

KING JAMSHID

Jamshed, the son of Vivahat, was the illustrious king possessing the divine glory.' According to the Avesta, Vivahat was the first person to perform the Haoma ceremony, and as a divine gift, illustrious Jamshid was born. In the Avesta Jamshid is described as "illustrious, protector of the flock, most glorious among men, most resembling the sun among mortals." It is further stated that during the reign of Jamshid animals and men were undying, water undrying, plants unwithering, and men were eating inexhaustible food. During the benign reign of Jamshid there were neither rigours of cold nor of heat, neither old age nor death nor evil of the demons; and both father and son were moving about as if they both were of 15 years of age (Y.9.4,5).

Ahura Mazda divinely instructed Jamshid to extend the land for human habitation and to cultivate the land for nourishment of men and animals. Jamshid undertook to be the nourisher, protector, and supervisor of men and animals. Ahura Mazda provided him with a golden implement, a ploughshare, for cultivating the land. Jamshid thrice extended the land and made it habitable and cultivable for happiness, prosperity of men and animals. (Vd. 2.4-20).

Jamshid trained people in the art of making coats of armour for men and horses. He taught them to knead clay and to mould bricks for building houses. He discovered mineral wealth — silver, gold, jewels, and precious stones, extracted scents from fragrant herbs and flowers. During his reign wine was prepared from grape juice. Jamshid was a king, and also a priest and a prophet.

Sarosh Yazat divinely inspired Jamshid to put on the sacred garments of Sadra and to tie the sacred belt of Kusti thereon in

order to ward off the evils of the demons; and Jamshid did accordingly and instructed the people to do the same.

Jamshid divided the Iranian people into four professional groups: the priests, the warriors, the agriculturists and the artisans.

Jamshid founded the festival of Navroz, the New Year's Day, and celebrated it every year in a royal fashion of Roz Hormazd Mah Farvardin.

Ahura Mazda forewarned Jamshid of the impending danger of devastating winter and divinely instructed him to prepare a refuge for the worldly creations. As inspired and instructed by Ahura Mazda, Jamshid constructed a Vara (an enclosure, a castle, a fort), and carried therein and protected the best species of men, animals, vegetation, and other creatures and creations of the world against the onslaught of the devastating winter (Vol. 2.22-43).

The construction of the Vara of Jamshid may be regarded as an event of universal importance, as is recorded with some modifications in the Vedic and also in the Biblical literature. It is strange that this account is not given by Firdusi. It appears, however, that perhaps he refers to it when he says (Firdasi I 134). "And still new revelations came from God."

Jamshid must have lived about 9000 B.C.

It appears that ancient literatures astronomy and modern science have combined in an effort to ascertain, with responsible certainty the place and age in which King Jamshid must have lived. As stated above, the ancient accounts of evil winter, flood, deluge refer to what is known as glaciation or ice age in geology. Long ago (in 1903) B. G. Tilak based his arguments on Avesta, Vedic and astronomical evidences and arrived at the conclusion that the ancient homeland of the Aryan people was situated near the North Pole or somewhere

in the Arctic Circle, which homeland was destroyed by glaciation.

(Tilak, pp. 453-458)

Further, on the strength of elaborate astronomical calculations based on the statements made in the Avesta and the Vedas, Tilak concludes (pp. 453-454) :

"10,000 or 8000 B.C. The destruction of the original Arctic home by the last Ice age and the commencement of the post-glacial period.

"8000-5000 B. C. — The age of migration from the original home. The survivors of the Aryan race roamed over the northern parts of Europe and Asia in search of lands suitable for new settlements."

This conclusion of Tilak is admirably supported by modern science. According to the modern scientific method of radio-carbon dating, glaciation took place in the northern latitudes of Europe and America about 11,000 years ago (En. Britt. Vol. 18 p. 905) i.e. about 9000 B. C. This shows that Tilak's conclusion, based on ancient records and astronomical calculations, and published years ago, agrees amazingly well with the conclusion based on modern scientific method of radio-carbon dating.

Since King Jamshed is inseparably connected with the period of evil winter and hence with glaciation, it is reasonable to conclude that Jamshed and the Kings before him must have lived about 9000 B.C. (Extracts From Dasturji Dr. Hormazdyar K. Mirza's book, "Outlines of Parsi History.")



With Best Compliments

from

Beheram Noshirwan Irani

THINK IT OVER....

Abraham Lincoln was seen walking along a Springfield Street one day with two of his young sons, both of whom were crying.

"Why, Mr. Lincoln", asked a passer-by, "What seems to be the trouble with the boys?"

"Same thing that's wrong with the rest of the world", replied Lincoln. "I've got three walnuts and each boy wants two."

* * *
The greatest good of the mind is the knowledge of God.

* * *
He that gives good advice builds with one hand; he that gives good counsel and example builds with both; but he that gives good admonition and bad example builds with one hand and destroys with the other.

* * *
We gain freedom when we have paid the full price for our right to live.

* * *
Conscience is the voice of the soul, the passions are the voice of the body.

* * *
The devil finds it easy to tempt us to the efforts of attracting attention rather than giving attention to others. Pray that you will never succumb to this ruse of taking yourself too seriously and others not seriously enough.

ATHORNANS, BEWARE !

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Zoroastrians, Juddin Navjotes and weddings, etc.? All I shall say at this stage is, "Athornans, Beware! There may be more than meets the eye in this outburst of compassion for you by The Bombay Samachar!"

— Xerxes N. Pastakia

Pune.