

Jerry Zaslove: A Gentleman and a Scholar

Prepared by Harsh Thakore

Presented by Arvind Thakore¹

How can I describe Jerry? Words cannot do justice to his impact on our family and the Thakore Charitable Foundation. His association with our family began in the early 1990s, and he has remained a force and a mentor for us over the past 30 years.

During his tenure at the Institute for the Humanities, Jerry met my father, Mr. Thakore, and thus began a long friendship and association between the Thakore Charitable Foundation and the Institute for the Humanities. Jerry was an ardent supporter of the Thakore Visiting Scholar award and was the principal architect who made the award possible at the Institute for the Humanities. Jerry, in his quiet way, provided guidance, advice, and insight in shaping the structure around the award, and stayed away from the limelight, preferring to work from behind.

Jerry's involvement in the Visiting Scholar award spanned the entire 30 years that the award has been presented since its inception in 1991. The Thakore Charitable Foundation would like to recognize Jerry's selfless contribution in helping to make this award possible and his commitment in advancing the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi at SFU.

Jerry was like a mighty river that flows from the mountains, gently gathering force as it makes its way to meet the ocean. During this journey from the mountains he nurtured many, providing needed guidance, support, and friendship. He has finally ended his journey, meeting the

¹ This text was originally presented by Arvind Thakore at "Jerry Zaslove: A Memorial Event," November 10, 2021. It has been reformatted and edited for publication.

vast ocean, gone but not forgotten. The Thakore family, many members of the Gandhi Jayanti committee, his friends and colleagues fondly remember Professor Jerry Zaslove as a gentleman and a scholar.