

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 132 – In Praise of Avan Ardvisur Baanu - Aavaan Nyaayesh - Verses 2 and ending

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Nazneen Khumbatta, a Children Religion Class Teacher in Houston, wrote:
“Just wondering if there is a short prayer or Nirang that can be prayed at the beach in honor of the waters etc”

So I thought it would be nice to create our weekly based on her request and so here is a short prayer in honor of waters.

Background

The female Aavaan Yazad, also known as Aavaan Ardvi Sura Baanu, presides over the waters and in her name we have the 5th Aavaan Yasht as well as Ardvi Sura Nyaayesh. The latter is composed mainly from Aavaan Yasht verses plus “Aa Haataamcha” prayer from Yasna 65 Verses 6 - 14.

Aavaan Yazad, together with Deen, Ashishvangh, and Maarespand Yazads, is a Humkaar (co-worker) of Asfandaard Amshaaspand who presides over our earth. According to Kangaji, Ardvi Sura Nyaayesh should be recited everyday if possible. Otherwise it is enjoined to be recited on the above 5 days. Usually, we pray this Nyaayesh facing water such as a well in an Agiary or a river or sea or lake outdoors.

A very familiar scene on the Mumbai Marine Drive and Chowpatty Beach on Aavaan Mahino and Aavaan Roj, “Aavaan Yazad Nu Parabh” (celebration of Aavaan Yazad) is of Parsis/Iranis Humdins praying at the beach. Eminent American essayist, Dale Carnegie, was in Mumbai on Aavaan Parabh and was astounded by all the Parsis praying on the beach and has written a very flattering account of our custom!

So, today we will present the Verses 2 and the ending verses of this beautiful prayer in praise of the Aavaan Ardvi Sur Baanu.

In Praise of Avan Ardvisur Baanu - Aavaan Nyaayesh - Verses 2 and ending

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

**(2) Mraot Ahuro Mazdaao Spitamaai Zarathushtraai,
yazaesha meh him Spitama Zarathushtra,
yaanm Arédvim Suraanm anaahitaanm
péréthru-frakaanm, baéshazayaanm,
vidhaévaanm, Ahuro-tkaéshaanm,**

yésnyaanm anghauhé astavaité
vahmyaanm anghauhé astavaité,
aadhu-fraadhanaam, ashaonim,
vaanthvo-fraadhanaam, ashaonim,
gaétho-fraadhanaam ashaonim,
shaéto-fraadhanaam ashaonim,
danghahu-fraadhanaam ashaonim.

Gorze khoréh awazaayaad.
Aavaan Ardvi Sur Baanu bérésaad,
amaavand pirozgar amaavandi pirozgari.
Daad din béh Maazdayasnaan
aagaahi ravaai goaa-frangaani baad,
haftéh kэшwar zamin;
aédun baad.
Man aano aavaayad shudan
Man aano aavaayad shudan
Man aano aavaayad shudan
Ashaoné Ashém Vohu (1)

(Recite facing south)

Daadaaré géhaan diné Maazdayasni
daadéh Zarthusti.
Némaséte ashaaum sévishté
Arédhvi Sura anaahité; Ashaoné.
Ashem Vohu (1)
Némo urvairéh vanghuhi Mazdadhaaté; Ashaoné
Ashem Vohu (1)
Arédhvim Suraam anaahitâm
ashaonim ashahé ratum yazamaidé.
Ashém Vohu (1)
Aavaan Ardvi Sur Baanu bérésaad.
Ashém Vohu (1)

**In Praise of Avan Ardvisur Baanu - Aavaan Nyaayesh -
Verses 2 and ending - Translation:**

**(2) Daadaar Hormazd told Spitmaan Zarthost that:
O Spitman Zarthost! My river named Ardvi Sur,**

which is pure, broad flowing, giving health, different from the Devas,
following the laws of Hormazd, worthy of being worshipped by corporeal people
of the world,
worthy of being invoked by the material people of the world,
increasing the life, increasing the holy group of people,
making the holy people prosperous, increasing the wealth,
making the holy land prosperous, you should praise.

May luster and glory of Aavaan Ardvi Sur Baanu increase!
May Aavaan Ardvi Sur Baanu come to my help for courage and victory!
May there be justice of the good Mazda-worshipping Religion, its knowledge,
promulgation and glory in the seven regions of the earth!
May it be so!
I ought to go there! I ought to go there! I ought to go there!
Ashem Vohu (1)

The Mazdayasnian Religion and the law proclaimed by the Prophet Zarathushtra
has been received from Ahura Mazda, the Creator of the world.

Homage be unto thee, O righteous most profitable and undefiled Aredvi Sura!
Ashem Vohu (1)

Homage be unto thee O good, righteous Tree created by the Creator Ahura
Mazda!
Ashem Vohu (1)

We praise the Aredvi Sura, undefiled, the holy Lady of righteousness.
Ashem Vohu (1)

May Aavaan Aredvi Sura Baanu come to my help.
Ashem Vohu (1)

(Translation from Kangaji English [Khordeh Avesta](#) – Pages 62 – 63 and 72)

SPD Comments

1. Kangaji in his English [Khordeh Avesta](#) (pages 63 – 64) in Ardvi Sura
Nyaayesh gives the following explanation for ancient River Ardvi Sura:

Explanation:- Ardvi Sura is the name of the river flowing from certain
quarters of the provinces of Ancient Iran.

This river was longer and broader than all other rivers known at that

period.

It is compared with the River Āmu or the Oxus.

The source of the present Oxus River is from the Pamir mountains.

The Mount Hukairya is known as the source of Ardvi Sura.

This river was not only praised in the whole of Iran from very ancient times,

but was well known in certain parts of Europe and many other places.

In later times it was recognized widely, and the angel Anaahitaa presided over it.

As mentioned in the Seventh Fragard of the Vendidad, its original name is 'Ardvi'.

The description of this river, as seen in the Pahlavi Books is derived from the Ardvi Sura (or Aavaan) Yasht.

According to the description in the Pahlavi Book called Dadistan i Denik,

this Ardvi Sura River, where the tree called, "Harvisp-Tokhmi" is situated,

and where all kinds of trees and various medicinal plants are found, mingled with the source of the trees mentioned above and, with the fallen branches etc.,

spreads her water to all other places.

On account of this, too, the water of this river is considered healthy and healing

and superior to all other waters".

At present our people generally regard the water of all rivers and seas as "Ardvi Sura" or, "Aavaan Ardvi Sura".

2. In Aavaan Yasht, there are accounts of ancient religious stalwarts praying to Aavaan Yazad asking for some boons. All good people were granted their wishes but not the bad ones like Zohaak!

3. In this respect, she is supposed to help a couple to beget a child and hence many couples pray this Yasht trying to conceive. Many orthodox Parsis pray this Aavaan Yasht every day of the Aavaan Mahino (month).

4. I have recorded the whole Aavaan Yasht and is available in 4 parts starting at:

http://www.avesta.org/mp3/110_Aavaan_Yasht_Part_1_of_4.mp3

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