

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 391: Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitamaan's First Sermon - Ahunavaiti Gatha - Yasna 30, Verses 9-11

Hello all Tele Class friends:

Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitamaan's first sermon:

The Five Gathas: Ahunavad, Ushtavad, Spentomad, Vohukhshathra and Vahishtoisht have been composed as songs by Zarathushtra himself. They consist of 17 Haas (chapters) neatly tucked away in 72 Haas of Yasna from Yasna 28 - 34, 43 - 51 and 53.

All scholars are amazed at the construction of all the Gatha songs in exact meters, created some 3500+ years ago by a master poet Zarathushtra. Our own Parsi Avesta and Sanskrit scholar,

Dr. Irach JS Taraporewala, in his opus: The Divine Songs Of Zarathushtra, presents in its Appendix, consisting of 146 pages, from page 863 to 908, detailed description of these Gathas meters.

This book is available from FEZANA Admin from FEZANA office.

Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan Zarathushtra Spitamaan's first sermon is in Ahunavaiti Gatha, Yasna 30.

In its first Verse, Zarathushtra lays out the boundaries of his sermon: Listen with an open mind, think and decide using your Vohu Mana (Good Mind) what to do (Verse 2), and two spirits, good and evil, and the consequences of your choice between them (Verses 3 – 6), etc.

All these verses will be found at:

Verse 2: <http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse30.pdf>

Verses 1, 3-4: <http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse354.pdf>

Verses 5 – 6: <http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse355.pdf>

Verses 7 – 8: <http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse357.pdf>

Today, we will cover Verses 9 – 11 of this sermon, which will complete this Yasna 30, Zarathushtra's first sermon. In these verses, Zarathushtra states that may Ahura Mazda guides our efforts through truth. And the untruthful will receive a blow of destruction, whereas truthful will receive the blessed abode. He then asks the people to mark Ahura Mazda's commandments so as to receive the bliss of happiness.

So, here are the last three verses of Zarathushtra's first sermon:

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

Prayer Text	Translation
(9) At-cha toî vaém khyaamaa yoî îm frashém kérénaaûn ahûm, Mazdaaoscha Ahuraaongho aa moyastraa baranaa ashaachaa, Hyat hathraa manaao bavat yathraa chistish anghat maéthaa.	(9) So, may we be like those making the world progress toward perfection. May Mazda and the Divine Spirits help us and guide our efforts through Truth, For a thinking man is where Wisdom is at home.
(10) Adaa-zi avaa drûjo avo bavaîfî skéndo spayathrahyaa, At asishtaa yaojantéh aa hushitoîsh Vanghéush Manangho, Mazdaao ashakhyaachaa, yoi zazentî vanghaaû sravahî.	(10) Then truly cometh the blow of destruction upon Untruth, While those of good renown shall be received in the promised abode, The blessed abode of the Good Mind, of Truth, and of the Wise Lord.
(11) Hayat taa ûrvaataa sashathaa yaa Mazdaao dadaat, mashyaaongho, Khvîtichaa énéîti, hyat-chaa darégém dregvodébyo rasho, Savachaa ashavabyo, at aîpî taaîsh anghaîfî úshtaa.	(11) O ye mortals, mark these commandments, the commandments the Wise Lord has given for happiness and for pain: Long suffering for the doer of Evil, and bliss for the follower of Truth, The illumination of salvation for the Righteous ever after.

(The Gathas – The Hymns of Zarathushtra – Translated by D. J. Irani – Edited and with an Introduction by our own ZAGNY scholar and Professor late Prof. Kaikhosrov D. Irani, Page 19)

SPD Comments:

1. In his book on Gathas edited by his illustrious son, our own Prof. K. D. Irani, Dinshaw Irani in his book: *The Gathas – The Hymns of Zarathushtra* – states the following for this first sermon of our Vakhshur-e-Vakhshuraan, Zarathushtra Spitamaan:

Ahunavaiti 3 [Y 30]. This Ha presents some of the central themes of the theology. Zarathushtra, in the first verse, declares that he is about to announce the divine

teachings.

The next verse informs his audience that they should listen to his words with an enlightened mind, and then decide upon a way of life. This is the theme of choice, fundamental to the faith. We humans have free will, we must choose, and bear the responsibility for that choice. What are the fateful alternatives of that choice? These are presented in subsequent verses.

That is the doctrine of Good and Evil. For Zarathushtra, Good and Evil existed as such, and each one of us had to choose the good or the evil alternative in every situation in life. Good is chosen by the clarity of our recognition of the Truth and our innate Right-mindedness. Evil, since it is action contrary to the Ideal Truth, is chosen because one is in a state of deception; and evil is destructive of the Righteous Order in this world, a world which ought to evolve to perfection. Evil ultimately will perish. The righteous will achieve the state of Best Consciousness through their right choices, and the opposite will be the state of the evil-doers.

A very interesting summation of the whole Haa, Yasna 30, the first sermon of Zarathushtra.

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!

In HIS SERVICE 24/7!

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

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli