Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 162 – Continuation of Aa Haataamcha Ha - Aredvisura Nyaayesh - Yasna Ha 65 Verses 9 - 11

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Aavaan Aredvisura Baanu Yazata

In our last WZSE #161, I used Ardavisur Yazata.

My good friend from Sydney, Australia, Sam Kerr, pointed out that it should be Aredvisura Yazata. I checked with Avesta Script Yasna and Khordeh Avesta of Tehmuras Anklesaria, and the correct spelling is Aredvisura.

And so I have corrected it in this WZSE.

I thank my scholarly friend Sam Kerr for pointing the correct spelling to me. Thank you Sam as always for your wise counsel!

Aavaan Aredvisura Baanu Yazata is regarded as one of the most important Yazata in our religion responsible for the Ahura Mazda's very important creation, The Waters!

In her honor, we have one of the five Nyaayeshes, most of which is taken from the Yasna Ha 65.

In addition, we have also a very large Yasht, Aavaan Yasht, in her honor with a very interesting historical references

of our Religious Stalwarts of ancient times who prayed to her to get some boons.

During the 8th month of Aavaan of our Religious Calendar, many Humdins pray this Yasht every day. It is believed that a Humdin woman desirous of a child if prays this Yasht is rewarded with her wish.

The complete audio file of Aaavaan Aredvisura Nyaayesh is at:

http://www.avesta.org/mp3/032_Ardvisur_Nyaayesh.mp3 and the complete Aaavaan Yasht is available in 4 separate files due to its length at:

http://www.avesta.org/mp3/110_Aavaan_Yasht_Part_1_of_4.mp3 http://www.avesta.org/mp3/110_Aavaan_Yasht_Part_2_of_4.mp3 http://www.avesta.org/mp3/110_Aavaan_Yasht_Part_3_of_4.mp3 http://www.avesta.org/mp3/110_Aavaan_Yasht_Part_4_of_4.mp3

In Aaavaan Aredvisura Nyaayesh, there is a special Ha, Aaa Haataamcha Haa, whose first 3 verses were presented last week in WZSE #161.

It is taken from the Yasna Ha 65 Verses 6 - 8.

It gives a detailed summary of the importance of the waters and an explicit denunciation of these waters to evil people in details.

Today, in WZSE #162, we continue with the next 3 verses, Yasna Ha 65 Verses 9 - 11. Contrary to the first 3 verses, these verses, prayed by a Mobed Zoti, performing the Pav Mahel ritual of Yasna, is asked what are the correct ways to praise the waters of Aredvisura Yazata according to the instructions by a learned Herbad (exalted Mobed) and the penalties for not performing according to them. These are the instructions given by Ahura Mazda to Zarathushtra and from him to the whole mankind. Ahura Mazda then instructs Zarathushtra the prayer to recite in verse 10.

Then the Zoti (performing Yasna Ceremony) asks for boons to the Aredvisura Yazata in the third Verse 11. He asks for boons for himself which will not be used to harm anyone in anyway.

So here is the next 3 verses of the Aaa Haataamch Ha from Yasna 65 Verses 9 – 11 as well as from Aavaan Aredvisura Nyaayesh:

Aa Haataamcha Ha - Aredvisura Nyaayesh - Yasna Ha 65 Verses 9 – 11

(Please hear the attached .mp3 file for its recitation)

(9) Aapo gaatava raamo-idhwem, Yavata zaota yazaaiteh. Katha zaota khsaata vacha aapo vangushish yazaaiteh. Kuthra bavaat hito-hizvaao yezi an-aretheh yazaaiteh. Kuthra vaacho avi-buta, yaan he chakhseh aethra-paitish. Kuthra taao frayo bayaan, Kuthra taao ishudo bavaan. Kuthra taao raatayo bayaan, Yaan Ahuro Mazdaao Zarathushtraai fravavacha, Fra Zarathushtro gaethaabyo astavaitibyo. (10) "Avajastim paurvaanm aapo jaidhyoish Zarathushtra, Paschaeta aiwyo zaothraao frabaroish yaozdaataao Dahmo-pairishtaao, imaan vacho framru. (11) Aapo yaanem voh yaasaami mazaaontem tem meh daavata, Yanghe daaiti paiti vangho nisrita an-aiwi-drukhti. Aapo ishtim vi jaidhyaami pouru-saredhaam amavaitim, frazantimcha khvaaparaam venghaao paorushcha berejyaan. Naechishcha anghaao yaasaaiti jyaanaai, Noit snathaai, noit mahrkaai, Noit aenangheh, noit apayate-eh.

