

# Zarephath Bible Seminary



"Train students to become Christ-like servant leaders"

OCTOBER | VOL : 1 | 2019

## *Principal's Desk*



Rev. Shahbaz Masih Boota has been elected and installed as fifth principal of Zarephath Bible Seminary, Pakistan. Along with his administrative role he teaches Systematic Theology, Leadership and Pastoral Theology, at ZBS. He is Ph.D (Candidate) at University of Stellenbosh/OCRPL South Africa.

Dear Friends

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I thank God for His Grace and for your prayers that we can continue God's wonderful work in Pakistan by providing quality theological training and building the character of the new generation's leadership.

This year God has enabled us to take new initiatives, including starting a Module Program M.Div. where we have over 50 students from 20 different cities of Pakistan. We are also hoping to start another program, a Diploma in Missions & Evangelism, from Spring 2020. We are also able to train 26 leaders in our MA in Organization Leadership, a combined venture of three organizations: DAI, FC College, and ZBS. We need your prayers to continue God's work in Pakistan.

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ASIA THEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION MANILA, PHILIPPINES**

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## Brief Introduction of ZBS

Zarephath Bible Seminary (ZBS) began in 1982 as Zarephath Bible Institute (ZBI) in Attock City. Now it is in Rawalpindi. It is accredited by Asia Theological Association, Manila Philippines. We provide quality theological education to Christian men and women to enable them to grow in their faith, to serve others, and to be a blessing to the nation of Pakistan.

ZBS is an evangelical Bible College where we focus on developing Christ-like Character multi cultural and multi denominational background students and their contextual Training. During a three-year period, we offer an extensive nine-month practical ministry training including outreach and missions. Admission is based on experience of personal salvation, and a calling of God for ministry.

In order to maintain challenging academic standard, we have a diverse faculty from different cultural backgrounds committed to training through modeling. We also offer research and study facility to the students of comparative religion students from local universities.



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## Pakistan Mission Conference

Pakistan Mission Conference was held on 15th to 17th April, 2019. More than 120 Church leaders, pastors, Bible teachers and some professionals took part from all over Pakistan. The Conference started with a session "Mission vision" by Rev. Askhenaz Asif Khan. There were over 10 different speakers from ZBS and other mission organizations. The conference closed with Murree Declaration of Christian World Mission. God used ZBS to promote the need and urgency of mission in Pakistan and ZBS's role to train men and women to take God's mission in Pakistan seriously. All participants were motivated and charged for mission. Many participants returned their homes and ministries with a burden of Mission work and more love for the Lost.



## Staff Retreat

ZBS is a family Seminary. We conduct different kinds of activities to encourage one another and celebrate God's blessing together. Once a year we have faculty and staff retreat and this time we had our retreat at Margala Hills northwest of Islamabad. It was a time of fellowship and learning time from the experiences of one another. It was also time of reflection about God's vision given to us at ZBS and aiming to move to next year and years to come. We also spend time in prayer and enjoyed good food and ice cream together. We have 30 staff including teachers and staff in different departments.

## Students Field Work Report

Every year in the summer holidays ZBS sends our students for practical ministry all over Pakistan. We send our students to almost 16 cities: Multan, Sahiwal, Lahore, Abbottabad, Murree, Peshawar, Faisalabad, and other cities. The purpose is to send students for fieldwork so that they can experience ministry from the very first day after graduation, so that they don't feel anxious about preaching or teaching.

We believe that alongside class study, and the acquisition of knowledge, fieldwork should be mandatory in the training we offer our students. Serve to bless which is our motto. After completing their fieldwork they share their report during Chapel time. We often hear amazing stories of their experiences with people and God.



Students Praying together on Prayer and Fasting day

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## Family Mission Camp

ZBS held its Mission Family Camp from 13th to 16th July at Camp Mubarak in Murree 18 families took part in this annual Mission family camp. Some young brothers and sisters were there who accepted Christ as their personal Savior. The Camp started with thanksgiving and worship. ZBS evening students have the opportunity to come with their family for three days once a year and, with their families, spend some time in prayer and meditating on His word. Some families shared that they felt their marital relationships had been restored, that though they had been experiencing some issues, God had reconciled them. This is the main purpose and goal of the family camp every year .



## Youth Mission Conference

In August ZBS conducted a Youth Conference in a local church where over 300 young people were gathered. The purpose of the conference was to raise awareness among young people of missions work in Pakistan. Different teachers taught from their experience of how young people can play an important role in fulfilling the great command of Jesus Christ. During this two-day conference many young people gave their lives to Christ, and dedicated their lives for missions training and mission work in Pakistan.



## Master In Divinity (M.Div) Module Format

We are thankful to our faithful Lord who is with us every step. From this year ZBS has started M. Div. module format along with M.Div. regular format. M. Div. module format has a module every two months. Students come from almost every province and stay at ZBS's hostel. Now we have 50 Students who come to every module and learn the Word of God from 20 different cities. By His grace six modules have been successfully completed.



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## Guest Professors



We invite qualified and dedicated overseas and local professors to teach at our M.Div., M.A. and M.Th. classes. This year both Rev. Ashkenaz Asif and Rev. Dr. Qaiser Julius taught Module courses in M.Div Programe

## New Staff & Faculty

God has provided us with educated and trained staff. Mr. Asif Sattar joined us as full-time finance officer, Mr. Farhan Hammed joined as Promotion and Communication officer.



ZBS Foundation day was celebrated with enthuisaism and thankful hearts. We thank God for 37 years of dedicated service and ministry to training men and women in Pakistan.

## New Students in B.Th Program

We are so grateful to God who has given us a good numbers of dedicated students in our B.Th classes.



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## M.Th. Study Tour to the Middle East:

We thank God that in 2017 we started our M.Th. program with 16 students, a first for Pakistan. They completed their 5 modules at ZBS. All modules were taught by experienced professors from all different parts of the world. By the grace of God ZBS was able to arrange to teach a module in the Middle East (Jordan and Lebanon). Our students had the rich experience of exploring the Bible lands, visiting and meeting professors and students of seminaries in each country, JETS, and ABTS. They were taught by three experienced teachers, Dr. Lindsay Wilson, Dr. Martin Accad, and Dr. Harold Clark.



M.Th Students in Jordan at baptism place

## MAOL Graduation at FC College & University:

We want to praise God for the successful first graduation of Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership at FC College and University. 26 students were awarded M.A. degrees, diplomas, and medals. This program was jointly offered by three partners: Zarephath Bible Seminary, Rawalpindi, Development Associate International USA, and FC College and University, Lahore. This was a part-time three-year program for Christian leaders who are in mid-career, from different vocations including medicine, law, tertiary education, the Ministry, banking, heads of different Christian organizations, and NGOs. It was a powerful program which we believe will bring change to Pakistani leadership. The next course is being offered again from January 2020 at FC College.



MAOL First Cohort at FC College



## New Teachers and New Courses:

ZBS has a tradition of training and encouraging new teachers and leaders. At ZBS we are privileged to have 8 full-time and 6 part-time faculty. We also invite new competent and Godly teachers and introduce new courses according to need of Pakistani Church. In our fall semester God enabled us to introduce three new courses with three new teachers. For the first time we have Mr. Naghman Javed (Christian Music), Mr. Khalid Mehmood (Basic Arabic) and Mr. Insar Gohar (History of Christian Doctrine).

## Theology of Suffering & Persecution Course

We are also very thankful to our Lord who helped our Principal Rev. Shahbaz Boota to write and teach "A Theology of Suffering & Persecution", a well-researched and well-written course, relevant to our context. First time written and taught in the seminary setting of Pakistan at ZBS and other seminaries

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*Four Principal together during the farewell of Rev. Ashkenaz Asif*

## Farewell Program for Rev. Ashkenaz Asif Khan

An evening to commemorate and celebrate Rev. Ashkenaz Asif's ministry and amazing years of service was held at ZBS. He served as Professor and Principal from 1995-2018. We praise God for his vision, burden and exemplary leadership role which has been an inspiration to all of us. Rev. Ashkenaz Asif still serves as Principal Emeritus at ZBS. He is teaching part-time as well as speaking in and outside the country as ambassador of ZBS. He is also working on a couple of books which will be a great contribution.



*Faculty Presenting ZBS' Memories Album to Rev. Ashkenaz Asif*

## Consultation on the Future of ZBS

By the grace of God, we were able to conduct a one-day consultation on the Future of ZBS. This consultation was attended by three principals, including Rev. Nate Irwin, Rev. Ashkenaz Asif, and Rev. Shahbaz Boota, who all shared valuable insights and suggestions for the future of ZBS. There were also representative of the ZBS Trust, board members, faculty, staff, and student representatives as well as pastors and leaders from different parts of Pakistan. During the consultation ZBS principals, board members, and trustee, and others present offered many ideas, and suggestions to take ZBS's vision to the next level. By the grace of God, we are committed to implement the matters discussed at the consultation.



## Women in Theological and Missional Training



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## Leadership Conferences and Seminars

We thank God that ZBS has a key role in the development of the Pakistani church, not only providing quality theological education and training but serving the Pakistani church by preaching, teaching and training many pastors and other leaders in different cities of Pakistan. Every year we conduct leadership conference and different seminars to educate and train clergymen and women as well laity in the church.



## Mango Party

ZBS annual mango party was held on 30th May. All ZBS Faculty, Staff, students, and ZBS friends celebrated together. It was a time to thank the Lord for His gifts and blessings in our life and beloved country.



## ZBS Hostel Facilities

At present our classes are conducted at our Campus at 127 Murree Road, but the new campus, situated in Dhoke Hamedan near Tarnol, now has hostel available for students. We thank God that we can accommodate 25-30 students in this hostel. We also make the hostel available for small camp, retreats, and seminars during our summer break, in order to help resource the development project. We are praying for next phase of construction ZBS Hostel for girls and other related residential block in near future.



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## Construction Work

God has blessed ZBS with a 7.5 acre plot of land. We are grateful to God that the first block, a hostel for students, has been completed. We thank God that we have been able to build the boundary wall round the new site, install a bigger gate, a water bore, and construct two rooms for staff and servants working in the new campus. These facilities will be useful for the students and staff community at the new campus. Now the whole site and hostel is a much safer place for the hostel students and staff living there. The next phase of the building proposal awaits approval from the government. Lord willing, construction work will start soon. We need your continued prayers for this project.



## Prayer Points

Kindly pray for

1. Spiritual formation of staff, faculty and students at ZBS
2. For the safety and boldness to carry out ministry and mission work in Pakistan.
3. New Diploma in Mission and Evangelism.
4. For the approval of construction for the 2nd phase.
5. For ZBS staff, students, faculty, trustees, board members, and their families
6. For God's provision of the needs of ZBS' two campuses.
7. For the protection, peace, prosperity, and development of Pakistan.
8. For mission women conference in march 2020 and ZBS graduates leadership conference in may 2020.



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## 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)



**Z B S**  
Training to Serve and Bless

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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