Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 229 – Prayer for our 33 Yazatas - Siroza Yasht - Verses 1 - 7

Hello all Tele Class friends:

In our three Religious Calendars, Shehenshaahi, Kadmi and Fasli, the thirty days of the month are named after thirty Yazatas (angels) starting with seven Ameshaa Spentaas followed by their 23 Humkaars (co-workers). Each Ameshaa Spentaa has 3 Humkaars except Sheherevar and Spentaa Mainyu who have 4, totaling 30 Yazatas. To these 30 Yazatas, three more are added viz. Burjo, Hom and Daham, to make 33 Yazatas presented in Siroza Yasht with their respective small as well as large Khshnumans (invocations). Word Siroza means thirty days.

Many attempts have been made to give epithets for these 30 Yazatas. However, in our Siroza Yasht, they are given for each of the 33 Yazatas. Both Khshnumans are similar but the large Khshnumans end with the word Yazamaide = we praise and in some cases, they are more descriptive.

Thirty days of our calendars are divided into four 'weeks', each preceded by Dadar Ahura Mazda, the first two of seven days each, the last two of eight days.

Since these invocations comprise our Siroza Yasht, it would be appropriate to present these invocations of our 33 Yazatas in our next four weeklies starting today.

So today, we present the small Khshnumans of the first seven Ameshaa Spentaas, Hormazd to Amardaad, with the rest of the 26 in the next three weeklies:

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

Prayer	Translation
1. Hormuzd (Ahura Mazda)	1. Wise Lord
Ahuraheh Mazdaao raevato	The Creator Ahura Mazda, keeper of the treasures and
kharenanghuhato, Ameshanaanm	Glorious, and the Amashaaspands (Bountiful Immortals)
Spentanaanm	
2. Bahman (Vohu Mana)	2. Good Mind
Vanghaveh Manangheh aakhshtoîsh haanm-	The victorious friendship of Bahman Amashaaspand
vaintyaao, taradhaato anyaaîsh daamaan,	who is superior to other creatures and who is the lord of
aasnaheh khrathvo Mazdadhaataheh, gaosho-	the innate wisdom and of the wisdom acquired through
srootaheh khrathvo Mazdadhaataheh	the ear created by Ahura Mazda
3. Ardibehesht (Asha Vahishta)	3. Best Righteousness
Ashaheh Vahîshtaheh straeshtaheh,	The fairest Ardibehesht Amashaaspand, and the mighty
Aîryamano Ishyeheh sûraheh	and beloved Airyaman Yazata created by Ahura Mazda,
Mazdadhaataheh, Saokayaao vanghuyaao	the righteous and large eyed, and the good Saoka Yazata,

vourû-doîthrayaao Mazdadhaatayaao	created by Ahura Mazda
ashaonyaao	
4. Sheherevar (Khshathra Vairya)	4. Good Dominion
Khshathraheh Vairyeheh ayokhshustaheh	Sheherevar Amashaaspand ruling over the pure metal,
marezdikaaî thraayo drigaoveh	who is merciful and the nourisher of the poor
5. Asfandaardmad (Spentaa Mainyu)	5. Holy Devotion
Spentayaao vanghuyaao Aarmatoish	The good Spandaarmad Amashaaspand who is righteous,
raatayaao vanghuyaao vouru-doîtharyaao	large eyed and the good bestower
Mazdadhaatayaao ashaonyaao	
6. Khordaad (Haurvataat)	6. Perfection
Haurvartaato rathvo yaaîryayaao hushitoish,	Khordaad Amashaaspand who is the lord of the coming
saredhaeibyo ashaheh ratubyo	of the season at its proper time from amongst the years
	(Saredha) which are the periods of holiness
7. Amardaad (Ameretaat)	7. Immortality
Ameretaato rathvo fshaonibya vaanthvaabya,	Amardaad Amashaaspand who is the lord over the
aspinibya yaonibya gaokerenaheh sûraheh	prosperity of the flocks of cattle and over the increase of
Mazdadhaataheh	corns and over the efficacious White Homa (Gaokerena)
	created by Ahura Mazda
In Haavan and second Haavan Geh:	In Haavan and second Haavan Geh:
Mithraheh vourû-gaoyaotoish, Raamansacha	Meher Yazata of wide pastures and Yazata Raama
khaastraheh	Khaastar
In Rapithwan Geh:	In Rapithwan Geh:
Ashaheh vahishtaheh Aathrascha Ahuraheh	Ardibehesht Amashaaspand and the Fire of Ahura Mazda
Mazdaao	
In Uziran Geh:	In Uziran Geh:
Berezato Ahuraheh nafedhro apaanm apascha	The Navel of waters who is the exalted lord and the
Mazdadhaatayaao	waters created by Ahura Mazda
In Aiwisruthrem Geh:	In Aiwisruthrem Geh:
Ashaaunaanm fravashinaanm	The Fravashis of righteous people and of women with
ghenaanaamcha vîro-vaathvanaanm	their troops of horses and the coming of the season at its
yaaîryayaaoscha hushitoish, amahecha	proper time, the Yazata Ama, well-shaped and beautiful,
hutaashtaheh huraodhaheh,	Behram Yazata created by Ahura Mazda, and the Yazata
verethraghnahecha Ahuradhaataheh,	named Vananti Upertaat
vanaîntyaaoscha upartaato	1
In Ushahin Geh:	In Ushahin Geh:
Sraoshaheh ashyeheh ashivato, verethraajano	Sarosh Yazata, the righteous possessed of righteousness,
fraadat-gaethaheh, Rashnaosh razishtaheh,	victorious and bringing prosperity to the world, the most
Arshtaatascha fraadat-gaethayaao varedat-	just Rashne Yazata, and Aastaad Yazata, the increaser of
gaethayaao	the world and prosperity-bringer of the world
<u>(Translation from Ervad Kangaji</u>	Khordeh Avesta Baa Maaeni translated in English

SPD Comments

1. The Siroza is an Aafringaan as well as a Baaj prayer and is recited in honor of the dead, on the thirtieth day after the death, on the thirtieth day of the sixth month, and on the thirtieth day of the twelfth month.

2. Fareshtaa prayer is a very long Jashan Ceremony being prayed to celebrate a happy occasion. It contains 33 Aafringaan prayers, one each for the above 33

Yazatas. More than one pair of Mobeds are used to pray this Fareshtaa, each pair praying different consecutive Aafringaan for the 33 Yazatas to shorten the time of the Jashan ending with the Aafringaans of Daham and Sarosh and three Aafrins.

3. Besides 33 Yazatas in Siroza Yasht, there are many other Yazatas in our Religion. A very good description of all these Yazatas is given by our eminent Avesta/Pahlavi Scholar Dasturji Dhalla in his famous book – History of Zoroastrianism (1938) available as a ePub book by my very good friend Joseph Peterson: <u>http://www.avesta.org/dhalla/dhalla1.htm</u>

In its Chapter 22, Dasturji Dhalla gives some very good descriptions of many Yazatas at:

http://www.avesta.org/dhalla/history3.htm#chap22

I strongly recommend reading this chapter as well as the 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 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)</u>*

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli