

Zarephath Bible Seminary



JUNE | VOL : 2 | 2020

Principal's Desk



Dear ZBS Friends,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!
I thank God, for all His Grace, Mercies, and provision lockdown amidst the Coronavirus Pandemic. Despite the many challenges, pressures, and difficulties the ZBS team were able to set four goals towards setting up online Theological Education.

The first goal was to complete the Spring semester interrupted by lockdown. The second goal is to complete our M.Th., M.Div., B.Th., Diploma and Evening Summer Courses/Modules. We were able to complete two Modules "Basics of Christian Counseling (English) and Servant Leadership (Urdu). The third goal will be to start our fall semester in September for both options - Residential and online-Zoom classes. The fourth goal is for next year and years to come to set up a Proper system of online Theological, Pastoral and Missional training along with our residential classes.

We offer courses in two languages, Urdu, and English. We want to extend our vision to Urdu-speaking people especially in the Middle East and other parts of the world through our online-Zoom classes, as well as giving those who speak English, wherever they are, the opportunity of online Theological Education. We need your prayers and support to fulfill all 4 goals. Also, God has also enabled ZBS to provide food and hygiene items to over 500 families, including giving financial support to over 200 Pastors, food to day laborers as well as to the Majority people around us. All Glory be to the Lord

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Well Come Orientation and Prayer Meeting:

Every year when our new academic year starts, we give a special welcome and orientation to our new students. It is also an opportunity to get to know one another, spend time in prayer and fellowship, as well as share ZBS's vision and ministry. This year we have 33 new students in B.Th. and M.Div., and about 45 students in our modular programs which include M.Div., MAOL (Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership, and Advance Graduate Diploma in Christian Counseling. We also have 22 new students in our Evening classes.



Spring Semester:

We started the semester with a wonderful module on Pastoral Theology taught by Gerico from the Netherlands. Along with our regular courses we have different modules. Usually each module is for 6 days including half day on Saturday. The Second Module, on Church History, was taught by Freda Carey, the third Module, on Comparative Religion Studies, was taught by Dr. Paul Kim, both modules were held in between our regular classes. We closed ZBS from March 14 till now but thank God that we were able to complete our semester by organizing online classes with the help of Facebook live, WhatsApp, skype, and Zoom until we were able to purchase Zoom subscriptions for our longer and more systematic online classes.



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Summer Modules 2020:



Every year we offer summer modules to help our students get more credits, especially our part-time and modular students who are increasing in number. We completed two modules - one M.Div. module taught by Miss Jean Brand, the other at B.Th. level taught by Rev. Ashkenaz Asif Khan. This year the modules are being taught online via Zoom and we praise God for the positive, and creative impact of these courses. We plan a series of different online modules/courses from Diploma to M.Th. level in the summer and in the fall semester later this year.



Income Generation Project:



God has blessed ZBS with 7½ hectares land at the new campus which provides a residence for students and staff.

We have also cleared two fields to grow vegetables and some wheat to generate income to support the ministry of ZBS and development of the seminary.

God has blessed this and we were able to grow organic vegetables which were sold to staff living there and to others. We also bought 2 sheep and hope to buy other livestock to help support our ministry.



M.Th. & MOAL:

We thank God that the first cohort of our M.Th. has completed their coursework and students are writing their two major papers and then their thesis. The last module was on The People of God, taught by Dr. Sunny Tan from Malaysia. Before that module we had Thesis writing workshop and leadership Seminar. They instructors were Dr. Allan Harkness, Dr. Harold Clark, Miss Liz Giller and Rev. Ashkenaz Asif Khan, the second cohort will have 2 courses and then they will also write their thesis. We have 28 new students in our MAOL, and we are hoping to have their first residency in September if the situation is suitable.



New Hiring:

We want to thank God for our staff member Mr. Timothies Yousaf who has been promoted to the post of Admin Officer. He is a man of competence has a teachable attitude.



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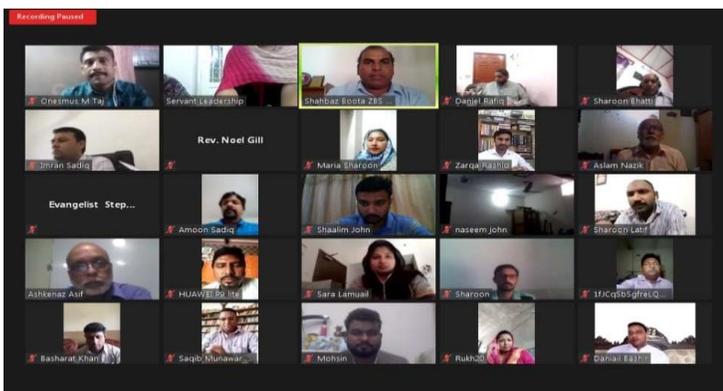
ZBS Graduation 2019:

Every year, in mid-December we hold our convocation. Last year 28 people graduated with diplomas and degrees. Our speaker for the occasion was Dr. Ifrahim Mathew, director of Potohar Ministries. The chairman of the ZBS Board, Professor Pervez Dean, awarded certificates to all those graduating. This year three special awards were presented: The first Lifetime Achievement award was presented to Dr. Barkat Pervaiz, the former Principal, for his founding and developing vision of ZBS. The second award was a preaching award presented to Miss Martha Youhana (Diploma Graduate), the third award was a "Ministry Award", awarded to Mr. Qaiser Riaz (B.Th. Graduate) for successfully completing three years of fieldwork arranged by ZBS.



ZBS Leadership Seminar (ZOOM):

ZBS offers different leadership seminars and conferences to encourage, uplift, and train existing pastors and new leaders. This year we are not able to offer in-person seminars, but we did hold an online seminar via Zoom. It was led by Rev. Ashkenaz Asif Khan (ZBS' Principal Emeritus) and Rev. Shahbaz Boota, the current principal. 47 Pastors and leaders took part in the two-day seminar. This was an amazing experience to be able to encourage our leaders in a time of a pandemic.



Zarephath Bible Seminary
ZBS PRESENTS ONLINE (ZOOM)
Training to Serve and Bless

Christian Leadership Seminar

Date: 15-16 June, 2020
Time: 8:30-1:00 (Mon-Tue)
Entry: Free

Speaker:
Prof. Ashkenaz Asif

Speaker:
Prof. Shahbaz Boota

Contact: Miss. Mariam Noreen (Registrar ZBS) 03165068698
Mr. Farhan Hameed (Communication Officer ZBS) 0334-5118962

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Evening Classes:

As usual, from January we started our regular evening classes with different teachers being assigned to different classes. The classes went well till March 13 when lockdown started and we had to close ZBS but we thank God that we were able to complete our semester for evening students. We have over 70 such students who come from different backgrounds: some are professionals, including doctor, lawyers, teachers, nurses, some govt servants, ministry workers, all are without theological training.

ZBS Aid Survival Program

In the Covid-19 Pandemic, and lockdown, people were starving. Daily wagers live hand-to-mouth. Even our students, graduates and Pastors were severely affected because churches had closed, and our pastors had no way of earning. In response ZBS decided to help pastors, needy families, widows, laborers and even Muslims brothers and sisters who were in great need. ZBS is privileged to help these groups in four stages.

1. Our first step was to help the 50 most deserving and marginalized regular students and graduates from all four provinces of Pakistan. Who had run out of food? This was a small initiative funded by the donations of faculty and staff.
2. Being deeply concerned about laborers who had become totally paralyzed, we distributed food to without regard to what religion they were. Staff went to serve food in bazaars, streets, and on the roadside.
3. Wanting to reach deserving families in Islamabad and Rawalpindi, and with support from some of our friends and partners in and outside the country, we distributed 'Rations', among 200 families. To help our graduates who are living all over Pakistan, we sent token gifts of money to encourage them to trust in God and as a way of saying that we are with them in this situation. We also extended our financial support to 80 rural pastors who were suffering severe financial crises to encourage and support them in their ministry.

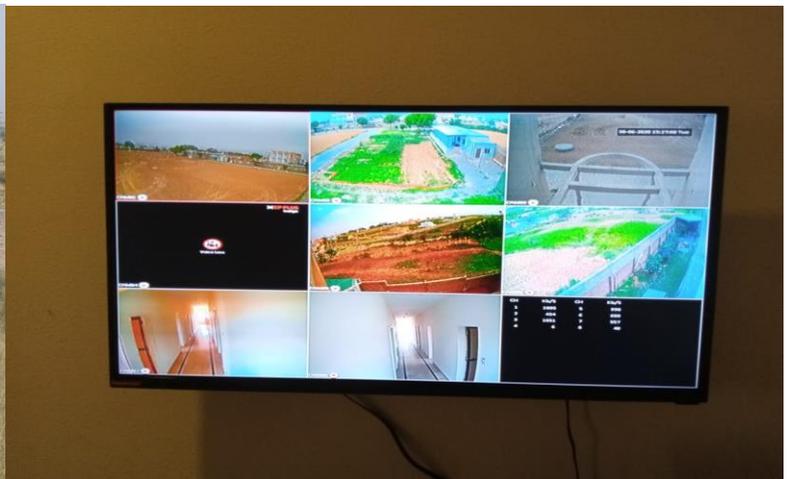


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New Campus Developments:

ZBS' new campus is being used for not only staff and their families' accommodation but also for accommodation for our students and modular students who come from different cities. But this quiet place is also open for small retreats, camps, and quiet time's activities. We were able to install different facilities in the new campus, including two guestrooms, with attached bathrooms, a small gym, and a common room for meeting and activity with LCD screen, Wi-Fi., different prayer points, two lawns/ gardens, and a cricket pitch for students to play cricket on. We have an updated kitchens (indoor and outdoor), a trained cook and recently installed a "Desi Tandoor" oven for fresh rotis and naan. We also installed lights and CCTV Cameras for security and safety. We are also praying that the new phase of the ZBS building project will start soon there.



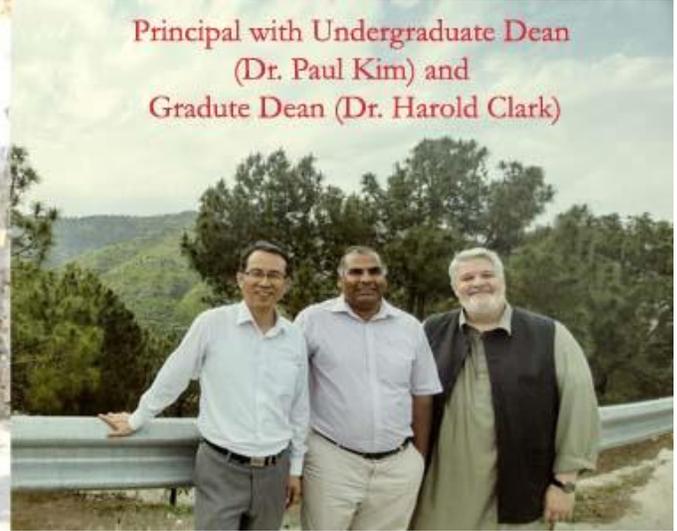
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ZBS was also able to bring smile on the faces of children by providing them food some food and playing tense ball



Principal with Undergraduate Dean
(Dr. Paul Kim) and
Gradute Dean (Dr. Harold Clark)



COURSES OFFERED

- Certificate in Theology (1 year)
- Diploma in Theology (3 years)
- Diploma in Intercultural Studies & Evangelism (2 years)
- Advanced Diploma in Christian Counselling (2 years)
- Bachelor of Theology (3 years)
- M.A. in Organizational Leadership
- Master of Divinity (Residential Full Time/ Modular Part Time)
- Master of Theology
- Evening Classes / Summer Module
- Certificate in discipleship (for new believers)
- Online Classes (Zoom)
- Servant Leadership Seminar Forum



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Training to Serve and Bless

CONTACT INFORMATION

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