



## Ashem Vöhü Prayer

Ashem Vöhü vahēshtem astē

Üshtä astē

Üshtä ahmäē

Hāyat ashäē Vahēshtäē ashem

### Translation:

Righteousness (Asha) is the best good.

It is happiness.

Happiness is for the one,

who is righteous for the sake of the best righteousness.

### **Guide to diacritical marks:**

ā	“ay” sound as in <b>day</b>
ē	“ee” sound as in <b>bead, sleep</b>
ī	“ii” sound as in <b>site</b>
ō	“oh” sound as in <b>snow</b>
ä	“ah” sound as in <b>bother</b> or <b>cot</b>
ü	“oo” sound as in <b>shoe, moose, or rule</b>
a	“a” sound as in <b>cap</b> or <b>had</b>
e or é	“eh” sound as in <b>head</b> or <b>set</b>

<https://spellpundit.com/spellshakti/diacritical-marks/>

### Note of interest:

From the English translation of Ashem Vöhü, as presented above, we usually think of it as representing the main theme of Asha, Righteousness. It gives the strong message that the act of Righteousness should be done for its own sake, because it is the right thing to do.

Dr. Taraporewala adds another perspective and proposes that Ashem Vöhü prayer’s main theme is the Üshtä= Happiness derived from the act of Righteousness.

The accompanying audio is the voice of Mobedyar Dr. Nooshin Jahangiri



**Sources:**

1. <https://sites.google.com/site/zoroastrianeducation/prayers/ashem-vohu>
2. <http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse26.pdf>
3. <http://www.avesta.org/wzse/wzse26.pdf>