

WZSE – Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 50.

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Today, according to our Shehenshahi Parsi calendar, it is Aadar Mahino (month) and Aadar Roj (day), traditionally called Aadar Yazad nu Parab. (Parab falls on a day of the same name as the month).

Today is also one of the most auspicious day, Saal Gareh of Holy Iranshah in Udvada! Hundreds of Parsis/Iranis thronged Iranshah Aatash Behram today and over 1000+ people were fed a Gahambar lunch by the Petit Charities right next to Iranshah!

Almost all Parsis/Iranis have great faith in this oldest Atash Behram where the resplendent fire burns continuously since 720 AD!!

In honor of Iranshah's Saal Gareh, we would present the first verse of the Aatash Nyaayesh (Yasna Ha 62 Verse 1)!

Aatash Niyaayesh Verse 1 (Yasna 62 Verse 1) AVESTA PRAYER:

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

(1) Yasnemcha vahmemcha,
Huberetîmcha ushta-beretîmcha vanta-beretîmcha,
Aafrîdami tava aatarsh puthra ahurahé mazdaao,
Yésnyo ahi vahmyo, yésnyo buyao vahmyo,
Nmaanaahu mashyaakaanam,
Ushta buyaat ahmaai nairé
Yase-thwaa baadha fraayazaaité,
Aésmo zasto, baresmo-zasto, gao-zasto, haavano-zasto!

Aatash Niyaayesh Verse 1 (Yasna 62 Verse 1) English Translation:

(1) I bless the sacrifice and prayer,
The good offering, and the devotional offering offered unto
Thee,
Oh Fire! son of Ahura Mazda.
Worthy of sacrifice mayest art thou,
Worthy of prayer,
In the dwelling of men.
Happiness may there be unto that man

Who verily shall sacrifice unto Thee,
With fuel (Sukhad) in his hand,
With the Baresman in his hand,
With milk in his hand,
With the mortar (Haavanim) in his hand.

(Translation from *The Nyaishes or Zoroastrian Litanies, Avestan Text, with the Pahlavi, Sanskrit, Persian and Gujarati Versions*, Edited together and translated with notes by Dasturji Dr. Maneckji N. Dhalla, Presented as his Ph. D. Thesis, Columbia University, under the guidance of Prof. A. V. Williams Jackson)

SPD Comments:

1. As mentioned in our previous Weekly Extracts, many of our Khordeh Avesta prayers are attributed to Dasturan Dastur Adarbad Mahrespand, the Mobedaan Mobed (high priest) in the reign of the illustrious Sassanian Emperor Shahpur II (309 – 379 AD).

Many of our daily prayers have stanzas taken from Zarathushtra's Gathas, Yasna, Visperad and Vendidad. e. g. Our daily Kemnaa Mazdaa Prayer's first 2 stanzas and the last sentence is from Gathas and 3rd stanza is from Vendidad.

Almost all of Aatash Niyaaesh is taken from Gathas and Yasna Haa 62.

2. Dasturji Dhalla's Thesis on Nyaishes was the first time these 5 daily litanies were collated from Pahlavi, Sanskrit, Persian and Gujarati manuscripts with translations by Dasturji for each one of them.

3. Dasturji Dhalla says in the introduction of this book:

“The Nyaishes, or Zoroastrian litanies, are a collection of five short prayers or ascriptions of praise addressed to the Sun, Moon, Water, and Fire, and to the Angels Khurshed, Mihr, Mah, Ardivisur, and Atash, who preside over these elements. They are composed of fragments taken from the Yasna and Yashts which are found in the Greater Avesta, and they form an important part of the Khordeh Avesta, or Lesser Avesta, a redaction of which, together with introductory Pazand prayers, was begun by Dastur Adarbad Mahrespand during the reign of Shapur 2 (310-379 A. D.), and kept up in a way for a long time. These litanies constitute a sort of religious chrestomathy, consisting of

short prayers, invocations, supplications, deprecations, and obsecrations employed in daily use by laymen as well as by priests.

Like the greater part of the Avesta, the original Avestan Nyaishes were rendered into Pahlavi (about 700-900 A. D.), later into Sanskrit (1200), into Persian (1600-1800), and lastly into Gujarati (1818). The Pahlavi, Persian, and Gujarati versions of all the Nyaishes have come down to us complete together with commentaries of an exegetical nature. The Sanskrit version, on the other hand, is complete for the Khurshed, Mah, and Atash Nyaishes; but is lacking in the case of the Mihr and Aban Nyaishes, so far as our manuscript material goes.”

May the Flame of Fellowship, Love, Charity and Tolerance burn ever eternal in our hearts so we can do HIS work with humility, diligence and eternal enthusiasm!

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

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli