

## EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

The Ancient Iranian Cultural and Religious Research and Development Center was established in Vancouver Canada on the 21st of February 2000 with the aim to promote research and present the findings to a world-wide audience. This aim arises from the teachings of the Great Teacher Zarathushtra who has said.

Knowledge when you gain  
With minds good use  
Having realised wisdom  
The path to righteousness  
The ultimate message of Wisdom  
Through words excellent  
We shall turn  
Those who do not know  
By speaking.

Zarathushtra - Gatha Yasna Ha. 28.5 (F.R)

Our first step is to communicate through these few pages of this magazine and then with your support expand our horizon.

Our area of research will begin with the Gathas, the poetry of the great Teacher of Ancient Iran, Zarathushtra, and the history and culture of the people who followed his teachings up to 224 ACE. That is before the Sasanian Kings took upon themselves to make the teachings of Zarathushtra into a religion, for their kingdom, and commissioned Mobed Maraspond to write the Khordeh Avesta. Which has since then replaced the Gathas of Zarathushtra among the followers of Zarathushtra.

On the outset we would like to make it clear that our research and our findings are in no way aimed at interfering in the system, practice and belief of the present day Zoroastrian community. We respect their right to continue in the footsteps of their immediate ancestors, we also respect their efforts to evolve.

In fact what we write or say in this free world is in no way directed towards any community, religion or group whatsoever. We are on a path to discover the thoughts and beliefs of a people before they were influenced by governmental religion politics and further guided and moulded by the pressure of being a defeated minority.

Our aims are benevolent, our mentor is respectable. We want to share what we learn of his teachings with the world at large. What inspires our search? Well it is the deeds of a people that joined the Mediterranean to the Red Sea through the Nile to serve the living, while the king and people of that very land were busy building Pyramids for life after death.

If you think you would like to travel with us, welcome aboard, fill and send in the attached form to join the mailing list of **IRAN ZAMIN**. Of course we need and invite your support by way of donations so as to be able to continue what we have started, but at the same time we do not want to make subscription fees a reason for not sharing the information. So we appeal to your generosity.

We intend to make **IRAN ZAMIN** an outlet to the world where Writers and Scholars present their latest findings. We shall at times also propose topics for discussion, like in this issue we have two themes; one is, "While the Egyptians built Pyramids for life after death, the Iranians joined the Mediterranean to the Red Sea via the Nile. What was the reason for such different outlook to life and death?" The second is "The meaning of Mazda and Ahura in the Gathas". For our next issue we request friends to also deliberate on the topic of "Dualism as presented **BY** Zarathushtra". Please send in your findings in not more than five thousand words, we shall be glad to publish it.

The English section of **IRAN ZAMIN** is also available on the Internet on our web site at [www. ancientiran.com](http://www.ancientiran.com).

When on board always remember to,

Listen with your ears to the supreme facts  
Consider with open mind  
Between the paths before deciding  
Person by person for his own self  
Before greatness of the message  
Is truly spread understand each one  
Zarathushtra - Gatha Yasna Ha. 30.2 (F.R)

Khordad Baad

Fariborz Rahnamoon  
Editor