

Wedding blessings

By Dr. Kersey H. Antia

TAN DAROSTI (traditional blessing)

Bba nãm i ýazad i baxshâyañdeh i baxshâyashgar i meherbãn. Yatha Ahu Vairyo (2).

Tan-darostî dêr-zîvashnî âwâyat hvareh hañgat ashahîdâr ýazdãn i mînôyãn ýazdãn i gethyãn haft amshâspañdãn myazd rôshan hamê bê-rasât. ìn dôâyãn båt, ìn hvahâyãn båt, hame añdar kasãn ra zartôshtî dîn shât båt, êdùn båt. ýâbârî hvadâ hvadâ-vañd i âlam râ hamâ hañjaman râ

(Behdin _____-ra, Behdin _____-ra)

bâ farzañdãn hazâr sâl dêr bê-dâr u shat bê-dâr u tan-darost bê-dâr u êdùn bê dâr bar sar i arzânyãn sâlîhâ i bîsyâr u karanhâ i bîshumâr bâkî u pâyañde dâr sat hazârãn hazâr âfrîn båt. sâl hvacasta båt. rôz farrohv båt mâh mubârak båt. cañdin sâl cañdin rôz cañdin mâh

bîsyâr sâl arzânîdâr ýazashne u nyâishne u râdî u zôr barashne ashahîdâr awarê hamâ kêr u kerfehâ tan-darostî båt nêkî båt hoob båt. êdùn båt.êdûn-tarac båt. Pa ýazdãn u ameshâspañdãn kâme båt.

Ashem vohu vahistem asti ushta asti, ushtsa ahmai, hyath ashai, vahishtai ashem.

ENGLISH BLESSING (for wedding)

In the name of the supreme being – Ahura Mazda our creator, and creator of all things everywhere in this world and the countless worlds beyond, we begin this happy ceremony today. We address ourselves to thee, to whom all worship is due. With outstretched arms, open minds and grateful hearts, we greet thee in spirit. Let thy light and love permeate all those who are assembled here today.

We are gathered here today to bring together these two young and kind people, _____ and _____, who have resolved to share their lives together from now onwards as husband and wife. They have come together of their own free will to share the joys of companionship, to be of mutual help to each other, to appreciate the happiness, and to bear the responsibilities of blessed parenthood.

These two are taking this momentous step today with the full knowledge of its implications and with willing acceptance of the duties and responsibilities

involved in being husband and wife.

They are entering into this holy union with the abiding faith that thou – Ahura Mazda, in thy eternal kindness and love, will look after them, guide them, help them and bless them in their great adventure.

In living together as husband and wife, you will find courage and comfort from each other. When you work in unison, you will become stronger and better able to go through rough times.

You will find safety to sail the sea of life in one and the same boat. Mutual love and common interest will bind you together. The bond between you will be close and inseparable. May you two face life with joint fervor and wisdom. May you bear each other joys and sorrows, and give help and receive help. May you trust and confide in each other, and open your minds and hearts to each other. May you always be everything to each other.

With close intimacy of friendship, let your two hearts grow into one. United in the bond of marriage may you act as one, and make each others interests and concerns your own. In prosperity or adversity, do not forsake each other.

And do not let your voices lose their tender tones of affection. Remember that happy is the family where an abundance of friendship is found.

Always remember that to be truthful to each other is the best way to live together. It will make you understand yourselves and each other better and bring its own reward of happiness.

Let the light of truth penetrate deep into your hearts. Remember that if you are true to each other, that if you speak kindly to each other and treat each other with respect, divine bliss will be yours and your children's.

The two have this day become one. Let them love each other faithfully, wholly and unceasingly. Let each to each dedicate one's dear self with the deepest love. Let them jointly share the ups and downs of life and with one mind seek their relief. Let each rely upon the other as upon one's self. Let each give his or her heart to gain the heart of the other. Let their hearts beat together as one. Let there be complete harmony between the souls.

Let their two harmonious souls melt into one. Let each seek each one's completion in each other. In life or death, let each one's place be by the side of the other.

Long may they live and after the longest of life allotted to human kind, may they both go hand in hand to the highest heaven.

Help these O Ahura Mazda, to make their married life one long beautiful symphony of kindness and love. Let them have contentment more than riches, refinement rather than fashion; worthiness more than wealth. Guide them to think clearly, to speak gently and with open hearts to act kindly.

May they be blessed with many, many, children possessed of good health and strength of body, mind and spirit. May they and their children lead true Zarthushtrian lives and make their home a heaven on earth.

Finally, we ask thee, O Ahura Mazda, to bless and sanctify the union of these two hearts.

Having confirmed that you _____ and _____ have chosen to share a joint life together, we hereby recognize you as husband and wife, and so do all those who have witnessed this uniting ceremony.

Please head to the lobby,

Introduction about the Zoroastrian Religion

(Cell phones off please.)

Zoroastrianism is the ancient religion of Persia. It was founded about 3500 years ago by the prophet Zarathushtra. Arising out of the polytheistic traditions of ancient India and Iran, he was one of the first monotheists in human history. Zarathushtra preached that there was one God, whom he called Ahura Mazda. Ahura means “Lord,” and Mazda means “Wise,” so Zoroastrians call God the “Wise Lord.”

The Zoroastrian Religion pictures humanity as the growing and evolving creation of a God that respects it, and wants it to collaborate in the task of preserving, nourishing, fostering and refreshing this Living World of ours. Zarathushtra was probably the first prophet who preached of equality not only of man, but equality of the sexes (Yasna 53.6).

A Zoroastrian is supposed to progress towards God (Ahura Mazda) by his own choices. Choosing to do good, and to avoid choosing to do wrong or evil. Zoroastrianism is thus the first truly ethical religion of mankind and teaches that mortals achieve their goal of god-likeness and spiritual completeness by fighting evil through good thoughts, words, and deeds.

The wedding ceremony traces its roots to the marriage of Zarathushtra’s daughter (Yasna 53) and is based on the concept of free will. With both the bride and the groom being asked if they of their own free will chose to be united into one harmonious life as husband and wife.

Indeed, at his daughter’s wedding, Zarathushtra’s main advice to the couple was to urge them to strive to exceed the other in the performance of righteousness through good thoughts, words, and deeds, the three major tenets of the Zoroastrian religion. If they followed that simple principle they would each achieve divine bliss.

The table is filled with objects that symbolize good luck and prosperity.

The final requirement of the Z ceremony *is you, the assembly*, the witnesses, indeed the religion teaches that a marriage cannot happen without witnesses and the witnesses are our indeed responsible for ensuring the longevity of the marriage.

Naan

Wash his/her hands and then pray:

Kern Na Mazda

Hormazda Khodae

Jasa Me Avanghahe Mazda

Then place white cloth over his/her hand and have him/her hold apple juice/pomegranate juice/leaves and together pray:

Ba Name Khuda, Ba Name Yazad, Bakshayande, Bakshayazdar, Meherban. Eetha Aat Yasamaede. Ahurem mazdam Ye Gamcha, Ashemcha dat Apascha dat Urvaraoscha, Vanghuhish Raochaoscha dat Boomimcha, Vispacha Vohu. Ashem Vohu (3)

If you have leaves from pomegranate tree, then he/she chews them and spits them out in a plate. If not, have he/she drink the juice each time you say the following:

In khoram, au Pakitan, Yazdasr e Rawan ra. (3x)

Ashem (4)

Yatha (2)

Ashem (1)

Ahmai Raeshcha, Hazanghrem, Jasa-me avanghahe, Kerfeh Mozd.