

WZSE – Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract. # 90 – O Ahura Mazda! May Thou rulest over Thine-own creations - Hoshbaam Prayer Verses - Yasna 52.1-6

Hello all Tele Class friends:

As mentioned before in these weeklies, many of our daily Farajiaat Prayers in *Khordeh Avesta* are attributed to Dasturan Dastur Adarbad Mahrespand, the Chief Dastur in the reign of Emperor Shapur II (309 – 379 AD). In these daily prayers, verses from Zarathushtra's Gathas, Yasna, Visperad, and Vendidad are sprinkled all over.

Today, we will present one of such very popular prayers of many of us which is almost entirely from Yasna and it is called Hoshbaam. This prayer is supposed to be prayed at "Baamdaad" – at day break or dawn, usually after your Ushahin Geh prayers!

This is a very beautiful prayer with lots of good thoughts. The most important Stanza covered in previous weekly is by Zarathushtra who will guide all his people in conformity with Ahura Mazda's and Zarathushtra's religion, seeking consensus among all!

I personally love to pray this beautiful Hoshbaam prayer in the quiet of the "Baamdaad" – at day break or dawn, out in the open in the nature. One of my favorite places to recite this prayer is in the main hall of Iranshah Atash Behram during the Ushahin Geh Boi ceremony among the myriads of Deivas and no electric lights! What an uplifting experience that is always!

However, one another time I still remember reciting this prayer was during our pilgrimage of Maadar-e-Vatan Iran with Siloo Mehta in 2006. We spent a night in one of the 5 holiest Zoroastrian Places in Iran, Pir-e-Harisht, out in open in a beautiful surrounding. I woke up at "Baamdaad" and felt like going out to see the stars, a hobby of mine! And was so struck with the beauty of the outdoors with stars jumping at you, that I felt like doing a small prayer. After Kushti and Ushahin Geh and Atash Nyaayesh and Doe Naam Setaayashne, I remember Hoshbaam prayer and it was a magical moment to recite it in the middle of no where sitting on a tree trunk! Hoshbaam prayer has such magical attraction when you pray in such surroundings!

May be you all ought to try this sometime!

Hence, today we will present to you some of the Hoshbaam verses, the first 6 verses from Yasna 52:

Beautiful Hoshbaam Prayer Verses - Yasna 52.1-6
(Please hear the attached .mp3 file for its recitation)

**(1) Vanghucha vanghuyaaocha aafrînaami
Vîspayaaao ashaono stoish
Haithyaaicha bavaanithyaaicha bûshyaanithyaaicha
Ashîm raasentîm daregho-vaarethmanem,
Mishaachim hvo aiwishaachim mishaachim aafrasaaonghaitîm.**

(2) Barentîm vîspao baéshazaao
Apaanmcha gavaanmcha urvaranaanmcha.
Taurvayéintîm vîspao tbaéshaao,
Daévanaanm mashyaanaanmcha.
Areshyantaanm ahmaaicha nmaanaai
Ahmaaicha nmaanahé nmaano-patéye.

(3) Vanghuîshcha adhaao vanghuhîshcha ashayo
Hupaurvaao vhéhîsh, aparaao raasentîsh,
Daregho varethmano,
Yatha-no mazishtaaoscha vahishtaaoscha sraéshtaaoscha
Ashayo erenavantéh.

(4) Ameshanaanm Spentanaanm
Yasnaaicha vahmaaicha khshnaothraaicha frasastayaécha.
Fradathaai ahé nmaanahé, fradathaai vîspayaaao ashaono stoish,
Hamistéh vîspayaaao dravato stoish.
Stavas ashaa yéh hudaao yoi hentî.

(5) Vasascha tû Ahura Mazda ushtaacha,
Khshaésha havanaanm daamanaanm.
Vaso aapo, vaso urvaraao, vaso vîspa vohu asha-chithra;
Khshayammem ashavanem daayata.
Akhshayammem dravantem

(6) Vasokhshathro khyaat ashava;
Avaso-khshathro khyaat dravaao gato hamisto,
Nizhbereto hacha spentahéh manyéush daamabyo
Varato avaso-khshathro.

Beautiful Hoshbaam Prayer Verses - Yasna 52.1-6

(1) I praise good men and women who are, who were and who will be, of the entire creation of Hormazzd.

I praise Yazata Ashivanguhi who come for help and is the protector for a long time, the friend of good men and women and herself the willing follower well-instructing companion,

(2) and keeper of all healing virtues, for waters, cattle and plants and the destroyer of all evils of the daevas, wicked men who are tormentors of this house and of the lord of this house.

(3) I praise good charitable works, and righteous deeds which are of a very exalted dignity and superior and which subsequently attaining to our help and affording shelter for a long time, so that the greatest, best and excellent righteousness may reach us,

(4) for the worship of the Ameshaashpands and for their adoration, for their propitiation and for their glorification, and prosperity of this house, for the prosperity of the entire creation of righteous Hormazd, and for the entire antagonism of the entire creation of the wicked.

On account of truthfulness I sing the glory of Him who Himself is of good wisdom and of those who are His Ameshaashpands – Holy Immortals.

(5) At Thy will and happiness, Thou, O Ahura Mazda! rulest over Thine-own creations; Thou rulest at Thy will over water, over trees, over all good things, the seeds of righteousness. Thou appoint the holy man a ruler but not the sinful man.

(6) May the righteous man be ruling-at-will but may the sinful man fallen into calamity, cast out of the creations of the Holy Spirit, having failed in his schemes be not-ruling-at-will.

(English Translation from Kanga *Khordeh Avesta*, Pages 22-24)

SPD Explanation:

1. Verses 5 and 6 above are recite multiple times in Yasna ceremony. They are also recited when a Mobed takes a Bareshnum.
2. In the initial verses of Yasna 27, Joti takes out lala (pestle) from the water receptacle in Yasna Ceremony and strikes the four directions praying "Snathaai" to ward off all evil.
3. The words: "**Stavas ashaa yéh hudaao yoi hentî.**" - the last sentence in verse 4 above is from Ushtavaiti Gatha, Yasna 45.6.
4. The sentence in Avesta: "**Vasokhshathro khyaat ashava; Avaso-khshathro khyaat dravaao**" is also found in Pazand Aafrin-e-Hafta

Ameshaashpands as: “**Daanaa Paadshah Baad, Duzdaanaa apaadshah baad**”.

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