



RATHINES

RATHINES (Gk. *Rathínēs*), a general of Pharnabazos, the satrap of the Daskylitis (see [DASCYLIUM](#)) under Dareios II and Artaxerxes II (see [DARIUS iv](#) and [ARTAXERXES II](#)). Rathines and Spithridates (for whom, see [MEGABATES](#), no. 4; *RE* IIIA2, 1929, cols. 1815-16) were sent out by Pharnabazos with a large force of cavalry and infantry; they sought battle with the Ten Thousand Greeks in 400 BCE somewhere in Bithynia (Xenophon, *Anabasis* 6.5.7) and suffered a heavy defeat (*ibid.*, 6.5.27–32). The Rathines who was leader of a cavalry squadron of Pharnabazos (together with the satrap's half-brother Bagaïos) in 396 evidently is the same person. He advanced against the expeditionary force led by Agesilaos, king of Sparta (Xenophon, *Hellenika* 3.4.13). On that occasion the Greeks were forced to retreat, and Agesilaos became convinced that he needed sufficient cavalry for waging war on level ground (*ibid.*, 3.4.14–15).

This cavalry-general Rathines in all probability is the historical model of the unhistorical man of the same name who is briefly mentioned in Xenophon, *Cyropaedia* 8.3.32 (for this emendation of the name, cf. Schmitt, 2002, p. 111 with fn. 63). After Cyrus's first public appearance, featuring a splendid procession and sacrificial offerings, the king called for a horse-race, with each of the different peoples among the 10,000 horsemen in attendance (Persians, Medes, Armenians, Hyrcanians [see [GORGĀN ii](#)], Cadusians [see [CADUSII](#)], and Sakas [*Cyr.* 8.3.18]) racing separately. The winner among the Cadusians was Rathines (cf. Syme, p. 149). Thus we have to do here with one of those persons of the *Anabasis* whom Xenophon projected back from his own time into the



narrative time of the *Cyropaedia*.

Further evidence is found, even if under the form *Rathánēs*, in the anonymous, so-called *Hellenica Oxyrhynchia* (cf. Chambers, p. 47, l. 725); there Rathanes is introduced as a Persian and is mentioned as the commander of the garrison of Gordion, who by his commitment was able to repulse the assaults of Agesilaos. The original Greek form of the name has to be sought in *Rathínēs*, whereas *Rathánēs* apparently has been associated with the more common Greek names in *-ánēs*; and this form *Rathínēs* can easily be explained as rendering OIran. **Raθ-ina-*, a hypocoristicon in **-ina-* based on some compound name with OIran. **raθa-* “chariot” (see Schmitt, 1993, pp. 393 f.; 2002, pp. 111 f.; 2011, pp. 309 f., no. 277).

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