

## Giving Without Prejudice.

The desire to help one's own kind is inevitably imbedded in one's genetic makeup. Love and caring, compassion and benevolence are human traits that should transcend barriers of religion and faith, indeed should be enhanced by them but so often fail to do so. A charity that has its foundation based on a particular community or religion must learn not only to look after those who subscribe to its belief systems but should also exist for the wider public benefit. Perceptions in charitable giving within our own community have often been tainted by narrow beliefs such as not assisting a child of out married Zoroastrian mothers.

WZO's primary function is to assist the Zoroastrian community worldwide and it has swept away many such short sighted policies of the past and by being the catalyst for change has led the way in unbiased thinking within the community. As charities go WZO is a miniscule entity, but has shown that it is capable of playing a role in supporting other communities as well.

**The World Zoroastrian Organisation, UK** has established partnerships with various charities and through its commitment to openness and transparency, assists in the allocation and monitoring of all donations transmitted through its good offices to Zoroastrian and/or non-Zoroastrian charities. As a UK charity it acts as NGO's for charitable activities abroad and applications falling under the categories of welfare, homelessness, self-employment (micro-credit) and education are considered.



Humble beginnings from the UK in 1987, in the rural areas of Sothern Gujarat with the amelioration of the poor sections of the Zoroastrian community, spurred the creation of the **World Zoroastrian Trust Funds, India** which has grown to become the major conduit for the receipt of charitable funds from Zoroastrian's worldwide. Today its activities encompass rural and economic housing, self-employment and microcredit, educational support and youth activities, medical aid, relief of poverty and a senior citizens centre.

WZO from the UK has supported all these activities through its own fund raising but more so through the very generous donations of various individuals and charitable trusts with which it has developed strong working relationships. Duplication, wasted resources and requests for identical needs is a common observance and the first step was to encourage co-operation, visit each other's facilities, exchange ideas and be more transparent. This is now paying dividends and is clearly the way forward. See the video produced by the [World Zoroastrian Organisation Trust, India](#).

In 2007, WZO were the recipient of a most generous grant of £400,000 from the Trustees of the Estate of the **Dennis William Richards Will Trust, UK**. WZO Trust Funds India received £120,000 towards the various projects outlined above and £180,000 was allocated to 13 Indian charities. The projects covered upkeep and education of mentally challenged children, upkeep and education of street children, education of underprivileged children, upkeep of physically challenged adults, homes for the aged and a hospital. In 2012 the **Dennis William Richards Will Trust** awarded WZO a further £30,000 towards charitable causes. See the News items on this [generous donation](#) and how [WZO publicly thanked the Trustees](#).

Since 2008, the Trustees of the **Erach and Roshan Sadri Foundation (ERSF), UK** have very generously provided grants towards charitable activities in India, Pakistan and Iran totalling £331,000 for Zoroastrian and non-Zoroastrian causes. The breakdown was £291,000 towards Zoroastrian and £40,000 to non-Zoroastrian causes. Beneficiaries amongst Zoroastrian organisations were WZO Trust Funds and Ratan Tata Institute in India, Pouchista Foundation and Bonyad e Nikan in Iran, and

Friends Medical Helpline in Pakistan. Non Zoroastrian Charities were CHAL Pakistan, Janum Pakistan, Women's India Trust and Dr Graham's Homes Kalimpong Darjeeling, India. See the video produced by [ERSF on its work in India](#).

**The following Trust Funds in the UK support WZO in its charitable activities worldwide.**

Established in 1982 through the benevolence of Mehraban and Goli Farhangi, **The World Zarathushtrian Trust Fund** played a significant role in assisting Iranian Zoroastrians suffering due to the political upheaval of the time. WZTF supports WZO and various other charitable organisations in the advancement of the Zoroastrian faith, higher education, relief of poverty and other worthy causes.

Established in 1991 through the munificence of Dr. (Mrs) Shirinbanoo S Kutar, **The Dasturji Dr. Sorabji H. Kutar Benevolent Fund** has provided extensive support to WZO over the years providing funds towards the relief of poverty, medical cases and higher education.

Established in 1995, **The Firuz Madon Foundation** upholds its charitable objects of advancement of religion and education in accordance with the tenets and doctrines of the Zoroastrian faith based on selfless thoughts words and deeds and on the contemporary principles of humanitarianism. The Foundation has steadfastly supported WZO for its on-going commitment towards religious education through lectures and seminars held worldwide under the WZO banner.

WZO wishes to record its sincere thanks to the Trustees of all the above Trusts without whose unflinching support it would have been impossible to fulfil many of its charitable and communal activities and is greatly appreciated by WZO.

Over the past few years' worldwide communities have suffered through natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods and the tsunami and WZO has played its part in mobilising the Zoroastrian community worldwide in a concerted effort to bring relief to the afflicted areas. Cumulatively we have shown the power of togetherness, solidarity and trust (Hamazori) and long may it continue.

If you agree with our concepts of charity giving, then please [donate here](#)