

This is an Article written By Shri Noshir Daboo of Ahmedabad, India regarding Dakhmenashini - Tower of Silence (Khurshed Nagirashni)

His Article Follows:

KHURSHED NAGIRASHNI –

THE BEST ZOROASTRIAN MODE OF DISPOSAL OF THE CORPSE

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In ancient times, in Iran, corpses were placed on the open top of the high mountains, where wild animals cleared away the corpse rapidly. It was a system of 'Khurshed Nagirashni' (Exposing to Sun energy) right from the beginning. This was the system of '**Buland Gah**' (high place) where sun energy was the highest.

In India, most scientific structure of the 'Towers Of Silence' (DAKHMA), are used for the disposal of the corpse, in which the main concept of the **Purity** of the Five natural elements is in mind.

This scientific architectural structure has **unique purification canals on all the four corners under the Bhandar in the center**. These canals have thin Iron nets, layers of lime, sand, stones & some salt detergent for purifying the water that finally goes into the **Deep wells in the four corners**. **Vultures are an extra thought of last charity**. Of course they were efficient for the speedy disposal as an extra benefit.

In their absence, most modern scientific mode of **Disposal by Sun energy** is efficient for dehydration of the corpse & gradually finishes off the live '**Naso**' (Flesh blood etc.) After perfect dehydration, remnants of the bones etc. are kept in nearby pits called **Astodans**, performing some purifying process. Sun energy is enhanced with the scientific **Solar Panels** for concentrated heat.

They have modern technical **electromagnetic power**, creating enough heat to be used in Hotels, Homes, for heat, electricity lightning & also for Cooking! It is a successful invention, and in **its developing stage**. Such panels have a storage battery & mechanical process of getting advantage of the **Infra-red & Ultra-violet rays** (Remote energy) also.

Most of the Zarathushti families prefer the Tower of Silence, because **they get advantage of the religious rites & ceremonies & upliftment of the soul due to the wonderful circuit of Tana underground having a powerful Binding**. Have we ever heard of souls roaming around near Dakhmas (which is generally felt near burial grounds) This, modern scientist visualize as the most powerful circuits to get spiritual cover. In absence of vultures, the **last charity concept** is not possible & the process of the disposal will be slow. But that has **nothing to do with the progress of the soul**.

Those who do not prefer this system, complaining that it is not quick, may dispose off their dead in an **Electric Oven – Crematorium**, or have their own facilities & arrange for religious rites. The percentage of such preference is 20% only. The trustees of the Bombay Parsi Panchayat cannot allow them to use the

Doongerwadi (Tower of Silence) Premises in Bombay

The Important First Four days death ceremonies are not possible for those who opt for the other mode of disposal, as they are linked with '**Dakhmenashini**' which starts from '**Sachkar**' & '**Geh Sarna**' & then the other ceremonies. Though they are being **performed by liberals after the four days.**

It is said that now Solar Panels will be attached with **Storage Batteries**, they will serve the purpose in rainy season, Condensers will also help. There will be further inventions of Infrared Lamps all around to increase the Solar Power. Of course they are **efficient only if proper maintenance & care is taken**, for cleaning the mirrors & oiling the gears for proper rotation etc. **Which is not regularly done.**

THE SYSTEM OF KHURSHED NAGIRASHNI HAS NOT FAILED US, WE HAVE FAILED THE SYSTEM!

None can expect a rose garden inside a Dakhma or a Crematorium, or a Morgue, or a Slaughterhouse (One would be shocked). None is allowed to see inside the Dakhma, so the controversy is unnecessary.

Parsis were in very small numbers when they arrived from Iran. There is no chance of extinction of Parsis or the Zarathusti religion, as they are destined as IDEALS by Ahura.

The Global population is not meager, only the population in India is decreasing, Trans migration should also be taken into consideration. People going out of India (decreasing the Population), increase the Population in Other Part of the World.

In Short 'Khurshed Nagirashni' is the only mode, to **avoid Pollution to any of the Five Natural elements.** (Our Earth, Air, Water, Fire & wood) also having a spiritual benefit.

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