

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 271: Turanian King Afraasiyaab's request was denied by Aavaan Aredvi Sura - Aavaan Yasht - Yasht 5 - Verses 41 - 43

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Belated Happy Khordaad Saal Mubaarak to our Kadmi Humdins!

This week on Monday (7/23/2018) was the auspicious Khordaad Saal (Birthday of Zarathushtra), Farvardin Maah and Khordaad Roj, according to Kadmi calendar! And all of us wish a very Happy and Healthy Khordaad Saal Mubaarak to all our Kadmi Humdins of the Hafta Keshwar Zamin!

Aavaan Yasht – Yasht 5

In our last WZSE #270, we stated that like many Yashts, in Aavaan Yasht, many Iranian kings and heroes are asking for a boon from Aredvi Sura Yazata. Depending upon the character of the king/hero, she grants the boon, or she rejects it. Kings like Hoshang, Jamshid, Faridun, Kay Kaaus, Kay Khushroo, Kay Vishtaaspa, Jaamaaspa, etc. were granted their requests; whereas, Zahaak, Afraasiyaab, Arjaaspa, etc. were refused.

In this WZSE, we will present a legend of the cruel Turaanian King Afraasyaab who is asking for a boon from Aredvi Sura Yazata to snatch the Iranian Khoreh (Glory) from Iranians but Aredvi Sura refused his request.

So here is this legend from Aavaan Yasht – Verses 41 – 43:

Turanian King Afraasiyaab's request was denied by Aavaan Aredvi Sura – Aavaan Yasht – Yasht 5 - Verses 41 - 43

[\(Please hear the attached .mp3 file for its recitation\)](#)

**(41) Taam yazata mairyo Tuiryo Frangrasedh,
hankaineh paiti anghaao zemo,
satem aspanaam arshnaam, hazanghrem gavaam,
baevaréh anumayanaam**

**(42) Aa-at him jaidhyat, avat aayaptem dazdi-meh,
vanguhi sevishtéh Aredvi Suréh anaahitéh,
yatha azem avat khareno apayemi;
yim vazaitéh maidhim zrayangho Vouru-kashahéh,
yat asti Airyanaam dakhyunaam zaatanaam azaatanaamcha,
yatcha ashaono Zarathushtrahéh.**

**(43) Noit ahmaai dathat tat avat aayaptem
Aredvi Sura anaahita.**

Turanian King Afraasiyaab's request was denied by Aavaan Aredvi Sura – Aavaan Yasht – Yasht 5 - Verses 41 – 43 Translation:

(41) The cruel Turaanian Afraasyaab worshipped her in the underground of this earth with hundred horses, with a thousand oxen and with ten thousand small animals.

**(42) He, then, asked of her:
'Do thou grant me this boon, oh good, most beneficent and undefiled Ardvî Sûra! that I may take away this khvaarenah – glory which flows in the midst of the sea Vouru-kasha.
That which Glory belongs to the people born
And yet unborn of the Iranian countries
And that which Glory belongs to Holy Prophet Zarathustra
I may take away.**

(43) Ardvî Sûra, the undefiled did not grant that boon desired by Afraasyaab.

(Translation from Kangaji – *Yasht Baa Maaeni* – Aavaan Yasht – Pages 15 - 16 – Translated from Gujarati to English by Prof. Ervad Maneck Furdoonji Kanga, M. A.)

SPD Comments

1. Kangaji explains for the Verse 42 above:
“Afraasyaab wished for this boon from Aredvi Sura that he may snatch away all the glory, grandeur and virtues of all the Iranians for which they are renowned and that he put them to disgrace.
But Aredvi Sura threw away this request of his.”
2. For the word “underground” in the Verse 41 above, Kangaji states:
“or in the cave built underneath this earth.
This cave is called in the Shah Nameh as ‘Hangeh Afraasyaab’.”
3. Darmesteter states: “In his palace built underneath the earth.”
4. Dr. Kolsawalla in his Thesis states:
“**Frangrasyan** (Afraasyaab) was the king of Tûraan for two hundred years. The perpetual struggle between Iran and Tûraan was represented in the legend by the deadly and seemingly endless wars between Afraasyaab and the Iranian kings from Minochihr to Kavi Husravah (Kai Khosrav).”

“The chief cause of the war was the murder of Syaavakhsh (Syaavarshaana) by Afraasyaab. Syaavakhsh was exiled by his father Kava Usa (Kai Kaaus), at the instigation of his mother-in-law and he took refuge with Afraasyaab, who is said to have received him with honour. He was given Afraasyaab's daughter in marriage, but this caused the jealousy of Afraasyaab's brother Keresavazda (Karsivaz), who through accusations caused Afraasyaab to put Syaavakhsh to death. Syaavakhsh was revenged by his son Kai Khosrav who was also the grandson of Afraasyaab.”

“The cave (**håkané**) is described by Firdausi as a cave on the top of the mountain, near Barda (on the frontier of Azarbaijan), where Afraasyaab, when defeated fled to take refuge. He was discovered by Kai Khosrav and the cave was called the cave of Afraasyaab. In an older legend, that cave was a palace built under ground, with walls of iron and a hundred columns, the height was a thousand times a man's height.”

5. T. R. Sethna in his book on Yashts has an explanation about praising Aredvi Sura anahita with 100 male horses, 1000 cattle and 10,000 sheep. “Looking to the Key in Bundahishn we find that where cattle and animals are mentioned it means acquired wisdom, therefore Aredvi Sura anahita is praised by the worshippers with considerable amount of big and small acquired wisdom.”

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!)

In HIS Service 24/7.

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli