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# A few suggestions in the reading of some documents from the Pahlavi Archive of Hastijan

Nima Asefi

2024

The Pahlavi Archive of Hastijan currently includes 318 documents written in cursive Pahlavi script (REMOVED, 2023).<sup>1</sup> Most of the documents were written in the first century after the Arab conquest of Iran. Also, as shown by Weber (2006), some documents, such as **Berk. 129**, were written prior to the collapse of the Sasanian Empire. With a few exceptions, the majority of these documents are financial records. It would nevertheless be wrong to conclude that we find only financial information. In these documents, we can find a great deal of information about characters, epithets, administrative occupations, women's participation in society, etc. Accordingly, this archive is an invaluable resource for studying the history of central Iran in early post-Sasanian times. Additionally, this archive is an excellent resource to study the late Pahlavi language as well as the cursive Pahlavi script. Gignoux (1991) began the study of the documents, and Weber continued it. Today, after more than 30 years since the beginning of the research on these documents, thanks to Gignoux and Weber's investigations and efforts, we are able to continue the research and offer new readings and solutions for problems to achieve a better understanding and translation of these documents. The present writer strives to make some new proposals in some papers, the first of which is this one. These suggestions, as far as the present author is aware, have not been offered before this essay by another author.

## I **Berk. 80**

The importance of this document lies in the mention of the two place names Namēwar and Dalīgān, but the difficulty of reading is related to the last two words of paragraph 7 and the beginning word of paragraph 8. For the first time, Weber (2008: 7) examined this document and read the last words of line 7 without reading the word in line 8, as [7] ... az Wahman [8] ...

<sup>1</sup>The following sigla will be used: Berk. — Pahlavi documents, Berkeley; Berlin — Pahlavi documents of Berlin; P. A. H. — Pahlavi Archive of Hastijan.