On June 21, 2015 the Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation (OZCF), held an historic event -- “Jashan in the Baug” -- on their beautiful ten acre property located in Oakville, Ontario. Canada.

This event was organized specifically for two reasons: to recognize Mobeds who, for many years, have continued to provide religious services to the Zoroastrian community in North America; and also to showcase the newly acquired Afarghanyu which has been donated from the Zanzibar Agiary to the Ontario Zoroastrian Community Foundation. It will eventually be housed in the OZCF Agiary.

The grand Khushalinu Jashan was held under two huge tents -- 100 ft. by 40 ft. – each well decorated with beautiful flowers and table settings set up on the well maintained grass. The tents were fully packed by a sold-out crowd of over 650 Zoroastrians. There were well organized parking guides who efficiently parked well over 330 cars. The day started off with two youths providing a brief description of the Jashan, followed by religious songs by youths of the OZCF Religious Classes and welcome remarks by the organizing committee Co-chairs, Rumi Jasavala, Kermin Byramjee and OZCF President, Mr. Percy Dastur.

The Jashan was performed by thirty Mobeds including young and old from Ontario Canada. It was amazing to hear thirty Mobeds praying in synch. It really was an historical moment for North America.
At the end of the Jashan there were speeches by Councillor Tom Adam of Oakville, Katayun Kapadia FEZANA President, Bina Behboodi, ZSO President, and by Percy Dastur, OZCF President. After the speeches, each Mobed was presented with a beautiful glass recognition award in the shape of a flame. All the Board members and the Jashan organizing committee members were also recognized. At the end of the speeches OZCF was presented with a Cyrus Cylinder replica by Homi Gandhi, FEZANA Vice President.

There were plenty of delicious dishes donated by local OZCF members for all to enjoy, including: Parsi favorites, fruits, dried fruits, malido, sev, dahi, ice cream, and cakes. The crowd was entertained by young Zoroastrian girls and boys singing and dancing throughout the day on the stage and a live band with lovely music. At the end there was a final raffle drawing for a trip for two to South Africa.

The entire event was shown via live streaming and viewed all over the world. With the Blessings of Ahura Mazda the weather turned out to be sunny and cool and the day was well spent by the Zoroastrians. It will be a memorable day for a long time to come. (Photos by Percy A. Dastur, OZCF)

FEZANA Bulletin is distributed to addresses listed in the FEZANA directory; to individuals included on the FEZANA group lists and to those requesting information about FEZANA. To opt out, contact: admin@fezana.org

Video: Religions Are Urged to Unite to Preserve the Earth

This video introduces an initiative by Religions for Peace International (RFP). RFP is the world's largest and most representative multi-religious coalition advancing common action for peace by working to advance multi-religious consensus on positive aspects of peace as well as concrete actions to stop war, help eliminate extreme poverty and protect the earth.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E_3EuybS9Mk [approx 3 minutes]

The Power of Collective Giving

What can you do with $10? How about supporting vital Zarathushti Infrastructure projects that could set a foundation for future generations of Zarathushtis in North America? If every Zarathushti contributed just $10 a year to the FEZANA Infrastructure Fund, just imagine the possibilities! Collectively, we can all make a difference. Please consider making a donation to the FEZANA Infrastructure Fund. Send donations (marked “FEZANA Infrastructure Fund” to: FEZANA Treasurer, Cherry Hill P.O. Box 3873, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034)
FEZANA is a board member of the North American Interfaith Network (NAIN). With your cooperation, we can create awareness about our religion and community, by participation in interfaith events and organizations. Each year, NAIN holds an annual conference (NAIN Connect) at different locations in North America. Last year it was in Detroit, Michigan, and FEZANA Interfaith Committee Co-chairs, Shernaz Minwalla and Maneck Bhujwala attended.

This year, the NAIN Connect conference is in Regina, Saskatchewan, at Luther College, on July 19-22, 2015. The FEZANA Interfaith Activities Committee is seeking Zarathushtis, -- especially from nearby cities -- who can attend. Details of registration, etc. are available on the Luther College website. Zarathushti Associations may consider sponsoring youth to attend.

Please forward this notice to local member lists and to anyone else who might attend. Also, please ask anyone who is attending, to inform the FEZANA Interfaith Activities Committee (Maneck Bhujwala (mbhujwala (at) social.rr.com) and Shernaz Minwalla (sjminwalla (at) gmail.com). □