



# World Zarathushti Chamber of Commerce

Building the Spirit of Entrepreneurship

8<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

## WZCC Global Meet 2017

*In our second preview, leading up to the Annual Global Meet, we introduce two more speakers.*

**DR. RASHNA WRITER**, who, by training, is a political scientist and has also pursued a parallel career as a political analyst. She commenced her career as a Research Associate at the International Institute for Strategic Studies, London; went on to become a Contributing Editor of the Defense & Foreign Affairs Handbook; Defense & Foreign Affairs Strategic Policy. Subsequently, she was Head of Global Risks for a leading strategic risk consultancy in the UK, where she specialised in advising Lloyds of London syndicates specialty insurance underwriters on political risks, war and terrorism risks; as well as being a senior advisor to some major Austrian and German companies.

She has authored several books on the Zoroastrian Community and holds a doctorate from the London School of Economics in International Relations. She is also the recipient of several international awards.

Dr. Writer will address the subject of "Entrepreneurial Social Conscience as a Means of Zoroastrian Self-Preservation". She hopes that her talk will highlight Parsi entrepreneurs who, having acquired wealth, will consider it their duty to re-invest a part of it in the community. In her own words, "this was the genesis of the outstanding Parsi infrastructure that exists to this day. The challenge for today's Zoroastrian entrepreneurs is to assess our current situation and make decisions tailored to our times."



The youngest of our speakers, at 30, is **PRONITA SAXENA**. Pronita is a graduate in Economic, with honours from UC, Berkeley. After earning her degree she worked at MIT's Poverty Action Lab in rural Bangladesh and contributed to several policy papers for the World Bank and IMF at the Center for Global Development in Washington, DC.



She moved to India and founded [CITIZENGAGE](#), a technology company operating the world's first waste-to-resource platform that channels waste into energy, compost and recycled products. Pronita was recently named one of [India's Top Women Entrepreneurs](#) by Cosmopolitan and specialises in creating markets for disruptive technology. She drafted new policies related to smarter waste management systems while working with Citizengage's first customers to champion a Waste-to-Resource platform.

Pronita is a great example of Social Entrepreneurship and we look forward to hearing about her journey as an Entrepreneur at the forthcoming Global Meet.

*Before we proceed with some interesting trivia on our city, we'd like to take this opportunity to remind you.....*

- **Bangalore is at an elevation** of over 3,000 feet (914.4m) above sea level which is higher than Dehradun at 630 m. It's no wonder that we enjoy a pleasant climate throughout the year. December will be particularly wonderful - do carry light woollens to keep you warm during our outdoor evening functions.

- **At the heart of the city is Lalbagh**, which covers an area of 240-acre. Apart from more than 1000 species of flora and fauna, Lalbagh is home to The Lal Bagh Rock, one of the oldest rock formations on earth, dating back to 3,000 million years and many trees that are more than a century old.
- **Winston Churchill owes Rs. 13 to the Bangalore Club** - A ledger entry found in the book that was released on the 125th anniversary of the club states that the former UK Prime Minister owes Rs.13 as part of the unpaid bills at the club. The Bangalore Club is considered to be one of the most elite clubs in the country and was started in 1868 by a group of British officers.
- **R.K. Narayan's fictional Malgudi town** was named after the old Malleswaram and Basavanagudi areas in Bangalore. It is among the most popular readings that have Bangalore featured in it.
- **Bangalore has a rich history** of housing many of India's brave soldiers in some of the country's oldest regiments. The Madras Engineering Group in Ulsoor has been in existence since the 1770s and the ASC College and Corps in Agara dates back to the 1860s. Other regiments that have faded away in modern times include the once-famous cavalry units – the Imperial Service Lancers and the Mysore Lancers, who were formed in 1892 as part of the Imperial Service Troops, and played an active role in the First World War. There is a War Memorial dedicated to the martyrs in Jayamahal, near R T Nagar, that dates back to 1918.
- **Can you believe an explosive that is named after Bangalore?** The torpedo called the 'Bangalore Torpedo' was ideated and manufactured in the city itself. The torpedo was invented as a means of exploding booby traps and barricades left over from the Boer and Russo-Japanese Wars. It has been featured in various well-known movies like Breakthrough, Saving Private Ryan, The Longest Day, Storming Juno, and The Big Red One.