Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 244 – Kyaanian Glory – Zamyaad Yasht, Verses 31-34

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Nagpur Aaraamgaah and Agiyari

My sister Tehmi and her husband Fali and my cousin's son Aspi are all rested in Nagpur Parsi Aaraamgaah. We visited this place in Nagpur. We were very surprised to see so many families are represented in this Aaraamgaah. (some photos are attached). Nagpur had a number of Parsi families in the past. Now there are about 200 Parsis in Nagpur.

Nagpur also have a wonderful Agiyari built by Jamshedji N. Tata. (see the attached photo). Aspi and Mehru Bapuna and family are very well-known Parsi family in Nagpur and they have been instrumental in taking care of both the Agiyari and Aaraamgaah in Nagpur.

Kyaanian Glory - Zamyaad Yasht - Verses 31 - 34

"The extant Avesta literature is divisible into five groups, viz: - 1) The Yasna, 2) The Visparad, 3) The Vendidad, 4) The Yasht Literature and, 5) The Khordeh Avesta. The Yasht Literature is a compilation of a number of independent texts called Yashts. Each such Yasht is a prayer in the form of a hymn.

The Yashts are a treasure-trove of Iranian epic poetry and of the Mazdayasni Zoroastrian Iranian religious and moral literature. They contain valuable records of legends of Iran and of ancient mythology. Important historical materials of the kings and heroes of the Peshdaadian and Kyaanian times and epic narrations and historic descriptions of those times have been preserved in the Yashts. There is latent in the Yashts, an abundance of mythical lore, folk legend, and epic material in embryo which find full expression centuries later in the Shahnameh."

<u>(Preface to the First English Edition of Kangaji's Yasht - Ba – Maaeni by Ervad Dr.</u> <u>Rooyintan Peshotan Peer).</u>

Shahnaameh talks about the Glory (Khoreh/Khwaarneh) of Peshdaadian and Kyaanian Kings like Jamshid, Kaekhushroo, etc. It is believed that Firdausi knew about our religious scriptures like Yashts in which this Glory as well as some Iranian history are described in detail. One such Yasht is Zamyaad Yasht.

The Zamyaad Yasht starts with the names of many Iranian Mountains, most of them we do not know about. This is followed by a lengthy description of this Kyaanian Glory, created by Daadaar Ahura Mazda. It describes its characteristics, mentions the kings and warriors who obtained it, those who lost it and those who tried hard to get it but could not.

Last week, we presented the two Peshdaadian Kings – King Hoshang and King Tehmurasp – who acquired this Glory and used it to rule over the daevas and wicked persons.

Today, we will present the most famous Peshdaadian King – King Jamshed – who started Navroze; who was also instructed by Daadaar Ahura Mazda to build an enclosure to protect the people from a natural disaster; but who also met a very tragic end when he boasted to be the God! So, here are the Verses 31 - 34 of Zamyaad Yasht presenting the King Jamshed:

Kyaanian Glory – Zamyaad Yasht, Verses 31-34:

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

(31) Yat upanghachat yim Yimem Khshaetem hvaathwem, Dareghemchit aipi zravaanem,
Yat khshayata paiti bumim haptaithyaam,
Daevanaam mashyaanaamcha yaathwaam pairikanaamcha,
Saathraam kaoyaam karfnaamcha;

(32) Yo az-barat hacha daevaeibyo,
Uyeh ishtishcha saokacha, uyeh fshaonishcha vaathwaacha,
Uyeh thraafascha frasastishcha.
Yengheh khshathraadha khairyantu astu
Uyeh kharetheh ajyamneh amareshanta pasu vira,
Anghaoshemneh aapa urvaireh.

(33) Yengheh khshathraadha noit aotem aaongha,
Noit garemem, noit zaurva aaongha,
Noit merethyush, noit araskoh daevo-daato,
Para anaadrukhtoit, para ahmaat yat him aem draoghem
Vaachim anghaithim chinmaaneh paiti barat.

(34) Aa-at yat him aem draoghem vaachim
Anghaithim chinmaaneh paiti barata,
Vaenemnem ahmat hacha khareno,
Mereghaheh kehrpa frashusat.
Avaeno khareno fraeshto yo yimo khshaeto hvaathwo,
Braasat yimo ashaato deush-manahyaaicha
Yo stereto nidaarat upairi zaam.

Kyaanian Glory – Zamyaad Yasht – Verses 31 - 34 Translation:

(31) This Glory was associated with the King Jamshed, The good protector of the subject for a long time, and on account of the efficacy of this Glory he, in the Seven Regions of the Earth, ruled over the Daevas, wicked men, the sorcerers, witches, the tyrants, the Kiks, and the Karpans.

(32) The King Jamshed took away from the power of the daevas Both wealth and profit, both prosperity and increase of cattle, Both gratification of desires and glorification. During whose rule two types of food which men were partaking Were inexhaustible. Animals and men were immortal, waters and vegetation were ever fresh.

(33) In the times before he began to deceive owing to the love of pride And prior to the utterance of that word of falsehood and untruth, In his reign there was neither excessive cold nor there was excessive heat, neither was there old age nor was there death, nor was there envy created by the daevas.

(34) But when King Jamshed uttered the word of falsehood and untruth with pride, the Glory fled away visibly from him in the shape of a bird. When that King Jamshed of exalted status and the protector of the subjects saw the Divine Glory acquired by him disappearing, he being displeased began to tremble and being frightened by the presence of his antagonist Zohaak (who succeeded him on the throne), he fell down on the ground unconscious.

(Kangaji English Yasht Baa Maaeni – Pages 260 – 264)

SPD Explanation:

- 1. Many Peshdaadian and Kyaanian Kings obtained this Khoreh and with its help, they performed many good deeds for Iran.
- 2. King Jamshed, son of Vivanghaam, was the grandson of King Tehmuras.
- 3. Ahura Mazda instructed him to be nourisher, protector and supervisor of men and animals.
- 4. After conquering all Daevas, he celebrated the first day of the year as Navroze (Farvardin Maah, Hormazd Roj) which is still celebrated by millions of people and is still called Jamshedi Navroze by Parsis.
- 5. Ahura Mazda forewarned him of the impending danger of the devastating winter and divinely instructed him to build an enclosure which he did and is called "the Vara of Jamshed". He carried therein the best species of men, animals and vegetation.
- 6. According to legend, wine was discovered during his reign also.
- 7. Unfortunately, he became very proud of his accomplishments and boasted to be God himself and ordered his subjects to worship him as God.
- 8. This brought his downfall, his Glory left him, and he was killed by his brother Spityura (please see the attached files from Kangaji's Zamyaad Yasht Verse 46).
- 9. Even Zarathushtra mentions him in Ahunavaiti Gatha Yasna 32.8 as:
- 10. "Among the evil men, one was known as Jamshed the son of Vivanghan, who became proud and through the strength of his words hurt the feelings of our men. For such sinners, I agree with Your judgement, O Mazda." (Kaangaaji Gaathaa Baa Maaeni).

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











Agiari built by Jamshedji N. Tata

