Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 202 -

Hello all Tele Class friends:

A Brave Sanjana Mobed Rushad Bharda!

http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/canadian-soldier-single-handedly-saves-tractor-trailer-frombeing-struck-by-train-1.4004012

Ervad Rushad Bharda, a Sanjana Iranshah Mobed, and a Canadian Soldier, from Toronto, has been all over Internet for his daring rescue of a big truck that was entangled at a railroad crossing in Toronto.

"A soldier with the Canadian Forces is being hailed as a hero after he helped free a tractor trailer that was stuck at a railway crossing, saving it from being struck by an oncoming GO train, but Rushad Bharda thinks he was "just being a good person."

Bharda, 21, was on his way to visit his girlfriend in Oakville when the incident happened Tuesday afternoon.

Bharda is from Mississauga and is a member of the Governor General's Horse Guards, a reserve regiment based in Toronto. He was approaching the railway crossing on Kerr Street just north of Speers Road in Oakville when he noticed an 18-wheel tractor trailer up ahead.

Bharda saw the truck slowly beginning to cross the tracks when the barrier came down and got stuck right between the tractor trailer's cab and exhaust pipe.

"Immediately, I noticed something was wrong," Bharda told CBC Toronto.

"I pulled over, got out of my car and started sprinting towards this guy."

The cab of the truck was so high that Bharda thinks the driver didn't realize the barrier was stuck. The driver began repeatedly moving forward and then reversing in an attempt to free the tractor trailer.

This movement made the arm snap off its pole and the weight of it prevented the truck from moving.

In the span of around 30 seconds, Bharda said he grabbed the barrier from behind the truck's cab and hurled it to the side of the road, giving the driver just enough time to clear the tracks.

"The train had slammed on its brakes and it was about 20 meters, maybe closer, to the truck," said Bharda.

'I felt like I had an obligation'

A witness, waiting a few cars behind Bharda in a line of about 40 vehicles, says he saw the soldier run towards the tracks to help.

"I thought it was just too dangerous at the time but clearly he didn't think so," said the witness, who didn't want to be identified.

"He just pulled over and he just started running towards it. I think that was really heroic."

But Bharda, humbled by the cheers and handshakes he got from those who saw the rescue unfold, feels otherwise."

Humdins from Hafta Keshwar Zamin salutes Rushad and thank him for his daring rescue of the truck!!

The immortal Indian Movie Actor and Singer - Kundan Lal Saigal

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K._L._Saigal

Kundan Lal Saigal (1904 – 1947) with the magic in his voice and his utterly effortless manner of singing, captured the adoration of all his countrymen of his time as no one before him.

In a career of fifteen years, Saigal acted in 36 feature films. In 1955, B.N. Sircar released a documentary film based on the life of K.L. Saigal, *Amar Saigal*. The film contained 19 songs lifted from Saigal's films. In all, Saigal rendered 185 songs which includes 142 film songs and 43 non-film songs. Of the film songs, there are 110 in Hindi, 30 in Bengali and two in Tamil. He has rendered the creations of poets such as Ghalib, Zauq, and Seemab.

Saigal's distinctive singing was revered and idolized by the first generation of post-independence Hindi Film playback singers, including Lata Mangeshkar, Kishore Kumar, Mohammad Rafi, and Mukesh. Lata Mangeshkar and Kishore Kumar have even gone on record in an interview that they consider Kundan Lal Saigal to be their musical guru. K L Saigal became famous because of the 'new' technology of 78 rps lac records and players. Mukesh started his career as a copycat of K L Saigal (his first famous song: "Dil jaltaa hai to jalne de" many people thought that Saigal has returned) but went on to develop his distinctive style. These records were recorded in one take with all instruments playing along. Today this may not be possible.In 1970 one such record was priced at Rs. 15. In today's money, it is equivalent to Rs. 1500 for two songs.

Indian Music Lovers of my generation consider Saigal the Guru of Indian Classical Music. Some of his very famous songs like "Deeyaa Jalaao", "Ay kaateeb-e-taqdeer", "Madhukara, Shaam hamaare chor" and many many more are still in our memories and will remain there for ever.

And one such song is: "Nain hin ko raah deekhaa Prabhu!" from film Bhakta Surdaas (1942)!

Kundan Lal Saigal Immortal Bhajan from Bhakta Surdas - Nain Heen Ko Raah Deekhaa Prabhu!

Bhakta Surdas (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surdas) was a 15th-century blind saint, poet and musician, who was known for his devotional songs dedicated to Lord Sri Krishna. Surdas was

born blind and because of this, he was neglected by his family. As a result, he left his home at the age of six. He started living on the banks of <u>Yamuna</u> river. Once, on a pilgrimage to <u>Vrindavan</u>, he met <u>Shri Vallabhacharya</u> & became his disciple.

Surdas attained fame for his purity of devotion towards Lord Krishna. Surdas was called as the Sun in the sky of Hindi literature. He is best known for his composition 'Sursagar'. This famous collection is said to have originally contained 100,000 songs; however, only 8,000 remain today. These songs present a vivid description of the childhood and brightness of Lord Shri Krishna.

Bhakta (devotee) Surdas was the movie based on his life and Saigal played that role.

The song vividly describes the toils of a blind person. It is said that Saigal wanted this song to be filled with emotions and kept on singing again and again until he was satisfied with the emotional content of the song.

So, here is the famous song by immortal K. L. Saigal:

Nain Heen Ko Rah Dikha Song Lyrics in original Hindi and its Translation:

(Please hear this beautiful song rendered by none other than immortal K. L. Saigal at:

https://www.lyricsbogie.com/movies/bhakta-surdas-1942/nain-heen-ko-rah-dikha.html)

Nain hin ko raah deekhaa Prabhu!	To the blind, Prabhu (God), please show the
	way!
Nain hin ko raah deekhaa Prabhu!	To the blind, Prabhu, please show the way!
Paga paga thokar khaaoo main	I am stumbling on each step, Prabhu,
Nain hin ko raah deekhaa Prabhu!	To the blind, Prabhu, please show the way!
Paga paga thokar khaaoo main	I am stumbling on each step, Prabhu,
Nain hin ko	To the blind!
Tumhaari nagariyaa ki kathin dagariyaa	In Your streets, there are hard stones,
Tumhaari nagariyaa ki kathin dagariyaa	
Chalata Chalata geer jaaoo main Prabhu	In Your streets, there are hard stones,
Nain hin ko raah deekhaa Prabhu!	
	I keep falling down walking on them Prabhu,
Paga paga thokar khaaoo main	To the blind, Prabhu, please show the way!
Nain hin ko raah deekhaa Prabhu!	I am stumbling on each step, Prabhu,
	To the blind, Prabhu, please show the way!
Chahu aur mereh ghor andheraa,	Deep darkness surround me all around,

Bhulah naa jaau dwaar teraa;
Chahu aur mereh ghor andheraa,
Bhulah naa jaau dwaar teraa;
Ek baar Prabhu haath pakad loh,
Ek baar Prabhu haath pakad loh?
Ek baar Prabhu haath pakad loh,
Mana kaa deep jalaaoo main Prabhu!
Nain hin ko raah deekhaa Prabhu!

Paga paga thokar khaaoo main Nain hin ko!

I hope I do not forget your door,
Deep darkness surround me all around,
I hope I do not forget your door,
Just once Prabhu hold my hand,
Just once Prabhu hold my hand?
Just once Prabhu hold my hand,
I will light the Deevaa (floating candle) in my mind Prabhu!
To the blind, Prabhu, please show the way!

To the blind, Prabhu, please show the way! I am stumbling on each step, Prabhu, To the blind!

SPD Comments

- 1. The song depicts the toils and travails of a blind person so vividly.
- 2. However, if we keep the blind person on the side for a while, the song also portrays all of us who are blind to the day to day of our existence when we act like blind to the day to day events in our life and we do need the help of Prabhu (God) for help.
- 3. In this latter respect, let me present to you an actual event: I was up very late last night and I did not really know what I am going to present for this WZSE.
 - While musing about this dilemma, I remember this Saigal's song and ask Dadar Ahura Mazda for his help to this blind man and lo and behold I said why not use the song as our WZSE? And so here we are with the WZSE.
- 4. In the last verse, the song asks: Just once Prabhu, hold my hand!
 - This reminded me of the famous Sistine Chapel famous Michael Angelo's painting of God extending HIS Hand to the man (please see the attached photo)! An interesting connection!
- 5. This song has given me deep emotional help whenever I am out of clues about what to do. It is a powerful help to me always when I need it!

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!

<u>Maaeni</u> – Page 424, adapted Aafrinaamahi - we wish instead of Aafrinaami – I wish, in the original)

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli

