

ATASH, THE LORD OF ALL ENERGIES AND ALL KARMIC WHEELS.

HOW TO PRESENT YOURSELF BEFORE ANY ATASH PADSHAH

The Meaning of, and the Thoughts Associated with the Atash Niyash Prayer

Every particle, visible and invisible, in all the Creation of Ahura is in a state of perpetual and ceaseless motion.

There can be no motion without an energy to move. **That energy is Atash.**

Atash, the Lord of all energies, is also the Lord of Karma, fate, destiny. What we think speak or do in our life i.e. our Karma is also a motion. We ourselves are in unending motion. Every second of our life is in the hands of the Lord of our Fate, the Atash. The visible fire, when something burns, is a manifestation or unfoldment of the Atashic Energy within.

The Zarthoshti Din declares that the source of all Atash is Ahuramazda. He is the Father, Atash is His son, His Divine Channel of all energies. The expression "Athro Ahurahey Mazdaao Puthra" propounds this Truth.

Everything has Atash within it, but it differs in its coefficient of divinity. The specially consecrated Holy Atash, as in Atash Beheram's, have in them more intense and powerful Energy of Ahuramazda. In the Holy Fire of Iran-Shah it is the highest in all visible fires. Fire in Atash-e-Adraan is on a level lower than Atash Beherams. In Atash-e-Dadgah it is still lower. In all household fires and 'divaa's (oil lamps), it is further lower.

The Khordeh Avesta Prayer, Atash Niyash, proclaims various Truths and Information about all Atash. The Din prescribes various procedures to consecrate the Holy Fires. These ceremonies are so structured as to activate higher divine Energies in the ordinary fires found on earth. [Parsi Pukar: Vol 2.7 January 1997 was Special Issue on Atash, giving a wealth of Information and Knowledge on Atash. Please also see Vol 9-4 April May June 2004 which was a special Issue, when the trustee-builder complex tried to defile the Holy Atash Padshah and His divine palace at Dadi Seth Atash Beheram.

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In the present period of Kyamat, the string of our Karma is heavily entangled. It is no longer a string; it is now an iron chain which grows heavier and heavier every day. We do not know when it will become too heavy to keep us alive. We are, however, fortunate to have so many Atash Beherams and Agiaries, where the Lord of our Karma, Atash, is kept burning since centuries. In spite of the lethargy and carelessness of our Mobeds, Dasturs and Trustees, Ahura's flame of Yazatic Light is still flickering in them. Go to them, place your head on the dust of the Holy Padshah's threshold, with your eyes filled with tears of love and devotion and think:

Aye Holy Padshah! What a time we are born! What a muddle our Karma is! Nothing but anxiety, fear, worry, distress, tension! But I am fortunate that You my Padshah has His loving eyes on me. Give me an ounce from Your Energy, so that I may have strength to bear all my Karmic burden, and any good or bad befalling on me, to resist evil, to desist from goonah, to erase my ego, to help the needy, to pardon the harmful, to forgive and forget.....

Here are a few basic rules to follow while visiting any Fire Temple. Select one nearest to you. Immediately before entering, you must have a bath. Traveling in train or bus or vehicle does infuse pollution in you and the air surrounding you. The wise guides have taught that you have to do one Kushti before entering the holy building; you can do 3 Kushtis (i.e. 3 times) if you feel that you are not as clean as you should be to be in the Divine Presence.

After entering, recite Sarosh Baj, Geh, Korshed, Maher, Mah and Ava Niayish's in the outer hall and then enter the Padshah's inner room. If time does not permit you can skip Mah and Avan. In Aivisruthrem Geh, recite Sarosh Baj, Geh and Sarosh Yashta Vadi in the outer hall.

Please remember, never come out of the Atash Behram or Agiari without chanting Atash Niyash. That is your gift to the Padshah, more essential than a piece of sandalwood howsoever big. Standing before a Padshah is spiritual exercise and yoga.

You must be in simple and proper dress. The Sudreh should not be tucked in the pant. For girls and ladies, let the Fire Temple be at least a place where you cover your body properly. It is not a beauty display ground.

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Like all other holy manthra Prayers, Atash Niyash is an exercise in profound meditation. Every sentence emanates some mystery of Mother Nature; lays down a Rule of day to day life; and sprinkles cool water of devotion and love in your parched mind. An elaboration of all this would occupy a fat volume. Dr. Framroze Chiniwalla's shorter version in "Khordeh Avesta Baa Khshnoom" covers 58 pages, each 20cm by 12cm! The following is the barest of the bare outline of truths woven in the Niyash.

**"Khshnaothra Ahurahey Mazdao,
Nemasatey Atrash Mazdao, Ahurahey
Hoodaao Mazishta Yazata"**

May the divine fields of Ahura Mazda's Bliss spread out in the whole creation and within me. Homage to this Holy Atash of Ahuramazda, who is the Divine Carrier of His Wisdom and is the Yazata pouring Ahura's Light in all 'Yazata's.

"Atash Baheraam – Adaraan-Dadgah – Adar Farah"

May the Holy Atash radiating before me, form a circuit with the Atash within me, so that my journey towards Ahura may accelerate.

"Oos Moi Ujarehvaa Ahura..... Sraoshem Khshathremchaa"

This passage of 54 words proclaim the aim of our life and prays ardently to achieve it.

Oh Ahura! Lead me from darkness to Thy Light, from the impurity of my Druja to the purity of my Gava, from the black cloud of untruth to the pure breeze of Truth; from the poison of my ego to the sweet milk of Armaiti. (*Armaiti Tevishim Dasvaa*)

Oh Ahura! Make me the temple of Thyself and Thy Yazata's, so that i may receive Thy Light within me and spread it out in Thy Universe. Alchemise my Akoman to Vohuman. Bestow on me Thy courage to resist the evil within me.

Oh Ahura! Awaken my eyes with Thy Light, so that i may directly see Thy hidden Mysteries.

Oh Armaiti! Teach me Thy lessons of love and selflessness; reveal to me the Mystery of Daenao (more than one 'Din's).

My Paigamber Zarathushtra dedicates the whole of Himself to Ahura; leads the whole world and mankind to Ahura; infuses in us the divine Consciousness of Sarosh. May Thy Kingdom come to us oh Ahura. (*Sraoshem Khshathremchaa*)

"Athro Ahurahey Mazdao Poothra....."

Nairyosanghahey Yazatahey.

This passage refers to various Atash Behram's which were consecrated during and after the time when Asho Zarathushtra was on this earth in His "Atashik Body". They had different coefficients of the ultimate source of Energy, "Athro Ahurahey Mazdao Puthra". This Avesta sentence occurs in the passage 7 times. While reciting the passage your thought may run as under:

I remember (i.e. induct in my consciousness) all the Holy Atash Behram's, Adaraan's, Dadgah's and all other Fire Energies circuiting in the whole Creation of Ahura. May He reach me and may i reach Him through

His Poothra (son) Atash.

“Yasnemcha Vahmemcha

Hoobertimcha.... Haavano jasto.” The thought:

“Oh Thou the Poothra of Ahura! My homage, my devotion, my endeavours to live the Zarthoshti life, are like a bird flying towards Thee. They generate divine ecstasy within me. Bless us that we may be able to offer you, as our humble gift, our good works and deeds.

“Daaityo Aesmen booyao..... Frashoke retoit

Ai Padshah! May Thy Energy augment every time a "Boui" ceremony is performed on Thee. May our offerings of sandalwood continue to kindle Thy Yazatic Light more and more. May Thy Light spread in the whole Creation, in our homes and within our own selves. May Thy Light guide us in treading the Path towards Ahura. May all evil in the Creation and within me be alchemised to Good.

“Dayaao mey Atrash Poothra Ahurahey

Mazdaao, Aasoo Khaathrem..... Haam

vereytim..... Aredvo Zangaam..... Dangh-hoo

Sastimcha”.

Ai Poothra of Ahura! Bestow on us physical, mental and spiritual food. As our Karmic King, make our lives walk on Thy Path; let our consciousness expand; let our Ruvan advance towards its upliftment. May we be helped by those Ashavans who are ever marching further and further towards Ahura. May our good deeds be our spiritual children.

“Dayaao mey Atrash Poothra Ahurahey

Mazdaao, Yaa mey Anghahat

Afrasanghaao..... Vanta Bereyitimcha

Spitma.”

Ai Ahura's Poothra! Spitma Zarathushtra has proclaimed that my day-meal (i.e. the good karmic deeds) and the night meal (i.e. the evil karmic deeds) are governed by Thee and it is Thee who leads me to Thy Father. It is His Atash who converts my mental darkness to Spiritual Light; who kindles in me the Fire of Love to Him; and lifts me up to fly to Him.

“Vispanam Parechantaam.....

Rathestarem.... Aat Ye Zi Shey.....

Hadanghanghoom”.

You, the Padshah, look at my hands asking which deeds, good and bad, I have brought to Thee as my gift. Thou art my Friend anxious to lead me in this life nearer to Ahura. Thou art the Lord's soldier to alchemise my evil to good. Thou art the Priest of Ahura who blesseth me as under:

“Oopa Thwa Hakhshoita....

Yaodzadaataam”

Thou art blessing me :

May you have a flock of cattle i.e. may the 'Gava', the cow within you flourish. May the Druj within you befriend the Gava and the two merge into one. May the darkness of ignorance vanish, may the Light of Mookti radiate in you. May all the nights which you are destined to stay on earth be full of peace, as you lay your head on the pillow.

***“At Toi Aaterem Ahura... Chithra
Avanghaem”***

Ai Ahura! Verily Thy Atash has in Him Thy powerful Energy ("Aoja"). He fast rotates the wheels of my Karma; infuses courage and delight in me; helps me in all kinds of mysterious ways in my troubles. May i generate within me through Thy Atash, Ashoi, purity of my body mind and Ruvaan.

***“Et Mazda Daibgishentey
Jastaishtaish Dareshtaa Aenenghahem”***

Ai Mazda! Thou pluckest out, through Thy Atash, all the seeds of evil ambushed within us. Thy Atash does this by casting on us the heat of our Karma.

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