Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 268: Blessings to Wedding Couples in our Pazand Ashirwad - Verses 11 - 13

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Happy Canada Day to our Canadian friends!

On July 1st, our neighbor Canada celebrates their Independence Day as Canada Day on July 1st.

We want to wish all our Canadian friends belated Happy Canada Day. May our two countries live in peace and harmony as we have done for so many years!

Happy Fourth of July – 242nd USA Independence Day!

Our USA became an Independent Nation on Fourth of July 1776 – 242 years ago!

We all are very fortunate to live in this wonderful country and wish that it remains so in the future!

Jo Ann and I want to wish you all a belated very Happy and Safe Fourth of July!

Orlando World Famous Gahambar

Last Sunday, July 1st, 2018, we had another world famous Orlando Gahambar in Orlando.

Over 150 Humdins attended it from Orlando, Jacksonville, Melbourne, Tampa, and Miami/Ft. Lauderdale/Boca Raton. It started with a Satum Prayer, a silence in honor of late Ambassador Jamsheed Kekobad Marker, a Hum Bandagi, and a Tandoorasti by all to wish Happy Birthday to 20 year old twin brothers – Armaan and Zamaan Kassim! This was followed by Bingo Games, Auction, and finally the famous home cooked Parsi lunch on banana leaves. As always, there was a silent auction and the traditional Food Stall with home cooked delicacies like Bhakhras, Maawaa Cakes, Bataasaas, Masalas, etc. Our Food Stall was completely sold out! (please see the attached Photo Album in pdf format for the Gahambar photos)

As always, it was a wonderful community event with lots of people helping out cooking, hall arrangements, selling, serving food, and various other jobs. And what can we say about the able management of our own Dinyar Mehta! Thank you all for making this once again a wonderful Gahambar!

Blessings to Wedding Couples in our Pazand Ashirwad

Wedding Bells are ringing all over North America with the prayers, blessings, admonitions and advices by the performing priests in all religions. In our Zarathushtri scriptures, we have none other than our own Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan (Prophet of Prophets) Zarathustra Spitamaan addressing his daughter at her wedding and giving advice. We covered this in our previous WZSEs.

In our religion, we have our Pazand Ashirwad prayer for the wedding ceremony. Our Parsi/Irani Ashirwad prayer must have been composed during the reign of the last Sassanian Emperor Yazdegar Sheheriar since the year is mentioned in Yazd-e-Zardi (YZ), years after

the emperor's coronation.

It contains the Pazand Ashirwad, followed by Aafrin-e-Buzorgaan followed by Doaa Tandoorasti-e-Paymaan (Special Tandoorasti for the wedding).

To start with, the lead Mobed recites the first four verses asking questions to the Bride and Bridegroom's witnesses to make sure all the wedding requirements are agreed upon. Then he asks the wedding couple if they have agreed to get married on their own free will – the famous Parsi saying – "Pasandeh Kardam" (I agree).

These verses are repeated three times.

After that both Mobeds shower blessings, advices, Do's and Don'ts to them some of which we have covered in WZSEs #3 and #8 at:

http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse03.pdf

http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse08.pdf

Finally, the names of some of the religious stalwarts are remembered and the Mobeds wish that their virtues are acquired by the wedding couple.

This is followed by the blessings of the 30 Yazatas forming the 30 days of our religious calendar which is covered in our WZSEs #106 and #107 at:

http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse106.pdf

http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse107.pdf

Then the Aa-airyemaa Ishyo – the universal brotherhood prayer - is recited four times, finally ending the Ashirwad Prayer in famous Ahmaai Raeshcha prayer wishing the couple all the best in their lives for their physical and mental wellbeing.

This concludes the Ashirwad.

This is followed by Aafrin-e-Buzorgaan which gives the good virtues of many of our ancient religious stalwarts and wish that the wedding couple receive their blessings.

The last part of the Ashirwad is the Doaa Tandoorasti-e-Paymaan – a special Tandoorasti prayer for the wedding.

Today, we will cover 3 verses from this Pazand Ashirwad - Verses 11 - 13, advising the marrying couple for some Do's and Don'ts.

So, here we present Verses 11 – 13 of the Pazand Ashirwad:

Blessings to Wedding Couples in our Pazand Ashirwad – Verses 11 - 13

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

(11) Peesh-e anjaman pokhta goftaar baash! Peesh-e Paadshaahaan paemaan sakhun baash! Az pedar naam bordaar baash! Ba har aain maad ma-aazaar!

Kheeshtan pa-raastee bokhtaar daar!

(12) Chun Kaekhushroo ba-anoshah-tan bade!

Chun Kaaus aagaahmand bade!

Chun Khursheed rayomand bade!

Chun Maah bokhtar bade!

Chun Zaratosht naam-daar bade!

Chun Rustom zor-aavar bade!

Chun Spandaarmad-zameen bar-daaraan bade!

Chun tan o jaan, awaa dustaan, o beraadaraan,

O zan o farzandaan hu-dustaar bade!

(13) Hameesheh hudeen o hu-heem baash!

Ahuramazda khudaa shanaasaad!

Zartosht rad setaayaad!

Aharman deev avsaheenaad!

Blessings to Wedding Couples in our Pazand Ashirwad – Verses 11 – 13 Translation:

11. Be of full speech in presence of corporation!

Be word-keeper with regard to kings (leaders)!

Be more illustrious in name than your father!

Harass your mother in no way!

Be yourself free by means of Truthfulness!

12. Be of immortal body Like King Kae Khushroo!

Be prophecy-ful like King Kae Kaus!

Be full of light like Khurshed (The Sun)!

Be salver of the soul like the Moon!

Be illustrious like Zarthosht!

Be strong like Rustom!

Be fruitful like the mother-earth watched-over by Spendarmad Archangel!

Be in as good amity with friends, brothers, wife and children as the body with the soul.

13. Be always of good conscience and of good disposition!

Recognize Ahura Mazda as the Lord!

Appreciate Zarathushtra as the Religious Leader!

Destroy the Demon Evil-Spirit!

(The Pazand Prayer and its English Translation by Ervad Phiroze Shapurji Masani

from his book: Pazand Prayers Series No. 2: Pages 230 - 231, 2nd Edition, 1999)

SPD Explanation:

- 1. Our Pazand Ashirwad is a wonderful prayer for the wedding ceremony. It is full of advice, admonitions, and blessings.
- 2. Kin Kae Khushroo was the son of Siavukhsh, the son of King Kae Kaus. Siavokhsh was killed by the Turanian King Afrasiyaab. Kae Khushroo defeated Afrasiyaab and then appointed his cousin Kae Lohrasp as the King and disappear in the mountains. Hence, we still believe that he is alive and hence we take his name in Sanjana Tandoorasti.
- 3. We wish all brides and bridegrooms very happy and loving long married lives.

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!)

In HIS Service 24/7!

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli