



## ARIABIGNES

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**ARIABIGNES**, an Achaemenid prince. His name derives from Old Ir. *arya-* + *bigna*, probably signifying “Gift of the Aryans [= Iranians]” (W. Hinz, *Altiranisches Sprachgut der Nebenüberlieferungen*, Wiesbaden, 1975, p. 39). He was a son of **Darius the Great** from a daughter of Gaubrava/Gobryas, one of the seven Persians who overthrew the Pseudo-Smerdis (Herodotus 7.97). He had been born prior to Darius’ accession (*ibid.*, 7.2.97), and as one of the four admirals of Xerxes’ fleet, he led the Ionian and Carian naval units in 480 B.C., and was killed, along with many noble Medes and Persians, at Salamis (*ibid.*, 8.89, cf. A. Sh. Shahbazi, *The Irano-Lycian Monuments*, Tehran, 1975, pp. 84f.). Plutarch (*Themistocles* 14; *Moralia* 488; both from Ephorus) wrongly calls him **Ariamnes** (Ariamenes) and describes his bravery and heroic death at the battle of Salamis (J. Marquart, *Untersuchungen zur Geschichte von Eran I*, Göttingen, 1896, pp. 15ff.).