

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 326: Farohara tu Asho Pyaaraa - Parsi Gujarati Asho Farohar song

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Jo Ann and I will be gone to Houston next two weeks to participate in their Muktad Gatha prayers in their new Atash Kadeh. So, I will present today the next WZSE to cover for the week of August 11th.

So, Jo Ann and I wish you all a very Happy and Healthy Muktad Gatha Days, Navroze Mubarak and the whole New Year 1989 YZ!

Shehenshahi 10 days of Muktad Gatha starts this week on Wednesday August 7th, 2019, Roj Aastaad Maah Asfandaard YZ 1388 with 5 Vahishtoisht Gahambaar and Gatha days starting from August 12th Monday followed by our Navroze on August 17th Saturday. In India and Pakistan, in all over cities and villages, and especially in Mumbai, all Parsi/Irani Humdins will be going to Atash Behrams and Agiyaris for attending their dear departed ones' Muktad prayers by their family Mobeds.

During the first 5 Muktad Days, Fraamrot Haa, Yasna 20, is to be recited on the first 5 Muktad Days. I have created the following YouTube for its recitation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vm0jSEcKCUw>

Growing up in my little village Tarapur, we used to sing Monajaats all the time and during Muktad Gatha days, some devotional songs.

"Monaajaats are Zoroastrian devotional songs. The word Monaajaat is from the Persian language, and the earliest Monaajaats were in Persian, many of them composed by Dastur Mullan Firoz bin Kaus."

"Later, Monaajaats were composed in Gujarati, the language understood by the majority of Zoroastrians. The earliest Gujarati Monaajaats were published in the mid19th century on historical and religious subjects, usually at the back of Khordeh Avesta books." (Dr. Ervad Ramiyar Karanjia - <https://ramiyarkaranjia.com/2017/07/21/what-are-monajats-tmy-jame-jamshed-of-9-7-17/>)

"Sir Dr. Ervad Jivanji J. Modi gives an illustrative description of the prayer *Monaajaat* concerning its function for the believer as an outlet of religious emotions: "It is a prayer in which the person praying holds, as it were, a converse with his God and pours forth his own inward personal feelings of devotion and expression of humility". This definition of Zoroastrian *Monaajaat* stresses the individuality and intimacy of the prayer which is suited to build up a very close personal relationship to God in the form of a dialogue. In contrast to the official Zoroastrian prayers which are composed in the ancient Avestan language, the language of the *Monaajaat* is normally the mother tongue of the praying person, Persian or Gujarati, so that the believer is able to follow each formulation of the prayer." (<http://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/monajat-i>)

In our beloved MF Cama Athornan Institute (MFCAI), we used to have a Monaajaat booklet with 15 or so Monaajaats in it, all in Gujarati. All these Monaajaats were written with rhymes. Our Duty Teacher in charge of our morning and night prayers will select one of these Monaajaats and we had to sing them every day. And of course, the last official routine just before going upstairs to bed is to line up in two lines facing one another and singing that beautiful Khudaavind Khaavind Monaajaat ending with "Goodnight Sir"! Those were the wonderful days!

All the Monaajaats I know are in Parsi Gujarati which have old Parsi Gujarati words, some Persian, a few even Arabic. Some of these words are difficult to translate into English and sometimes there is no suitable English words for some of them.

With this background, let me present to you all some devotional music in praise of the visiting Farohars during the ten Muktad/Gatha days.

We have talked quite a bit about devotional religious Monaajaats; however, during the Muktad/Gatha days, there were some devotional religious songs, similar to Monaajaats in form, which are in praise of the visiting Farohars during the 18 Muktad Gatha days. Growing up in my little village Tarapur, we used to sing such songs during the Muktad days.

Today, we will present one of these songs in praise of the Farohars. I only remember two verses of this song (getting old is no good!) and we will present them in this WZSE today.

I have tried my best to translate this beautiful song in praise of our Farohars. Many of our loyal readers of WZSEs do understand Gujarati well and many times they have requested me to present the original Gujarati of some songs or Monaajaats we have presented. Hence in the song presented in this WZSE, the first sentence will be in original Gujarati script, the second is its transliteration and the third one is its translation.

Please understand I am no Gujarati or Parsi Gujarati scholar, and even with my best efforts, please accept my apology for any mistakes in my translation.

In the following transliteration, the Gujarati word tuhn, tu with a nasal sound, is used. I have transliterated it as tuhn and please do not think it is a spelling error – it is nasal tu.

So, let us present this beautiful song:

Farohara tu Asho Pyaaraa - Parsi Gujarati Asho Farohar song

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

૧. હમારે ઘરે તમ આવ્યા, ફરોહર તું અશો પ્યારા.

1. Hamaareh ghreh tam aavyaa, Farohara tuhn asho pyaaraa.

1. You Farohars came to our homes, You Farohars are righteous and loving.

૨. તમારી ખુશ આમદ હો, મીલાપે ખુબ આણંદ હો,

2. Tamaaree khush aamada ho, meelaapeh khuba aanand ho,

2. Your coming is of great happiness, and on meeting you, we are so happy,

તમો મહેમાન મોઘેરા, ફરોહર તું અશો પ્યારા.

Tamoh mahemaan mogheraa, Farohara tuhn asho pyaaraa.

You are a valuable guest to us, You Farohars are righteous and loving.

૩. મુકી દુધ ફુલનું લોબાન, બન્યે તમ યાદમાં ગુલતાન,

3. Mukee dudh fulnuhn lobaan, banyeh tama yaadmaan gulataan,

3. Performing (Satum) with Lobaan (Frankincense) and milk and flowers, we become lost in your memories,

અમોનેહ જાનથી છાલા, ફરોહર તું અશો ઘારા.

Ahmoneh jaanthee vhaalaa, Farohara tuhn ashо pyaaraa.

You Farohars are dearer than our lives, You Farohars are righteous and loving.

(From Soli's failing memory)

SPD Comments:

1. In some Parsi homes in our village Tarapur, some families had His Master's Voice Upright Gramophones (please see the attached photo). They used to listen to such songs during the Muktad days.
2. Our Sohrab Mama (mother's brother) next door had such a wonderful Gramophone and we were allowed to go there after dinner and listen to film and religious songs like the above. It was a sheer pleasure.

Those were the wonderful days!

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!

In HIS SERVICE 24/7!

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

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli

his master's voice upright gramophone phonograph.jpg

