

# WORLD ZOROASTRIAN ORGANISATION TRUSTS

- The WZO Trust Funds •
- The WZO Trust for Women & Children •
- World Zoroastrian Organisation Trust •



COMMITTED TO  
CREATING A STRONG COMMUNITY

# OUR JOURNEY SO FAR

On receiving reports that many Zoroastrians were living in abject poverty in villages of South Gujarat, World Zoroastrian Organisation, London commissioned a sample (not census) socio economic survey to be undertaken in 1984 / 1985 by Dr. Cashmera P. Bhaya then doing her doctoral thesis at Sayaji Rao University, Baroda.

Cashmera undertook the arduous task, and submitted her report in 1988 in which she identified 687 families in 209 villages living well below the poverty line, which in those days was around Rs.15,000 per annum/ family income in rural areas.

It needs to be understood that a sample survey generally covers only around 20% of target audience. And our work over the years has confirmed just that.

We commenced our efforts in assisting and rehabilitating our brethren residing in the rural areas of South Gujarat, but very soon realized that the poverty was of epic proportions, not only in rural areas but in many urban areas as well.

Recognizing that poverty was gradually on the rise, mainly due to the rate of dependency having increased on account of our depleting numbers, we realized that our focus should be on a much broader canvas.

What began as an initiative to rehabilitate poor farmers of South Gujarat our welfare activities have now come to encompass on a Pan India basis.

We are pleased to share our journey through the last three and a half decades with our donors, friends and well-wishers in this brochure. We extend our very sincere gratitude to all our donors, whether big or small for supporting us in our humanitarian activities.

Team WZO Trusts hope to continue their journey of providing humanitarian support for very many more decades to come.



# Letter From The CHAIRMAN

Dear Donors, Volunteers, Supporters & Well Wishers,

We are pleased to share with you a copy of our latest 2025 brochure, the earlier one having been released in 2019.

It is only appropriate that I must begin by expressing on behalf of my colleague Trustees, 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 extending support as well as individuals in India and overseas including our Trusts 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. 30,53,44,489 (USD 3,576,400 approx) 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.

Another very positive development has been that our succession planning has now been completed with the induction of Homiyar Madan and Freyaz Shroff in 2022 from Mumbai as Trustees. We had begun the process of succession planning when Solicitor Farzana Mojgani from Mumbai was appointed in February 2007, thereafter in June 2019 inducted Aspi Ambapardiwala, Cyrus Vandriwala (both educationists) and Rohinton Contractor (entrepreneur) all from Navsari as Trustees. Needless to mention 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.

Our sincere gratitude to young Nishika Desai for her efforts in putting this brochure together.

It will be only appropriate to conclude with the words of Mother Teresa;

*"We know only too well that what we are doing is nothing more than a drop in the ocean. But if the drop were not there, the ocean would be missing something".*



**Dinshaw K. Tamboly**  
Chairman



# Fighting Poverty since 1991

**World Zoroastrian Organisation Trust - established 1991**

**The WZO Trust for Women & Children - established 1993**

**The WZO Trust Funds - established 1995,**

were formed to combat the unimaginable levels of poverty existing amongst many Zoroastrians, particularly those residing in the rural areas of South Gujarat.

## **OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- *Transparency and accountability with donors, big & small.*
- *Keeping intact the self-respect and dignity of beneficiaries*

## **The Trustees of our three Trusts are:**

1. Mr. Dinshaw K. Tamboly
2. Mrs. Bachi D. Tamboly
3. Mr. Farrokh M. Kasad
4. Mr. Homiyar Madan
5. Mrs. Farzana D. Mojgani
6. Mr. Aspi Ambapardiwala
7. Mr. Cyrus Vandriwala
8. Mr. Rohinton Contractor
9. Ms. Freyaz Shroff

# Our Vibrant Team & Resource Persons at various places:

## Mumbai Office

Yazdi Randelia

Cyrus Vankadia

Hoshadar Parakh

Keshmira Badhni

Nazneen Engineer

## Navsari Office

Sharmin Tamboly

Homi Mistry

Sam Dharampuriwala

Sarosh Gazdar

## Resource Persons

*Ahmedabad*

- Cyrus Sabavala

*Hyderabad &  
Secunderabad*

- Jehangir Bisney

*Nagpur*

- Shernaz Daver

*Pune*

- Viraf Deboo

*Surat*

- Maharukh Chichgar

*Valsad*

- Sam Chothia

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More contact info on last page

# OVERVIEW

## 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. 7,29,00,000/-. The average cost of rehabilitating one family varies between Rs. 2,00,000 to Rs. 3,00,000 depending on layout of their fields and the inputs required.

## Rural Housing Project

Over the years we have facilitated the improvement of life styles of Zoroastrians residing in rural areas by converting huts of 342 families into cottages made from brick & mortar. The cost of one cottage amounts to Rs.7,00,000/-

## 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. 24,38,94,000/- till March 2025 towards being self employed in diverse professions of their choice.

A maximum amount of Rs. 10,00,000/- is considered for which repayments have to be made in 40 equated monthly installments.

## Educational 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 support development of youth by encouraging and motivating them to undertake activities that mould them into being good and mature citizens.

## 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.

## 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 Grain Distribution

We annually distribute food grains & food packets to 975 poor Zoroastrian families in villages of Gujarat & 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 having performed Mobedi on a full time 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 avg. annual disbursements are in the range of Rs. 75,00,000).

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 years that impart soft training skills that renew and rejuvenate the image of our Mobeds.

## Senior Citizen 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 19<sup>th</sup> building is presently under construction.

# OUR ACTIVITIES

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# Introduction

It's tough for many living in underprivileged conditions; in isolated, rural villages, many individuals are forced to forego basic needs, residing in humble and inadequate homes without proper sanitation, clean water, or electricity. The harsh circumstances of their lives suffocate their aspirations, leaving limited dreams for themselves and their children.

## A Typical Day

### In the life of an underprivileged member of society

The men are often burdened with the weight of manual labor, struggling to make ends meet. Women, on the other hand, are frequently relegated to domestic work, toiling away as maids or shouldering the responsibilities of household chores. Meanwhile, senior citizens are left to face the challenges of ageing alone, forced to fend for themselves without adequate support or resources. Perhaps most heartbreaking of all is the plight of the children. Due to a severe shortage of schools in the area, education is woefully neglected, leaving young minds to wither away. As a result, these innocent children are doomed to repeat the same cycle of poverty that has plagued their families for generations, their futures hanging precariously in the balance.



**MEN**

Manual Labour



**WOMEN**

Maid/ Housework



**SENIOR CITIZENS**

Alone & Helpless



**CHILDREN**

Neglected Education

During our village visits we have found many in our community who are:

- Uneducated
- Living in Unsanitary conditions
- Walking miles to cover basic needs
- Stuck in their circumstances, difficult to break the poverty cycle
- No one to turn to for guidance
- Stranded from normal life and society
- Unable to plan for a future

## WHERE CAN THEY GO FOR HELP?

The WZO Trusts aim to give them the leg up they need while maintaining their self-respect and dignity.

# Selection Process

## Matching beneficiaries to programs

Our beneficiary families need our understanding, time and support as much as they require our financial aid. We offer continued emotional support, guidance and mentoring until they are back on their feet successfully.

Once offered support, our experience has been that these same people become self-sustaining units, contributing to society and most importantly, daring to dream for themselves too!



**OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO PROVIDE ZOROASTRIANS WITH A LIVELIHOOD, RESTORE THEIR SELF-RESPECT & DIGNITY AND GIVE THEM HOPE FOR A SECURE FUTURE.**

# Farmers Rehabilitation Program

## Keeping farmers up-to-date with modern agricultural practices

Agriculture is the largest livelihood provider in India, contributing significantly to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). At present, India holds the second position in the world in agricultural production. No surprise then, that agriculture plays a major role in the socioeconomic growth of the country.

Agriculture is a sustainable business model and well suited to those living in the rural areas. It makes perfect sense to capitalize upon land that is already available and start generating an income! We work to give farmers the necessary tools to increase productivity and yield.

Through our Farmer Rehabilitation we offer assistance in some of the following ways:

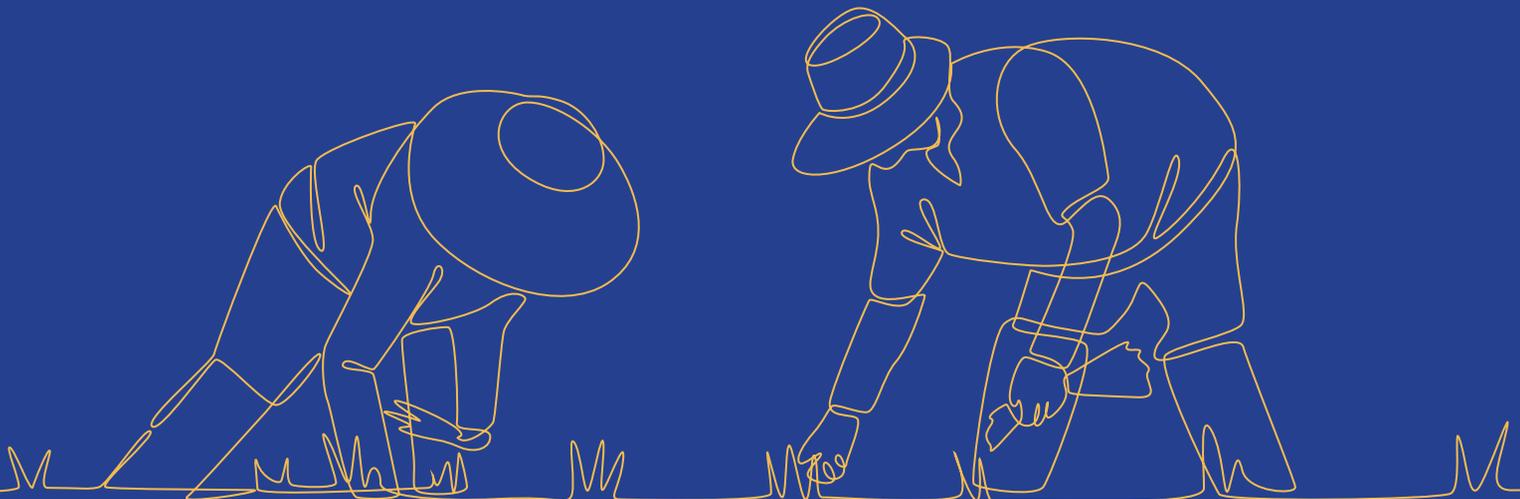
- Purchasing pump sets
- Drilling wells & bore wells
- Leveling their fields
- Providing tractors and mini tractors
- Encouraging sugarcane plantations
- Laying pipelines
- Encouraging vegetable & paddy farming
- Setting up poultry farms
- Setting up dairy farms

## Facts & Figures

Since 1991, up until present day (March 2025) our WZO Trusts have:

**Rehabilitated 524 farmers in 215 villages**

**Expending Rs. 7,29,00,000/- (USD 868,000/-)**





In the sugarcane field of a beneficiary



In the fields of a beneficiary



In the sugarcane field with beneficiary



Beneficiaries segregating the produce



Dairy farm for beneficiary



A poultry farm set up for beneficiary

# Rural Housing Program

## Transforming sub-standard huts into cottages

It is often a major surprise to many that there do exist fellow Zoroastrians living in dire poverty. What would cause even greater shock would be to witness the shanty huts that many Zoroastrian people call home. The huts that are used by those dwelling in these rural areas can hardly be called homes.

Many a poor Zoroastrian family, in the areas we serve, live in squalor; the walls are made of mud and cow dung patted onto bamboo poles, many homes don't have roofs, those that do have a combination of tin roofs covered with plastic, none of the huts have electricity, indoor plumbing or running water. Those keeping livestock (such as cows and chickens), have no distinct segregation between where the humans and the animals live.

Every season brings with it a new set of challenges. In the summer, the heat compounds the stench. In the monsoons, the ceiling and walls leak, as rain easily penetrates the mud and cow dung. In the winters, the bitter cold increases the risk of circulatory and respiratory diseases.

### Facts & Figures

Transformed 342 huts into cottages thus far. Cost of transforming 1 hut: Rs. 7,00,000/- (USD 8,300/-)





Old dilapidated hut transformed into cottage



# Self-Employment Program

## Interest free loans and mentoring offered to help establishment of businesses

Interest free financial support and mentoring offered to help establishment of businesses. Whilst agriculture remains an excellent source of income for the families in rural areas, it is not adequate to sustain future generations. Only one family can use that Land, but what would happen to their children?

It was this reality that spurred the establishment of the Self Employment initiative, whereby interest free financial support is offered in both rural and urban areas. The loans are for those who wish to be self-employed in vocations of their choice.

We recycle the loan repayments, allocating them to other individuals in their endeavour to becoming self employed.

Many of our Zoroastrians who are now self employed have various types of businesses:

- Autorickshaws
- Motor garages
- Catering and tiffin supply
- Mobile phone shops
- Building & construction
- Running of canteens
- Trading in oil
- Air conditioning servicing
- Repair centres
- Play groups for children
- Commercial vehicles taxis and trucks
- Saris and gara embroidery
- Brick kilns
- Service station for vehicles
- Pharmaceutical shops
- Distributorships

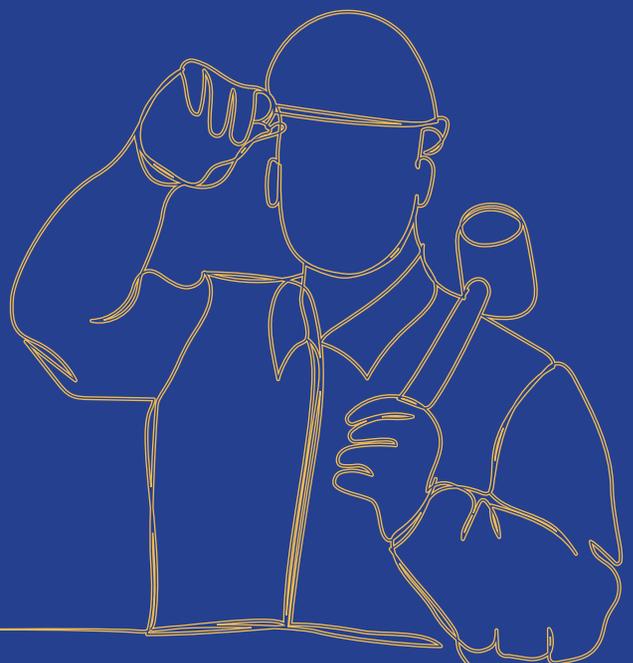
## Facts & Figures

The maximum amount of interest free support that is extended to any beneficiary is Rs. 10,00,000/-

This amount is to be repaid in 40 equal monthly installments.

**Between 1995 and 2025, we have:**

- 1. Assisted 1265 Zoroastrians**
- 2. Across 131 rural and urban locations**
- 3. Expending Rs. 24,38,94,000/- (USD 2,904,000/-)**





General store set-up for beneficiary



Private taxi for self-employment



Brick Kiln



Pizza parlour towards self-employment



Tanker Service Station

# Entrepreneurs Express Gratitude

**Natasha Bacha, Mumbai**

*Consultancy and recruitment company*

Contact: +91 9820493519



I, Natasha Bacha would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Dinshaw Tamboly Sir, Homiyar Madan Sir and Cyrus Vankadia Sir from WZO Trust Funds for all the help and support they extended to me financially to start my maiden entrepreneurship - RapidHire Consultancy. The first hurdle for any middle class family is of funds to start their business, to cross that hurdle, with the help of WZO Trust Funds got crossed easily. Without their support, guidance and encouragement this would not have been possible. The fact that WZO Trust supports everyone from all the age groups to take another chance in life and encourages them to give life a second go is itself remarkable. They are a blessing in disguise. May Ahuramazda bless them abundantly as they support, guide and encourage Parsis to realise their dreams...

WZO Trust Funds came as a blessing to people like us to understand and trust our ideas and helps us out. They welcomed my ideas and business plans and it was not a tedious process like you go to the bank and undergo many processes and documentations. These days even the banks do not help small size businesses and don't even listen to our plans. However, Dinshaw Sir, Homiyar Sir took out time and listened to my plans and ideas.

About RapidHire Consultancy - RapidHire is a dream of mine which I dreamt of. I was previously working with an organisation into recruitment but had always dreamt of having a recruitment company of my own, WZO Trust Funds made it possible for me. It's a Sole proprietorship firm. I have a total of 13+ years of experience in both Sales and Recruitment, I believe that being a Single Point Of Contact (SPOC) will prove to be more beneficial than having many layers in the organisation. As this would help both the client and the candidates to get first hand information from the right person. RapidHire strives to become the Trusted Search Partner for its clients. Our forte lies in Sales, Engineering, Services Hiring across IT, Trucking, Construction Equipment and Automobile industries.

Catering to mid and senior level roles. RapidHire will strive hard to become the number 1 search partner for its clients.

Thanks and Best Regards,  
Natasha Bacha

## Eric Jimmy Naverawalla, Valsad

### *Creating imitation jewellery and other artefacts*

Contact: +91 7405511391



Hi I am Eric Jimmy Naverawalla, I am from a small town name Valsad in Gujarat State. Hope this note finds you'll well. I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude to the World Zoroastrian Organization for the generous financial assistance you provided, which has made it possible for me to finally embark on my dream of starting my own business.

For the past five years, I have harboured this aspiration, yet the burdens of high loan interest rates and the lack of financial support made it seem almost unattainable.

The kindness of World Zoroastrian Organization has been a beacon of hope during this challenging time, and I cannot thank them enough for their belief in my vision.

Their support not only alleviated my financial concerns but also instilled in me a renewed sense of confidence and determination. I will always remember their generosity and the impact it has had on my life and career.

Thank you once again for your invaluable assistance and for being such a supportive ally in my entrepreneurial journey. I look forward to keeping you updated on the progress of my business and I am sharing product which I am manufacturing. Hope to make you proud.

## Firdosh Roowalla, Pune

### *Solid Waste Management*

Contact: +91 9766403305

My company, The Green Thum, began in 2013. We specialize in Municipal Solid Waste Management. I have a contract with over 35 housing societies in Pune for recycling their organic waste into a fertilizer called 'Compost'.

In 2020, I developed a new process of recycling this organic waste into biomass briquettes and a liquid organic fertilizer. For the new prototype, I needed funds to develop my processing machine, that's when I contacted the WZO office in Mumbai for a loan of 5 lakhs.

I had been helped financially earlier by WZO in my earlier business. The WZO Chairman and trustees were very helpful in approving my loan. With the funds, I was able to develop my waste processing machine completely and conduct trials on it.

This year, I was selected for the Start-up program "Garbage Free City 2.0 Grant" initiated by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs(MoHUA), and incubated by IIT Kanpur.

I thank the WZO Chairman and the Trustees for putting their faith in me and my business, and because of their support, I was able to progress this far.

# Educational Support & Youth Activities

## Giving the youth a childhood they deserve

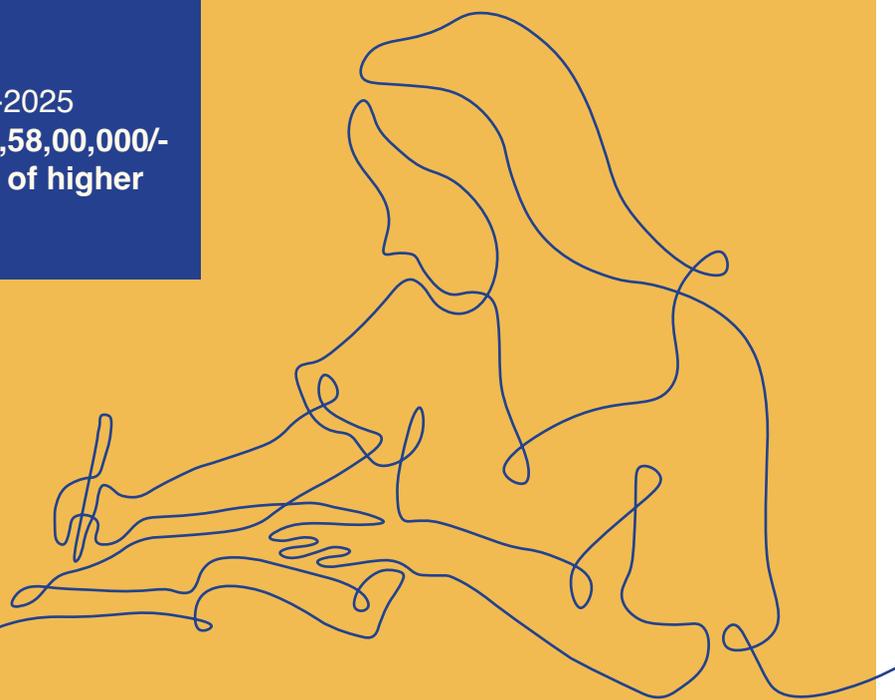
Investing in education is the single most effective way of reducing poverty. Large bodies of research document the negative effects of poverty on children and their later life outcomes. Poverty stricken children are mentally and physically hindered right from the beginning, with ongoing ramifications well into cognitive differences, poorer health and earlier childbirth for women.

Whilst Zoroastrian children are given academic help, they are also encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities such as sports, crafts, personality development, yoga and much more.

Day trips are organised, summer camps are now a regular part of the agenda, athletic day camps and fitness through sports is also promoted. In short, we want to create holistic, well-rounded children with fond memories of a happy childhood.

## Facts & Figures

We have during the financial year 2024-2025 supported 214 youth expending Rs.1,58,00,000/- (USD 188,000/- approx) in the pursuit of higher education.





# Medical Support

We receive numerous requests from individuals to extend support for various illnesses. Whilst we extend support to a few from our own humble resources, we have evolved a system of circulating the appeals that we receive after completing our 'due diligence.' We forward the researched appeals with our recommendations to our major and known donors.

Trustees of Zoroastrian Charity Funds of Hong Kong, Canton & Macao, FEZANA, WZO USA Region, WZO UK & Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe are by far the most generous donors contributing towards providing medical relief. We extend our sincere gratitude to all donors big & small for their largesse.

## Facts & Figures

On an average we cater to about 800 appeals annually, raising and disbursing funds in the region of Rs. 6,50,00,000/- (USD 774,000/-) annually.

# Support To Economically Challenged

Many find it difficult to accept that poverty is rampant in sections of our community, both in rural as well as urban areas. However, the number of requests that we receive is quite staggering. In urban areas, pockets of deprivation can be easily overlooked amidst the general hum of activity and apparent prosperity, hidden behind gleaming facades or tucked away in overlooked neighbourhoods. Similarly, in rural settings, isolation and distance can obscure the struggles faced by communities with limited access to resources and opportunities.

The support extended enables the elderly, the infirm and physically challenged to lead a life filled with dignity. At the time of writing 753 individuals are supported by making available to them Rs. 5,000/- per month on a quarterly basis. Additionally, we support around 550 individuals on a lump sum basis. As in most instances bulk of the support is from the generous Trustees of Zoroastrian Charity Funds of Hong Kong, Canton & Macao.

# Food Grain Distribution

## Providing food grains to the economically challenged

Whilst our focus is to create self-sustaining family units, we cannot ignore the fact that many first need basic assistance before they can dream of achieving higher level goals. This means their basic needs of food, shelter and good health need to be met before we can help them with their confidence, dignity and self-esteem.

Considering that food should be a basic human right, it is sad to note that some Zoroastrians living in the areas we serve don't have access to food on a regular basis.

Food grains are provided to the economically challenged Zoroastrians residing in abject poverty. On an average we supply food grains to around 975 families, the annual expense for which amounts to Rs. 74,00,000.

Each of the families is given a package comprising of:

No.	Quantity	Item
1	Wheat	15 kg
2	Moong	5 kg
3	Chana Dal	5 kg
4	Masoor	5 kg
5	Moong Dal	5 kg
6	Toor Dal	10 kg
7	Groundnut Oil	15 kg
8	Tea	1 kg
9	Sugar	2 kg
10	Sholapur Charsa	1 pc
11	Towels	2 pcs
12	Napkins	3 pcs
13	Tooth Paste	2 tubes
14	Tooth Brushes	2 pcs







# Mobed Programs

## Encouraging the next generation of priests

For any community to thrive or for that matter even to survive, it is very essential to have a strong religious base. No religion can survive without an enlightened clergy. The success and survival of our Zoroastrian community is undoubtedly directly linked to our religion and our Mobeds (Athornans). Our involvement with the welfare of Mobeds began in 1996 when WZO Trusts and Athornan Mandal collaborated to form the “Athornan Mandal - WZO Trusts Mobed Welfare Scheme”. Over the years funds keep on being raised by WZO Trusts which are capitalised and the interest received utilised to augment the income of 75 young full time Mobeds, depending upon the types of ceremonies they perform.

One of the crucial challenges that our Parsi community faces is that of ensuring to have a solid base of Mobeds, capable of not only sustaining our spiritual needs but also that of being capable of providing leadership in both spiritual as well as material matters.

WZO Trusts recognize that looking to present and the future spiritual need of the community, what is necessary, is the development of an educated, intelligent, knowledgeable and articulate class of Mobeds. It is very essential not only to encourage our young Athornans to embrace Mobedi as a full time profession by making it economically viable, but also to inculcate in them the essential requisites to attain the class of Mobeds needed by the community, not only all over India, but worldwide.

One of the two main reasons for the decline of Mobedi has been the extremely nominal remunerations that many Athornans receive for their humongous efforts, having to be on call 24X7 whenever required, and the other, considering that one has to be born into an Athornan family to be permitted to perform priestly duties, the number of young lads from Athornan families opting to become Priests are reducing, as with good education, opportunities abound for earning substantially more in secular environments than as practising Priests.





It has therefore become a need of the times to protect and preserve, not only our present day Priests, but keeping an eye on our community's future to make Mobedi a viable and satisfactorily remunerative calling.

It was with these realities in mind that the focussed and visionary Psychotherapist Ms. Binaifer Sahukar, conceived of a plan that would re-establish the image and standing of our Mobeds. It was thus that her brainchild "Empowering Mobeds", having the promise of being a game changer, with wholehearted support of Athornan Mandal & WZO Trust Funds, became a reality in 2017 and has since begun to undertake various programmes where experts in various fields have begun to train our Mobeds, developing amongst other things their leadership and counselling skills.

In addition to exposing Mobeds to the wise views of eminent and much respected Athornans such as Dasturji Firoze Kotwal, Dasturji Khurshed Dastoor, Dasturji Keki Ravji, professionals in various disciplines have held sessions with Mobeds that have provided them with insights into multifarious speciality areas that would open their minds and broaden their vision, which would facilitate them to interact with the laity who look up to them for guidance, in a far more organized and decisive manner.

Some of the skills that Mobeds have thus far been exposed to are by Psychologists and psychiatrists who have conducted soft skills training sessions, mental health experts, media professionals have conducted sessions to make Mobeds digitally savvy where impact of language to influence thoughts and feelings have been emphasized. Intensive follow up workshop was conducted in a corporate set up resulting in some Panthaks establishing a WhatsApp group for their Agiary worshippers, spiking the follower numbers for their Agiary Facebook page. Agiary event notifications for these priests are now digital instead of the old notice board, off site training program was conducted where Mobeds underwent rigorous self awareness exercises along with an introduction to basic counselling concepts. Stress management for Mobeds during the hectic Muktads have been conducted when living religious encyclopaedia Dasturji Firoze Kotwal spoke to Mobeds about the significance of Muktads, Dasturji Khurshed Dastur and Late Er Aspandiyar Dadachanji gave simple doable tips for staying calm and maintaining a healthy work life balance during the hectic Muktads.

Whilst the Empowering Mobeds roadmap is for Mobeds to upgrade their skills, understand themselves, speak better, read more, write more and interact more with the laity, it will be unable to elevate the profession of Mobedi to the position it occupied earlier, without the wholehearted support of the laity. Our Behdins (Laity) need to look at Mobeds in a different light, treat them not as underprivileged, but look upon and act towards them with reverence, ensure they are compensated commensurate with the services they provide.

In the final analysis what needs to be realised is that unless our Athornans receive fair remuneration for services rendered, even fewer and fewer than at present, young Athornans will take to Mobedi as a calling / profession which will in a few years from now create a cataclysmic situation where the community will be faced with inadequate Mobeds to tend to our holy fires or service the needs of the laity. The community must come to terms and accept the reality that our Athornans are the lifelines of and for our religion and our community. Without a robust and enlightened clergy, our faith & religion cannot survive.

**The not hard to understand equation is: No Athornans - No Religion - No Community.**



# Centres for Senior Citizens

## Independent and happy living

Our Bai Maneckbai P. B. Jeejeebhoy Senior Citizens Centre and Dolat & Hormusji Vandrewala Senior Citizens Centre became operational at Navsari in January 1998 and December 2005 respectively. They are our pride and joy.

Our residents are encouraged to lead a full and independent life. Day picnics are organised for them from time to time. Twice a year, those of our residents who are eager for a change of scene are sent on week-long holidays to our sanatorium at Sanjan, from where they are also taken on a day trip to Udvada to visit Paak Iranshah.

Fifty Senior Citizens live independently in happy surroundings, enjoying the evening of their lives with their peers. Yoga classes & Physiotherapy is given when required; a doctor visits periodically to check up all residents and is immediately summoned in case of illnesses.

We have a tie up with the D. N. Mehta Sarvajanic Hospital, a leading medical institution at Navsari where a special 'WZO Trust Ward' is available for our residents.

The charges levied in 2025 for full board & lodge are just Rs 7,000 per month; some residents who are economically challenged stay gratis and a few others pay according to their capacity. All residents, whether paying or staying gratis are treated on par.

Our Administrator, resident Manager and two assistant managers, along with our complement of 20 support staff are all trained to provide the highest quality of service to our residents which have made our Centres vibrant and much sought after institution/s that have over the years been running to full capacity.





Bai Maneckbai P. B. Jeejeebhoy

# Sanatorium at Sanjan

**Serenity, bliss, nature at its glorious best**

The very name of Sanjan conjures up nostalgia and sentiment in the heart of every Zoroastrian, for it was on the shores of Sanjan in Gujarat that we Zoroastrians received sanctuary when our revered ancestors landed 1394 years ago to preserve our Faith and escape from religious persecution.

The WZO Trust Funds Sanatorium at Sanjan is the result of a munificent donation received from the benevolent Trustees of Bai Maneckbai P. B. Jeejeebhoy Deed of Settlement Fund. A palatial bungalow, comfortable rooms radiating with understated elegance, a huge beautiful garden provides a magnificent frontage. In the backyard we have a mango orchard and coconut groves. It is a great place for the weary to recharge their batteries. The environment is pollution free and a very welcome change from everyday life.

The Sanjan Memorial Column, the local Aderian (Agiary) are additional features to make the stay at Sanjan more enjoyable and fulfilling. An added bonus is that our sacred Iranshah at Udvada is just under an hour away, linked with many trains running at convenient timings. Sanjan is easily accessible from Mumbai by train or road, and is probably the only Zoroastrian sanatorium completely powered through solar energy.

The charges are extremely reasonable in which wholesome meals & airy cross ventilated rooms are provided at the sanatorium, it is within reach even for those who cannot afford the luxury of staying in commercial establishments.

The Sanatorium has become a much sought after facility for community members.





# Economy Housing At Navsari

## Economical apartment buildings

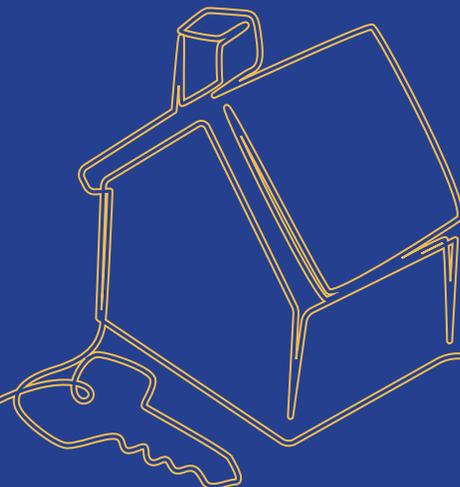
Recognising the work that we do, many residents of Navsari, gift to us, their ancestral houses at Navsari, most of which are in dilapidated condition. We demolish the old structures, raise funds and construct apartment buildings at economical rents that are allotted to community members.

We have so far constructed 18 buildings having a total of 113 flats that are given on leave & license basis at very moderate license fees to Zoroastrian families who cannot afford to purchase houses of their own.

Acting on a request received from the Trustees of Navsari Atash Behram & Vadi Dar-e-Meher Trust Fund we were informed that property of a Zoroastrian family opposite our Navsari Atash Behram was going to be sold, and the same purchased by a non-Zoroastrian family, from where the main hall of Atash Behram could be clearly viewed, where jashan & other religious ceremonies were being performed. The building housing the Dadgah in the Atash Behram building was also clearly seen. Since it was a question of preserving the privacy & sanctity of our religious place Trustees of Navsari Atash Behram & Vadi Dar-e-Meher Trust Fund requested us to extend support in purchasing the said building.

It is to the eternal credit of the generous Trustees of Zoroastrian Funds of Hong Kong, Canton & Macao that they responded immediately to our request and remitted the funds to us to enable us to purchase the building, now called 'Hong Kong Zoroastrian Center'. The building has been purchased by WZO Trust Funds and handed over to Navsari Atash Behram & Vadi Daremeher Trust Fund who use the building to provide residential facilities to Mobeds Sahebs tending to the fire at the Atash Behram, provide residential facilities to families of young Athornan boys being initiated into priesthood (Navar & Maratab), provide facilities for pilgrims visiting Navsari and use the shop on the ground floor for selling sandalwood and other religious items.

Whilst the Trust will recover an amount of Rs. 1,000/- per annum as license fees from Navsari Atash Behram & Vadi Daremeher Trust Fund: however, they will look after the maintenance of the building, pay the rates and taxes.





Aspar House



Dasturji Meherji K.D. Meherjirana Memorial House

# Donate to any of our many projects

as an individual or as a group

Get together with friends & family to transform:

- A hut into a cottage
- Sponsor a child's education
- Sponsor a Child's future
- Help an individual realize their humble dream of running their own business
- Initiate a food grain distribution drive

Rebuild lives, families and communities. Create a chain reaction of giving!

## DONATIONS TO THE WZO TRUST FUNDS OR WORLD ZOROASTRIAN ORGANISATION TRUST BY DIRECT REMITTANCE

THE WZO TRUST FUNDS	WORLD ZOROASTRIAN ORGANISATION TRUST
<p>BY DIRECT REMITTANCE IN INR From Bank Accounts in India Name of Bank: Deutsche Bank Branch Name: H.S. Marg, Fort, Mumbai Account Title: The WZO Trust Funds Account Number: 400004256780019 IFSC Code: DEUT0784PBC</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>BY CHEQUE in favour of The WZO Trust Funds Mailing address: C-1, Hermes House, 3rd Floor, Mama Parmanand Marg, Opera House, Mumbai 400004</p>	<p>BY DIRECT REMITTANCE IN INR From Bank Accounts in India Name of Bank: Deutsche Bank Branch Name: H.S. Marg, Fort, Mumbai Account Title: World Zoroastrian Organisation Trust Account Number: 400004259620019 IFSC Code: DEUT0784PBC</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>BY CHEQUE in favour of World Zoroastrian Organisation Trust Mailing address: C-1, Hermes House, 3rd Floor, Mama Parmanand Marg, Opera House, Mumbai 400004</p>
<p>BY DIRECT REMITTANCE IN US Dollars From Bank Accounts abroad Correspondent Bank Name: State Bank of India, New York Swift Code: SBINUS33 For credit to: State Bank of India, New Delhi Main Branch For final credit to: Beneficiary Name: The WZO Trust Funds Beneficiary Account No: 40088188141</p>	<p>BY DIRECT REMITTANCE IN US Dollars From Bank Accounts abroad Correspondent Bank Name: State Bank of India, New York Swift Code: SBINUS33 For credit to: State Bank of India, New Delhi Main Branch For final credit to: Beneficiary Name: World Zoroastrian Organisation Trust Beneficiary Account No: 40088296247</p>

**BE THE  
CHANGE  
YOU WANT  
TO SEE IN  
THE  
WORLD**

*- Mahatma Gandhi*

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**+91 7069-686161**

**THE  
BEST WAY  
TO FIND  
OURSELVES  
IS TO LOSE  
OURSELVES  
IN THE  
SERVICE  
OF OTHERS**

*- Mahatma Gandhi*