



ĀRAŠ, KAY

ĀRAŠ, KAY, Avestan KAVI ARŠAN, a member of the Kayanid dynasty in Iranian legend. He receives only passing mention in the Avesta (*Yt.* 13.132, 19.71), without reference to his father. The Middle Persian *Bundahišn* names him (p. 232.2; ms. TD1; Tehran, 1349 Š./1970, p. 199.10) and his three brothers (Kay Biyārš, Kay Pašin, and Kay Kāvūs) as children of Kay Abīwēh, grandchildren of Kay Kawād (Arabicized as Qobād). The latter designation also occurs in the *Dēnkard* (p. 598.3, cf. *Yt.* 19.71). A variety of Muslim sources also make genealogical observations, but with distortion of the Mid. Pers. tradition. Ṭabarī (II, p. 617) makes Kay Āraš son of *Kay-Abībēh and ruler of Kūzestān; but he also regards the four brothers plus Kay Afneh (Kay *Aβbeh from *Abībēh) all as sons of Kay Qobād (II, p. 534). Baḷ'amī follows this version (*Tārīk*, p. 523). Dīnavarī reflects a similar tradition (p. 14), when he names Qābūs (Kay Kāvūs), Kay Abneh (*Abībēh), and Qayvas (for *Kay-Āraš?) as sons of Kay Qobād. The *Šāh-nāma* (Moscow, I, p. 74.191) identifies the four brothers of the *Bundahišn* account as Kay Qobād's sons, and this view is repeated by Gardīzī (ed. Ḥabībī, p. 9). Ṭa'ālebī (*Gorar*, p. 457) has Kay Āraš as Kay Qobād's son, but Kay Kāvūs as the latter's son and successor (pp. 153-54). There are other versions which do not, however, name Kay Āraš. Ḥamza records Kay Fašin (*Pašin) as son of Kay-Aβīwēh (Beirut, 1961, p. 36), while Bīrūnī cites Kay Kāvūs as son of Kayanyah (*Kay-Abībēh; *Āṭār al-bāqīa*, p. 104). Similarly, in Maqdesī (*Bad'* III, p. 147), Kay Kāvūs is son of Kāywanah (*Kay-Abīwēh).

The Aškānī (Arsacid) dynasty of Iran is regarded as descended from Kay Āraš. Ferdowsī asserts this lineage on the authority of a *dehqān* of Čāč (*Šāh-nāma*



[Moscow], VII, p. 115.50, cf. p. 135.423). Ṭa'ālebī (*Ġorar*, p. 547) traces the descent of Aškān (Arsaces), eponymous ancestor of the dynasty, back through Aškān (I) to Kay Āraš the son of Kay Qobād. Bīrunī, drawing on the *Šāh-nāma*, states that Ašk was son of Dārā, a descendant of "Araš" (*Āṭār al-bāqīa*, p. 117); and Ṭabarī, specifying Ašk as founder of the Aškānī dynasty, makes him son of Aškān the Great and a descendant of *Kay-Abībēh, the son of Kay Qobād (I, p. 709). Dīnavarī (p. 14) identifies Qayvas (i.e., Kay Āraš) as the ancestor of the Aškānīs. But Mas'ūdī follows a different tradition and affiliates the dynasty with Sīāvoš, son of Kay Kāvūs (*Morūj*, ed. Pellat, I, p. 276).

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