

# THE ORDER OF LEGENDARY LENASIANS

2023

**Fakir Hassen**

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# **THE ORDER OF LEGENDARY LENASIANS**

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by

**Fakir Hassen**

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*The inaugural Order of Legendary Lenasians would not have been possible without the support of:*

- Vishal Nana and the JYM team for sound, video and lighting
- Shumarlan Naidoo of the Apple Group
- Feroze Kisten of Angel Art
- Yusuf Dockrat of lenzinfo.co.za
- Niri Paima of TUPS
- Shireen Ebrahim of I'm Stayin'
- The Adjudication Panel - Dr Ismail Vadi, Shireen Ebrahim, Shahida Kazie, Waseem Camroodeen, Niri Paima, Nadas Pillay, Dimple Patidar, Kova Parmal, Kashmiri Badal and Kim Khan
- The Auditors -Vinola Murugen, Hawa Mohamed, Urvashi Lakha and Radesh Rathiram of D K Motiram & Co
- Somnath Malakar of Zee TV
- Allan Diplall of Alpha Logistics
- Ashfaq Dawood
- Jay Pema of the Congress of Business and Economics
- Ameer Amod of AA Wholesalers
- Prakash Devchand of Laxmi

- The Entertainers – Imraan, Sanam, Suraj, Virag, Khajal, Kuveshen, Ali Zai, Oriental Fire and Kashvita Music and Dance Academy
- Bashier Choonara of Aqualicious
- Bakul Odhav of Polar Ice Cream
- Hitesh Bhakta of Express Electrical
- AB Moosa of Killarney Cinecentre
- Hitesh Kanjee of Kara Nichhas
- Ushma Mahabeer of Maza Academy of Dance
- Shahista Thokan of Silver Lining
- Kumari Swaraj of Five Star Decor and Events
- Abba and Naazneen Ismail of Chic Productions
- Spiritual Chords
- Sunny Moodley
- Abdulhak Mall
- Sataar Shar
- Arishad Satter of Fantasi Advertising
- Priya Ranchod

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## ADJUDICATION PANEL



DIMPLE PATIDAR



DR ISMAIL VADI



KASHMIRA BADAL



KIM KHAN



KOVA PARMAL



NADAS PILLAY



NIRI PAIMA



SHAHIDA KAZIE



SHIREEN EBRAHIM



WASEEM  
CAMROODEEN

## THE ENTERTAINERS



Bushan Das



Imraan Gamar



Khajal Ali



Kashvita Music and  
Dance Academy



Kuveshan Reddy



Oriental Fire



Sanam



Suraj Jewan



Viraag Patel





The members of the Order of Legendary Lenasians team with some of the partners and sponsors who made the event possible.

Back row: Fakir Hassen (Convenor); Somnath Malakar, Zee TV; Kim Khan, Lenz FM 93.6; Kova Parmal, Board Member, Eastwave 92.2 FM; Nadas Pillay, former President, Tamil Federation of Gauteng; Shahida Kazie, Director, SANCA Nishtara, Shireen Ebrahim, I'm Stayin' CEO; Minesh Bhanjee, JYM; Urvashi Lakha, Vinolia Murugen and Hawa Mohamed, DK Moti & Co; Saber Karrim, Dawood's; and Shahista Thokan, Silver Lining.

Front row: Kashmira Badal, Kashvita Music and Dance Academy; Dimple Patidar, Bass Mechanics; Dr Ismail Vadi, Author and Activist; Niri Paima, TUPS; Feroze Kisten, Angel Art; Yusuf Dockrat, [www.lenzinfo.co.za](http://www.lenzinfo.co.za); Anand Naidoo, Apple Group; and Ameer Amod, AA Wholesalers.

Not in photo: Allan Diplall of Alpha Logistics; Ashfaq Dawood of Dawoods; Bakul Odhav of Polar Ice Cream; Jay Pema of the Congress of Business and Economics; and Prakash Devchand of Laxmi

## INTRODUCTION



The inaugural Order of Legendary Lenasians Awards culminated in a glittering event on Saturday 7 October 2023 at the Patidar Theatre in Lenasia.

There were three underlying factors which led me to develop the concept in which both living and deceased leaders who had impacted the community of Lenasia over more than half a century could be acknowledged.

The first motivator was when I read social media comments by a few people that started with someone commenting on how her grandfather had built the first mosque in Lenasia. Another posted that his late uncle had promoted football among youth in the fledgling township created by the apartheid-era white minority government to forcibly resettle vibrant Indian communities from the various suburbs of Johannesburg whose forebears had settled there up to a century earlier.

This sharing of info made me realise that there must be many heroes and heroines of Lenasia whose sterling efforts might go unrecorded and unacknowledged as a fourth generation started living in the township which now sprawls a number of acres into the south of Johannesburg.

The second factor was a question that I was repeatedly asked by both community leaders with whom I shared the concept, as well as the media. There are awards functions taking place regularly all over the country, so what would be different about my idea of awarding these people? The answer was quite simple. The nominations for these awards, which I decided to call Orders rather than Awards, to give the due legends their just rewards, would be made by the public, not by a single organiser or group of people with a commercial imperative. The Order of Legendary Lenasians would be an event completely funded in cash and kind to cover costs with a zero budget and no profit motive.

Recipients of the Order would not be required to sell seats or find sponsors as a qualifier to receive an award, as so often happens with awards events these days.

Thirdly, I was keen that the event should be free and open to the public, linked to some entertainment. I was confident that I would find support for this concept from the people and businesses of Lenasia and the diverse entertainers who have supported me for nearly two decades now in a host of book launches and other community events. They did not fail me at all. From venues at minimal cost and

## INTRODUCTION



sound, video and lighting and décor; to sponsorship of citations, gifts and refreshments, top class entertainment and incalculable volunteerism and moral support; they rallied to the call, even to the extent that we had to turn down requests for inclusion from other entertainers due to an already full programme.

To ensure that there was further benefit to the community from the event, all attendees were requested to bring at least one can or other dry food items to distribute afterwards to the needy. In the end, we were able to provide this to a dozen organisations assisting orphans, senior citizens and street children; as well as those running soup kitchens.

The concept was shared and refined by a panel of ten leading community figures in Greater Lenasia who were selected to ensure balance across religious, linguistic, gender and age lines. They formed the Adjudication Panel, who each completed scoresheets independently. These were then provided to the Auditors D K Motiram & Co, who announced final results on stage.

The Orders were open not only to residents of Lenasia, but to anyone anywhere who had made an impact on the community.

Nominations were invited from the public in ten categories - Arts and Culture; Business; Climate Justice; Education; Health; Media; Philanthropy; Political Leadership; Social Welfare and Sport.

Over 200 nominations were received from the public in these ten categories. I must admit that the number of nominations for Posthumous Orders was a little disappointing, as I believe that there were no doubt many more forgotten legends who needed to be acknowledged.

After the shortlisting process, it was decided that all Posthumous nominations received would be accepted and bestowed with an Order. It was also agreed that due to the high quality of the nominations received for living persons, the top three in categories with three or more finalists would receive the Order. In a few categories, the Panel also agreed on a Special Order being conferred on individuals for their lifetime contributions.

All finalists received a framed citation acknowledging their status, while up to three finalists in each category also received the uniquely-created Order of Legendary Lenasians medal, designed by Feroze Kisten and sponsored by Shireen Ebrahim, both Proudly Lenasians as well, adding to the prestige of the project.

The pages that follow contain a brief summary of the details submitted by nominators for the recipients of the Orders and largely a pictorial record of the historic occasion at the Patidar Theatre, lest the unforgettable memories for so many of that one unique night are lost to future generations.

Grateful thanks to photographers Abdulhak Mall, Arishad Satter, Naazneen Ismail and Priya Ranchod for allowing the use of their photographs in this book.

# **ARTS AND CULTURE**

## **Category**



The **Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Arts and Culture** was bestowed upon Mickey Chetty, Jekorben Lalloo and jointly on Jivan Ramjee and Yusuf 'Soppy' Dawood by Kim Khan





The **Posthumous Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Arts and Culture** was bestowed upon Kuwar 'Kokkie' Singh, in absentia; and jointly on Dr Mohamed Momoniat (accepted by Irshad Lorgat) and Qari Yusuf Noorbhai (accepted by Riaaz Noorbhai)





A **Special Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Arts and Culture** was presented to Lexy Shunmoogam and Chitra Perumal



1

# ARTS AND CULTURE

## Dr Mickey Chetty



Dr Mickey Chetty undertook pioneering projects to promote Tamil culture among children, including starting up the Lenasia Extension 6 Tamil School, the revival of the Tamil children's Eisteddfod and after rising to become President of the South African Tamil Federation, introducing Tamil as a school subject up to Matric level. He has received multiple local and international awards and is currently the Deputy President of the International Movement for Tamil culture.

*- nominated by Mervyn Reddy*

# 2

## ARTS AND CULTURE

### Jekorben Lalloo



Jekorben has been a pioneer in organising Hindu women's cultural groups. She was the founding member and secretary of Shree Transvaal Bagini Samaj, an all-women based Hindu organisation promoting Indian Culture, established in 1956. In 1985 she was a founding member of the Transvaal Hindu Seva Samaj ( THSS) Ladies Committee. In the 1980's she founded the Navpragity Mandal, to raise funds for charity.

*- nominated by Naresh Lalloo*

3

## ARTS AND CULTURE

**Jivan Ramjee &**

**Yusuf 'Soppy' Dawood**



Jivan Ramjee has been instrumental in the upliftment of SA Indian music since the early 50s. Together with the singer known affectionately as Soppy, they led the band the Hi-Lites to unprecedented heights in South African Indian music.

*- nominated by Ridwan Dawood*

# ARTS AND CULTURE

**Dr Mohamed Momoniat &**

**Qari Yousuf Noorbhai**

**POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Dr Mohamed Momoniat's visionary planning, intertwined with Qari Noorbhai's hands-on dedication, elevated the Nurul Islam Centre into a beacon of worship, education, and community service. Their synchronized leadership styles propelled the Centre's community involvement into welfare, dispute resolution, and uplifting the marginalised.

*- nominated by Muhummed Yusuf Ravat*

# **ARTS AND CULTURE**

## **Kunwar 'Kokkie' Singh**

### **POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Kokkiebhai, as he was popularly known, played an influential role in Lenasia's growth and development in various sectors, including Education, Religion, Culture, Sport and Social Welfare. He had a particular passion for inter-religious harmony.

# **ARTS AND CULTURE**

## **Lexy Shunmoogam & Chitra Perumal**

### **SPECIAL ORDER**



Lexy Shunmoogam and Chitra Perumal created a free online haven and medium for Indian arts and culture propagation during the Covid-19 pandemic. The SA Musicians page via the Facebook platform created many records in bringing arts and cultural content to the homes and mobile devices of everyone across the globe, at the world's most trying time for the human race.

**BUSINESS**

**Category**



The **Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Business** was bestowed upon Yunus Ahmed Bhamjee and a **Special Order of Legendary Lenasians** was presented to Abdul Rahim Sayed by Shireen Ebrahim



# BUSINESS

## Yunus Ahmed Bhamjee



Yunus Bhamjee was a founding member of the Lenasia Business Forum. He continually pushes for formal changes to the Lenasia CBD.

*- nominated by Imraan Seedat*

# **BUSINESS**

**Abdul Rahim Sayed**

**SPECIAL ORDER**



Abdul Rahim Sayed, a baker by profession, dedicated his life to a dream project to assist others in starting up their own bakeries. In this way, they become not only self-sufficient to earn a livelihood for themselves and their families, but also assist and empower others to aspire to the same success.

*- nominated by Aisha Sayed*

# **CLIMATE JUSTICE**

## **Category**



The **Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Climate Justice** was bestowed upon Younus Mitha and a **Special Order of Legendary Lenasians** was presented to Sunny Morgan (in absentia, accepted by his daughter Courtney) by Nadas Pillay



# CLIMATE JUSTICE

## Yoonus Mitha



As a champion of wetlands and their benefits, Yoonus or Yunie Greenheart as he is popularly called, has been actively involved for over 20 years in the revival of the Lenasia wetlands, known as Oupa Fats, not only for recreational purposes, but for their benefits as a eco system. He is frequently asked by institutions such as Wits University to assist. Yunie has created a platform for the youth to take over the battle to conserve our environment, called Youth Eco Activities (YEA).

*- nominated by Ebrahim Cassim*

# CLIMATE JUSTICE

**Sunny Morgan**

**SPECIAL ORDER**



Sunny is a climate change activist who has given the Al Gore Climate Talk to almost 10 000 learners in schools countrywide and raised awareness of the impact of climate change and renewable energy in communities. Sunny co-founded with two other activists from Argentina the 'Debt for Climate Movement' that is campaigning for the cancellation of the "climate debt" in developing countries.

**EDUCATION**

**Category**



The **Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Education** was bestowed upon Naazim Adam (in absentia); Shaukat Khan (in absentia, accepted by his son Irshaad Khan); and Neeresh Badal (in absentia); by Kova Parmal





The **Posthumous Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Education** was bestowed upon Anthony Joseph Francis (accepted by Tasania Persad); Billy Morgan (in absentia) and Narayanswami Rathinsamy (in absentia)



1

# EDUCATION

## Naazim Adam



Nazim Adam's humbleness, humanity, real care and affection enforces his respect upon everybody who come to know him. He is the embodiment of commitment to giving the best levels of education to all. His handling, protection and defence of children's right to education and best levels of education is equal to none.

*- nominated by Khaled Ghannam*

# 2

## EDUCATION

### Shaukat Khan



Shaukat Khan, as Park Primary School Principal for 23 years, maintained a high standard of quality public education. The school gained many accolades under his leadership. He is a well-respected member of the community, serving in religious sectors as well. He encouraged the community to take ownership of the school and his fund-raising initiatives were well supported. His dedication to fostering a spirit of inclusivity and diversity has allowed Park Primary students to thrive and succeed in ways that we never thought possible.

*- nominated by Sumaya Khan*

3

## EDUCATION

### Neeresh Badal



Neeresh has been involved in improving education in Lenasia for many years. The organisation he started has a free maths tuition programme for school learners. He has never discriminated against learners on the basis of race or religion. He has provided support to preschools in Thembelihle Informal Settlement in Lenasia. He has made representation against the BELA Bill, a bill which seeks to amend the South African Schools Act. Neeresh has on behalf of parents opposed the implementation of Comprehensive Sex Education and , Learner Pregnancy Management in schools.

*- nominated by Shazia Ismail*

# EDUCATION

**Anthony Joseph Francis**

**POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Anthony Francis was the first Principal of Lenz High and spent his entire career as a passionate educator who inspired all his students and staff. He was one of the founding members of the St Thomas Catholic Church in Lenasia.

*- nominated by Tasania Parsadh*

# EDUCATION

**Billy Morgan**

## POSTHUMOUS ORDER



Billy Morgan had an illustrious career in education that was fraught with harassment and vindictiveness by the racist officialdom of the past. He supported the Time-to-Learn Project in the 1970s that offered tuition to students from poor communities and founded the Students' Relief Council at Lenz High after the 1980 schools' boycott. Morgan never held any grudges about his ill-treatment by apartheid authorities. After his retirement, Morgan was appointed to the first Gauteng Education and Training Council.

*- nominated by Myan (Duggy) Naidoo*

# EDUCATION

**Narayanswami Rathinsamy**

**POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Better known as Raths, Narayanswami Rathinsamy spent 60 years in education, constantly fighting apartheid through his dedicated service to the community. Even after his retirement, he spent his time ensuring that children and the elderly in the community benefited from organisations that he was involved in.

**HEALTH**

**Category**



The **Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Health** was bestowed upon Angine Ajoodha and a **Special Order of Legendary Lenasians** was presented to Prof Shabir Madhi by Kashmira Badal



# HEALTH

## Angine Ajoodha



Angie Ajoodha, lovingly known by most people in Lenasia as Sister Anjoo or Midwife Anjoo or Nurse Anjoo, is now 86. Until last year, she continued to bath newborn babies, remove their hair and treat them for jaundice. She still provides advice to new expectant mothers.

*- nominated by Ushma Mahabeer*

# HEALTH

**Prof. Shabir Madhi**

**SPECIAL ORDER**



During the Covid Lockdown in 2020, Prof Shabir Madhi offered sage advice on the practical situations related to issues such as wearing masks, vaccinations, and whether there was a continued need for the National Corona Virus Command Council set up by government to continue.

**MEDIA**

**Category**



The **Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Media** was bestowed upon Boetie Eshak by Shahista Thokan





The **Posthumous Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Media** was bestowed upon Ameen Akhalwaya (accepted by his daughter Zaytoon Abed); Iqbal Gafoor (accepted by his son Ishtiyak Gafoor); and Waheed Camroodeen (accepted by his sister Shahida Kazie) by Yusuf Dockrat



# **MEDIA**

## **Boetie Eshak**



Boeti was one of Lenasia's first journalists, freelancing for the old Golden City Post and the Rand Daily Mail. He joined the Sunday Times in June 1976 and reported on various social, political, religious and sporting issues. He also mentored up and coming journalists and greatly assisted the late Waheed Camroodeen with the Lenasia Times.

*- nominated by Rookeya Valli*

# **MEDIA**

## **Iqbal Gafoor**

### **POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Iqbal Gaffoor, perhaps Lenasia's most renowned sports journalists, was highly passionate about the sports within the community. Iqbal spent his entire weekends trolling the various sports fields and venues in Lenasia giving equal coverage to the various sporting codes in Lenasia Times, Lenasia Indicator, Rising Sun Lenasia and Lenzinfo.

*- nominated by Yusuf Kolabhai*

# **MEDIA**

## **Ameen Akhalwaya**

### **POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Ameen Akhalwaya had worked on such illustrious newspapers as the Rand Daily Mail in the apartheid era, always opposing the dreaded system that stifled unbiased reporting. He established the newspaper The Indicator in Lenasia to provide an alternative platform for political voices, which was lauded by even the late President Nelson Mandela.



