

WZSE – Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 27.

Hello all Tele Class friends:

In our previous Weekly Quotes, we have mentioned that many stanzas in our Khordeh Avesta are taken from our scriptures like Yasna including Zarathushtra's Gathas, Visperad, Vendidad, etc.

Today, we will present one of such very popular prayers of many of us which is almost entirely from Yasna and it is called Hoshbaam.

This prayer is supposed to be prayed at "Baamdaad" – at day break or dawn, usually after your Ushahin Geh prayers!

This is a very beautiful prayer with lots of good thoughts. The most important Stanza is by Zarathushtra given below who will guide all his people in conformity with Ahura Mazda's and Zarathushtra's religion, seeking consensus among all!

In these days of rancor, mud slinging, etc. in our Parsi community, we hope that these 3 stanzas can bring some semblance of consensus in our wonderful community!

So, what does Zarathushtra Want to do?

Hakhshaya azem-chit yo Zarathushtro fratemaan,
Nmaananaamcha, Visaamcha, Zantunaamcha Dakhyunaamcha,
Anghaao daenayao Anumatayaecha Anukhtayaecha, Anvarshtayaecha,
Yaa Aahuirish Zarathushtrish.

I who am Zarathushtra will guide
the leaders of the house, clans, towns and lands,
to think, to speak and to act
in conformity with this Religion
which is of Ahura, revealed-by- Zarathushtra,

(Ervad K.E. Kangaji Translation - Yasna 8.7 & Hoshbaam

Prayer)

Yatha no aaonghaam shaato manaao,
Vahishto urvaano khvaathravaitish,
Tanvo hento vahishto anghush;
Aakaoschoit Aahuire Mazda jasentaam.

So that our minds be full of joy

And our souls attain the best,
Our bodies be full of heavenly glory,
May we be fit for the best world (Heaven) O Ahura Mazda!
May all these good wishes reach us openly!

(K.E. Kangaji Translation - Yasna 60.11 & Hoshbaam
Prayer)

Final Stanza as one of the Zarathushtri Core Beliefs:

During the last 2-3 years in our beloved M. F. Cama Athornan Institute, we were taught the rudiments of Avesta Pahlavi Languages and in the final SSC (High School Senior) year, Avesta Pahlavi was a compulsory subject for us to pass. Our Acting Principal, Faramroze Patel, was our Avesta Pahlavi teacher. Out of many stanzas taught by him during these classes, one has always stayed with me and it is the last stanza of this Hoshbaam Prayer:

Asha vahishta, asha sraeshta,
Daresaama thwaa,
Pari thwaa janyaama,
Hamem thwaa, hakhma.

(Yasna 60.12 & last stanza of Hoshbaam Prayer)

Through the best righteousness,
Through the excellent righteousness,
(Oh Ahura Mazda!)
May we see Thee,
May we surround Thee
And may we become one unto Thee!

(MFCAl Avesta Class Notes By Acting Principal
Faramroze Patel)

SPD Comments:

I personally love to pray this beautiful Hoshbaam prayer in the quiet of the "Baamdaad" – at day break or dawn, out in the open in the nature. One of my favorite places to recite this prayer is in the main hall of Iranshah Atash Behram during the Ushahin Geh Boi ceremony among the myriads of Deevas and no electric lights! What an uplifting experience that is always!

However, one another time I still remember reciting this prayer was during our pilgrimage of Maadar-e-Vatan Iran with Siloo Mehta in 2006. We spent a night

in one of the 5 holiest Zoroastrian Places in Iran, Pir-e-Harisht, out in open in a beautiful surrounding. I woke up at “Baamdaad” and felt like going out to see the stars, a hobby of mine! And was so struck with the beauty of the outdoors with stars jumping at you, that I felt like doing a small prayer. After Kushti and Ushahin Geh and Atash Nyaayesh and Doe Naam Setaayashne, I remember Hoshbaam prayer and it was a magical moment to recite it in the middle of no where sitting on a tree trunk! Hoshbaam prayer has such magical attraction when you pray in such surroundings!

May be you all ought to try this sometime!

May the Flame of Fellowship, Love, Charity and Tolerance 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!)

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli