

## Zoroastrian Association of California

# Search for a Center ín Southern Calífornía

### The History

- 1974 ZAC was formed by a few established families. People met in small groups in private homes.
- 1985 The Arbab Guiv Center in Westminster was opened when Iranian Zarthoshtis had arrived in large numbers because of the persecution in Iran. Later known as the California Zoroastrian Center.



ZAC members were meeting at the CZC for 2 major functions and 2 General Body Meetings. 2004 Purin Boman, offered a pledge \$150,000 to ZAC for a Darbe Meher.

Terms: She wanted was that a picture of her late husband be placed somewhere in the building.

This was graciously accepted and matched by another member.

2005 A Hall Committee of about 10 people was formally appointed to find and fundraise.

Research done by this committee included establishing a central location because the community was spread over about a 120 miles.

Types of properties to look for were also identified. We needed a large place because we had a membership of over 300. 2007 Appropriate cities identified to locate properties.

All the members were not convinced that we needed a place. They were happy just renting places for functions.

Some did not like the constant fundraising.

The real estate market had crashed and we were eager to strike while we had the opportunity.

2008 Fundraising intensified. We identified possible people and sources for funds. These efforts were worldwide.

Nataks, bake sales, walkathons, youth shows, etc.

Simultaneously the search for properties began and we looked at churches, warehouses, large plots of land. In February 2010, about 28 properties later and with about \$300,000 in the Bank, we identified this church.

### *The ZAC Center Orange, Calífornía*



The ZAC Center was purchased in May 2010 for \$2,600,000 It is a 9,000 sq.ft. building (largest in North America) on 2+ acres We also purchased the adjacent lot (10,000 sq.ft.) for \$240,000 in 2012



#### A Promíse Kept

Purin Boman passed away in 2007 but her pledge was fulfilled. At the Center's Opening in June 2010, a portrait was installed in the Center in the memory of Shah Behram and Purin Boman Irani by their daughter Shirin Irani.





#### ZAC's current major project is the construction of an Atash Kadeh

Phase One was completed early this year and included upgrading the restrooms and levelling the land for the building.

The estimated cost is \$550,000 and fundraising is ongoing.



#### ZAC is now building an Atash Kadeh (Prayer Hall)

A 1,972 sq.ft. dedicated, stand alone building complete with a Kebla, Urvisgah, Priest's room, etc.