# **MEDIA**

## **Waheed Camroodeen**

### **POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Waheed Camroodeen had a dream of starting up Lenasia's first community newspaper, which many were very sceptical about, Dipping into his own pocket, he brought out the first edition of the paper with just a few pages and developed it to become the leading community newspaper for the Indian community anywhere in the country. In its heyday, Lenasia Times would go up to 64 pages as the business community keenly supported it and readers eagerly awaited it every month.

**PHILANTHROPY**

**Category**



The **Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Philanthropy** was bestowed upon Moulana Suhail Wadee (in absentia); Siddique Tayob (in absentia) and Shariff Khan by Shahida Kazie





The **Posthumous Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Philanthropy** was bestowed upon Angela 'Maisie' Moodley (accepted by her daughter Nirmala); Deva Lutchman (accepted by his wife Premi); Mohammed Fareed Choonara (accepted by his daughter Sumaiya; and Sayed Hoosen Mia (accepted by his wife Farida) by Shahida Kazie.

A **Special Order of Legendary Lenasians** was presented to Sammy Naidoo.





1

# PHILANTHROPY

## Moulana Suhail Wadee

Moulana Suhail Wadee is the founder of Ashraful Aid International Humanitarian Organisation. Under his guidance, the organisation has become a beacon of hope as it addresses issues as diverse as food security, entrepreneur development, disaster relief and education for sustainable change. His ability to mobilise resources, engage volunteers, and establish strategic partnerships showcases his astute leadership qualities.

*- nominated by Ismail Lambat*

2

# PHILANTHROPY

## Siddique Tayob



Siddique Tayob, a pharmacist for many years, has helped countless people over the years with various health issues and medication if they were in need. He donates to many organisations that approach him for assistance. He is a fighter of human rights. He is one of the founders of the Darus Shifa Old Age Home in Lenasia Ext 11A and has donated many hours, medical assistance and given donations to the residents there.

*- nominated by Naseegah Botha*

3

# PHILANTHROPY

## Shariff Khan



During the first Covid Lockdown in 2020 Shariff Khan a lawyer and business decided to make sandwiches for the homeless. Later he was joined by the late Aslam Laher to establish the initiative Random Act of Kindness, through which Shariff has displayed how just one person can make a difference in the lives of those who are not fortunate through different projects.

*- nominated by Gaf Khan*

# PHILANTHROPY

**Angela 'Maisie' Moodley**

**POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Fondly Known as Aunty Maisie, Angela Moodley served the community from the time when people were forced into the camp at Lenz in the 1950s. She served on many community organisations, including the Red Cross volunteer, started the Women's Social Club to assist charities and joined the Black Sash. Later she started and became the founding Chairperson of the Lenasia branch of Women for Peace, which assisted the senior citizens of Lenasia in many ways for decades.

*- nominated by Melanie Naidoo*

# PHILANTHROPY

**Deva Lutchman**

## POSTHUMOUS ORDER



Deva Lutchman did not look at colour or religion. He served everyone he could in the best way that he could, assisting orphanages, street children, and shelters for abused women. He was also an active member of community patrolling units and featured prominently in the fight against the scourge of drugs in the area.

*- nominated by Premie Lutchman*

# **PHILANTHROPY**

## **Mohamed Fareed Choonara**

### **POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Fareed, as he was commonly known, was a champion for the cause of the less fortunate and was not afraid to stand for the truth regardless of what others said. For over 40 years he served communities locally and worldwide as founding member of Africa Muslims Agency.

*- nominated by Sumaiya Jinnah*

# **PHILANTHROPY**

## **Sayed Hoosen Mia**

# **POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



There could hardly be any public good institution in Lenasia that has not benefited from the philanthropy of Sayed Mia. From social welfare and education to religion across the board and sport, Sayed's magnanimous contribution for decades was premised on his firm belief that he had to give back to the people who ensured his success as he left the teaching fraternity to branch out into insurance and property development.

# PHILANTHROPY

**Sammy Naidoo**

**SPECIAL ORDER**



Sammy Naidoo, who has received numerous local and international awards for his commitment to community service, could never say no to any organisation that approached him for assistance with printing work and other contributions. During his tenure in Greater Lenasia for many years, On Time Printers was synonymous with many community ventures. This continues as the company later grew into the Apple Group.

# **POLITICAL LEADERSHIP**

## **Category**



The **Posthumous Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Political Leadership** was bestowed upon Dr Rashid 'RAM' Salojee (accepted by his daughter Yasmin Seedat and son Mahmood Salojee); Molvi Ismail Saloojee (accepted by his daughter Mariam Vally); and Reggie Vandeyar (accepted by his daughter Sushila Rathinasamy); by Dr Ismail Vadi.



# **POLITICAL LEADERSHIP**

**Reggie Vandeyar**

**POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Veteran activist and National Order recipient Reggie Vandeyar fought tirelessly in the struggle, and spent 10 years on Robben Island. On his release he was banned for five years. Not being able to find a job he lived in a caravan at the back of his nephew's house in Lenasia for many years with his family and taught many youngsters in the caravan. After 1994, he declined an offer to become a Parliamentarian, and passed on as a humble man leaving no wealth.

*- nominated by Sushila Rathinasamy*

# **POLITICAL LEADERSHIP**

**Molvi Ismail Saloojee**

**POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Molvi Ismail Saloojee devoted his entire lifetime to the struggle for a free South Africa. He was elected President of the Transvaal Indian Congress when Dr Yusuf Dadoo was forced into exile. Molvi was also renowned for his literary contribution in Urdu poetry, He was a prominent member of and President of the Buzme Adab poetry group. Molvi is also often remembered for his fiery speeches in Gujarati, opposing apartheid institutions.

*- nominated by Mariam Vally*

# **POLITICAL LEADERSHIP**

**Dr Rashid 'RAM' Salojee**

**POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Dr Salojee, popularly known as 'RAM' because of his initials, served the cause of civic politics for many decades, mobilising ratepayers in Lenasia. At one time he even joined the Lenasia Management Committee in an attempt to fight apartheid from the inside, but soon gave this up to continue the struggle. After 1994, Dr Salojee served in democratic national and provincial governments, sharing his expertise in the medical field to better the lives of all citizens.

# **SOCIAL WELFARE**

## **Category**



The **Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Social Welfare** was bestowed upon Dr Zubeda Dangor, Dr Haroon Tayob and Khalil Mohamed (in absentia) by Niri Paima





The **Posthumous Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Social Welfare** was bestowed upon Abbas Sayed (accepted by his son Ali); Ebrahim Patel (accepted by his sons Ziyaad and Yusuf); and Williamson Moonsamy (accepted by Claudia Jeevanantham and Vincent Naidoo); by Niri Paima.





A **Special Order of Legendary Lenasians** was made to Shahim Ismail by Niri Paima



1

# SOCIAL WELFARE

## Zubeda Dangor



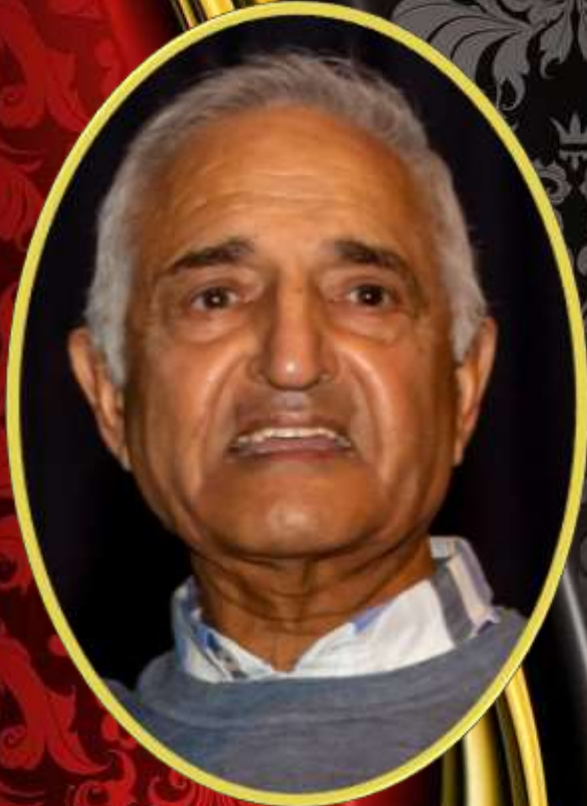
Zubeda is the Founder and Executive Director of the Nisaa Institute for Women's Development (Nisaa) since 1994. She was instrumental in establishing the National Shelter Movement of South Africa (NSMSA) in 2008. Dr Dangor has dedicated her life to the upliftment of women and children in Lenasia and across the country. She served on the Interim GBVF Steering Committee established by President Ramaphosa to develop a National Strategic Plan on GBVF for the country.

*- nominated by Sima Diar*

# 2

## **SOCIAL WELFARE**

### **Dr Haroon Tayob**



When children with intellectual disabilities had to leave JISWA School after 18, they had no facility for continuing training or education. Dr Tayob got concerned parents and community members together and established UCE (United Creative Enterprises) a protective workshop for these learners. UCE later amalgamated into JOCOD, an amalgamation of six NPO's serving the needs of people with disabilities.

*- nominated by Linda Pounasamy*

3

# SOCIAL WELFARE

## Khalil Mohamed



Khalil not only does-hands on work, but he also gives live updates on matters pertaining to general community issues. He is generally a positive person and always looks at matters with the view of improving outcomes, even if he is not personally benefiting. He is one of the most dedicated people always willing to help everyone be it during the day or night. He corrects the community if we get wrong information regarding any incidents.

*- nominated by Feroza Mohamed*

# **SOCIAL WELFARE**

**Shahim Ismail**

**SPECIAL ORDER**



Shahim Ismail goes above and beyond the call of his duties as a security company owner. At his own cost and putting his own life at risk, he patrols the N12 highway to ensure that others get home safely at night, reporting any incidents in good time through social media to help others avoid getting affected by stone-throwing and obstacles placed on the roads.

# **SOCIAL WELFARE**

## **Ebrahim 'Mr Tiba' Patel**

### **POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Ebrahim Essop Patel was involved in disability support since 1973. He was a key figure in the Lenasia Society for the Deaf, the MC Kharbai School for the Deaf, the Lenasia Society for the Deaf Trust, the Johannesburg Council for the Disabled (JOCOD), and the Tiba Development Trust. His dedication to Tiba saw the organisation grow from rented rooms in Lenasia to the establishment of the multi-faceted E.E Patel Tiba Centre in Nirvana Drive, which was so named following his passing.

*- nominated by Boetie Eshak*

# **SOCIAL WELFARE**

## **Williamson Moonsamy**

### **POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Williamson Allan Moonsammy (Billy) assisted the community in many ways. He wrote affidavits for students who were not regarded as Indians by the authorities and could therefore not school in Lenasia. He assisted the Tamil Association of Lenasia to establish the first temple. He assisted students with their applications to universities abroad. Billy and others started the Anglican Church in Lenasia, where the hall was used by all, irrespective of religious affiliation. He also served on various sporting bodies.

*- nominated by Vincent Naidoo*

# **SOCIAL WELFARE**

## **Abbas Sayed**

### **POSTHUMOUS ORDER**



Abbas Sayed was one of the Sayed brothers who continued the tradition started by their forebears of helping others in diverse ways through the Saaberie Chishti Society. Abbas became the amiable face of the Society with his friendly demeanour, which endeared him to donors. Helping to assist others during the Covid-19 pandemic, Abbas and his brother Osman themselves succumbed to the dreaded disease a day apart of each other.

**SPORT**

**Category**



The **Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Sport** was bestowed upon Mohan Hira, Ajit Gandabhai and Nadia Cajee (in absentia) by Fakir Hassen.





The **Posthumous Order of Legendary Lenasians** in the Category **Sport** was bestowed upon Hasmukhlal Jeram (accepted by his nephew Jenesh Manga) and Hoosen Ayob (accepted by his daughter Rumana Ayob).

A **Special Order of Legendary Lenasians** was conferred on Amrit 'Donald' Lall in absentia.



1

**SPORT**

**Mohan Hira**



Mohan Hira is a 9th Dan in Shotokan Karate and has been instrumental in pioneering karate among non-whites, especially during the apartheid era. He has produced numerous national and world champions in karate and at the age of 85, still teaches at his Lenasia Dojo and provides free lessons to over 500 kids at several Lenasia Primary Schools. In 2003 he was inducted into the Martial Arts Hall of Fame.

*- nominated by Pravesh Naidoo*

# 2

## SPORT

### Ajit Gandhabhai



Ajit has for most of his life groomed various players to take up administrative roles. Under his leadership, Progress grounds in Lenasia has been turned from a dust bowl to a superb cricket facility. He has resuscitated Junior cricket under his administration. He served on multiple levels on several sporting bodies such as SACOS, TCB and is an administrative secretary of the Non-Racial Sports History Project.

*- nominated by Naresh Lalloo*

3

**SPORT**

**Nadia Cajee**



Nadia Cajee has been instrumental in reviving and developing tennis in Lenasia and renovated the Lenasia Tennis courts, which were in a state of decay. Today the tennis courts boast nine fully functional courts and other facilities. Through her leadership, Nadia has managed to spearhead an initiative that has changed the sports landscape in Lenasia for years to come.

*- nominated by Zaheera Jina*

# SPORT

## Hasmukhlal Vallabh Jeram

### POSTHUMOUS ORDER



Hasmukh was absolutely committed to non-racial sports and the struggle for a free SA. He led by example and set a commitment for others to follow. In 1998 he was Manager of the SA team that partook in the All Africa Games held in SA in 1998. He also was sent to Egypt in 2000 to a high-performance coaching clinic. Together with Ismail Badat, he coached Sameera Mall, who won the SA Women's Championship from 2007 to 2012 consecutively.

*- nominated by Ajit Gandabhai*

# SPORT

## Hoosain Ayob

### POSTHUMOUS ORDER



Denied the opportunity to show his skill at international level because of apartheid, Hoosain said he had no regrets about it when he was acknowledged as one of the six greatest fast bowlers of all time. Hoosain spent his life training and coaching coaches and children not just locally, but also across the African continent in his passion to show them there was more they could do than just soccer. At his home in Lenasia, Hoosain had two rooms filled with cricket memorabilia, including more than a thousand books on cricket, and many awards from different institutions.

*- nominated by Arishad Satter*

# SPORT

## Amrit Lall

### SPECIAL ORDER



Amrit Lall, popularly known as Thaba, spent many years in the administration of football in Lenasia. He was President of the Lenasia Football Association for many years. Lall was also instrumental in increasing the number of teams, including the establishment of junior soccer, from age 6 upwards



Some of the recipients and finalists of the Order of Legendary Lenasians with the members of the Order of Legendary Lenasians team and a few of the partners and sponsors who made the event possible. Others had already left the event or were enjoying the refreshments next door while the photographers tried to get us all together.

Back row: Dr Ismail Vadi, MF Mahomed; Ameer Amod; Moosa Jinnah; Prof Shabir Madhi, Yasmin Seedat, Rumana Ayob, Nirmala Moodley, Jenesh Manga, Ajit Gandhabhai, Anand Naidoo, Nadas Pillay, Mohamed Fakie, Irshad Lorgat, Reza Salojee, Mahmood Salojee, Zaytoon Abed, Zubeda Dangor, Razia Satter, Urvesh Govind, Yoonus Mitha, Kova Parmal, and Tasneem Docrat.

Front row: Sumaiya Jinnah, Zuleika Sayed, Farida Mia, Angine Ajoodha, Jekorben Lalloo, Mohan Hira, Sammy Naidoo, Fakir Hassen, Yunus Bhamjee, Shireen Ebrahim, Boetie Eshak, Rahim Subjee, Abdul Rahim Sayed and Sushila Rathinasamy.



The team from DK Motiram & Co who ensured the integrity of the scoring process by announcing it on stage.

Top left - Hawa Mohamed  
Top right - Vinola Murugen and partly hidden by the microphone is Urvashi Lakha

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# DK Motiram & Co.

Registered Auditors  
Chartered Accountants (SA)

## Independent Auditor's Reasonable Assurance Report on the Adjudicators' Scoresheets

To the Convenor of The Order of Legendary Lenasians

### Report on the Accuracy of the Convenor's Consolidated Scoresheets and the Ranking thereof

We have undertaken a reasonable assurance engagement on the adjudication of the 2023 Order of Legendary Lenasians Awards.

### Convenor's responsibility for the Consolidated Scoresheets

The convenor is responsible for accurately compiling the consolidated scoresheets from the adjudicators' separate scoresheets. The convenor is also responsible for the ranking of the top three scores, where applicable.

### Auditor's Independence

We have complied with the independence and other ethical requirements of the Code of Professional Conduct for Registered Auditors issued by the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors (IRBA Code), which is founded on fundamental principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care, confidentiality, and professional behaviour. The IRBA Code is consistent with the corresponding sections of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards).

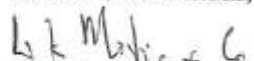
### Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a reasonable assurance opinion on whether the consolidated scoresheets and the ranking of the top three nominees were accurately compiled, based on our assurance procedures performed.

We believe that the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated scoresheets, and the ranking of the 2023 Order of Legendary Lenasians Awards were performed accurately.

  
D.K. Motiram & Co.  
Dimeshbaboo Kantilal Motiram  
Registered Auditor  
Chartered Accountant (SA)

02 October 2023

# THE FINAL TOUCH



After presenting a citation and commemorative medal to co-MC Shahista Thokan, she and Yusuf announced to my humble surprise that on the instructions of the Adjudication Panel, I too should receive an Order of Legendary Lenasians. Mohamed Fakie of Pastry Palace also arranged a huge cake with the Order of Legendary Lenasians logo on it for all to share afterwards.



