

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 389: Let me scatter the dark clouds of gloom and radiate cheer - Dasturji Dhalla's Prayer for the day - Homage unto Ahura Mazda Part 2(a) Prayer #23

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Discrimination and Persecution of Iranian Zoroastrians

Discrimination and persecution of Iranian Zoroastrians and how Maneckji Limji Hattaria contributed to saving the community.

Presented by Dr. Mehborzin Soroushian and Viraf Soroushian, moderated by Tanya Joshi

This session talks about how when Maneckji Limji Hattaria arrived in Iran from India, the Zoroastrian community there was on the brink of extinction. What forms of persecution, discrimination, and extermination did this once dominant community undergo leading up to that point? How did Maneckji and the Parsi-funded Amelioration Society contribute to saving the Iranian Zoroastrian community? And what lessons can we extract for our present times?

This is a FEZANA sponsored discussion by our very good friend Dr. Mehborzin Soroushian and his son Viraf. It is a long discussion but quite worth listening to. Hope you all enjoy listening to it.

It is available at:

<https://youtu.be/mm9oKXZFn8>

Let me scatter the dark clouds of gloom and radiate cheer

In these unprecedented times of anxiety, worries, sickness and deaths all over the world due to the dreadful COVID-19 virus, people's outlook on life is darkened. During these times, people have turned to their God for help which is a very good sign.

So, during these times of COVID-19 pandemic, we searched for a prayer that can lighten our burden during these extra-ordinary times and we were able to find a very nice prayer written by none other than Dasturji Maneckji Dhalla in his wonderful daily English prayer book: Homage Unto Ahura Mazda – Part 2(a), Prayer #23. So today, we present this prayer: “***Let me scatter the dark clouds of gloom and radiate cheer***”, available at:

<http://www.zarathushtra.com/z/article/dhalla/ch2/ii23.htm>

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

***Let me scatter the dark clouds of gloom
and radiate cheer***

Stress of hard circumstances and sad experiences and sorrows and sufferings breeds gloom in man and breaks his nerves. He quails under misfortune and sinks into despondency. Despondency paralyses his will, eats his heart, and poisons his life. Brooding over his sufferings increases his torment.

When depression steals over my spirits and disappointment sours me and embitters me, prevent me then, thou great Comforter, from seeking morbid peace by brooding discontentedly upon my melancholy. Let me not be moody and morose in spirit. Let me not be subject to periodic elation and depression. Let not morbid gloom overpower me. When gloom hangs over my heart and dark despair tortures me and spreads her wings around me, let me not be abandoned to despair, but strengthen me to fight it and shake it off from me. Spare me always from the strain of pessimism, my God.

Let me not brood over my worries. Let me not tremble at them. Let me forget them and bury them in my work. When I feel weary of life, cheer me and enthuse me and hearten me. Help me to be excellent in spirit. Refresh and revive my drooping spirit. Let me smile and let me laugh that I can keep up my spirit.

Let the warm sunshine of joy melt the snow of sorrow that chills my heart. Cheer is fragrant, cheer is blossom, cheer is enlivening, cheer is sunshine for the weary. Let cheerfulness be my constant companion in my daily industry and work. Bless me with the exuberance of vitality that makes life cheerful.

The grass and the trees and the wind and the waves and the birds, all sing and smile and laugh. Let me join in the chorus and do what the whole nature does. Let my heart be filled with the rapturous joys of life and sing with gaiety. Let my soul be aflame with unbounded joy. Let tumultuous joy thrill my heart.

Let me always be jovial and pleasant. Give me physical, mental, and spiritual overflowing of enthusiasm that makes life's cup brimful of joy and cheer.

Laugh is stimulant. Laugh is tonic. Cheer and joy and laughter conduce to health and vigor and happiness. Let me then laugh and let me laugh lustily. Let me laugh until my chest shakes with hilarity.

Let me spread cheer all around that gloom and sorrow may wither and perish. Let me smile that others may smile. Let me laugh that others may laugh. Help me to attain to thy divine joy, that I may communicate my joy to others and brighten and sweeten their lives, Ahura Mazda.

SPD Comments

1. What a beautiful prayer Dasturji Dhalla wrote in his book which fits perfectly into our existence during these extraordinary hard times!
2. The key point in this prayer is that during such calamities we all are compelled to seek comfort in Daadaar Ahura Mazda through our wonderful

prayers.

3. Such difficult times make us realize how wonderful our prayers are as we seek solace in reciting/hearing these prayers.
4. We want to thank all the Drs., Nurses, and all other service people who at the risk of their own lives are helping the sick!

Jo Ann and I wish all our Humdins and the whole humanity all over Hafta Keshwar Zamin good health and happiness during these very difficult times.

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 Jamyat, Yatha Aafrinaamahi! (May it be so as we wish!)

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli

Dasturji Dhalla.JPG

