

Back to the Future

27th Dec. 2007 – 3rd Jan. 2008



The Fourth
World Zoroastrian Youth Congress
~ University of Ballarat, Vic. Australia

FAQs
(Frequently Asked Questions).

Preserve, Practice, Perpetuate.

S.J.Mistry, “Ushta Tai,” 11 Tamarisk Avenue, Glen Waverley, VIC – 3150, Australia.
Telephone: ++ 61 3 9562 0543. Email: chairman@4wzyc.org
The 4thWZYC Inc. A0049539Y <http://www.4wzyc.org> ABN 57 817 377 043

Background:

I have asked many of you to help with the creation of the Frequently Asked Questions and I am glad to note the contributions of one Doctor within our group who very quickly wrote down some of these questions. So if you have any other questions, let us put it here so all will get the answers to them.

Please email me at chairman@4wzyc.org if you come across any ideas or questions we may have overlooked.

Thanks,

Shiraz J. Mistry
Chairman
4thWZYC2007

DISCLAIMER

While the Executive Board of the 4th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress 2007 takes care to ensure the accuracy and quality of these FAQs, all the included are provided without warranty, including, but limited to, the implied warranties of information provided or fitness for a particular purpose.

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(Frequently Asked Questions)

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GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Terms and Definitions

4thWZYC – The Fourth World Zoroastrian Youth Congress

Ballarat - The city of Ballarat, is just over 100 km (approx. 72 miles) North West of the city of Melbourne, Victoria. The town of Ballarat has approximately 87,000 residents and is probably best known as a major gold mining town in the mid-1800's and the home of the Eureka Stockade uprising during the early Gold Rush days.

Delegate – Zoroastrian Youth between the ages of 18 & 40.

Patrons – Adult Zoroastrians who are interested in Zoroastrian Youth Affairs.

WZYC – World Zoroastrian Youth Congress

Youngsters – Zoroastrian Youth between the ages of 15 and 18.

Teens - Zoroastrian children aged 13 and 14.

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2. Where were the first 3 WZYCs held?

The first World Zoroastrian Youth Congress was held in Los Angeles, California (North America). The second was in London, UK (Europe). The third and most recent was in Pune, India (Asia).

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3. When and where is the 4thWZYC?

The dates already booked are from 27th December 2007 to 3rd January 2008.

The 4th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress will be held in Ballarat, Victoria, Australia, in December 2007. The venue for this event is the University of Ballarat, Mt. Helen Campus, VIC - 3353, Australia.

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4. Why is it being held in Australia?

Australia is the logical choice as the previous Congresses have been held in various continents (North America, Europe, Asia) around the world and it was time for Australia to be given that same chance so as to make it into a truly global affair. Therefore, it is seen as a natural progression. Why was it given to Melbourne Australia? 4 people at the Congress in Pune represented Australia, one of whom felt Melbourne was better qualified to hold such an International Event; besides Melbourne is located between Sydney and Perth. We happily accepted the task that thus fell in our lap. As our past record has proven, we are indeed able to handle it.

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5. Why is the Congress being held at the University of Ballarat?

In our desire to give everyone a truly Aussie Experience, a lot of thought was put into finding the most suitable venue to bring together the World's Zoroastrian Youth in beautiful surrounds leading to the Best Congress Ever.

Having been involved with the wonderful staff at the University of Ballarat over a number of years previously, we are quite confident of their commitment to our cause, as they have already proven since we first approached them.

- Economically, we wanted to make it a viable proposition for as many Youth as possible.
- We wanted to provide a safe haven for all those who wish to participate.
- We wanted them to live together in the one spot throughout the Congress.
- We sought a venue where more than 500 Zoroastrians could gather without feeling crowded in.
- We wanted to showcase a part of the beautiful Garden State of Victoria where most of the events could be held within walking distance;
- Ballarat has a lot of our unique attractions that could be enjoyed just a short distance away.
- Ballarat's geographical location is ideal to access from Melbourne's Tullamarine International Airport.
- It is easy to get to by rail or road from Melbourne city itself.
- Ballarat itself is a major International tourist attraction thus making it a natural choice for our Congress.

We also know that the **University of Ballarat** has been involved with such World Events organised by other religious groups in the past. In conjunction with them, is the **City of Ballarat** only too happy to provide their expertise and resources for our benefit. [Top](#)

AUSTRALIA

6. Where exactly is Australia?

On any modern map of the world this is Australia's location. Once upon a time, it was known as Terra Australis – The Great Southern Land – now affectionately known as “Down Under”.



World Map with Australia (shaded)

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7. Can you tell us more about it?

The **Commonwealth of Australia** is a country in the [southern hemisphere](#) and is the world's smallest continent. Australia has a number of islands, the largest of which is [Tasmania](#).

Australia's 7,686,850 km² landmass is on the [Indo-Australian Plate](#). Surrounded by the [Indian](#), [Southern](#) and [Pacific](#) oceans, Australia is separated from Asia by the [Arafura](#) and [Timor](#) Seas. Australia has a total 25,760 [km](#) of coastline and claims an extensive [Exclusive Economic Zone](#) of 8,148,250 km² (excluding the [Australian](#)

[Antarctic Territory](#)). Climate is highly influenced by ocean currents, and by the [El Niño](#) southern oscillation, which causes periodic [drought](#), and the seasonal tropical low-pressure system that produces [cyclones](#) in northern Australia. [Top](#)

8. What season will the Congress be held in?

The Congress will be held in December 2007, thus making it summer in the Southern Hemisphere. Please be aware that temperatures ranged from 3.9 to 32.80 degrees Celsius during December 2004. It is therefore advisable to be well prepared for cold mornings and warm to hot afternoons. [Top](#)

9. Do I need a Visa to come to Australia?

Certain countries do not have reciprocal non-visa arrangements with Australia. As these laws keep changing, sometimes as often as 3 months apart, the Immigration Authorities have advised us to inform all Delegates to check with their travel agents closer to their intended time of arrival in Australia.

Furthermore, it is quite possible that by October 2007, many countries worldwide may have been placed on electronic Visa issuing.

Extensive information may be sought by visiting [The Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs](#) (DIMIA) website. [Top](#)

10. What is Ballarat?

Ballarat is a city that is located approximately 75 minutes drive from Melbourne International Airport along the Western Freeway (dual lane freeway) and is the major access point to western Victoria. Ballarat has a strong association with the Australian rebellion of the Eureka Stockade, one of the most famous events in the history of colonial Australia.

Some people have spelt Ballarat in the traditional way of writing it – Ballaarat, a name derived from the Aboriginal words which mean “camping place”.

Because of its hinterland location, plus its 450 metres above sea level elevation, the temperatures in Ballarat will be different from Melbourne. As it does get cooler in the nights, it is recommended to have some warmer clothing with you. [Top](#)

11. How can I get to Ballarat?

Ballarat is situated an easy one and a half (1½) hours drive on the Western Freeway (M8) from Melbourne GPO. This is marked yellow on the map below.



Melbourne GPO and Southern Cross Station (on the local and interstate Railway line) are East of Tullamarine International Airport. Ballarat is West of Tullamarine. Therefore, it is recommended for all International travellers to either take a domestic flight from Tullamarine to Ballarat or take the Airport-Ballarat Shuttle bus from Tullamarine, which runs a number of daily services. **Pre-bookings are suggested.**

V/Line (train service) runs a number of trains daily to Ballarat from Southern Cross Station, Melbourne. Travel time is around one and three quarter hours, but with the construction of the fast train network on the Ballarat line this time should be reduced significantly. For interstate travellers arriving by train, it may be worth their while to take the train or bus from Southern Cross Station to Ballarat.

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12. What is the closest International airport to the event?

Tullamarine International Airport in Melbourne is the closest to the venue. From the Airport to the venue it will take approximately 75 mins by road.

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13. Will we be taken to the University of Ballarat once we arrive in Melbourne?

We plan on having Volunteers stationed at Tullamarine Airport (depending on your arrival times) who will guide you to the Shuttle Bus Service. An official Australian Help Desk at the Airport may be of further assistance to you. **Transportation to and from the University of Ballarat is the responsibility of the individuals.** We advise that you ask your own Travel Agents to pre-book you on connecting buses to Ballarat to make certain that you get a seat on this shuttle service.

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14. How much will parking at the University of Ballarat cost me?

If you want to travel by your own car, parking will be available for you at no extra cost. However, be assured that the Organisers will take no responsibility for it at any time. Please make certain that you have your vehicle properly insured.

If you plan on parking your car on campus, please inform us in writing by the middle of November 2007 to ensure a parking spot and an official sticker for your car.

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15. How much will the Congress cost, and what does it include?

As an estimate, we are aiming to keep the daily all-found costs at Early Bird Registration rates of AUD \$125.00 per day per *Delegate* and *Youngster* at today's prices - bearing in mind that inflation is like death and taxes, inevitable! It goes without saying that all *Patrons* and any others will be charged at a reasonable higher rate, again as at Pune.

More information can be found in the [Registration Section](#) of this document.

In the interests of encouraging maximum participation in Zoroastrian activities, the University of Ballarat has happily consented to be reasonable about the pricing for the very young accompanying their parents.

This price includes:

- 3 meals (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner);
- Accommodation;
- Official Transportation during the period of the Congress only; and
- All activities as per the tentative timetable.

It is the responsibility of the individual to be present at the set time and location for transportation to all organised events. The Volunteers will not wait for individuals to front up whenever they please, thus delaying the others; nor will they send out search parties!

The Executive Board reserves the right at all times to institute changes that are necessitated by events beyond their control. [Top](#)

16. Will there be any additional expenses in addition to the cost of the Congress?

Yes, besides your fares to and from the venue and Visas where applicable, optional extras will be entirely up to you. These will include any external laundry charges, personal shopping, anything you may wish to buy from vending machines on the site, postal charges, extra or personal transportation or entertainment, telecommunications, medical supplies/personal hygiene, use of University office equipment etc.

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THE CONGRESS

17. How long will this Congress go for?

The Congress will last 8 days and 7 nights. The dates are from 27th December 2007 to 3rd January 2008.

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18. Please provide more information on ‘Additional Days’ & ‘Optional Extras’?

Please be aware that it is an Aussie tradition in Melbourne to be present at the MCG for the Boxing Day Cricket match. Also in Early January the Australian Open Tennis at the Rod Laver Arena, in Melbourne will be of interest to some sports loving Delegates. Some of you may wish to avail of this opportunity and therefore should make adequate advance preparations for the same.

As some of our Australian Zoroastrian friends in Melbourne, Perth and Sydney have offered to guide and even host some of the Youth delegates in their own home towns, may we suggest that those who are well able to afford the time (and of course the fares) to these places, to avail of Australian Zoroastrian hospitality? If you so wish to take up this offer, you will further need to inform us in advance – so that we can help organise these events in time and before we run out of host families.

The 4th of January 2008 is being reserved for rest for the weary and a day of sight seeing around Melbourne and surrounding areas, for the more energetic ones, at their own cost.

On 5th and 6th January 2008, as per initial ideas/discussions in Pune in January 2004, we are hoping to hold a World Wide Seminar on Zoroastrian Studies, which will be open to all Zoroastrian age groups. As more information regarding venue (cruise ship or otherwise) and costs come to hand we will update this site. We have previously organised two very successful Seminars on Zoroastrianism, (world firsts) in Australasia and therefore these requests for more along the same lines.

We request all attendees to pick up more up-to-date information on arrival at Tullamarine, Melbourne International Airport or from Federation Square at Flinders Street, Melbourne. This may help them to make further decisions regarding private tour arrangements.

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19. What is the program of the Congress?

A comprehensive tentative program is being worked on currently. Many of the ideas for events have already come from the Youth from around the world, whom we have spoken to.

Some of these ideas, like the cooking competition, are direct results of the Youth actively participating in discussions at [4wzyc](#).

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20. Can you please list some things that we'll be involved with at the Congress?

Some of the items on our **tentative** timetable to date include the following:

- Aussie Olympics
- Bar - B - Qs
- Beach party
- Bush dance
- Camp fires
- Debates
- Discourses
- Gold panning
- Golden gala ball
- Hands-on practices
- Historical pageant
- Iran Experience
- Khushalinu Jashan
- Luggun-nu-bhonu
- Parsi Natak
- Q & A Sessions
- Son Et Lumiere
- Wildlife Sanctuary
- Workshops
- Young Talent Time
- Youth Yakka
- Zoro Expo

N.B. Please refer to the Flyers' section on the Official 4WZYC website for more information.

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21. Will there be spare time to do things like sight seeing at the Congress?

The Congress program is already chocker block full and already includes a tour of Ballarat and its environs, including Sovereign Hill. Within some days, free time has been made available to do your own thing, but it would not be possible to go visiting other cities in Victoria between the 27th December 2007 and 3rd January 2008, without losing out on active participation in the Youth Congress itself. Please refer to "[Additional Days](#)" above for further information.

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22. Will we see any native Australian Wildlife?

Not only will you be able to see some, you will be able to feel and feed some! We do not recommend close encounters of the first kind with the wild life such as crocodiles and other creepy crawlies.

As part of the program, we have allocated time during the Congress to visit the [Ballarat Wildlife Park](#).

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23. What is Sovereign Hill?

Sovereign Hill is Australia's foremost outdoor museum. It recreates Ballarat's first ten years after the discovery of Gold in 1851 when thousands of international fortune hunters rushed to the Australian goldfields in search of riches.

By day, Sovereign Hill is where Australia's history comes to life! It's just like stepping back in time – from the hustle and bustle of Main Street where costumed ladies and gents parade their newfound wealth, to the excitement of the Red Hill Gully Diggings where you can pan for REAL gold.

By night, Sovereign Hill presents its spectacular, multi-million dollar Sound and Light show, "[Blood on the Southern Cross](#)", the dramatic story of the 1854 Eureka Uprising.

Again, as part of the program for the Congress, time has been set aside to visit Sovereign Hill and to view the Son Et Lumiere Spectacular, "Blood on the Southern Cross". More information will be available closer to the commencement of the Congress.

If you would like more general information about Sovereign Hill, please see their [website](#).

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24. What things do I need to bring for the Congress?

- Please note right from the beginning, that all items that you bring along will be your own responsibility. Suggested items of clothing include an all-weather coat – though technically it will be Summer Down Under, world weather patterns are changing too dramatically in recent years for us to be able to categorically state what is essential clothing for the season. Looking at the tentative program chalked out, we suggest appropriate footwear for events such as the Aussie Olympics, Gala dinner dance, Beach Party, etc.
- Similarly, please bring along clothes to suit all the above intended events and expeditions.
- As the climate may be very hot, an essential item of clothing that all must bring with them is a sun hat or cap. Sunscreen and sunglasses are optional.
- **For the Jashan ceremony appropriate religious headgear is absolutely essential.**
- Personal toiletries including hair dryers with international plugs and a torch are highly recommended.
- Personal medication, if required, should be clearly indicated on your application form so that the medical team is made aware of this, right from the start.

- Please ensure that your personal Savings/ Debit/ Credit Card facilities are available to you internationally. Everyone is advised to check with their own banks regarding their daily withdrawal limits before commencing their journey to Australia.

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25. What items may not be brought into Australia?

Australian Customs are very strict on the importing of foodstuffs – especially any products made of meat or milk. All fruit is banned. Please consult the [Australian Customs Department](#) for their latest prohibition/allowances, before bringing in anything they may term as contraband.

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26. What items will not be allowed at the University grounds?

As per the rules and regulations of the University of Ballarat, any items that may cause physical harm, health or environmental hazard or property damage, are banned. If these items are found in your possession, they will be confiscated immediately. These include jungle knives, explosives, fire works, guns, etc.

To safeguard the wellbeing of all who choose to attend, Security Officers from the University will be patrolling the grounds.

Any and all mishaps and/or accidents leading to bodily harm and/or damage to third party body and/or property are the sole responsibility of those involved. The organisers will not be responsible for the same.

We believe that all Zoroastrians already have a great sense of responsibility towards their fellow man and are already brought up to be ecologically and ethically conscious. As you will be the face of Zoroastrianism in Australia, we expect that you will live up to Zoroastrian tradition and culture, always.

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27. Will I be able to smoke at the Congress?

The University of Ballarat has visibly obvious instructions of ‘No Smoking’ in the dorms, and buildings. In keeping with the terms and conditions clearly set out by the University, we will be adhering to those.

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28. What type of food will we get?

International cuisine will be prepared and available during the Congress. A variety of foods will cater for all palates. The various daily menus set are along International, Parsi and Iranian lines. All three main meals will be catered for and ample tea and coffee will be supplied.

Food and drink vending machines on campus can be accessed at your cost, in case you feel peckish.

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29. Do you cater for Vegetarians?

Yes. Vegetarian food will also be available at the Congress. Please let us know on your application form if you are a vegetarian.

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30. What language will the Congress be conducted in?

English will be the language in every day use. However, as we are very keen to bring our Zoroastrian Youth from Iran to be a part of this major Zoroastrian World Event, we have already invited bilingual Iranian Zoroastrians in Melbourne to be on hand throughout the Congress. We aim to make all interpretation services as unobtrusive as possible so as not to disrupt the smooth flowing of each session.

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31. What is a “Youth” and what are the other age categories?

Please bear in mind that the entire focus of this Congress will be on YOUTH Affairs.

There are three main categories, namely:

- Delegates;
- Youngsters; and
- Patrons.

Keeping within the age parameters inherited from the 3rd World Zoroastrian Youth Congress held at Pune in Dec 2003, the *Delegates (Youth)* will be aged between 18 and 40.

Youngsters between the ages of 15 & 18 will be welcome provided we have written parental consent before their being accepted.

Patrons will naturally be those Zoroastrians over 40 who are truly interested in Youth affairs – except and again as at Pune, they will refrain from any verbal contributions at all times.

Parents with very young children will be accepted as *Delegates* depending upon their age group. Their children will be billeted with them. A responsible Zoroastrian parent or guardian must accompany those younger than 15 years of age.

All applications must be submitted on an individual basis.

As at Pune, Team 2007 reserves for itself the right to be sensible & flexible at all times to decide on a case-by-case basis.

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32. Is this event for “singles” only?

Anyone who is a Zoroastrian Youth is welcome to attend whether single or not. Seeing that we mean to preserve, practice and perpetuate our Zoroastrian religion, it goes without saying that young parents with children will be more than welcome to attend so that they can help to keep our motto alive into the future. We have already

made provisions for childcare facilities and what the children learn during those days will be showcased on the penultimate night's program.

We have organised capable accredited Childcare-givers and skilled and experienced educators to meet all needs. [Top](#)

33. Can I bring my parents?

Only 10% of the final number of Delegates will be allowed in as Patrons. As at Pune, interested Zoroastrians over the age of 40 will be allowed to attend the Congress as Patrons. They must agree to simply watch and hear the events in progress, but will not be allowed to speak at any of the sessions, or try to influence the Youth at any other time. Again, as at Pune, instant eviction without argument will result in case of misconduct.

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34. What type of Accommodation will be provided at the Congress?

Single room occupancy means that each delegate will be given a single room. All rooms at the University campus are in double storey units of ten or fourteen. There are no dormitory facilities available. The rooms, as at most Australian University campuses, are extremely neat and clean, but do not resemble 5-star hotels. Attached to each unit is a mini kitchen and common room with television, lounge and breakfast area, and bathrooms and laundry facilities. Each unit will be under the care of volunteer supervisors. Each person will be responsible for their personal belongings and their own room key and it is advised that they carry it with them at all times. Any loss of keys carries a hefty fine of AUD 80.00 levied by the University Accommodation Services and each person occupying the room will be personally charged for it. Any costs incurred thanks to any and all damage to University property will be passed onto the offenders concerned.

Parents with very young children will need to share their room with each child. Late registration may mean off campus accommodation. As this is a YOUTH congress, if required, Patrons may also need to be accommodated off campus where the rates will be much higher.

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35. Can I bring my 'Zoroastrian' friends/girl-boy friend/husband/wife/kids?

Yes. You are welcome to bring anyone along, provided they qualify as Patrons, Youngsters or Delegates.

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36. Will any Non-Zoroastrians be allowed to attend the Congress?

Some non-Zoroastrians will indeed be invited to attend our Congress BUT none of them will be there as Delegates/Youngsters or even as Patrons.

A) Included amongst this category will be Australians of repute who will be there simply as Observers/ Special Speakers and to support our endeavours by their presence – e.g. the Chancellor of the University of Ballarat or the Mayor of the City of Ballarat etc. or any others specially invited to the Event.

B) There will be many non-Zoroastrians in the behind-the-scenes help force as well. As at Poona and London there were many who worked silently and supported those Congresses by doing best what we would not be qualified to handle – e.g. the local Police, Ambulance, Country Fire Authority, Security Forces, University Staff etc. The Delegates themselves may never get to see them but they will be around lending us their full support.

C) Bone fide Students of Zoroastrianism from accredited Universities ONLY who may have a genuine interest for enhancing their own education and are endorsed by their own Professors – again merely allowed in as Observers and like all the Patrons may not speak at all.

D) Others invited will be accredited members of the Local, National and International media. Only those who have been specially invited to this Event officially will be allowed to film, photograph, interview or report on the Congress and within their own established news media. And at no time must they try to disrupt the smooth running of the Congress and all interviews will be conducted only with the express permission of the Organisers. [Top](#)

37. What about personal recordings/interviews/videos/photographs etc.?

Furthermore, we expect that all Delegates and Patrons will be astute enough never to use this Congress to augment their own personal agendas. Therefore it goes without saying that personal videos/photographs/private talks will be left “**For Personal Use Only**” and are not to be used for the enhancement of personal propaganda publicly – before, during or after the Congress. This also applies to the use of mobile phones to record and/or transmit any official proceedings of the Congress programs.

One is of course free to record or write about their own impressions for their own family, friends or community but our Congress is not to be used as a stepping stone to personal aggrandizement or enhancement of ideas inconsistent with the Congress theme and motto. We are sure all real Zoroastrians would not need to be told of this at all and this is included herein, only because some people have raised this question with us in private and we feel others may also wish to know of it.

We reserve the right to a preview before any media presentation to the world at large – not because we do not trust any one but because we want authentic and historically correct coverage every step of the way. Please remember that Zoroastrianism is only just now emerging on the horizons of most other people around the world and we cannot take upon ourselves the burden of our own, inadvertently misrepresenting us.

Happy as we are to allow anyone the freedom to have a wonderfully happy, good time it must never be at the expense of anyone or anything else.

Nobody is trying to curb anyone’s enthusiastic freedom of expression but one does need to be cautious that this is not misused as a license to creating chaos.

Always remember that not only are you ambassadors of your own countries to Australia you are also representatives of Zoroastrianism worldwide and we mean to present the honest and ever open face of Zoroastrianism to not just the Australians but also to the

world at large at all times possible.

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REGISTRATION FORMS AND EARLY BIRD OPTIONS

38. What do I need to supply with my application for registration?

Please ensure that you have filled in every section as required on the application for registration form and please adhere to the guidelines of participation. A bank cheque/draft (**in Australian Dollars only**) for the entire amount or part thereof per the form, 4 passport-sized photos each individually named at the back must accompany it. Attendees may send in their forms individually, though members of Zoroastrian Associations may wish to collect all forms and bank cheques and post them together by registered airmail to the organisers. All interstate and overseas applicants must use registered airmail for all postal applications. Those within Victoria may prefer to personally hand in their forms etc. Youngsters' forms must be sent in accompanied with a parental consent form. Those with a medical condition are requested to send in a doctor's medical certificate clearly stating their circumstance and allowing them to participate in any activities.

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39. Why do I need to send in 4 passport-sized photos?

There are several reasons for this. The simplest is that in most cases we need to have one attached to your registration form for record purposes, one for your ID card, one for spare in case of emergencies and one for use during the Congress.

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40. How can I pay for the Congress?

All fees for the Congress in Australian Dollars (AUD) only must be received with your registration form. At the moment, bank cheques/drafts made out to The 4th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress Inc. will be accepted. Credit card facilities are available now.

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41. Can we pay via Telegraphic Transfers?

It is our bitter experience that telegraphic transfers have caused too many problems to the Financial Sub-Committee as banks do not inform the recipient from whom the amount is being sent, in spite of repeated inquiries and traces can cost us several days and a lot of money in tracking the transaction. With international banking we have also found that both the sender and the receiver are being charged extra for the same transaction. So though we realise it may seem to be a faster, more modern way of transactions, we do not wish to take up this mode of payment.

We do not encourage Internet Banking for similar reasons as we have purposely experimented with this mode of transfer and in spite of clear instructions to the bank, the payer's name did not appear on our statement. Official bank statements come once a month and trying to reconcile registration fees with the forms would mean a delay in notification of receipt to you, if your name did appear on it. Sometimes the parents send in the amount in their own name and their surname does not appear on the statement making it almost impossible to figure out who the

delegate is supposed to be. Again, tracking these is a needlessly costly and frustrating exercise.

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42. When will I receive a receipt for payment of Registration fees?

Your Official paper receipt will be stapled to your registration form and will be handed to you when you register at the University of Ballarat on 27th December 2007. A confirmation of receipt of payment will be sent to you via e-mail once your entire payment is received.

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43. How will I know that I have been accepted to attend the Congress?

A letter of confirmation of your being accepted as an attendee will be sent out to you via e-mail once all paper work and payment are in order and this letter may be used for obtaining a Visa for those who require it. Please make certain that you carry this letter with your passport in case Australian Immigration inquires about the purpose of your visit to Australia. You will also need to produce this letter at the time of registration at the University registration desk.

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44. I want to attend only the Luggun-nu-bhonu. How much will it cost me?

In the interests of letting the Adult Zoroastrians of Victoria meet the World Zoroastrian Youth, special events will be open on certain days only. Prices which are not available at the present moment will vary according to the event itself and prepaid tickets issued will only be valid for that event and will not be transferable and no refunds will be applicable. If Interstate or International Adult Zoroastrians wish to avail of the same facilities, they will also be welcome. Boarding and lodging in Ballarat will be up to the individuals concerned.

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45. When is the deadline to sign up?

As things stand at the moment, we plan on announcing Early Bird Registration around Dec 2006 – Jan 2007, applicable to all age categories. In efforts to help as many Delegates to attend our Congress, we have been constantly urging everyone to start saving. As the dates for Early Bird registration approach, we learn that several of our Youth have barely started to do so! Keeping that in mind we have decided to accept 50% as non-refundable part payment and the rest to follow within the next 3 months as per the table below. This will only apply to the first and second quarter of year 2007.

Registration Dates - 2007	Delegates (18 – 40 years) & Youngsters (15-17), Teens (13-14)	Patrons & Others (40 years & above)	Pre-schoolers (3 - 5 years)	Primary aged (6 - 12 years)
Jan 1 st - Mar 31 st	\$875.00 / \$437.50*	\$1,050.00 / \$525.00*	\$210.00 / \$105.00*	\$315.00 / \$157.50*
Apr 1 st - Jun 30 th	\$960.00 / \$480.00**	\$1,155.00 / \$577.50**	\$231.00 / \$115.50**	\$345.00 / \$172.50**
Jul 1 st - Sep 30 th	\$1,055.00	\$1,270.00	\$254.00	\$379.00
Oct 1 st - Dec 15 th	\$1,160.00	\$1,397.00	\$279.00	\$415.00
Dec 16 th - Dec27 th	\$1,334.00	\$1,535.00	\$307.00	\$456.00

Children under 2 years accompanying their Delegate parents and sharing their room will be allowed in free of cost.

- * A non-refundable 50% of full payment by the 31st of March 2007, the rest to be remitted by June 2007.
- ** A non-refundable 50% of full payment by the 30th of June 2007, the rest to be remitted by Sept. 2007.

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46. What benefit do I get from Early Bird Registration?

If you were to compare the Early Bird specials to the Ultimate registration fee you would save about 50%. We therefore urge all who intend to attend, to apply as soon as Early Bird Registration dates are announced.

Any applicants after Mid-Dec 2007 would be subject to a 50% increase, subject to space availability. Registrations may need to be closed off early in case of overwhelming response.

Please note that late registration may incur the participants having to stay off-campus and daily transportation would add to their personal costs. Since this is a Congress catering to Zoroastrian Youth, it is possible that Patrons may need to be accommodated off campus. If Patron applications fall within Early Bird Registration, extra transportation charges to and from the University of Ballarat will not apply.

Registration fees as per above must accompany all registration forms.

Applicants who do not fulfil the requirements for this Congress will have their registration fees refunded less admin fees and current bank charges. Please note that any monies to be returned will be subject to time constraints. [Top](#)

47. What are the cancellation charges?

50% of all Registration Fees less current Bank Charges will be refunded ONLY IF cancellations are received before the 15th October 2007. NO cancellations will be entertained after the 15th of October, 2007. [Top](#)

48. Are there any discounts for Early Bird bookings?

Yes. Early Bird options will be available. Please see above for more details. [Top](#)

VOLUNTEERING

49. How can I volunteer my services?

There are many ways in which you can help out with the Congress. One method is to be involved by spreading the word about the Congress to your local organisations and associations. We have regular flyers full of information being sent out to all. If

you would like to help with this please email the secretary – secretary@4wzyc.org with details of what you need.

Another method that you can use to assist with the Congress is by joining the [Yahoo Mailing List](#). There are Zoroastrian Youth from around the world at the Yahoo group so you can join together and make new friends with like-minded individuals. Finally, one can always volunteer to help on a Sub-Committee. At present, the Executive team is systematically working through names and adding them to the lists. If you are interested in volunteering as a helper during the Congress itself please email secretary@4wzyc.org [Top](#)

50. What is a Sub-Committee?

A Sub-Committee is made up of a group of volunteers/conscripts working happily together. Members of these groups will have something in common like a hobby/interest or professional qualification. Some are experts in their fields, such as Doctors and Nurses. After consultation with them, several of these people may be placed on numerous Sub-Committees, depending on their skills and abilities to perform several various duties, within the guidelines of the tentative program.

Using the Pune list of Sub-Committees, as a template, the Executive team has created a more comprehensive list to suit our requirements.

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51. If I volunteer, will I be able to come for free?

As the saying goes, “There is no such thing as a free lunch!” No participants who volunteer their time will be able to come for free. All Volunteers/Conscripts, Delegates, Patrons, and Youngsters will be treated uniformly.

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52. How many people will be at the 4thWZYC?

We are targeting for at least 500 Delegates. We will be able to cater for many more.

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53. I don't think I can make it. When and where will the 5thWZYC be?

Closer to the date, we will be able to provide more information for the 5th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress.

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THE 4wzyc YAHOO MAILING LIST

54. Can I get in touch with others who plan on going to the 4thWZYC?

If you are interested in meeting other like-minded Zoroastrians, please consider joining the [4wzyc Yahoo Mailing List](#).

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55. What is the 4wzyc Yahoo! Mailing List?

The 4wzyc Yahoo! Mailing List is a private group for those individuals who wish to meet and discuss Zoroastrian topics in a happy and jovial manner. Various topics relating to our religion have been discussed. Also, in keeping with one of the slogans of the group, "Friends Forever", at times we discuss matters that are non-religious. A recent example would be the topic of ring tones for Mobile phones. Granted, not highly religious, nor pertaining to the 4th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress in discussion, but this forum ensures that we are discussing issues that the Youth want to raise. Besides this particular topic is an offshoot of Chhaiye Hummay Jarhosti as a ring tone! [Top](#)

56. How do I join the 4wzyc Yahoo! Mailing List?

Please complete all details on the form and submit it. The form can be found at:

<http://members.optusnet.com.au/smileycam/4wzycmembership.html>

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FURTHER INFORMATION

57. How do I get in contact with someone if I have further questions?

Depending upon the nature and urgency of your query, please contact us either via email or at our postal address. Please clearly outline what information you are requesting, and we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible. Please make certain that return addresses are included and be aware that postal replies may take a lot longer than electronic ones. Therefore it is advisable that emails be used.

Email:

chairman@4wzyc.org

and/or

secretary@4wzyc.org

Postal Address:

The Secretary

The 4th World Zoroastrian Youth Congress

11 Tamarisk Avenue, Glen Waverley.

VIC – 3150, Australia.

We sincerely hope that your correspondence with us in this regard is less hilarious than some of the questions received at an Australian Tourism Website from potential visitors. These answers are the actual responses by the website officials, who obviously have a sense of humour. Click [here](#) for them. [Top](#)

58. Do you have a website?

Information for the Congress can always be found on the official Congress website:

<http://www.4wzyc.org>

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59. I found some inadequacies in this FAQ guide. Who do I need to tell?

This guide is a collection of questions from many people. Many of whom we have spoken to or corresponded with are Youth. Others are people unsure of what the

Congress is all about. Hopefully this guide will answer many of the common questions we get asked. If you see some inadequacies, please be sure to write an email to chairman@4wzyc.org and I will endeavour to make the appropriate changes, if so required. [Top](#)

60. I would like to make some comments regarding this FAQ.

We are always happy to receive constructive comments that can only go towards the excellence we seek. We therefore request you to email your opinions/comments to chairman@4wzyc.org and/or secretary@4wzyc.org. [Top](#)

N.B. All the above are simple, tentative guidelines only and can be subject to change without notice.

Intentionally left blank for your own use.
