



## DĀTABARA

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**DĀTABARA**, title of a high official in the Achaemenid legal and juridical system. It is not attested in Old Persian but only in collateral traditions (El. *da-ud-da-bar-ra*; Late Babylonian *da-(a-)ta-ba-ra/ri, -bar-ri*; biblical Aram. *dtbr, dātābar*; talmudic Aram. *dw'r, dwwr*) and in younger Iranian languages (Pahl. *d'twbl, dādwar*; Inscr. Pahl. *d'tbry, d'twbr*; Man. Mid. Pers. *d'ywr, dāywar*; Inscr. Parth. *d'tbr*; Man. Mid. Parth. *d'db'r, dādβār*; Pāzand, NPers. *dā(d)war* “judge”; cf. the loan translation Arm. *datawor*). In the sources available Old Iranian \**dāta-bara-*, lit., “bearer of the law (**DĀTA**),” designates a high judicial officer, that is, a lawyer but not necessarily a judge. The only Aramaic instance occurs in the Book of Daniel (3:2-3), in an enumeration of higher officials; in the Babylonian documents of the Murašû archives it refers to the same person throughout, a man who had some relation to the satrap of Babylonia but in this context was acting only as witness to the transactions in question (Dandamayev, pp. 41-42).

The title also became a personal name \**Dātabara-*, which seems to be attested in Aramaic *Dtbr* on a mortar from Persepolis (Bowman, p. 117, giving the incorrect reading *Rtbr*).

See also **DĀDWAR**, **DĀDWARĪH**.



## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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