6th Pavia International Summer School of Indo-European Linguistic (Sept. 2024)

**Introduction to Avestan – Text samples**

# Three Gāthic passages (Old Avestan)

## Y.45.2: The fundamental difference between the two *maińiiu-*

*at̰ frauuaxšiiā aŋhə̄uš maińiiū pouruiiē*

*yaiiā̊ spańiiā̊ ūitī mrauuat̰ yə̄m aṇgrəm*

*nōit̰ nā manā̊ nōit̰ sə̄ṇghā nōit̰ xratauuō*

*naēdā varanā nōit̰ uxδā naēdā š́iiaōϑanā*

*nōit̰ daēnā̊ nōit̰ uruuąnō hacaiṇtē*

*at̰* ‘then, now, but, next’

*fra-vac-* (future prs. st. *fra-uuaxšiia-*) ‘to speak out about’

*ahu-* (*aŋhu-*) m. ‘existence’

*maińiiu-* m. ‘impulse, force’, “spirit”’

*pouruiia-* ‘first; what is first’, n. noun ‘foundation, beginning’

*ya-* (m.-n.) / *yā-* (f.) rel. pron.

*spańiiah-* comparative of *spəṇta-* ‘bounteous, beneficent’

*ūiti* ‘thus’ (with following direct speech)

*mrauu-*/*mru-* ‘to speak’

*aṇgra-* ‘evil’

*nōit̰* ‘not’

*nā* unclear; particle? du. possessive pron. *na-*?

*manah-* n. ‘thinking’

*sə̄ṇgha-* m. ‘pronouncement, teaching’

*xratu-* m. ‘acument, mental power’

*naēdā* ‘nor’

*varana-* m.‘preference, choice’

*uxδa-* n. ‘utterance’

*š́iiaōϑana-* n. ‘action’

*daēnā-* f. (\**dai̯Hanā-*) ‘vision’

*uruuan-* m. ‘soul’

*hac-* (prs. st. *haca-*) middle inflection ‘follow, join, go together’

## Y.44.5: Ahura Mazdā as establisher of both light and darkness

*tat̰ ϑβā pərəsā ərəš mōi vaōcā ahurā*

*kə̄ huuāpā̊ raōcā̊scā dāt̰ təmā̊scā*

*kə̄ huuāpā̊ xᵛafnəmcā dāt̰ zaēmācā*

*kə̄ yā ušā̊ arə̄m.piϑβā xšapācā*

*yā̊ manaōϑrīš cazdōṇghuuaṇtəm arəϑahiiā*

*ha-*, *ta-* (m.-n.) / *h­ā-*, *tā-* (f.)dem. pron. with weak deixis ‘this, that’

*ϑβā* ‘you’ encl. acc.sg

*fras-* (prs. st. *pərəsa-*) ‘to ask’

*ərəš* ‘straightly, truly’

*mōi* encl. pron. ‘for/of me’ (gen-dat.sg.)

*vac-* (aor. st. *vaōca-*) ‘to tell, say’

*ahura-* ‘lord’

*ka-* (m.-n.) / *kā-* (f.) ‘who, which?’

*huuāpah-* ‘artisan’

*raōcah-* n. ‘(heavenly) light’

*=cā* ‘and’

*dā-* (= aor. st.) ‘to put, create; give’

*təmah-* n. ‘darkness’

*xᵛafna-* m. ‘sleep’

*zaēman-* n. ‘awakeness’

*ušah-* f. ‘dawn’

*arə̄m.piϑβā-* f. ‘noon’

*xšapan-* f. ‘night’

*manaōtar-*, f. *manaōϑrī-* ‘the one who reminds, reminding’ (?)

*cazdōṇghuuaṇt-* ?

*arəϑa-* ‘goal, aim, duty’

## Y.51.8: the fate of the deceitful and of the maintainers of order

at̰ zī tōi vaxšiiā mazdā vīdušē zī nā mruiiāt̰

hiiat̰ akōiiā drəguuāitē uštā yə̄ aṣ̌əm dādrē

huuō zī mąϑrā š́iiātō yə̄ vīdušē mrauuaitī

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| *dar-* (pf. st. *dādr-*) | to fix, to hold |
| *drəguuaṇt-* | adherent of *drūj-* |
| *huuō* | that one, he (nom.sg.m) |
| *mąϑrān-* | possessor of the sacred formula |
| *mrauu-*/*mrū-*, prs. st. *mrauu-*/*mrū̆-* | to speak |
| *š́iiāta-* | happy, blissful, at ease |
| *tōi* | of/to/for you (encl. gen-dat.sg) |
| *ušti-* f. | wish |
| *vac-* (future prs. st. *vaxšiia-*) | to speak |
| *vīduš-* | knowing |
| *nar-* m. | man |
| *zī* | because; namely; even if |

# Beginning of Frawardīn Yašt (Yašt 13): Cosmogony – cosmology

**Yt13.1** *aēuua tē zāuuarə aōjasca*

*xᵛarənō auuasca rafnasca*

*framrauua ərəzuuō spitama*

*yat̰ aṣ̌aōnąm frauuaṣ̌inąm*

*uγranąm +auuiϑūranąm*

*yaϑa mē jasən auuaŋhe*

*yaϑa mē barən upastąm*

*uγrā̊ aṣ̌aōnąm frauuaṣ̌aiiō*

*aēuua* ‘thus’

*tē* encl. pron. ‘for/of you’ (2sg. gen-dat.)

*zāuuar-* n. ‘strength’

*aōjah-* (OAv. *aōgah-*) n. ‘power’

*xᵛarənah-* n. ‘glory’

*auuah-* n. ‘help’

*rafnah-* n. ‘support’

*fra-mrauu-*/*fra-mrū-* (= prs. st.) ‘to speak forth, narrate’

*ərəzu-* ‘upright, straight’

*spitama-* ‘Spitama’ (“clan-name” of Zaraϑuštra)

*ya-* m.-n. / *yā-* (f.) rel. pron.

*aṣ̌auuan-* ‘partaking in order/*aṣ̌a-*’

*frauuaṣ̌i-* f. ‘ritual choice; pre-existing part of the soul; Frauuaṣ̌i’

*uγra-* (f. *uγrā-*) ‘powerful’

+*auuiϑūra-* ‘unshakable’

*yaϑa* ‘how, as’

*mē* encl. pron. ‘for/of me’ (1sg. gen-dat.)

*gam-* (prs. st. *jasa-*) ‘to come’

*bar-* (prs. st. *bara-*) ‘to carry, bring’

*upastā-* f. ‘assistance’

**Yt13.2** *ā̊ŋhąm raiia xᵛarənaŋhaca*

*vīδāraēm zaraϑuštra*

*aōm asmanəm*

*yō usca raōxšnō frādərəsrō*

*yō imąm ząm āca pairica buuāuua*

*mąnaiiən ahe yaϑa vīš aēm*

*yō hištaite maińiiu.stātō*

*handraxtō dūraēkaranō*

*aiiaŋhō kəhrpa xᵛaēnahe*

*raōcahinō aōi ϑrišuua*

*ā̊ŋhąm* – dem. pron. *a-*/*i-*/*ima-*/*ana-*

*raii-* ‘wealth, splendour’

*vī-dar-* (prs. st. *vī-δāraiia-*) ‘hold apart’

*zaraϑuštra-* ‘Zaraϑuštra’

*auua-* ‘that’ (distal dem. pron.)

*asman-* m. ‘sky’

*us* ‘up’ (adv.)

*raōxšna-* ‘bright’

*frādərəsra-* ‘shining forth’

*imąm* – dem. pron. *a-*/*i-*/*ima-*/*ana-*

*zam-* f. ‘earth’

*ā-*, *pairi-bū-* (pf. st. *-buuāuu-* < \**bu-bāu̯-*) ‘be at (*­ā*), around (*pairi*)’

*mąnaiiən* ‘like’ (< nom-acc.sg.n of ptcp. *mąnaiiaṇt-* of causative st. of *man-* ‘to think’)

*a-* – dem. pron. *a-*/*i-*/*ima-*/*ana-*

*vaii-* m. ‘bird’

*aiia-* n. ‘egg’

*stā-* (prs. st. *hišta-*) ‘to stand’

*maińiiu.stāta-* – ‘established by the (good) spirit’

*handraxta-* ‘completely fixated’ (res. ptcp. of *han-drang-* ‘to fix comprehensively’)

*dūraēkarana-* ‘with far limits’

*aiiah-* n. ‘iron’

*kəhrp-* f. ‘body, shape’

*xᵛaēna-* ‘shiny’

*raōcahina-* ‘shining (towards)’

*aōi* (*auui*) ‘over’

*ϑrišuua-* ‘a third’

**Yt13.3** *yim mazdā̊ vaste vaŋhanəm*

*stəhrpaēsaŋhəm maińiiu.tāštəm*

*hacimnō miϑrō rašnuca*

*ārmaitica spəṇtaiia*

*yahmāi nōit̰ cahmāi naēmanąm*

*karana pairi.vaēnōiϑe*

*mazdā-* ‘Mazdā’

*vah-* (= prs. st.) ‘to wear (as clothes)’

*vaŋhana-* n. ‘dress’

*stəhr-paēsah-* ‘adorned with stars’

*maińiiu.tāšta-* ‘fashioned by the (good) spirit’

*hac-* (prs. st. *haca-*, middle ptcp. *hacimna-*) ‘follow, join; be followed, joined’

*miϑra-* ‘Miϑra’

*rašnu-* ‘Rašnu’

*ārmaiti-* ‘Ārmaiti’

*spəṇta-* ‘bounteous, beneficent’

*nōit̰ ka-* (dat. *cahmāi*)‘not anyone’

*naēma-* m. ‘half’

*karana-* m. ‘limit’

*pairi-vaēn-* (prs. st. *-uuaēna-*) ‘to perceive’

(ending *-ōiϑe* 3du.mid < PIIr. \**-ai̯tHai* [Ved. *-ēthē*] 2du. mid [!])

**Yt13.4** *ā̊ŋhąm raiia xᵛarənaŋhaca*

*vīδāraēm zaraϑuštra*

*arəduuīm sūrąm anāhitąm*

+*pərəϑu.frākąm baēšaziiąm*

*vīdaēuuąm ahurō.t̰kaēšąm*

*yesńiiąm aŋᵛhe astuuaite*

*vahmiiąm aŋᵛhe astuuaite*

*āδū.frāδanąm aṣ̌aōnīm*

*vąϑβō.frāδanąm aṣ̌aōnīm*

*gaēϑō.frāδanąm aṣ̌aōnīm*

*šaētō.frāδanąm aṣ̌aōnīm*

*daiŋ́hu.frāδanam aṣ̌aōnīm*

*arəduuī- sūrā- anāhitā-* f. ‘the Conducive (?), Strong, Unblemished/Unbound One’

*pərəϑu.frāka-* ‘reaching out widely’

*baēšaziia-* (f. *-ā-*)‘healing’

*vī-daēuua-* (f. *-ā-*) ‘against the demons’

*ahurō.t̰kaēša-* (f. *-ā-*) ‘following the teaching of Ahura’

*ahu-* m. ‘existence’

*astuuaṇt-* ‘with bones; material’

*yesńiia-* (f. *-ā-*) ‘to be sacrificed to’

*vahmiia-* (f. *-ā-*) ‘to be prayed to’

*āδu.frādana-* (f. *-­­ā-*) ‘furthering the canals’

*vąϑβō.frādana-* (f. *-­­ā-*) ‘furthering the herds’

*gaēϑō.frādana-* (f. *-­­ā-*) ‘furthering the living beings’

*šaētō.frādana-* (f. *-­­ā-*) ‘furthering property’

*daiŋ́hu.frādana-* (f. *-­­ā-*) ‘furthering the countries’

**§5–8 here omitted.**

**Yt13.9** *ā̊ŋhąm raiia xᵛarənaŋhaca*

*vīδāraēm zaraϑuštra*

*ząm pərəϑβīm ahuraδātąm*

*yąm masīmca paϑanąmca*

*yā barəϑri paraōš srīrahe*

*yā vīspəm ahūm astuuaṇtəm*

*baraiti jumca iristəmca*

*garaiiasca yōi bərəzaṇtō*

*pouru.vāstrā̊ŋhō āfəṇtō*

*pərəϑu-* (f. *pərəϑβī-*) ‘broad’

*ahuraδātā-* ‘created by Ahura’

*mas-* (f. *masī-*) ‘great’

*paϑana-* (f. *-ā-*) ‘wide’

*barətar-* (f. *barəϑrī-*) ‘carrying’

*paru-* (*pouru-*) ‘many, much’

*srīra-* ‘beautiful’

*bar-* (prs. st. *bara-*) ‘to carry’

*juua-* ‘alive’

*irista-* ‘dead’

*gairi-* m. ‘mountain’

*bərəzaṇt-* ‘high’

*pouru.vāstra-* ‘with many pastures’

*āfəṇt-* ‘full of water’ (?)

**§10–11 here omitted**

**Yt13.12** *yeiδi zī mē nōit̰ daiδīt̰ upastąm*

*uγrā̊ aṣ̌āunąm frauuaṣ̌aiiō*

*nōit̰ mē iδa ā̊ŋ́hāt.təm pasuuīra*

*yā stō sarəδanąm vahišta*

*drujō aōgarə drujō xšaϑrəm*

*drujō astuuā̊ aŋhuš ā̊ŋ́hāt̰*

*yeiδi* ‘if’

*zī* ‘because’

*iδa* ‘here’

*ā̊ŋ́hāt.təm* /\*āhi̯ātam/ 3du.opt of pf. st. *āh-* of *ah-* ‘to be’

*pasuuīra* /\*pasu-u̯īra/ dual dvandva of *pasu-* ‘small cattle’ and *vīra-* ‘man, hero’

*stō* – from *ah-*

*sarəδa-* m. ‘species’

*vahišta-* ‘best’ (superl. of *vahu-*)

*druj-* f. ‘the Lie’

*aōgar-* n. ‘power’

*xšaϑra-* n. ‘rule’

*ā̊ŋ́hāt̰* – from *ah-*

**Yt13.13** *nī aṇtarə ząm asmanəmca*

*drujā̊ maniuuā̊ hazdiiāt̰*

*nī aṇtarə ząm asmanəmca*

*drujā̊ maniuuā̊ vaōniiāt̰*

*nōit̰ pascaēta vanō vaṇtāi*

*upa.daiiāt̰ aŋrō maińiiuš*

*spəṇtāi maińiiauue*

*aṇtarə* ‘between’

*drujaṇt-* ‘lying’

*maińiiu-* ‘impulse, force; spirit’

*ni-had-* ‘to sit down, get near’ (pf. st. *-hazd-*)

*van-* ‘to win’ (pf. st. *vaōn-*; prs. st. *vana-* with ptcp. *vanaṇt-*; res. ptcp. *vaṇta-*)

*pascaēta* ‘afterwards’

*upa-dā-* ‘to give up’ (intr. prs. st. *-daiia-*)

*aŋra-*  ‘evil’

*spəṇta-* ‘bounteous, beneficent’

**Yt13.14** *ā̊ŋhąm raiia xᵛarənaŋhaca*

*āpō taciṇti frātat̰.carətō*

*xā̊ paiti afrajiiamnā̊*

*ā̊ŋhąm raiia xᵛarənaŋhaca*

*zəmāδa uzuxšiieiṇti uruuarā̊*

*xā̊ paiti afrajiiamnā̊*

*ā̊ŋhąm raiia xᵛarənaŋhaca*

*vātō vā̊ṇti dunmō.frutō*

*xā̊ paiti afrajiiamnā̊*

*frātat̰.carəta-* ‘flowing in advance’ (?)

*xā-* ‘spring, opening’

*a-frajiiamna-* (f. *-ā-*) ‘undiminishing’

*vāta-* ‘wind’

*vā-* (= prs. st.) ‘to blow’

*dunmō.frut-* ‘flying with the clouds’

# Vidēvdād 5.6: Is the Fire god a killer?

*dātarə ātarš narəm jaiṇti vā*

*āat̰ mraōt̰ ahurō mazdā̊*

*ātarš narəm nōit̰ jaiṇti*

*astō.vīδōtuš dim baṇdaiieiti*

*vaiiō dim bastəm naiieiti*

*ātarš haṇdažaiti asta uštānəmca*

*aθra aδāt̰ frajasaiti baxta aδāt̰ nijasaiti*

*d­ātar-* m. ‘creator’ (nomen agentis in *-tar-* from *dā-* ‘to put, create; give’)

*ātar-* m. ‘fire’

*nar-* m. ‘man’

*jan-* (root = prs. st.) ‘smite, kill’

*vā* ‘or’ or emphatic particle (enclitic)

*āat̰* ‘then’

*mrauu-*/*mrū-* (root = prs. st.) ‘speak’

*ahura- mazdā-* m. ‘Ahura Mazdā’ (deity)

*nōit̰* ‘not’

*ast­­ō.vīδōtu-* m. ‘Bone-Dissolver’ (a demon)

*dim* encl. pronoun ‘him’ (acc.sg.m)

*baṇd-* (prs. st. *baṇdaiia-*, res. ptcp. *basta-*) ‘bind’

*vaiiu-* (here: *vaiia-*) m. ‘Vayu’

*naii-* (prs. st. *naiia-*) ‘to lead’

*haṇ-daj-* (prs. st. *haṇ-daža-*) ‘to burn up’

*ast-* (here: *asta-*) n. ‘bone’

*uštāna-* m./n. ‘animating force’

*=ca* ‘and’

*aϑra* ‘here’

*aδāt̰* ‘form then on’

*fra-gam-* (prs. st. *fra-jasa-*) ‘to go forward’

*baxta-* ‘what is attributed’ (res. ptcp. of *bag-*), ‘fate’

*ni-gam-* (prs. st. *-jasa-*) ‘to go down’

# Vidēvdād 5.1–4: Theoreticizing purity and pollution

**5.1** *nā tat̰ para.iriϑiieiti auui jąfnauuō raōnąm*

*ā tat̰ mərəγəm uzuuazaite haca barəšnauuō gairinąm auui jąfnauuō raōnąm*

*upa tąm kəhrpəm fraŋᵛharaiti yąm iristahe maṣ̌iiehe*

*ā tat̰ mərəγəm uzuuazaite haca jąfnauuō raōnąm auui barəšnauuō gairinąm*

*upa tąm vanąm vazaite xraōžduuanąmca varəduuanąmca*

*auui dim vaṇta auui dim irita auui dim patita*

*nar-* m. ‘man’

*ha-*, *ta-* (m.-n.) / *h­ā-*, *tā-* (f.)dem. pron. with weak deixis ‘this, that’; acc.sg.n used adverbially ‘there, then’

*para-raēϑ-*/*iriϑ-* (prs. st. *para.iriϑiia-*, res. ptcp. *irista-*) ‘to pass away, die’

*auui* prep. + acc. ‘towards’

*jąfnu-* m. ‘valley’

*raōn-* (\**rauuan-*) m. ‘(course of a) river’

*mərəγa-* m. ‘bird’

*ā-uz-vaz-* (prs. st. *uz-uuaza-*) ‘fly up (*us*) towards (*ā*)’

*haca* ‘from’ (normally + abl., here + acc.)

*barəšnu-* m. ‘height, top’

*gairi-* m. ‘mountain’

*upa* + acc. ‘at’

*kəhrp-* f. ‘body, shape’

*fra-xᵛar-* (prs. st. *fra-ŋᵛhara-*) ‘eat along’

*ya-* (m.-n.) / *yā-* (f.) rel. pron.

*maṣ̌iia-* m. ‘mortal, man, human’

*vanā-* f. ‘tree’

*xraōžduua-* ‘hard’

*varəduua-* ‘soft’

*vaṇti-* f. ‘vomiting’ (root *vam-*)

*iriti-* f. ‘shitting’ (root *raii-*)

*patita* – unclear; possible emendations: \**napta* from *napti-* (?) ‘act of moistening’ or \**upaēta* from *upaēti-* ‘ejaculation’

**5.2** *nā tat̰ fraš́usaiti haca jąfnauuō raōnąm auui barəšnauuō gairinąm*

*upa.tąm vanąm aēiti yąm hō mərəγō āϑre aēsmąn išaiti*

*auui dim janaiti auui dim ϑβərəsaiti auui dim tāšti auui dim aiβi.raōcaiieiti āϑrō ahurahe mazdā̊ puϑrəm*

*kā hē asti ciϑa*

*fra-š́auu-* (prs. st. *fraš́usa-*) ‘to go forth’

*aii-*/*i-* (= prs. st.) ‘to go’

*aēsma-* ‘fire wood, incense’

*išaiti* – unclear; perhaps ‘aims to go’ (desiderative *iša-* of *i-*)? ‘seeks’ (expected: *isaiti*)?

*jan-* (prs. st. normally *jan-*, here thematic *jana-*)‘smite, kill; fell (a tree)’

*ϑβars-* (prs. st. *ϑβərəsa-*) ‘to cut’

*taš-* (prs. st. *tāš-*) ‘to fashion, cut in small pieces’

*aiβi-raōc-* (prs. st. *aiβi.raōcaiia-*) ‘to kindle’

*puϑra-* m. ‘son’

*ka-* (m.-n.) / *kā-* (f.) ‘who, which?’

*hē* encl. pron. ‘for/of him’ (gen-dat.sg.m)

*ah-* (\**as-*) / *h-* ‘to be’

*ciϑā-* f. ‘punishment, atonement’

**5.3** *āat̰ mraōt̰ ahurō mazdā̊*

*nōit̰ spō.bərətō nōit̰ vaiiō.bərətō nōit̰ vəhrkō.bərətō nōit̰ vātō.bərətō nōit̰ maxši.bərətō nasuš narəm nōit̰* +*āstāraiieiti*

*spō.bərəta-* ‘carried (*bar-*) by a dog (*span-*)’

*vaiiō.bərəta-* ‘carried by a bird (*vaii-*)’

*vəhrkō.bərəta-* ‘carried by a wolf (*vəhrka-*)’

*vātō.bərəta-* ‘carried by the wind (*vāta-*)’

*maxši.bərəta-* ‘carried by a fly (*maxši-*)’

*nasu-* f. ‘carrion, decay; Decay (demon)’

*­ā-star-* (prs. st. *ā-striia-*)‘to become sinful’; causative st. *ā-stāraiia-* ‘to make sinful’ with active ptcp. *āstāraiiaṇt-* (f. + *-ī-*; see next §)

**5.4** *yezica aēte nasāuuō yā spō.bərətaca vaiiō.bərətaca vəhrkō.bərətaca vātō bərətaca maxši.bərətaca nasuš narəm* +*āstāraiieiṇtīm ā̊ŋ́hāt̰*

*išarə.štāitiia mē vīspō aŋhuš astuuā̊ išasəm jit̰.aṣ̌əm xraōdat̰.uruua pəṣ̌ō.tanuš*

*frə̄na ā̊ŋhąm nasunąm yā̊ paiti āiia zəmā irīriϑarə*

*yezi* ‘if’

*aēta-* ‘this, that’

+*āstāraiieiṇtīm ā̊ŋ́hāt̰* – periphrastic formation with active ptcp. (f.!) + opt. pf. of *ah-* ‘to be’

*išarə.štāitiia* ‘immediately’

*mē* encl. pron. ‘for/of me’ (gen-dat.sg)

*vīspa-* ‘all’

*ahu-* (*aŋhu-*) m. ‘existence’

*astuuaṇt-* ‘with bones; material’

*išasa-* ‘greedy’

*jit̰.aṣ̌a-* ‘destroying order/*aṣ̌a-*‘

*xraōdat̰.uruuan-* ‘with trembling soul’

*pəṣ̌ō.tanu-* ‘whose body is forfeited’ (someone in the state of the highest grade of sin)

*frə̄ni-* f. ‘multitude, plenitude’

*a-* ‘this’ (dem. pron. with proximal deixis)

*paiti* + instr. ‘on’

*zəm-* f. ‘earth’

*irīriϑ-* – perfect st. of *raēϑ-* (see *para-raēϑ-* above)