

WZSE – Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 72.

Hello all Tele Class friends:

On the very auspicious day, Shehenshahi Ardibehesht Maah, Kadmi Khordaad Mah and Fasli Meher Maah, and Sheherevar Roj, Saturday, September 20th 2014, what a wonderful gathering it was of our humdins in Zoroastrian Association of Metropolitan Washington DC Inc. (ZAMWI) and guests to witness the glorious inauguration of their brand new Kamran Dar-e-Meher (KDM)! It is a gift to ZAMWI by the philanthropic Iranian Zarathushtri, Late Ravanshad Behdin Khodamorad Kamran, who built the KDM on his own and gifted it to the ZAMWI Humdins. (See the attached photo album)

It started with the inauguration Jashan led by our own Mobed Saheb Brigadier General Ervad Behram M. Panthaki together with Ervads Noshir Karanjia, Adi Unwala and myself and Mobedyar Zen Pandey. It was my distinct pleasure to participate in this auspicious opening of the KDM and the Jashan! The grandeur of this opening ceremony is presented in the attached photos!

We wish the Humdins of ZAMWI a wonderful future with their new KDM to bring our two communities of Iranis and Parsis together in a harmonious working partnership for the betterment of their Humdins and the whole Zarathushtri community!

Last week we presented the three verses from Atash Nyayesh describing what Atash Padshah is wishing from a devotee and if gifted, what it blesses the devotee.

Today, we will present one of the 8 Gatha Verses which refer to Ahura's Fire Athra (Atash)! It is from Ahunavaiti Gatha Yasna 34 Verse 4 (also the end of Atash Nyayesh). It refers to the power of Atash of Ahura and its help to the faithful and its punishment to the unfaithful.

So, here is this Gatha verse:

Thy Atash Oh Ahura! Helps the faithful and punishes the unfaithful - Yasna 34 Verse 4:

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

(4) At toi aatarem Ahuraa
Aojonghvantem ashaa usemahi,
Asisitem emavantem
Stoi rapentem chithraa avanghem,
At Mazdaa daibishyante
Zastaa ishtaish dereshtaa aenanghem.

Thy Atash Oh Ahura! Helps the faithful and punishes the unfaithful - Yasna 34 Verse 4: English Translation:

**(4) And for Thy Fire, O Ahura,
mighty through Asha,
do we yearn earnestly to be desired, possessing power,
giving clear help to the Faithful constantly;
but, O Mazda, as regards the Unfaithful
He sees through the evil at the merest glance.**

(The Divine Songs of Zarathushtra – Dr. Irach J. S. Taraporewala - Page 362)

SPD Explanation:

1. According to Dr. Taraporewala, the Fire mentioned here is the Inner Fire of Ahura Mazda found in the heart of all human beings.

2. According to Rustomjee the complete understanding of the Divine Law was realized by Zarathustra through the Divine Glow of Ahura Mazda's Fire in its fully effulgent state and is discoverable in all His Creations. This Glow fortifies man at all times and gives him the guidance required for all his deeds. This Glow helps overcome the violence prompted by the evil bent of their intelligence, through the purity and vitality of its inherent force and energy.

3. Dr. Lovji Cama, with whom I came on the same boat to USA as a J. N. Tata Scholar in 1960, states in:

<http://www.zarathushtra.com/z/article/dgm/vol7.htm#volume7>

“Here we learn quite quickly about the power and ability of *Athra* (Atash) as conceived by Zarathushtra. Clearly the might of *Athra* is derived from *Asha*. *Athra* constantly helps the Faithful. Notice the words "clear help". The kind of help *Athra* gives, is clear, i.e. free from impediment, restriction or hindrance; easily perceived by the eye, ear, or mind; free from confusion or doubt. Thus the Divine Fire clears the path of the Faithful from impediments placed there by the Unfaithful and lights the way of the Faithful on the Right Path.”

4. Dr. Purviz Kolsawalla, in his thesis states: “This verse which appears at the end of Aatash Niyaaesh indicates that the Holy Fire is an independent conscious entity which enables it to constantly give help to the faithful and expose the evil intentions of the untruthful at a glance. This wonderful power according to Pithavala makes it the Dispenser of Justice. It is also important to realize that the ancient Iranians as well as the Vedic Rishis understood this great function, for to this day the Zarathushtis and the Hindus call

Fire as the sole witness to judge the validity of the marriage sacrament.”

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