APOLOGIES, BELATED NAVROZ GREETINGS AND THANKS!

MAY WE SING THE DIVINE SONG OF ILM-E-KHSHNOOM?

My dear readers,

Hearty Greetings from your editor! You have given me a shock, a delightful and refreshing shock. Your keen interest in this humble Parsi Pukar and its contents is overwhelming. My declining confidence in the collective intelligence of the Parsi community has suddenly got a spurt. The materials presented to you here has, truthfully speaking, stunned many of you. Many of you have revived your interest, affection and admiration towards the sublimity, divinity and the mystical truths revealed in our Zarthoshti Din and all its spiritual institutions like Sudreh-Kushti, Manthra prayers, Atash, Kriyakaam, Dokhma, Meher-Patet (the spiritually oriented moral code), Boonak-pasbani (the preservation of the religio-racial gene - "Tokkam Kyani" in the song "Chhaiye Amey Zarthoshti".

The sole intention of this humble magazine is to furnish to you such data, information and evidence as would place your Faith on a solid intelligent foundation. As you must have seen, the materials here are not only from our divine Manthra-scriptures but also from the most modern physical sciences and the ancient mystical sciences scattered in other great Religions and Mysticisms.

As you must have observed, this magazine is an almost single-handed effort, no doubt actively supported by a handful of sincere workers. I, your editor, am in this line since more than half a century. Vocationally trained as a scientist and a lawyer, and nurtured in an old family of Mobeds and Dastoors, I have been observing all throughout that most of the materials placed before our community in the name of Zarthoshti Religion are far away from the most vital ingredients of any Religion, namely, devotion, love and selflessness. They also lack the spiritual and mystical truths, many of which are found to be universally acclaimed by all the honest religious groups of the humanity on this globe.

I, your editor, unfortunately, have no team of writers who are well versed in this genuine quest and have a strong will and humble sincerity to convey effectively the real mystical and devotional side of the Din. This humble magazine is therefore falling behind in time. **My most earnest and genuine apologies for this.**

The date of this double issue is January and February 1999. The last issue was of December 1998 published in February 1999. From 18th February to 26th March, I was in America. I had been there several times since 1989, mainly to conduct 6 to 7 days camps on various topics of our Din, like cosmogenesis, Mysticism in Gatha, 'Yashtas', Manthra-Prayers, the spiritual way of Zarthoshti life etc. This is being arranged by "Mazdayasni connection", a non-profit organisation in charge of Silloo Mehta, an ardent and life-long student of IIm-e-Khshnoom, a powerful key to grasp the Gnyan-science, Karma-the rules of day to day life, and Bhakti - the burning devotion (Ushta) towards the Din, Paigamber Asho Zarathushtra and Ahuramazda.

During my present trip, the 7 days camp was at Canyon Country (California) on "Yasna" - Kiyakaam, the most vital vein of our Din. There was also a public lecture on "Meditation in Zarthoshti Din" - at Cypress (a 'city' near Los Angeles). On 6th March, there was a talk on "Why different Religions?" at Philadelphia, and on 21 st March there was a lecture demonstration at Cincinati on "Navroz Table and Jashan". The last two were sponsored by the respective local Zarthoshti Associations.

Wherever I have gone, I have seen that the materials and data derived from Khshnoomic writings of my revered teachers, Chiniwalla brothers reflecting the genuine teachings of Ustad Saheb Baheramshah Navroji Shroff, blended with the modern advances in physical sciences in their search for truth, generate an almost stunning response. Is this our Din? What a sublime revelation? We did not know this! At the Cincinnati function, my daughter's and my Parsi friend told me half jokingly and half seriously, "After hearing you I am ashamed of my ignorance." An American gentleman in the audience wrote to my daughter, "How unaware we are even in the matters we take for granted!"

Since I have been in Khshnoom, other mysticisms, and modern philosophies and sciences since about half a century, I have very convincing reasons to offer for the proposition that Khshnoom is the only key to understand the holistic structure of our Din in all its devotional, spiritual, mystical, scientific, practical, and ritualistic aspects. I am aware that everybody thinks that the truth has exclusively landed on him. I do not make any such claim. All we Khshnoomists do is to answer your question viz. "With so many divergent and confusing views and opinions presented from various arenas, are there any reasonable grounds to believe that Khshnoom is the right revealing key?" Our answer is 'yes'. I have tested this often and often. We don't say, you place your faith in Khshnoom overnight. We say, observe, inquire, explore objectively, dispassionately, impartially and intelligently the source of Khshnoom and the vast materials presented by Khshnoom (spread over more than 50,000 printed pages). If your exploration leads you to the belief that yes, here is the key, you can then drink deep from its sweet fountain of peace and bliss. It will change your life and prepare you for any calamity, which we the humans of the earth are likely to face in the near future.

I have been following very closely, since last 40 years, all the various movements in the community, which claim to teach our Religion. With my mind trained in the rational methods of science and law, I have found that except Khshnoom, each of the others satisfy neither the intellectual quest for truth nor the devotional cry of the heart. I assure you, my readers, that I have no malice or ill-feeling towards anybody. I have tested each of such non-Khshnoomic movements with an absolutely open mind and great sympathy, and found that something very basic is missing in them.

MATERIAL WINDS

Take the philological studies emanating from the west. Most of their paradigms are inconsistent with the life we Parsis lived in India for 1200 years and before that during the empire days. The study makes a mockery of every spiritual Institution of our Din, the same Institutions, to preserve which we left the land where we once ruled. With Zoroaster a mythical figure (Max Muller), a hamp intoxicant (Nyber), an ordinary person of pre historic times; with the highest ideal of spiritual perfection called 'Khaetvodath,' revealed in our daily Kushti prayer and elsewhere interpreted as 'next of kin' marriages between father and daughter or brother and sister: with Sudreh Kushti, a yogic exercise, and Atash Padshah, - a divine entity reduced to dry symbols; with their 45 highly divergent translations of the Gatha and then a most irrational paradigm that the Gatha alone is genuine Zoroastrianism and the rest is not only non-zoroastrian but contra-zoroastrian, **the Western study is a huge failure, a network of academic speculations and guess works.**

GAC AND JIC

There is then the Gatha-alone-Cult and Jafri-Irani Cult (GAC and JIC) of America which base their paradigms on that Western study, and then, in the name of 'acceptance' (a euphemism for brain washed conversion) blaspheme, in word or deed, directly or indirectly, the Prophets and the Teachings of other great world Religions.

There is then the **Zoroastrian Studies**, whose chief Mr. Khojaste Mistry is so much confused in his intellectual thinking that his mind takes quantum jumps from no-powerful God to five Gods; whose paradigms lack even elementary intellectual and philosophical thinking; who tries to cover up his mental confusion beneath a strong personal ego, which is no way to learn or teach Religion objectively and impartially; and whose treatment of such a difficult subject as Religion suffers from abject superficiality. His recent speech at 'Avan Parab' function glaringly illustrated this lack of depth.

THE FANATIC RED CAPS

There is then a red-cap cult, which is nothing but just naked fanaticism without a trace of any rational or logical or intelligent thinking, even on this side of the intellectual barrier. Fanaticism clouds intelligence and I have found that the majority of this cult have sub-normal intellectual level. I say this after a long exploration in their psyche. The movement had sprung up before my eyes and I am personally aware of many things about its origin and continuance, which I may, if need be, reveal someday. This cult has nothing to do with Khshnoom. Some people write this equation out of ignorance or political intrigue. In fact, at the beginning of this movement, its head-men blasphemed Baheramshah Shroff himself and later directed their flat assaults on Chinivala brothers as a change in strategy. Even today there are a few ignoramuses who, without reading a single word from the vast writings of Chinivalla brothers continue their blasphemy. Surely this is not a quest for truth and deserves to be discarded. This Red Cap Cult has not even ten authentic written lines on their bombasts.

WHY ILM-E-KHSHNOOM?

Subject all these movements to a rigorous intellectual test. After all, everybody has a right to believe in the things divine, things spiritual, and things mystical. Religion is the highest form of mysticism which lies beyond the intellectual barrier. But before we place our faith in a particular movement, we have a vested right to test it intellectually. Before going into the realms beyond intellect, we can subject it to a thorough intelligent exploration. We can examine all the available materials and data about every movement before placing our faith in it. If you do that seriously and sincerely with an honest craving for truth, you will arrive at IIm-e-Khshnoom.

This magazine is intended to present to you such materials and data regarding Khshnoom. Ponder and arrive at the truth.

I repeat that we Khshnoom-lovers have no malice towards anybody. We only wish that the peace and bliss, love and selflessness, devotion and Ushta of Khshnoom, which we experience, be shared by us with all the intelligent Parsis.

Late Navroz Mubarak!

"RAMASHNEY PATAYASHNEY VIRAYASHNEY BAAD"

"May the eternal peace and bliss stick to you like a permanent ornament".

May this blessing of Ranidar-e-Zaman, Dastoor Aderbad Maraspand, be showered on you, your family, your community, your country and the whole humanity.

- K. N. Dastoor.

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