

## EMINENT ZOROASTRIANS



**Ratan Naval Tata**

(Born 1937 CE)

A titan among industrialists and a man who changed the paradigm of conducting business, Ratan Tata helped usher India into the global market. At the forefront of the iconic family which symbolises the essence of enterprise and philanthropy in India, he led Tata Sons, the country's largest business conglomerate to its summit as the Chairman from 1991 CE to 2012 CE, and thereafter for an interim period from October 2016 CE to February 2017 CE. He is a national icon, and currently the Chairman of Tata Trusts. He is the recipient of the two of the highest civilian awards of India, the '*Padma Vibhushan*' (2008 CE) and '*Padma Bhushan*' (2000 CE). The '*Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire – GBE*' was conferred upon him in 2014 CE by the United Kingdom, in recognition of his services to UK/India relations, investments and philanthropy.



**Nusli Neville Wadia**

(Born 1944 CE)

Nusli Wadia is a businessman, entrepreneur and the Chairman of the Wadia Group which comprises of giant companies like - Britannia Industries, home textiles maker Bombay Dyeing and more... Two hundred and fifty years ago, the Group's first venture, was in the marine construction industry. The Wadia's were marine designers and master ship builders. They built over 355 vessels that ploughed through the international waters over their 160 years of existence, including the first ships constructed by them for the British Navy outside England. It was on one such ship, the 'Minden', that the American National Anthem was composed. On another, the 'HMS Cornwallis,' the Treaty of Nanking, was signed ceding Hong Kong to England. The second oldest ship in the world, 'HMS Trincomalee' is still afloat today and intact in Hartlepool. This is yet another marvel of the Wadias' shipbuilding prowess.



**Cyrus S. Poonawalla**

(Born - 1945 CE)

Cyrus Poonawalla is an industrialist, pharmacologist and co-founder of the Serum Institute of India which started manufacturing Tetanus Antitoxin and anti-snake venom serums, and also makes a range of vaccines for MMR, DPT, Hepatitis-B, Rabies and Flu, among others. The Company is the lowest cost producer of vaccines globally. It supplies vaccines to more than 130 countries as an international organization. Two out of three children in the world are vaccinated by the Institute's vaccines, which is rated as the largest biotech company in the country. Focusing on new technologies and R&D, the company has added Meningitis, Pneumococcal and Rota virus vaccines to its profile. In 2005 CE, Cyrus Poonawalla was awarded the 'Padma Shri' for his contribution to the field of medicine by the Government of India.



**Adi Burjorji Godrej**

(Born - 1942 CE)

Adi Godrej is a veteran industrialist. He believes that generating jobs and producing common wealth is the greatest service to his country. A strong advocate of the free market economy and also deeply involved in environmental conservation, he has contributed tangibly to both. With a consumer-centric business philosophy, his cherished goal is to touch lives for the better. He has been the President of several Indian Trade and Industrial bodies and associations and was the President of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) from 2012 - 2013 CE. He has been the recipient of several prestigious awards including the '*Padma Bhushan*' which was conferred upon him in 2012 CE by the Government of India, and the '*Golden Peacock Lifetime Achievement Award for ethical Leadership*' in 2016 CE, for being an outstanding Indian pioneer in the world of business and beyond.



**Nadir Burjorji Godrej**

(Born 1951 CE)

With his irrepressible energy and zest for life, Nadir Godrej is a fine blend of an astute industrialist and a humanist. Blessed with an innovative mind, his focus is on Research and Development. He is the Chairman and Managing Director of Godrej Industries, one of India's biggest businesses, and the Chairman of Godrej Agrovet. He is a recipient of several prestigious awards including *The Chevalier de Legion d'Honneur*, *Globoil Life Time Achievement Award – 2012 CE*; *OTAI Life Time Achievement Award – 2012 CE*; *Chemexcil Life Time Achievement Award – 2013 CE*; *Lifetime Achievement Award* from the All India Liquid Bulk Importers and Exporters Association (AILBIEA) 2016 CE; and *CHEMTECH Leadership & Excellence Award - the Hall of Fame in 2017 CE*. He is the President of The Alliance Francaise de Bombay. He is also a Member of the CII National Council and Chairman of the CII National Committee on Chemicals.



**Anu Rohinton Aga**

(Born 1942 CE)

Anu Aga is a business women and social worker who has made a place for herself among the prominent industrialists of India by taking on great challenges and surmounting them with commitment and great dedication. She was the Chairperson of Thermax Ltd., an energy and environment company, from 1996 – 2004 CE. After retiring from Thermax she took to social work. In 2010 CE, she received the coveted 'Padma Shri' Award from the Government of India for her Social Work. In 2012 CE, she was nominated to Rajya Sabha, the Upper House of Indian Parliament by President Pratibha Patil. She has served on several committees since then and is currently Chairperson of 'Teach for India,' a non-profit organization.



**Jamshyd N. Godrej**

(Born 1949 CE)

Jamshyd N. Godrej is the Chairman and Managing Director of Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Company Limited. He graduated in Mechanical Engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology, USA. He is the Trustee of World Wide Fund for Nature – India and the Chairman of the CII Sohrabji Godrej Green Business Centre, a Centre of Excellence for green buildings, energy efficiency, energy conservation, nonconventional energy sources, water policy and water conservation. The Godrej group are leaders in home appliances, office equipment, industrial products, consumer products and services. The President of India conferred upon Jamshyd Godrej the 'Padma Bhushan,' the third highest civilian award in the Republic of India on 3rd April, 2003 CE.



**Rohinton Soli (Ronnie) Screwvala**

(Born 1956 CE)

Ronnie Screwvala is an entrepreneur and philanthropist. He was the founder and CEO of UTV Group. His focus is to build his own businesses - UpGrad, an online education company, Usports and the Swades Foundation. Ronnie Screwvala, fondly known as the Media Mogul was rated by Fortune as one of Asia's 25 most powerful persons and by Esquire amongst the 75 most influential People of the 21st century. He was termed the Jack Warner of India by Newsweek.



**Minoo Shroff**

(Born 1929 CE)

A brilliant corporate counsellor and an effective public speaker, Minoo Shroff continues to contribute to society and the community. He has served on the boards of nearly 35 companies. He was the former Trustee of the Bombay Parsi Punchayet and became President of the Federation of the Parsi Zoroastrian Anjumans of India in 2003 CE. A progressive thinker, he is the founder President, Forum of Free Enterprise; Chairman and Managing Trustee, AD Shroff Memorial Trust; President, Indo-Iranian Friendship Society; and erstwhile President of the World Zarathushti Chamber of Commerce, which has 14 chapters worldwide. He was conferred the *'Third Order of the Rising Sun,'* by the Emperor of Japan for promoting trade between India and Japan.



**Baron Karan Bilimoria**

(Born 1961 CE) - UK

Baron Karan Bilimoria is a fine example of how Zoroastrians not only flourish, but also contribute to society, no matter where they are in the world and whatever discipline they decide to follow. Baron Bilimoria is the Chairman of the Advisory Board, Cambridge Judge Business School; Founder and Chairman of Cobra Beer (now a joint-venture with the Molson Coors Brewing Company) and a Crossbench Life Peer in the House of Lords (appointed 2006 CE). A great Zoroastrian luminary, Lord Bilimoria has established the 'Cobra Foundation.' A few of the several awards conferred upon him are: The 'Commander of British Empire' (CBE) in 2004 CE; the 'Business Person of the Year' by the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry also in 2004 CE, and the 'Pravasi Bhartiya Samman' in 2008 CE by the President of India. Over the years Cobra Beer has won more than 70 awards from prestigious Monde Selection Awards.



**Maestro Zubin Mehli Mehta**

(Born 1936 CE) USA

One of the greatest conductors the world has ever known, maestro Zubin Mehta was born to make magic with the symphonic baton as his wand. The soaring classical harmonies have healed wounds, symbolised peace, and above all, brought sheer joy to his audiences. With his virtuosity, he has conducted some of the best philharmonic orchestras in the world with dedication, passion and incandescent brilliance. Over the last five decades, he has not only celebrated music, but also his Indian roots across the globe. He is the Musical Director for Life of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and Maggio Musicale Fiorentino. He was a former director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic and Bavarian State Opera. Son of Mehli Mehta, founder of the Bombay Symphony Orchestra, Zubin nurtures strong attachments to his roots, and his Indian identity.



**Jal Shroff**

(Born 1937 CE) – Hong Kong

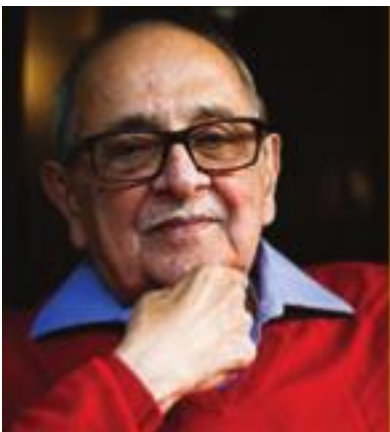
A business wizard Jal Soli Shroff is a man who loves challenges. Reinventing his company as a high-end fashion brand, he is a force to be reckoned with. He works like he plays, with fairness, with application and with a goal in mind, creating the perfect team for the perfect end result. He is the Managing Director and a Director of Fossil Inc., Dallas, Texas. He was the former President of the Zoroastrian Charity Funds of Hong Kong, Canton and Macau. He and his Wife Pervin have been silently contributing to various community causes both towards education and healthcare.



**Dr. Farokh Udwadia**

(Born 1931 CE)

Hailed as India's most eminent physician, Dr. Farokh Udwadia combines extraordinary brilliance with deep compassion. His amazing ability to diagnose and cure the most baffling of ailments is now legendary. Enriched by decades of experience, he has a remarkable mastery over his subject, but what really sets him apart is the humaneness which he brings to his profession. With Zoroastrian tenets as his guiding light, he has selflessly served the ailing for several years and continues to do so.



**Fali Nariman**

(Born 1929 CE)

*Padma Bhushan* and *Padma Vibhushan* award recipient, Fali Nariman is a Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court of India and the former Additional Solicitor General of India. A legal genius with great erudition and moral rectitude, he is committed to the cause of social justice. His name is mentioned with tangible esteem in the house of jurisprudence and his skill and eloquence have reverberated in his term as a member of the Rajya Sabha.



**Farokh Engineer**

(Born 1938 CE) UK

Farokh Engineer is a former Indian cricketer. He played 46 Tests for India, and first-class cricket for Bombay from 1959 CE to 1975 CE and for Lancashire in England from 1968 CE to 1976 CE. In his glory days, Farokh Engineer, the stylish cricketer, showed felicity with both the willow and the gloves. The former Indian batsman-wicketkeeper has scripted some of cricket's finest moments. He has been a radio and TV commentator, a raconteur of good stories, a sports columnist and one of the happiest ambassadors of the community.



**Bapsi Sidhwa**

(Born 1938 CE) USA

Bapsi Sidhwa is an author, essayist and playwright. Her writings depict her personal experiences of the Indian Subcontinent's Partition; plight of women; conflicts of a migrant and her cultural identity. She has been the recipient of several prestigious honours including the *Sitara-i-Imtiaz*; *Literaturepreis* and Italy's *Premio Mondello*.



**Dr. Dhun Noria**

(Born 1943 CE) Canada

A brilliant doctor, an outstanding administrator and community leader, she has made a very positive impact on the management of health facilities in Canada. She is the Chief of Laboratory Medicine and Medical Director of Laboratories, The Scarborough Hospital, Ontario. She has the rare ability to inspire others by her example. For her, success is simply a way of life. A few of the prestigious awards won by her are: The '*Hind Ratan*' Award, India, in 2005 CE; and was included in the '*Scarborough Walk of Fame*,' in 2011 CE. She received '*Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee Medal*' in 2011 CE and the '*Global Lifetime Achievement*' Award from the Scarborough Hospital in Toronto in 2014 CE.