Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 338: Zarathushtra asks for Ahura Mazda's hand for help and inspiration of the Good Mind to enunciate HIS ordinance - Spentaa Mainyu Gatha - Yasna 50 - Verses 5 - 6

Hello all Tele Class friends:

In our previous WZSE #330, we covered Yasna 50 Verses 1 – 2 at:

http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse330.pdf

and in our last WZSE #337, we covered Verses 3 – 4 of the same Yasna 50.

Today, we continue on the same Yasna 50 and present Verses 5 – 6 in this WZSE.

Let us repeat the beginning of the last WZSE for your reading:

In his Gathas, our own Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan (Prophet of Prophets) Zarathushtra asks many questions to Ahura Mazda as if talking to him one on one!

However, Ahura Mazda never replies him but Zarathushtra uses his Good Mind and figures out the answers.

His relationship to Ahura Mazda is depicted not as Master/Slave, Father/Son, but as a friend to a friend, as a co-worker (Humkaar) of Ahura Mazda to enhance HIS Creation.

This fundamental aspect separates our religion from others!

In his Gathas, many times Zarathushtra asks for help in many situations from Ahura Mazda for his followers and himself; however, he figures out what to do using his Vohu Mana (Good Mind).

In the last song of Spentaa Mainyu Gatha, Yasna 50, Zarathushtra starts with such a request for help from Ahura Mazda and figures out a way using his Vohu Mana.

Dr. Kolsawala in his thesis states the following for this Yasna 50:

"After a lot of hardship and struggle Zarathushtra's difficulties were overcome and his mission was successful. He in thanksgiving, broke out into a prayer which uplifted his soul. He communed with Ahura Mazda to advance his cause. He wished to promote his ideal, which is a society bringing joy to the earth."

"His emphasis was that people should become self-reliant, that in itself is a great reward. It allows people to be beneficent. Zarathushtra's prayers were reinforced by good acts which would make life on this earth renewed and modern as Ahura Mazda wishes."

"Ali Jafarey called this Haiti a song of "progressive renovation", as it is a communion with Ahura Mazda to renovate the whole of human community in the joy bringing world."

"The last line of this Haiti is "Haithyaa varshtaam hyat vasnaa ferashotemem"

which means that "true actions make life most renovated as Ahura Mazda wishes". This line is recited by all Zarathusthtis when tying the Kushti - the sacred girdle as a reminder of Asho Zarathustra's determination to maintain a renovated world through continuous refreshing and modernization. The person reciting this prayer also provides a stimulation to this world and is a partner in this task."

"Insler mentioned that this Ha is essentially a lyric to honor the Wise Lord as the Creator of truth and good thinking, the instruments of the good which alone can benefit the advancement of the human condition on earth."

"This Ha is called "kat moi urva" and means "What should I seek as aid, O my soul". Zarathustra was then prepared to lead a Righteous life of benefit to Humanity."

Our own late Prof. Kaikhosrov Irani, in his Introduction to his father's Gatha Translation book states:

"Spenta Mainyu 4 [Y .50]. This is a powerful poetic expression of the Prophet's reverence for Ahura Mazda, with a feeling of conviction regarding the support he expects from Him. The Ha evinces the Prophet's sense of vindication, as well as his acceptance by Ahura Mazda. The Ha ends with a reaffirmation of the commitment to restore this existence to its ideal state envisioned in the Truth and realized by the Good Mind."

So, today we present the next two verses of this song, Yasna 50 Verses 5 - 6:

Zarathushtra asks for Ahura Mazda's hand for help and inspiration of the Good Mind to enunciate HIS ordinance – Spentaa Mainyu Gatha: Yasna 50, Verses 5-6

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

- (5) Aaroi zee khshmaa Mazdaa Ashaa Ahuraa Hyat yooshmaakaai maanthraaneh vaoraazathaa; Aibi-dereshtaa aavishyaa avanghaa, Zastaaishtaa yaa-naao khaathreh daayaat.
- (6) Yeh maanthraa vaachem Mazdaa baraiti Urvatho ashaa nemanghaa Zarathushtro. Daataa khrateush hizvo raithim stoi; Mahyaa raazeng Vohu saahit Mananghaa.

Zarathushtra asks for Ahura Mazda's hand for help and inspiration of the Good Mind to enunciate HIS ordinance - Spentaa Mainyu Gatha - Yasna 50 - Verses 5 - 6 Translation:

- (5) To Thy Prophet inspired by Thy Truth, O Mazda, To Thy Prophet revealing Thy Message in hymns, Do Thou come with Thy Grace, O Lord! Do Thou give him Thy hand of manifest help, That he may bring enlightenment and bliss.
- (6) As I lift my voice in songs of Thy veneration, Actuated by Truth to direct my speech to the right path of wisdom; Give to Zarathushtra, O Mazda, the inspiration of the Good Mind to enunciate Thy ordinance.

(The Gathas – The Hymns of Zarathushtra – by D. J. Irani – Page 46) (www.zarathushtra.com)

SPD Comments:

- 1. In Verse 5, Zarathushtra is asking for Ahura Mazda's helping hand so he can bring enlightenment and bliss to his followers.
- 2. In Verse 6, as Zarathushtra sings Ahura Mazda's veneration, he asks from HIM the inspiration of Good Mind to spread HIS ordinance.
- 3. For the Verse 5 above, Kangaji explains:

"Its significance seems to be this that Thou, O Ahura Mazdaa! Mayest please and rejoice the expounder of the Religion by giving the required help in order that by hearing his teachings we may gain happiness by holding fast the path of righteousness and Truth." (Kangaji English Khordeh Avesta – Page 241)

4. Dr. Purviz Kolsawalla in his Ph. D. Thesis (Page 802) states:

"When one devotedly sings the Gathas in Ahura Mazda's praise, then He in turn helps us and leads us to happiness.

The idea is that "the manifest help" to the chanters of the hymns comes from the Realms Above and this constitutes a gesture from Mazda expressing His Will. Here as in the previous verse, the devotee stands on the path seeking to reach Garothman."

5. Dr, Kolsawalla continues:

"Khabardar mentioned that in this verse the prophet has realized Ahura's help through possession of sacred rites. Through such divine powers and grace a man can achieve the most desired but difficult to obtain powers with one's own internal light of the soul. This could be only achieved by long meditation and absolute resolve of the Purity of the Mind."

"Insler mentions, this verse entreats for wisdom and truth to arise among men on earth in order for them to comprehend that happiness in their own existence and must be built upon this very qualities which the Wise Lord has created and sustained in this world."

6. Dr. Kolsawalla in his Ph. D. Thesis states for the above Verse 6 as follows: (page 806)

"Zarathustra befriended by righteousness raised his voice to sing the Maanthras. The path of duty is taught to us by the Creator of Wisdom through righteousness achieved through a good mind."

"Zarathustra now expresses his fundamental alliance with these forces of the Wise Lord by first avowing his commitment with these forces of the Wise Lord. First avowing his commitment to truth, the prophet asks for the Lord's direction to be given to him through his own grasp of good thinking."

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