

# ISHK — LOVE

Love, Humanity and Devotion are the very foundations of Zarathustrain Religion and are as important and as essential (elements) as tarikats, prayers, alaats, etc.

Zarathustrian Religion talks about two kinds of Love. (The word for love is "Ishk") : **Ishk Hakiki** (Divine Love) and **Ishke Mijazi** (Earthly Love) The former is permanent, everlasting while the latter is temporary. It is a universal fact that all earthly love, no matter what kind, will be, one day changed into Divine Love...for Love (any kind) has its origin in God Himself and our earthly love is an echo and a manifestation of His love for the Creation.

Throughout our Scriptures... right from Ashem Vohu to Gathas - Love and Devotion abound.

## LOVE BETWEEN CREATOR AND HIS CREATION.

Let us state the fact that at one time, we were all with Him. We all have God's ray of Light in us; (Fravashi) Godhead as some call it, and that is why, we are always attracted to our Source and our agent Asho Zarathushtra. We were separated from HIm because of some deficiencies in our souls and thus sent to earth. Upon perfection and completion, we shall return and merge into him.... till then, we have to experience pangs of separation and agony.

Similarly our Creator has Love for all His creatures. In every atom, every thing, living or non living, there is motion, a dance of Love going on. The plant grows, vapour evaporates, clouds are formed, oceans tide in and out... all these are caused by energy. Behind every energy there is fire and this fire is the warmth of God's Love.

Wher ever there is motion, there is energy (atash) and so attraction is bound to be there. Whenever we see fire, blazing flames dancing upward, we experience a kind of special feeling. Why,? because it is the manifestation of God's Love.

*The lesson for us to learn is :-*

"If you Love me, keep my commandments."

Thus we try to incorporate His Teachings in our day to day life because we love God.

The moving heavens (asmaans) are compared to a beautiful shining damsel and every atom in Creation is attracted to and every minute, longs for the union; and so the devotee prays"

“ વોલં ધ્વા મનંધલા, વોલુ ધ્વા અપા, વંધલુયાઓ ધ્વા ચિસ્તોઈશ, બ્વઓયનાઈરયા વચબીશયા પઈટિ જસમાઈ હે ”

" may I through piety and prayers reach the Divine Thoughts Words and Deeds and be one with Him.

“ વીસ્પાઈ થવા હુમતાઈશ, વીસ્પાઈ ધ્વા હુખતાઈશ, વીસ્પાઈ ધ્વા હવરશતાઈશ પઈટિ જસમઈદે. ”

May I march nearer and nearer to you by advancing myself through your and your angel's Divine Thoughts Words and Deeds. (Humta Hukhta Huvarashtra).

“ નેમખ્યામલિ ઈપુઈદયામલિ ધ્વા ઝઝદા અહુરા ”

"O Mazda I salute You. I am able to do so because of you and your Creation. I crave for "Ushta" (spiritual bliss) I am not even able to appreciate you as I should. I invariably complain for my sufferings, not realizing that it is due to my own actions; only when I am attracted to you, I realize; that it is for my own good. So I am indebted to you.

## LOVE BETWEEN SUN AND MOON

It is said that there is a beautiful friendship attraction between the Sun and the Moon: The Divine blessings that come down on earth are caught by **Khorshed Yazad** (Sun) and then given to **Mah Bokhtar** (Moon) which in turn showers upon this earth to each one of us as and when we deserve. This selfless function is carried out by both the Sun and the Moon and their relationship is considered to be excellent and highly exalted.

## LOVE BETWEEN US AND DADAR AHURA MAZDA: "KHSHNAOTHRO AHURAHE MAZAD'AO"

When we recite " Khshnaothro Ahurahe

**Mazdao,** we are declaring our utmost Love and Devotion for Dadar Ahura Mazda. Some of the thoughts/interpretations behind this powerful vibratory prelude to prayers:-

- a) 'O' Ahura Mazda. You are an infinite Ocean of Love. Give me a drop out of that ocean.
- b) Your musical symphony is being played in the entire universe. If you will let me join this Music I shall be intoxicated in your Love. (When could this happen ? When I follow your commandments)

### LOVE BETWEEN DIVINE BEINGS AND GOD.

The entire Divine Cabinet is in His service, functioning ceaselessly according to Ahu's Vairya (plan) and all these are being supervised by Ahur's son, Atesh (fire). Atesh is present in everything. In fact, the foundation of Hasti (Immortal world) and Nisti (Ultra physical world) is Atesh.

Fire is always in motion. Different fires move (in different velocity) in attraction towards Him, and this attraction or Love for Him, is known as Athro Ahurahe mazdao Puthra. Therefore we can say that these 'assmaans' - the entire Divine Cabinet are all in love with and so attracted to Ahu. Hence the rotation and the motion of the earth. It is Afringaan, (Afringaan is to praise which our mobeds perform on earth) in which all the angels also participate ....all according to His plan and for His love. Among the Divine entities, Zarathushtra Gahea (a powerful 'shakti' which is the source of our Asho Zarathustra) is also present Asho Zarathushtra has been appointed to be in charge of bringing about righteous attraction in Nisti and Geti (earth) realms.

### LOVE BETWEEN MALE AND FEMALE

Similarly we humans also possess 'Atesh' in us, known as "Ateshe Vohufriyan" which ignites in us the love for God and the ability to appreciate goodness and righteousness. Animals, vegetables and minerals also have different fires in them. These fires are the cause of Love and they have their source in the Original fire. When we take in our elements or particles from all these kingdoms and advance spiritually

enough, (so we need not be reincarnated), we cross the Chinvat and await our soul mate at a certain station in Nisti. When that happens we give ourselves up, to each other, and a true union takes place; real marriage (Khaetwadatha) and the soul becomes complete and as one, proceeds further onwards in the journey.

### LOVE BETWEEN KHORSHED YAZAD AND AMESHASPANDS.

“ नेमो भे अमेशास्पंद वीसमे उवरे  
अमेशाओ”.....

When light emanates from the Ameshaspands, it is culminated and then comes into the sun and because of this, gravitational forces arise. This gravitation, this attraction, is an expression of love between Khurshed Yazad (Sun) and the Ameshaspands. So when we recite this line, the ideal we should hold in our mind :- when my love be like that between Khorshed Yazad and Ameshaspands!

### LOVE BETWEEN EARTH AND AHURAMAZDA.

Just as a moth flies around a flame madly in love, so also the earth, rotates on its axis revolves around the sun - all in His love.

### HUMAN LOVE

Our love is the physical manifestation of the essence of the freindly loving universe. Love, closest to Divine Love and the most noble of all, is Mother's Love. Just as God loves His Creation, a mother loves her children and therefore it is said "God could not be everywhere, so he created mothers."

" Love is like a mirror when you love another, you become his mirror and he becomes yours... and reflecting each other's love, you see infinity". For a very successful and deep relationship one requires: " Subtlety of the very wise, flexibility of a child, sensitivity of an artist, understanding of a philosopher, acceptance of a saint, tolerance of the dedicated, knowledge of a scholar and the fortitude of the certain."

All these qualities will grow in him who chosese love, for these are already a part of his potential and will be realized through loving.

Relationship are living things. They need a lot of efforts, sacrifice, time, work, love and caring and understanding to maintain balance and security, and a better, fuller and a long lasting togetherness.

Marriage therefore is a lot of hard work and is a full time job but the warm and wonderful feeling of loving and to be loved is our inborn need and the largest experience in our lives, without which we cannot survive, even physically.

To love someone is to love God... we end on a hopeful note that all kinds of human love - whether it is noble as that of the mother and child or lawful as that between husband and wife, has the essence of Divine - the seed - an echo of the Love that arose when Nature put in the motion of Love into Creation. When the Universe was being manifested at one stage, Creation had come to a standstill and there was no progress - At that time, Dadar's blessings of Love was spread and so the Universe progress and is now marching towards excellence.

Therefore on whatever shores, human love is at present, it is sure to sail through and reach **Khanirath Bami** (the shore of Light) the final destination. Hence the temporary attraction of Ishk-e-Mijazi will one day turn into Ishk-e-Hakiki (everlasting love) How?

To love is to suffer.

### SEX AND SPIRITUAL PATH

"...how much greater is a day in the house of the lord or a moment in His presence - than a 1000 years in carnal forces ?"

Sex is not to be looked upon merely as a physical expression. Sex becomes sacred and beautiful when guided by the mental and the spiritual forces as in the case of a husband and wife truly in love with each other.

In the very early days, the very spiritually advanced souls entered into sexual relationships for the purpose of conception and procreation only. For us it is different. Sexual life should not be the goal of marriage nor be the purpose, but the outcome of the answering of soul to soul.

### SOUL MATES :

Soul mates are what in Kshnoomic parlance we term as " **Khaetwadath noo Joroo.**" They are two spiritual partners who want the same thing out of life, having the same value system; whose eternal love out of a misty past transcends time, tradition or any other human connection. Theirs is a true spiritual union, a true mating of heart, mind and soul; more than a physical attraction.

It is very rare that we come accross Soul Mates these days and more do we rarely find them as husbands and wives. Each of us has our counterpart in the opposite sex... could be any where on this earth, or elsewhere in another world. Edgar Caycee has said : " Be in that position that when the complement of self in the opposite sex appears, thy heart, thy mind, thy body will recognize same for without the complement, the self will be as naught and become nil."

So if and when you meet your soul Mate you may recognize him/her; it will be someone you will FEEL you've always known, who you feel a close, compelling affinity for, whose life you will want to share... but as I said earlier, this phenomenon is very rare and may not even happen in this lifetime; and very often we may be mistaken.

If in this life, Soul Mates come together as husband and wife or as lovers, as they would, to work learn and grow together; if they do not heed lessons of the past, and if they repeat the same mistakes, they may separate on the verge of a union. If they bring a depth and breadth of understanding they have never before achieved and overcome obstacles, they will be united, and as one, will serve God and their fellowmen.

" Know that this union is but a grander union with God, through which you become aware of your wholeness and special place in the Universe."

*Silloo Mehta.*