



ĀDURFARNBAG Ī FARROXZĀDĀN

ĀDURFARNBAG Ī FARROXZĀDĀN (Pārsī: Ādar-farrā' Farroḡzādān), first author of the 9th century A.D. Zoroastrian compilation, the *Dēnkard*. He is referred to there as leader of the Wehdēns (those of the Good Religion, i.e., Zoroastrianism); hence he is usually identified with the officially recognized leader of the orthodox Zoroastrian community who debated with [Abāliš](#) before the 'Abbasid caliph, al-Ma'mūn (197-218/813-33). He seems to have been a major intellectual figure in the Zoroastrian church, and his alleged sayings were frequently cited, by younger contemporary writers and later ones, as authoritative. *Mardānfarroḡ ī Ohrmazddādān* refers to him a number of times and freely excerpts from the *Dēnkard* in his own apologetic work, *Škand gumānīg wizār* (J.-P. de Menasce, ed. and tr., *Škand Gumānīk Vicār* [Collectanea Friburgensia 30], Fribourg en Suisse, 1945, 4.107, 9.3, 10.55). In fact, *Škand* 9 in its entirety is *Dēnkard* 3.239A. *Dēnkard* manuscripts lack the text of this chapter; but its title matches that of the *Škand* chapter, and *Mardānfarroḡ* acknowledges the *Dēnkard* as his source for it. *Manūčīhr* calls Ādurfarnbag the highest leader of the Wehdēns in his *Dādīstān ī denīg*, question 87, par. 8 (*Codices Avestici et Pahlavici* III/1, Copenhagen, 1944, fol. 195r.16). The same author relies in his *Letters* on the authoritative nature of Ādurfarnbag's pronouncements (B. N. Dhabhar, ed., *Nāmakīhā-i Mānūshchīhar*, Bombay, 1912, 1.3.9). Ādurfarnbag himself wrote an *Ēwēn-nāmag* on the principles of Zoroastrian religion; a condensed version of it comprises *Dēnkard* 4 (ed. Madan, pp. 409-31). Ādurfarnbag is there revealed as



deeply reflective and taking a philosophical approach to Zoroastrian doctrine. *Dēnkard* 5 purports to give Ādurfarnbag's answers to two individuals (Ya'qūb-e Kāledān and a Christian named Boxt-Mārī) about Zoroastrian belief and ritual; see M. F. Kanga, "Pursisnīhā i Boxt-Mārā ut-sān Passoxvīhā, a Pahlavi Text" [sic], *Indian Linguistics* 25, 1964, pp. 3-20. A collection of sayings (*wāzag*) is also ascribed to him (*Pahlavi Texts*, pp. 79-80; S. K. Dastur Meherji Rana, *Denā Vâjak i Aīchand i Atropāt Mârespandân* or *Some of the Sayings of Adarbad Marespand*, Bombay, 1930).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Given in the text.