WZSE – Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 17.

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Today is one of the twelve auspicious days in our Shehenshahi Calendar we call "Parabs"! Our calendar has 30 days – which are the names of Ameshashpands and Yazatas. The 12 months' names are from these 30 names of the days; and so, when the Roj coincides with the Mah, like today Farvardin Mahino and Farvardin Roj, we call it a Parab Day and a Parab Jashan is usually performed.

Today's Parab is a special one since it represents Asho Farohars of all departed souls and hence a special name, Farvardegaan, is given to this day. This is the day when hundreds of Parsis/Iranis throng the Doongerwaadi in Mumbai, and Saghdis near Dakhmaas in other towns and villages to offer prayers to these departed Asho Farohars. I have been to Doongerwaadi in Mumbai on a previous Farvardegaan Day and it is a unique experience!

So Happy Farvardegaan to you all!

In our last week's quote, Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitamaan, our prophet, asks Ahura Mazda to tell him indeed that name of HIS that wards off all evils from him (Hormuzd Yasht 5-6).

In answer to this Zarathushtra's question (Hormuzd Yasht 7-8), Ahura Mazda gives him HIS 20 names which we will present in today's quote, as we promised last week!

Ahura Mazda further instructs Zarathushtra to take these 20 names to ward off all evils!!

Here is Ahura Mazda's answer:

(Please hear the <u>attached .mp3 file</u> for its recitation)

(7) Aa-at mraot Ahuro Mazdaao,
Frakhshtya naama ahmi, ashaaum Zarathushtra:
Bityo vaanthvyo; thrityo avi-tanyo;
Tuîrya Asha Vahishta;
Pukhdha vîspa vohu Mazda-dhaata asha-chithra;
Khshtvo yat ahmi khratush;
Haptatho khratumaao; ashtemo yat ahmi chistish; naaumo chistivaao.

(7) Ahura Mazda then replied: My first name, O Holy Zarathushtra! is I exist; My second name is pertaining to protecting herds of cattle and multitudes of men:

My third name is All-Pervading;

My fourth name is Supreme Righteousness;

My fifth name is All Good Things created by Mazda, containing the seed of righteousness;

My sixth name is that I myself is Wisdom;

My seventh name is Endowed with Wisdom; My eighth – I Myself am Knowledge;

My ninth name – Endowed with Knowledge;

(8) Dasemo yat ahmi spaano;

Aevandaso spananguhaao;

Dvadaso Ahuro; thridaso sevishto; chathrudaso imat vidvaeshtvo;

Panchadasa avanemna; khshvash-dasa haata marenish;

Haptadasa vîspa hishas; ashtadasa baeshazya; navadasa yat ahmi daato; Vîsaanstemo ahmi yat ahmi Mazdaao naama.

(8) My tenth name is I myself am Increase Prosperity;
My eleventh Name is the Increaser; Twelfth - Ahura;
Thirteenth – the most Beneficent; Fourteenth – without Opponent;
Fifteenth – the Invincible;
Sixteenth – the One Who maintains account of the deeds of men;
Seventeenth – the All-Seeing; Eighteenth – The Healer;
Nineteenth – I am The Creator; Twentieth – Omniscient!

(From Ervad Kangaji Khordeh Avesta Baa Maaeni translated in English)

SPD Explanation:

This is the first part of the dialog between Zarathushtra and Ahura Mazda giving Ahura Mazda's 20 names.

Later on, Ahura Mazda gives 52 more names to Zarathushtra which we will cover in later quotes.

Ahura Mazda instructs Zarathushtra to take these 20 names to ward off all evils!

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli