

# Parsis! Why Should You Strenuously Oppose Neville Wadia Precedent ?

- K. N. Dastoor

Mr. Neville Wadia's father Sir Ness Wadia, born of Parsi parents, converted himself to a Christian, before or at the time of his marriage, at the persuasive pressure of his wife, who was a devout Christian.

Their son Neville was baptised and brought up in the Church of England; his Navjote was not performed and he is thus a Christian by birth, parentage and baptism.

He himself married a non-Parsi.

His alleged Navjote is not therefore "a return to Zoroastrianism" and does not make him "a Zoroastrian again", as the publicity bugles blow. Return means to come BACK to the point left before. He was never at the point of being a Parsi Zoroastrian. He is purporting to BECOME one, now. He is not rejoining; he is joining, now. This amounts to a downright conversion, which has been strenuously opposed by the Parsis since hundreds of years.

Secondly, the case involves a terrific mix-up. Marriages are mixed up for more than one generation. Again, this has been strongly resisted by the Community for centuries.

Neville's case thus purports to establish a precedent for conversion and mixed marriages both, which the Parsis have opposed on two grounds: survival and religious.

Any community desiring to survive has to adopt certain ways of life different from the rest of the humanity; the ways should be founded on Religious principles, disciplines, tenets, custom and traditions. Marriage and procreation should be within the denomination and never outside. These are stringent requirements for survival. Any compromise or loose strings anywhere on any pretext is a work-up towards suicide. THAT is why Parsis have opposed conversion and mixed marriages. AND THAT is why any Parsi who wants his community to survive, like the Amish of America, should oppose the Wadia precedent, setting aside all other

considerations arising out of glamour or glitter attached to the person.

## Question is: Survival or Suicide?

On Religious side, the divine Institutions like Sudreh Kushti, Atash-Kadeh, Dokhma, Yasna, Rites and Ceremonies prescribe and ordain that a non-Parsi or a mixed alleged Parsi, whether male or female, causes certain disturbances in the fields surrounding them and generated by them; not because of any inferiority or superiority, but because of the NATURAL differences in the physical, mental and spiritual constitutions of the humans born in different Religions.

It is not for man to "choose" a Religion. He is hopelessly disqualified to choose between the Prophets of God, who are infinitely higher in Spiritual stature! What an absurd, comical and farcical idea of "choosing" your own Prophet, like choosing a fountain-pen! Religion is in the gene. Every human gene has in it a germ of his Prophet's Light embedded from birth. Religion is determined before birth and that is why there are difference in the constitutions of the persons born in different Religions. And that is why there are different Religions founded by different Prophets. Every Religion is a path leading to God but has different Tarikats to be strictly followed by its adherents. As Ramkrishna said, a mother feeds her children with different foods according to their health, so does God determine the Religion...

**That is why Navjote is not an initiation ceremony; it does not make a non-Parsi, a Parsi. It is a confirmation ceremony, energising and strengthening a born Parsi to tread the Path of life as ordained by his Prophet; and therefore it is performed at the early-morning of life and not at the late evening i.e., at the age of 7 to 9 and not at 81! A Navjote does not confer a right to enter an Agiari on a person who does not have that right from birth. A child of Parsi parents has a right to**

**enter it before Navjote. Navjote is not a conversion procedure.**

The birth of a Prophet is preceded by a genetic mutation amongst humanity. He collects under his fold those humans who have in them, now, His germ of Light. He, with His Divine sight knows which humans they are. He takes them and not others in his divine fold. He does not "convert" in our sense.

God desires that His different Paths should be followed faithfully by the respective adherents. But then the evil enters and causes a mix-up. Devil works on Religions in two ways: one, by infusing the ego that 'my Religion is better than yours', and two, by causing a mix-up through infusing carnal attractions. Such mix-up disturbs the smooth journey of the Creation towards Frasho-gard, the Ultimate Divine Aim. So say our holy Scriptures. They declare that Religions ("Daenaa") are in accordance with Ahura Mazda's Divine Plan. Conversion and mixed marriages disturb the Plan. Lord Krishna has declared that mixed progeny (Varna-sanker) is at the root of spiritual downfall.

Mr. Neville said, he liked Zoroastrianism because of its good thoughts, words and deeds and also for its "optimistic view". Dastoorji Meherjirana pointed out in his opinion that these are not the monopolies of our Religion alone. No Religion teaches bad thoughts, word, deeds and every Religion is optimistic leading to Mukti, Frashogard, Salvation. The two "Dastoor" Mirza and JamaspAsa spoke through their hat to Neville. They wrote to him, you can have Navjote since "you want to rejoin for the sake of doctrines of our Religion". Which doctrines? Manashni Gavashni kunashni? Has not Christ, Buddha, Krishna, Moses, Mohammed taught good thoughts words and deeds? The Holy Bible declares and defines "good" sometimes more emphatically and stringently than our Scriptures. What doctrine Mr. Wadia found in Zoroastrianism which is superior to the holy Doctrines of Jesus Christ or in Christ inferior to Zarathushtra? What are the doctrines in these two Dastoor's mind. None. They are as usual finding out excuses

in their western philological style of round - about confusion; they are just carried way by worldly glamour. Even then, they have no courage to tell Mr. Wadia that since your (alleged) Navjote is done, you can enter an Agiari. They say, that will be decided by the respective authorities or Anjumans!! The Community will like to know what decision these Dastoor's have taken regarding his entry in Iranshah or Anjuman Atash Beheram. Are they allowing him to enter? In fact they have chewed up their own previous "views" and "opinions". Their credibility is lost; they have forfeited their alleged high - priesthood.

So also Dastoor Kotwal, who said in the month of May that the Navjote at 81 will be farcical and in September, 'do it' but 'out of India please; I envisage a controversy'. What a spineless Dastoori! What a weak Priesthood! What a hollow "High Priestism"! What a lack of courage and conviction!

**Parsis! Awake, Arise and stop not! This is a question of your spiritual and communal survival.**

*With Best Compliments  
From*

## **WESTERN INDIA TYPEWRITER CO.**

*Dealers in Everything for  
Typewriter and Duplicator Accessories,  
Repairs of any make  
of Typewriter - Speciality*

General Assurance Building  
232, Dr. D. Navroji Road,  
Fort, Bombay - 400 001

Phone : 261 69 02/ 261 73 61,  
261 25 36