



## HAMKALĀM

---

**HAMKALĀM**, a Zoroastrian-Persian adjective meaning “of the same word.” It is a hybrid compound of Persian *ham* “together, of the same” (< Av./OP. *hama-*, see *AirWb.*, col. 1773; Kent, *Old Persian*, p. 213) and Arabic *kalām* “word, speech.” It is a priestly technical term used of fully qualified priests who acquire identical ritual power through performing a prescribed act. After solemnizing a *yasna* (called in Parsi priestly idiom a *Minō Nāvar*, see *Avesta*, tr. Darmesteter, I, p. lxvii; Modi, p. 195), each in his own ritual precinct (*pāvi*) performs a *drōn* service (q.v.), and they then each make a ritual tasting (*čāsni*) of the offerings (the *drōn* and *gōšodō*) consecrated by the other. More than two priests may do this, so that all become *hamkalām*. This act of sharing the *čāsni* is itself termed the “*hamkalām*” by transference. It is general practice among Parsi priests to become *hamkalām* before performing particular rites in the complex and important ceremonies of *Nāvar*, *Gēti K̄arid*, *Nirangdin*, and *Varasyō* (for all of which see Modi, index, s.vv.).

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

E. S. Meherjirana, *Purseš-Pārōkh*, Bombay, 1941, p. 55.



Jivanji Jamshedji Modi, *The Religious Ceremonies and Customs of the Parsees*, 2nd ed., Bombay, 1937, repr. 1986, pp. 242-43, 281-82.

H. M. Pavri, *Bāj dharṇāne lagtī pāwmahalnī kriyāō*, Bombay, 1938, repr. 1995, pp. 195, 213, 279.