

# AN EVENING WHERE ME (MIDDLE EAST) BECAME 'WE'



By: **Nahid Elavia Shroff**,  
Entrepreneur and Advertising aficionado

They rightly say that first impressions matter a lot and if you ask me I would say that WZCC ME's first event of 2016 was in one word ... WOW. As a new member I didn't know what to expect, but I must say I was truly inspired.

The aim of the gathering held on 12th February 2016, was not only to share the new vision and mission of WZCCME but to also introduce the Super Six, the new WZCCME Directors.

The evening started off on the right note with Cyrus Debara (Director, Youth Affairs) giving us a sneak peek into what to expect in the coming year and unveiling the plans for a great year of networking and business building ahead. He praised the efforts put in by the Founding Director, Meher Bhesania who incepted WZCCME in 2003 and soon turned it into a productive arm of WZCC. He also thanked Roomi Sarkari for the efforts put in by him in the last six years as the immediate past President.

Porus Guzder the newly nominated President WZCCME; reiterated that the young, dynamic team has a renewed focus on the mission of WZCC to reenergize the Zoroastrian entrepreneurial spirit. He in his welcome address said, "that it's not just about what the WZCC can give us, but about being mindful of what we can contribute to WZCC too." He also introduced the gathering to the newly elected WZCCME Directors or the Super Six as he called them.



**Porus Guzder**,  
President, WZCCME  
& International  
Director WZCC



**Firdaus Irani**  
Chapter Chair,  
WZCCME



**Nowshir Engineer**  
Director, Business  
Development,  
WZCCME



**Cyrus Debara**  
Director,  
Youth Affairs,  
WZCCME



**Kashmira Kotwal**  
Treasurer,  
WZCCME



**Wahbeez Wankadia**  
Board Secretary,  
WZCCME

Porus, then introduced the property developers Rohinton Patel and Akbar Kazi - of Navroze Enterprise, who had come all the way from Mumbai to showcase their new properties "The Khorshed Mahal" & "The Najamai Mansion." True networking took place between buyers and sellers which demonstrated how powerful WZCC platform is. Many members approached the developers to understand the choice of the stylish 3, 2 1nd 1 bed room apartments that were being offered by them in Dadar. This offered a wonderful opportunity to the member's right at their doorstep to seek more information on upcoming properties in India!

The session paved the way for the discussion on the next topic by Nowshir Engineer (Director, Business Development) who spoke on the 'Power of Oneness'. The WZCC film showcasing the benefits of membership spoke of 3 key things - Collaboration, Collaboration and some more Collaboration and had the Parsi stalwarts of the industry talking about how the WZCC as an organization that fosters a sense of WE, encourages and promotes entrepreneurship worldwide.

The so far engaging evening took an inspiring turn when the keynote speaker Mr. Alan Gordon (Head of Marketing, Majid Al Futtaim) started his session with an interactive exercise that made us realize that we had a combined experience of 2500 years in the room. He also shared his learnings on how events bring together people and can fuel growth for an economy. His case studies gave us a glimpse into how Dubai Shopping Festival was born, how Global Village has reached new heights and what to expect as part of Expo 2020. This session was not only educative but also inspired us to see the Expo and the opportunities it brings in an all-new light.

Alan then presented the WZCC ME Award to Mr. Firdaus Irani of the Village Office for his contribution to the chapter in 2015.

The evening then took a fun turn with the young team that attended the New Zealand Youth Congress, giving us a glimpse into their journey and experiences and also showcasing their film "Aspirations of a Young Zoroastrian".

The last session by famous RJ Vineet Sharma of Suno 102.4 FM brought the evening to a very entertaining end. His sing-along session of songs showcasing the musical journey of Indian films was an apt end to a lovely evening and had the audience both young and old humming along. The vote of Thanks by Kashmiri Kotwal (The Treasurer) summed up the evening very succinctly.

This engaging, educative, entertaining evening ended with a sumptuous buffet spread at the lovely Creek facing venue of the Dubai Creek Golf and Yacht Club; as members of the WZCC ME chapter chatted away. I am sure that many a contacts were developed, new networks created and many future collaborations are now in the making... so like I said again it's all about the WE. Here is to more such evenings as part of the WZCC ME chapter.

