

MEHER YAZAD - MEHERANGAAN

Meher Roj falls in the middle of the month, and Meher Mah is the seventh month, which is the chief of the second half of the year; hence the importance. Meher Yazad is said to be the propagator of truth and dispenser of justice, having jurisdiction over the words of the humans and the promises they make. Nothing displeases Meher Yazad more than when one breaks a promise or goes back on his word.

When one passes on from this world, he is judged by Meher, Sarosh and Rashné Yazads. Allegorically Meher Yazad is described as one with wide pastures, with thousand ears, ten thousand eyes, - beautiful, adorable, one who can never be deceived.

MEANING OF MEHER

The word Meher has some common meanings and some special meanings. The special meanings are:

- i) Khorshed Yazad sends down the rays from Hasti. When these rays reach Nisti, it is Meher Yazad who spreads them all over Nisti in the seven Dakhyus (The seven Dakhyus are mentioned in the Meher Niyasht as : Aivi, Antaré, Aa, Upairi, Adairi, Pairi and Alpi) (this is one of the reasons why we pray Khorshed and Meher Niyashts together). Thus we could call this Light, "Meher's rays".
- ii) Meher Yazad has a special power (Yaon) with which to merge or unite with Dadar Ahura Mazda. Thus Meher Yazad helps us to reach Dadar Ahura Mazda.

The common meanings are seven in number and are not just meanings, but they are the seven stages a person has to attain in order to reach the zenith. These are Truth, Love, Compassion, Communion, Humility, Inspiration, Enlightenment.

1. **PATET- TRUTH** : The first step, the very foundation of progress, is to speak

the **Truth**. If a wrong has been done, to own it at once and blurt out the truth with a penitence and a firm resolve not to do it again.

2. **LOVE** : Such a person who is true to himself and to others, develops Love towards all - which is naturally followed by Compassion.
3. **COMPASSION** : Kindness, mercy. Because he is kind to others, Nature is kind to him.
4. In contact or **COMMUNION** with Nature. Such a person is able to understand the Truths of Nature. Nature's mithra is acquired: stage of HUMATA (good thought).
5. Complete **HUMILITY** in every atom. Patience, tolerance (qualities of Armaity) are developed. A person is now in communion with Armaity.
6. **Inspiration** : Nature's Light shines into your being. Real psychic abilities and intuition are developed.
7. **Enlightenment** : In communion with Rashné. The entire plan of Creation is unfolded.

NOWRUZ AND MEHERANGAAN

Meher Yazad's glory reigns throughout the month of Meher; but it reaches its peak on Meher Roj and Meher Mah, also known as Meherangaan. Meherangaan and Nowruz (21st March) are the two most important days in the year. In order to explain them, we need to build some background.

We are all aware of the zodiac which is near to our Earth. The Zarathushtrian Science teaches us that in the entire Cosmos, there is not one, but four such zodiacs. The first is in the 8th Asmaan (Anagraochao), the next is in the Ataré Mino Karko area which is between Hasti and Nisti, the third is in the Upairi Dakhyu and the last one is the one

near our Earth and can be perceived by us. The first three Zodiacs are relatively stationary, while the one nearest to our Earth (near the Adairi Dakhyu) moves 50 seconds every year. Thus in 1638 years it moves by one complete sign (rashi) i.e., 30 degrees.

The Hindu astrologers base their calculations on this Zodiac; hence according to them, the sun enters Aries (the first sign of the zodiac) on or about the 13th or 14th of March and this keeps changing; whereas the Zoroastrian calculations are based on the original zodiac in Nature which does not move; and hence according to us, the sun enters Aries always on the same day, 21st March.

In the Haptan Yasht, we attune ourselves with a star called Aspin Navin. According to the Zarathushtrian Science, when the sun's (Khorshed Yazad's) rays first fall on Aspin Navin, it is the beginning of a New Year, Jamshedi Nowruz, Farvardin Mah and Hormazd Roj. When the sun's rays first fall on the shadow of the star Aspin Navin, that is Meherangaan; six months after Jamshedi Nowruz. This happens on Meher Roj and Meher Mah.

NATURE POURS DOWN ITS BLESSINGS

On Nowruz and Meherangaan, great events of utmost importance take place in Nature, of which modern science is ignorant. Allegorically speaking, on these days, the earth which is inclined at an angle on its axis, straightens itself and aligns itself with Khurshed Yazad (Sun). At this time, Spenamino and Ghanamino (which are on extreme poles) come together and sort of shake hands. Thus on these two days, **Shafan** (Darkness) and **Raokshana** (Light) meet each other as if to say "Hello!" when the day begins and "Goodbye!" when the day ends.

On these two days there is a continuous downpour of blessings from above. But where do they go?

- To Spenta Armaity; i.e. on and under the ground (Baaten zémo).

- To an individual's Kehrp (astral body).
- To all our spiritual institutions where paavikat ceremonies take place, like Atesh Behrams and Agiaries.

These are the gifts that Nature bestows on us these two days, no matter whether we deserve them or not.

WHAT MUST WE DO?

How do we absorb this bountiful shower of Divine Blessings that rains down? There are two ways - the Mazdadat way and the Ahuradat way.

In the Mazdadat way, these blessings continuously fall on us even though we ourselves may be unaware and unconscious of this phenomenon. These blessings provide spiritual nourishment to our body and keep it going - this is Tan Darosti.

In the Ahuradat way, by observing all our Religious laws and tenets, including celebrating the Hingaams like Jamshedi Nowruz, Meherangaan, Tirangann (Tir Roj and Tir Mah) and Avangaan (Avan Roj and Avan Mah), and the six Gahambars, by being truthful and righteous we enable our Ruvaan Darosti as well.

Between Nowruz and Meherangaan there are three Gahambars. Seeds sown on Nowruz sprout during these three Gahambars and on Meherangaan, the fruit is ready for the picking. It is upto us to taste this fruit. How? By performing Jashans, praying Meher Niyaesh and Yasht and evaluating all our actions during the year. When we do this, Meher Yazad comes to our aid, there is order and Asha manifests. Dadar Ahura Mazda's nine Gehnas (Fravashi) come down on the entire earth and enter our Farohar and shed Khurshed Yazad's Light into our sanctum sanctorum.

Here's wishing that we are all able to taste that fruit on Meherangaan (October 2nd ED)

Silloo Mehta