



FARĀMARZ

FARĀMARZ, son of Iran's national hero Rostam (q.v.), and himself a renowned hero of the Iranian national epic. His adventures were very popular, especially during the 4th/10th and 5th/11th centuries (Bal'amī, ed. Bahār, I, p. 133; II, p. 687; Farrokī, vv. 1027, 7654). According to the *Tārīk-e Sīstān* (p. 7), the exploits of Farāmarz comprised a twelve-volume account. What is known of his story today is derived from Ferdowsi's *Šāh-nāma* (q.v.), from the *Farāmarz-nāma* (q.v.), and a few other sources. In the *Šāh-nāma* Farāmarz's most important exploit is his participation in Rostam's campaign against Tūrān to avenge the death of Sīāvakš. Farāmarz leads the army; kills Varāzād, the king of Sepijāb; and later captures Sorqa, son of Afrāsīāb (q.v.; *Šāh-nāma*, ed. Khaleghi, II, pp. 385, 389-90; Ta'ālebī, *Ġorar*, p. 217). He also kills Mehrnuš, son of Esfandiār (q.v.), and avenges the death of his father Rostam by killing the king of Kabul and by destroying Kabul (*Šāh-nāma* [Moscow] VI, pp. 283, 338-39). According to *Šāh-nāma* and *Mojmal al-tawārīk*, Kay Ḳosrow sends Farāmarz to conquer India (*Šāh-nāma*, ed. Khaleghi, III, pp. 22-23; *Mojmal*, ed. Bahār, p. 49). These sources say nothing more about the Indian campaign, but it is the subject of the *Farāmarz-nāma*, which has come down to us in two versions. The adventures of Farāmarz are also mentioned in the epic *Bānū Gošasp-nāma*, although there he plays a secondary role to Gošasp Bānū (q.v.; see *Cat. Bibliothèque Nationale*, p. 18, n. 1194). According to this story Rostam places the infant Farāmarz in the care of his daughter Gošasp Bānū. The rest of the epic recounts the adventures of Gošasp Bānū and Farāmarz, including their battle—while in disguise—with Rostam and Zavāra, which takes as a model the battle of Rostam and Sohrāb but has a happy ending.



Another source, the epic *Bahman-nāma* (q.v.), gives in its second part an account of Farāmarz's wars against Bahman (q.v.; *Īrānšāh*, pp. 191-340). In addition, the *Nozhat-nāma* contains two narratives about the adventures of Farāmarz in India (*Šahmardān*, pp. 329-33). Stories about him are to be found also in Armenian and Mandaean sources. In Armenian stories Fahrāmaz (an Armenian variant of his name) is the son of Golparī, whom Rostam marries after rescuing her from the castle of the Red Demon (*dīv-e sorḳ*). Among the main adventures of Farāmarz in Armenian sources is his battle alongside Zāl and Borzū against the shah of Darband, and the capture of a fire-colored stallion, which was destroying the king's horses by driving the herds into the sea (Chalatianz, pp. 295-300). According to a Mandaean account the mother of Filamers (Farāmarz) is the daughter of the Chinese emperor (Petermann, pp. 108-9). In some Persian stories Rostam's wife is Gēv's sister, Šahrbānū Eram (*Šāh-nāma*, ed. Khaleghi, II, p. 347). *Mojmal al-tawārīḳ* states that the mother of Farāmarz and of his two sisters Gošasp Bānū and Zar Bānū, is Kay Qobād's aunt (*Mojmal*, ed. Bahār, p. 25).

According to Ṭabarī and some other sources Farāmarz is killed by Bahman, son of Esfandiār (Ṭabarī, I, p. 687; cf. Bal'amī, ed. Bahār, II, p. 687; *Šāh-nāma* [Moscow], VI, pp. 347-49; Ṭa'ālebī, *Gorar*, p. 388; *Īrānšāh*, pp. 335-40.) However, this is not the only version of the story. According to Bal'amī, Bahman is the one who is killed in the battle with Farāmarz, while in *Tārīḳ-e Sīstān* the two make peace (Bal'amī, ed. Bahār, II, pp. 686-87; *Tārīḳ-e Sīstān*, p. 34). In *Mojmal al-tawārīḳ* Farāmarz perishes in Kashmir, falling to his death from a horse; his body is taken to Sīstān and buried in Rostam's ossuary (ed. Bahār, pp. 25, 463). There are also Persian folk tales about Farāmarz (Enjavī).

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