THE NOU ROUZ TABLE AND JESUS CHRIST

Fariborz Rahnamoon

NOU ROUZ ⁱ the Persian New Year is the only scientific New Year celebrated in the world today. It is celebrated exactly at the moment in time when the vernal equinox takes place. Nou Rouz has crossed all religious and national boundaries and is celebrated by all the people that once formed the great Persian Empire. Prophets and leaders of religions that originated in Iran like the Bahai religion and the Ismaili Muslims have incorporated Nou Rouz into their religion. The Bible shares the wisdom preserved through the Nou Rouz table.

Nou Rouz is made up of two Persian words: **Nou** meaning **New** and **Rouz** meaning **Day**. The question that should arise is; why is the New Year called New Day? However, nobody raises that question because the Iranian people have lost their science and history and Nou Rouz has gradually taken the form of a proper noun. After the Arabs invaded Iran they imposed Islam upon the Persians, burnt all their books and replaced libraries with mosques. Thus ancient Persian science was lost to the world. Centuries later, Galileo revealed just a tip of that ancient knowledge and was forced to recant on pain of death.

According to the ancient Avesta writings the Persians led by king Jamshid celebrated the first New Year (Sal e Nou) on the first day of spring after the great Ice Age some ten thousand years agoⁱⁱ. Then in 1725 BCE that is 3733 year ago Zarathushtraⁱⁱⁱ, the sage of ancient Iran, coined the word Nou Rouz to record the phenomenon that occurred in Sistan (62 degrees longitude) where he had a planetarium. Zarathushtra had calculated that the vernal equinox of 1725 BCE would coincide with the sun rising at Sistan. Thereby the New Year and the New Day would start together at the same moment at Sistan, and he called that year Nou Rouz – New Day.

Thereafter the Persians celebrated this phenomenon whenever it occurred in their kingdom. According to recorded history on the spring equinox of 487 BCE Nou Rouz was celebrated when the first rays of the rising sun coinciding with the equinox, lighted the square stone set in the central hall of the Apadana palace at Takth-e-Jamshid (Persepolis). This celebration was preplanned, the Persians scholars and astronomers had pre calculated this event and Darius the Great had designed the Apadana palace for this event. The bas-relief at Persepolis is a record of that celebration.^{iv}

THE NOU ROUZ TABLE

The bas relief at Persepolis shows guests from different parts of the Empire, in groups of seven, bearing gifts for the king. Today at the core of the Nou Rouz celebration is the Nou Rouz Table arranged with seven items starting with the letter "SE" (pronounced "seen" in Persian). Each item is said to represent a noble consideration. Before the Arab invasion the Persians used to arrange the table with seven trays ("Seenee" in Persian). Then later and even to this day, the Zarathushtis (Zoroastrians) of Iran place items starting with the letter 'SH' but since it includes wine (SHarab), which is forbidden by God for the Muslims, it was replaced by vinegar (SErkeh) and the rest of the items were redesigned to sound accordingly. The fact is that all these are a camouflage in order to preserve the ancient custom within the confines of the intolerant Islamic dominance. In the process the real philosophy has been forgotten.

THE REAL PHILOSOPHY

The seven items represent the Seven Eternal Laws of Nature as enumerated by Zarathushtra, the sage of ancient Iran, in his songs called the Gathas. He derived, from nature, these laws designed to help humans progress towards perfection. These laws are followed smoothly in nature but in humans it requires effort and understanding. These laws are also in the Bible but the followers of the Bible like those

celebrating Nou Rouz are not aware of it. We will first discuss the laws in short and then look for them in the Bible.

THE SEVEN ETERNAL LAWS OF NATURE

1- BAH MAN - THE GOOD MIND.

Make the optimum use of your mind in a good way.

Zarathushtra says that "Everything that is created is first a thought so let your thoughts be good. Good thoughts are those that are in harmony with nature. Thoughts not converted into words will be forgotten so convert only your good thoughts to words." Thus giving the maxim, **GOOD THOUGHTS, GOOD WORDS, GOOD DEEDS.**

We human have the most advanced brain is nature, it has an element of free will, it can be used to do good or it can be used to do evil. It can be left idle or it can be used to its optimum. What is recommended is that it should be used in a good way and each to its utmost, paving the way towards perfection. Do not use your mind just to make bread out of stone.

2- ORDIBEHEST - THE UNTIMATE TRUTH - THE LAWS OF NATURE.

The ultimate truth is in nature. So use your good mind to learn from nature.

By understanding the laws of nature, the laws of the universe, we will end up with good knowledge, good discoveries and good inventions. No imaginary supernatural beings can change the law of nature.

3- SHAHRIVAR - GOOD GUIDANCE.

Use the good knowledge to make Good Laws, Good Rules, Good Guidance.

The good knowledge, the truth, the discoveries use them to make life on earth better, by giving good guidance, making good rules and good laws, good products and good services.

4- ESFAND - LAWFUL DESIRE - RIGHTEOUSNESS.

The result of good guidance and good laws is a righteous society, a righteous nation, a paradise on earth, where people live in harmony with each other and with nature. Where all desires are lawful and there is no war, no pollution, no sickness, no lies, no theft and no fear.

5- KHORDAD - TOWARDS PERFECTION.

In such a righteous society people have a chance to advance mentally, physically and spiritually. As a result, there is a general progress towards perfection in whatever we do. Be it a physician, a farmer, an engineer, a musician, a poet, an athlete, a politician or a businessperson, every profession will be moving towards perfection. The aim in life should be perfection not wealth.

6- AMORDAD - IMMORTALITY.

Immortality has two stages. First while a person is alive and next after he dies.

Moving towards perfection creates a mental stage in human life where one is free from the fear of the unknown, and therefore free from the fear of death. The second form of immortality is after death. The person who has perfected a product, discovered or invented something good, or has spread wisdom or done good deeds will be remembered with praise for generations and so live in the memory of people for generations to come.

7- AHURA MAZDA - CREATOR OF WISDOM.

Having attained a stage of perfection and lost the fear of the unknown one attains a spiritual stage where there is self realization one sees the God within. In Persian and many of its sister languages, "KHOD AH" is the word for God. KHOD means SELF and AH means TO COME. In other words, TO COME TO ONESELF, or self-realization.

IN THE BIBLE

These seven eternal laws are mentioned in the Bible too, in Luke and Mathew. The three gifts given to baby Jesus by the Magi's, the wise men from the east, were the first three laws. The meaning of which needs no interpretation as given in Mathew: 4, where Satan wants Jesus to make use of the power of his

mind just to feed himself. Jesus rejects it by saying man does not live by bread alone. Next Satan wants Jesus to defy the truth, the law of gravity, by jumping from the pinnacle of the temple and third he wants Jesus to give bad guidance (laws of the devil) to the people, which also are rejected by Jesus.

The next four laws Righteousness, Perfection, Immortality or eternal life and oneness with God are also preached by Jesus.

"Unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and the Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:20)

"Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." (Matthew 5:1-48)

"They follow me and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of my hand" (Amordad). (John 10: 27)

"I and the Father are one". (John 10:30)

If the world would understand this universal law, see the truth behind it, and not give it a religious spin, the world will be a better place. Today governments do not have the fortitude to stand up against Global Warming because they fear those that are making BREAD OUT OF STONE and causing pollution in the process. It is time to reject them for man does not live by bread alone. It is time to understand and believe in the simple truth.

Wishing everyone an enlightened happy NOU ROUZ

Zarathushtra had also calculated the first meridian and called it "Nim Rouz", which means "Mid Day". The Meridian of Zarathushtra was located in ancient Sistan at 62 degrees longitude. Even today that location in Afghanistan is called the Nimruz Province.

When it is mid day at the Meridian of Zarathushtra (62 degrees longitude) there is sunshine from Japan the land of the rising sun to the western tip of Africa. What better location can there be for an intellectual and scientific meridian. To see this natural phenomena live on the internet at 12 noon Afghanistan time check http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/sunearth.html

ⁱ Please note that Nou Rouz is also spelled by some as, Now Rooz, No Rooz, Norooz, Noruz, Noruz etc. it is based on the different dialects but they do not represent the sound of all the alphabets used in Persian to write the word as is done when spelling it as Nou Rouz.

ii According to modern science the last Ice Age ended about ten thousand years ago.

The Parliament house of BC in Victoria has a stained window which reads Zoroaster that is how the Greeks corrupted the name Zarathushtra.

iv For the skeptics, there is further proof of the ancient wisdom of the Iranians.

^v For details discussion on the influence of Zarathushtra's teaching on other religions visit http://www.ancientiran.com