

## Notes to the “Instructional Preface”

1

**-աց/-ից** ending applied to plural nouns/adjectives often signifies either “of” (genitive) or “to/for” (dative).

Which is the usage in the first two lines? (հասարակաց քրիստոնեից մեծաց եւ փոքունց)

**-ք** ending marks plural nouns when they are the subject of a clause (e.g. քահանայք)

**զ-Noun-u** (e.g. զժողովուրդս) marks plural nouns when they are the direct object

2

աղաքեսցեն (present subjunctive) ‘let them pray / they should pray’

How many times per day should they pray with this prayer?

How many times should they kneel?

What five hours/times of the day?

3

In *Krapar*, there is no distinction between **թէ** and **եթէ**. Both can mean either ‘if’ or ‘that.’ What is the meaning in the beginning of sentence 3? (Ապայ թէ պղերգ ոք լինիցի...)

What is the verbal mood of **լինիցի**? (indicative? subjunctive? imperative?...)

5

**սուն** most of us know means ‘house, home.’ In literary terminology, it also means ‘stanza,’ which is the meaning here. There are 24 **սուն** (stanzas, sections) in the prayer.

6

մոլար աղանդոյն Մահմետի – who does this refer to?

8

In modern Armenian **ուրեմն** means ‘therefore’. But that is not the meaning here. What do you think it means here?

9

In accordance with what did Nersēs Shnorhali compose the prayer in 24 stanzas?

10-11

Why did he compose the prayer? How does he expect the people to use it? What benefits will come to those who use it as he intended?

12

How about for those who don’t...?

13

What excuse do people make for not praying?

14

What is the number one activity of ours that the adversary (սատանայ) tries to block us from?

16

Who was Catholicos at the time and what was his relation to Nersēs?

17

What is his instruction to scribes who copy the prayer?

18-20

Here he talks about benefits that will come about for those who copy it, memorize it, and teach it to others. Remember that the majority of people were probably not literate, so one had to memorize the prayer and then teach it orally to others.

21-22

What is his final instruction to scribes?