



BAGĀN YAŠT

BAGĀN YAŠT (1) one of the *dādīg* (legal) *nasks* of the Avesta; (2) name of *Y.* 19-21 (see [bag nask](#)). The *Bagān yašt* (the *Dēnkard* has *yast* for *yašt* or *yasn*; the *Persian Rivayats* have *Baḡān yašt* and *Bayān yašt*), according to the brief account of it in the *Dēnkard* (8.15), contained descriptions of Ahura Mazdā, highest of all the gods (**wisp* [ms. *yst*] *bayān abardom*), and the remaining invisible and visible gods in the world (*abārīg apaydāg ud paydāg gētīgān-iz yazdān*) (*Dēnkard*, Dresden, p. 105 [82]; Madan, p. 692; tr. West, pp. 34f.; the *Persian Rivayats* in West, pp. 418, 426, 431, 436). It is generally assumed that at least some of the known *yašts* plus the *Hōm yašt* (*Y.* 9-11) and the *Srōš yašt* (*Y.* 57) belonged to this *nask*. According to the *Persian Rivayats* (p. 4) it had seventeen sections and one *rivayat* enumerates sixteen *yašts* belonging to the *Bagān yašt*: the nineteen known *yašts* less *Yt.* 2, 3, 6 (West, p. xlv n. 1; Darmesteter, II, pp. xxvi-xxviii). The old *yašt* manuscript F numbers the six last *yašts* (*Yt.* 14-19) as 11-16, which may be based upon an old tradition (Darmesteter, *ibid.*).

The reason for the lack of any substantial information about this *nask* in the *Dēnkard* is no doubt due to the fact that the Pahlavi version of the *yašts* had been lost by the time the *Dēnkard* was compiled. A few quotations from the *Bagān yašt* not found in the *yašt* collection may have survived (see West, pp. 470-71).



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W. E. West, *Pahlavi Texts IV: Contents of the Nasks*, SBE 37, Oxford, 1892, repr. Delhi, etc., 1965. (H. W. Bailey's emendation to **Bagān* of an unreadable word in a Pahlavi text dealing with the history of the Avesta is quite hypothetical; *Zoroastrian Problems in the Ninth-Century Books*, Oxford, 1943, 2nd ed., 1971, pp. 160f.)

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