Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 220 – First Ever Eulogy for an Amazing Human Being - Farvardin Yasht - Yasht 13 - Verses 87 - 94 and 152

Hello all Tele Class friends:

(SPD Comment: In three weeks, we will have Shehenshahi Khordad Saal – the Birthdate of our Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitamaan! In our next 4 WZSEs, we will eulogize him with Farvardin Yasht Verses 87 – 94 and 152 as a fitting tribute to this amazing prophet of ours!)

Guinness Book of Records missed the first ever written Eulogy for an amazing Human Being!

Guinness Book of Records publishes the first ever feats performed. So it has records of maximum hits by a Baseball Player, most runs scored, most trees planted, and so on and so on. It also has the names of people who performed the first ever feat of some kind.

However, it completely missed the first ever eulogy written for a human being – some 2900 years ago! It is written in our longest Yasht 13 – the Farvardin Yasht in 9 verses – Verses 87 – 94 and 152. Starting with this WZSE, we will cover these verses in the next 4 WZSEs so as to end on Khordad Saal, Shehenshahi Farvardin Maah and Khordad Roj – August 22nd, 2017 – the Birthdate of Zarathushtra!

A humble suggestion: When we want to remember our Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitamaan in our daily prayers, instead of just remembering his name, may we suggest to pray these verses from the Farvardin Yasht to remember him in a respectful way!

With this background, let us present the first three verses of this Eulogy – Verse 87 – 89:

First Ever Eulogy for an Amazing Human Being - Farvardin Yasht Verses 87 - 89:

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

(87) Zarathushtrahé Spitaamahé idha ashaono ashimcha fravashimcha yazamaidé.

(88) Paoiryaai vohu mamanaai, paoiryaai vohu vaokushé, paoiryaai vohu vaaverezushé,

paoiryaai athauruné, paoiryaai rathaeshtaai, paoiryaai vaastryaai fshuyanté,

paoiryaai fravaedhaai, paoiriyaai fravaedhayamnaai,

paoiryaai hanghananaai, paoiryaai hanghanushé,

gaamcha ashemcha ukhdhemcha, ukhdhakhyaacha sraoshem khshathremcha, vispacha vohu Mazdadhaata ashachithra.

(89) Yo paoiryo aathrava, yo paoiryo rathaeshtaao, yo paoiryo vaastryo fshuyaans.

Yo paoiryo chakhrem urvaesayat daevaa-atcha haotaat mashyaa-atcha.

Yo paoiryo stoish astvaithyaao, staot ashem naaist daevo, fraorenata Mazdayasno Zarathrushtrish vidaevo Ahura-tkaesho.

First Ever Eulogy for an Amazing Human Being -Farvardin Yasht Verses 93 – 94 Translation:

(87) We worship here the holiness of the holy Spitama Zarathushtra and his Fravashi.(88) Who first thought good thought according to the law of the Religion of Ahura Mazda,

spoke good word and first did the good action.

Also, who was the first Aathravan (Mobed), Ratheshtaar (warrior) and the prosperity-bringing Agriculturist of the country.

Who first gained the knowledge of the religion, and taught it first to others.

Moreover, who was the first chooser of the welfare of the cattle, righteousness, the Word of the religion, obedience to the Word of the Religion, the Sovereignty of King Gushtaasp, and all the good things having the seed of righteousness, created by Ahura Mazda.

(89) Who was the first Mobed, warrior and the prosperity-bringing agriculturist.

Who first turned the wheel of the Daevaas and the wicked men like the Daevaas.

Who first in the corporeal world praised righteousness and caused the Daevaas to perish.

Who also confessed himself a Mazdaa-worshipper, and a follower of the Religion proclaimed by himself, an estranged from the doctrines of the Daevaas and the follower of the law of Ahura Mazda.

(From Ervad Kangaji *Khordeh Avesta Baa Maaeni* translated in English Page 458 - 460)

SPD Comments

1. What a beautiful way of eulogizing an amazing Prophet who professed the first monotheistic religion in the history of mankind!

2. Our Avesta/Pahlavi Scholar, Dr. Pallan Ichhaporia, in FEZANA Journal – Spring 1994 – estimates that Farvardin Yasht "is

pre-Zoroastrian, but composed much later, after the passing away of Asho Zarathushtra.

the western migratory movements cannot be later than 900 BC and so the Yasht cannot be placed later than this date."

So according to him, Farvardin Yasht was written almost 2900 years ago.

3. Zarathushtra was the first to perform Humata, Hukhta and Hvarshta (Good Thoughts, Good Words and Good Deeds)!

4. He was the first Aathravan (Mobed), warrior and the prosperity bringing Agriculturist.

5. He not only was the first to gain knowledge of the Religion but was also the first to teach it to others – a very important thing to remember for all of us in our own lives!

6. He was the first to oppose the wicked Daevas and to follow the law of Ahura Mazda!

What an amazing Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan!

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

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

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli