

Zvi Meitar M. Jur. (October 12, 1933 – July 2, 2015) was born in Tel Aviv and graduated from Hebrew University in Jerusalem in 1957 with a Master of Jurisprudence (LLM).

In 1962 Zvi established his law firm, and became the Head and Managing Partner of his law firm which until today is the leading law firm for Corporate, Commercial and International Business in Israel. The law office, which is called the **Meitar Office**, is based at 16 Abba Hillel Road, Ramat-Gan, 52506, Israel and is still functioning under the name Meitar eventhough Zvi Meitar moved to London in 2001 and ceased to be a Partner in the law firm.

During the twelve years spanning 1983-1995, Zvi Meitar was President of the Law Society of Tel Aviv, the main legal association for lawyers in Israel. During this time he was also a member of a State Committee that under Israeli Constitutional Law appoints all Judges and Justices.

In the 1970's Zvi became involved in international business ventures which included partnership in one of the largest telecommunications conglomerates in Israel, which international business had substantial interests worldwide and to this day remains a world leader in Yellow Pages manufacturing and telephone billing.

Zvi Meitar has established several Family Funds which have made substantial donations to many causes and projects in several countries including Israel and the U.K.

UK CAUSES AND PROJECTS

1. The Royal Albert Hall.

On the 7th October 2003 he was appointed a **Fellow of the Royal Albert Hall** in recognition of exemplary support at that stage of its restoration. On the re-opening of the Royal Albert Hall on the 30th March 2004, after eight years of refurbishment, Zvi and Ofra Meitar were presented to her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. The Royal Albert Hall has a capacity of 5,300 seats and the lobby of the new south entrance bears the name **the Meitar Foyer**. On the outside of the outer wall at the south entrance four spaces were made available for the four major donors to the restoration fund to add their plaques. One of these four plaques bears the **Zvi and Ofra Meitar coat of arms** which includes a brief text, in Hebrew, from Ecclesiastes from the Old Testament of Bible.

2. National Maritime Museum.

On the 6th June 2005 Zvi Meitar was appointed **Honorary Commodore of the National Maritime Museum** in recognition of his outstanding commitment to the institution; especially in relation to Lord Admiral Horatio Nelson's 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar.

3. Magdalen College.

Also in 2005 Zvi Meitar was appointed **Patron of the Magdalen College Boat Club** for maintaining the Boat Club for five years. His donations also enabled the Club to purchase two boats named 'Meitar I' and 'Meitar II'.

The Zvi Meitar Family Fund is a major **donor to Magdalen College Oxford** and has developed a special relationship with this college. In recognition of this special relationship and donations, Zvi Meitar was **made an Honorary Waynflete Fellow** which, under a parliamentary statute, may be held by only eighteen persons at any one time.

4. Oxford University.

Chancellor's Court of Benefactors.

In 2007, Zvi Meitar was elected to the **Chancellor's Court of Benefactors** headed by The Chancellor, The Rt. Hon. the Lord Patten of Barnes, CH at the University of Oxford.

Scholarships.

Also in 2007, the Zvi Meitar Family Fund agreed with the University of Oxford to establish two annual scholarships / prizes for young PhD graduates, each in the amount of £35,000, under the name **The Zvi Meitar Vice-Chancellor Oxford University Research Prize**. The first two prizes were donated in March 2007.

Oxford University Women's Boat Club (OUWBC)..

In addition to the Magdalen College Boat Club, The Meitar Family Fund has also donated a boat, called 'Zvi Meitar', to the Oxford University Women's Boat Club (OUWBC). This boat represented Oxford University in the annual Oxford and Cambridge University Women's Boat Races.

5. Ashmolean Museum.

The Zvi and Ofra Meitar Family Fund made a donation to the Ashmolean Museum and the four-storey central atrium of the museum where the old and new sections of the museum meet was named **Zvi and Ofra Meitar Family Atrium**; in honour of the donations made to the Ashmolean Museum.

In 2009 Zvi Meitar lent to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford a marble statue of Sir George Cooke, weighing 4½ tons, which was sculpted in 1748 by Henry Cheere.

Also, in recognition of extensive support, Zvi Meitar was presented with an **Ashmolean Fellowship** in 2010, the highest honour the Museum can bestow.

6. Bodleian Libraries.

In 2011 the Bodleian Libraries of the University of Oxford announced important improvements to **SOLO (Search Oxford Libraries On-line)** made possible by a donation from Zvi Meitar. He has made several donations to the Bodleian Library in Oxford, including donations for the **Bodleian/ Korean Project**

New Bodleian Library Gift Shop.

The Zvi Meitar Family Fund is making a donation to the Bodleian Library for the installation of a new Bodleian Shop in the new refurbished Bodleian Library to be named the **Zvi Meitar Bodleian Libraries Shop.**

7. Philharmonia Orchestra.

The Meitar Family Fund is considered a main **donor to the Philharmonia Orchestra** and has been for many years.

8. Oxford Philomusica.

For several years The Meitar Family Fund has been a **major donor to the Oxford Philomusica**, under the auspices of Oxford University.

9. The Sixteen.

The Meitar Family Fund sponsored **The Sixteen's Handel in Oxford Festivals** 2004, 2005 and 2006.

In addition The Meitar Family Funds have made substantial donations in other countries e.g.

1. Metropolitan Opera, New York.

Zvi Meitar is a **Sponsor Donor of the N.Y. Metropolitan Opera and is a member of The Met Opera International Council.**

2. Centre for Advanced Legal Studies.

In 2008 the **Zvi Meitar Centre for Advanced Legal Studies** was established within the Faculty of Law of the Tel Aviv University.