

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 384: Commentary on Ahunavar – Yathaa Ahu Vairyo – Dialog Between Ahura Mazda and Zarathushtra – Yasna 19 – Verses 6 – 10

Hello all Tele Class friends:

In our last WZSE #383, we presented first five verses of the unique commentary on our Ahunavar – Yathaa Ahu Vairyo – Yasna 19. Today, we continue this commentary with its next five verses.

Let me repeat last weekly's introduction here.

Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitamaan, our prophet, composed his 5 Gathas in 17 Chapters, as songs.

In many of his songs, he has a dialog going between him and Dadar Ahura Mazda in form of Questions and Answers; however, Zarathushtra's questions in Gathas were never answered by Ahura Mazda; instead, Zarathushtra uses his Vohu Mana, good mind, and with the help of Asha – truth, righteousness, love, etc. – figures out his own answers. This is quite a unique dialog in that respect.

Later composers of our scriptures like Yasna, Yashts and Vendidad used the same form of dialog between Zarathushtra and Ahura Mazda to lend their compositions credibility.

However, in this case, all Zarathushtra's questions are answered by Ahura Mazda, a quite distinct difference from the Gathas.

One such dialog between Ahura Mazda and Zarathushtra is presented in Yasna 19.

Yasna 19 is also a unique commentary on Ahunavar – Yathaa Ahu Vairyo.

Kangaji in his English [*Khordeh Avesta*](#), Page 1 Footnote, writes:

“These two prayers Ashem Vohu and Yathaa Ahu Vairyo are pre-Zarathushtra in age and are the sacred verses of the Creator Hormazd Himself. (See Yasna Ha XIX, paras 1 – 4 and 14; Yasna Ha XX, 3). Yenghe Haataam is the sacred Verse of the Prophet Zarathushtra (See Yasna Haa XXI, Para 1). These three well-known prayers are adored with their specific names. Yasna Haa XIX is an Avestan Commentary on the Yathaa Ahu Vairyo; Yasna Haa XX gives the Commentary on Ashem Vohu and Yasna Haa XXI gives the Commentary on Yenghe Haataam. These three Haas-Chapters are known as Baghaan Yasht. These three prayers, specially “Yathaa” and “Ashem” are frequently recited in our holy Avestan Scriptures. Those Zoroastrians who do not know any other prayer are enjoined to recite “Yathaa” and “Ashem” with a view to gaining a share of meritorious deeds.”

Just as a side comment, our very good scholarly friend, Dina McIntyre, disagrees with the above and believes that both Yatha and Ashem were written by Zarathushtra.

We have presented a unique commentary on Ashem Vohu from Yasna Haa 20, popularly called Fraamraot No Haa - in our previous two WZSEs – WZSE #171 and WZSE #172 at:

<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse171.pdf>
<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse172.pdf>

Today, we will present Ahunavar (Yathaa Ahu Vairyo) Commentary – Yasna Haa 19.

In this Haa, Ahura Mazda replies to Zarathushtra the great efficacy of reciting Ahunavar. In last week's WZSE #383, in the first 5 verses of Yasna 19, Ahura Mazda proclaims the great benefits of chanting Ahunavar. In today's Verses 6 – 10, HE further proclaims that HE will help the soul of the person who chants and lives by Ahunavar across the Chinvat Bridge. He further proclaims that whoever learns it, teaches it and recites it is freed from death.

Since there are 21 verses of this Yasna 19 (that is quite interesting coincidence since Yathaa Ahu Vairyo also have 21 words!), we will present 5 verses a week for next 4 weeks starting from WZSE #383.

So, here are the next 5 verses of Yasna 19 – Commentary on Yathaa Ahu Vairyo.

Commentary on Ahunavar – Yathaa Ahu Vairyo – Dialog Between Ahura Mazda and Zarathushtra – Yasna 19 – Verses 6 – 10

[\(Please hear the attached .mp3 file for its recitation\)](#)

Prayer Text	Translation
<p>(6) Yascha méh aétahmi anghvo yat astvaiti Spitama Zarathushtra bagham ahunahéh vairyééh maraat fraa vaa maro drenjayaat fraa vaa drenjayo sraavayaat fraa vaa sraavayo yazaaitéh. Thrîshchit taro peretûmchit héh urvaanem vahisitem ahûm frapaarayéni azem yo Ahuro Mazdaao.</p> <p>Aa vahishtaata anghaot aa vahishtaata ashaata aa vahishtaéiby raochébyo.</p>	<p>(6) And if in this corporeal earth if any person, O Asho Zarathustra, remembers the parts of Ahunavaîryo or while remembering pronounces it and sings it in a loud voice or while singing invokes it, then I Ahura Mazda will take his soul three times in the heaven. Upto the heaven, upto total righteousness, upto best light I shall take the soul.</p>
<p>(7) Yascha mé aétahmi anghvo yat astvaiti Spitama Zarathushtra baghaam ahunahéh Vairyééh drenjayo aparaodhayéiti. Yat vaa naémem yat vaa thrishum yat va chathrushem yat vaa pangtanghem.</p> <p>Pairi dim tanava azem yo Ahuro Mazdao urvaanem hacha vahishtaata anghaot. Ava vaitya baazascha frathascha pairi-tanuya yatha îm zaao. Asticha îm zaao avaiti baazo</p>	<p>(7) But if a person in this corporeal world while singing the Ahunavaîrya removes half, third, fourth or fifth portion, then I, Ahura Mazda will remove his soul from heaven, I will drive him from the place which is as wide and long as the earth.</p>

yavaiti frathaschit.	
(8) Fracha aétat vacho vaochéh yat ahumat yat ratumat para avanghéh ashno daaonghoit. Para aapo para zemo para urvarayao para géush chathwareh-paitishtanayao daaonghoit para narsh ashaono bipaitishtaanahéh zaathaat. Para avanghéh hû thwarshto-kehrpaya apéh Ameshanaam Spentanaam daahîm.	(8) I had declared this prayer to you in which there is a mention of Ahu and Ratu, before the creation of the fire, before the creation of water, land and plants, before the creation of four legged animals, before the creation of the two legged men and before the creation of well-made bodies of the Ameshaaspsands.
(9) Fra méh Spanyol Manivaao vavacha. Vîspaam ashaono stîm haitîmcha bavaintîmcha bushyéintîmcha. Shyaothno-taaitya, shyaothnanaam anghéush mazdaai.	(9) Performing all the deeds in the world created by Mazda, in which all the holy products exist, which have been or will be, from the two Mainyus the more progressive one declared it to me.
(10) Aétatcha aéshaam ukhdhanaam ukhdhotemem yaaish yava fracha vaochéh fracha mruyéh fracha vakhshyéitéh. Asti zî ana avavat ukhdhata yatha yat dit vîspo anghush astvaao. Aasakhshat sashkaas dadaraano nî pairi irithyaastaatat haraitéh.	(10) In all the words that have been said, are said and will be said, this prayer is worth being said over and over. The value of saying this prayer is equal to that of the whole corporeal world. Whoever learns it, teaches it and recites it is freed from death.

(Prayer Text is from *Yajashne Baa Nirang* by Ervad Tehmuras D. Anklesaria in Avestan script, 1926 CE, transliterated by me. Translation is from Yasna and Vispered Translated into Gujarati by Ervad Kavasji Edalji Kangaji – Bombay 1886 – translated into English in his PhD Thesis by Dr. Purvez Kolsawalla)

SPD Explanation:

1. It is very interesting to have commentaries in Avesta Yasna for our three pillars of our Religion – Yathaa, Ashem and Yenghe Haataam.
2. According to the above Verse 6, it is very important to chant Ahunavar as well as to live by its message. So, in my regular quest for finding a tune for Yathaa Ahu Vairyo, I found the tune of a very old song from Hindi Film: “Zindagi Hai Pyaar se”. Some Parsis have used this tune to sing Parsi fun song: “Soonabai Laambaa” which is available at:

<https://zoroastrians.net/?s=parsi+songs&orderby=relevance&order=DESC>

I have attached my rendition of Yathaa Ahu Vairyo using this tune.

I have also found a tune for Ashem Vohu using a Monaajaat we learnt in our beloved Cama Institute: “Aavo Aavo Aatash ne nami Vadhaavo”. I have also attached this to this WZSE.

3. Please remember that I also have found the famous tune of Ode To Joy to sing Aa

airyemaa ishyo with the accompaniment of a clarinet by Dr. Daryush Mehta which is at:

<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse312.pdf>

4. In our previous two WZSEs, #134 and #135, we presented a commentary on our Ahmaai Raescha prayer from Aafrin-e-Rapithwan at:

<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse134.pdf>

<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse135.pdf>

but it is in Pazend language.

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