

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 141 – Dadar Ahura Mazda's 52 More Names from Hormazd Yasht - Verses 12 - 13

Hello all Tele Class friends:

I apologize for repeating the following presented in our previous weeklies #16 and #17 almost 2 1/2 years ago in August/September 2013.

But they have close connections with the next two weeklies and so here it goes:

Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitamaan, our prophet, composed his 5 Gathas in 17 Chapters, as songs.

In many of his songs, he has a dialog going between him and Dadar Ahura Mazda in form of Questions and Answers; however, Zarathushtra's questions in Gathas were never answered by Ahura Mazda; instead, Zarathushtra uses his Vohu Mana, good mind, and with the help of Asha – truth, righteousness, love, etc. – figures out his own answers. This is quite a unique dialog in that respect.

Later composers of our scriptures like Yasna, Yashts and Vendidad used the same form of dialog between Zarathushtra and Ahura Mazda to lend their compositions credibility.

However, in this case, all Zarathushtra's questions are answered by Ahura Mazda, a quite distinct difference from the Gathas.

The most prominent of these compositions is our first Yasht, Hormazd Yasht, naturally dedicated to Dadar Ahura Mazda.

Dr. Purviz Kolsawala in his thesis mentions:

“The Ahura Mazda Yasht is exclusively devoted to an enumeration of the names of Ahura Mazda and to a laudation of their virtues and efficacy. The recitation of these names is the best defense against all danger. It appears that the subject of the names of Ahura Mazda and their efficacy appears to be dealt twice, from paragraphs 1-11 and from 12-19.”

He further states:

“Dasturji Khurshed Dabu believed that this Yasht was composed to sing praises of the Creator and to show how effective the recital of His names is. Dasturji Dabu also believed that each Name in this Yasht is full of deep philosophical meaning on which one could meditate. However he was not sure whether simple repetition of His names alone could give material wealth. There is no mention of continuously reciting His names (say 101 times) in this Yasht. Although God is Impersonal and without Shape, it is impossible to know Him, without assigning attributes to Him.”

He then presents his opinion as follows:

“All of these Holy Names are based on some quality or virtue inherent in our conception of Ahura Mazda. Thus, constantly chanting His name establishes in our sub-conscious mind and psyche the quality and virtue indicated by that particular Name and it becomes a part of our inner life. We thus become more pure and keen to lead a holy, righteous life. This is the power and efficacy of Maanthra Spenta or

Beneficent Maanthras.”

So, in our previous weeklies #16 and #17, we presented the dialog between Zarathushtra and Dadar Ahura Mazda in which Zarathushtra asks Ahura Mazda which are the Maanthras to ward off all Evils?

To which Ahura Mazda replies: “Our names, Oh Holy Zarathushtra! The names of us 7 Amshaaspands!”

He then gives 20 names of HIM which we covered in our weeklies #16 and #17 at:

<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse16.pdf>

<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse17.pdf>

In the later part of Hormazd Yasht, Dadar Ahura Mazda gives 52 more names of HIM and we will present them in the next two weeklies #141 and #142.

So, here are the first 30 additional names of Dadar Ahura Mazda from Hormazd Yasht, Verses 12 –13. Next week we will present the rest of the 52 names of Dadar Ahura Mazda.

Please note that I numbered these 52 names sequentially just to make it easy to connect the Avesta sentences with their English translations.

Dadar Ahura Mazda's 52 More Names from Hormazd Yasht - Verses 12 - 13

(Please hear the attached .mp3 file for the recitation of all 52 names)

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| (12) 1. Paayushcha ahmi; | = 1. I am the Protector; |
| 2. Daataacha thraataacha ahmi; | = 2. I am the Creator and Nourisher; |
| 3. Znaataacha mainyushcha ahmi spentotemo; | = 3. I am the Discerning and the most Bountiful Spirit. |
| 4. Baeshazaya naama ahmi; | = 4. I am the Healer by name; |
| 5. Baeshazayotema naama ahmi; | = 5. I am the Best Healer by name; |
| 6. Aathrava naama ahmi; | = 6. I am the Aathravan (the one who tends the sacred Divine Flame) by name; |
| 7. Aathravatema naama ahmi; | = 7. I am the Highest Aathravan by name; |
| 8. Ahura naama ahmi; | = 8. I am the Lord of Creation by name; |
| 9. Mazdaao naama ahmi; | = 9. I am the Lord of Wisdom by name; |
| 10. Ashava naama ahmi; | = 10. I am the Righteous by name; |
| 11. Ashavastema naama ahmi; | = 11. I am the most Righteous by name; |
| 12. Khvarenangha naama ahmi; | = 12. I am the Glorious by name; |
| 13. Khvarenangu-hastema naama ahmi; | = 13. I am the Most Glorious by name; |
| 14. Pouru-darshta naama ahmi; | = 14. I am the Full Seeing by name; |
| 15. Pouru-darshtema naama ahmi; | = 15. I am the Fullest Seeing by name; |
| 16. Duraeh-darshta naama ahmi; | = 16. I am the Far Seeing by name; |
| 17. Duraeh-darshtema naama ahmi; | = 17. I am the Farthest Seeing by name; |
| (13) 18. Spashta naama ahmi; | = 18. I am the Watcher by name; |
| 19. Vitah naama ahmi; | = 19. I am the All Pervading by name; |
| 20. Daata naama ahmi; | = 20. I am the Creator by name; |

21. Paata naama ahmi; = 21. I am the Protector by name;
 22. Thraata naama ahmi; = 22. I am the Nourisher by name;
 23. Znaata naama ahmi; = 23. I am the Knower by name;
 24. Znoishta naama ahmi; = 24. I am the All knowing by name;
 25. Fshumao naama ahmi; = 25. I am the Lord of Prosperity by name;
 26. Fshusho-maanthra naama ahmi; = 26. I am the Holy Word of Prosperity by name;
 27. Iseh-khshathro naama ahmi; = 27. I am the Potent Ruler by name;
 28. Iseh-khshathryotema naama ahmi; = 28. I am the Omnipotent Ruler by name;
 29. Naamo-khshathro naama ahmi; = 29. I am the Exalted Ruler by name;
 30. Naamo-khshathryotema naama ahmi; = 30. I am the Most Exalted Ruler by name;

(From Ervad Kangaji *Khordesh Avesta Baa Maaeni* translated in English, Dr. I. J. S. Taraporewala and T. R. Sethna *Khordesh Avestas*)

SPD Explanation:

1. Most of us are very familiar with the 101 Names of Dadar Ahura Mazda which we are enjoined to pray after our Kusti prayers.
 Please note that these 101 names are in Pazand language and were composed much later.
 We covered them in our weeklies #100 and #101 at:

<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse100.pdf>
<http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse101.pdf>

Most of us do not know these 20 + 52 = 72 names in original Avesta.

2. I am sure there are many Avesta names translated in Pazand in our 101 names. e.g.

23. **Parvaraa** = Nourisher.
 24. **Iyaanah** = Protector of the world.
 95. **Daadaar** = The just creator.

are similar to the first two Names above:

1. **Paayushcha ahmi;**
 2. **Daataacha thraataacha ahmi;**

1. **I am the Protector;**
 2. **I am the Creator and Nourisher;**

Also:

96. **Rayömand** = Full of luster-splendour.
 97. **Khorehömand** = Full of khoreh i.e. glory.

are similar to:

- 12. Khvarenangha naama ahmi;**
13. Khvarenangu-hastema naama ahmi;

- 12. I am the Glorious by name;**
13. I am the Most Glorious by name;

And so on.

3. We will cover the rest of the 52 Names in our next Weekly #142.

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