

To:  
Editor - Mukto-Mona

Dear Sir,

I had gone through the article "[The Origin of Bangla new year & celebrating Pahela Baishakh](#)" written by Syed Ashraf Ali & published in Mukto Mona.

First of all, I would like to thank the Writer for presenting us an informative article.

However, I would take this opportunity to bring the following comments for review by the learned Writer through your esteemed Website:

- 1- He writes that the months of Tarikhe Elahi were named as [Karwadin](#), [Ardi](#), [Vihishu](#), [Khordad](#) etc. Nobody knows how the names were substituted by the names of Nakhatras (stars).
- 2- Where did Mr. Ashraf Ali get the names from? Has he quoted the names of months from 'Akbar Nama' itself or from any other source?
- 3- The words 'Karwadin', 'Khordad' etc sounded to me to be of Persian flavor. So out of curiosity, I searched google to know the names of Persian (Iranian) months. To my astonishment, I found that most of the months of Tarikhe Elahi as proposed by Ashraf Ali were exactly in conformity with the names of Persian months. I gave below a table where you could find details of ancient, middle age & modern Persian months. You would have no hesitation then to conclude that Akbar certainly had named his months according to Persian calendar.
- 4- The problem is- there is significant variations of the names proposed by Mr. Ashraf Ali from those of the Persian calendar. For example, the second month in Persian calendar is "Ordibehesht". Mr. Ashraf Ali names the 2<sup>nd</sup> month to be "Ordi" & the 3<sup>rd</sup> month to be "Vihishu"! There is no month called Vihishu in Persian calendar at all. As an ordinary reader, I am in a perplexity as to whether Mr. Asraf Ali (or Akhar himself, I don't know) had split "Ordibehesht" into two parts as Ordi & Vihishu! It would be great if Mr. Ashraf quotes the reference from where he had got the names of Elahi-months.
- 5- Most importantly, Akbar established "Nowrooz" festival in pursuit of Persian customs. Nowrooz is a festival observed by Persians from time immemorial (this festival is reported to be observed even in Avestan period too) . It continued even after Persia was Islamized. As Akhar had introduced this festival in pace with his new Tarikh, it is logical to believe that he named his months also according to Persian calendar. However, this assumption should be verified from Akbar Nama. I hope Mr. Ashraf would made this point clear to his readers.

Thanks to all  
Mezbahuddin Jowher  
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**(Iranian Calendar follows next page)**

**Table: Iranian Calendar Months & Seasons.**

Order	Avestan (A.D.c. –2000 to –300)	Middle Persian (A.D.c. –300 to + 700)	Modern Persian	Days	Seasons
1	Fravashi/Fravarti [Devine essence]	Frawardin	Farvardin	31	Spring
2	Asha Vahishta [Best righteousness]	Ardawahisht	Ordibehesht	31	Spring
3	Haurvatat [Wholeness, integrity]	Khordad	Khordad	31	Spring
4	Tishtrya [Sirius, rain star]	Tir	Tir	31	Summer
5	Amereta [Immortality]	Amurdad	Mordad/ Amordad	31	Summer
6	Khshathra Vairya [The good dominion of choice]	Shahrewar	Shahrivar	31	Summer
7	Mithra [Sun, friendship, promise]	Mihr	Mehr	30	Autumn
8	Ap [Water]	Aban	Aban	30	Autumn
9	Athra [Fire]	Adur	Azar	30	Autumn
10	Dathusho [Creator]	Day	Dey	30	Winter
11	Vohu Manah [Good mind]	Wahman	Bahman	30	Winter
12	Spenta Armaiti [Holy serenity]	Spandarmad	Esfand	29 (leap year =30)	Winter