

My Identity (Hoviate-e Man) by YAS

Translation of the lyrics from Persian into English

****Song on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VdJCIWSMNT0>**

Listen. I want to tell you my intent.
They want to erase my identity.
The history of the land of the Aryans*
is screaming until we come to it.
So now is the time for you to hear:
Iran is my land, the country
which after 7000 years is still standing
and the hearts of Iranians – still like the sea.
Hear this, my fellow Iranian, from YAS.
I too for my land stand like a soldier.
Hold Iran like a gem in your hand and say
my complaint will burst out like a shot.
Let's stand together and sing our anthem,
my sisters, my brothers, my fellow Iranians.
Iran's civilization is in danger.
All of us are soldiers beneath our flag.
We won't let anyone spread lies about us.
For us Iranians, it is our calling
that we wear the symbol
of "Farvahar"* around our necks.
Our unity against an enemy
is the cause of their distress.
Iran's name for is an honor,
and our respect for her is like a thorn in the eye
for those who want to injure her.

CHORUS:

Like the thirst of a wheat seed for water
Like the dampness of rain, the smell of earth
Like you, pure eyes, like the feeling of its earth for you, my land
Singing of my land is my feeling, my love
The earth of this land, Iran.

You want to say that we came from generations of barbarians?
So take a look then to Takht-e Jamshid!*

You're showing Iran's name in vain.
So yours could be written big on a cover of a CD.
I'm writing down your intentions in my book.
I know why you wrote this film "300."*
I know that your heart is made of stone and lead.
Instead of using your art to make a culture of peace
in this sensitive air and bad atmosphere,
you want to start fishing in dirty waters [profiting].
But this I tell you in its original language:

Iran will never be spoiled and surrendered.
God has given you two eyes to see.
Take a look, and read the books written by
Saadi and Ibn-e Sina, Ferdosi, Khayam, or Molana Rumi.*
Always throughout history, we were the start.
But now YAS can't sit down quietly,
Let Iran's name be marred by a few tricksters.
I'll shred your intentions with the "razor of hope."
Who are YOU to speak of the history of Iran?

- CHORUS -

It was Cyrus the Great that started the peace,
freeing the Jews from the grip of Babylon.*
Cyrus the Great wrote the first bill of human rights.
That is why I carry my esteem and great pride for my Iran,
the history of my land for the earth of this land,
which my body is from.
Whatever part of the world you live, my fellow Iranian,
and till your blood flows through you,
don't allow yourself to be satisfied
that anyone can fool around with your heritage.
The history of Iran is my identity.
Iran, protecting your name is my good intent.

Notes:

Aryans: a reference to Iran's Indo-European identity. Iran is very proud its language and culture, which is distinct from the Arabic language (a Semitic language) and Arab culture. 'Iran' means 'Aryan.' Note: The term pre-dates World War II and is NOT associated with the Nazi (mis)use of the term.

Farvahar: an ancient Zoroastrian symbol, representing Iran's pre-Islamic heritage and traditions.

Takht-e Jamshid: the ancient city of Persepolis (burned by Alexander the Great over 2,300 years ago)

"The 300": a 2007 U.S. movie about the Battle of Thermopylae between the Greeks and the Persians (Iranians) in the 5th century BCE. Iranians resent the movie for portraying the Persians as monsters.

Saadi and Ibn-e Sina, Ferdosi, Khayam, or Molana Rumi: great writers/thinkers in Iranian history.

Cyrus the Great freed the Jews from the "Babylonian Captivity" in 538 BCE and wrote what is hailed by the U.N. as the first decree on human rights/religious tolerance in world history.