

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 184 – Gaahambaar Aafringaan continued - Different Ways to donate your share in the Gahambar Celebrations - Verses 5 - 6

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Last WZSE #183 covered the Verses 3 – 4 of the Gaahambaar Aafringaan. Today we will cover Verses 5 – 6 of this Aafringaan.

Last WZSE #183 Recap:

According to the Fasli calendar, which is synchronized exactly with the seasons, the traditional five days of the fourth Gaahambaar Ayaathrem started yesterday, Fasli Meher Maah and Aastaad Roj, October 12th and will end on the Meher Maah and Aneraan Roj, 5th day, October 16th.

Each of the six Gaahambaars is celebrated over five days, and so also Ayaathrem Gaahambaar. During these 5 days of Gaahambaars, we are supposed to perform a special Gaahambaar Jashan starting with Gaahambaar Aafringaan and ending with Aafrin-i-Gaahambaar, a special Aafrin, in which Dadar Ahura Mazda is depicted as narrating Himself and explaining when He created HIS six creations: Sky, water, earth, vegetation, animals and lastly, his most favorite creation, Humans!

In this Aafrin, exact days of six Gaahambaar celebrations are mentioned, starting from Navroze Day, March 21st, as the Day 1 and then the last fifth day of the next Gaahambaar, and then the last fifth day of the next Gaahambaar and so on.

Unfortunately, this Gaahambaar Jashan is slowly forgotten even by most of our Mobeds all over Hafta Keshwar Zamin! And most of the newly ordained Ervads all over the Hafta Keshwar Zamin do not know what Gaahambaar Jashan is! What a pity?!?

We have covered Hamaspathmaedam Gahambar description by Daadaar Ahura Mazda in our WZSE #169 at:

<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse169.pdf>

In North America, many Irani Organizations and some Parsi/Irani Associations are celebrating Gaahambaars by Fasli calendars in sync with the seasons as they should be.

Many other NA Parsi/Irani organizations also celebrate Gaahambaars but according to their Shehenshahi or Kadmi calendars, which due to no leap year reckoning, are hopelessly out of sync with the seasons they are meant to be. For instance, we celebrate our Navroze in August/July instead of on March 21st.

In [my previous WZSE #97](#) as well as in our Young Mobeds Seminar at the last LA NAZC, I wrote:

“Gaahambaars are seasonal celebrations and it is time when we in NA follow whatever calendar we wish to follow, but celebrate the six Gaahambaars according to their correct seasonal timings! I know this is a very controversial subject but this is my personal belief!”

However, no one is willing to do that in NA.

So, we continue to celebrate the Gaahambaars in NA at wrong timings but in the spirit of communal gathering with a solemn prayer and a solemn community feast – one of the basic aims of the original Gaahambaar celebrations.

In South FL, we in ZAF (Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, Boca Raton, West Palm Beach) celebrate a Gahambar on a Sunday in November in an open pavilion with a solemn Satum prayer and a solemn feast served on banana leaves, an old Parsi/Irani tradition, attended by all three SF communities!

And the famous Orlando CFG Group Gaahambaar is celebrated on a convenient Sunday sometime during May through July. In this Orlando Gaahambaar, all Humdins come together under the leadership of our own Dinyar Mehta and prepare all the food in our homes as we used to do in our small villages in olden days out in the open near a Sagdi/Dokhmaa!

So today, we will cover Gaahambaar Aafringaan prayed during a Gaahambaar Jashan.

It gives an interesting scenario of Humdins attending a Gaahambaar Jashan and it gives guidelines about what the Humdins should donate to the Chief Dastur as Aashodaad (gift to the Dastur) as well as to the Gaahambaar Jashan as their responsibility to attend the Gaahambaar and to donate something.

Since this Aafringaan is long, we will cover it in four WZSEs.

This is the second part of this Aafringaan.

The first part was covered in WZSE #183 Verses 3-4.

So, here is the Verses 5 – 6 of Gaahambaar Aafringaan:

Gaahambaar Aafringaan - Different Ways to donate your share in the Gaahambaar Celebrations - Verses 5 – 6

(Please hear the attached .mp3 file for the recitations of both WZSE #183 and #184)

**(5) Nawaat tat yayata,
Aesmanaanmchit aa-at hushatanaanm paireeshtanaanm,
Wazyaaish staaishcha staoyehbeesh
Ratehush nmaanem fraanaashayata,**

Yezi tat yayata.

**Nawaat tat yayata,
Aesmanaanmchit aa-at hushatanaanm paireeshtanaanm,
Aa-gaoshoh-masebeesh,
Aankhmoh-fraanoh-masehbeesh,
Zastoh-fraanoh-masehbeesh,
Rateush nmaanem fraanaashayata,
Yezi tootawa.**

**(6) Nawaat tootawa,
Hukshathrotemaichit at kshathrem cheeshyaat
Yat Ahuraai Mazdaai.**

**Hukshathrotemaai baa-at kshathrem,
Ahmat hyat aeebee-dadehmahichaa,
Cheeshmahichaa, hwaanmahichaa
Hyat Mazdaai Ahuraai,
Ashaaeechaa Wahishtaai.**

Daatoh heh myazdoh-ratufritish.

Gaahambaar Aafringaan - Different Ways to donate your share in the Gaahambaar Celebrations - Verses 5 – 6 Translation:

**(5) But if a Humdin cannot afford the above,
Then, if the Humdin can afford it,
Deliver to the home of the Chief Dastur,
a big bundle of well cut, well inspected hard wood.**

But if the Humdin cannot afford the above,

**Then, if the Humdin can afford it,
Deliver to the home of the Chief Dastur,
a well cut, well inspected piece of wood,
as long as from the foot to the ear,
or as long as from the foot to the armpit,
or as long as the length of a hand.**

**(6) But if the Humdin cannot afford the above,
Then he/she should accept that
the emperorship of the whole creation
belongs to the greatest Emperor Ahura Mazda
by reciting the “Hukshathrotemaai Baa at Kshathrem” Verse as follows:**

**Emperorship of the entire creation
should always belong to Ahura Mazda!
Ahura Mazda who Himself embodies the Best Righteousness,
we will always be ready in His service,
we accept Him as our Emperor
and we will always recognize Him to be one of us!**

**The above mentioned is the timely prayer
for the Maidhyozarem Gaahambaar Myazda!**

(From [Kangaji's Gujarati Khordeh Avesta](#), translated by me in English – Pages 393 - 397)

SPD Explanation:

1. Ayaathrem Gaahambaar is recognized in our scriptures as “The Cattle Breeding Season”.
2. In Visperad 1.2, it is described as “Breeder”.
3. If you cannot afford anything else, even a bundle of dried wood or even a piece of dried wood you can give in Aashodaad to the Chief Dastur.
4. “Hukshathrotemaai Baa-at kshathrem” verse in Verse 6 above comes from Yasna Haptan Ghaaiti, Yasna Haas 35 – 42, in Yasna 35 Kardaas 1, Verse 5.
It is one of the very few Verses to be recited three times.
It is also in the Moti (Large) Haptan Yasht, Kardaas 1, Verse 5.
5. And whenever and wherever you are attending a Gaahambaar and participating in its solemn prayers and communal feast, please remember the four words mentioned in the Gaahambaar Aafrin: Yazad (pray), Saazad (perform some work), Khurad (partake) and Dahad (donate)! We

are enjoined to pray or perform some work for the Gaahambaar, or participate in the solemn feast or donate something for the Gaahambaar!

6. The main theme of the Fall (September 2014) FEZANA Journal: https://fezana.org/fjissue/FEZANA_2014_03_Fall.pdf was **Gaahambaars Around The Hafta Keshwar Zamin** and we highly recommend reading all the wonderful informative articles on Gaahambaars – their beginnings, meanings, history and current practice all over the world and how various diaspora Zoroastrians are celebrating them.
7. We wish you all Happy Ayaathrem Gaahambaar!

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