Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 267: Yasna Haptanghaaiti - Moti Haptan Yasht - Yasna 37 Verses 4 - 6

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Last week, we covered Jamwaani Baaj and next two verses from Yasna Haptanghaaiti (YH) – Yasna 37. Today, we will cover the rest of Yasna 37.

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.

So here are the last three verses of YH, Yasna 37, Verses 4 - 6:

Yasna Haptanghaaiti - Moti Haptan Yasht - Yasna 37, Verses 4-6

(Please listen to the .mp3 file attached to this WZSE)

- (4) Ashem at vahishtem yazamaideh, Hyat sraeshtem, hyat spentem ameshem, Hyat raochonghvat, hyat vispaa vohu.
- (5) Vohuchaa mano yazamaideh; Vohuchaa khshathrem vanguheemchaa daenaam, Vanguheemchaa fseratum, vanguheemchaa aarmaitim.
- (6) Yengheh Haataam aa-at yesneh paiti vangho, Mazdaao Ahuro vaethaa ashaat hachaa, Yaaonghaamchaa taanschaa taaoschaa yazamaideh.

Yasna Haptanghaaiti - Moti Haptan Yasht - Yasna 37

Verses 4 – 6 Translation:

(4) We worship Ardibehesht who is the fairest and brilliant Ameshaa Spentaa and all good things of the Creator Ahura Mazda.

- (5) We praise good thought, good Sovereignty, good Religion, good Fseratu (control over the cattle) and good humility.
- (6) Among the living beings whoever is better in acts of worship, of which Ahura Mazda Himself is aware, on account of His Holiness, all such men and women we revere.

(Kangaji's English Khordeh Avesta - Haftan Yasht Large - Page 180)

SPD Explanation:

- **1.** Prof. Almut Hintze has written a detailed book *A Zoroastrian Liturgy The Worship in Seven Chapters Yasna 35 41* in which she gives word by word translations as well as some copious notes on Yasna Haptanghaaiti and I highly recommend it to all for further study.
- **2.** As mentioned above, YH introduces our <u>Yenghe Haataam</u> prayer, one of the three pillars of our religion together with Ashem and Yatha.
- **3.** We have mentioned in our previous WZSEs, that in his scholarly opus: The Divine Songs of Zarathushtra, Dr. Irach Taraporewala points out that Yenghe Haataam verse is a later version of the original Zarathushtra's Vohu Khshathra Gatha verse Yasna 51.22. Please see: http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse20.pdf
- 4. Dr. Irach Taraporewala writes: "This verse is the original of the Yenghe Haataam verse. The main difference between the two is that in the Gaathaa verse the holy men both past and present are spoken of, while in the later Yenghe Haataam verse the Righteous ones both men and women have been mentioned. The first half of the Gaathaa verse has been reproduced almost word for word, with only the later changes of grammar and spelling. The second half of the Yenghe Haataam is entirely different. The idea of bringing in both men and women is a decided improvement. On the other hand, the last two sentences have been practically omitted and so the later verse Yenghe Haataam has lost a great deal of the force and beauty of the original."
- **5.** Our famous Parsi singer, late Marazban Dara Mehta has created many beautiful Parsi songs. In one of his famous DVD Chhaiye Hame Zarthoshti he created a beautiful rendition of our three Pillars of our Religion Yatha, Ashem and Yehghe Haataam with music. I have attached a mp3 file of them to this WZSE for you to listen.
- **6.** I wish some of our young song writers and singers can compose some of

our prayers with music and publicize them.

May the flame of Paak Iranshah burn ever eternal in our hearts!

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!

In HIS Service 24/7!

Atha Jamyaat, Yatha Aafrinaamahi! (May it be so as we wish!)

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli