

THE ACSYA INC.

IMPACT  
REPORT  
FY22-23

## About

The Assyrian Cultural & Social Youth Association Inc., also commonly known by its acronym the ACSYA Inc., is an independent not-for-profit organisation headquartered in Australia. The organisation's primary objective is to work for the conservation and protection of Indigenous Assyrian culture.

The ACSYA Inc. develops campaigns and conducts independent research that is valuable for not only driving further understanding but appreciation for this rich heritage. The ACSYA Inc. facilitates a host of events, i.e., exhibitions, seminars, training sessions, webinars, and workshops.

The organisation's broader objective is to drive volunteerism, develop partnerships, initiate dialogue, and exchange of knowledge. Further, the ACSYA Inc. actively encourages youth engagement and participation at all levels of communal life to achieve long-term benefits.

## Acknowledgement of Country Statement

The ACSYA Inc. acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we meet and work and pay our respect to Elders, past, present, and emerging.

## The ACSYA Inc.

PO BOX 51,  
Fairfield NSW 1860  
Australia

ABN: 75 371 995 821  
Incorporation No: INC1401480

[www.acsya.org](http://www.acsya.org)  
[info@acsya.org](mailto:info@acsya.org)

## Contents

03 From the Board of Directors

04 Overview of Meetings

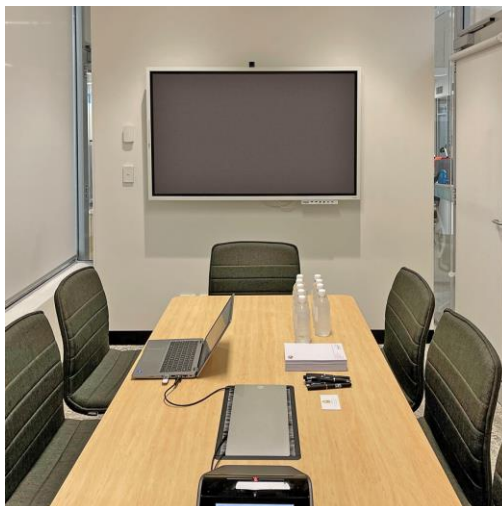
06 Overview of Activities/ Events

07 Overview of Advocacy Work

09 Overview of Community Engagement

10 Our Impact in FY22–23

## From the Board of Directors



In FY22–23, the ACSYA Inc. witnessed a number of significant achievements. From the establishment of the organisation’s Victoria Division to the development of strategic relationships with a number of key stakeholders— both local and international. The ACSYA Inc., through the leadership of its Board of Directors as well as its valued members, successfully achieved 8 of its 11 organisational priorities and delivered 1,300+ volunteer hours in the direct benefit of the Assyrian-Australian community. As part of the organisation’s stated mission to campaign for the conservation and protection of Assyrian cultural heritage; the ACSYA Inc. led 26 advocacy initiatives.

The Board of Directors recognises the significant contributions made by our allies and members in FY22–23— both in New South Wales and in Victoria. Through their selfless dedication and continued service, the ACSYA Inc. has been able to deliver its programmes and services to the wider community. In the new FY, the organisation remains committed to continuing to work toward the achievement of our organisational priorities and to amplify our work in heritage advocacy.

## Overview of Meetings

Date	Meeting
17 August 2022	Mr. Frank Carbone Mayor, Fairfield Local Government Area
17 August 2022	Ms. Dai Le Federal Member for Fowler
21 August 2022	Mr. Joe Snell, The Assyrian journal
22 August 2022	Mr. Joseph Haweil Mayor, Hume Local Government Area
24 August 2022	Ms. Carmen Lazar Councillor, Fairfield City Council
5 September 2022	Committee Members, Babylon Cultural Association
7 September 2022	Mr. Guy Zangari Member for Fairfield, Member of the NSW Legislative Assembly
9 September 2022	Mr. Chris Bowen Federal Member for McMahon
14 September 2022	His Excellency, Dr. Basim Hattab Al-Tumma Iraqi Ambassador to Australia
24 September 2022	Mr. Joseph Haweil Mayor, Hume Local Government Area
24 September 2022	Committee Members, Assyrian Democratic Movement, Sydney Division
24 September 2022	Committee Members, Assyrian Aid Society of Australia, Sydney Division
24 September 2022	Committee Members, Assyrian Women's Association of Australia, Sydney Division
1 October 2022	Mr. Yonadam Kanna Secretary General of the Assyrian Democratic Movement, International
2 October 2022	Mr. Rebin Hamad Amin, United Nations Development Programme of Iraq

15 October 2022	Committee Members, Chaldean Community Project
15 October 2022	Committee Members, Assyrian National Council of Australia
2 November 2022	His Grace, Mar Benyamin Elya Bishop of Victoria and New Zealand, Assyrian Church of the East
3 November 2022	The Hon. Peter Dutton Leader of the Opposition
3 November 2022	The Hon. Marise Payne Member of the Australian Senate
13 December 2022	Committee Members, Assyrian Youth Federation of Australia & New Zealand
7 February 2023	Mr. Joseph Haweil Mayor, Hume Local Government Area
9 February 2023	Committee Members, Assyrian National Council of Australia
18 April 2023	Committee Members, Australian Assyrian Chaldean Syriac Advocacy Network (AACSAN)
25 April 2023	Committee Members, Australian Assyrian Chaldean Syriac Advocacy Network (AACSAN)
4 May 2023	Mr. Chris Bowen Federal Member for McMahon
4 May 2023	Ms. Linda Burney, Federal Member for Barton
10 May 2023	Stockland Australia
16 May 2023	Committee Members, Assyrian National Council of Australia
30 May 2023	Committee Members, Australian Assyrian Chaldean Syriac Advocacy Network (AACSAN)
7 June 2023	Mr. Michael Kolokossian, Armenian National Council of Australia

## Overview of Activities/ Events

Date	Activity/ Event
12 August 2022	Guest speech at the Assyrian Remembrance Day event, held at the Assyrian Genocide Monument, and hosted by the Assyrian National Council of Australia.
12 August 2022	Guest speech at the Assyrian Remembrance Day event, held at the Assyrian Sports & Cultural Club, and hosted by the Assyrian Democratic Movement, Sydney Division.
19 October 2022	Guest speech at the Parliamentary Friends of Assyria event, held at the Parliament of New South Wales, and hosted by the Assyrian National Council of Australia.
19 October 2022	Designed and curated the Assyria: A Woven History (Cultural Exhibit), held at the Parliament of New South Wales.
30 October 2022	Designed and curated the Garments of Assyria (Cultural Exhibit), held at the Assyrian Music & Cultural Festival.
13 November 2022	Assyria A.D. (Documentary Screening), held at the Babylon Cultural Association.
18 November 2022	Hosted a signing ceremony and Inaugural event for the ACSYA Inc. Victoria, held at the Parliament of Victoria.
24 November 2022	The social and cultural repercussions of the Makhoul Dam (Virtual Webinar).
5 March 2023	Garments of Assyria photoshoot in celebration of Assyrian New Year
21 March 2023	Assyrian Cultural Awareness Workshop for Harmony Day 2023
29 March 2023	Co-hosted an Assyrian New Year event and exhibit at the Parliament of Victoria
2 April 2023	Participated at the Assyrian New Year event at the Fairfield Showground
23 June 2023	Partnered w. Stockland Wetherill Park to host a Cuneiform Workshop
24 June 2023	Co-hosted Finding Freedom: Stories of Resilience in Victoria

30 June 2023

Partnered w. Stockland Wetherill Park to host a Cuneiform Workshop

## Overview of Advocacy Work

Date	Advocacy Work
6 August 2022	Content creation: How to mark Assyrian Remembrance Day
11 September 2022	Content creation: Satellite imagery demonstrating impact to the ancient city of Nimrud post-IS
12 September 2022	The ACSYA Inc. published an article outlining the social and cultural repercussions of the Makhoul Dam project.
12 September 2022	The ACSYA Inc. issued an open letter to the Permanent Delegation of Iraq to UNESCO regarding the Makhoul Dam project.
14 September 2022	Executives of the ACSYA Inc. met with the Iraqi Ambassador to Australia to discuss the Makhoul Dam project.
16 September 2022	Content creation: awareness regarding the repercussions caused by the Makhoul Dam project to archaeological sites.
17 September 2022	The ACSYA Inc. issued an open letter to the Director of the Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and Heritage (SBAH) regarding the Makhoul Dam project.
17 September 2022	Content creation: visual timeline demonstrating the advocacy work carried out by the ACSYA Inc. regarding the Makhoul Dam.
29 September 2022	The ACSYA Inc. published an article titled <i>The Assyrians of Khābūr: A Tale of Survival and Resilience</i> .
7 October 2022	Meeting held with Mr. Yonadam Kanna, then Secretary General of the Assyrian Democratic Movement (ADM) regarding the Makhoul Dam project.
19 October 2022	The ACSYA Inc. held a visual exhibit titled <i>Assyria: A Woven History</i> . This exhibit celebrated indigenous garments and their evolution following the collapse of the Ottoman Empire.
5 November 2022	The ACSYA Inc. held an exhibit in dedication of the Garments of Assyria project, celebrating Indigenous Assyrians and their rich and diverse garments.



