VOLUME 5

JANUARY 2022

Zarephath Bible Seminary





Commissioning Service

Every year, ZBS has a commissioning service in which students share their three years' experience of learning and blessing. Teachers share their experiences and pray for the students as they commission them to go out into the world to serve the Lord.

Dr. John Candie and Rev. Samson John of the Assembly of God Ministries in Pakistan were the keynote speakers for this important ceremony.



Principal's Desk

During the challenges of the pandemic in 2020-2021, it seemed that our seminary ministry might not survive. But I reflected again and again on Psalms 94:17-19: "If the Lord had not been my help, my soul would soon have dwelt in the land of silence. If I should say, 'My foot has slipped,' Your faithfulness, Lord, will support me. When my anxious thoughts multiply within me, Your comfort delights my soul."

We trusted the Lord, and God helped us to continue his work at Zarephath during many challenges and pressures, and we want to thank God for his mighty hand upon his people. As a ZBS family, we believe that the challenges are still there and will always be with his people and institutes, but we want to trust in the Lord in this new year and the years to come. We want to invite you all to trust in the Lord with the hope that God is our help. His mighty hand is upon us, and his comfort is sufficient in all situations, and his faithfulness is everlasting.



Rev. Shahbaz Boota
ZBS Principal

REGULAR COURSES, MODULES AND SEMINARS



B.Th. Module on A Christian World view

From November 15thto 19th, 2021. Dr. Paul Kim, Undergraduate Dean, taught a module on Christian World view. In our modern world, where new traditions and customs arise quickly, it is essential to talk about Christ and culture within a biblical framework. There were forty students in this module, including students visiting from all over Pakistan, which was held at the main campus of Zarephath Bible Seminary in Saddar, Rawalpindi.



M. Div Module on the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

A powerful module about the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit was taught by Dr. Eddy Lanz from Germany. Our 45 modular students from Karachi to Peshawar were blessed by attending these six-day modules. Dr. Lanz serves as a visiting professor of Old Testament at ZBS. We are grateful for his devoted life example and passion for preparing Pakistani men and women for Christian ministry.





M. Div Module on Pastoral Epistles

This course is offered not just to seminary students but also to pastors and other church leaders who are working in different capacities in ministry. ZBS principal, Rev. Shahbaz Masih Boota, taught this modulefrom November 29th to December 4th.His many years in pastoral ministry provided background in sharing how walking with God's people can restore hope, faith, and love in the hearts of God's followers. Pastoral ministry involves bringing Christ's compassion to people in emotional, mental, physical, or spiritual need as well as helping others to recognize their gifts and empower them to use these gifts in the service of others. Fifty students were blessed by this module. Many pastors were also encouraged.





Leadership Development Lecture Forum

In the month of October 2021, we had the privilege of hosting a leadership seminar for local pastors and leaders along with our regular and modular students. The topic was "Exploring Romans 8 by Dr. Eddy Lanz." This was a unique learning experience that refreshed pastors and leaders in their ministries.





Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership (MAOL)

We are thankful that our second cohort of M.A.s in organizational leadership is ongoing. Our classes are conducted at Forman Christian College and University, Lahore. Nowadays, our classes are conducted online because of the pandemic, but we do hope that the next residencies will be conducted in person. We are so thankful for theA partnership and cooperation of FC College and Development Associate International (DAI).



Annual Graduation 2021-22

Because of the pandemic, we were unable to have graduation last year, so this was a mega graduation with 47 students. Dr. Luke presented a message of encouragement to be faithful to God as Abraham was. This was a was a time of thanksgiving, not onlyfor being released from the pandemic but for the success of the 47students who learned for three years in the seminary and will be serving across Pakistan.







Advance Graduate Diploma in Christian Counseling and the Bible

Five students graduated with an Advance Graduate Diploma in Christian Counseling and Bible. We are so thankful for the hard work of Ms. Jean Brand who started this counselling program with ZBS., She has retired and returned to the UK, but we do believe that now local counsellors who are trained in her method of ministry will be prepared tobring leadership to Pakistani churches and families in the area of counseling.

M.Div. Modular Students' Graduation

We started the M.Div. Modular program in 2019 to provide an opportunity for pastors and leaders who are already in ministry and are not able to come to complete their M.Div. degree as full-time students. Our first class consisted of students who were very experienced leaders in their respected institutes, organizations, and churches. We thank God for the 12 M.Div. modular students graduated in December 2021.

Farewell to Rev. Paul Kim, Dean of ZBS Undergraduate Program

We are so thankful to Dr. Paul Kim from Korea, who served 18 years at Zarephath Bible Seminary in different roles. He has been a great teacher and mentor to many students. He went back to Korea with his family after the close of the academic year 2021. He will be missed by ZBS as well as all the students he has taught and mentored. We praise the Lord for his wonderful exemplary life and ZBS wishes him and his family all the best and blessings from God.









COMPLETION OF M.TH DEGREE AND THANKS TO OCA

We are thrilled that four of our lecturers have completed their M.Th. studies. Our M.Th. class started in 2018 with 16 students from different organizations and denominations. We are happy that Mr. Tariq Aslam, Amjad Masih, Javed Morris, and Mr. Asher Wilson have successfully completed their course work and writing projects. We hope that the other 12 M.Th. students will be able to complete their work soon in order to graduate. We are expecting to have our graduation in April 2022.

Oversea Council Australia has generously sponsored the M.Th. programme at ZBS. We are grateful for the support of Dr. Stuart Booking, who personally assisted ZBS in establishing the first M.Th. programme in Pakistan to provide quality theological education to men and women in Pakistan. We also wish to express our gratitude to all M.Th professors and mentors who have invested so much in our students. Dr. Allan Harkness, Dr. Harold clarke, Dr. Grahan Chessman and Dr. Phil Church as well as Miss Liz Giller and Rev Ashkenaz Asif deserve special recognition for their outstanding contributions to the achievement of our M.Th students. May God bless all who have reached this milestone and helped the Pakistani church and leadership to grow and transform.







THE ZBS NEW CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT

The ZBS new campus is open for small camps and retreats during the summer break and on weekends for churches and small groups. This facility not only provides a great opportunity for the church and leadership in Rawalpindi, Islamabad, but also some financial support to ZBS. God has blessed us with new hot water facilities for showering, shaving, and washing hands at the new campus. We are also doing some renovation on both campuses in the classrooms and chapel hall. We are praying to start the construction work for the second block soon. The new drawings are getting read and drafts will soon be sent to the government office for the approval of the next two buildings. We need prayers and financial support for these projects.



NEW COURSES DEVELOPED AND TAUGHT IN PAKISTAN:

We thank God that ZBS encourages talented men and women with their further training and development. We also work on different new courses according to the needs of the Pakistani church and leadership. We are privileged that there were three courses developed locally and taught by Pakistani young teachers whom God has raised from Pakistan, and they were able to write, develop courses, and teach at different B.Th. and M.Div. levels. These courses are "Cross-Culture Missions and Evangelism in Pakistan (Tariq Aslam), Planting Indigenous Churches in Pakistan Context (Javaid Morris), and Theology of Suffering and Persecution in Context (Shahbaz Boota)". We believe in local theology and hope that in the coming months and years we will be able to develop more courses that fit into our contexts and fulfil our needs according to Pakistani needs in this changing world. We also do revisions in our curriculum every 5 years.

We are grateful to God that ZBS promotes brilliant men and women to continue their education and development. In addition, we are developing new courses to meet the requirements of the Pakistani church and leadership. We were fortunate that three courses were produced locally and taught by Pakistani young teachers whom God had raised from Pakistan and who were capable of writing, developing courses, and teaching at various B.Th. and M.Div. levels.

"CrossCultural Missions and Evangelism in Pakistan (Tariq Aslam), Planting Indigenous Churches in Pakistan), and Theology of Suffering and Persecution in Context (Shahbaz Boota)".

We believe in local theology and plan to develop more courses that fit our circumstances and meet our requirements according to Pakistani needs in this changing world in the future months and years. Every five years, we also revise our curriculum.

EVENING CLASSES OF EXTENSION CENTERS

We are excited that along with our regular classes for full-time students, we have a part-time program that includesmodular and evening classes. These evening classes are very beneficial to professional leaders, untrained pastors, and lay people who want to be a part of Christian ministry. We have three different centers for our classes in Rawalpindi and Islamabad, and we hope to start more in different cities. Three staff members are hired for this special evening program.We are pleased to have around 90 students in this program.







NEW STUDENTS IN SPRING SEMESTER 2022

Our prayers for new students are being answered.This semester God has given us over 50 students from different cities and provinces of Pakistan. We have new students in the M.Div., regular and modular programs; students in the B.Th. regular and modular programs; and many new students in the evening. Some of these students are professional men and women who come in the evening to learn the word of God. The other major group of the evening students consist of untrained pastors and lay leaders who are serving in the churches and are seeking to improve their capacities and skills as Christ-like leaders.









ZBS 40th Anniversary

This year is a special year because we are celebrating ZBS' 40th anniversary. We are so thankful to celebrate the Lord's provision. protection, and presence in the life and ministry of Zarephat Bible Seminary and its community. We plan to conduct a special thanksgiving service and celebration in April 2022.

Happy Anniversary To ZBS,



SPORTS DAY FALL SEMESTER

ZBS's Sports Day 2021 was enthusiastically celebrated at the New Campus of Zarephath Bible Seminary, Tarnol. All students, staff, and faculty members, as well as distinguished guests Mr. Adnan Sandhu and Mr. Stephen John participated in this annual event. There were different sports activities, including our old halwa race, cricket, badminton, volleyball, and many more. It was a time of refreshment, fellowship, competition, and working in teams. Cups and trophies were awarded to successful individuals and teams. All glory be to our Lord.







CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

This traditional lunch for the ZBS staff and their families, graduating students, existing students, local pastors, and church leaders provides a wonderful time of fellowship as well as an opportunity to remember the message of hope in Jesus Christ, who came into this world to become our salvation. This lunch was special, because we had a slaughtered lamb that had been raised on the new campus. A special gift of a bag full of grain that was harvested on the new campus was given to all staff and faculty members.Christmas carols were prepared and sung by Mr. Naghman Javed and ZBS's student choir. The guest speaker for this Christmas season was Rev. Ashkenaz Asif Khan.





MEMORABLE PICTURE OF ZBS' PRINCIPALS



Passing Away of Former ZBS Principal, Rev. Dr. Barkat Pervaiz



Life Story of Rev. Dr. Barkat Pervaiz

Barkat Pervaiz was born in 1941 in a village in Sheikhupura District. He studied to 8th class in Sheikhupura and then transferred to Lahore for matric. He traveled to Karachi and lived with rel atives while he did his FA. His family had remained in the village, so he returned to live with them while he worked as a Public Works Dept. supervisor. In 1960, an evangelist had meetings in their village. Barkat was convicted by the question: "What would it profit a person if he would gain the whole world but lose his own soul?" And he committed his life to the Lord.

He was married in 1957 at the age of sixteen to Clara who was six years his senior. She had trained in Sheikhupura at the same time as Barkat. They had four children–three girls and a boy.

Barkat Pervaiz left work and enrolled in the Lahore Bible Institute in Sheikhupura where Dr. Lal Din was the principal. One day, at a time when his wife had gone to visit her family and he was alone, he was washing his clothes by the water pump. He had no money and was wondering what he would eat that noon. Just at that time, a money order arrived from Dera Ghazi Khan–from someone he barely knew. At this point, Barkat experienced the same wonderful faithfulness of God that many of us missionaries had experienced as we walked in obedience to Him.







After graduation in 1963, he went to Muzaffaragarh as a pastor where he served for one year. In 1964, he moved to Multan to pastor the Multan Brethren Church and work in the bookroom. In 1965, he returned to Sheikhupura to teach at the Lahore Bible Institute until 1968. Vern Rock was also teaching at the Institute at that time, but he left in 1968, giving Barkat an invitation to serve with TEAM as pastor of the church in Campbellpur, which he accepted.

Yunis Gill was also in Campbellpur at the time–a younger man who had also trained in Sheikhupura. Barkat could sense that Yunis was threatened by his presence, so thought it best to leave after being there 4 months. He went to Tarbela, established the church there, and was pastor of that church for twenty-four years. Bill Dalton helped in the beginning of that work, and they saw the membership grow to 231 members with a church building and a pastor's house. There was only one problem during that time of relationship with TEAM–and that involved baptism. Many of the parishioners had come from Presbyterian backgrounds and were questioning the need for believers' baptism when they had been baptized as infants. Many discussions were held, and the issue was finally resolved–believers' baptism became the standard, not only for the Tarbela church, but also for all TEAM churches.

