

# The Hindoo Society Harare

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#### **OCTOBER 2017 - DECEMBER 2017**

Daily Aarti 6-15am & 6-15pm

Daily Aarti at 8.00 am

Omkar Mandir Ridgeview

**Omkar Mandir Cameron Street** 

### **HOW TO CONTACT US**

FOR ANY CHANGE IN ADDRESS, HIRING FACILITES & OTHER QUERIES: Email us on: hindoosociety@gmail.com/hindusoc@mweb.co.zw Phone us on: +263 778405/6 or 740853 / 0773650850









NAVRATRI DECORATION





**NEW HALL** 



# VARIOUS RELIGIOUS & CULTURAL FESTIVAL CELEBRATION





















## Amratbhai Bhagwanji Naik 19 Dec 1930 - 08 Aug 2017 ( 86 yrs)

Amratbhai Bhagwanji Naik fondly known as (AB) was born on 19 December 1930 in a small village in Gujarat, India. Amratbhai emigrated to Africa in 1941 and attended Government Indian School (GIS) now known as Robert Tredgold Primary in Bulawayo. In 1947, Amratbhai joined the family business in Gwanda. He later got married in 1951 and had six children. In 1950's, he became increasingly concerned about the way in which non-whites were treated by the ruling white elite. AB opposed any discriminatory behaviour whenever and wherever he encountered it. However, in all his confrontations with the authorities, he never lost his temper or used abusive language against his adversaries.

From 1960, he became an active participant in the politics of the country and was a member of several parties namely National Democratic Party (NDP), Zimbabwe African Peoples Union (ZAPU), Peoples Caretaker Council (PCC), Patriotic Front (PF) and Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU PF).

In 1960, AB joined the newly formed Black Nationalist party NDP. He was one of the first Asians to do so. At the time nationalist leaders like the late Joshua Nkomo and others had advocated a non-violent approach to trying to gain greater rights for the majority black population. In 1961 the NDP was banned by the then southern Rhodesian Govt and J Nkomo and his colleague's formed a new party, (ZAPU). AB joined ZAPU and become involved in the organisational side in April 1962. As there was no ZAPU office in Gwanda at that time, a jeep was used as an office. AB was the treasurer for the local branch. Together with several local people such as J Dube, G Sibanda and close confidante, Baloobhai Chhotubhai Naik, they worked to organise the party's activities and to increase its public profile.

In Sept 1962, the Govt banned ZAPU and AB was served a restraining order that confined him to within 3 miles of his home. In April 1964, PCC was formed and it was during this period the local police served a restriction order on AB. He was sent into banishment to a remote place called Gonakudzingwa, which is situated in the remote Naunetsi area of Zimbabwe. The nearest train halt is a tiny siding called Vila Salazar which is close to the border with Mozambique. The area is infested with mosquitoes, accommodation comprised of a tin hut called a "rondavel" which could fit only 2 single beds. This was their home for few months. The other restrictees of the camp were Ramanbhai K Naik, Sydney Joseph and Foya Thompson. There were 4 other camps which held black restrictees including leaders like J Nkomo. These restrictees were required to report once a week to the local police station which was appox 3 kms from the camp. In Dec 1965, due to ill health, AB was moved from Gonakudzingwa to Gwanda.

In 1979 the move began towards a settlement which resulted in the Lancaster House agreement in 1980. AB's attention turned more towards local affairs. He became the treasurer of football club, Ramblers in 1979. He served as a mayor for several years and in 1989, AB was made an alderman of the town. His citation read: Alderman A.B Naik was elected in April 1989 when the town was still a part of then Gwanda Rural Council and has played a major role in the growth and development. He has now completed 16 yrs of service to the community of Gwanda as a Councillor. Alderman Naik has served on almost all the committees of Council". The former Zambian President Rupiah Banda had this to say in 2003..."AB was instrumental in the establishment of an Old Peoples Home and a Library in Gwanda. During his life, he never wavered in his idealism, his commitment to a world based on human solidarity. He will be greatly missed by the family, friends and the community."



### WESTRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

#### **National Institute of Allied Arts Exhibition**

The National Institute of Allied Arts Exhibition was held at the Jubilee Hall, Hartmann House, last month, where some of the wonderful work produced by the young artists in our schools was exhibited.

This year, we submitted 63 entries and were awarded – 6 Honours Grades & 17 First Grade Awards.









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### **WESTRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL**

### NEW APPOINTMENTS

Dilipbhai Chouhan will be retiring at the end of the year after a long and successful period as the Headmaster of WHS and the Society is truly grateful for his untiring efforts and unconditional service to the School. We thank Mr.Chouhan for his long, exemplary and committed service to WHS and the community in the field of education.

We would like to welcome both Mr. Joe Davies, who will be taking over as the New Headmaster for WHS, and Mr. Kishore Kanjee who has been appointed as the Deputy Head with effect from 1 September 2017.

Mrs Bhardwaj has now been appointed as the Examinations Officer and Mrs Bridget Naik has been appointed as the Administrator for the School.

We wish them all the best in the future.









