



Zahira College
Old Boys' Association

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR **2023**



Zahira College
Old Boys' Association

Dear Members,
Assalamu Alaikum,

It is with great pleasure that, I am sharing the Report of the Executive Committee of the Zahira College Old Boys' Association.

The 108th OBA year commenced with the Annual General Meeting on 19th March 2023.



Zahira College
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102nd Annual General Meeting

Position	Name(S)
President	N.M. Shiraz
Vice President	M. Rafeek Buhary
	Mohamed Cassim
	Gisthy Fawmey (Co-Op 1 st Ex Co)
Hony. Gen. Secretary	Nuzri Munsoor
Hony. Asst. Secretary	Ifraz Kamil
Hony. Treasurer	M. Haaziq Jaleel
Hony. Asst. Treasurer	Hussain Azad
Hony. Internal Auditor	K. Rishard Raheem (Co-Op 1 st Ex Co)
Hony. Editor	A.M.M. Muzammil
Hony. Sports Secretary	M. F. Marso
Hony. Social & Welfare Secretary	Farzan Shabdeen
Hony. Information Technology Secretary	Fathhi Mohamed (Co-Op 1 st Ex Co)
Hony. Coordinator for Affiliated Bodies	Jawfer Us Sadiq
Executive Committee Members	A.L. Anver
	F.M. Nazrullah
	Fariz Nilamdeen
	Ilham Shiraz
	M.A.A. Rusney
	M. Ashroff Rumi
	M. Azhar Salahudeen
	M. B. Aufer Johar
	M. M. M. Nawshad
	Mohamed Safraz Saley
	Below were Co-Op 1st Ex Co
	M.H.M. Falul
	Hilal Sanoon
	M.R.A. Razak
	M.B.M. Mashood
	Rizme Samsudeen
	Ex Officio
BOG Reps	Fouzul Hameed
	Naina Mohamed
	M. Safraz Saleem
Past President	M. Alavi Mukthar



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Seated from Left to Right – A.M.M. Muzammil, Ifraz Kamil, M. Rafeek Buhary, Nuzri Munsoor, N.M. Shiraz, M. Haaziq Jaleel
M.Alavi Mukthar, Hussain Azad, Jawfer Us Sadiq, Farzan Shabdeen

Standing from Left to Right – A.L. Anver, Fariz Nilamdeen, M. Ashroff Rumi, Ilham Shiraz, M. M. M. Nawshad, Shiyan
Saffardeen Mohamed Saifraz Saley, Rizme Samsudeen, M. B. Aufer Johar, M.H.M. Falul, F.M. Nazrullah,
M. Azhar Salahudeen, M.B.M. Mashood



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Meetings

Throughout the eventful year, we convened a total of 11 Executive Committee Meetings and promptly responded to 2 Emergency Executive Committee Meetings. The commendable attendance of a majority of our members not only exemplifies their unwavering dedication but also underscores the collective commitment to OBA's mission and objectives. As a token of appreciation for their active participation, each meeting was gracefully concluded with a sumptuous dinner, generously sponsored by our rotating Executive Committee members.





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Sports Complex

We are thrilled to announce significant progress on the Zahira College Sports Complex, a project highly anticipated by all stakeholders. The first phase, encompassing the indoor basketball court, is scheduled for completion by June 2024, with a grand opening slated for July 2024. This initial phase will provide a state-of-the-art venue for basketball practices, competitions, and other athletic activities.

We are also pleased to inform that the squash court, visiting team dormitories, boxing ring, gymnasium, and pavilion with a digital scoreboard will be up by the end of this year. These facilities will enrich the sports experience for our students and enhance the school's capacity to host competitions and events.

The completion of the Sports Complex will be a significant milestone for Zahira College, fostering athletic excellence and promoting a healthy lifestyle among our students. We are confident that this project will have a lasting impact on the school and provide a platform for nurturing future sporting talents.





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Sports Complex Contd.





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Zakat – Settlement of School Fee Arrears for Needy Students

In response to the financial challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic on numerous families, the OBA, in collaboration with the College Needy Students Committee, successfully initiated a Zakat project. Following a meticulous selection process, the Batch of 87, an affiliate of the OBA, generously contributed Rs. 1,000,000 to settle the outstanding school fees of deserving students. This endeavor not only ensured uninterrupted education for numerous students but also alleviated the financial burden faced by their families. It exemplifies the spirit of Zakat, fostering support during challenging times.



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College Graduation Day

Zahira College's Graduation Day 2022 took place on Saturday, May 27, at the historic Ghafoor Hall. This event serves as a value-added program for students completing their formal education at the school. Graduation Day signifies the culmination of a student's academic journey and marks the initiation of a new chapter in their lives. Armed with knowledge, guidance, and skills acquired during their academic journey at Zahira, students embark on the next phase with a renewed sense of purpose and direction. It is a day of celebration, reflection, and gratitude that will be cherished by students for years to come. This year's annual event was collaboratively organized by the Advanced Level Section in partnership with The Centre for Excellence and OBA, serving as a fitting tribute to bid farewell to the students with honor and dignity.

Primary Objectives and Welcome Address

The overarching objectives of our initiative are to provide invaluable assistance and guidance to post-A/L students. Our mission is to equip them with the knowledge, information, and skills necessary for identifying and making informed career decisions. Furthermore, we aim to offer ongoing mentoring support throughout their academic and professional journeys, fostering the development of law-abiding citizens.

During the welcome address, the Principal emphasized the significance of our mentoring and career guidance program. He underscored the rarity of such services in schools and commended Zahira for being at the forefront. Encouraging students to become exemplary Sri Lankan citizens, he set a tone of responsibility and commitment.



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College Graduation Day - contd.

Chairman's Visionary Presentation

Fouzul Hameed, Chairman of the Board of Governors, captivated the audience with a compelling video presentation outlining our institution's new journey and vision. He expressed the aspiration to transcend from "good" to "great," setting a high standard for our collective pursuit of excellence.

Keynote Address by Mr. Hanif Yusoof

The highly anticipated keynote address was delivered by Mr. Hanif Yusoof, Executive Director and CEO of Expolanka Holdings PLC. With an impressive background and board affiliations, Mr. Yusoof emphasized the profound impact of reading and urged students to associate it with morally upright individuals and influential connections. Stressing the importance of perseverance and uncompromising integrity, he shared insights vital to the path of success.

Mentoring Sessions and Panel Discussion

Subsequently, mentorship sessions were conducted in classrooms featuring accomplished professionals such as Dr. Amjath Hassan (Cardiologist – NHS), Dr. Hafeez Rajudeen (Ph.D.), Dr. Sarfaz Saleem (Ph.D.), Mashood (Chartered Accountant), and Mr. Ashraff Rumi (Attorney at Law and City Coroner). The day culminated in a panel discussion at Ghafoor Hall, with the Principal moderating and the panelists engaging with the audience.



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College Graduation Day - contd.





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Iftar & Dinner

The Iftar & Dinner, orchestrated by Social & Welfare Secretary Mr. Farzan Shabdeen, supported by the OBA Executive Committee, convened on Thursday, April 13th, 2023, at the Gaffoor Hall Lawn. The OBA President extended a warm welcome to esteemed guests, initiating an evening of shared experiences and spiritual reflection. The event featured a melodious Qirath by Al Hafil Haleem (IHSANI), a Holy Quran Thamam recited by Executive Committee Members, and an inspiring Bayan that further enriched the program.

Both the Principal, Mr. Trizviyy Marikkar, and the BOG Chairman, Mr. Fouzul Hameed, addressed the gathering, fostering a sense of unity and purpose. Following their remarks, Mr. Farzan orchestrated a delectable dinner enjoyed by all. The evening resonated with the spirit of fellowship and camaraderie, strengthening the bonds within the Executive Committee and other stakeholders of the College. It was truly a blessed occasion, filled with gratitude and shared experiences.





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Website Development and the Business Club Initiative

The OBA website is nearing completion, with only crucial information from affiliated bodies and messages from key individuals pending integration. Once these final elements are incorporated,

The website will be fully operational, serving as a comprehensive resource for the Zahirian community.

An exciting new feature is being introduced: the Business Club. This exclusive platform is designed to connect Zahirian professionals across various fields, fostering collaboration and mutual support. The core objective is to encourage the spirit of "helping each other" within the Zahirian network, allowing members to leverage their expertise and resources to assist fellow Zahirian when seeking products or services. This initiative holds immense potential to strengthen professional ties and create a thriving ecosystem of support within the Zahira stakeholders.





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OBA's Fellowship Day 2023

Under the able guidance and leadership of the President of the OBA, Mr. N.M. Shiraz, and the Director of Sports of the OBA, Mr. Farizan Marso, a "FELLOWSHIP DAY, 2023" was organized on a very high note. It proved to be a fruitful and memorable day for everyone present at various events on different days and held at different venues. The activities involved catered to various tastes and experiences, ranging from 8-Ball Billiards to Badminton, Futsal, Go Karting, Table Tennis, Rifle Shooting, Beach Volleyball, Cricket, Football, Hockey, Tag Rugby, Tug of War, Swimming, and a round of "Do you know Contest." Most of these events provided an extra layer of experience for the participants and were full of excitement, with over 35 Batches, Groups, and Associations taking part in the events.

This entire episode was organized within a period of about two months, between June and August 2023. All events were organized in different Groups and Batches within the College and were sponsored by fellow School Boys and well-wishers. The events successfully concluded on 27th August, at the College Grounds. Mr. Nuhuman Hussain (an OBA Past President) graced the occasion as the Chief Guest in the morning session, while the Principal Mr. TrizviyyMarikkar graced the event as the Chief Guest in the evening session and presented awards to the winners. Other distinguished guests were also part of the gathering.



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OBA's Fellowship Day 2023 - Contd.

- Overall Champions were – Batch 98 (Winners), Batch 2009 (Runners up), and Group 80 (3rd Place).
- Grand Master Category – Group 80 (Winners), Batch 90 (Runners up), and Group 70 (3rd Place). Marhoom M.T.A Furkhan Trophy, Sponsored by Board of Prefects 1997.
- Master Category – Batch 98 (Winners), Batch 2006 (Runners up), and Batch 2000 (3rd Place). Marhoom M. Firdous Trophy, Sponsored by H.S. Foundation.
- Youth Category – Batch 2009 (Winners), Batch 2016 (Runners up), and Batch 2007 (3rd Place). Marhoom M.M.K Namiz Trophy, Sponsored by Variety.

A heartfelt expression of gratitude should be extended to the dynamic team from the Executive Committee who worked tirelessly, displaying remarkable team spirit to ensure the resounding success of the entire process.





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OBA's Fellowship Day 2023 - Contd.





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Day Out – Executive Committee

The Executive Committee, consisting of 16 members, embarked on a Day Out to Kandy on June 24th, 2023. The day's centerpiece was an exciting rugby match at Bogambara Stadium, where Zahira College showcased its prowess against Vidyarthi College. The exhilarating competition fostered a sense of shared spirit and pride among the Ex Co members. Following the match, the evening unfolded with a fellowship night.

This gathering provided a valuable opportunity for Ex Co members to connect, network, and strengthen their relationships. The event fostered a sense of camaraderie and collaboration, essential for the effective functioning of the committee.

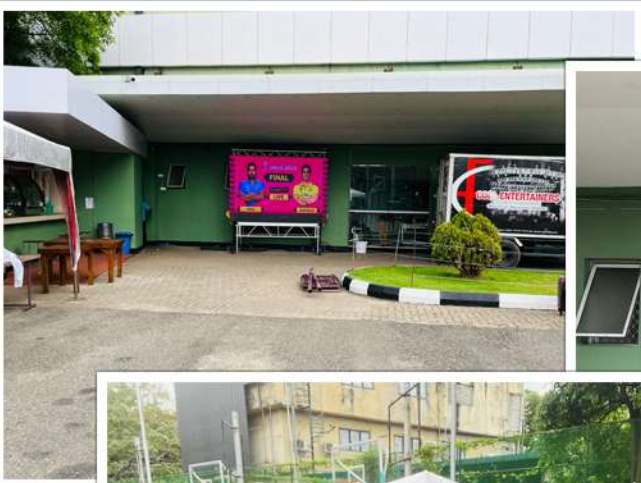




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Networking and Cricket Fever: A Memorable Evening

The Executive Committee hosted a networking evening on November 19th, 2023, at the Swimming Pool Carpark, coinciding with the Cricket World Cup Finals. This exclusive event, open only to Zahirians, provided an opportunity for old Zahirians and friends to connect and celebrate their shared passion for sports. A large digital screen displayed the thrilling match, creating a vibrant atmosphere of camaraderie and sportsmanship. Several food stalls further enhanced the experience, offering refreshments and fostering informal interactions. The event attracted a respectable turnout of college friends, solidifying the bonds within the Zahirian community.





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Qurban & Quran Thamam

In association with the Sports Complex Committee, the Executive Committee successfully organized a Qurban project on November 11th, 2023, serving as a blessing for the ongoing Sports Complex Project. This initiative, led by Mr. M.M.M. Nawshad and M. Rafeek Buhary, was generously supported by numerous well-wishers through individual financial contributions. Alhamdulillah, the project proved highly successful, with two portions of the Qurban being donated to Meezania and Abu Hurairah Madarasa in Wattala. Additionally, a portion was utilized for a lunch prepared for all participants. The event incorporated a Quran Thamaam and a special dua recited for the College's continued progress and the success of the Sports Complex Project.

This project exemplifies the spirit of Old Boys and collaborative efforts that drive the College's development. The generous contributions and participation of various individuals played a crucial role in its success.





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Zahira Football Triumphs: Overseas Tour to Malaysia

Zahira College solidified its reputation as the "Kings of Soccer" by clinching the prestigious All Island Under 18 Football Tournament, organized by the Sri Lanka Schools Football Association and sponsored by a renowned Football Academy. This victory stands as a testament to the team's unwavering dedication and commitment. Following this remarkable achievement, the Old Boys' Association, in collaboration with Mr. Naina Mohamed and several passionate football enthusiasts, organized an overseas tour to Malaysia for the champion team in August 2023. This tour provided invaluable exposure and experience to the young athletes, fostering their talent and expanding their horizons. The success of the overseas tour wouldn't have been possible without the collaborative efforts of various stakeholders who contributed over 4 million Rupees. The OBA's leadership and Mr. Naina's dedication, coupled with the generous support from numerous football enthusiasts, played a critical role in making these achievements a reality.





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Inspiring the Next Generation - Brother Charles Thomas

Renowned speaker Brother Charles Thomas visited the College at the invitation of the Board of Governors (BOG) Chairman, Mr. Fouzul Hameed. Themed "DARUWANTA RATAK, RATATA HETAK" on the 23rd of November 2023, the event aimed to uplift and inspire Grade 12 students. Held at the College's Gaffoor Hall from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, the program attracted a significant audience from leading schools of both genders. Brother Thomas's insightful and motivational address provided valuable guidance to the students as they prepare for their future endeavors. The event resonated with a powerful message not only for Zahirian students but also for those from invited schools, fostering a sense of shared purpose and inspiration, promoting harmony among all religions and communities. The success of this program is attributed to the collaborative efforts of various stakeholders. The Old Boys' Association (OBA) played a major role by financially contributing to the event and managing the proceedings in collaboration with the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) and the College administration. This collective effort ensured a smooth execution and impactful delivery of Brother Thomas's message.



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Inspiring the Next Generation - Brother Charles Thomas - Contd.



Zahira College Renowned Speaker Brother Charles Thomas
Harmony Unites Us



Zahira College

Renowned Speaker Brother Charles Thomas
Harmony Unites Us

23 November 2023





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Membership

In the dynamic year of 2023, OBA witnessed a substantial surge in Life Membership, with a total of 118 registered members. Among these, 81 individuals joined up to August, while an additional 37 joined the ranks between August and December. Notably, 20 Ordinary Members were also warmly welcomed during the year. This surge in membership not only reflects the strong affinity of Old Boys toward our association but also underscores the increasing interest in becoming part of our vibrant community.

Adding to the allure, the recently introduced Membership Card system has become a noteworthy attraction for our members. Impressively, 90% of our esteemed Life Members have already availed themselves of these personalized Membership Cards. Moreover, we are witnessing a growing demand for membership from Old Boys residing abroad, with many taking the time to visit the OBA Secretarial office, even during brief vacations, to enroll and connect with our global network.

Facilitating this influx, the OBA Digital Membership platform, launched with precision by the OBA Technical team under the adept leadership of IT Secretary Fathhi Mohamed, with valuable support from Zayan Mohamed and Ilham Shiraz, has played a pivotal role. The seamless integration of online payment gateways into the portal has not only modernized the enrollment process but has also made it an effortlessly streamlined experience.



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In Gratitude and Recognition

As we reflect on the accomplishments of the year, heartfelt gratitude is extended to all contributors who played a vital role in our success. Special recognition is reserved for the Executive Committee, under the astute leadership of President Mr. N.M. Shiraz, whose dedication and unwavering support were instrumental in the seamless execution of our diverse activities.

Acknowledgment is also extended to our Group Presidents and Secretaries for their remarkable cooperation and unwavering commitment to the association's endeavors. The continued support and assistance from the College Principal and staff have been invaluable, and we express our sincere appreciation to the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Mr. Fouzul Hameed, and all Board members for their guidance and strength provided to the Association.

In closing, heartfelt thanks are extended to all those who supported us in myriad ways, even if their names remain unmentioned. Whether through substantial contributions or smaller gestures, your involvement has played a significant role in our collective achievements. Once again, thank you for your invaluable support. Together, we remain committed to making a positive and lasting impact on the College and its broader community.

Jazakallahu Khair

Nuzri Munsoor
Hony. General Secretary
Old Boys' Association
Zahira College Colombo



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Thank you