

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 181 – Dinshaw Irani - Zarathushtra's second sermon to all - Doctrine of life and follow the principal of truth - Ushtavaiti Gatha - Yasna 45 Verse 3 - 4

Hello all Tele Class friends:

A Special Note to Daadaar Ahura Mazda for safeguarding all our South FL Humdins from Hurricane Matthew:

For days we have been dreading the monster of a Hurricane Mathews and finally it approached South FL today. With the Grace of Daadaar Ahura Mazda, all our Humdins in S FL are safe and we want to thank all of you who had us all in your prayers! Mathew is almost history now as I write this!

Main WZSE #181:

In Ahunavaiti Gatha Yasna 30, Zarathushtra gave his first sermon with his famous verse about listening with open ears to all said, reflecting upon it with Vohu Mana and then acting upon it as seems fit. We covered this verse in our WZSE #30 at:

<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse30.pdf>

In Ushtavaiti Gatha Yasna 45, Zarathushtra gives his second sermon. We have covered its Verses 1 – 2 in [WZSE #96](#) and Verses 8 –9 in [WZSE #99](#) at:

<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse96.pdf>

<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse99.pdf>

Today we will cover its Verses 3 – 4 from a very interesting book on Gathas:

Understanding The Gathas – The Hymns Of Zarathushtra – Introductory Lectures On Gathic Themes

By Dinshaw J. Irani, the illustrious father of the illustrious our own Prof. Kaikhosrov D. Irani from ZAGNY, NY. (Please see the attached cover of the book)

Please note that Dinshaw J. Irani also translated the Gathas in: *The Gathas – The Hymns of Zarathushtra* (Please see the attached file),

in which none other than Shri Rabindranath Tagore wrote its Foreword.

Prof. Irani wrote an Introduction in this book and I would like to quote from this Introduction:

“The chapters of this book were originally delivered as lectures to audiences of Zoroastrians who had little familiarity with the Gathas (the hymns of Zarathushtra) by my father, Dinshaw J. Irani, between 1935 and 1937. Some I believe, were delivered in Europe, but most were short talks to young Zoroastrian high-school students in Bombay. They were meant to introduce the audience to some of the topics and salient ideas in the Gathas.”

“The notes of these lectures, some quite full and some very sketchy, were never published.”

The notes were very disarranged and incomplete. With the help of his brother, Furrokh, they put them together.

Prof. Irani further states:

“Several friends who looked at these lecture notes thought that short chapters on aspects of the Gathic text addressed to the non-scholarly public, and **particularly to young Zoroastrians who had received little or no instruction on the Gathas**, would serve a purpose. It was this encouragement that made me edit these notes, keeping almost all the original text intact and at the same time bring the set to completion. The notes were edited minimally where they seemed complete. Some details and continuous prose were supplied where necessary.”

The result of these efforts of Prof. Irani is this wonderful book.

When I first read this book, I was so pleased by the background explanation of each Gatha Ha presented and how the verses were tied together by the lucid explanations so as to make the song so meaningful as you read!

Thank you Prof. Irani for all your efforts in publishing this book.

I liked the book so much that I requested my very good ZAGNY friend Lovji Cama to approach Prof. Irani and convey to him my request to scan the book and place it on www.avesta.org website.

To my utter delight, Prof. Irani has given the permission via Lovji Bhai to scan and place it on the website.

I am in the process of doing this and when ready we will let you all know. It will be a very wonderful Gatha book for all Humdins, especially the young ones.

On behalf of the worldwide Zarathushtri Humdins, I want to thank Prof. Irani (and Lovji Bhai) for his permission to scan the book and place it on Internet!!

Each chapter of this book has a very meaningful title. For this Ha Yasna 45, the title is:

Announcement of the Vindication of Truth!

It states in the beginning of the chapter:

“Zarathushtra in the first verse of Ha 45 declares to all who have gathered before him that they should think over his words with clear thought, to come to their own considered decisions, and realize that the false teacher has been repudiated, his creed has been exposed. No more shall the teacher of untruth deceive and destroy the world.”

“In the third verse Zarathushtra lays down **the doctrine of life**, which he says was declared to him by Ahura Mazda himself, that those who will not follow the path of truth, in the message as declared by Ahura Mazda and recorded in the Gathas, will end in misery.”

“Then Zarathushtra articulates, in verse 4, that which is the best in life, as Ahura Mazda himself has declared, that is

to follow the principle of Truth. Whatever the world might say, however harsh your circumstances, open your mind's eye to the Truth, open your heart to the inner voice which guides you on that very path, and unflinchingly follow what you clearly recognize as true and right. Zarathushtra describes Ahura Mazda as the Father of the Good Mind the mind which comprehends and works toward promoting the social and the natural world to perfection . It is often called "the toiling good mind". Further more Ahura Mazda is the creator of the spirit of Piety and Benevolence, Spenta-Armaiti, which he describes as good action and zeal. Naturally, because piety and benevolence bring zeal to a man or a woman and make him or her perform good actions for others.

Finally Ahura Mazda is described as the one whom none can deceive.”

What a wonderful way to explain the two verses which we are presenting below:

Zarathushtra's second sermon to all - Doctrine of life and follow the principal of truth -

Ushtavaiti Gatha - Yasna 45 Verse 3 - 4

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

(3) At fravakhshyaa angheush ahyaa pourvim,
Yaa moi vidvaao Mazdaao vaochat Ahuro,
Yoi im veh noit ithaa maanthrem varesenti,
Yathaa im menyaaichaa vaocha-cha,
Aeiby angheush avoi anghat apemem.

(4) At fravakhshyaa angheush ahyaa vahisstem,
Ashat hachaa Mazdaao vaedaa ye im daat,
Ptarem vangheush varezyantoh mananghoh,
At hoi dugedaa hushyaothanaa Aarmaitish,
Noit diwzhaidyaa vispaa hushas Ahuro.

Zarathushtra's second sermon to all - Doctrine of life and follow the principal of truth -

Ushtavaiti Gatha - Yasna 45 Verse 3 - 4

(3) Now I shall tell you, of the First Principle of Life,
which Ahura Mazda, the All-Knowing, declared to me.
Verily, those of you, who will not fulfill
the message of this word,
The Holy Word as I value and declare it,

For them shall the Last of Life be misery.

(4) I shall tell you now of what is best in this life;
That is to act in consonance with the Spirit of Truth, the holy Asha,
As Mazda Ahura knows, who created him,
Ahura Mazda, the father of the toiling Good Mind,
Ahura Mazda, the father of Aarmaiti, of good action and zeal;
Ahura Mazda, the all seeing whom none can deceive.

(English Translation from *Understanding The Gathas – The Hymns of Zarathushtra – Introductory Lectures On Gathic Themes* By Dinshaw J. Irani, edited with an Introduction by Kaikhosrov D. Irani Pages 54 - 57)

SPD Explanation:

1. What a wonderful way to explain the intricate meaning of Gatha verses in simple lucid language!

2. Note the last sentence in Verse 4 above:

Ahura Mazda, the all seeing whom none can deceive.

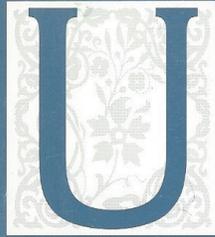
3. In our future WZSEs, we will cover some more Gatha verses from this wonderful book.

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!)

(Aafrin Pegaamber Zartosht, from [Ervad Kangaji Gujarati Khordeh Avesta Baa Maaeni](#) – Page 424, adapted Aafrinaamahi - we wish instead of Aafrinaami – I wish, in the original)

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli



UNDERSTANDING
THE GATHAS

THE HYMNS OF
ZARATHUSHTRA

Introductory Lectures
on Gathic Themes

By

Dinshaw J. Irani

Edited with an Introduction by
Kaikhosrov D. Irani