



BARZĪN

BARZĪN (from Pahlavi Burzēn), the name of several figures in the *Šāh-nāma*.

Barzīn, a wealthy *dehqān* who lived at the time of Bahrām Gōr; he had three daughters (Māhāfarīd, Farānak, and Šanbalīd) skilled respectively in singing poetry, playing the harp, and dancing for Bahrām Gōr when he was their father's guest. Ultimately, all three were married to the king (*Šāh-nāma* [Moscow] VII, pp. 340-46).

Barzīn Garšāsp, Iranian hero descended from Jamšēd (*Šāh-nāma* IV, p. 302 v. 22b); he lived from the reign of Nowdar until the reign of Kay Ƙosrow. He took part in the Māzandarān and Hāmāvarān campaigns.

Jahn Barzīn, according to Iranian legend a man from Damāvand and the first artisan, who was ordered by Ferēdūn to construct the Ʀāqdīs throne (*Šāh-nāma* IX, p. 220), for which he was awarded the governorship of Āmol and Sārī.

Ƙarrād Barzīn (both names related to two fire temples of the same name, Justi, *Namenbuch*, p.178), a commander and adviser to Hormoz IV (r. 578-90) and adviser and chancery secretary to his son Ƙosrow II Parvēz (r. 590-628). Ƙarrād, who sprang from people perhaps living on the Caspian coast (*Šāh-nāma* VIII, p. 362 vv. 790-93), led Hormoz's army at the beginning of his reign in the war against the Ƙazarān and aided [Bahrām Čōbīn](#) in his war with the Turks (*ibid.*, p. 334 vv. 330-35). However, with the rise of Bahrām, Ƙarrād seems to have lost his position and thus deeply resented his rival; he is said to



have played a major role in turning Hormoz against Bahrām (ibid., pp. 349-51, 361-90, 402-07). He was later closely allied to Ƙosrow II Parvēz in his struggle with Bahrām and accompanied Ƙosrow when he fled to Rūm (Antiochia). From there he led a delegation sent by Ƙosrow to request aid from the Byzantine emperor Maurice (r. 582-602; ibid., IX, pp. 19ff.). After the defeat of Bahrām and his flight to Central Asia, Ƙarrād was sent by Ƙosrow to the *kāqān* of the Turks, where he successfully carried out a plot to kill Bahrām (ibid., pp. 155-69). Ƙarrād remained Ƙosrow's close adviser until the end of his reign. After Ƙosrow was deposed by his son, Šērōya (Qobād II, 628), Ƙarrād, an old man, was forced to visit the former king in prison and deliver his son's message (ibid., pp. 255-59, 275). Ƙarrād is considered one of the great statesmen of the time of Hormoz and Ƙosrow II, for he was very effective in stabilizing the political situation to the advantage of both monarchs.

Rām Barzīn, a Zoroastrian priest of the time of Qobād (r. 488-531; *Šāh-nāma* VIII, p. 50 v. 363b).

Rām Barzīn, general of Ƙosrow I Anōšīravān (r. 531-78) and guardian of the city of Madā'en, who in 550 or 551 put down the revolt of Anōšazād, Ƙosrow's son (*Šāh-nāma* VIII, p. 104-09). Rām Barzīn is apparently the same person as Fabrivos, whom the Byzantine historian Procopius (*Bella* 4.10 in Nöldeke, *Geschichte der Perser*, p. 473) mentions in his account of the Anōšazād incident. He is also apparently the same person who in the time of Ƙosrow I, after the year 541, was the Persian ruler of Lāzīstān (= Lazike, classical Colchis; Procopius, 2.29.30).

Šādān Barzīn, one of the Zoroastrian *dehqāns* of Ʀūs and an author of the 4th/10th-century *Šāh-nāma* that was translated from Pahlavi into Persian by order of Abū Manšūr 'Abd-al-Razzāq, commander (*sepahsālār*) of Ʀūs, in Moḥarram, 346/April, 957 (*Moqaddama-ye qadīm-e Šāh-nāma-ye abū-manšūrī*, ed. M. Qazvīnī, in *Bīst maqāla* II, Tehran, 1313 Š./1934, p. 35). Šādān Barzīn also translated the report of Borzūya's bringing the *Kalīla wa Demna* from India (*Šāh-nāma* VIII, p. 247; Th. Nöldeke, *Das iranische Nationalepos*, Berlin and Leipzig, 1920, pp. 16f.).

Šīmā Barzīn, Zoroastrian priest who lived during the reign of Ƙosrow I Anōšīravān (r. 531-78) and was killed by order of Hormoz IV (r. 578-90). According to the *Šāh-nāma* (VIII, pp. 323-26), this man was the only member of the elite of Ƙosrow's time to favor Hormoz as Ƙosrow's successor. Ʀa'ālebī (*Gōrar*, pp. 638f.) attributes this act of support to Bahrām Ādarmāhān;



however, according to the *Šāh-nāma*, Āḍarmāhān (Āḍarmahān) was one of the opponents of Hormoz's succession.