13 November 2022	The ACSYA Inc. held an exhibit in dedication of the garments of the Ṭūr ‘Abdīn region.
24 November 2022	The ACSYA Inc. facilitated a virtual webinar canvassing out the social and cultural repercussions of the Makhoul Dam project on archaeological sites in the region.
12 February 2023	Content creation: Assyrian archaeological site of Reṣafa in Syria
25 February 2023	Content creation: Monastery of Mār Mattai
18 March 2023	The ACSYA Inc. published an article titled <i>The Powerful Role of Music and Dance in the Safeguarding of Assyrian Culture and Tradition</i> .
26 April 2023	The ACSYA Inc. published an article concerning the significance of safeguarding Assyrian cultural heritage
7 May 2023	Content creation: Assyrian archaeological mound (Qasrā Knoll)
9 May 2023	Content creation: Assyrian archaeological mound at Arbelā
20 May 2023	Content creation: infographic regarding heritage advocacy
21 May 2023	The ACSYA Inc. published an article concerning the heritage destruction committed by Islamic State ‘IS’ or ‘ISIS’
24 May 2023	Content creation: Historical background regarding the Assyrian region of Ūrmī
1 June 2023	The ACSYA Inc. published an article regarding the significance of journeying to the Assyrian Homeland
2 June 2023	Content creation: Historical information regarding the Church of Mār Benā, also otherwise known as Mār Bēhnām, is located in the village of Armotā, in the region of Arbelā
4 July 2023	The ACSYA Inc. published an article concerning the Mosul Cultural Museum post-IS

## Overview of Community Engagement

Date	Community Event
30 June 2022	Partnered with California State University (Stanislaus Campus) to host a special screening of Assyria A.D. between 30 June 2022 – 7 August 2022.
20 August 2022	Participated at the World Assembly of Assyrian Youth virtual social event.
20 August 2022	Partnered with The Assyrian Journal— a US-based Assyrian news organisation —to publish book reviews on <a href="http://www.theassyrianjournal.com">www.theassyrianjournal.com</a> .
19 October 2022	Attended the Parliamentary Friends of Assyria event, held at the Parliament of New South Wales, and hosted by the Assyrian National Council of Australia.
29 October 2022	Participated at the World Assembly of Assyrian Youth virtual social event.
26 November 2022	Attended the fiftieth anniversary of the Assyrian Sports & Cultural Club, held at Babylon Venue.
7 December 2022	Attended the Shayna Humanitarian Services Inc. event, held at the Assyrian Sports & Cultural Club.
8 March 2023	Attended the International Women's Day, hosted by Hume City Council (Victoria)
30 March 2023	Partnered w. the Australian Assyrian Arts and Literature Foundation, Beth-Nahrain Assyria Association, and the Assyrian Australian Social Development Club co-hosted an Assyrian New Year celebration at the Parliament of Victoria
16 April 2023	Attended the Assyrian Australian Medical Association's (AAMA) ceremonial event
2 April 2023	Attended the Assyrian New Year Festival, hosted by the Assyrian National Council of Australia (ANCAU)
25 May 2023	Participated at the Hume City Neighbourhood Policing Forum, hosted by Victoria Police

## Our Impact in FY22–23

Contributed 1,300+ volunteer hours for the Assyrian-Australian community	Secured multiple partnerships across New South Wales and Victoria
↑54 new volunteer/ member registration in FY22–23	Successfully achieved 8 of the 11 organisational priorities for 2022–26
Successfully delivered 13 cultural activities/ events (New South Wales and Victoria)	Successfully delivered 26 advocacy initiatives for the conservation and protection of Assyrian cultural heritage