**Imraan Qamar**

**Sanam Mohamed**

**Suraj Jewan**

**Khajal Ali**

**Kuveshan Reddy**

**Viraag Patel**

**Ali Zai**

# The artists who performed their magic...

**Kashvita Music and Dance Academy**

**Oriental Fire**



## THE VOLUNTEERS

The Maza Academy of Dance

Darshan and Kalpita Mistry

Naazneen and Abdool  
Gafoor Ismail

Arishad Satter

Bashier Choonara

Hitesh Bhakta

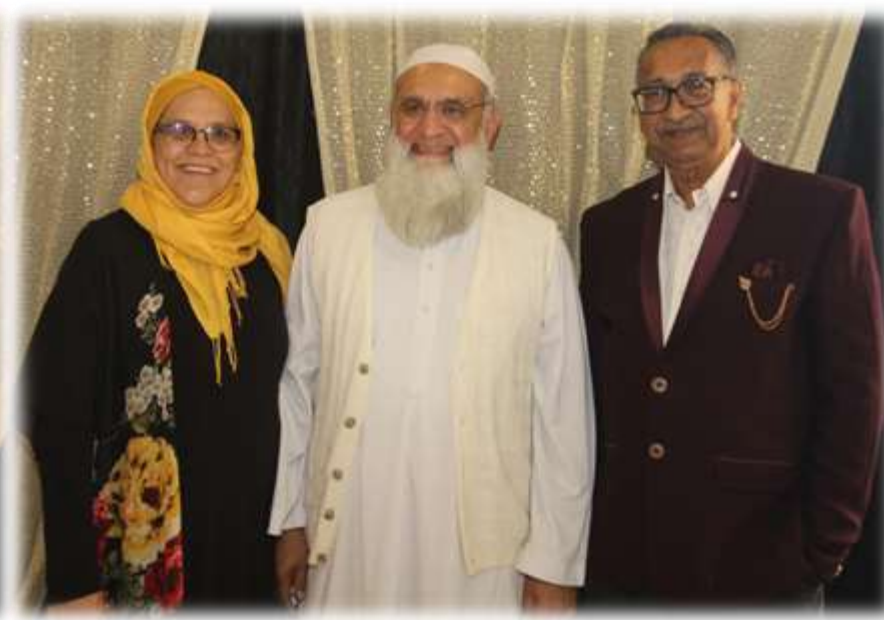
Abdulhak Mall

**Volunteers not in Photos:** \* Sataar Shar \* Yusuf Hassen \* Gabeen Khan \* Waseem Khan \* Ashraf 'Gypsey' Laher \* Famida Salejee \* Sunny Moodley



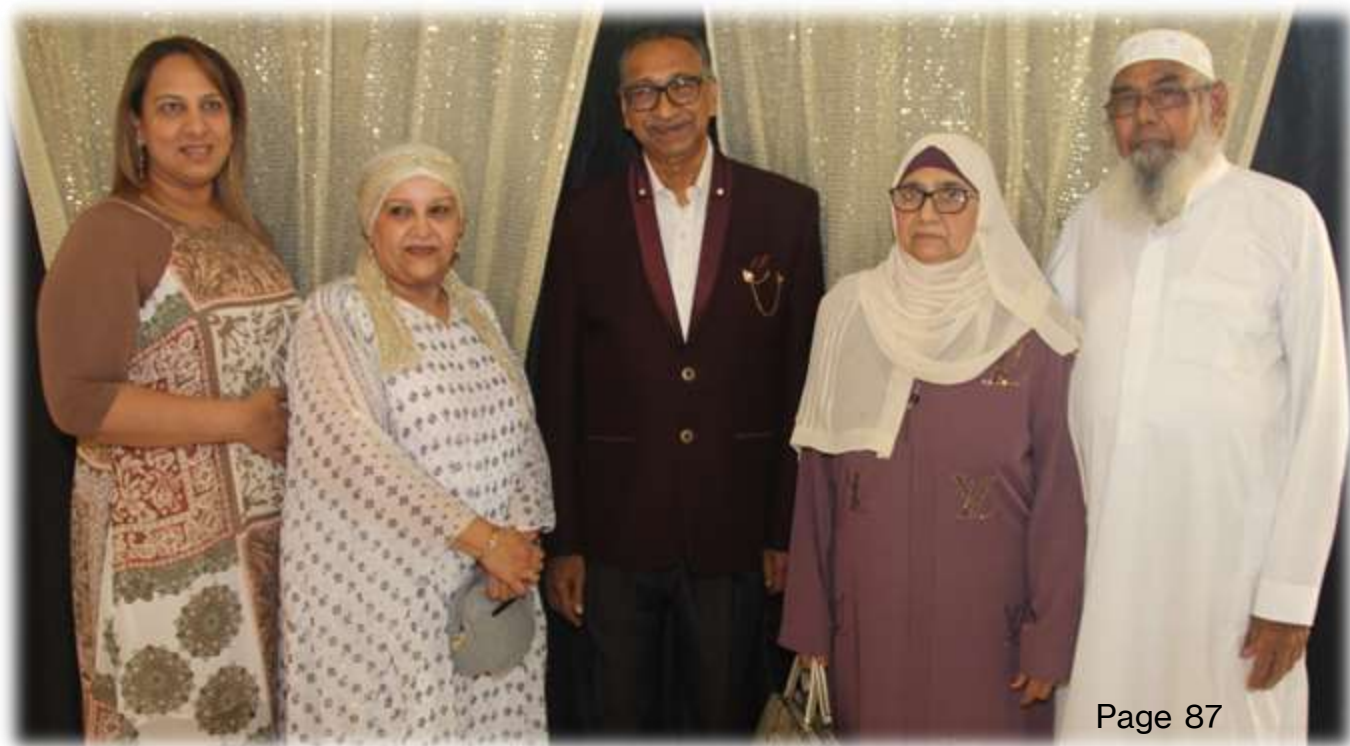
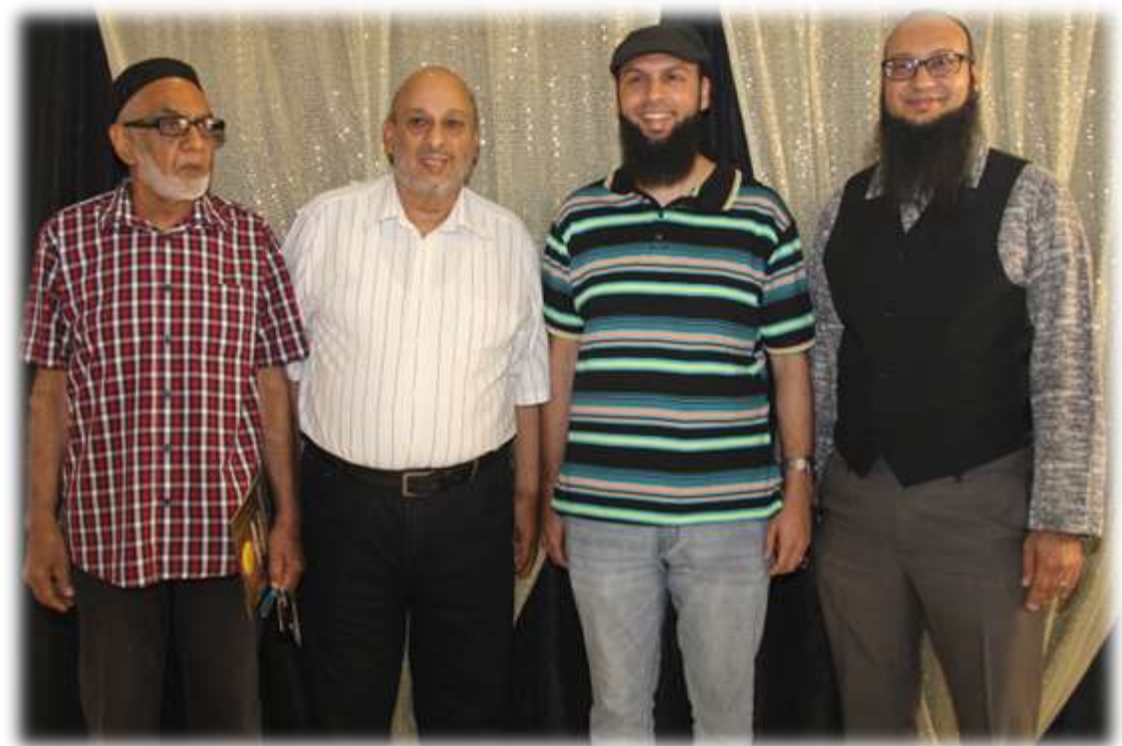
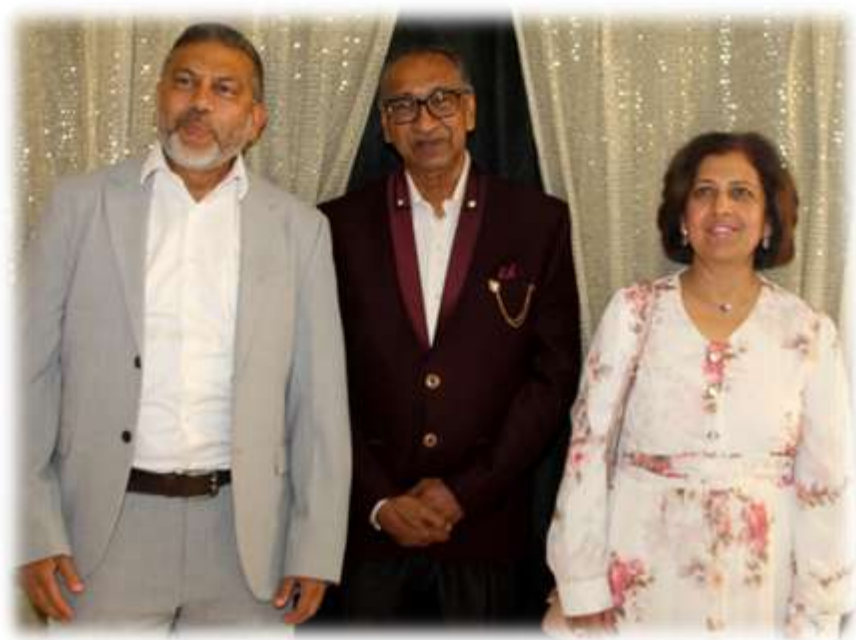
**Some of the guests ...**















## CONCLUSION



My initial idea for the Order of Legendary Lenasians grew to become something way beyond what I had anticipated.

Despite having worked with the various media in Lenasia for many decades, even I learnt for the first time about people whom I had never heard of because they were doing extraordinary things for the benefit of the community without expecting acknowledgement or reward for their efforts.

These are the true Legends of Lenasia, and I am as proud of the success of the project as the other members of the team and the supporters in so many ways that we have played a small part in ensuring that they have finally been recognised, and rightly so, by their own peers.

One issue that I must add is that there were several people who declined their nominations by people who recognised their worth. It speaks volumes for their commitment to community service that they opted to remain silent heroes and heroines, working in the background to improve the lives of others.

While every contribution, great and small, was very welcome, I have to single out one person who stepped up to assist in the logistics of the event.

Yusuf Dockrat assumed the role of Logistics Coordinator and devoted days and nights for two months to ensure that everything was in place. It was not uncommon for us to have telephonic conversations of up to six hours at a time via WhatsApp to address the wide range of issues that kept cropping up. But in the final analysis, he was first to agree that even if he was nominated in five categories, he would decline them all just to be able to work alongside me to do it all over again. That touched me greatly and is why Yusuf is being specially mentioned!

My immense gratitude to the Maza Dance Academy team led by Usha Mahabeer; Kalpana and Dharshan Mistry, who as always came all the way from Benoni to assist behind the scenes and to my own family, who endured my notable absence, despite still being at home, for six months!

The concept of the Order of Legendary Lenasians has not been copyrighted in any way and no royalties are ever expected, so I hope that someone somewhere will take up the idea and develop it even further, without commercial exploitation, to recognise in their communities across the country those who remain forgotten heroes and heroines in service of their communities for the generations to come.



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2023

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