Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 173 – Hail Unto Us is Born, An Aathravan Zarathushtra Spitamaan! - Yasna 29, Farvardin Yasht Verses 93 - 94

All WZSEs to date now available on Internet at:

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Hello all Tele Class friends:

Shehenshahi 10 Muktad Days started on Sunday August 7th from Ashtad Roj to Aneran Roj, Asfandarmad Mahino,

followed by 5 Gatha Days – Ahunavad, Ushtavad, Spentomad, Vohukhshathra and Vahishtoisht, from August 12th thru 16th.

This was followed by the New Year Navroze on Farvardin Mahino and Hormazd Roj 1386 YZ (Yazde Zardi), Wednesday August 17th!

We wish you all a belated Navroze Mubarak 1386 YZ by Shehenshahi Calendar!

This is the 8th year for our ZAF (Miami) Muktad Gatha Prayers, 3rd year in our great benefactor Sheroo Irani's Miramar home for which we are very thankful. In her absence, his son Furrokh and daughter-in-law Khushnam managed the whole 5 Gatha Days plus Navroze prayers and we are very grateful to them for their dedication and for taking care of all minute details to put these 6 days prayers together with the great help of the whole ZAF Board and their wives for preparing and serving 3 meals during these 6 days! We bow our heads in appreciation to all of them! Please see the Muktad photos attached.

And how can we forget our head Gorani Arnavaz Irani and her second Gorani Jo Ann Dastur for preparing all items for daily 3 Satums! Without their help, we will not have such a successful Muktad Gatha prayers including the Paachhli raat nu bhanwaanu!

The Navroze was followed by Rapithwan Ijwaani on Farvardin Mahino and Ardibehesht Roj, Friday August 19th when Rapithwan Geh is restarted for next 8 months!

And now we will have the most auspicious day in Shehenshahi calendar, the

Birthday of Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitaman on Khordad Saal, Farvardin Mahino and Khordad Roj, Monday August 22nd! **TOMORROW!!**

We wish you all a Happy Khordad Saal Mubarak by Shehenshahi Calendar!

Zarathushtra himself narrates in his Ahunavaiti Gatha Yasna 29 a Celestial Drama among the Soul of Mother Earth, Dadar Ahura Mazda, Bahman and Ardibehesht Ameshashpands and Zarathushtra himself!

In Yasna 29.1, the soul of Mother Earth cries out to Ahura Mazda for help against all the evil happening on the earth and requests to send a strong man to defeat these wicked forces. Ahura Mazda consults Bahman and Ardibehesht Ameshashpands if they knew anyone suitable; both did not have anyone in mind.

Then Ahura Mazda declares in Yasna 29 Verse 8: (Please hear the first attached .mp3 file for its recitation)

(8) Aêm môi idaa vistô ye ne aêvô saasnaao gushataa. Zarathushtrô Spitaamô hvô ne Mazdaa vashti ashaaichaa. Charekarethraa sraavayenghê hyat hôi hudemêm dyaai vakhedhrahyaa.

Then Ahura Mazda declares in Yasna 29 Verse 8 Translation:

Ahura Mazda continued:

"The only one who has listened to our command is well known to me. He is the holy Zarathustra Spitama.

He is the only person who is eager to proclaim through his songs of praise The path of truthfulness.

Therefore sweetness of speech shall be granted to him."

(*Translation of Gathas the Holy Song of Zarathustra, from Persian into English,* by Mobed Firouz Azargoshasb, March 1988, San Diego, California.)

And so Zarathushtra was born!

And in his very first verse of his Ahunavaiti Gatha Yasna 28.1, Zarathushtra with uplifted hands and deep humility asks for:

Ahunavaiti Gatha, Yasna 28 Verse 1: (Please hear the second attached .mp3 file for its recitation)

(1) Ahyaa yaasaa nêmanghaa ustaanazastô rafedhrahyaa. Manyeush Mazdaao paourvim spêñtahyaa ashaa vispêñg shyaothnaa. Vangheush khratum mananghô yaa khshnevishaa geushchaa urvaanem.

Ahunavaiti Gatha, Yasna 28 Verse 1 Translation:

With uplifted hands and deep humility, I beseech, O Mazda, First and foremost this, the abiding joy of Spenta Mainyû, your holy mind. Grant that I perform all actions in harmony with righteousness And acquire the wisdom of the good mind So that I may bring happiness to the soul of the Universe.

(*The Teachings of Zarathustra* by T.R. Sethna, Second Edition, Published by TR Sethna, Karachi, 1978.)

Taking care of the Mother Earth!

Is this the original start of the so called Green Movement some 3500+ years ago?!

And in Farvardin Yasht Verses 87 – 94, a glowing first ever eulogy for a human being is given to our Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitamaan and on this Shehenshahi Khordad Saal, let us celebrate his birth in the words of the Farvardin Yasht Verses 93 – 94 as follows:

Farvardin Yasht Verses 93 - 94:

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

Yehe zaanthae-cha vakhshae-cha,

Urvaasen aapô urvaraaos-cha;

Yehe zaanthae-cha vakhshae-cha,

Ukhshîn aapô urvaraaos-cha; Yehe zaanhae-cha vakhshae-cha. Ushtataatem nimravanta Vîspaao spentô daataao daamaan:

"Ushtaa nô zaatô aathrava Yô Spitaamô Zarathushtrô!"

Fraa no yazaaite zaothraabyo,

Stereto baresma Zarathushtro!

Idha apaam vîjasaaiti,

Vanghuhi Daena Maazdayasnish, Vîspaaish avi karshvaan yaaish hapta.

(Farvardin Yasht 93-94)

Farvardin Yasht Verses 93 – 94 Translation:

In whose birth and growth, waters and plants rejoiced; in whose birth and growth, waters and plants increased; and in whose birth and growth, all the creations created by Spentaa Mainyu shouted, Hail!

"Hail! born to us is an Aathravan Spitamaan Zarathushtra!

The spreader of Baresman in the ceremonies will now worship us with libations!

Hereafter, the Good Mazdaa-worshiping Religion will spread all over the seven regions of the earth (i.e. the entire world)!

(From Ervad Kangaji Khordeh Avesta Baa Maaeni translated in English Page <u>462</u>)

SPD Comments

1. What a beautiful way of eulogizing an amazing Prophet who profess the first monotheistic religion in the history of mankind!

2. You all may have seen the first page of our old Gujarati Khordeh Avestas where Zarathushtra's photo is always presented

and below it was always the sentence of Ushtaa no zaato Aathrava......

<u>I have attached such a photo from Gujarati *Tamaam Handy Avesta* printed by Jehangir B. Karaani's sons.</u>

On left hand side is the Zarathushtra's photo with the words in Gujarati:

"Nemo Zarathushtrahe Spitaamahe Ashaono Fravashahe"

"Salutation to the Farohar of Asho Spitamaan Zarathushtra"

Whereas on the right hand side is the famous: "Ushtaa No Zaato Aathrava Yo Spitaamo Zarathushtro" sentence

3. Sir Dr. Mobed Jivanji Jamshedji Modi was an amazing scholar, prolific writer, and the author of the Zarathushtri Ceremonies book available at:

http://www.avesta.org/ritual/rcc.htm

His grandson and a very good friend of ours, Jamshed Modi, wrote the following in an email to our very good friend Kersee Kabraji, which I take liberty to reproduce here:

"Two of them are short WORD files, being English transcriptions (not translations) of Gujarati hum-Bandagis that Sir Jivanji Modi used to get his family to recite, especially during Muktad days which are going on now, and on Khordad Sal. That tradition was continued by his children in their respective families, and is continuing to this day in many of his grand-children's families. I think you will find the words beautiful, and in support of your own views on what constitutes the essence of Zoroastrianism. The Asho Farohar Ni Yaad was written by Sir Jivanji himself. The Asho Zarthost Ni Yaad was written by someone who used the penname "Firoj". "

The Firoj mentioned by Jamshed Bhai is the famous Parsi poet – Firoz Rustomji Batliwala – who also wrote the famous Khudaavind Khaavind Monajat for reciting before going to bed, as well as the Chhaiye Hame Zarathushtri – the famous Zoroastrian March!

In our beloved M. F. Cama Athornan Institute, we had to recite Monajats similar to the one mentioned by Jamshed Bhai above as well as Khudaavind Khaavind every night as the last official activity of the school.

We used to have a Monajat book from which the teacher will select a Monajat for us to recite every night after the prayers.

Dadar Athornan Institute late Principal, Ervad Rustomjee Panthaki, republished many of these Monajats in Gujarati and if anyone wants to have a copy of this book, please let me

know.

The Monajat referred by Jamshed Bhai is:

"Saras sau thi kharo rahebar" - "The best Prophet from all"

The last verse of this Monajat fits perfectly with today's WZSE:

"Bhale Daadaar tey sthaapyo, Janam Zarthosht ne aapyo! Khulyu jethee sukho nu ghar, Asho Zarathoshta Paygambar"

Translation:

"Well done Daadaar Ahura Mazda, that you gave birth to Zarathushtra in this world,

The home of happiness was opened by his birth, the Righteous Prophet Asho Zarathushtra"

Thank you Jamshed Bhai and Kersee for this email to remind us of our beautiful, almost forgotten Monajats!!

4. So, let us all shout out loud in unison on this Shehenshahi Khordad Saal tomorrow:

"Ushtaa nô zaatô aathrava Yô Spitaamô Zarathushtrô!"

"Hail! born to us is an Aathravan Spitamaan Zarathushtra!"

Happy Khordad Saal Mubarak to all of you!

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!) (Aafrin Pegaamber Zartosht, from <u>Ervad Kangaji Gujarati</u> *Khordeh Avesta Baa Maaeni* – Page 424, adapted Aafrinaamahi - we wish instead of Aafrinaami – I wish, in the original)

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli

Ushtaa No Zaato Aathrava.jpg

