Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 192 – Prayer to Ahura Mazda to hearken to us, to be gracious to us - Gatha Ahunavaiti - Yasna 33 Verse 11

Hello all Tele Class friends:

In Vendidad, Zarathushtra enquires of Ahura Mazda, "How shall I fight against the Druj that rushes from the dead and defiles the living?"

To this Ahura Mazda replies, "Say aloud those words in the Gathas that are to be said twice....thrice.... four times". (Vendidad Fargarad 10.1-2)

(Please wait for the next WZSE #193 for the details about all the Gatha verses to be recited per Ahura Mazda's advice).

Per Ahura Mazda's reply to Zarathushtra, the following 4 verses in the Gathas to be recited thrice, should be recited to fight against the Druj:

Ashem Vohû.... vahishtaaî ashem - Ha 27.14 (please see: wzse26)
Yéh sévishto .. kahyaaîchît paîtî - Ha 33.11 (current WZSE #192)
Hukhshathrotémaai ... vahishtaaî - Ha 35.5 (please see: wzse184)
Duzvarénaaîsh .. drigaovéh vahyo - Ha 53.9 (future WZSE)

The second verse above, Yeh Sevishto Ahuro is from Ahunavaiti Gatha and is one of my favorites. It is followed by the wonderful 3 verses starting with Us Moi Uzaareshwaa Ahuraa (Unfold Thyself within me, Oh Ahuraa!) which are also incorporated in Aatash Nyaayesh.

I joined MF Cama Athornan Institute in 1945 and Dasturji Daboo was appointed our Principal in 1946. Each morning before starting our classes, we used to recite a Hum Bandagi. Dasturji Daboo changed that to: Us Moi Uzaareshwaa Ahuraa – and it is still ringing in my ears many times.

So, today we will present the second verse mentioned above to be recited thrice from the Ahunavaiti Gatha, Yasna 33, Verse 11 - Yeh Sevishto Ahuro:

Prayer to Ahura Mazda to hearken to us, to be gracious to us - Gatha Ahunavaiti - Yasna 33 Verse 11

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

Yeh sevishto Ahuro Mazdaaoschaa Aarmaitishchaa,

Ashemchaa fraadat gaethem

Manaschaa Vohu Khshathremchaa, Sraotaa moi merezdaataa moi Aadaai kahyaaichit paiti. (Recite 3 times).

English Translation:

Mighty Ahuraa Mazdaa, we do pray
To Thee and to Thy gracious Aarmaiti,
To Ashaa, who sends blessings on all Life,
To Vohu Mano and to Vohu Khshathra, too:
Hearken to us, be gracious unto us,
While Ye apportion due reward to each.

(Translation by Dr. Irach Taraporevalla from his opus – *Divine Songs of Zarathushtra*, Page 240)

SPD Explanation:

1. Dr. Purviz Kolsawalla in his thesis states:

The omnipotent Ahura Mazda, Asha, Aramaiti, Vohu Mana, Khshathra have all directed Zarathustra what to do, whatever is done by him has been paid attention to, have heard his requests and have been gracious to him. Now he beseeches them for the good of the world and he was sure that They will accede to his request.

- 2. Ali A. Jafarey, an Avestan scholar, has translated many Zoroastrian scriptures such as Gathas, YH, etc. He presents one verse of the 241 Gatha verses each day in a Zoroastrian Conference under the heading: "A thought a day, to practice, say and pray", with a summary substance and a pondering point. After 241 days, he covers other Avesta scriptures including YH in Supplements to complete a year of 365.
- You can find them at: http://www.zoroastrian.org/GathaSongs/aglance.htm
- 3. From the above reference, for the 85th day, he states in Summary Substance:

The Wise God, the most-powerful, awards wholeness and immortality through the Principles of Life – serenity, world-promoting righteousness, good mind and dominion. Still praying with poetical fervor, Zarathushtra addresses all and prays for grace and blessing.

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 Khordeh Avesta Baa</u>

<u>Maaeni</u> – Page 424, adapted Aafrinaamahi - we wish instead of Aafrinaami – I wish, in the original)

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli