

WZSE – Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 71.

Hello all Tele Class friends:

On the upcoming very auspicious day, Shehensahi Ardibehesht Maah, Kadmi Khordaad Mah and Fasli Meher Maah, and Sheherevar Roj, Saturday, September 20th 2014, our humdins in Zoroastrian Association of Metropolitan Washington DC Inc. (ZAMWI) will have the glorious inauguration of their brand new Kamran Dar-e-Meher (KDM)! It is a gift to ZAMWI by the philanthropic Iranian Zarathushtri, Late Ravanshad Behdin Khodamorad Kamran, who built the KDM on his own and gifted it to the ZAMWI Humdins. (See the attached photo)

There will be an inauguration Jashan led by our own Mobed Saheb Brigadier General Ervad Behram M. Panthaki together with other Mobeds and Mobedyar. It will be my distinct pleasure to participate in this auspicious opening of the KDM and the Jashan!

So, in honor of this KDM opening, let us talk about a very familiar scenario. When we visit an Agiyari or Atash Behram, before going inside the Sanctum, what we usually take or buy outside to offer to the Atash Padshah? A stick or two of Sukhad (sandal wood) and/or a piece of hard wood Baawal Kaathi. Have you ever thought about why we do this? Do we blindly follow every one? Are we enjoined to do it?

The answer is in the last 3 Verses of the Atash Nyayesh (from Yasna 62 Verses 8 – 10) that most of us pray in front of the Atash Padshah. These three Verses we are going to learn today as follows:

They are from Ervad Kavasji Edulji Kangaji's Khordeh Avesta Ba Maeni, originally in Gujarati, but later translated into English by Prof. Ervad Maneck F. Kanga. The beauty of these books is the word by word translation which gives some idea of the meaning of each word in our prayers.

So, to my ZAMWI and other Humdins who will be paying their respect to this new KDM and to all Hafta Keshwar Zamin Humdins who will be visiting an Agiyari or Atash Behram, we want them to remember these Atash Nyayesh Verses!

Atash Padshah Wishes and Blesses Visiting Devotees Bringing a Present - Yasna 62 Verses 8 – 10:

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

(8) Vispanaam para-charentaam, Aatarsh zasta aa-didhaya,
Chim hakha hashe baraiti, fracharethwaaao armaeshaaidhe.
Aatarem spentem yazamaide, takhmem hantem rathaeshtaarem.

(9) Aaat yezi-she aem baraiti,

Aesmem vaa ashaya beretem,
Baresma vaa ashaya frastaretem,
Urvaraam vaa hadhaanepataam,
Aa he paschaeta frinaiti, Aatarsh Mazdaao Ahurahe,
Khshnuto atbishto hakhdhanghum.

(10) Upa thwaa hakshoit geush vaanthwa,
Upa viranaam pourutaas!
Upa-thwaa verezvatcha mano,
Verezvatcha hakshoit anguha!
Urvaakhsh-anguha gaya jigaesha,
Taa khshapano yaa jvaahi!
Imat Aathro aafrihanem,
Yo ahmaai aesmem baraiti hikush,
Raochas-pairishtaana ashaha bereja yaozhdaataan!

Atash Padshah Wishes and Blesses Visiting Devotees Bringing a Present - Yasna 62 Verses 8 – 10 English Translation:

(8) Atash Padshah looks at the hands of all devotees and says:

“What does the walking friend bring to the sitting friend?”

We praise the Atash Padshah, the beneficent, powerful, shining,

And the warrior against the demons!

(9) But if the devotee religiously brings unto that Atash Padshah either fuel,

with sincere heart, or Baresman spread,

or the fragrant Hadhaanaepata plant ,

sanctimoniously unto that offerer,

the Fire of Ahura Mazda being pleased,

revered and satisfied gives this blessing:

(10) Unto thy family, may the flock of cattle increase!

Unto thy family may there be an increase of heroic men!

May thou have an active mind !
May thy life be active !

Mayest thou live a joyous life, those nights that thou livest !

This is the blessing of the Fire for him/her who brings to that fire
dry fuel, examined in the light and purified with the blessings of
righteousness.

(Translation from Ervad Kangaji's Gujarati [Khordeh Avesta](#) Translated Into
English)

SPD Explanation:

1. First of all we want to thank the Kamran family for their magnanimous gift to ZAMWI, and also to congratulate the whole ZAMWI community for making this a reality!

2. The walking friend referred to above is the devotee coming to the Atash Padshah,
and the sitting friend is the Atash Padshah itself!

3. "Baresman spread" refers to the Barsam in the olden days collected from the twigs of myrtle or pomegranate trees and so can be the offering to the Atash Padshah in dried state.

4. "The fragrant Hadhaanaepata plant" was used as offering to Atash Padshah in Iran.

Kangaji does not have any further information about this plant.

5. "May the flock of cattle increase" refers to the very olden agricultural days where one's wealth was counted in the number of the cattle one owns.

6. "Dry fuel, examined in the light" refers to the requirement that we offer to Atash Padshah only dried, well examined wood, and not a wet one.
Many times some Mobed Sahebs in Atash Behrams and Agiyaris reject the offering of a devotee because they felt that the offering is not to the par!

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

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli

