Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 395: Let me run to the relief of those sinking in the mire of misfortune -Dasturji Dhalla's Prayer for the day - Homage unto Ahura Mazda Part 3(b) Prayer #14

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Institute of Zoroastrian Studies *Public Lecture Series*

The North American Mobeds Council (NAMC) is a consortium of Mobeds of North America dedicated to service the Religious and Spiritual needs of the North American Zoroastrian Community.

The Institute of Zoroastrian Studies is an Educational Arm of NAMC with an objective to train Mobeds and impart knowledge of Zoroastrianism to fellow Zoroastrians and to the general public.

Hence, The Institute of Zoroastrian Studies (IZS) has created a series of monthly lectures on ZOOM for all to attend. The first one starts at 2 PM ET Sunday December 20th.

These monthly lectures by learned Mobeds is an initiative of the Institute of Zoroastrian Studies for the enlightenment of the general public.

The lecture series with the short Bios of the presenter and a short summary of the lecture can be found by clicking the following website link.

Please visit <u>http://namcmobeds.org/wp-content/uploads/NAMC-Institute-Lecture-Series.pdf</u> for more information.

REQUEST TO SUPPORT YOUNG MOBED ZAHAAN TUREL

Er. Zahaan Turel, 14 years of age, a student of Dadar Athornan Institutute, presently with his family at Surat due to the lockdown, was performing Boi ceremony at the Goti Adarian, known for its many miraculous incidents, when his priestly attire – Jama – caught fire resulting in Zahaan receiving 48.5% burns on various parts of young frame.

After receiving initial treatment at Surat, Zahaan was rushed to Mumbai where he has been admitted to Masina Hospital, where burns treatment, is one of their many specialties.

Incidentally, the Turel family have been serving the Goti Adariyan for 9 decades, generation, with Zahaan being the 7th generation of Turel family serving the holy fire.

Zahaan's family is in need of funds for the treatment which will be a rather long drawn affair.

We have attached a PDF file with details about this tragic incident and need for the family to have funds for his treatment.

Please give generously for this young Ervad.

Let me run to the relief of those sinking in the mire of misfortune

With the above tragic incident, the Turel family and their relatives must be mired in this misfortune wondering from where they will receive some help from Zoroastrian Humdins of the Hafta Keshwar Zamin.

I was trying to write something for the family to give them some moral support in these very trying times. Our own Dinshaw Tamboly, WZO Trust Fund President has gathered the details for this young Ervad and his family which is attached to this WZSE.

Then I turned to our own Dasturji Dhalla and his wonderful daily prayers in English prayer book: Homage Unto Ahura Mazda – and found this prayer, Part 3(b), Prayer #14 and present it for today's WZSE. I hope this will soothe Turel Family a little.

Once again please donate generously.

So today, we present this prayer: "*Let me run to the relief of those sinking in the mire of misfortune*", available at:

http://www.zarathushtra.com/z/article/dhalla/ch3b/iiib14.htm

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

Let me run to the relief of those sinking in the mire of misfortune

When trouble seizes man and he is filled with dismay, his mind sinks in sorrow and heart bends with grief. When he smarts under poignant sorrow, he dives deep in gloom. Melancholy preys on his health. The sorrows under which he groans and the misfortunes he suffers, dig hollow in his countenance. Adversity ploughs his face with furrows, bends his back and dims the luster of his eyes. Worry makes him old before his time. He seems to grow a year older every day. Misfortune withers to an early grave.

Sorrow is lessened, when it is shared by others. Suffering is sweetened, when others weep with the sufferer.

Deeply does my heart ache for the sufferings of my neighbors. Let me gently and soothingly enter into the sorrows and griefs of others. I will not be callous to the misery that surrounds me. I will not veil from my eyes the sight of the sufferings of others. I will look into them with the feeling heart and strive and struggle to soften them. I will share them. Sympathizing with the sorrow of others and bearing of their griefs dull the edge of my sorrow.

When adversity confronts me, I will face it and fight it and conquer it. I will not indulge in melancholy forebodings. I will maintain equanimity in the midst of my misfortune. As the violent tempests and gales agitate but the surface of the sea

and reach not the depth, so when I find myself in the midst of sorrow and suffering, will I try to maintain unperturbed calm in the depth of my heart.

Joy is vociferous; sorrow is silent. I will hide my sorrow deep in my heart. I will bury my misery in my soul. I will try not to give way to despair and dive deep in the abyss of despondency.

Yet weak and frail is man. When a great weight is on my spirits, when my heart is sore distressed, when sorrows and sufferings surge around me and I see no way out from my gloom and I have no strength to endure, I will wail and weep under my breath to thee, my Comforter. Thou, I know, art at hand to soothe my sorrow. Thou dost dwell in my heart. Thither will I betake myself and unburden my breast to thee. Deliver me from my distress. Help me to retrieve my position, when misfortune befalls me. Let bright, happy days dawn on me again, Ahura Mazda.

SPD Comments

1. What a beautiful prayer Dasturji Dhalla wrote in his book which fits perfectly for all of us to help out the Turel family.

2. The key point in this prayer is that during such calamities we all are compelled to seek comfort in Daadaar Ahura Mazda through our wonderful prayers.

3. Such difficult times make us realize how wonderful our prayers are as we seek solace in reciting/hearing these prayers.

4. We want to thank all the Drs., Nurses, and all other service people who at the risk of their own lives are helping the sick!

Jo Ann and I wish the Turel family good health and happiness during these very difficult times.

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