

Society of Scholars of Zoroastrianism

What's in a name? A lot!

The name intimidates some – seems kind of
flaunting !

So they do not participate – same situation as
WZCC.

But there is a reason for the name!

Welcome

- First “The Academics” among us -----
- Next, our “Theologians” – the priests
- Our “Educationists” -----
- Our “Lay scholars” -----
- Our “Students” -----
- Our “honored guests” -----
- And who else???

Welcome (cont.)

Our Community!

The “Community” is the key link !

There can be no conference without you!

- Conference makes interaction possible.
- Presenters to present and be published.
- Keeps learning in the living memory.

Vision of SSZ

The Vision is to revive the tradition of learning and scholarship within our Zarathushti community worldwide.

Yasnaai-cha, vahmaai-cha,
khshnaao-thraai-cha, frasang-tayee-cha.

- Afringan-e-Ardafravash

- Proper understanding,
 - Contemplation,
 - Gaining knowledge,
 - Subsequent imparting/teaching to others.

Mission of SSZ

The Mission is to promote interaction among academicians, theologians (priests) educationists, lay scholars, students and practitioners of Zoroastrianism through roundtable discussions, conferences and publications by:

- Encouraging local Associations to hold SSZ conferences.
- Enlightening the community and sparking their interest in learning.
- Encouraging community members to study and present.
- Providing a platform for academicians and scholars to present their research and get feedback from the community.
- Developing a scholarly organization respected by other peer organizations like the American Academy of Religions.

Hope you now recognize the rationale for the name of the organization.

Some Inadequacies!

The SSZ is only a not-for-profit

- We need to have a tax exempt status:
 - We need to develop a charter,
 - We need to have a cadre of scholars to run the organization.
- Once we develop a stature we may stand side by side with other scholarly organizations and apply to the AAR for a “Program Division” or a “Seminar”

Ultimate Goal

- To get a status with the AAR and
- To establish a Center for “Zoroastrian Studies”

Assistance needed

- Preparing a list of “Resources” - knowledgeable persons
- Upkeep of the website **www.s-s-z.org**
- Collecting and publishing papers
- Organizing the conference in different parts of North America – Detroit held a fine conference on October 14 this year.
- Selection of awardees for enhancing learning within our community.
- Encourage community members to participate.
- Moving the SSZ organization to the next level – there is a lot of work to be done.

SSZ Organization – Annual Report

Financial Report

Balance on December 31, 2016	\$ 2,913.51
Anticipated Expenses for 2017 Conference	- \$ 1,500.00
Anticipated contributions(ZAC and WZO)	+ \$1,000.00

Expected balance remaining \$2400.00 (approx.)

Note: Most expenses for the conference (food and printing) are donated.

\$10 fee paid by participants goes to ZAC as the conference contribution.

Most importantly, all the speakers have spent their own time and resources for which our grateful thanks.

THANK YOU!

- To the next-generation speakers, for taking the time from their busy schedules.
- To our guest speakers, for spending their time and resources to share their findings with us.
- To ZAC for hosting, organizing and supporting the conference.
- To WZO for their support and donation. Thank you Kayomارش Mehta.
- Above all, to all of you for coming.