

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 345: We worship Sarosh Yazata for protecting us from all evils - 3 of 3 - Sarosh Yasht Haadokht - Karda 1, Verses 7-9

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Happy Belated Yelda!

Last Saturday, 12/21/2019, we had the longest night, Winter Solstice, and then the days are getting longer. Irani Zoroastrians have been celebrating this night, called **Yelda**, which now being celebrated in many countries. (Please see the attached photos from Wikipedia)

“The longest and darkest night of the year is a time when friends and family gather together to eat, drink and read poetry (especially [Hafez](#)) until well after midnight. Fruits and nuts are eaten and pomegranates and watermelons are particularly significant. The red color in these fruits symbolizes the crimson hues of dawn and glow of life. The poems of Divan-e Hafez, which can be found in the bookcases of most Iranian families, are read or recited on various occasions such as this festival and [Nowruz](#). Shab-e Yalda was officially added to Iran's List of National Treasures in a special ceremony in 2008.” (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yald%C4%81_Night)

Jo Ann and I wish you a Happy belated Yelda! Just remember, Nowruz is only 53 days away from today!!

Sarosh (Sraosha) Yasht Haadokht and Sarosh Yasht Vadi

In our last two weeklies WZSE #343 and #344, we presented the first six verses of Karda 1 of Sarosh Yasht Haadokht. Today, we will present the last three verses of the same Karda.

Sarosh Yazata is a very important Zarathushtri Angel associated with mankind and is usually referred to as his/her conscience. He safeguards him/her against demons especially during nights. He accompanies the soul of a person after death for three days and nights and accompany it on the fourth dawn to Chinvat Bridge for his/her judgement together with Mithra and Rashne Yazatas.

Sarosh Yazata has two Yashts (Yasht 11 and 11a and Yasna 57) dedicated to him – Sarosh Yasht Haadokht and Sarosh Yasht Vadi (longer). Sarosh Yasht Haadokht can be recited anytime but not in Rapithwan Geh; whereas, Sarosh Yasht Vadi is recited in Aiwisruthrem Geh.

Zarathushtra mentions Sarosh in his Gathas many times together with Ameshaa Spentaas.

“In the Gathas, Sraosha's primary function is to propagate conscience and the beauty of life, secondly the religion of Ahura Mazda to humanity, as Sraosha himself learned it from Ahura Mazda. Directly evident in the Gathas is the description as the strongest, the sturdiest, the most active, the swiftest, and the most awe-inspiring of youths and as the figure that the poor look to for support.” (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sraosha>)

Yasht Baa Maaeni Preface about Yashts – Dr. Ervad Rooyintan Peshotan Peer

Our own celebrated, much revered Avesta/Pahlavi Scholar, Ervad Kavasji Edulji Kanga (fondly referred to as Kangaji) translated word-by-word the whole extant Avesta literature in Gujarati, a monumental work to date.

Since the younger generation does not know Gujarati, the Bombay Parsi Panchayat Trustees entrusted the work of translating these Kangaji's Gujarati work into English to another world-renowned Scholar, Ervad Maneck Furdoonji Kanga. He completed three of Kangaji's works, viz. [Khordeh Avesta-Baa-Maayeni](#), [Gatha-Baa-Maayeni](#) and [Yasht-Baa-Maayeni](#) before his sad demise in 1988.

In the preface of the Kangaji's third book translated in English and published in 2001 – *Yasht-Baa-Maayeni* (Yasht with translation), Ervad Rooyintan Peer has given a wonderful account of our extant Avesta and Yasht Literature. ([I have attached this whole preface to this WZSE.](#))

I have taken liberty to include certain portions of this scholarly preface in this WZSE.

Ervad Peer writes:

“At the outset, a Yasht is generally composed in a ballad form of poetry, in which that particular ‘Yazata’ is personified, and is a sort of a hero in the central character, and his characteristics and functions are brought out in a majestic heroic language.”

“The epic character and the poetic form are the distinguishing features of the Yashts. Other than the Gathas (which are absolute metrical compositions), the poetic pieces in the Avesta are noticeable particularly in the Yasht literature. Although there is no uniform meter running through them, different types of rhythmic metrical compositions are to be found in the Ardivisur Yasht, Tir Yasht, Meher Yasht, Hom Yasht and so on. A favorite form in the glorification of various Yazatas is the piling up of qualitative epithets for some lines together. Such strings of adjectives may produce a striking literary effect. There is latent in the Yashts, an abundance of mythical lore, folk legend, and epic material in embryo which find full expression centuries later in the Shah Nameh.”

So today, we present the last three verses of Sarosh Yasht Haadokht first Karda (Chapter):

We worship Sarosh Yazata for protecting us from all evils - 3 of 3 – Sarosh Yasht Haadokht – Karda 1 – Verses 7 - 9

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

**(7) Yathacha pasush-haurvaaongho,
Aetat sraoshem ashim pairi-baraamaideh,
Yim ashavanem verethraajanem,
Aetat sraoshem ashim fraayazaamaideh,
Yim ashavanem verethraajanem,**

Humataaishcha hukhtaaishcha hvarshtaaishcha.

(8) ahe raya kharenanghacha, angheh ama verethragnacha,
Aheh yasna yazatanaam, tem yazaai surunvata yasna
Sraoshem ashim zaothraabyo, ashimcha vanguhim berezaitim,
Nairimcha sanghem huraodhem.
Aacha no jamyat avangheh, verethrajaao Sraosho ashyo.

(9) Sraoshem ashim yazamaideh;
Ratum berezantem yazamaideh,
Yim Ahurem Mazdaam, yo ashaheh apanotemo,
Yo ashaheh jaghmushtemo.
Vispa sravaao Zarathushtri yazamaideh.
Viapacha hvarshta shyaothna yazamaideh,
Varshtacha vareshyamnacha.

Yengheh haataam aa-at yesneh paiti vangho,
Mazdaao Ahuro vaethaa ashaat hachaa,
Yaaonghaamchaa taanschaa taaoschaa yazamaideh.

***We worship Sarosh Yazata for protecting us from all evils - 3 of 3
– Sarosh Yasht Haadokht – Karda 1 – Verses 7 - 9***

**(7) Just as we keep around the Pashush-harun (i.e. the dogs that protect
cattle),**

**The same way we praise Sarosh Yazata the holy who is righteous
And victorious, with good thoughts, good words and good deeds.**

**(8) On account of Sarosh's splendor and glory,
On account of his courage and victory,
On account of his fame I worship him
With the famous Yasna amongst Yazatas.
We worship Sarosh Yazata the holy,**

And the exalted Ashi-Vanguhi

And the beautiful messenger called Neryosangha with libations.

May the victorious Sarosh Yazata the Holy come unto us for help.

(9) We worship the exalted Lord who is Ahura Mazda,

Who is the highest in holiness and who is most helpful in holiness.

We praise all the sacred verses of the Prophet Zarathushtra.

We praise all well-performed deeds which have been formed

And which shall be performed hereafter.

Among the living beings whoever is better

In acts of worship, of which Ahura Mazda Himself is aware,

On account of His Holiness,

All such men and women we revere.

(Translation from Ervad Kangaji's Gujarati Khordeh Avesta Translated Into English, Pages 269-271.)

SPD Comments

1. In the above verses, Sarosh Yazata is depicted as the protector of all good people from all evil and wicked people.
2. Just as watch dogs were used to protect cattle, Sarosh Yazata protects all of us if we are good people following the good Zarathushtri religion.
3. In our Daily Farajiaat prayers, Sarosh Yasht Haadokht is one of the prayers many of us pray after Kusti Prayers, Sarosh Baaj and appropriate Geh.
4. During the afternoon and Ushahin Geh Uthamnaas, Sarosh Yasht Haadokht is always prayed by all Mobeds in the ceremonies.
5. Sarosh Yasht Haadokht is from the Haadokht Nask.

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

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli

Yalda - Reading of Hafez Poems



Iranian lady recites [Hafez](#) poems in 
Yalda Night

Shab-e Yalda (Persian: شب یلدا)
Shab-e Chelleh (Persian: شب چله)



Observed by Iran

Azerbaijan

Afghanistan

Iraqi Kurdistan

Tajikistan

Turkey (by Kurds and Azeris)

Significance Longest night of the year^[rs 1]