



atS rawh atx uh at amuh

**Avesta Script
Read Right To Left**



Hvarshta
Good
Deeds

Hukhta
Good
Words

Humata
Good
Thoughts

Good Morning!

Welcome all to

Our Ninth All NA Z Religion Tele Class

Sunday June 10th 2012 11 AM

Mah Sheherevar (6th), Roj Avan

Zoroastrian Unity Worldwide Calendar!!!



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Our Ninth All NA Z Religion Tele Class

Mah Dae (Bahman K), Roj Asman 1381 YZ (S)

Mah Khordad, Roj Govad 1381 YZ (F)

Sunday June 10th 2012 11 AM



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Roj 27 Asman nAmSA , Maah 10 – Dae vad , Y.Z. 1381 (S)

**Let us welcome participants by conference call from all FL –
Tampa Bay, Orlando, Miami ZAF and all over NA!**

**A special welcome to all our Orlando friends who have gathered
here in Dinyar Mehta’s Wingate Hotel Room for this Tele-Class!
Jo Ann and I are very humbled by your response, patience and
attendance to these classes and hope we continue this type of Z
Religious classes in the future for the betterment of all!**

Let us start with the class!

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 02

Agenda:

- 1. A quick review of all Qus. & Ans. 01 covered in last class (slides 1 – 56)**
- 2. Slides 57 – 107 Qus and their detailed Answers**
- 3. Some discussions about what to do next for these Tele-Classes**
- 6. Cyber Hum Bandagi in English**
- 7. Cyber Hama Zor Greeting**

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 02

**A quick review of all Qus. & Ans. 01 covered in last class
(slides 1 – 56)**

- **In our last Tele-class, we covered Qus. 1 to 5 (slides 1 – 56)**
- **Let us recap these 5 Questions:**

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

A quick review of all Qus. 01

1. Kersi Munshi, ZAF Secretary, Ft. Lauderdale, FL:
Was there a reason the Iranian Zs landed in India? Were they looking for India (or one of the Western princely states?) Did they want to land in the protective arms of a Hindu king to escape a Muslim invasion? The thrust of my question was whether Sanjan was an accident or by design.

2. Farzin Avari, Religious Teacher, Atlanta:
I really liked the idea of discussing the Navjote ceremony, wedding ceremony, death ceremony in more detail over a series of classes. Maybe dedicate one class to each.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

3. Yazdi Tantra, Mumbai:

I was going through the videos online and I found it more convenient to keep the videos playing in the background and listen to them, while I watched the PDF - PowerPoint presentation. On the video itself, the PowerPoint is not so clear.

Based on this, a thought occurred to me - why not record just the audio and let it play in the background while watching the slides? Anyways you are giving references to the slide no. from time to time. This way, the files will be much lighter and easier to access.

Please think about it and let me know.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

4. Farida Major, Davie, FL:

- a) In depth discussion about Navar Martab.**
- b) I would still request the slide #s to be mentioned quite often and the duration of the class extended.**
- c) Let's make one class entirely about Qus. and Ans.**
- d) I fully agree about taking charge at the Q & A session otherwise it could rapidly turn into mayhem.**
- e) As we covered the Navjote and Marriage, I would also like to see you cover the Death Ceremonies too.**
- f) Rotating the questions with everyone before the seminar is also a very good idea. Some, amongst us can communicate within ourselves if we think we know the answer too.**
- g) I am most interested in Vendidad prayers and their significance.**

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

5. Behram Pastakia, Washington, DC: (1 of 3)

a) Follow-up to the presentation yesterday, toward the end of the class there was a request for a copy of the Kadmi Khordeh Avesta.

Since Sam Kerr from Sydney, Australia has shared with us the Kadmi Hamazor prayer for which we were most grateful, (published in the winter 2011 issue of FEZANA Journal on Community Matters), I am hoping he would have a copy of the Kadmi Khordeh Avesta for us to share with those who wish to have it.

I am copying this reply to Sam Kerr.

If we are able to procure this Avesta from the Kadmi faith tradition, we could consider uploading it on the internet as we have done successfully with past issues of the FEZANA Journal.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

5. Behram Pastakia, Washington, DC: (2 of 3)

b) It just so happens that 22 April (Now 29 April), 2012 which you have chosen for the Religious Tele Class is celebrated in North America as Earth Day.

c) Since we Zarathushtis have a strong belief in caring for the earth and in being stewards for the environment to pass on to future generations, I was wondering whether you could spend some time in the next tele-class on 22 April 2012 to prayers and scriptures in our faith tradition which address this topic.

d) The first Earth Day was in fact proclaimed by then Secretary General of the United Nations, U Thant in 1970 as 21 March (the spring equinox, our Jamshedi Navroze) thanks to efforts of the visionary, John McConnell.

e) Later, the date of 22 April has been popularized by efforts of Gaylord Nelson, Senator from Wisconsin.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

5. Behram Pastakia, Washington, DC: (3 of 3)

f) I was wondering whether the power point presentation for tomorrow's tele- class could be uploaded on the NAMC website ?

g) This has a twofold advantage:

(i) Increases traffic to the NAMC website so that visitors get to know what is being accomplished.

(ii) an easy place to find the power point presentation for folks like myself, who cannot find the files when we are looking for them in the deluge of e-mails in our inboxes.

h) I have the following request for information from all NAMC Mobeds. Please let us know your ideas about what kind of trees should be planted in a NA Atashkadeh compound that relate to our Iranian old traditions and customs.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 02

Agenda:

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Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 02

Agenda:

1. Slides 57 – 107 Qus and their detailed Answers

This covers Question 6 from Hovi Shroff, Boca Raton, to Question 14 from Parashtu Dubash, Boston.

Let us cover these remaining Questions.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

6. Hovi Shroff, Boca Raton, FL:

a) meaning of the word Liturgical as to exact meaning.

Soli Dastur:

All references in Internet for liturgy goes back to Christian usage.
e.g.

lit·ur·gy [lit-er-jee] noun, plural lit·ur·gies.

1. a form of public worship; ritual.
2. a collection of formularies for public worship.
3. a particular arrangement of services.
4. a particular form or type of the Eucharistic service.
5. the service of the Eucharist, especially this service (Divine Liturgy) in the Eastern Church.

[Avesta](#): **Yasna** (Zoroastrian liturgy) source: K.F. Geldner, *Avesta. The Sacred Books of the Parsis*, Stuttgart (1896). see also avesta.org (provides English translation).

AVESTA: YASNA: Sacred Liturgy and Gathas/Hymns of Zarathushtra

[PDF](#) and [EPUB](#) of transcription are now available.

[This digital edition copyright © 1995 by Joseph H. Peterson. All rights reserved.](#)

Translated by L. H. Mills (from *Sacred Books of the East*, American Edition, 1898) except as noted.

K. E. Eduljee: Zoroastrian Heritage Liturgical Ceremonies

<http://www.heritageinstitute.com/zoroastrianism/ceremonies/liturgy.htm>

Ceremonies & Liturgies

Liturgy Definition

A liturgy is a particular arrangement of prayers that priests use in the performance of their duties, in service of the community, and in the conduct of ceremonies conducted in a prescribed manner, setting and time of day. The liturgy is often accompanied by a set of rituals. The liturgy is also distinguished from the selection of Avestan verses (mathras or manthras) used as daily prayers or when performing certain tasks.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

6. Hovi Shroff, Boca Raton, FL:

a) meaning of the word Liturgical as to exact meaning.

Soli Dastur: (Liturgical means pertaining to Liturgy.)

Liturgy means a Zoroastrian ceremony with rituals. This include Zoroastrian ceremonies like Jashan, Baj, Yasna, Vendidad, etc. Every one of these ceremonies has a prescribed prayers with rituals.

Zoroastrian Liturgies are classified as **Inner** and **Outer** liturgies.

Inner Liturgies are of higher order like Yasna, Visperad, Vendidad, Baj and can only be performed by Mobeds who have Bareshnum (ritual power) and has to be performed in an Urvisgah in a consecrated Atashkadeh.

Outer Liturgies are Jashan, Aafringaan, Baj (if performed outside Atashkadeh), and can be performed by any Mobed or even Behdins if required.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

6. Hovi Shroff, Boca Raton, FL:

b) The translation of the Farsi/Persian Navjote ceremony by Dasturji Firouzgary and your friends in North America. What a spectacular feat...

Just my ever busy brain thinking out loud.

Can ZAF take on this undertaking?

Have a ZAF family or Donor underwrite the cost of printing a small book with both the Farsi and Parsee versions/explanation of the Navjote ceremony with pictures

Sell this as a fund raiser. Just a thought???

Acknowledgements to contributors naturally have to be made

Give a small donation to FEZANA as a good will gesture in sharing the proceeds of the sale of the book.

I know I'm thinking ahead and perhaps even dreaming but the achievement of one's goals starts with a dream... so here I am dreaming in the color Green \$\$\$\$!!! (Also see the next slide)

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

8. Dolly Dastoor, FEZANA Journal Chief Editor, Montreal, Quebec

a) Maybe after you have done all lessons, we should plan on putting them in a book as "Collected Lessons by Ervad Soli Dastur"

Soli Dastur: (answer to both Hovi and Dolly for Publications)

I am gratified that you both think highly of the work we are doing in these Tele Classes that you want to publish their contents.

I am at your service as a humble Mobed.

I will help in whatever way you all deem correct to do.

May be Hovi pose the question to ZAF (Miami) Executive Board.

And Dolly: we can first complete some of the Tele Classes and then raise the question again for compiling them in a booklet form.

Once again, thank you for your loyal support and suggestions.¹⁸

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

7. Freny Deboo, Boca Raton:

We learned so much today in detail all about Navjote ceremony. It will be so very helpful to me, Jimmy and our Deboo family this year for Anisa and Ariana's Navjote. A couple of requests:

a) I need Picture and contact information of the Paatlaa made by Cawas in Dallas. **DONE**

b) Video of making Kusti (**Placed on Internet For all to browse**)
<http://zoroastrians.net/2012/04/30/kushti-making-video-frohar-films/>

c) Your presentation brought back sweet memories of my Navjote ceremony (performed in Aden Cowasjee Dinshaw Agiary) in front of the Holy Fire. Not too sure of the Dasturjee's name who did the ceremony, could be Dasturjee Minocher who lived with his family right in the compound of the Aden Agyari. (she sent me a photo of her Navjote in Aden Agyari and I will share it with all in next Tele Class!)

Zoroastrian Tele Class

Qus. & Ans. 01

7. Freny Deboo, Boca Raton:

c) Your presentation brought back sweet memories of my Navjote ceremony (performed in Aden Cowasjee Dinshaw Agiary) in front of the Holy Fire. Not too sure of the Dasturjee's name who did the ceremony, could be Dasturjee Minocher who lived with his family right in the compound of the Aden Agyari. (she sent me a photo of her Navjote in Aden Agyari and here it is!)

Thank you Freny for sharing this photo!



Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

8. Dolly Dastoor, FEZANA Journal Chief Editor, Montreal, Quebec

b) Could you request the participants that if they join later than 5 minutes they should not announce themselves? **DONE.**

c) Maybe you can dedicate 5 minutes at the end for all to announce their names, in any systematic order you wish.

Great suggestion. We will do it this Tele Class.

d) Also I endorse Farida Major's suggestion that all phones to be on mute so that the background chatter is eliminated. **DONE.**

e) In today's call two or three times there was a loud disturbance and I could not hear, I do not think it was my phone, Did you hear it as well? **Will try to eliminate them.**

Soli Dastur:

These have been already addressed in the email sent out for this class with the Presentation.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

**8. Dolly Dastoor, FEZANA Journal Chief Editor,
Montreal, Quebec**

f) On slide 74 I think please verify if the person is Dr Espandiar Ektiari or Mobed Niknam as you mentioned

Soli Dastur:

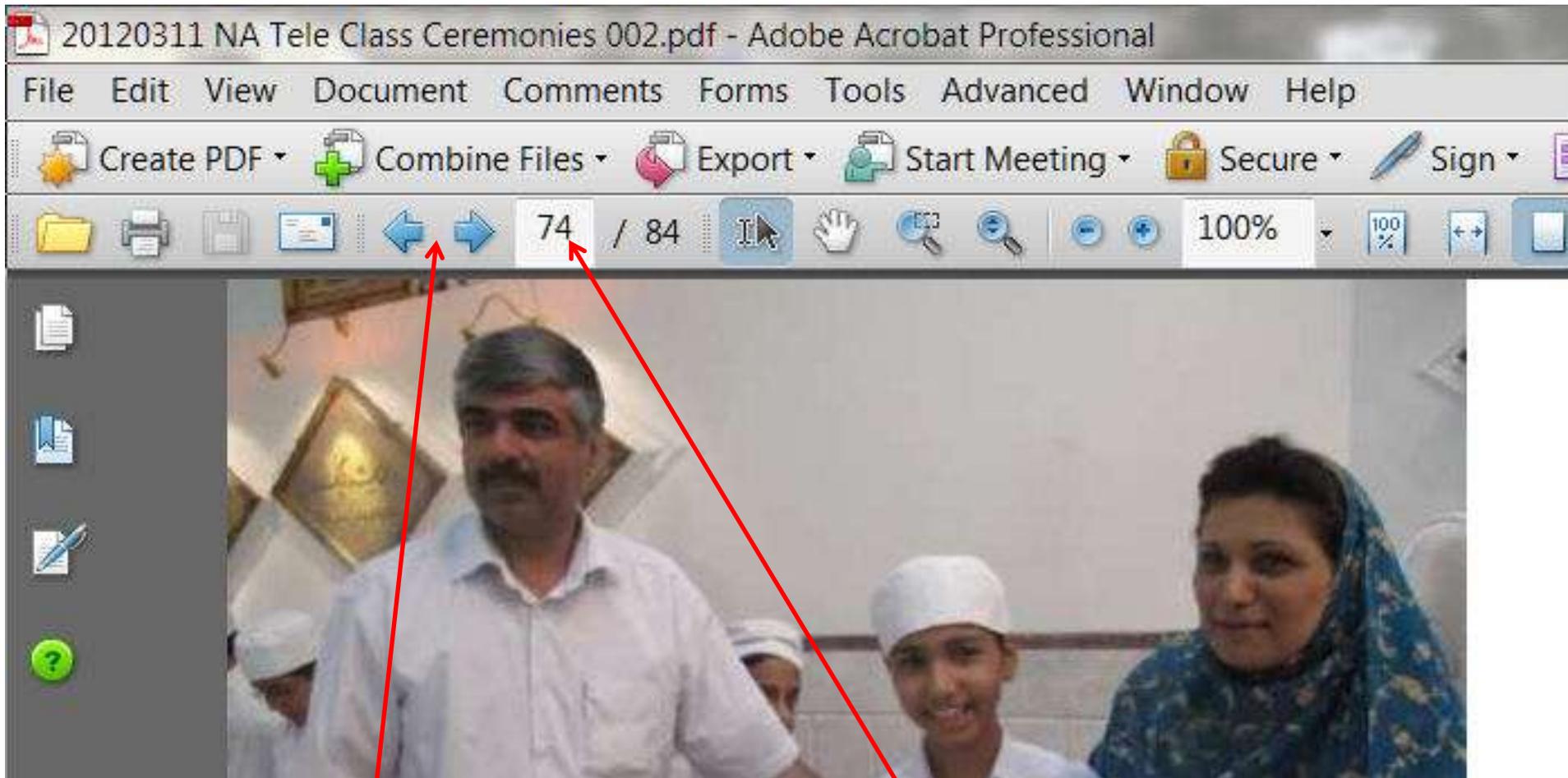
**As always, you are correct: It is: Dr. Esfandiar Ekhtiari,
Zartoshtis' Representative in the Iranian Parliament.**

I will send out the correction.

g) And lastly I enjoy the technology you use for super imposing photos but please try not to cover the slide #s.

Soli Dastur:

I usually send to all of you PDF version of the PowerPoint Presentation and so the slide numbers are in the upper left corner of each page and they are not hidden by any photos.



Slide Number 74 out of 84 on a PDF Document
Use left and right arrows to move slides backwards and forwards.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

8. Dolly Dastoor, FEZANA Journal Chief Editor, Montreal, Quebec – About Khan Academy:

i) Check this out. may change the life of your kids.

Soli this is something like what you are doing with religion . You are with the times !!! Check out the video on YouTube.

This is very interesting stuff....This is the future of education

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zxJgPHM5NYI>

Soli Dastur:

WOW! Thank you Dolly for pointing it out to me. This video really brings out his vision, concept, and my favorite theme for education, especially religious education:

**It is the word of Zarathushtra and Ahura Mazda! They did not charge a dime for teaching us! Why should we? And what is this nonsense about COPYRIGHT on religious prayers, books, articles, etc.! I DO NOT believe in it.
FREE EDUCATION TO THE WORLD!**

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

9. Aban Rustomji, FEZANA FIRES Project Coordinator, Houston – About Khan Academy:

We at SBISD are district wise users of the khan academy for the last two years. He is phenomenal.

Spring Branch Independent School District (SBISD) - this is our area schools where I worked for 26 years. I read about Khan Academy in Fortune magazine long before he became popular with Gates. I was on the curriculum development team and he was the big buzz and we latched on to the program and it is followed in our area schools. Basically the teacher is a facilitator. Kids do the lesson at home and do the practice program in school. Teacher helps with explanations if needed. It's available on the SBISD website and I would be happy to walk you through the site. What ages are your grand kids? And did you watch last week's 60 Minutes?

And yes, quite like what you do in your classes, Soli.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

10. Jahan Daruwala, President, ZAF, Aventura, FL:

What steps are necessary and being taken to have at least one consecrated temple in North America that will eventually train and qualify Navar and Martab priests?

Soli Dastur:

NAMC at their last AGM in Toronto on April 6th 2012 extensively discussed and approved guidelines for all NA Z Associations for building an Atashkadeh in NA. (Please note this is a Place of Worship Atashkadeh, a separate building on its own and not a Z Cultural Center, etc., with an attached small room for Atash Dadgah. We suggested to call it a consecrated Atashkadeh building with Atash Dadgah holy Fire (the Third Grade of Fire) which is not consecrated since we in NA currently do not have proper implements to consecrate a fire. The fire can be tended by a Mobed, or any Behdin after achieving Padyab Kusti ritual purity. The fire is not lit 24/7.

These guidelines will be distributed soon to all in NA.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

10. Jahan Daruwala, President, ZAF, Aventura, FL:

What steps are necessary and being taken to have at least one consecrated temple in North America that will eventually train and qualify Navar and Martab priests?

Soli Dastur:

NAMC is already working on the next phase of a NA Atashkadeh, to upgrade its Atash Dadgah to the next level of consecration. Proper procedures have to be worked out for this upgrade, consistent with our Religious Requirements and adapted to our NA environment. With such a NA consecrated Atashkadeh, we can then plan about giving Bareshnum to Mobeds required as a pre-requisite for the inner liturgies like Boi, Baj, Yasna, Vendidad, etc. This will then lead us into the training, qualifications and final Navar Martab initiations of new Ervads in NA. **(3-4 years?!)**

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

11. Ervad Poras Balsara, ZANT, Dallas, TX:

I have a small request - If it is at all possible, can you please do your class on any other day except 2nd Sunday of the month. ZANT has our religious class on every second Sunday for the last 15 years. I was able to attend your online class early on, but had to miss the last two classes because of this conflict.

Soli Dastur:

Hope you join for this Class. We will try to avoid those Sundays in the future Classes.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

12. Zarin E. Randeria:

Next All Florida/NA Zoroastrian Religious Tele-Class - Sunday
March 11th 2012 11 AM (New York Time)

Hello Soli, Is this Florida time? If it is, then it will be 8:00 AM
Pacific time and with the time change this weekend, it will
actually be 7:00 AM of the West Coast.

Soli Dastur:

Thank you Zarin for your message! I cannot help the three hours
difference between West and East coast.

I make a deal. If you have 10–15 people for the Tele Class from
West coast, I will be happy to repeat any of my Tele Classes for
you. Otherwise, we have made videos of all and will make one
for March 11 and if interested you all can catch up by watching
these videos.

Please let me know.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

13. Neville Gai to Kateh Vafadari to Kersi Shroff to Behram Pastakia, Washington DC:

Neville Gai:

a) Days of the Month of the Zoroastrian Calendar – Their Meanings.

1. Hormuzd (The Lord of Wisdom)
2. Bahman (The Good Mind)
3. Ardibehesht (Truth - Order)
4. Shehrevar (A Desired Power)
5. Asfandarmad (Devotion)
6. Khordad (Perfection)
7. Amardad (Immortality)

First 7
Ameshashpands

Next 8 Good
Attributes

15. Daepmeher (The Giver of Friendship)
16. Meher (Friendship)
17. Sarosh (Prayer)
18. Rashna (Justice)
19. Farvardin (Guardian Spirit)
20. Behram (Victory)
21. Ram (Joy)
22. Govad (The Wind)

8. Daepadar (Giver of Fire)
9. Adar (Fire)
10. Ava (Water)
11. Khorshed (The Shining Sun)
12. Mohor (The Moon)
13. Tir (The Star)
14. Gosh (The Cow)

Next 7 Nature
Objects

Next 8 Good
Attributes &
Natural
Phenomena

23. Daepdin (The Giver of Religion)
24. Din (Religion)
25. Ashishvangh (Wealth)
26. Ashtad (Justice)
27. Asman (Sky)
28. Zamyad (Earth)
29. Mahrespand (Holy words)
30. Aneran (Infinite Light)

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

13. Neville Gai to Kersi Shroff to Kateh Vafadari to Behram Pastakia, ZAMWI, Washington DC:

b) Kateh Vafadari:

Thank you, thank you, and thank you.

For the first time I understand what these names stand for.

c) Kersi B. Shroff:

Subject: [ZAMWI] Days of the Month in Zoroastrian Calender & Their meanings. A further note:

Even in the modern Iranian calendar, the months are still named as in the Zoroastrian Calendar. Thus, it is somewhat amazing to see that the Official Gazette of the Islamic Republic of Iran (ruznāme-ye rasmi) uses the Zoroastrian names (as in the last two columns below).

d) Behram:

Future topic for Tele-class from Florida in more depth than what is provided below ?

c) Kersi B. Shroff:

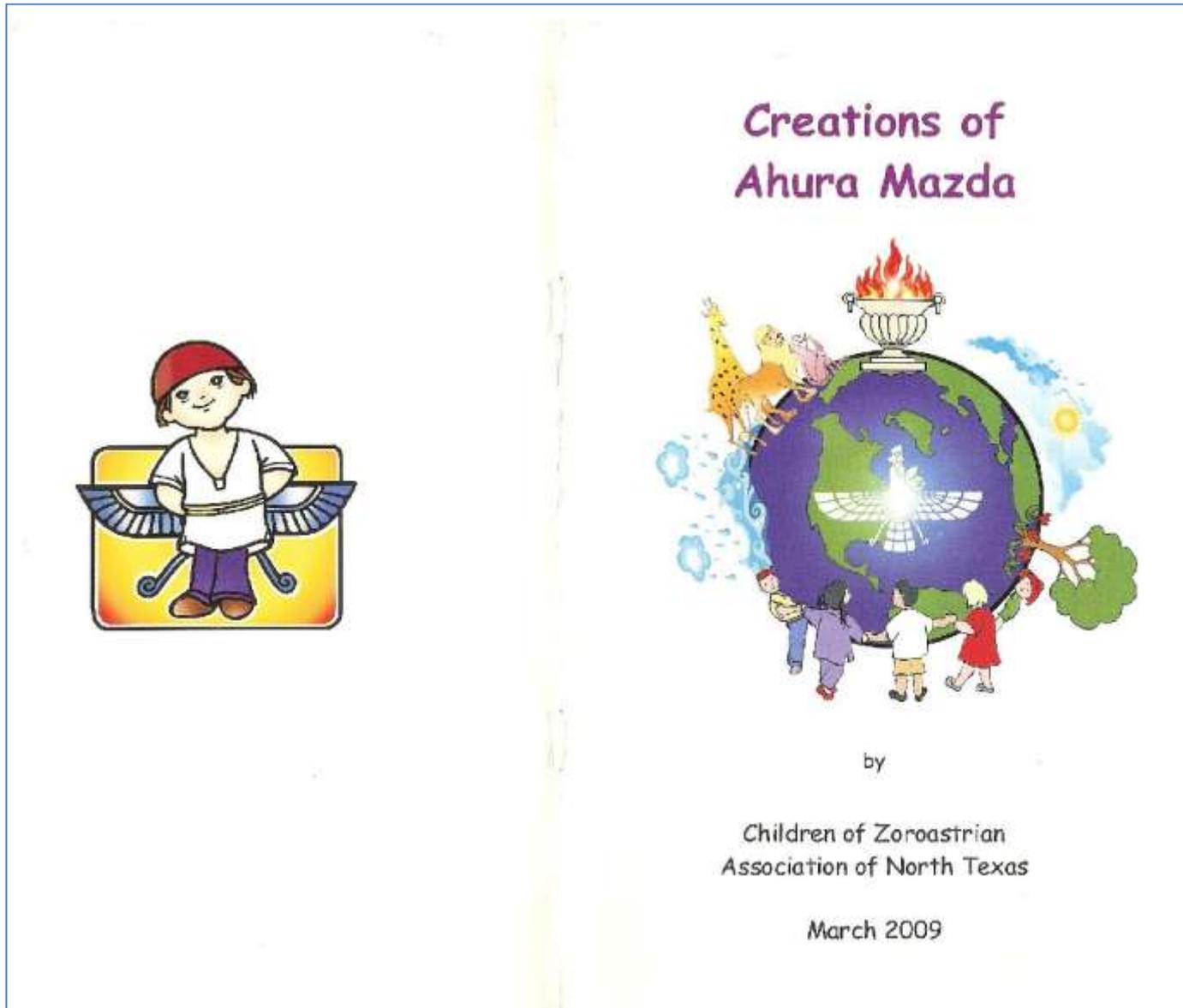
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A further note:

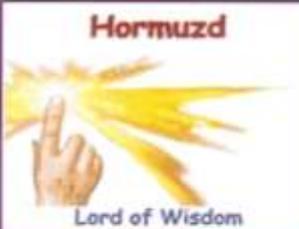
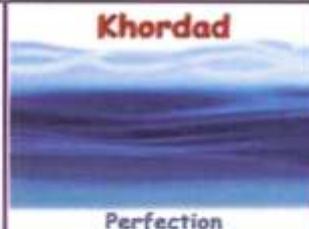
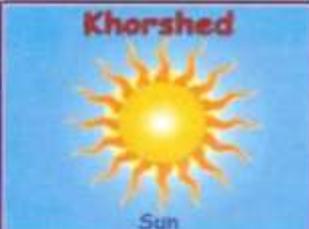
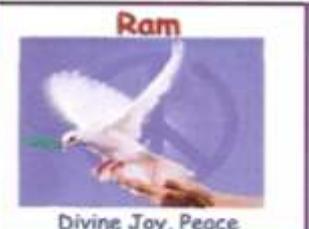
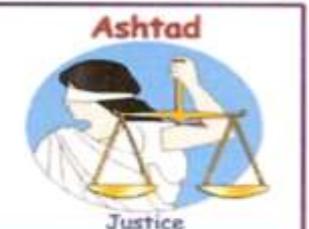
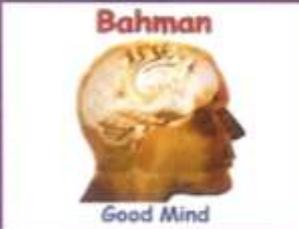
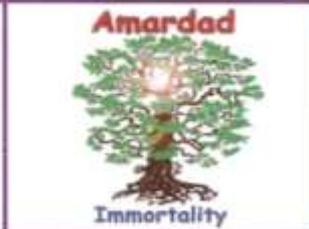
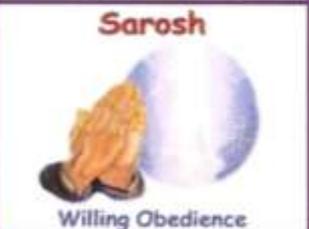
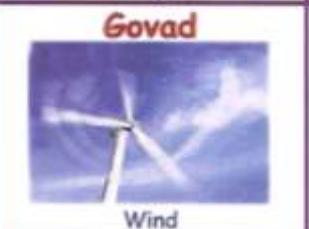
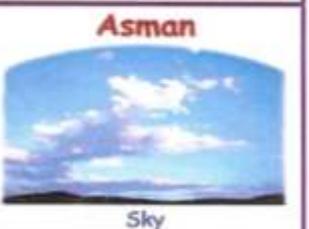
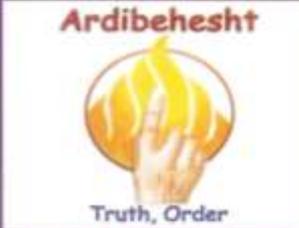
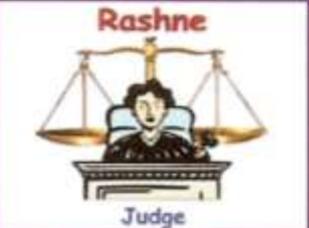
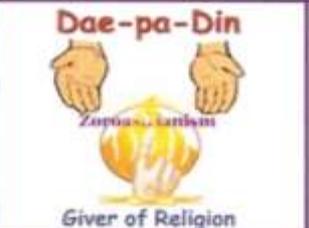
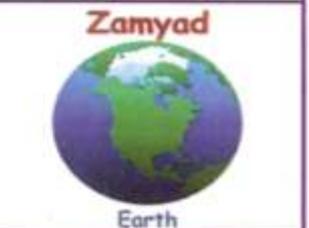
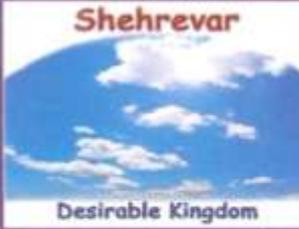
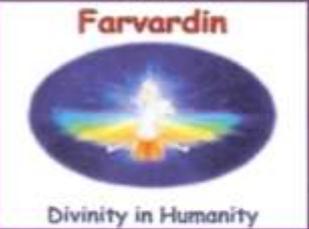
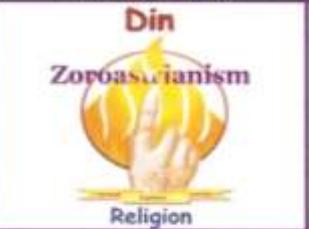
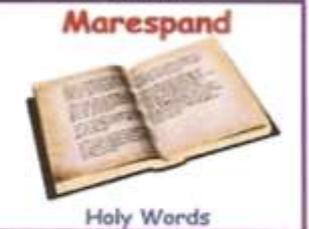
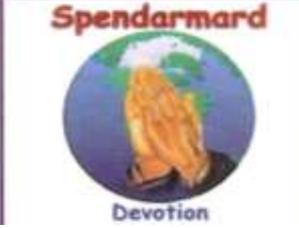
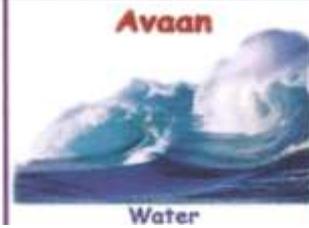
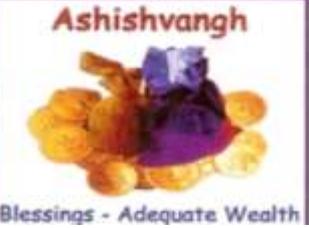
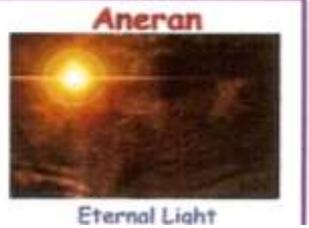
Even in the modern Iranian calendar, the months are still named as in the Zoroastrian Calendar. Thus, it is somewhat amazing to see that the Official Gazette of the Islamic Republic of Iran (ruznāme-ye rasmi) uses the Zoroastrian names (as in the last two columns below).

Order	Avestan name of the Yazata (in the genitive)	Approximate meaning of the name	Pahlavi Middle Persian	Modern Iranian Persian	
	<i>Romanized</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>Romanized</i>	<i>Native Script</i>	<i>Romanized</i>
1	Fravašīnaṃ	(Guardian spirits, souls of the righteous)	Frawardīn	فروردین	Farvardīn
2	Ašahe Vahištahe	"Best Truth" / "Best Righteousness"	Ardwahišt	اردیبهشت	Ordībehešt
3	Haurvatātō	"Wholeness" / "Perfection"	Xordād	خرداد	Xordād
4	Tištryehe	"Sirius"	Tīr	تیر	Tīr
5	Aməretātō	"Immortality"	Amurdād	مرداد	Mordād
6	Xšaθrahe Vairyehe	"Desirable Dominion"	Šahrevar	تسریر	Šahrīvar
7	Miθrahe	"Covenant"	Mihr	مهر	Mehr
8	Apaṃ	"Waters"	Ābān	آبان	Ābān
9	Āθrō	"Fire"	Ādur	آذر	Āzar
10	Daθušō	"The Creator" (i.e. Ahura Mazda)	Day	دی	Dey
11	Vaŋhəuš Manəjhō	"Good Mind"	Wahman	بهمن	Bahman
12	Spəntayā Ārmatōiš	"Holy Devotion"	Spandarmad	اسفند	Esfand

ZANT (Dallas) Children Book - Creations of Ahura Mazda



ZANT (Dallas) Children Book - Creations of Ahura Mazda

<p>Hormuzd</p>  <p>Lord of Wisdom</p>	<p>Khordad</p>  <p>Perfection</p>	<p>Khorshed</p>  <p>Sun</p>	<p>Meher</p>  <p>Friendship, Love, Light</p>	<p>Ram</p>  <p>Divine Joy, Peace</p>	<p>Ashtad</p>  <p>Justice</p>
<p>Bahman</p>  <p>Good Mind</p>	<p>Amardad</p>  <p>Immortality</p>	<p>Mohor</p>  <p>Moon</p>	<p>Sarosh</p>  <p>Willing Obedience</p>	<p>Govad</p>  <p>Wind</p>	<p>Asman</p>  <p>Sky</p>
<p>Ardibehesht</p>  <p>Truth, Order</p>	<p>Dae-pa-Adar</p>  <p>Giver of Fire</p>	<p>Tir</p>  <p>Star (Sirius)</p>	<p>Rashne</p>  <p>Judge</p>	<p>Dae-pa-Din</p>  <p>Zoroastrianism Giver of Religion</p>	<p>Zamyad</p>  <p>Earth</p>
<p>Shehrevar</p>  <p>Desirable Kingdom</p>	<p>Adar</p>  <p>Fire</p>	<p>Gosh</p>  <p>Soul of the Earth (Cow)</p>	<p>Farvardin</p>  <p>Divinity in Humanity</p>	<p>Din</p>  <p>Zoroastrianism Religion</p>	<p>Marespand</p>  <p>Holy Words</p>
<p>Spendarmard</p>  <p>Devotion</p>	<p>Avaan</p>  <p>Water</p>	<p>Dae-pa-Meher</p>  <p>Giver of Friendship, love, light</p>	<p>Behram</p>  <p>Victory</p>	<p>Ashishvangh</p>  <p>Blessings - Adequate Wealth</p>	<p>Aneran</p>  <p>Eternal Light</p>

30 Days of a Zoroastrian Month

I. Ahura Mazda and His Perfect Attributes

1. Dādār Hormazd (*Ahura Mazda*): *Lord of Wisdom.*
2. Bahman Amaeshāspand (*Vohū Manoh*): *Good Mind.*
3. Ardibēhēsht Amaeshāspand (*Asha Vahishta*): *Truth, Order.*
4. Shehrevār Amaeshāspand (*Kshathra Vairya*): *Benevolent Power, Desirable Kingdom.*
5. Spendārmard Amaeshāspand (*Spentā Ārmaiti*): *Devotion.*
6. Khordād Amaeshāspand (*Haurvatat*): *Perfection.*
7. Amardād Amaeshāspand (*Ameretat*): *Immortality.*

II. Aspects of God's Light

8. Dae-pa-Ādar Dādār: *Giver of Fire.*
9. Ādar Yazad (*Āthtra*): *Fire.*
10. Āvān Ardvi Sūra Bānu: *Water.*
11. Khorshed Yazad (*Hvarey-kshaeta*): *Sun.*
12. Mohor Yazad (*Mah or Maongha*): *Moon.*
13. Tir Yazad (*Tishtriyā*): *Star (Sirius).*
14. Gosh Yazad (*Gēush Tashan*): *Life's creator.*

III. Moral Ideas - Virtues

15. Dae-pa-Meher Dādār: *Giver of Friendship, love, light.*
16. Meher Yazad (*Mithrā*): *Friendship, love, light.*
17. Sarosh Yazad (*Sraosha*): *Prayer, willing obedience.*
18. Rashnu Rast Yazad: *Justice.*
19. Farrokh Farvardin: *Divinity in humanity.*
20. Behrām Yazad (*Verethraghna*): *Triumph.*
21. Minō Rām: *Divine Joy.*
22. Govād Yazad (*Huvāta*): *Wind, clean environment.*

ZANT (Dallas) Children Book – Creations of Ahura Mazda

IV. Ideas on Daenā (Religion)

23. Dae-pa-Din Dādār: *Giver of Religion.*
24. Din Yazad (*Daenā*): *Religion.*
25. Minō Ashishvangh (*Ashi-Vanghoi*): *Blessings, wealth of mind and heart.*
26. Āshtād Yazad (*Arshāt*): *Truth, Justice.*
27. Minō Āsmān: *Sky, Immensity of Space.*
28. Zamyād Yazad: *Earth.*
29. Minō Marespānd: *Holy Words.*
30. Minō Anerān: *Eternal Light.*

12 Months of the Year

1. Farrokh Farvardin
2. Ardibēhēsht Ameshāspand
3. Khordād Ameshāspand
4. Tir Yazad
5. Amardād Ameshāspand
6. Shehrevār Ameshāspand
7. Meher Yazad
8. Āvān Ardvi Sūra Bānu
9. Ādar Yazad
10. Daē Dādār
11. Bahman Ameshāspand
12. Spendārmard Ameshāspand

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

13. Neville Gai to Kersi Shroff to Kateh Vafadari to Behram Pastakia, Washington DC:

Behram:

d) Future topic for Tele-class from Florida in more depth than what is provided below ?

Soli Dastur:

Wonderful manner in remembering daily date - day & month

Hardly anyone in NA uses the Z Calendar(s) Day/Month daily (Except older generation for their daily prayers & Atashkadehs)

Why can't we revive this custom of remembering 30 Yazatas of our Religion and 12 months of the year each Day?

If we forget about our calendars (not too many use them anyway), use the name of the Yazatas to remember the current month and day in our daily used English calendar!

So today, April 29th, it is Mah 4th Tir and Roj 29th Mahrespand!

Tir for the Tishtraya star for rain, Mahrespand for our Holy Scriptures!

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

14. Parastu Dubash, ZAGBA, Boston, MA:

a) Why do the Iranian Zarthoshtis pray with their hands open and facing upward? Why do the Parsi Zarthoshtis pray with their hands closed in front of their bodies? What is the significance of each and which one should we promote with our North American Zarthoshti children?

Dasturji Mobed Mehraban Firouzgary, Tehran, Iran:

1 - The use of hands and other body parts in trying to convey ones message while addressing others is not restricted to any particular Class or Nationality.

Holding the hands in a steady and outstretched position, thus avoiding it to waver about and thereby indicate various gestures does go to show higher respect held for the one addressed as well as increased concentration for the addressee.

As you have pointed out, so rightly, this gesture "Ushtaana Zasto" has been indicated in the introductory Para of the Gathas.

Praying with open hand(s) facing upwards!

**Darius The Great, 522-486 BCE, At Naqsh-e-Rustom
Praying in front of an Atash Altar (Aadosht) with a Bow in
left hand (sign of Royalty) in front of a Farohar with right
hand open facing upwards!**



**One of the magnificent
Photo Frames in the
main hall
Of Pak Iranshah
Atash Behram**

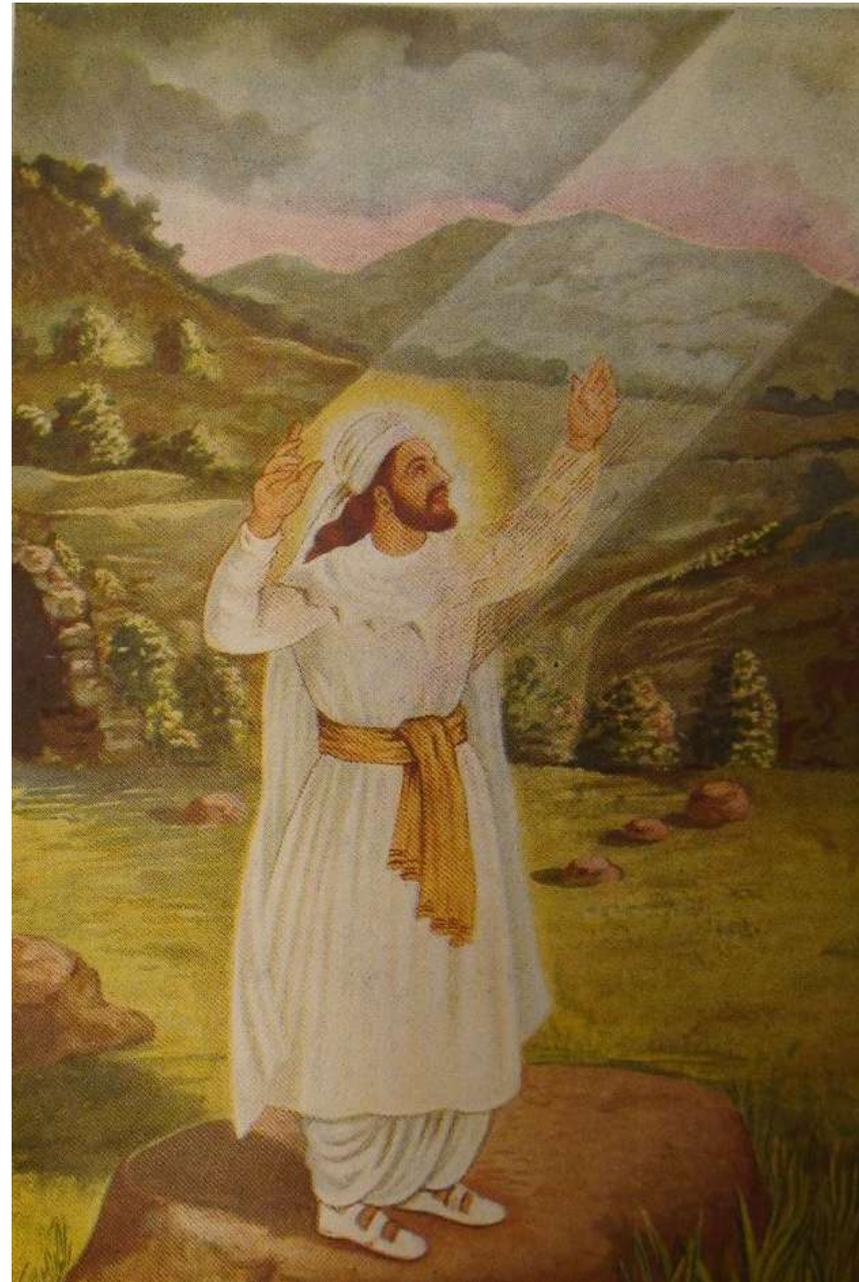
**Similar to Darius I
inscription, the Mobed
Saheb with a Bow in left
hand, praying before an
Atash Altar with right
hand open facing
upwards!**

**Also note the figure
above him in the clouds
with both hands open
facing upwards!**



**My father taught us to pray Doa Tandoorasti with both hands open upwards to signify
requesting good health from Ahura Mazda for all!**

**And our own
Vakshur-e-Vakshuraan
Asho Zarathushtra
Spitamaan,
3000+ years ago,
starts his first Gatha song,
Yasna 28.1:
Ahyaa Yaasaa
nemanghhaa
Ushtaanazasto
rafedhrayaa!**



With uplifted hands and
deep humility,

I beseech, O Mazda, first and
foremost this,

the abiding joy of Progressive
mentality.

Grant that I perform all actions
in harmony with righteousness
and acquire the wisdom of the
good mind

so that I may bring happiness
to the soul of the Universe.



,AhMamvn ,AsAY ,Ayha
,AyharDvfar ,OtsazanAtsu

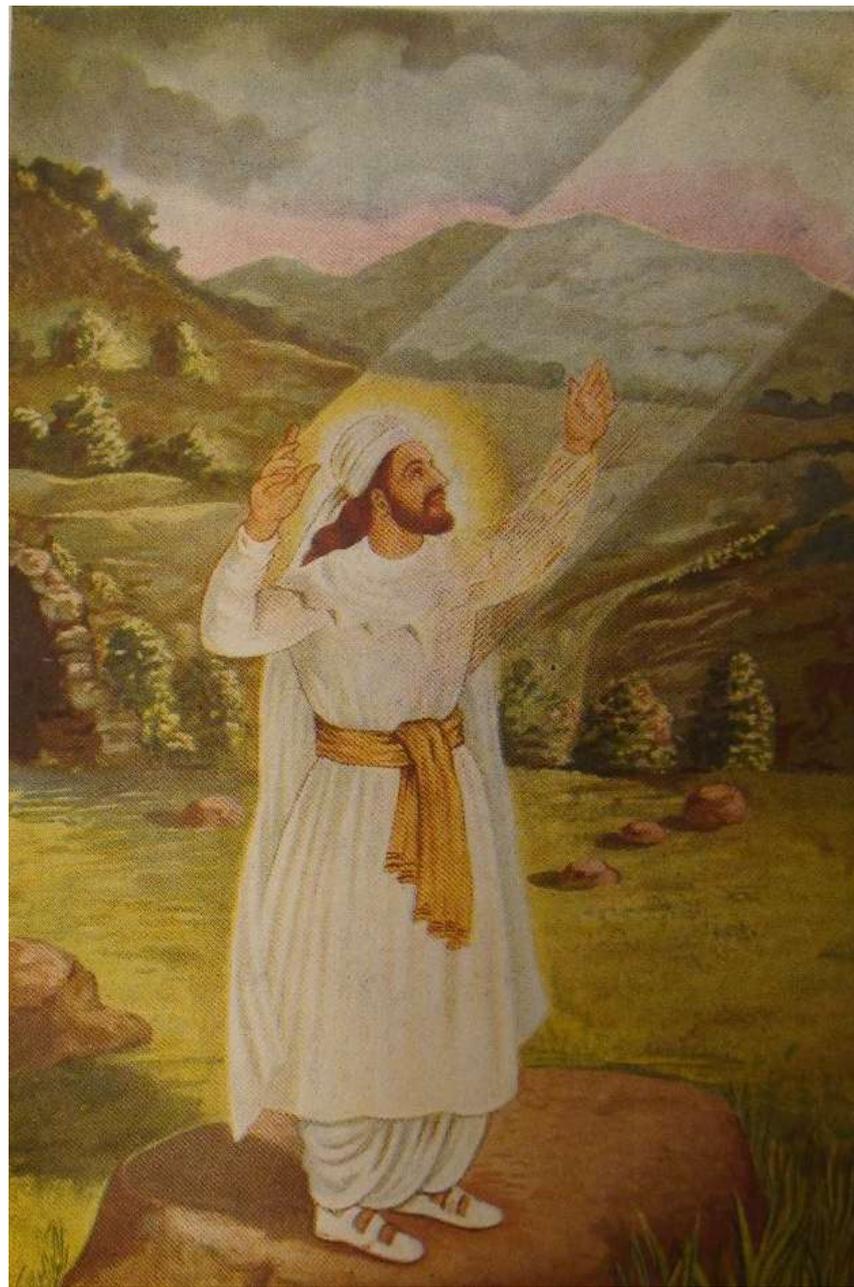
,AyhatNvps ,mlwruop ,Adzam ,S uVynam
,AnaqoayK ,gNvpsIW ,ACa

,OhManam ,mUtarx ,S uVhMaW
,mvnAwru ,AcS uVg ,ACI wvnCx ,AY

**Ahyaa yaasaa némanghaa
ustaanazastô rafédhrayaa,**

**Manyéush Mazdaa
pourvîm spentahyaa ashaa
vîspéng shyaôthanaa,**

**Vangheûsh khratûm
mananghô yaa
khshnevîshaa
géushchaa urvaaném!**



Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

14. Parastu Dubash, ZAGBA, Boston, MA:

a) Why do the Iranian Zarthoshtis pray with their hands open and facing upward? Why do the Parsi Zarthoshtis pray with their hands closed in front of their bodies? What is the significance of each and which one should we promote with our North American Zarthoshti children?

Dasturji Mobed Mehraban Firouzgary, Tehran, Iran:

However, the dominating national cultures do dominate over the Minority observed cultures, to a great extent. Thus the Parsees of India have learned to their Nemo (Avesta for Prayers, Nemaz is Arabic counterpart and Namaskar is Sanskrit one) with folded hands. The Muslims believe that we are Slave to God and pray as slaves stand in front of their masters i.e. they clasp their hands, over each other, to their waist (Over their stomach).

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

14. Parastu Dubash, ZAGBA, Boston, MA:

a) Why do the Iranian Zarthoshtis pray with their hands open and facing upward? Why do the Parsi Zarthoshtis pray with their hands closed in front of their bodies? What is the significance of each and which one should we promote with our North American Zarthoshti children?

Dasturji Mobed Mehraban Firouzgary, Tehran, Iran:

This practice, and belief, was followed by the Irani Zarathushtis, too, for some centuries.

During the last century the understanding of Gathic beliefs and the revelation that Ahura Mazda has created us as His Friend and Co worker, we have used the Ushtaanazasto gesture when expressing our Rafedhrahya (Expression of thanks, pleasure and joy) for Him.

Dasturji Mobed Mehraban Firouzgary, Tehran, Iran:

During the last century the understanding of Gathic beliefs and the revelation that Ahura Mazda has created us as His Friend and Co worker, we have used the Ushtaanazasto gesture when expressing our Rafedhrahya (Expression of thanks, pleasure and joy) for Him.



Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

14. Parastu Dubash, ZAGBA, Boston, MA:

b) Why do Iranian Zarthoshtis so often have Sudreh Pushi ceremonies of multiple unrelated children at the same time, while that practice is hardly seen in Parsi Zarthoshtis who have Navjote ceremonies only of family members (siblings, cousins)?

Dasturji Mobed Mehraban Firouzgary, Tehran, Iran:

2 - Group Sedre Pushis do carry certain basic messages in that the children of rich and poor are considered equal, that all our Religious ceremonies ought to be conducted in simple and at the least expensive and imitative (Outdoing the others) attitudes. Beyond that our Community Schools, Anjumans etc. who organize Festive occasions have made it a practice to sponsor a group Sedre Pushi and attract their candidates for a Group Navjote with some prizes thrown in.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

14. Parastu Dubash, ZAGBA, Boston, MA:

c) Why do Parsi Zarthoshtis insist that the Sudreh be worn at the time of the Navjote ceremony on the stage regardless of the age/gender of the child while Iranian Zarthoshtis often have the children dressed in all white (shirt and pants for boys and shirt and skirt for girls) with Sudrehs underneath and the Kushti then worn on the stage at the time of the Navjote prayers?

Soli Dastur:

c) In Parsi Navjote Ceremony, traditionally, the important events have been decided as donning the Sudreh on the child at “Shyothananaam” (action) word of Yatha Ahu Vairyo after reciting Din No Kalmo, and then the Mobed ties the Kushti around the waist of the child.

Hence, Parsi child comes to the Navjote stage without wearing Sudreh.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

14. Parastu Dubash, Boston, MA:

d) Are there any specific words in the Navjote ceremony (recited by the priest or the initiate) that say that the new initiate can only follow the Zarathushti religion?

Dasturji Mobed Mehraban Firouzgary, Tehran, Iran:

3 - While I cannot see any specific mention in the wordings of our Oath of Allegiance to the Religion of Zarathushtra Yasna Has 1 & 12 or the Din no Kalmo (Kalemeye Deen - in Farsi), I ought to point out that the freedom allowed to our children in choosing their Religion conveys that after reaching the age of intelligent recognition one ought to study the various Religions, ponder upon them, thoroughly, with open mind and intelligence, select the one that is the best and, thereupon take an Oath of allegiance, to that Religion after ones choice, if for the choice of our Religion at the time of Navjote, is meant to convey that one is morally bound to stick to that Religion.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

14. Parastu Dubash, Boston, MA:

d) Are there any specific words in the Navjote ceremony (recited by the priest or the initiate) that say that the new initiate can only follow the Zarathushti religion?

Soli Dastur:

Before a Child's Navjote can take place, it is absolutely the responsibility of the parents to teach the child all the Navjote Prayers, their meaning, and how a child should perform her/his duties as a true Zarathushtri throughout his/her life. It is during this training, that the child has a choice to decide whether to be a Zarathushtri or not.

However, when the child decides to have the Navjote performed, She/he solemnly professes in the Kushti Prayer, (as we all do) Jasa Me Awanghe Mazda, Mazdayasno Ahmi, the following:

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

14. Parastu Dubash, Boston, MA:

d) Are there any specific words in the Navjote ceremony (recited by the priest or the initiate) that say that the new initiate can only follow the Zarathushti religion?

Soli Dastur:

In our Kushti Prayer, Jasa Me Awanghe Mazda, we recite:

Come to my help, O Mazda (Repeat thrice).

I am a worshipper of Mazda.

I am a Mazda worshipping follower of Zarathushtra.

I declare myself to be a devoted follower of Zarathushtra.

I declare myself to be a devoted follower and an ardent supporter of this faith.

I dedicate myself to the true conceived thought.

I dedicate myself to the true spoken word.

I dedicate myself to the true performed act.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

14. Parastu Dubash, Boston, MA:

d) Are there any specific words in the Navjote ceremony (recited by the priest or the initiate) that say that the new initiate can only follow the Zarathushti religion?

Soli Dastur:

In our Kushti Prayer, Jasa Me Awanghe Mazda, we recite:

I solemnly dedicate myself to the excellent religion of Mazda worship which removes quarrels, which removes strife and discord, which teaches self sacrifice and which leads to righteousness.

Of all the faiths that have been or that shall be,

this is the greatest, the best and the loftiest,

This faith of Ahura Mazda, revealed by Zarathushtra.

I attribute all goodness to Ahura Mazda.

Such is the solemn dedication of the faith of Mazda worship.

Do we need to say any more?

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

14. Parastu Dubash, Boston, MA:

e) In your opinion, in cases of mixed marriages, can children go through multiple ceremonies like Navjote and bar mitzvah so that they can celebrate both their faiths? I know there is much about choosing, but can one choose to follow both?

Dasturji Mobed Mehraban Firouzgary, Tehran, Iran:

Religion is a person's main identity and much complications might crop up if one would officially confess to upholding more than one Religion! Religious Rites, Burial and many other mental and fundamental disputes could arise as a result. This, of course, does not mean that a Zarathushtri should not fully respect any other Religion which he/she might encounter.

Soli Dastur: My simple answer:

A Gujarati Proverb: "Only one sword can stay in a sheath!"

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

14. Parastu Dubash, Boston, MA:

- f) What can we do to keep children who have had their Navjote ceremonies, interested in coming to religious classes?
- g) What curriculum can we teach (and activities can we create) so that middle and high schoolers want to continue to come to religious classes?
- h) In your experience what works?

Dasturji Mobed Mehraban Firouzgary, Tehran, Iran:

The practical means that I can suggest is to arrange camps, sports events, picnics and festive celebrations with Religious lectures thrown in. Your idea of the Tele class is perhaps the most modern and least expensive manner of spreading Religious knowledge, yet here for some it may be just academic or short term interest.

Basically parents Religiosity is the highest influencing factor.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

14. Parastu Dubash, Boston, MA:

- f) What can we do to keep children who have had their Navjote ceremonies, interested in coming to religious classes?
- g) What curriculum can we teach (and activities can we create) so that middle and high schoolers want to continue to come to religious classes?
- h) In your experience what works?

Soli Dastur:

Kayomارش Mehta, ZAC, Chicago, Lovji Cama, ZAGNY, New York, and FEZANA have created a book on curriculum of Religious Classes. Sarosh Collector & Arnavaz Sethna, ZAH, Houston have also created curriculum for their Religious Classes, and annually they hold a Week end of Lock In with youths and parents to study specific Religious subjects with fun and games. Jo Ann and I were invited to attend and conduct such a Lock In in Galveston.

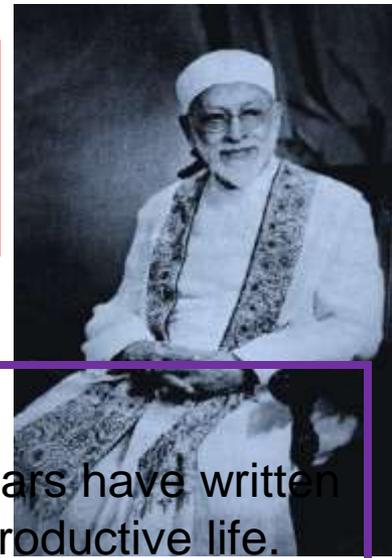
Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 02

Agenda:

- 1. A quick review of all Qus. & Ans. 01 covered in last class (slides 1 – 56)**
- 2. Slides 57 – 107 Qus and their detailed Answers**
- 3. Some discussions about what to do next for these Tele-Classes**
- 6. Cyber Hum Bandagi in English**
- 7. Cyber Hama Zor Greeting**

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

Agenda: 5. Cyber Hum Bandagi in English



➤ Are there any prayers I can pray in English?

Many of the Zoroastrian Dastoor (highly-qualified Mobeds) and scholars have written books offering guidance to Zoroastrians on how to live a faithful and productive life. One of the best of these is *Homage Unto Ahura Mazda*. This excellent book, in the form of daily thoughts, was written meticulously by a great scholar who was the Head Dastoor of the Anjuman (Zoroastrian Community) in Karachi, Pakistan, over a long period of time until his death, Dastur Dr. M. N. Dhalla.

The full text of the book is available for free online at <http://www.zarathushtra.com/z/article/dhalla/index.htm>.

For those who find themselves lost in our Prayers, not understanding their meanings, and are interested in praying in English language related to our Religion, I recommend this book with a whole heart. Its wisdom is such that I believe it would be inspirational to people of all religious traditions.

Dasturji explains why he wrote this book in his Autobiography:

You have received this chapter in a WORD File:

[Dhalla Homage Unto Ahura Mazda Background.doc](#)

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

Agenda: 5. Cyber Hum Bandagi in English



**Dasturji explains why he wrote this book in his Autobiography, website: www.avesta.org/dhalla/saga.htm
You have received this chapter in a WORD File:
[Dhalla Homage Unto Ahura Mazda Background.doc](#)**

➤ Are there any prayers I can pray in English?

On receiving and utilising these, many coreligionists wrote to me stating that, despite all their honest efforts, when they had simply failed to have any desire to pray in Avesta, which they could not understand, they had turned in despair to Christian prayers. But now that they had found Zoroastrian prayers in a comprehensible language they had started using them every day.

In this manner my resolution made forty years ago while I was studying at Columbia University to compose in Gujarati devotional and benedictory prayers for daily use and for congregational purposes is at last being fulfilled by the grace of God.



**Mobed Kobad Jamshed performing Boi Ceremony
in San Jose Dar-e-Meher!**

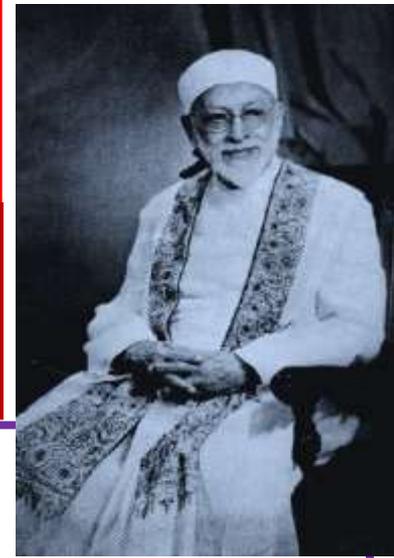
Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

Agenda: 5. Cyber Hum Bandagi in English

An extract from: Homage Unto Ahura Mazda

Part I(b) Prayer #27 (last page of WORD file)

<http://www.zarathushtra.com/z/article/dhalla/ch1b/ib27.htm>



➤ Are there any prayers I can pray in English?

Faith works wonders

Faith is the belief in the unknown, as belief is the faith in the known. Faith soars the highest heaven and dives to the deepest depth. Faith knows no bound and breaks through all barriers. Faith reads the secrets of the earth and deciphers the mysteries of heaven. Faith knows all and sees all. Faith asks not for facts, demands not proofs, and seeks no evidence. Faith thinks not, cogitates not and reasons not. Faith believes and believes wholly and unreservedly. Faith knows no "No"; it knows only "Yes". Faith makes the weak strong and the timid brave. Faith heals, faith creates, and faith moves mountains. Faith is power, a talisman that works wonders. Faith is assertive and aggressive, authoritative and arbitrary, adamant and unreasonable, static and firm as a rock. Credulity is faith's failing and with credulity for its companion, faith believes what is possible and impossible, credible and incredible, anything and everything.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

Agenda: 5. Cyber Hum Bandagi in English

An extract from: Homage Unto Ahura Mazda

Part I(b) Prayer #1 (last page of WORD file)

<http://www.zarathushtra.com/z/article/dhalla/ch1b/ib27.htm>



➤ **Are there any prayers I can pray in English?**

Faith works wonders

Omnipotent is faith, but not eternal. Faith is secure when reason is asleep. The child is angelic, for it knows not guilt and is shadowed not by sin. But the child does not always remain the child. With the breaking of the dawn of its mind, it ceases to be child. So is the childlike faith roused by reason and disturbed by doubt. Doubt is active, it seeks and ventures and risks. It lets not faith take everything on trust, it questions it at every turn and lets it not rest in the passivity of belief. Doubt, in its struggle, spells death of faith.

When doubt assails me and faith grows dim and fails me, lead me, Ahura Mazda, from destructive doubt to reasoned faith. Let my faith be wedded to reason and let it be based on conviction. Give me faith and more faith, but not the blind faith. Give me the seeing and discerning faith of thy Armaiti and save me from the weakness of a credulous mind. O Vahishta Manah, Thou Best Mind.

Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 02

Agenda:

- 1. A quick review of all Qus. & Ans. 01 covered in last class (slides 1 – 56)**
- 2. Slides 57 – 107 Qus and their detailed Answers**
- 3. Some discussions about what to do next for these Tele-Classes**
- 6. Cyber Hum Bandagi in English**
- 7. Cyber Hama Zor Greeting**



Pak Iranshah
Atash Behram

JD Colaba
Atash Adarian



Mumbai - Colaba

San
Jose
Atash
Dadgah



Zoroastrian Tele Class Qus. & Ans. 01

Agenda: 6. Cyber Hama Zor Greeting

Hamaa Zor Greeting

And let us now perform the Hamaa Zor Greeting
with our neighbors.

“Hamaa Zor, Hamaa Asho Bade”

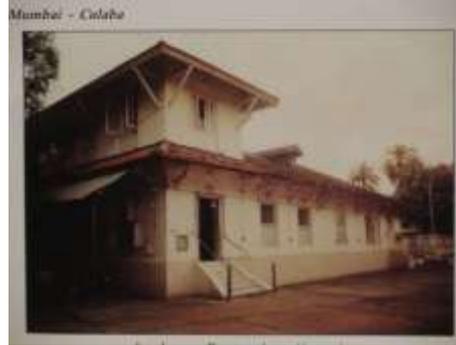
“Let us be united in Righteousness!”





Pak Iranshah
Atash Behram

JD Colaba
Atash Adarian



San
Jose
Atash
Dadgah



**Thank you all for your Participation, patience and time!
Thank you all who helped me to collect information for this talk!
And the last but not the least,
My Dear Wife Jo Ann,
For 45 years of supporting me in all my crazy endeavors!**

**And do not forget our
Cyber Hamaa Zor Greeting!**