



ZĀDUYA

ZĀDUYA, a Persian noble in the 7th century CE who was instrumental in the crowning of Farroḳzād Ḳosrow as Sasanian king. He is said to have been the “chief of the servants” (*ra'īs al-ḳawal*) during the chaotic period between the reigns of Pērōz II and Farroḳzād Ḳosrow in 631-32 CE (Ṭabari, II/2, p. 1066, tr., pp. 408-9). The office held by him may be the *prastīgbed*, a term already found in Šāpūr I's inscription at Naqš-e Rostam (Mid. Pers. *plstkpt*/Parthian *prštḳpty*, sec. 48) in the early Sasanian period (Shahbazi, pp. 676, no. 1311).

When Pērōz II was murdered by the nobility, Zāduya left for a place called the Stone Fortress (Ḥeṣn-al-Ḥejāra), close to Nisibis in Mesopotamia, where a son of Ḳosrow II, named Farruḳzād Ḳosrow had been hiding to escape the fratricide of the ruling Kawād II Širuya. Zāduya brought back the young prince to Ctesiphon to be placed on the throne. Ṭabari states that his rule was acknowledged and lasted for six months (Ṭabari, II/2, p. 1066; tr. p. 409; Mas'udi, *Moruj*, ed. Pellat, sec. 655; idem, *Tanbih*, p. 103; Nöldeke, pp. 396-97).

There is also a mention of a Zāduya who, as the margrave (*marzbān*) of Saraḳs, made peace with the Arab general, 'Abd-Allāh b. 'Āmer, during the Arab Muslim conquest of Khorasan in 651-52 CE (Nöldeke pp. 416 ff.). It is impossible to ascertain if this is the same Zāduya who held a high office before and then served as a margrave in the east (Balāḍori, p. 405).



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