

Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract # 312: Singing of Aa airyemaa Ishyo - Yasna 54.1 - Brotherhood of Mankind on the tune of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony - Ode to Joy and playing it on a clarinet

Hello all Tele Class friends:

WZSE#312 – 6 Years of Weeklies!

With the Guidance and help of Daadaar Ahura Mazda, we have completed with this WZSE#312,

6 years of continuous weeklies! We want to thank you all loyal readers for your help and encouragement. We hope to continue these weeklies as long as we can!

Historic combined Global WZCC and FEZANA AGMs in Orlando, FL

Never had in the past, the two Zarathushtri Organizations – WZCC and FEZANA - had AGMs during the same week as it was last week, May 1 – 5 2019, in Orlando, FL! This was a historic event and the small Central Florida Orlando WZCC Chapter did an outstanding job of conducting this week-long affair with home cooked meals and tea/coffee breaks for all five days. It was attended by Humdins from all over the world!

We want to congratulate Dinyar Mehta and Afsaan Kermani and all their amazing helpers for conducting this week with efficiency, unbelievable hospitality, good food and humility. Thank you all for conducting a wonderful week-long conference.

Singing of Aa Airyemaa Ishyo – The Brotherhood of Mankind Prayer – on the tune of Beethoven’s Ode To Joy!

Of all the prayers we have in Yasna, Visperad, Vendidad, and Khordeh Avesta, only 3 prayers are to be recited 4 times indicating their importance: Yathaa Ahu Vairyo, Mazdaa at Moi (Ahunavaiti Gatha – Yasna 34.15), and Aa Airyemaa Ishyo (Yasna 54.1).

Aa Airyemaa Ishyo is at the end of all Gathas in Yasna and according to Dr. Taraporewalla, it is also written by Zarathushtra as his ending of the Gathas, with the same meter as Yasna 53 – Gatha Vahishtoisht. It is also known as the Brotherhood of Mankind.

It is also recited in the Zoroastrian Wedding Pazand Aashirwaad for the joy of the wedding couple.

Aa airyemaa ishyo, Yasna 54.1:

[\(Please hear the attached .mp3 file for its recitation\)](#)

Aa airyémaa ishyo rafedhraai jantû,
Nerebyaschaa naairibyaschaa Zarathushtrahéh,
Vanghéush rafedhraai manangho,
Yaa daénaa vairím hanaat mîzhdem,
Ashahyaa yaasaa ashim,
Yaam ishyaam ahuro masataa mazdaao!

(Recite four times)

Aa airyemaa ishyo, Yasna 54.1 Translation:

**May Brotherhood of Man, for which we yearn,
Come down amongst us and rejoice the hearts
Of men and maidens of Zarathushtra's faith,
Bringing fulfilment unto Vohu Man (good mind);
When Souls of men receive their precious meed (reward),
I pray to Asha in His Grace to grant These blessings for which human souls do long,
Which Mazdaa Ahuraa hath meant for all.**

(Translation by Dr. Irach J. S. Taraporewalla – *The Divine Songs of Zarathushtra* – Page 858)

Aa airyemaa Ishyo – Brotherhood of Mankind – and Beethoven's Ninth Symphony Chorus – Ode to Joy

Once I stumbled upon a Flash Mob performance video of Beethoven's 9th Symphony Chorus –

Ode To Joy.

On further reading the actual translation of the chorus, I was intrigued that the original composer of the poem, the German poet and philosopher Friedrich Schiller, wrote it in 1785 **to celebrate the brotherhood and unity of all mankind.**

I instantly saw the connection between Aaa Airyemaa Ishyo and Ode To Joy! Their common theme is Brotherhood of Mankind!

Beethoven's 9th Symphony – The Choral Symphony

'Ludwig van Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" was composed in 1824, as the final movement of his last, and arguably most famous, symphony, Symphony No. 9. The premiere took place in Vienna on May 7, 1824, and despite its unpracticed and under-rehearsed presentation, the audience was ecstatic. It was the first time Beethoven had appeared on stage in 12 years.'

'At the end of the performance, it was said that Beethoven continued

conducting even though the music had ended. One of the soloists stopped him and turned him around to accept his applause. The audience was well aware of Beethoven's health and hearing loss, so in addition to clapping, they threw their hats and scarves in the air so that he could see their overwhelming approval.'

Playing and Singing of *Aa Airyemaa Ishyo* in the tune of Ode to Joy:

Our Prophet Zarathushtra composed his Gathas in Poetic format so that in absence of any written language, they can be easily remembered by learning by heart. And through countless ages, **our Mobeds have kept them intact by learning from father to son by heart, I am being one of them.**

Only God knows how much I have tried unsuccessfully to sing some verses of Gathas and our prayers using some famous melodies, until I saw the connection between *Aa Airyemaa Ishyo* and Ode To Joy and said: "Why not?!" **Entrepreneurial!**

And so, here is our very feeble attempt to sing it using its melody!

Our own Dinyar Mehta's very accomplished son, Prof. Daryush Mehta, is a concert clarinet player and it just so happened that he played his clarinet at the Conference on Thursday night. It was a wonderful presentation by him.

So, I thought why not ask Daryush to play Ode To Joy first on clarinet and then I sing it in its tune. Daryush was so kind to agree to play it and so during the benediction on Friday morning of the first day of FEZANA AGM, Daryush and I got together for the playing and singing.

After a few slides of introduction, Daryush played the tune of Ode To Joy and then I sang *Aa Airyemaa Ishyo* Prayer in its tune. Our unbelievable helper Zamaan Shaikh recorded this in two segments of videos on his cell and I uploaded them in YouTube and here are the two YouTube segments of this historic Benediction with playing on clarinet Ode To Joy tune and singing of *Aa Airyemaa Ishyo* in the same tune:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifq0UT-CIIM&feature=youtu.be>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JUxhg8WvesA&feature=youtu.be>

SPD Comments

1. Message of Zarathushtra in *Aa Airyemaa Ishyo* of Brotherhood of Mankind is repeated

almost 3000+ years later by a German poet and made world famous by Beethoven in his Ode To Joy!

2. 'The very first Western scholar who translated our Avesta scriptures was a French adventurer and scholar, Anquetil-Duperron. He arrived in Surat in March 1758 and learnt our scriptures from two Parsi priests, Darab Kumana and a certain priest Kaus. He obtained almost 180 Avestan manuscripts and was able to translate some Avesta manuscripts in 1760. He left India and arrived in Paris in March 1762 and deposited all his manuscripts in the Paris Royal Library. In 1771, he published his three-part '*Zend Avesta* of works ascribed to [Zoroaster](#)'. This provoked passionate discussions in Europe among philosophers and writers.'

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abraham_Hyacinthe_Anquetil-Duperron)

'Voltaire, Grimme, Diderot, Goethe, Von Kleist, Byron, Worthsmith, Shelly and later Nietzsche and many others joined this ideological turmoil.'

'Great musicians participated as well. Rameau included Zarathustra in his opera "Zoroastre", Mozart in his "The Magic Flute" and Richard Strauss in his symphony "Thus Spake Zarathustra" ' (Khosro Khazai, *The Gathas*, pages 43-46.)

So, Zarathushtra and his Gathas and our other Religious literature have been studied by the Western scholars, Poets and Musicians for a long time.

May the Flame of Fellowship, Love, Charity and Respect for all burn ever eternal in our hearts so we can do HIS work with humility, diligence and eternal enthusiasm!

In HIS service 24/7!

Atha Jamyat, Yatha Aafrinaamahi! (May it be so as we wish!)

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli