PERFECTION OF DADAR

There are some faulty contentions often raised by those who believe in just-one-life on Earth.

Ahura Mazda is "Not Omnipotent Now" and hence the Evil Spirit has an upper hand and strikes us randomly.

Some of our friends indulge in an exercise in semantics. They affirm that Ahura Mazda is Mighty but not "yet" Omnipotent! Mercifully, they concede that Ahura Mazda is both Omniscient and Omnipresent. Umfortunately, they fail to realize that a Divinity which is Omniscient as well as Omnipresent, Ipso facto becomes Omnipotent and more so in relation to an entity like the so-called "Evil Spirit" which, according to the Ardibehesht Yasht Nirang is just a non-entity (hich), ignorant (nadan) and not capable of doing anything (na-tavanad). Further, the very second Auspicious Name of Ahura Mazda is "Harvesptawan", i.e. Omnipotent. In the Hormazd Roz Setayeshn, Ahura Mazda is described as "Visaptawan", i.e. Omnipotent.

It is thus abundantly clear that Ahura Mazda is, and has always been, fully capable of dealing with the "Evil Spirit". If Asho Zarathushtra could make the Evil Spirit go underground by the recitation of Ahunavar (YAV), surely Ahura Mazda can do much better.

It is hardly necessary to add that in this Universe governed by the Law of Asha. Ashat hacha (YAV 1st line.) everything happens according to the Laws ordained by the Omnipotent Lord, and nothing can happen by accident or chance.

Ahura Mazda's Creations are "imperfect" and hence there exist inequilities in all spheres of life.

- Behram D. Pithavala

If you will look around, you will notice that all creations are perfect, governed as they are by Divine Laws, Just to cite a few examples:

- 1) The Earth rotates on its axis at 1,000 miles per hour. If it rotates at only 100 miles per hour, our days and nights would be ten times as long as they are now, and the Earth would alternately burn and freeze.
- 2) The Sun has a surface temperature of 12,000 degrees Fahrenheit and our Earth is at the exact distance from it that it needs to be to get just enough heat and not too much.
- 3) If the Moon were not at the exact distance it is from the Earth, the ocean tides would inundate the land mass completely twice a day.
- 4) If the ocean were just a few feet deeper than it is, the carbon dioxide and oxygen in the Earth's atmosphere would be completely absorbed and no vegetable life would exist on the Earth.
- 5) If the Earth's atmosphere were just a little thinner, many of the meteors which are not burned out in space would bombard us, causing great fires everywhere.
- 6) Do you know that water crystalizes at just 60°?

In short, everything is governed by law. Thus the astronomer, by his science, is able to predict the return of the comets, the conjuctions, occultations and other phenomena of the planets, together with the eclipses of the Sun and Moon centuries in advance of their occurrence.

Perfection is everywhere in this vast kingdom of **Ahura Mazda**. Whatever "inequities" we notice all around us - a child

born blind, someone picking up foodgrains from a garbage heap, a mentally defective child living like a vegetable, for example - are only apparent, not real. They are the direct consequences of some past-life bad kerdar. All human souls are progressing on different spiritual levels and at different speeds in the course of the "Wheels of Happiness and Mystry" (aspenchit sadrachit Chakhrayo: Yasna 34-7). These wordly phenomena may appear harsh and unjust to those who refuse to believe in the ongoing Cycles of births and deaths.

Glaring fallacles inherent in the Majority VIew

The Majority view is that there is ONLY ONE LIFE for each soul. In other words, every second Ahura Mazda creates a "new" soul! It is further held that after death the souls of the wicked are dumped into a place called "Duzakh" where they are made to rot for thousands upon thousands of years without their being given an opportunity to make amends and return to the Path of Asha.

If this is, indeed, our first birth, then naturally, we all should have been born pure, innocent and Righteous as our Creator is, but this is not evident at all.

A related question is, suppose a soul is given birth with some criminal tendencies, and on growing up it commits a murder. In such a case, would Ahura Mazda be justified in punishing that soul after death?

Have the learned votaries of the "Justone-life Theory" any "clean and clear" answers to the points raised above?

The Karmic (car meek) effects do not occur in cycles. — The Zarathushtrian Law of Kerdar (akem akal: Yasna 43-5) is quite simple. If a sin is committed and a commensurate punishment is pronounced by Meher Daver and gone through by the

concerned evil-doer, the matter ends there. Any suggestion that such Karmic effects continue to occur indenfinitely from life to life is un-Zarathushtrian. Just to take a concrete example: suppose one Pestonji slaps his wife Banoobai in the course of an argument, it may be that it was the direct effect of Banoobai having slapped Pestonji in a previous life. It is, however, quite absurd to believe that in a still previous life Pestonji might have slapped Banoobai!

Even assuming for the sake of argument that such Karmic effects do continue in unending cycles from life to life, it should be remembered that human souls are not robots and a life may come when one or both the parties to the original Karma may decide not to retaliate and there the cycle may end. When Jesus Christ advised us that if someone strikes us on our left cheek we should hold forth the right cheek, he just meant to say that we should not retaliate.

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