

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 93 – **Zarathushtra's Benediction to King Vishtaaspa - Aafrin-e-Spitamaan Zarthosht - Part 1 of 2 - Verses 1-4**

Hello all Tele Class friends:

May we wish you all a belated Happy Valentine! May you have a life full of happiness with your loved ones!

At the very outset, let me apologize for the length of this weekly. However, it is connected to the last week's verses from Aafrin-e-Buzorgaan, and it is believed that these are the very words of Vakshur-e-Vakshuran Zarathushtra Spitamaan! Yes it is a hidden treasure by our Prophet besides his ever fresh Gathas!

So today, we will present the first 4 of 8 verses of our Prophet's words from Aafrin Paegaambar Zartosht! (also contained in the first part of Vishtaaspa Yasht). Next week we will present the rest as Part 2 of 2. However, I have attached the full recording of all 8 verses to this weekly.

Our eminent scholar Kangaji translated word by word Yasna, Vendidad, Visperad, Yashts and Khordeh Avesta into Gujarati language around 1880, the most sought after Zoroastrian scriptures books. Parsi Panchayat Trustees saw a need to translate these books into English and entrusted this monumental task to another eminent scholar, Prof. Ervad Maneckji Kanga in 1980. He could translate Kangaji's Khordeh Avesta, Yashts and Gathas from his Gujarati work into English word by word before his death in 1988.

In Kangaji Gujarati *Khordeh Avesta*, he included all our Aafringaans and Aafrins. Unfortunately, Prof. Kanga did not translate them into his English translation. Hence, you have only Kangaji's Gujarati *Khordeh Avesta* to obtain this Aafrin. I knew about it being in this Khordeh Avesta but never really paid any attention to it. However I just stumble upon it and found what is presented today.

Here is what eminent scholar, Ervad J. J. Modi has to say about Aafrin Paegaambar Zartosht:

“While all the Afrins above referred to are in the Pazand language, this is the only Afrin in the old Avesta language. Strictly speaking, it cannot be put into the class of Afrins, by which term is generally understood prayers recited after the Afrinagans as benedictions, because it is never recited during the Afrinagan ceremony. But in the strict and literal sense of the word Afrin, it is a real Afrin or a benediction. It is addressed in the second person. It is so called because it is said to have been composed by Zarthosht or Zoroaster and addressed to his royal patron king Gushtaspa. Such being the case, its phraseology is to a great extent adopted, even now, by the Dasturs and other priests when they present laudatory addresses to personages of the Royal family.”

As presented in our last weekly, we stated that after all our Jashan Prayers, the Joti – the lead Mobed – usually recites the three Aafrins – Benediction Prayers - which are Aafrins of Ardaafravash, Buzorgaan and Hafta Ameshaashpands. We presented some verses from Aafrin-e-Buzorgaan which were full of blessings.

Hence, today we will present to you as Part 1 of this Aafrin Paegaambar Zartosht Verses 1-4:

Zarathushtra's Benediction to King Vishtaaspa - Aafrin-e-Spitamaan Zarthosht – Part 1 - Verses 1-4

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

**(1) Dahmo ahmi aafree-wachao;
Kharenanguhao may sadyehi,
Aa-at aokhta Zarathushtro Kavosh Vishtaaspahe,
Aafreenaami tava, nar danghu-paity,
Vohu-jeeti, us-jeeti, dareghem-jeeti;
Jaitay teh naraanm jaitay teh naairikaanm,
Jaitay teh puthra us-jayaaonteh tanu-kereta.**

**(2) Aeva teh bawaahi yatha Jaamaaspo,
Uta aafreenem kerenwaat
Yatha dangheush Vishtaaspaai,
Sewishto bawaahi yatha Mazdaao;
Verethrajaao yatha Thraetaono;
Amava yatha Jaamaaspo;
Asha-warechao yatha Kava Us;
Pouroo-jeero yatha Aoshnaro;
Jenanghudem bawaahi yatha Takhmo Ooroopa.**

**(3) Kharenanghuntem bawaahi yatha yo Yeemo Khshaeto Havaanthwo;
Hazangra-yaokshtyo bawaahi yatha Azhoish Dahkaai Aga-daena;
Ughrem aojishtem bawaahi yatha Keresaspem;
Hudhaaonghem wyaakhnem bawaahi yatha Urvaakshahe;
Sreerem kehrpem anaastrawanem bawaahi yatha Kava Syaavarshaano;**

**(4) Pourugo bawaahi yatha Aathvyaanoish,
Puru aspem bawaahi yatha Pourushaspem;
Ashawa bawaahi yatha Zarathushtro Spitaamo;
Ranghaanm doorae-paraanm bawaahi yatha yo Vifro Navaajo;
Urvatho bawaahi yazatanaanm yatha Jaronem Mashyaanaanm.**

Zarathushtra's Benediction to King Vishtaaspa - Aafrin-e-Spitamaan Zarthosht – Part 1 - Verses 1-4

(1) “I am a pious man, who speaks the following words of blessings. You look resplendent in your face“ thus said Zarathustra to the young king Vishtaspa.

Then he continued: “O young king Vishtaspa! You are living a life of

righteousness, of an exalted position, of long period, as a fearless warrior! To you Oh King, I shower the following blessings:

“May your people live long lives!

May your wife live a long life!

May the children born by you and your wife live long lives!

(2) May your one son be like Jaamaaspa, the healer!

And he like Jaamaaspa respect you!

May you be a doer of good deeds like Daadaar Ahura Mazda!

May you be one who defeats his enemies like Faredoon!

May you be full of bravery like Jaamaaspa!

May you be full of aura like Kae Kaaus!

May you be full of cleverness like Aoshnar!

May you be well armed like Tehmuras!

(3) May you be like King Jamshed who was full of aura and who protected his people very well!

May you be full of thousand tricks like the evil Zohaak!

May you be victorious and very strong like Keresaspa!

May you be like Urwaakhsha full of righteous knowledge and worthy of sitting in Anjuman among great people!

May you be like Kae Siyaavakhsh of great beauty and proven innocence!

(4) May you be like the Aathavyaan family as the owner of many cattle!

May you be like Pourushaspa as the owner of several horses!

May you be righteous like Spitamaan Zartoshta!

May you be like Vifra Navaaj who was of great strength to be able to walk and reach the far away River Rangha and to cross it!

May you be favorite of Yazatas like a leader of men!

(English Translation by me from [Kangaji Gujarati Khordeh Avesta](#) – Pages 420-425)

SPD Explanation:

1. Comparing the last weekly with this one, we see a very striking similarity in the basic thoughts of both the benedictions, one in Avesta of this Aafrin

and one in Pazand of Aafrin-e-Buzorgaan. Many historical names are same like Jaamaaspa, Zarthosht, etc. but with their different qualities.

2. Such translations of sentences are found in many of our Pazand prayers from their original Avesta prayers. For example, in Hoshbam, we pray: "May good people be the leaders; may evil people do not". The same words are translated in our Pazand Aafrin-e-Hafta Ameshaashpands, etc.
3. As Dr, J. J. Modi says in the above mentioned quote that this Aafrin is not used at all but some Dasturjis and Mobeds in his time were using it when they present laudatory addresses to personages of the Royal family.

Next week, we will present the rest of this Aafrin Paegaambar Zartosht,

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