

WZSE – Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 49.

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Today we revert back to Yasna Haptanghaaiti, Yasna 35-42, regarded as the oldest Avesta liturgy after Zarathushtra's Gathas.

The seven Has of Yasna Haptanghaaiti, Has 35-41, together with its supplement Ha 42, comprise Moti (Larger) Haptan Yasht. These 8 Has are sandwiched between Ahunavaiti Gatha Has 28-34 and the rest of the Gathas Has 43-53.

As we have covered in previous Weekly Extracts, "the four liturgies to be **recited thrice** are, Ys 27.14 (Ashem Vohu), 33.11, 53.9 from the Gathas, and Ys 35.5 from Haptanghaaiti. "

(Understanding and Practice of Obsequies – Ervad Jehan Bagli and Ervad Adi Unwalla)

Being the only prayers to be recited three or four times, indicates their power and importance!

Today, we will present one of the liturgies to be recited three times from Yasna Haptanghaaiti, Yasna 35.5:

We offer the rule to the Best Ruler - Ahura Mazda!

Yasna Haptanghaaiti Yasna 35 Verse 5:

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

**(5) Hukhshathrotemaai baat khshathrem,
Ahmat hyat aibî,
Dademahichaa, Chîshmahichaa, hvâanmahichaa,
Hyat Mazdaaî Ahuraai ashaaichaa vahishtaai.**

(to be recited three times)

We offer the rule to the Best Ruler - Ahura Mazda!

Yasna Haptanghaaiti Yasna 35 Verse 5

Translation:

**As far as we are concerned,
we offer, assign and impart
the rule to the one
whose rule is indeed the very best,
namely the Wise Lord (Mazda Ahura),
and to the best truth.**

(From Prof. Almut Hintze: *A Zoroastrian Liturgy – The Worship in Seven Chapters (Yasna 35-41)* Page 77)

SPD Comments

1. A number of scholars over the years have suggested that Yasna Haptanghaaiti is composed by Zarathushtra's disciples, right after his passing away. Some even suggest that they were written by Zarathushtra himself.

2. The most recent and very scholarly and detailed work on Yasna Haptanghaaiti is by Prof. Almut Hintze, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London, in her book: ***A Zoroastrian Liturgy – The Worship in Seven Chapters (Yasna 35-41)*, Harrassowitz Verlag, Wiesbaden, 2007.**

3. This is a very scholarly and detailed work giving verse by verse translation as well as detailed notes on each verse.

4. For the Yasna 35, from which we have taken the above verse, she states:

“In Y (Yasna) 35, the first chapter of YH (Yasna Haptanghaaiti), the worshippers express their commitment to good thoughts, words, and deeds, as well as to providing peace and pasture for the cow (the mother earth?!) (35.2-4). They attribute all power to the one whose rule is best, i.e. to Ahura Mazda, and urge every person, male or female, to practice and proclaim what is good (5-6). They recognize that what is best is the veneration (yasnemchaa vahemchaa) of Ahura Mazda, on the one hand, and the care of the cow (the mother earth?!), on the other. To the best of their ability they intend to practice it and make it known to others (7). An individual voice ('I') urges each and every human being (kahmaaichit haataanm) to pursue their livelihood on both the spiritual and the material plane in 'union' (sar-) and 'community

(verezena-) with truth (8). Ahura Mazda is declared to be both teacher and receiver of the words which are being uttered. On the basis of truth, good mind and good rule, there will be never ending praises for him (9-10).”

5. This verse is also recited in Gahambar Aafringaan, verse 6.

6. Being the only prayers to be recited three or four times, indicates their power and importance!

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

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli