Report: Martyr. Shahbaz Bhatti Memorial Fundraiser Dinner. March 3rd, 2023

International Christian Voice and its dedicated volunteers are happy to inform you that By God's Grace Martyr Shahbaz Bhatti Memorial Fundraiser gala was a pleasant success, despite the unprecedented snowstorm that night.

Almost 275 out of the 320 expected guests braved the weather to honor the legacy of Martyr Shahbaz Bhatti and raise funds for International Christian Voice sponsorship and resettlement work for refugees and asylum seekers fleeing persecution for their faith.

Guests consisting of Christian leaders from across the denominational spectrum, political representatives from various levels of government, along with diverse supporters from just about every community packed the prestigious Chateau Le Jardin venue to honor the Martyrdom of Shahbaz Bhatti and help raise funds to sponsor yet another suffering Christian asylum seeker family from Thailand.

The event was graced by his Eminence Bishop Ivan Camilleri, Archdiocese of Toronto, MP Ruby Sahota (Liberal) who delivered the message from the Prime minister Justin Trudeau, MP Garnet Genius (PC Party), MPP Shareef Al Sabawhi (PC Party Ontario), Tim Iqbal (7<sup>th</sup> VP PC Party Ontario), Councillor Vince Crisanti (Etobicoke North), Rev. Canon Dr. Byron Gilmore (Christ Church, Brampton), many of our Christian community organization office bearers, Community Church pastors and members of our community.

After the prayer, national anthem and amazing grace beautifully sung by young Evan Lawrence the evening continued with the cocktail hour where guests mingled while enjoying the fabulous antipasto menu mixed with "desi" snacks followed by the first course meal of Penne Pasta.

The event MC's were two volunteers Dr. Colin Saldana and Rakhshanda Gill who skilfully navigated the evening to a successful conclusion.

Two Excellency Awards were presented to our two distinguished guests, HE Maj Gen Noel Khokhar (Pakistan's Ambassador to Ukraine) and Dr. Colin Saldana for their services and outstanding achievements.

Following the award presentation, the guests were served the main course of chicken, salmon, roast potatoes and vegetables followed by assorted Tartufo dessert.

Rounding up the evening Mr. Peter Bhatti, Chair International Christian Voice, thanked the guests, dignitaries, church leaders and all families for their prayers, financial support and their presence that strengthens the resolve of ICV to continue the legacy of Shahbaz Bhatti to provide hope and comfort to our brothers and sisters in hiding or on the run fleeing persecution.

The evening ended with a short but a beautiful Fire and laser show.

This fundraiser, for Gul Sher and his family, helped add to the total funds raised since 2022 to \$32,000, still short of the targeted \$50,000. Our efforts will continue and with Gods blessings

and your continued support we will reach the required amount to successfully sponsor and resettle Gul Sher and his family who have been living in fear for their lives for the past nine years.

Media Cell

International Christian Voice.