

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 272: Prophet Zarathushtra requests Aavaan Aredvi Sura to lead King Vishtaaspa to his Religion – Aavaan Yasht – Yasht 5 - Verses 104 - 106

Hello all Tele Class friends:

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 Kaus, Kay Khushroo, Kay Vishtaaspa, Jaamaaspa, etc. were granted their requests; whereas, Zahaak, Afraasiyaab, Arjaaspa, etc. were refused.

In our previous two WZSEs, we presented legends of an Iranian hero Gustahem and the evil Turaanian King Afraasyaab asking for a boon from Aredvi Sura Yazata. She granted Gustahem's request but refused Afraasyaab's.

In today's WZSE, we will present the legend of our Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitamaan asking for a boon from Aredvi Sura Yazata that King Vishtaaspa accept his Religion and that boon was granted by her.

So here is this legend from Aavaan Yasht – Verses 104 - 106:

Prophet Zarathushtra requests Aavaan Aredvi Sura to lead King Vishtaaspa to his Religion – Aavaan Yasht – Yasht 5 - Verses 104 - 106

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

**(104) Taam yazata yo ashava Zarathushtro
Airyehnéh Vaehjahi vanghuyao Daaitiyao,
haoma yo gava baresmana, hizvo-danghangha,
maathracha vachacha shyaothanacha,
zaothraabyascha arshukhdhaeibyascha vaaghzibyo.**

**(105) Aa-at him jaidhyat avat aayaptem dazdi meh
vanguhi sevishtéh Aredvi Suréh anaahitéh,
yatha azem haachayeni puthrem yat Aurovat-aspahéh
takhmem Kavaém Vishtaaspem,
anumateh-éh daénayaai, anukhteh-éh daénayaai,
anu-varshateh-éh daénayaai.**

**(106) Dathat ahmaai tat avat aayaptem,
Aredvi Sura anaahita, hadha-zaothro-baraai
aredraai yazemnaai jaidhyantaai daathrish aayaptem.**

Prophet Zarathushtra requests Aavaan Aredvi Sura to lead King Vishtaaspa to his Religion – Aavaan Yasht – Yasht 5 – Verses 104 – 106 Translation:

(104) The Prophet Holy Zarathushtra worshipped her in the Airyana Vaéja near the

River Véh Daitya with Haoma which is mixed with “Jīvaam-milk” and baresman and with the Haoma which is with thought, word, and deed through the wisdom of the tongue and with the Haoma which is prepared for libations with rightly-spoken words.

(105) He then asked of her: Oh good, most beneficent, and undefiled Ardvî Sûra! Do thou grant me this boon, that I may lead the valiant Kay Vishtaaspa, the Son of Aurvat-aspa, to think in conformity with my Religion, to speak in conformity with my Religion, and to act in conformity with my Religion.

(106) Aredvi Sura, the undefiled, the giver of boon granted that boon to that offerer accompanied with the zaothra, to one who dedicates an oblation in worship, to the worshipper, to the beseecher of boon, Prophet Zarathushtra.

(Translation from Kangaji – Yasht Baa Maaeni – Aavaan Yasht – Page 41 –
Translated from Gujarati to English by Prof. Ervad Maneck Furdoonji Kanga, M. A.)

SPD Comments

1. In the last part of the above Verse 105, the words are similar to the Hoshbam Prayer, Yasna 8.7 where Zarathushtra wants to bring all in conformity with Thoughts, Words and Deeds in: Anumatayaecha Anukhtayaecha, Anvarshtayaecha, as presented in our previous WZSE #85 at:

<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse85.pdf>

2. The majority of the Aavaan Yasht consists of historical legends in which ancient Kings and heroes are asking for boons from Aavaan Yazata.

Our NAMC Founder and its Past President for many years, Mobed Kobad Zarolia had a very interesting comment:

“This whole Yasht has old legends as good historical lessons. Then why do we use it as a prayer?”

3. I replied to him as follows:

“You are absolutely correct that why we should use a historical lesson as a prayer. I agree with your thinking.

But most of our Yashts are like that and our “old” Zarathushtri brethren pray them with complete faith.

But the young generation will be asking the same question you raised, and we have not put forward a good explanation.

My thinking is:

If you want to pray a history lesson thinking about what happened to a good person when he/she prayed for a boon to a Yazata and what happened to a bad one for the same, and he/she uses that as a guidance in their lives, so be it. Nothing wrong about that.

That’s all I can state about this.”

4. To this he replied that we should identify from Khordeh Avesta prayers those that are historical lessons and identify actual prayers from Khordeh Avesta for our young generation to pray.

5. We want to know what your thoughts are on this question. Please let us know.

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