



ĀTRĒVAXŠ

ĀTRĒVAXŠ (Mid. Pers *ādurwaxš*), one of the eight Zoroastrian priests (*ratu*) necessary for performance of the *yasna* ritual. As the name indicates, his primary function was to tend to (lit., “augment,” *vaxš*-) the sacred fire (*ātar*). According to *Nirangistan* 73 he also had to cleanse three sides of the fire altar; and he made response to the *zaotar* during the ritual in the same way that, in more recent times, the *rāspīg* has answered to the *zōd*. The station of the *atrəvaxš* within the sacrificial area was the southwest corner and facing the fire. The *atrəvaxš* is today reckoned as one of the “invisible” priests, his functions having been taken over by the *rāspīg*.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

AirWb., cols. 318f.

Avesta, tr. Darmesteter, I, pp. lxxi, 453; III, pp. 129, 131, 133.

D. D. P. Sanjana, *Nirangistan*, fol. 155 b.4-12.

J. J. Modi, *Ceremonies*, pp. 316-19.



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