

HEART TO HEART TALK WITH OUR READERS

This humble Parsi Pukar has completed one and a half years. Already 18 issues are in our readers' hands. We are keenly observing their response and reactions, which now prompt us to have a heart-to-heart talk with them. So here we go.

Why were we induced, almost compelled, to float this monthly?

The first and foremost reason was that most of the Parsis were and are treating their Religion - the Mazdayasni Zarthoshti Daena - as a side line of life, a kind of a lazy hobby, a remote part of life to be indulged in occasionally, say on a Hamkara day or a Baj day or a new year day. Daena is not that. You can not even call it a part of life. **IT IS LIFE ITSELF. Every breath of our life on earth is connected with our Daena, which is a divine ('minoi') Power Station installed by our Paigamber Asho Zarathustra in certain non-physical regions existing in Nature. Our short stay on earth is a part of our Religious journey towards Ahuramazda and we have to live every moment of our life as decreed by Him, through Asho Zarathustra.**

We Parsis have forgotten this vital Truth.

"But how and why do you say that this is the Truth?" somebody may ask.

This humble "Parsi Pukar" is intended to answer that question. And therefore, **it is a magazine of Religion and Science.**

If Religion - Daena - has to talk about the existence of an unseen God, about a minoi Power Station of Asho Zarathustra, about life and life breath on earth, about God's creation we find on earth, about life before birth and after death, and about the unseen realms and regions in Nature, then what a formidable subject matter Religion is? From a speck of dust, a drop of water, a leaf of the tree, a crawling ant and a creature called man to God would cover every branch of knowledge, and every search for Truth, past present and future!

In the modern times, an activity called science has become a search for the truth and reality in Nature, and has collected several facts of matter, life and mind.

There is another search for truth called psychic research. There are then other mystic sciences and mysticisms. And on the top of it all, there are other great Religions, which are also revelations of God's Truth.

This Magazine is intended to present to you some glimpses from all this vast subject matter leading to the great Truth about our Daena and the vital need to live the life of Daena.

Our Daena is not just Manashni, Gavashni, Kunashni. It is much much more than that. Each of its components viz Sudreh Kushti, Manthra Prayers, Kriyaka, Atesh, Dokhma, Meher-Patet (i.e. moral code) and "boonak pasbani" (preservation of the racial gene) has a vast mystical and spiritual science behind it. We show you how and why each of them is a vital element of life, not only for the spiritual evolution of every Parsi, but also for the survival of the community.

Exertion For Truth

We Parsis have almost lost the urge to find out the Truth. Our truth is what suits us most. If we do not want to put on Sudreh Kushti, we "arrive" at the alleged truth that it is just a symbol. If we do not wish to pray from Khordeh Avesta, we "arrive" at the alleged truth that there is no sense in praying without knowing the meaning. Such "arrivals" are based on ignorance of a thousand facts which stare straight in our eyes, but we deliberately close them, because those facts do not suit our way of life. Parsi Pukar, with all humility, intends to shower these facts and materials on your psyche or at least to make you conscious of their existence.

Search for Truth is a very hard and exerting task. We must be ready to set aside our preconceived notions and prejudices. We must go wherever the facts and materials lead us. We must not run away from them because it upsets the easy going equilibrium of our mind.

Some of our readers find some articles heavy, although we try, sincerely and exertingly, to make them as

simple as possible. This is natural because the subject matters are not easy. While trying to understand Religion, a lot of patience is required. Throughout our life, we are students; our subject is: how to live this life and why so. Let us therefore read and study like a school student.

Not all our articles are heavy. There are lighter ones also, like the miracles, psychic and mystical events, and the lives of the mystics. Please rest assured, they rely on authentic records and materials. There are necessary to be known for our journey to the great Truth.

Oh ! Those "High Priests !"

One another reason for floating this humble magazine in the sea of time, was this: We found that the Dasturs, who were supposed to be our religious guides, were themselves the victims of the apathy for truth. Their 'guidance' depended on where the winds of publicity and self-interest were blowing. For instance, there was no difference whatsoever, from the religious viewpoint, between the "Navjotes" of Patterson of America, an unknown entity, and Neville wadia of Bombay, a rich man; yet one was detested and the other was ratified, both with equal vehemence, by the Dasturs (one of them, after an amusing summersault!) Recently two of them adopted a funny position on beef-eating: if there is no provision in religion not to do a thing, there is no bar to doing it. There is no provision that you should not box your mother's (better, mother-in-law's) nose, therefore you can box it! Apart from the sheer folly of the bloated argument, the Dasturs were blissfully ignorant of the horrible beef-culture of our times. (We have started a series of articles on the' subject from our last issue.)

One of the Dasturs threw Gatha Ha 31-12 from sublime to ridicule by bringing down the spiritual difference between the truthful and the liar set out therein to the university difference between a scholar and a non-scholar! When the Bangalore Parsi Anjuman appointed, with due dignity and as appreciation of an exceptionally long service, Dasturji Nadirsha Unwalla as a High-Priest, the scholar high-priests deprecated the step mainly on a pretended ground that Nadirshah had no University degree in western oriental studies. The real reason, too obvious to be hidden, was that he became the 8th High Priest and upset the "democratic majority" from 4:3 to 4:4 on the issue of Naville Wadia's "Navjote!"

One of the aims of this humble Parsi Pukar is to disentangle and display public twists of some of the Dasturi Paghdis and the inverted stitches behind some of the Dasturi shawls, so that you may decide how far their priestly guidance can be relied upon.

We have one more matter to be brought to the serious notice of the Community. **Please do not be lured by the Western studies of our Religion, which have originated several false and damaging paradigms.** Max muller said Zoroaster was a purely mythical name. Those studies declared that the Gatha was the only genuine Zoroastrianism, and non-Gathic Avesta was quite contrary to its spirit, which means all our traditions are false and all our institutions are fake. They proclaimed that next of kin marriages were very much prevalent amongst our ancestors in Iran, that is, brothers married sisters; fathers, daughters, mothers, sons. What a race are we? The "genuinely Zoroastrian" Gathas have scores of violently differing translations. What is the genuine message of the prophet, nobody is certain about and nobody will ever know; because every new translation adds to the confusion.

How do we then know about our Daena? **This humble Parsi Pukar points out that there is one genuine and authentic source for the minoi knowledge and that is Ilm-e-Khshnoom. Whatever be your prejudices, if you closely follow the materials given in this Magazine, with the real craving for truth, you are sure, one day, to place your faith in Khshnoom. The day on which you will do that will be the most memorable day in this life and after. May Asho Zarathustra be with you.**

- K. N. Dastoor

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