



## ĀZĪN JOŠNAS

**ĀZĪN (ĀDĪN) JOŠNAS**, a military commander of the Sasanian Hormazd IV (r. A.D. 579-90), killed in Hamadān on his way to fight the rebellious general Bahrām Čōbēn (Ṭabarī, I, p. 995; Ya'qūbī, I, p. 190; Baḷ'amī, *Tārīk*, p. 1079; *Šāh-nāma* [Moscow] VIII, pp. 394, 428). He has also been referred to as minister (*wazīr*) (Mas'ūdī, *Morūj* I, sec. 634; Gardīzī, ed. Ḥabībī, p. 34), chief minister (Dīnavarī, p. 85), or scribe (*dabīr*) (*Šāh-nāma* VIII, p. 394) of the king. Ṭa'ālebī (*Gōrar*, p. 659) says the king consulted with him but does not specify his official title. The title *dabīr* does not seem appropriate since he seems to have belonged, as most sources confirm, to the warrior class. He has been referred to as Kūzī, i.e., native of Kūzestān, by Mas'ūdī (*ibid.*) and Ḥūrī (Jūrī?) by Gardīzī (*ibid.*).

Most sources report that when the news of Bahrām's victory over Šāva, the king (*kāqān*) of the Turks, arrived at the court with war booties, Āzīn Jošnas, envious of Bahrām's achievement, accused him of having kept the best and most of the spoils for himself, sending only a token share to the king. Other sources, however, make others such as Bahmūḍa, the *kāqān*'s son, who lived as a captive at the court (Ya'qūbī, p. 189) or some courtiers (Ṭa'ālebī, p. 657) responsible for the king's suspicion. According to Dīnavarī and Baḷ'amī Āzīn Jošnas was dispatched in order to apologize to Bahrām and console him, but death did not allow him to fulfill his mission.

The Arabicized form Āzīn Jošnas recorded by Ṭabarī (*ibid.*) and Ya'qūbī (p. 190) indicates that the original form of the name was Āzēn Gošnasb, which occurs as Āzīn Košasb in Ṭa'ālebī (p. 659) and Āyēn Gošasb in *Šāh-nāma* (*ibid.*).



Other corrupted forms are Arīksīs (Mas'ūdī), Arḥasīs (Gardīzī), Yazdān Jošnas (Dīnavarī), and Yazdān Baḳš (Baḷ'amī), etc.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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See also Nöldeke, *Geschichte der Perser*, p. 276.

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