Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 224 – We worship the Ameshaa Spentaas through the Prayer of Yasna Haptanghaaiti (YH) - Yasna 42, Moti (Large) Haptan Yasht Verses 1 – 3!

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Yozdaathregar Mobed Palanji Pirojshah Dastur's 84th Roj Birthday today!

Today, my only surviving brother, Yozdaathregar Mobed Palanji achieves a milestone of 84 years! Many of you Humdins know him as the Colaba JD Agiary Panthaki for 37 years! Now he lives in Udvada Gaam (village).

Palanji still performs our Dastur family Iranshah Boi ceremonies every 9 months during the four months assigned to our Dastur family. He has trained and initiated many of our Sajana Families Mobeds and helped them to learn and perform Iranshah Boi according to Udvada Sanjana families strict "tarikats" (rules).

My purpose to mention this here is to point out that very few Mobeds are available for performing Iranshah Boi like Palanji and we all Hafta Keshwar Zamin Humdins should give these Mobeds all the recognition and thank them whenever you have a chance to meet them. May Paak Iranshah shower all his blessings on them!

So, Jo Ann and I and all of you proclaim: Happy Birthday Mobed Saheb Palanji!

Happy Shehenshahi Farvardegaan!

On coming Monday, September 4th, 2017, we will celebrate Shehenshahi Farvardegaan!

The last of our Holy Days during the first month of Farvardin is the Farvardegaan on Farvardin Maah and Farvardin Roj (19th day). This is the day when most of the Parsis/Iranis go to the Doongerwaadi in Mumbai and Saghdi/Dokhmaa in other towns and villages where prayers are performed for the dear departed ones.

Farvardin word is derived from Fravashi and so on the Farvardin Mahino Parabh, Farvardin Roj and Farvardin Maah, it is the day to remember all the Fravashis of our departed ones. This Shehenshahi Parabh day falls on Monday September 4th, and many in our NA diaspora will have Jashans and prayers on this day. Let us on this day remember all our dear departed Fravashis!

The usual prayers performed on this day at Doongerwaadi and Saghdi/Dokhmaa are in Uziran Geh and the Mobeds perform the prayers of Farokhshi (Farvardin Yasht) and Satum No Kardo (prayer for the departed ones) there. Farvardin Yasht (Yasht 13) is the longest Yasht (157 verses) and is one of the prayers recited as Farokhshi by Mobeds, usually after performing Aafringaan for their Behdins for their departed ones.

Farvardin Yasht is completely dedicated in its first part to all the Fravashis in general and in its second part to the Fravashis of our Religious stalwarts of olden days in particular, remembered by taking their names.

So, Jo Ann and I and the whole Hafta Keshwar Zamin Humdins wish you all a Happy

Farvardegaan Day with prayers and memories of all our dear departed ones!

YH Supplement, Yasna 42:

Yasna Haptanghaaiti (YH) consists of the 7 Yasna Haas (chapters) Yasna 35 – 41 nestled between Ahunavaiti Gatha Yasna 28 – 34 and Ushtavaiti Gatha Yasna 43 – 46. The language of YH is the same as that of the Gathas, Gathic Avesta, and it is believed to be composed by the immediate disciples of Spitama Zarathushtra (some scholars even believe that YH is written by Zarathushtra himself). In spite of being written in Gathic Avesta, YH introduces Yenghe Haataam prayer, words like Yazamaide (we praise), etc. not found in the Gathas. Whereas Zarathushtra's Gathas are composed in poetry with strict meters, YH is composed in poetic prose. The seven Haas extols the praise of Ahura Mazda, his Ameshaa Spentaas, and his many creations like Aatash (fire), waters, vegetation, wind, light, etc..

Yasna 42 is a supplement to the YH and is written much later. It praises YH prayer and has some beautiful thoughts about the creation. Unfortunately, in many YH books, this supplement is not covered.

The whole YH, Yasna 35 – 42 is presented in our *Khordeh Avesta* as Moti Haptan Yasht, Yasht #2.

Today, we will present the first 3 verses of this Yasna 42 and the next week we will cover the rest of it, Verses 4 - 6.

So here are the first 3 verses of Yasna 42:

We worship the Ameshaa Spentaas through the Prayer of Yasna Haptanghaaiti (YH) - Yasna 42, Moti (Large) Haptan Yasht, Kardaa 8, Verses 1 – 3:

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

- (1) Yazamaideh veh Ameshaa Spentaa Yasnahe Haptanghaatoish handaata; Apaamchaa khaao yazamaideh; Apaamchaa peretush yazamaideh; Pathaamchaa vicharanaao yazamaideh; Pathaamchaa hanjamanaao yazamaideh;
- (2) Gairishchaa afshtachino yazamaideh; Vairishchaa avezdaanaaongho yazamaideh; Aspenaachaa yevino yazamaideh; Paayuchaa thworeshtaaraa yazamaideh; Mazdaamchaa Zarathushtremchaa yazamaideh;
- (3) Zaamchaa asmanemchaa yazamaideh; Vaatemchaa dareshim Mazdadhaatem yazamaideh; Taeremchaa Haraithyaao Berezo yazamaideh; Bumimchaa vispaachaa vohu yazamaideh;

We worship the Ameshaa Spentaas through the Prayer of Yasna Haptanghaaiti (YH) - Yasna 42, Moti (Large) Haptan Yasht, Kardaa 8, Verses 1 – 3 Translation:

(1) O Ameshaaspands! We worship you through the prayer of Yasna Haptanghaaiti.

We praise the springs of water;

We praise the bridges over the waters;

We praise the forkings of the highways;

We praise the meetings of the highways.

(2) We praise the mountains from which the waters flow;

We praise the lakes brimming with the waters;

We praise the heaps of corns;

We praise both the guardians and the artisans;

We praise the Creator Ahura Mazda and the Prophet Zarathushtra.

(3) We praise the earth and the sky;

We praise the stormy wind created by Ahura Mazda;

We praise the peak Taera of the Mount Albourz;

And we praise the earth and all the good things!

(From Ervad Kangaji Khordeh Avesta Baa Maaeni translated in English Pages 187 - 188)

SPD Comments

- 1. This short YH Supplement, Yasna 42, extols all the good creations of Ahura Mazda like waters, roads, lakes, mountain peaks, and the whole earth.
- 2. In some oblique ways, it reminds us of the horrific destruction left by Hurricane Harvey in Texas and other states.

And here, we the Hafta Keshwar Zamin Humdins join in together to wish all the best to all the people who has suffered so much by this Hurricane and hope that they all receive needed help to get back soon with their normal lives with the help of US, state, and local Governments!

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

Love and Tandoorasti. Soli