



FEZANA Age-Appropriate Lesson Plan

Subject Category (circle one): Religion/Ceremony History Prayer **Gathas**
Comparative Religion Shahnameh

Age Group (circle one): PreK-K Grades 1-3 Grades 4-5 **Grades 6-8** Grades 9-12

Lesson # (if applicable):

Subject of the Lesson:

Yasna 30.9-Purpose of Life

Background Knowledge for the Teacher:

Yasna 30.9

Transliterated Text:

*atcâ tõi vaêm xyâmâ
ýôi ìm ferashêm kerenâun ahûm,
mzdâscâ ahurânghô
â môyâstrâ baranâ ashâcâ
hyat hathrâ manâ bavat
ýathrâ cistish anghat maêthâ.*

(The Gathas: Yasna 30.9)

By Dr. Jafarey

And may we be among those
who make this life fresh!
You, lords of wisdom,
who bring happiness through righteousness,
come, let us be single-minded
in the realm of inner intellect.

By Dinshaw J. Irani

So may we be like those making the world progress towards perfection; May the Lord and His Divine spirits help us and guide our efforts through Truth; For a thinking man is where Wisdom is at home.

Vocabulary:

ferashêm kerenâun- making this life fresh, renewing this existence.



Learning target

The master question has always been: Why are we here and what is the purpose of this life? Civilizations have come and gone, empires have shaped numerous cultures and human history for as long as there's been humanity. For millions of years mankind has thrived to be better and stronger. This innate desire to advance has always existed from discovery of fire to discovery of space continuum. We as humans have the potential to promote this existence and it's been done constantly. However sometimes we forget that existence includes our environment, our planet and other beings. We should be reminded that part of our mission is while advancing and renovating our existence we should also be in harmony with our surroundings and to be successful in this path using acquired knowledge and wisdom is the key.

Lesson for students:

Layla is a student who is very aware of her surroundings. She has heard her parents talk about how we humans have generated so much trash and if we don't make a change in our ways, we will soon run out of room to store them. She notices that every day at school her classmates are all bringing or buying something to drink water, milk, juice, energy drink, etc. All of these drinks are in plastic containers that are thrown in the trash can. She gets an idea about making posters to encourage and remind her classmates to recycle. She talks to her teacher; they designate a recycle bin in the classroom and cafeteria and she models the behavior by recycling waste bottles from her daily drinks.

Activity for Students:

How is this renewing this existence?

What other things come to your mind for renewing this existence at your age?

Take away lesson:

Anything we as humans can do to leave this world better than we found is renewing this existence.

Sources:

1. The Gathas Our Guide Translated by AA Jafarey
2. Hymns of Zarathusthra Translated by DJ Irani

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