Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 94 – Zarathushtra's Benediction to King Vishtaaspa - Aafrin-e-Spitamaan Zarthosht - Part 2 of 2 - Verses 5-8

Hello all Tele Class friends:

This is Part 2 Verses 5-8 of the Aafrin Paegaambar Zartosht, continuing with the last weekly #93.

I am sending it today just 2 days after the last one to complete this Aafrin. That means that we have covered the weekly for the upcoming week of April 23rd. The next weekly #95 will be presented during the week of March 2nd.

I would like to repeat the beginning mentioned in the last weekly so you have a background of this Aafrin again. Please excuse the repetition.

At the very outset, let me apologize again for the length of this weekly. However, it is connected to verses of weekly #91 from Aafrin-e-Buzorgaan, and it is believed that these are the very words of Vakshur-e-Vakshuran Zarathushtra Spitamaan! Yes it is a hidden treasure by our prophet besides his ever fresh Gathas!

So today, we will present the last 4 of 8 verses of our Prophet's words from Aafrin Paegaambar Zartosht! (also contained in the first part of Vishtaaspa Yasht). However, I have attached the full recording of all 8 verses to this weekly also.

Our eminent scholar Kangaji translated word by word Yasna, Vendidad, Visperad, Yashts and Khordeh Avesta into Gujarati language around 1880, the most sought after Zoroastrian scriptures books. Parsi Punchayat Trustees saw a need to translate these books into English and entrusted this monumental task to another eminent scholar, Prof. Ervad Maneckji Kanga in 1980. He could translate Kangaji's Khordeh Avesta, Yashts and Gathas from his Gujarati work into English word by word before his death in 1888.

In Kangaji Gujarati <u>Khordeh Avesta</u>, he included all our Aafringaans and Aafrins. Unfortunately, Prof. Kanga did not translate them into his English translation. Hence, you have only Kangaji's Gujarati <u>Khordeh Avesta</u> to obtain this Aafrin. I knew about it being in this Khordeh Avesta but never really paid any attention to it. However I just stumble upon it and found what is presented today.

Here is what eminent scholar, Ervad J. J. Modi has to say about Aafrin Paegaambar Zartosht: "While all the Afrins above referred to are in the Pazand language, this is the only Afrin in the old Avesta language. Strictly speaking, it cannot be put into the class of Afrins, by which term is generally understood prayers recited after the Afrinagans as benedictions, because it is never recited during the Afrinagan ceremony. But in the strict and literal sense of the word Afrin, it is a real Afrin or a benediction. It is addressed in the second person. It is so called because it is said to have been composed by Zarthosht or Zoroaster and addressed to his royal patron king Gushtaspa. Such being the case, its phraseology is to a great extent adopted, even now, by the Dasturs and other priests when they present laudatory addresses to personages of the Royal family."

As presented in our #91 weekly, we stated that after all our Jashan Prayers, the Joti – the lead Mobed – usually recites the three Aafrins – Benediction Prayers - which are Aafrins of

Ardaafravash, Buzorgaan and Hafta Ameshaashpands. We presented some verses from Aafrin-e-Buzorgaan which were full of blessings.

Hence, today we will present to you the Part 2 of this Aafrin Paegaambar Zartosht Verses 5-8:

Zarathushtra's Benediction to King Vishtaaspa - Aafrin-e-Spitamaan Zarthosht – Part 2 - Verses 5-8

(Please hear the <u>attached .mp3 file</u> for its recitation)

- (5) Jayaaonteh hacha wo dasa puthra.
 Thraayo bawaahi yatha Athauruno,
 Thraayo bawaahi yatha Rathaeshtaarahe,
 Thraayo bawaahi yatha Vaastrayehe Fshyanto,
 Aewa bawaahi yatha Veeshtaaspaai.
- (6) Aurvat-aspem bawaahi yatha Hvareh; Raochinavantem bawaahi yatha Maaonghem; Saochinavantem bawaahi yatha Aatarem; Tizhinavantem bawaahi yatha Mithrem, Huraodhem verethraajanem bawaahi yatha Sraoshem Asheem.
- (7) Arsh-tkaeshem bawaahi yatha Rashnoosh; Dushmainyu-jayantem bawaahi yatha Verethragnem Ahuradhaatem, Pouroo-khaathrem bawaahi yatha Raamano Khaastrahe, Ayaskem amahrkem bawaahi yatha Kava Husrava'
- (8) Pascha aafreenem aipi-jasaiti Vahishtem ahum ashaonaanm Raochanghem veespo-khaathrem.

Atah jamyaat yatha aafreenaami.

Zarathushtra's Benediction to King Vishtaaspa - Aafrin-e-Spitamaan Zarthosht – Part 2 - Verses 5-8

(5) May you be the father of ten sons! May three of them become Aathravans, three of them Rathaeshtaars (warriors), three of them farmers, and one of the like you King Gushtaaspa!

- (6) May you be like Khorshed (sun) with energetic horses!May you be full of soothing light like the moon!May you be full of warmth like Aatash!May you be full of energy like Meher Yazad!May you be beautiful and victorious like righteous Sarosh Yazad!
- (7) May you be like Rashne Yazad as the one following the right path of the good religion! May you be like Ahura Mazda created Behram Yazad who is the conqueror of the enemies! May you be full of comfort and happiness like Righteous Ram Yazad! May you be like King Kae Khushroo without any sickness and disease!
- (8) After you receive all the blessings bestowed above by me upon you, may you achieve the resplendent and full of happiness heaven of righteous people!

May it be so as I wish!

(English Translation by me from Kangaji Gujarati *Khordeh Avesta* – Pages 420-425)

SPD Explanation:

- 1. Comparing the weekly #91 with this one, we see a very striking similarity in the basic thoughts of both the benedictions, one in Avesta of this Aafrin and one in Pazand of Aafrin-e-Buzorgaan. Many historical names are same like Jaamaaspa, Zarthosht, etc. but with their different qualities.
- 2. Please note that the Pazand words "Bade Chun" in Aafrin-e-Buzorgaan is the same as Avesta words "bawaahi yatha" in Zarthosht Aafrin, meaning: "May you be like".
- 3. Such translations of sentences are found in many of our Pazand prayers from their original Avesta prayers. For example, in Hoshbam, we pray: "Vaso khshathro khyaat ashava, avaso khshathro khyaat dravaao" meaning "May good people be the leaders; may evil people do not". The same words are translated in our Pazand Aafrin-e-Hafta Ameshaashpands, as "Daanaa Paadshaah baad! Duzh-daana apaadshaah baad."
- 4. As Dr, J. J. Modi says in the above mentioned quote that this Aafrin is not

used at all but some Dasturjis and Mobeds in his time were using it when they present laudatory addresses to personages of the Royal family.

This completes the hidden Aafrin Paegaambar Zartosht in old Avesta attributed to our own Prophet Zarathushtra.

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