Report On 10th Retreat at Canada Through Mazdayasni Connection of California.

Some Curious Occurrences About Proposed Houston Congress of December 2000.

The Aim, Object and Intent of This Humble Magazine.

Greetings! My dear readers!

May divine peace and Bliss - Ushta be with you every moment of your life!

May your every deed, word and thought lead you further and further on the Path prescribed by Ahuramazda and revealed by Asho Zarathushtra!

In your home and heart:

may Sarosh, the Yazata of Obedience to the Almighty, overpower the doubts and suspicions;

may Peace, Harmony and Love overpower all discords and disputes, hatred and conflict;

may Truth overpower the untruth;

may Humility overpower all ego and vanity; may right speech overpower the false tongue.

May these blessings of Yazashney Ha 60 be showered on your home. (Taao Ahmi Namaney.)

What a home it will be ! An abode where Love flows in abundance; where hardship is seen as God's humour, and calamity, His clemency.

Let him test you in hundred ways; you be firm and steadfast in your Love towards him.

Your home may not be a palace; it may be small room with ten people. But it is His rule that Love expands space so may it be flooded with Love.

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We are in September. This issue of your servant Parsi Pukar marks Feb-Mar 2000. Three Navroz's have come and gone: Jamshedi, Kadimi and Shahenshahi. My greetings to you and prayer for you are three-in-one.... I'll tell you where I was.

Imagine a house surrounded by greeneries on all the four sides. American type, ground floor only. Entrance facing west; back verandah facing East; the sun showing its gorgeous colours or hiding its face behind thick clouds every morning and evening; visible from any point within the house; if the sun is not in a mood to put on his 'boorkha' (veil), those points are like sunrise points or sunset points, hill stations boast of.

A road is running north south, a little away from the house. Few cars a day. Towards the north, a few furlongs on the road there is a beautiful lake, pure and clean, coming from and going to some far-away jungles.

There is a West-East narrow path seen from the back verendah, with yellow and golden flowers. One day I tried to talk to the flowers by speaking an Avesta prayer facing them, when suddenly a cool breeze made them nod gracefully as if enjoying the music of Avesta......"Are you hearing God's vibrations? You yourselves are colourful vibrations of His condensed Light", I told the flowers. All that they did was to nod a little more, as if saying, "You claim to know our secret?" "Oh no," I said "not as much as you know". They nodded again with a slow artistic grace.

The surrounding greeneries were wonderfully variant. Grass few inches high, trees gorgeously high. Condensed grooves here, open green land there. Their green colour changed its hues following the idiosyncrasies of the sun and his clouds.

The inhabitants of this house were overflowing cups of love and good feelings-Freny and Keki Bulsara, the same couple in whose campground I had my 9th camp (or retreat), which I reported in a previous issue of this humble magazine. This their home, was not far from that campground. Here we met in the big front hall we, a few Parsis trying to delve into the ecstatic Chapters of Zarthoshti Daena as revealed by IIm-e-Khshnoom. This was the 10th Retreat camp organised by Silloo Mehta and actively supported by Pesi Shroff. I spoke about 5 to 6 hours a day for 7 days 16th July to 22nd July 2000. The subject, this time was "Ameshaspends".

From the origin of Ameshaspend's in the Cosmogenesis to the creations on earth which represented them, we had a fantastic journey. Between this two were stationed the human virtue associated with each Ameshapend and Ahura's attribute of which each was a living, conscious, divinely functioning Entity. Their Humata, Hukhta, Havrashta i.e. their functions in the Divine, Non-physical and physical worlds, were tried to be described. It was a bird's eye view of the bird's eye view. I had gathered all the materials from Framroze Chiniwalla's Nikeez Vol. II, a book of 1055 pages with 327 pages long Index! Those who had some awareness of the spiritually intoxicating Cup of Khshnoom enjoyed it to their heart's content; those who were new to Khshnoom were wonder struck. How lofty and divine this Knowledge, Khshnoom is!!

Want to have a bird's eye view of the bird's eye view of the bird's eye view repeated ten times of what was spoken at the camp?

Ahuramazda to Amerdad on your wall-calendar are the names of 7 Ameshaspends.

Each is associated with (i) a creation on earth, (ii) a human virtue, (iii) a living attribute of Ahura and (iv) Humata-Hukhta-Havrashta i.e. the functions of each in Hasti, Nisti, Geti-the divine, the non-physical and physical worlds in the infinitely vast Creation of Ahuramazda.

For instance, **Bahman Ameshaspend** has the following phases:

Creation on Earth: Cow, Cattle, Gospend'.

Human Virtue: Selflessness, Love, Service (like a Cow).

Ahura's Attribute: Infinite Divine Consciousness.

Humata: The Divine Intelligence, Wisdom and Consciousness.

Hukhta (in Nisti) : Geush Urva, Geush Tashan, Khratukato, Gava, Gavyodaad, Gavapatshah - the

human headed Bull. (Sorry! This is a bit technical; but remember we are dealing wit

the science of all sciences - the knowledge of the Din.

Havrashta: Cow, cattle.

Lessons to be learnt:

Each of the phases is connected with the other. Cow is selfless and serving, so also the human should be. Ahura's divine Consciousness is His Vibrating Love. Intelligence - intellect cannot expand without love, peace and harmony; that is why the Khshnooman of Bahman says "Akhshtim Haam-Vaintim Yazamaidey" - we attune ourselves with the Yazatas, Akhshti and Haam-Vainti - meaning Peace & Harmony, the Deputies of Bahman.

I'll give one more instance - that of **Spentaa Aarmaiti**, the close coworker of Bahaman:

Creation on Earth: Earth itself

Human Virtue: To be humble like the earth is and bear the burdens of Karma like the Earth does.

Love and Devotion to Ahuramazda, Asho Zarathushtra and the Din.

Ahura's Atttribute: Intense Love for each particle of His Creation.

Humata : "Zaam" - the Infinitely Vast Land of His Creation.Hukhta : The Divine Daughter of Ahura; the soil of Nisti.

Havarashta Gaahambaar's.

: The Earth and its power to be green and to grow food. To store the currents of

Lessons

: Peace and Harmony of Bahman are the coworkers of Humility and Love of Aarmaiti. The Earth is the recipient of all the blessings from the Divine. The vast Land and Soil of all His Creation is based on Love. Devotion draws the humans back to Him. Opposite humility is Ego, the arch-enemy of the spiritual development.

As usual, beyond the talk-hours, the camp was a place of good Parsi food, thanks to Freny and Silloo, and of simple enjoyments like humour and music.

On 23rd July I spoke to a Toronto audience on Zarathushtra, the Yazata.

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DECEMBER 2000 CONGRESS IN AMERICA

I heard and read all kinds of stories, some interesting, some disgusting, about the would be Houston Conference of December 2000. 'Boycott Jafri from the Congress' - the so termed "traditionalists" shouted. 'Why such forced exclusion?' echoed the so-termed "liberals". One Meher Amalsad was one of the latter. He got a threat that if he continued to help Jafri to come in the Congress, his parents at Karachi would be physically assaulted. Meher was scared. He moved FBI......

The traditional aspect of the Congress are stated to be in-charge of one Pallonji Ichaporia. Just a few years back, he was a satellite of Jafri-Irani's Gatha-Alone-Cult (GAC); I saw him whirling around Prof. Irani like an orbited sub-planet in 1993 Gatha "Colloquium" at London. Mr. Pallonji knew (and knows) the strength of Ilm-e-khshnoom. So, at that conference he equated Khshnoom with Shamanism, thereby displaying his colossal ignorance of both.

Then a story came about that if Jafri is not allowed in the Congress, he will have a parallel one on the same days.....

Both the Camps are going on with their banners: Jafri 'hataao', Jafri 'laao', thereby giving much more publicity to Jafri than the Congress. Nothing is left for the organisers of the Congress except facing the huge question: Jafri, yes or no?! Both sides are obsessed, and are involved in all kinds of intrigues and trickeries, manoeuvres and conspiracies, as if heavens are going to fall by the presence or otherwise of Mr. X or Mr. Y on the Congress podium. Everybody knows, such congresses and conferences and colloquiums, do not do any good. Speakers come to woo their own ego and inflate it more. Audience awaits anxiously for the coffee break, when somebody speaks on dry history, geography, philology and etymology of religion, without even remotely referring to its spiritual, devotional and mystical aspects, which are the sine-qua-non of any Religion. In the Congress programme, the least importance has been given to Din. "We meet Parsis from all over America"; "Our children may find some friend (view matrimony)" - these are the reasons for attending such Tamaashaas. So why bother?

OUR POLICY

Now do you know? Some people will read politics in my above report! Politics is devil's workshop, where the best is taken as the worst and vice versa. It is a basket of lies, intrigues, vested interests and above all inflated ego.

By now, the readers of Parsi Pukar well know that our aim, object, intention is one: to sprinkle Spiritual Faith and Devotion on the materially parched heart of the community. In doing so, we are per force compelled to raise our voice against several non-senses going round. The Parsi personal life and social life are both founded on Din- Religion. Our seven spiritual Institutions are interwoven with every moment of our life and thereafter. That was the secret of our survival in India for more than a thousand years. That should be, if we desire to avoid extinction. But how much do we know of those backbone Institutions-Kushti, Manthra, Kriya, Atash-temples, Dokhma, Meher Patet, Boonak Pasbaani? These are not worldly material Institutions; they are manifestly spiritual. They have their own mystical fields. But nobody tells us about them. Ilm-

e-Khshnoom is the only key. Unless we infuse Khshnoom in our frame of mind, beat of the heart and style of our daily life, we will never know our spiritual foundations and go on bickering, down hill.

That is why this humble magazine is at your service.

And while serving you, if we find the Dastoors and Mobeds and Akaabars and newspaper men preaching and doing things, which harm those Institutions, we are forced to raise our voice. With Jame Jamshed fumbling to be reborn and Mumbai Samachar having a glimpse of some awakening, each on a bout of sommersault, here we are to furnish such spiritual and devotional materials and data as would enable you to arrive at the Nature's Truths, All that you are required to do is to study them seriously and search your true self and way of life, putting aside all the previous prejudices. Please remember, not all facts and truths in nature are known to us. There is an intellectual barrier which does not allow us to go beyond certain limited facts and to arrive at a definite intellectual conclusion. Intellect, if taken to its extreme, points towards faith. Faith is the hand maid of mysticism; and mysticism is the basis of the Parsi life. Without it, all religious studies are like a blind man in a dark room searching for a black hat which is not there.

- K.N.D.

I Resolve That

I shall not fear anyone on earth.

I shall fear only God.

I shall not bear ill-will toward anyone.

I shall not submit to injustice from anyone.

I shall conquer untruth by truth.

And in resisting untruth I shall put up with all suffering.

- Mahatama Gandhi

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