

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 113 – Hoshbam Prayer - First two verses

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Starting today, our Kadmi Zoroastrian Humdins start their 10 days of Muktaad on Aspandaard Mahino and Aastaad Roj, with the first Ahunavaiti Gatha on Tuesday 14th July and their Saal Mubarak on Sunday 19th July! We all wish all our Kadmi Humdins a very spiritual and successful 10 days of Muktaad and wish them ahead of time Saal Mubarak! May Dadar Ahura Mazda make this year the best for you all with Happiness and Health with your families and friends!

Jo Ann and I want to thank you all for wishing us a very Happy and Healthy lives in our new Hira Villa II home! Well here we are in our new home and this is the first WZSE from our new home. Moving? – Never again I hope! Please come and visit our humble abode!

In our previous Weekly Quotes, we have mentioned many times that many verses in our Khordeh Avesta are taken from our scriptures like Yasna including Zarathushtra's Gathas, Visperad, Vendidad, etc. Today, we will present one of such very popular prayers of many of us which is entirely from Yasna and Vendidad and it is called Hoshbam.

This prayer is supposed to be prayed at “Baamdaad” – at day break or dawn, usually after your Ushahin Geh prayers! But it can be prayed any time of the day.

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

Dr. Purviz Kolsawala in his thesis says:

“The prayer constitutes one of the many spiritual vitamins scattered in our religious scriptures. It is said in this prayer that the singing forth of Yatha Ahu Vairiyos and the other Manthras embodied in the prayer protects the body. Apart from the praise of and offering to Ahura Mazda and His Exalted Co-workers, Mino Ashishvangh is extolled as a great helper, protector and friend of all holy people.” (Kolsawala Thesis, page 81).

In our WZSE #27, we presented Hoshbaam's last 3 verses ending in that most beautiful Zarathushtri Core Belief verse: Asha Vahishta, Asha Sraeshta!

You can read it at: <http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse27.pdf>

Then in our WZSE #55, we covered two previous verses of the Hoshbam starting with: Vasascha tu Ahura Mazda:

You can read it at: <http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse55.pdf>

Today, we present the first 2 verses of this beautiful Baamdaad (Dawn) prayer Hoshbam.

So here is the first two verses of Hoshbam Prayer:

Hoshbam Prayer - First two verses

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

A little background for the first verse of Hoshbam:

It is taken from Vendidad Fargarad (Chapter) 11.

In it, Zarathushtra asks Ahura Mazda:

How do I purify the house, the fire, water, land, cattle, trees, holy men and women, stars, moon, sun, excessive light and all the things of good lineage?

Ahura Mazda then replies with the following verse:

**(1) Atha îmaan vacho drenjajoîsh;
Yoî anghen vaarethraghnyo-temacha baeshazjyo-temacha;
Pancha Ahuna Vairya frasraa-vayoîsh.**

Yathaa Ahu Vairyo (Recite 5 times)

**Ahunem vaîrîm tanûm pâiti,
Ahunem vaîrîm tanûm pâiti,
Ahunem vaîrîm tanûm pâiti,**

Yathaa Ahu Vairyo (Recite 1 time)

English Translation:

Thou shouldst thus recite these under-mentioned Avesta verses which are most victorious – efficacious and healing. Thou shouldst chant five Ahunavars (Yatha Ahu Vairyos).

Ahunavar Protects the body!

([English Khordeh Avesta of Ervad K.E. Kangaji - Hoshbaam Prayer, Pages 20 - 21](#))

Kem nâ Mazda (Recite the whole prayer) Ashem Vohu (Recite 1 time)

**Yathaa Ahu Vairyo (Recite 21 times)
Ashem Vohu (Recite 12 times)**

**(2) Nemasé-té hushbaamî,
Nemasé-té hushbaamî,
Nemasé-té hushbaamî.**

English Translation:

Homage unto Thee, Oh Dawn!

Aétat dim vîspanaanm mazishtem dazdyaaî,
Ahumcha ratûmcha yim Ahurem Mazdaanm,
Snathaaî anghrahe mainyeush dravato,
Snathaaî aeshmahe khravidraosh,
Snathaaî maazainyanaanm daevanaanm,
Snathaaî vispanaanm daevanaanm,
Varenyanaanmcha dravataanm.

(recite in baaz or low tone)

Shekastéh ghanaamenyo,
Bar ahreman leaanat sad hazaar baar.

(recite aloud)

Fradathaai Ahurahé Mazdaao raevato khvarenanghuhato,
Fradathaai Ameshanaanm Spentanaanm,
Fradathaai tishtryehé staaro raevato khvarenanghuhato,
Fradathaai narsh ashaono,
Fradathaai vîspanaanm Spentahé Mainyeush daamnaam ashaonaam.

Yathaa Ahu Vairyo (Recite 2 times).

Hoshbam Prayer – Verse 2 English Translation:

**(2) This is an offering to Him who is the highest amongst all Lords and Masters,
who is Ahura Mazda,
to smite the evil of evil mentality,
to smite the dreadful fraudulent anger,
to smite the evil ones opposed to the admirable ones,
to smite all the devilish revengeful evil ones.**

(recite in baaz or low tone)

May Ganaa Mino (Ahriman) be defeated! May there be imprecations upon Ahriman a hundred thousand time.

(recite aloud)

All these are for the glory of Ahura Mazda, possessed of treasures and glorious;
For the increase of Amashaaspands;
For the increase of star Tishtrya (star Sirius or Dog star in the Orion Constellation), possessed of treasures and glorious;
For the increase of the holy man,
And for the increase of all the holy creatures of Spena Mino (Spentaa Mainyu)!

(From *Khordeh Avesta* by T. R. Sethna, Karachi 1978 and from [English Khordeh Avesta of Ervad Kangaji](#))

SPD Comments

1. Ervad Kangaji gives explanation for this verse as follows:

“The passage from ‘aetat dim’ up to ‘daamanaam ashaonaam’ is here taken from Yasna 27. The reliable explanation of what ‘all these to dedicate’ can be given from Yasna Haa 1 up to the end of Yasna Haa 26; its main aim of whatever prayers and votive offerings being dedicated is to please the Creator Ahura Mazda, Amashaaspands – the Holy Immortals and other yazatas – and to sing their glory and to defeat Ahriman and his daevas and drujas.”

2. After the first sentence in Hoshbam presented above from Vendidad Fargarad 11, Ahura Mazda then prescribes different prayers to Zarathushtra to purify house, the fire, etc. mentioned above.

3. Many people wonder why in many prayers we have to pray 21 Yatha Ahu Vairyos and 12 Ashem Vohus.

It is because there are 21 words in Yatha Ahu Vairyo and 12 in Ashem Vohu.

Our 21 Nasks, the encyclopedia of the Zarathushtri Religion which is lost to us are also named after each word of Yatha Ahu Vairyo.

4. With these first two verses of Hoshbam, two more verses are left which we will cover in the next week’s WZSE which will complete the Hoshbam prayer.

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

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli