



DUGDŌW

DUGDŌW, the name of Zoroaster's mother, which appears in several different spellings in the Pahlavi texts, mostly more or less corrupted from an original attempt at representing the Avestan form. The *Dēnkard* has consistently the best spelling, *dwkt'wb'*, to be pronounced Dugdōw or Duydōw. In different manuscripts of selections from *Zādspram* (5.1) it appears corrupted to *dwktk'* (possibly for **dwktwk*) and *dwtkwb* (probably from **dwktwb*). In the manuscripts of the Greater *Bundahišn* it is always written *dwyt'by* (TD1 203.10-11; TD2 236.10-11; DH 107.1), which appears transliterated into Pāzand letters as *duyḍā* in the Indian version (ms. K20, fol. 128v, l. 14). Lastly, in *Šāyest nē šāyest* there occur (10.4) *dwkd'w'* and the variants *dwktk'w'* and *dwtk'w'* (12.11) for earlier **dwkt'w*. The Avestan form is preserved only in a single fragment (FrD 4), corrupted in both manuscripts. It can, however, be reliably reconstructed as *Duydōwā-*, interpreted as “with milked cows.” Whether as cause or effect, this name presumably refers to the tradition, preserved in its fullest form in the *Dēnkard* (VII, chap. 2), according to which some virgin heifers belonging to Dugdōw's husband, Pōrušasp, began to give milk (*awēšān gāwān 2 azādagān pēm be mad*), in which the vegetable essence (*gōhr*) of Zoroaster was mixed. Pōrušasp instructed his wife to milk those heifers. He had already acquired, through divine intervention, some *haoma* twigs containing the *frawahr*, the guardian spirit, of Zoroaster. When this *haoma* was pressed and the juice mixed with the milk both parents drank of it, thus imbibing both the *frawahr* and the *gōhr* of the future prophet. As Dugdōw had carried the *xwarrah* of Zoroaster within her since her birth, causing her to radiate light about her, the three elements, *xwarrah*, *frawahr*, and *tan-gōhr*



“physical essence” were united in the embryo of Zoroaster.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

(For cited works not found in this bibliography and for abbreviations found here, see “Short References.”)

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