and higher education.
3. The Erach and Roshan Sadri Foundation has channelled substantial funds towards Zoroastrian and non-Zoroastrian causes worldwide over the years. WZO offers its sincere thanks to the Trustees of The Erach and Roshan Sadri Foundation for their magnanimous support.
4. The Firuz Madon Foundation. WZO is deeply indebted to FMF for their ongoing commitment towards the furtherance and study of Zoroastrianism through lectures and seminars held worldwide.
5. Mr Rumi Sethna and his wife, Hilda, for their continued financial support, their precious time and sound advice.
6. Ms Khurshed Dehnugara, for their donation to WZO.
7. Mr Jamshid Goodarzi for their donation to WZO.
8. Mr Behram Baxter of San Diego, USA and his wife, Rena, for their continued financial support.

Individual Donors

The Committee of WZO wishes to thank all the supporters and donors worldwide who helped them to carry on their charitable activities for the Community.

The Committee also extend its thanks to members of our community who have placed their confidence and trust in WZO and leaving a lasting legacy for future generations by including WZO in their will.