Aa Haataamcha Ha - Aredvisura Nyaayesh - Yasna Ha 65 Verses 9 – 11 Translation:

(9) O pure waters! as long as the Zoti (performing the Yasna ceremony) invokes, praises
so long as ye rejoice in your place.
How shall the Zoti praise the good waters with the word taught?

If that Zoti praises the waters contrary to the prescribed rule,

How will he be tongue-fettered?

How will he apply those words which the Herbad (exalted Zoti) taught him? How might that prayer be fulfilled?

In what way will that gratefulness be accomplished?

How will that offering be made?

About whom the creator Ahura Mazda had spoken to the prophet Zarathushtra,

and in turn the Prophet Zarathushtra proclaimed to the people of the corporeal world?

(10) (Ahura Mazda speaks to Zarathushtra:)
"O Zarathushtra! Thou shouldst address first the petition to the waters; thou shouldst then carry the libation to those waters examined by a pious and wise man, and pronounce the words mentioned below:"

(11) O ye waters! Ye grant me that great favor, I beseech you. Through the bestowal of which favor goodness is produced by means of guilelessness.
O ye waters! I beseech you for wealth of many kinds, and large and self-supporting progeny.
On whom plenty of children, plenty of blessings may spread.
None, even amongst that family, will desire to harm others, to raise arms against them, to afflict them or to wreak vengeance or to destroy them. (Kangaji English Khordeh Avesta - Pages 67, 68)

SPD Explanation:

1. Our Aavaan Aredvisura Baanu Yazata is a very important Hamkar of Ahura Mazda in taking care of HIS vey important creation of waters.

2. In our scriptures, she holds an important role since waters are a basic unit for the survival of human beings.

3. In this Aa Haataamcha Ha, Verses 9 – 11, we are instructed by Zarathushtra from Ahura Mazda the proper way to praise Aavaan Aredvisura Yazata and ask for proper boons from her.
4. It is interesting to compare the words of Ahura Mazda in Verse 10 to Zarathushtra what

should be done by a Zoti performing a Pav Mahel Yasna ceremony. He is instructed first to petition to the waters and then to carry the libation to those waters examined by a pious and wise man.

This is exactly what happens in a Yasna ceremony. Zoti prepares the Homa liquid by reciting the appropriate prayers to the waters and then in the last Ha 72, he takes that holy Homa liquid to the Atash Kadeh well and with appropriate prayers returns the Homa liquid to the well.

As we know, in the olden days, there were 8 Mobeds performing Yasna and Visperad ceremonies, mentioned in Uziran Geh, Verse 5, and Visperad, Kardaa 3, Verse 1. The eighth Mobed is of the highest title, Sraoshaa-vareza, whose job was to oversee the whole Yasna/Visperad ceremony and to make sure that all prayers and rituals were performed according to the prescribed rules.

So, he would be the pious and wise man mentioned by Ahura Mazda in Verse 10 above who examined the Homa liquid before it was offered to the Atash Kadeh well! Quite an interesting comparison of the yore days and the present practice! 5. The last Verse 11 is similar to the Jasa Me Awanghe Mazda, Mazdayasno Ahmi prayer where the Zarathushtri Deen

preaches "Fraspaayao-khedhraam, Nidhaa-snaithishem" – "quarrel-removing, weapon-lowering".

May the Flame of Fellowship, Love, Charity and Respect for all burn ever eternal in our hearts so we can do HIS work with humility, diligence and eternal enthusiasm!

Atha Jamyaat, Yatha Aafrinaamahi! (May it be so as we wish!)

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli