

Faravahar or Farohar

On Mon, 22/9/08, Monaz Antia <farz_monz@yahoo.co.in> wrote:

Dear Zarathustris,

Since many of us wear one or have it around us, it would be nice to share the meaning / symbolism of the **Faravahar or Farohar**

Fravahar (Farsi), the Zoroastrian winged disk that signifies the soul's upward progress through good thoughts, words, and deeds.

The Faravahar or Farohar is the spirit of human being that had been existed before his/her birth and will continue to exist after his/her death. It is to remind one of the purpose of life on this Earth, which is to live in such a way that the soul progresses spiritually and attains union with Ahura-Mazda (the Wise Lord); this state is called Frasho-kereti in Avesta.

Interpretation of the Faravahar



The Fravahar's face resembles the face of human being and therefore, indicates its connection to mankind. There are two wings which have three main feathers. These main feathers indicate three symbols of 'good reflection,' 'good words,' and 'good deed,' which are at the same time the motive of flight and advancement.

The lower part of the Fravahar consists of three parts, representing 'bad reflection,' 'bad words,' and 'bad deed' which causes misery and misfortune for human beings.

There are two loops at the two sides of the Fravahar, which represent *Sepanta Minu*, and *Angra Minu*. The former is directed toward the face and the latter is located at the back. This also indicates that we have to proceed toward the good and turn away from bad.

The circle in the middle of the Fravahar's trunk indicates that our spirit is immortal, having neither a beginning nor an end.

One hand of the Fravahar points upwards, showing that we have to struggle to thrive.

The other hand holds a ring. Some interpreters consider that as the ring of covenant, representing loyalty and faithfulness which is the basis of Zarathustra's philosophy.