Jean Sodeman remembers attending a baptismal service in Tarbela with Barkat officiating. The sermon was a perfect contextualization of the ceremony with culture. "There are four times when a [Pakistani] believer is washed (ghusal)–once at birth, once at his wedding, once when he is baptized, and once when he is prepared for burial."

However, Barkat had a burden to teach. At that time, others also felt a Bible school ought to be established. Finally in 1981, a board was established, and in 1982, Zarephath Bible institute began with two students in Campbellpur (now Attock City). From the beginning, Barkat taught part-time, travelling from Tarbela in order to teach.

In 1998, ZBI shifted to Rawalpindi. There was a need for evening classes for those who could not attend as full-time students, and Rawalpindi also offered more possibilities for practical work. (Nate Irwin) helped with the shift; otherwise, it would not have been possible. Barkat resigned from the Tarbela church and moved his family to Rawalpindi in order to give his full time to the school.

When (Nate Irwin) had to leave because of health reasons, Barkat became principal of the school. He also continued his Biblical studies and graduated in 1993 from the (Pastors' Advanced Course) at the Asian Theological Seminary in the Philippines. While in the Philippines, he was given the address of the (Louisiana Baptist University) by a Korean pastor with whom he was doing a practical assignment on alternate Sundays. Barkat followed through on this and received his BA, MA, and PhD from LBU through correspondence, the latter in 2004.

Barkat retired from ZBI in 2005 and opened a counseling service. Thirteen volunteers assist him in counseling, seminars, and workshops, and the Lord is continuing to bless his ministry.

Rev. Dr. Barkat Pervaiz went to be with the Lord on November 21, 2021. His funeral and memorial service was arranged by ZBS and his family. Dr. Barkat Pervaiz was a great man of God, an exemplary leader, teacher, and principal at ZBS. Rev. Barkat Pervaiz will be missed by many whom he has influenced.



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING FOR ZBS STAFF AND FACULTY

ZBS participants in TEF Conference

ZBS is an active member of TEF (Theological Educators Forum) in Pakistan. We were happy to attend the TEF annual Conference of different seminaries and theological institutes in Lahore at OTS. Five faculty members from ZBS were able to attend this conference including Rev. Ashkenaz Asif, Mr. Shahbaz Boota, Mr. Tariq Aslam, Mr. Amjad Masih and Miss Sehar Khaar. Rev. Ashkenaz Asif led a session on "Reading Culture"; Rev. Shahbaz Boota led a session on "Significane of Spiritual Discipline". Miss Sehar share in session "The future of a Female Theologian in Pakistani Context. It was great learning experience .We determine that as a collective effort of different theological institutes we can learn and benefit from one another and work collectively for a quality theological education in Pakistan.

Leadership Development Training

Leadership development and training of new leaders from our staff is one of the main focus of ZBS. We sent Mr. Asif Sattar (Finance Manager) and Miss Mariam Noreen (Registrar) for three days leadership training from Feb 21 till Feb 23, which was facilitated by TILTI (Team of John C. Maxwell and arranged by Pakistan Partnership Initiative. The Subject of this leadership training was to "Develop Leaders Around You."



Courses to be Offered 2022

Spring Semester 2022 Courses to be Offered

B.Th. and M.Div. Modules

1. Theology Proper: Doctrine of God in Context (M.Div.Course) Rev Tariq Aslam
2. Indigenous Churches in Pakistani Context (B.Th.Course) by Pastor Javeed Morris
3. Perspectives on the World Christian Movement (M.Div.Course) By Rev. Nate Irwin
4. Theology of Missions and Evangelism (B.Th.Course) by Dr. Paul Lehmann
5. Theology of Suffering and Persecution (B.Th. Course) by Rev. Shahbaz Boota

MAOL Modules (Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership at FC College & University)

1. Conflict Management and Transformation
2. Ethics for Living and Leading



1. M.Th. First Gradation Program 2022 (Special Guest Speaker Rev Dr. Stuart Brooking OCA Australia)
2. ZBS 40Th Anniversary Celebration (Special Guest Speaker Pastor Nate Irwin USA & Bishop Irfan Jamil)
3. Students, Staff, and Faculty Spiritual Retreat 2022 in Murree (Special Guest Speaker Miss Maragret Lymann)
4. Leadership Mission Conference in Murree (Special Guest Speaker Dr Paul Lehmann)





Exposure Study visit to Texila, Sirkap and Shrine of Punja Sb.

Every year we send our students to different historical places for their exposure visit. This year God made it possible to visit three historical locations in one trip: Shrine of Punja Sb, Texila Museum, and Sirkap. Punja Sb near Wah Cantt is the sacred place of a Sikh community in Pakistan. We learned about the life and teachings of Baba Guru Nanik. The leaders of the shrine answered many of our questions about a different religion. Many students were motivated by this visit to reach out with the gospel in love for the people of other religions. Texila was the place called Mahal near where St. Thomas arrived and preached the word of God among the followers of pagan gods. All students and staff spent some valuable time in prayer and reflecting on the life and ministry of St. Thomas. The visit to the very old historical university of Buddhism at Sirkap gave the students the opportunity to see various parts of this university and ask questions of the people there.



Photo Gallery

















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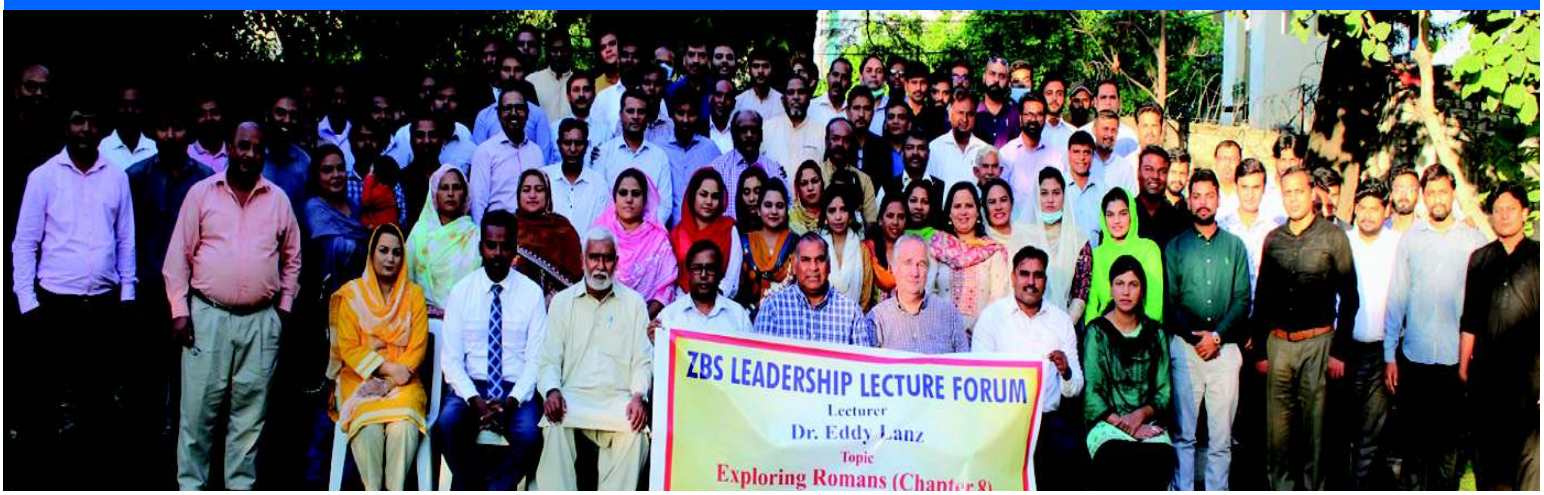






ZAREPHATH BIBLE SEMINARY

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Prayer Points

1 Please pray that the Lord would continue to use ZBS to bring transformation in the leadership of churches and Christian institutes and organizations by training men and women in a godly, theological, and missional perspective.

2 Pray that God would continue to provide all the needs of the institute and ZBS community to continuethis work in the midst of challenges and difficulties.

3 Pray that the Lord would guide those involved in designing the next building project and provide government approval.

4 Pray that God would protect all the students, staff, faculty, and board members fromCovid so that we will be able to continue his work here.

5 Pray that God would provide security for all who come and join our programs and educational activities.





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