



HAJIABAD II. THE TEXTS

The Hajiabad inscription reads:

“This (is) the bowshot of me, the Mazda-worshipping god Shapur, king of kings of Eran and Non-Eran, whose descent (is) from the gods, son of the Mazda-worshipping god Ardashir, king of kings of Eran, whose descent (is) from the gods, grandson of the god Papak, king. And when we shot this arrow, then we shot it before the kings and princes and magnates and nobles. And we put (our) foot in this cleft [on this rock] and we cast the arrow beyond that cairn. But that place [there] where the arrow was cast [fell], there the place was not such [was not that kind of place] that, if a cairn had been erected, it would have been visible outside. Then we commanded that the cairn be erected more in this direction. [Now] whoever may be strong of arm, let them put (their) foot in this cleft [on this rock] and let them shoot an arrow to(wards) that cairn. Then whoever casts [sends] an arrow (as far as) to that cairn, they are [indeed] strong of arm.”

Also, *Tang-e Borāq* version of the inscription differs from that of Ḥājiābād only the final two lines, ll. 13-15:

“(And we) cast the arrow from this cairn [stone] to that cairn. [Now] whoever may be strong of arm, let them shoot an arrow from this cairn [stone]. Then whoever cast [send] an arrow to that cairn, they are [indeed] strong of arm” (Mackenzie, 1978, 507).



BIBLIOGRAPHY

Mackenzie, David Neil. "Shapur's Shooting." *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies* 41, no. 3 (1978): 499-507.