

SEQUENCING CARDS DEPICTING THE LIFE OF ZARATHUSHTRA

MATERIAL FOR THE TEACHER/ACTIVITY FOR THE CHILDREN FOR GRADES PRE-K TO 3G

 It is believed that Zarathushtra was born in Iran. His pious parents were Paurashasp (Father) and Dugdova (Mother)



2. At the time of his birth, legend has it, that Zarathushtra was born with a smile on his face.



3. Zarathusthushtra's birth and his unique radiance posed a threat to the evil doers.



4. They tried to destroy Zarathushtra by attempting to burn him. It is believed, that the fire transformed itself into flowers.



5. Later, they tried to have him trampled by placing him in a herd of cattle, but he was saved by a white cow who protected him.



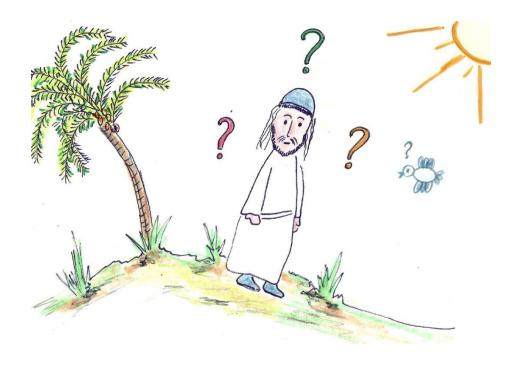
6. As Zarathushtra grew older, he was mentored by wise teacher named *Burzin Kurush*.



7. As a young adult, Zarathushtra had many questions related to concepts of creation, Creator, good and evil. He left home in search of this knowledge.



8. For several years Zarathushtra continued in his quest for answers. Who created the World? How could human beings assist the Creator to maintain His creations?



9. Finally, Zarathushtra was visited by Vohu Manah (The Amesha Spenta of Good Mind) who guided him towards the path of Asha (righteousness and truth)



10. His enlightenment led him to reveal to the world that there is one God, *Ahura Mazda* and urged people to follow the path of Asha in order to defeat wrong doers.



11. Zarathushtra's message eventually spread to the court of King Vishtasps. The King was very impressed by Zarathushtra's message.



12. However, the evil courtiers were threatened by Zarathushtra's influence on Vishtasp. They were able to convince the King that Zarathushtra was an evil sorcerer.



13. Zarathushtra was consequently imprisoned.



14. In the meantime, King Vishtasp's favorite horse took ill. No one could cure him. Zarathushtra offered to heal the animal with the strength of his prayers. The King granted him permission to do so.



15. Much to amazement and relief of the King, the horse recovered with Zarathushtra's prayers.



16. King Vishtasp finally accepted Zarathushtra as a prophet and Zarathushtra's teaching was spread throughout his kingdom. The Religion of Zarathushtra was born. Those who follow Zarathushtra's religion are called *Zarathushtis* (Zoroastrians).



NOTE TO TEACHERS: The religion that was begun by Zarathushtra centuries ago still continues to exist due to its beautiful precepts and code of ethics.