

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 129 – Zarathushtra proclaims - With best spoken words and best performed deeds, any one can achieve best Happiness in Heaven - Spentaa Mainyu Gatha - Yasna 47 Verses 2 - 3

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Zarathushtra's third Gatha Spentaa Mainyu (Pahlavi: Spentomad) consists of 4 songs – Yasna 47 – 50 with 41 verses.

Scholars explained Spentaa Mainyu in different ways.

Our eminent ZAGNY scholar and Prof. Kaikhosrov D. Irani states:

(<http://www.zarathushtra.com/z/gatha/dji/The%20Gathas%20-%20DJI.pdf>)

“Ahura Mazda meaning the Wise Lord, is the Divinity of Gathic theology. He is the Creator and the Source of Goodness. The two opposed Spirits, Principles, or Mentalities:

1. Spenta Mainyu, meaning the bountiful or progressive spirit in the ethical dualism, it is the Good-Spirit.
2. Angre Mainyu is the spirit of destruction or opposition. In the doctrine of ethical dualism it is the Evil Spirit. Although the concept is used, this term itself does not appear in the Gathas. It was employed a little later in the Avestan literature.”

Our very good friend Dina G. McIntyre explains:

(<http://www.zarathushtra.com/z/article/dgm/vol3.htm#volume3>)

“That *spenta mainyu*, the benevolent spirit, is a part of the Wise Lord, and operates at the divine level cannot, I think, be doubted. The Gathas are full of instances in which he is so identified.”

She further states: “the benevolent spirit represents love, support, a built-in guidance system, assisting us to quest for truth and meet the exigencies of life by attending with good thinking. “

As mentioned above, Spentaa Mainyu (Benevolent Spirit) Gatha consists of 4 songs: Yasna 47 – 50.

We covered its first verse, Yasna 47.1, in WZSE #14 at:

<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse14.pdf>

Today, we will cover the next two verses Yasna 47 Verses 2 – 3, as given below:

**Zarathushtra proclaims: With best spoken words and best performed deeds, any one can achieve best Happiness in**

## Heaven - Spentaa Mainyu Gatha - Yasna 47 Verses 2 - 3

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

(2) Ahyaa Manyeush Spenishtahyaa vahishtem,  
Hizvaa ukhdhaaish vangheush eh-eh-aanu manangho,  
Aarmatoish zastoibyaa shyaothanaa verezyat;  
Oyaa chisti hvo pataa ashahyaa Mazdaao.

(3) Ahyaa Manyeush tvem ahi taa spento,  
Yeh ahmaai gaanm raanyo-skeretim hem-tashat,  
At hoi vaastraai raamaa-daa Aarmaitim hyat hem  
Vohu Mazdaa hehmeh – frashtaa Mananghaa.

**Zarathushtra proclaims: With best spoken words and best performed deeds, any one can achieve best Happiness in Heaven - Spentaa Mainyu Gatha - Yasna 47 Verses 2 – 3 Translation:**

(2) Any person owing to good words spoken through his tongue and mouth  
And owing to deed performed by both the hands  
Of his good thought and perfect mindedness,  
Can secure the best happiness of Heaven  
Of that Most Beneficent Spirit of Ahura Mazdaa.  
Only owing to His Omniscient knowledge  
Ahura Mazdaa Himself is the father of righteousness.

(3) Thou art indeed the Holy Father of this Spirit,  
Thou hast put together for him our joy-bringing Mother Earth;  
And for his protection Thou hast sent to him Aarmaiti with Peace,  
When he hath communed, O Mazdaa, with Vohu Mano.

(Translation of Verse 2 from [Kangaji's Gaathaa Baa Maaeni](#) – Page 205, and of Verse 3 from [Taraporewala's The Divine Songs of Zarathushtra](#) – Page 645)

### SPD Comments

Dina McIntyre further expounds on Spentaa Mainyu, the Benevolent Spirit, as follows:

“That *spenta mainyu*, the benevolent spirit, is a part of the Wise Lord, and operates at the divine level cannot, I think, be doubted. The Gathas are full of instances in which he is so identified.

But what I find particularly interesting is that scattered throughout the Gathas, amidst all the abstract ideas and sophisticated thinking, are descriptive references to the benevolent spirit, which when brought together create the following portrait. It

- created life
- is benevolent,
- is supportive,
- is a kindred spirit with the loving man,
- attends with good thinking,
- gives understanding,
- is a "spirit of great determination",
- motivated the Wise Lord to create truth and good thinking which among other things, are the means for achieving the desired end,
- chose the truth, the source of its virtue being truth, and
- motivated the creation of the **material** world which is the arena for **spiritual** growth -- one of the many instances of subtle complementation in the Gathas.

In the vernacular of the undergraduate student, the benevolent spirit provides us with both lecture and lab, leaving it to us to earn the grade.

It would be reasonable to infer from the above evidence, that the benevolent spirit represents love, support, a built-in guidance system, assisting us to quest for truth and meet the exigencies of life by attending with good thinking.”

**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