

**The Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe**  
**invites you to commemorate the**  
**DEATH CENTENARY OF OUR FOUNDER**  
**DR DADABHAI NAOROJI**  
**GRAND OLD MAN OF INDIA**  
**FIRST INDIAN MP ELECTED IN UK**



**FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM**

**ZOROASTRIAN TRUST FUNDS OF EUROPE**

**ZARTOSHTY BROTHERS HALL, ZOROASTRIAN CENTRE**

**440 Alexandra Avenue, Harrow, HA2 9TL**

**Opposite Rayners Lane Underground Station, next to H9, H10, H12 Bus Stop**

**Remembrance & Refreshments & Speeches & Meal**

**Invited speakers from National Liberal Club; Biographer of Naoroji;**

**Parliament & Greater London Assembly will speak on**

**Remembering Dadabhai Naoroji on his Death Centenary**

**Dadabhai Naoroji establishing the ZTFE in 1861**

## **Dadabhai Naoroji – Indian Patriot & The First Asian MP**

### **Dadabhai Naoroji & Gandhiji & Inter Faith**

### **Dadabhai Naoroji & Emancipating Zoroastrians in Iran**

Dr Dadabhai Naoroji, popularly known as the Grand Old Man of India, was born on 4<sup>th</sup> September 1825 and passed away on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1917. During his 91 years Dadabhai achieved many firsts! In 1855 he was the first Indian to hold an academic position in Colonial India, when he was appointed Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy at Elphinstone College, Bombay. Later in 1855 Dadabhai, together with Seth Muncherji Hormusji Cama and Khurshedji Rustomji Cama, travelled to London opening Cama & Co in the City of London, which was the first Indian trading firm to be established in Britain. In 1859, he became the first Indian to be appointed Professor of Gujarati at University College London. In 1861, together with Seth Muncherji, Dadabhai established the Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe (ZTFE), which today is the oldest Indian / Asian faith based voluntary organisation in the UK. Dadabhai was the longest serving Trustee (1861 – 1908) and President (1863 – 1908) of the ZTFE. Dadabhai was the founder member of the Indian National Congress and was elected its President 3 times. For us in Britain, Dadabhai will always be remembered as the first Indian to get elected as a MP to the UK Parliament, in 1892 for Central Finsbury for the Liberal Party. Dadabhai's election agent was Muhammed Ali Jinnah. He was also mentor to the young Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi. Rare photos of Dadabhai in the chamber of the House of Commons, and also with Gandhi and Madame Cama are displayed at the Zoroastrian Centre, Harrow.

To mark the death centenary of our founder Trustee and longest serving President Dr Dadabhai Naoroji, popularly known as the Grand Old Man of India, our Zoroastrian priests will perform his remembrance prayers in the sacred Avestan language. After the remembrance ceremony, at 6.15pm there will be a short refreshment break. Following the refreshment break at 6.45pm, there will be speeches on the life and achievements of Dadabhai Naoroji and his relevance in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The event will conclude with a community meal. Look forward to welcoming you at the Zoroastrian Centre. Kindly rsvp [malcolm\\_deboo@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:malcolm_deboo@yahoo.co.uk). Please let me know whether you will be dining afterwards by having a non vegetarian or vegetarian meal.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm M Deboo

President