

WZSE – Weekly Zoroastrian Scripture Extract. # 76

Hello all Tele Class friends:

In our daily Faraziyaat (required prayers), we have some beautiful short prayers like Doaa Naam Setaayashne, Hosh Baam, and much forgotten Vispa Humata and Chaar Deesaa No Namaskaar.

In our previous WZSEs, we have covered some verses of the first two prayers.

Today, we would like to present to you, Chaar Deesaa No Namskaar – Homage Unto The Four Directions.

Actually, it is taken from the first Haa of Yasna 1.16 with the first two words, “Neevaedhayaemi Hankaarayaemi” replaced by Nemo.

Also, it starts with a Pazand sentence from Hormazd Khudaay Kusti prayer ending in one Ashem Vohu. Also, it ends with one Ashem Vohu followed by the familiar four prayers of Ahmaai Raeshcha to Kerfeh Mozda.

It enumerates all the wonderful creations of Dadar Ahura Mazda and pays our homage unto them prayed four times facing all four directions.

So, here is the Chaar Deesaa No Namaskaar:

Homage Unto The Four Directions – Chaar Deesaa No Namaskaar - Yasna 1 Verse 16

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

(16) Nemo aaoghaanm, asangh-haanmcha,
Shoithraanaanmcha, gaoyaoitinaanmcha,
Maéthananaanmcha, avokharenanaanmcha,
Apaanmcha, zemaanmcha, urvaranaanmcha,
Angh-haaoscha zemo, avangh-hécha ashno,
Vaatahécha ashaono, straanm maaongh-ho huro,
Anaghranaanm raochanghhaanm khadhaatanaanm,
Vîspanaanmcha Spentahé Mainyeush daamanaanm,
Ashaonianm, ashaoninaanmcha, ashahé rathvaanm!

Homage Unto The Four Directions – Chaar Deesaa No Namaskaar - Yasna 1 Verse 16– English Translation:

(16) Salutations unto all these places!
Unto the cities, the pasture-lands, the dwelling abodes,
Unto the fountains of drinking waters,
Unto the waters of rivers and streams,

Unto the lands, unto the trees,
Unto this earth and the yonder sky,
Unto the holy wind, the stars, the Moon and the Sun,
Unto the boundless natural lights,
Unto all the creations of Spentaa Mainyu,
Unto the lords of holiness, who are the righteous men and righteous women!
(Translation from Ervad Kangaji's Gujarati *Khordeh Avesta Translated Into English Page 55*)

SPD Explanation:

1. In this beautiful short prayer, we pay our homage unto all four directions, East, South, West and North.

Hence, we pray it four times facing each of the four directions.

It is a custom to pray it after Doaa Naam Setaayashne, during the day time.

In the morning, we start facing east, then south, then west and then north.

In afternoon, we start facing west, then south, then east and finally north.

2. In our Parsi age old custom, we are NOT supposed to face North during our prayers.

Some Parsis are very adamant about that when I perform prayers in their homes without understanding why.

3. As far as I know, the original intent in old Iran was: North was the direction from where the Iran's worst enemies, Turanians, used to invade.

Also, all the bad, cold, devastating weather used to come from North.

Hence it was a custom established not to face North while praying.

4. Also, all the Aatash Behraams, Aadariaans and Agiyaris' inner Keblaas are so constructed that you never face North while praying inside.

5. However, I have seen in many of these holy places, that while praying in the outside halls, for Jashans, Navjotes, etc., Jotis (lead Mobeds) may be facing South whereas the Aatravakshis sitting in front of them are facing North while praying.

6. In USA, in our North, we have our most loyal and friendly country of Canada. Should it be a sin to face North in USA?

7. And then here is a beautiful prayer in exaltations of all the good creations of Dadar Ahura Mazda which we pray four times facing each of the four directions, North included. How so?

8. May be it is time to recognize all the wonderful creations of Dadar Ahura Mazda in all four directions surrounding us and pray with exaltations to them

facing any direction!

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!

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

Love and Tandoorasti, Soli