

WZSE – Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 16.

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitaman, our prophet, composed his 5 Gathas in 17 Chapters, as songs.

In many of his songs, he has a dialog going between him and Dadar Ahura Mazda in form of Questions and Answers; however, Zarathushtra's questions in Gathas were never answered by Ahura Mazda; instead, Zarathushtra uses his Vohu Mana, good mind, and with the help of Asha – truth, righteousness, love, etc. – figures out his own answers. This is quite a unique dialog in that respect.

Later composers of our scriptures like Yasna, Yashts and Vendidad used the same form of dialog between Zarathushtra and Ahura Mazda to lend their compositions credibility. However, in this case, all Zarathushtra's questions are answered by Ahura Mazda, a quite distinct difference from the Gathas.

In this quote and many others to follow, we will use some of these questions and answers between Zarathushtra and Ahura Mazda from later scriptures.

Today, we go to Hormuzd Yasht for such a dialog, in its Paras 5 – 8.

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

(5) Aa-at aokhta Zarathushtro:

Froit me tat naama framruidhi,

Ashaaum Ahura Mazda!

Yat te asti mazishtemcha, vahishtemcha, sraeshtemcha,

Yaaskerestememcha, vaarethraghnyotememcha,

Baeshazyotememcha, tbaesho-taurvyaanstmemcha

Daevanaam mashyaanaamcha.

(5) Zarathushtra then said: O Holy Ahura Mazda!

Tell me indeed that name of thine

Which is the greatest, the best, excellent,

Most efficacious, fiend-smiting, the most healing

And destroying the malice of the daevas and men positively;

(6) Yatha azem taurvayeni, vispe daeva mashyaanscha,

Yatha azem taurvayeni, vispé yaatavo pairikaaoscha,

Yat maam nae chish taurvayaat,

Noit daevo, naedha mashyo, noit yaatavo naedha pairikaa.

**(6) so that with the help of that name,
I may overcome all the daevas and wicked men:
So that I may overcome all wizards and witches :
That no one, neither the daevas nor men,
Neither the wizards nor the witches,
May afflict me!**

(From Ervad Kangaji [Khordesh Avesta Baa Maaeni](#) translated in English)

SPD Explanation:

This is the first part of the dialog between Zarathushtra and Ahura Mazda.

In answer to this Zarathushtra's question, Ahura Mazda gives his 20 names which we will present in the next week's quotation!

Ahura Mazda instructs Zarathushtra to take these 20 names to ward off all evils!!

Hope you tune in next week for Ahura Mazda's answer!

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli