

Atash-nu Parabh

Adar Roj, Adar Mah, Y.Z. 1378 / April 24, 2009.

Today is Atash-nu Parab, Adar roj, Adar mah. It is an auspicious day for us because we believe in celebrating the Creation of Fire, Ahura Mazda's Greatest Gift, on this day when the roj and the mah co-inside. If not a hearth Fire, at least a divo will be lighted in all Zarathushti homes today. Today is also Pak Iranshah's Birthday. We thank Pak Iranshah for spiritually protecting our religion and community for more than the past twelve hundred and eighty-eight years! May Pak Iranshah continue to guide and protect us! May His Pav Mahal remain in tact for many more millennia to come! May He preserve our link with the Spiritual Fires, with Ahura Mazda and Asho Zarathushtra, and with Iran !

Being an important day to celebrate the creation of Fire, I would like to share with you what I have learnt about the following Holy Fires. These Fires are mentioned by **many** learned authors in several books. ....Just thought I'd share this information with all my friends on today's auspicious day!

- **The Ancient Holy Fires:**

- 1) Atash Berezi-Savangh: The Holy Fire that burns before Ahura Mazda. (The Most Spiritual Fire.)
- 2) Atash Vohu-Frayan: The Fire that burns within every human and animal.
- 3) Atash Urvazisht: The Fire that resides in the vegetation.
- 4) Atash Vazisht: The Fire that resides in the sky and produces lightening.
- 5) Atash Spenisht: The Fire that resides in the Earth.
- 6) Atash Nairyosangh: The Fire that burns within the human serving as a Guide. (Nairyosangh is the name of a Yazad as well.)
- 7) Atash Mino-Karko: The Celestial Fire that encircles the entire Nisti realm.

- **The Pahlavi Bundehasht mentions 3 Fires:**

- 1) The Fire that drinks water and eats food (Fire that resides within the body of an animal as well as a human. This is the description of Atash Vohu-Fryan).
- 2) The Fire that drinks water but does not eat food (Fire within vegetation. This is the description of Atash Urvazisht).
- 3) The Fire that only eats food but does not drink water (A burning Atash. This refers to Atash Spenisht).

The other two Atash, out of the five, are not mentioned here, in the Pahlavi Bundehasht.

- **Different Ancient Fires Worshipped by the Mazdayasni Kings during the pre-Zarathushtrian and Zarathushtrian Era to protect and preserve the Mazdayasni Zarathushti Daena (Religion):**

- 1) Jamshed Padshah enthroned **Atash Froba** (also called Atash Farah) on Mount Khorehmand . Later this Fire was enthroned on Mount Roshan .
- 2) Kai-Khushro Padshah enthroned **Atash Gushnasp** on Mount Asnavant .
- 3) Kai-Vishtasp enthroned **Atash Burzin Meher** on Mount Raevand . This Fire was brought to earth by Paiganbar Saheb Asho Zarathushtra.

By the Grace of the first 2 Holy Atash, our Kings protected the Mazdayasni Religion and achieved spiritual success against the Devayasnis till Asho Zarathushtra, a Yazad, was sent down to Earth. **Atash Burzin Meher was established by Asho Zarathushtra Himself.** This Fire did not produce any smoke.

- According to the Pahlavi Yadgar-e Zarirran, Kai-Khushro consecrated Atash-Behrams in Samarkand and Aspandiar consecrated Atash-Behrams at Balkh .
- Besides the Fires mentioned above, **the Atash Niyayesh** also mentions Atash Neriosang, Atash Gushnasp, Adar Khurdad, Adar Burzin Meher, Atash Mino-Karko, Adar Yazad (Ahura Mazda's Son, the Purifier of all things), reference is made also to the Fires enthroned in Atash Behrams, Adarans and Dadgahs. Further, it is stated that these Fires are to be worshipped with barsom, milk and mortar (indicating the performance of Ijeshne), with "khushbo", meaning "loban" or any naturally derived

perfume from the bark of a tree, and dry fuel (wood) which is purified by “light”, by the rays of the Sun!

- The Vendidad mentions 16 Fires related to different earthly professions which are gathered and elaborately purified, some as many as 91 times, with 91 Ijeshne and 91 Vendidad performed, after which the specifically purified Fire reflects the corresponding energy of the Spiritual Atash since the two worlds, the spiritual and the physical are interconnected. These 16 collected Atash are consecrated with 1,128 Ijeshne and 1,128 Vendidad after which the Atash is enthroned in an Atash Behram. The consecration processes for the land, building, kebla are all separate from the consecration of each of these different Atash. These fires are from:

- 1) nasapuz
- 2) dyer
- 3) spa
- 4) silversmith
- 5) brick maker
- 6) coppersmith
- 7) goldsmith
- 8) mint
- 9) ironsmith
- 10) armory
- 11) metallurgist
- 12) shepherd
- 13) King/soldier
- 14) mobed
- 15) behdin (only from a Zarathushti home)
- 16) lightning

- The very first Atash the Parsis reverently enthroned after arriving on the shores of India was called “**Iranshah**”. This established an unbreakable link between the Parsis and their homeland Iran ! Iranshah was consecrated by Dastran-e Dastur Neriosang Dhaval. (There are two Dastur Neriosang Dhaval, descendents of the same family. The second one, years later, translated the Holy Avesta into Sanskrit.) The author of Kisseh Sanjan (1599 A. D.), Dastur Bahman Kaikobad Hormazdiar Sanjana was a descendent of this illustrious family.

Iranshah was consecrated after all the 16 Fires were specifically gathered and each was separately consecrated. Dasturan-e Dastur Saheb Neriosang Dhaval, with his piety and manthravani, brought down the Fire of Lightning, Atash-e Vazisht. Iranshah is the ONLY Atash Behram Saheb in the whole world which has all 16 Fires consecrated!

Wishing Pak Iranshah, Adar-nu Parab Mubarak! Iranshah was first enthroned at Sanjan around the year 772 A.D. soon after the Parsis landed there. “Sanjan” is the name of the city in Iran , the city from where it is believed the Parsis came. Iranshah was shifted around 1465 A.D. from Sanjan to various places nearby due to the threat and conquest of Gujarat at the hands of Alaf Khan, a general in the army of Mohammed Begda. Iranshah was shifted to Bahrot, Vansda, Navsari, Surat , again to Navsari, Valsad and finally to Udvada! To protect and preserve this priceless Spiritual Legacy, **our Pak Iranshah**, the Divine Channel that binds the Parsi-Irani Zarathushtis to Ahura Mazda, Yazatic Anjuman, Asho Zarathushtra, to the Mazdayasni Zarathushti Din, to Iran , to the spiritual and earthly Fires, our ancestors gave their life! As their descendants, in their honor, let us at least protect and preserve this very Spiritual, Priceless Gift which is **irreplaceable!**

Atha jamyad yatha afrinami!

Pervin Misrty