

Invocation to Tishtrya, Indo-Iranian God of the Healing Rains

By Rev. Jessie "Medb" Olson

We sacrifice unto Tishtrya, the bright and glorious star, who is the seed of the waters, powerful, tall, and strong, whose light goes afar; powerful and highly working, through whom the brightness and the seed of the waters come from the high Apam Napat.¹

For your brightness and glory, we will offer you a sacrifice worth being heard.... [*libations are poured*].

Tishtrya you who went down to the great and holy Sea, Vourukasha, in the shape of a white, beautiful horse, with golden ears and battled the Daeva Apaosha, in the shape of a dark horse, black with black ears. You met together, hoof against hoof, and for three days and three nights you fought for control of the rains. As the Daeva Apaosha overcame you, you called out to Ahura Mazda and he himself, the greatest of the gods, made offering to you that you would be strengthened. With Ahura Mazda's sacrifice you were given the strength of ten horses, ten camels, ten bulls, ten mountains, and ten rivers. You overcame the Daeva Apaosha and let down the waters of the Vourukasha to wash the land with your healing rain.²

For your brightness and glory, we will offer you a sacrifice worth being heard.... [*libations are poured*].

Oh Tishtrya, Dog Star, we will not forget to strengthen you with sacrifice, least we should be deprived of your healing rains. You who move along your long winding course, along the path made for you by the gods, along the way appointed for you, the watery way. Bring us your healing rains. Hear our call.³

For your brightness and glory, we will offer you a sacrifice worth being heard.... [*libations are poured*].

¹ Inspired by the Tishtar Yasht (Hymn to Tishtrya), Khorda Avesta 8:4
<http://www.avesta.org/ka/yt8sbe.htm>

² Inspired by the Tishtar Yasht (Hymn to Tishtrya), Khorda Avesta 8:20-33
<http://www.avesta.org/ka/yt8sbe.htm>

³ Inspired by the Tishtar Yasht (Hymn to Tishtrya), Khorda Avesta 8:35
<http://www.avesta.org/ka/yt8sbe.htm>