



CASSANDANE

CASSANDANE, wife of **Cyrus II**, an Achaemenian, sister of Otanes and daughter of Pharnaspes. She bore four children: **Cambyses II**, Smerdis (see *bardiya*), **Atossa**, and an unnamed daughter (see Herodotus, 2.1; 3.2, 3). According to Herodotus (2.1), Cyrus loved her dearly and, when she died, ordered all the subjects of his empire to observe “a great mourning.” There is a report in the chronicle of Nabonidus that, when “the king’s wife died,” there was public mourning in Babylonia lasting from 27 Adar to 3 Nisan, that is, 21-26 March 538 (III.23; Grayson, p. 111); very probably it was the death of Cassandane that was being mourned. M. Boyce has suggested that she was buried in the tower called *Zendān-e Solaymān* at Pasargadae.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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