The Sassanian Inscription of Paikuli

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Part 3.1

Restored text and translation

by Prods Skjærvø

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Notice

Users of this text should always consult the synoptic texts in SIP 2 for the exact reading of the blocks. The restored text in this volume differs from the synoptic texts in several respects: A simplified apparatus has been used; The synoptic texts contain no restorations of complete words, even when the restoration is certain (e.g. in the lists of dignitaries); The restored text contains both certain and conjectural restorations; The translation is based upon the restored text.

The restored text and the translation have been divided into paragraphs to show the structure of the text and to provide a frame of reference. In unclear passages the division into paragraphs does not necessarily agree with the contextual divisions, but is also for the sake of reference.

In order to remind the readers of the many uncertainties in the textual restorations and the translation I have been liberal in the use of queries (?).

The inscription is quoted by line number or by block number thus:
11 B 4,06 or B 4,06 = 11, i.e. line no. 11 of the MP (capital letter: B) version, block B4, and line 6 of that block.

Parallel passages are quoted as follows:
13/12 C 10,02 'ltyk = Pa b 2,06 zbnk, i.e. MP version 13, block C 10, and line 2 of that block correspond to Pa line 12, block b2 (lower case: b), and line 6 of that block. (Both line numbers are quoted even when one version is missing or omitted.)
Paraphrase of the inscription

The Paikuli inscription is comprised of three parts: introduction, main part, and conclusion. The main part can be divided into three: 1. An account of the events taking place before Narseh and the Iranian dignitaries meet at Paikuli; 2. An account of the events leading to the surrender of Warahrān, King of Sakas, and the punishment of Wahnām; 3. The negotiations between Narseh and the dignitaries regarding the succession to the throne of Iran, leading to Narseh’s acceptance of the Kingship.

I. Introduction §§ 1-2

§1 The genealogy of Narseh is given in the common pattern of the other Sassanian royal inscriptions.
§2 The reason for raising the moment(?)

II Main Part §§ 3-90

1. From the death of Warahrān II until the meeting of Narseh and the dignitaries at Paikuli (§§ 3-32)

§3 Narseh, King of Armenia, was staying in Armenia when Warahrān II, King of King offran, died.
§4 His son, Warahrān, King of Sakas, was crowned by Wahnām, son of Tatrus, but Narseh was not informed of this.
§§5-9 Wahnām (?) informed the dignitaries, advising them to accept Warahrān as King of Kings and adding threats against those who would oppose him.
§§10-15 Council and deliberations of the dignitaries.
§§16-18 A group of dignitaries, headed by some of the foremost members of the royal court and members of the leading families wrote to Narseh asking him to come from Armenia and take back his throne and the divine honours of his forefathers, which had been usurped by evildoers.
§§19-21 Narseh set out for Iran, sending messengers in advance to inform his own adherents and other that he was coming.
§§22-31 Narseh instructed (?) the Hargbed to send the Lord of Undīgān to the border of Xūzestān to guard (?) the passage to Asōrestān (the royal province with the royal capital Ctesiphon). The Lord of Undīgān was instructed to offer Warahrān and Wahnām a truce, and if they accepted, to refrain from fighting, take them to Asōrestān, and settle them there until Narseh arrived.
§32 Narseh and the dignitaries then met at Paikuli
2. *The actions of Warahrān and Wahnām until the surrender of Warahrān and the punishment of Wahnām and others* (§§33-62)

§33 On hearing of this, Warahrān and Wahnām marched from Xūzestan towards Armenia (?).

§§34-37 By letter, Wahnām enlisted the help of Ādur Farrōbay, King of Mēšān . . .

§§38-39 The King of Mēšān went forth to assist them.

§40 Ardaxšer the Hazārbed (?) called upon the King of Kings (? = Narseh?) for assistance.

§§41-43 The King of Mēšān (?), Wahnām and their supporters paid homage to Warahrān and swore allegiance.

§§44-46 Various developments. Desertion of some of the troops. They came to the Lord of Undigān who sent them to Narseh.

§§47-50 Narseh wrote a letter to Warahrān, pointing out that he had no right to take the throne in such an inappropriate way. His followers had deserted him, and so he should come to Narseh and give himself up.

§§51-52 Warahrān then surrendered.

§§53-55 When Wahnām saw that his cause was a lost one, he realized his defeat and his plight . . .

§§56-59 Wahnām was captured by a party sent by Narseh for that purpose, and was, in a degrading manner, sent back to him.

§60 Warahrān learnt about the capture of Wahnām.

§§61-62 Narseh took measures to punish the rebels.

3. *The correspondence between Narseh and the dignitaries over the succession, and Narseh’s acceptance of the throne* (§§63-90)

§63 Narseh called for a meeting.

§§64-73 Narseh wrote to the dignitaries, reminding them of what had been the procedure from Ardaxšer I onwards in determining who was the most suitable to become King of Kings of Iran.

§§74-82 The dignitaries answered that considering the question of succession in light of the earlier procedures, they had reached the conclusion that Narseh was indeed the most suitable to become King of Kings of Iran.

§§83-85 Narseh then wrote to the dignitaries a second time, asking them to satisfy themselves absolutely that he indeed fulfilled all the requirements of the ancient formula.

§§86-89 The dignitaries answered that this was surely the case. Would Narseh please accept the throne!

§90 Narseh then accepted the throne.

III. Conclusion §§91-95

§91 There was peace and friendship with Rome

§92 Enumeration of the kings who acknowledged Narseh as King of Kings.

§93 Lesser rulers

§94-95 Narseh claimed the whole realm anew and dealt in befitting fashion with everyone.
TEXT AND TRANSLATION

I. Introduction (§§1-2)

I am the Mazdaean Majesty Narseh King [of Kings] of Iran and Aneran, whose origin (is) from [the gods, son of the Mazdaean] Majesty Šābuhr King [of Kings] of Iran and Aneran, [whose origin (is) from the gods, grandson of the Majesty Ardaxšer] King of Kings.
II. Main Part §§3-90

1. From the death of Warahrān II until the meeting of Narseh and the dignitaries at Paikuli (§§3-32)

   I am/was the King of Armenia. And we dwelt in Armenia [until Warahrān, King of Kings, son of Warahrān ?] passed away.

   W whwn’m | ZY ttlws[‘]n | - - -
   a 6,02             a 6,02
   7,02
   A 11,02
And Wahnām, son of Tatur, [through] his own falsehood and [(with) the help?] of Ahrimen and the devils, attached the Diadem [to the head of Warahrān, King of Sakas ?]. And he did not inform me of that matter.

Nor [did he] inform the princes. [And later ? the princes] and grandees and nobles and Persians
and Parthians were informed(?) [that:]

A
7,03
3 §6. [ - ca 15 ll. - whl’n ? | Z]Y sk’n MLKA
3 [ - - - ]

A 8,03 A 9-10,03 A 11,03
3 dydy|my LOYŠE O][SLWN-
3 - - - ] | QWMTE YCBEť | […]
HQAYMtn a 6,03 a 7,03

“[I, Wahnām, son of Tatrus have ?] attached (?) the Diadem to the head of [Warahrān], King
of Sakas. [And I?] wish to establish(?) [him/myself ? in] an exhalted position(?).

A
12,03
3 §7. W QDM HNA ’tw|[ky HWEm AYK ? BLBYTAn]
3 W ’pr ZK | [ - - -
3 a 8-
3 10,03

A 13,03 A 14,03 A
15,03
3 | W LBAn W ’z’t’n YK|TLWNn Apšn BYTA | [g]lmykc(’n Y)HBWNn
3 - - - ](’n)
YNTNWn a
3 11,03

“And of (?) this [I am?] capable, (namely) to kill [the princes] and grandees and nobles and
to give their possessions/estates to the Garamaeans(?).”

A 16,03 A 17,03
3 § 8. [ [ - - -
t]wmy (?) W glmykc’n
3 W MN NPŠE | [ - - -
3 a 12-13,03

A 1-2,04 A 3,04
"And from/of my own family (?) and the Garamaeans I shall make [...] my own?] property. And when I have firmly established my own property (or: (it as) my own property), then I shall destroy [the enemies of?] the King of Sakas.

"And I(?) myself shall [...] in the whole(?) [realm?]."

And the Persians and Parhtians [and others who?] were at the border watch-post at Asörestān, they made a council [and] said [that:]
“[...] the King of Sakas [...] if he be able to govern the affairs of the Persians and [to keep?] the land(?) [...].

“Wahnām's counsel(?) is beyond (= without regard for?) the word(s) of the King(kings), [but our?] counsel (is) that which . . . took.
"He(they) [...] ... the family of Sāsān(?) and the men(?) of the whole realm the King of Armenia(?) is the greatest and the best.

"And for (?) the rule of the realm [there will] also hereafter [be] reliance [on? ...].

"[And that which?] may be [...] that we shall do now, so that when he assumes the rule [of the realm] (?), then Ėranšahr [will be peaceful and confident?]."
Thereafter Śābuhr the Hargbed, and Narseh the Prince, son of Sāsān, [and] Pābag the Bidaxš, and Ardaxšer the Hazārbed, and Raxš the General, and Ardaxšer [Surēn], and Ohrmazd Warāz, (and) Warhāndād (?) Lord of Undīgān, and the remaining princes and grandees [and] householders and nobles and Persians and Parthians who were the greatest and the best and the noblest subjects in my possession(s) (= province?) – as was fitting – took [the advice?] of the gods and myself and sent messengers [to] me.
And when I had graciously [admitted?] them, then the messengers from the princes and the hargbed and the Grandees and the Nobles came to me (saying) that:
“May the King of Kings graciously move from Armenia hither to Érānšahr. And (as for) the glory and the realm and his own thrown [and] honour, which (his) ancestors received from the gods, may (he) [take (them) back from?] the evil[doers of = against?] gods and men. [And may he keep? Érān?]šahr safe(?) until the ast!”

And when I saw that letter, then in the name of Ohrmazd and all the gods and Anāhīd, the Lady, we moved from Armenia towards Érānšahr.
And the border-people and the mountain-people and the other districts who were before the ...
... (or: who had been tried before?) [...] to Ėrānsahr.

[And] when my lands and places heard (the news), then [they?] knew [that] I(?) ... the rule of the realm of Ėrānsahr.
And nowhere (?) did they prepare(?) to do harm to Ėrānšahr and my remaining lands and places, but abode by my advice and counsel.

And if once (=since) the Hargbed (formerly) took the advice of the gods and myself, therefore [shall we entrust ?] the border watch-post of Asōrestān and the other various places to the Hargbed(?)
And he did/must not allow anyone [to do harm?] to [...] And he sent/must send Warhāndād(?), Lord of Undigān with horses and men to the border of Xūzestān, and he instructed/must instruct him that.

“...That road and ford which [leads?] from Asōrestān to [Xūzestān?], (that) you shall (?) [guard?]..."
“And to the King of [Sakas] and Wahnām not [...] there may be ... to do harm to Asōrestān, then neither openly nor in [...] to do [...] from Asōrestān.

“... and however you(pl./he) may hear from the direction of Xūzestān, that tell (sg.) me, so that I may know [what to...] to the King [of Kings/Armenia?].

“... and if the King of Sakas and Wahnām ... to [...] – when(?) they know(=hear) that you have
eluded(??) them – they will not be…

“And if they swear(?) [that they…. then?] do not engage an ordered(?) battle, […] will raciously settle [them?] in Asōrestān.

“And the king, himself, with […] them away [to?] …
“[And] you must lead(?) [them?], so that those [...] come as captives(?).”

“And likewise, whoever may be in that army, him [...] ..., and (if?) he/they hold(s) subjection to Narseh, King of Kings, and depart(s) from that army of the King of Sakas and come(s) hither [...].”
6,04
15 g(y)w’k | ZNE plky krty YKO[Y]MWNt
13 [A]TRE | YM∅AEm AYK ZNE | [ - - -
c 11,01 c 12-13,01
C 7,04 C 8-9,04
15 ADYN šh[p]w]hry ZY hlgwpt | [ - - -
c 14,01 c 15,01
C 10,04 C 11,04
16 - - - BLBY[T]A ZY s’(s’nk)n W p’pk(y) | [ - - -
14 nryshw B[R]BYTA | <> s’snkn W p’pk ZY bythš c
16,01 c 1,02 c 2,02
C 12,04 C 13,04
15 w ’rt][h]štr ZY hz’[l]wp(t W) ’rthš(t) r Z(Y)
14 W ’rthštr ZY hzwpt | W ’rthštr <> - - -
c 3,02 c 4,02
C 14,04 C 15,04 C 1-2,05
16 | swlyn W ’whrmazdy | ZY wr’c | [- ca. 12 ll. -]
14 swyn W | [ - - -
c 5-6,02
C 3,05
16 - - - W - - ]c-n(r)shy ZY
14 | W krtýr ’hwrmzd mgw][pty W - - c
7,02 c 8-9,02
C 4,05 C 5,05
16 k(’l)n(y) (W) | [- ca. 13 ll. - | n?]hwsty W lhšy
14 - - - | W rhš c
10,02
C 6,05 C 7,05 C 8-9,05
16 ZY | sp’hpt W ’rthštr ZY t[h]mš[h]pwhr
14 <> - ’sp’d[p]ty | W ’rthštr <> - -> thmš[h]ypwhr
11,02 C 12-13,02
C 10,05 C 11,05
16 – ca. 25 ll. – PWN | št(r-’m’l) dp(yw)r (W) zw[d]krty
14 - - - | p[ty] hštr-’hmr SPRA | W zwdkrty c
14,02 c 15,02
C 12,05 C 13,05
16 ZY - - - | W] (h)ngwn BLDYTA | W LBA (W) ’(z)’t
[And when] I arrived [in] Asörestän at this place where this monument has been made, the Šabuhr the Hargbed, and Përõz the Prince, and Narseh the Prince, son of Säsän, and Päbag the Bidaxš, and Ardaxšer the Hazārbed, and Ardaxšer Surēn, and Ohrmazd Warāz, [and Warhändād? Lord of Undigān,] and Kirdēr the Mowbed of Ohrmazd, and [...] z-narseh Kāren, and [...] the first(?) [of the...]?, and Raxš the General, and Ardaxšer Tahmšābūhr, [...] and [...] Secretary of Finance, and Žöygird the Cup-bearer, [and] likewise the princes and grandees and nobles and householders and satraps and accountants (and) storekeepers (? not Pa) and the remaining Persians and Parthians who were in Asörestän [and Xūzestān?]n and Garamaea and Syārzūr, all together they came to Xāvān ī Nikatrā to meet me. And here they came into my presence where this monument has been made.

(II. Main part ...)

2. The actions of Warahrān and Wahnām until the surrender of Warahrān and the punishment of Wahnām and others (§§ 33-62)

And Warahrān, [King] of Sakas, and Wahnām, son of Tartus, and the bad ones(?) and those(?) who were Wahnām’s partisans and helpers – when they heard that I had set out from Armenia towards Ėrānšahr and had mobilized (?) an army of Ėrānšahr(?) – then they(?) went from Xūzestān [towards?] Armenia (?)
Wahnām by his sorcery [...] Ādurfarrobay, King of Mēšān, [...] ... [...]called to] assistance. And[he sent?] a message to the King of Mēšān [(saying) that:]
“May the King of Mēšān? come forth. If another is the page(?) of the King of Sakas, then also the King of Mēšān [...] this [...] I shall give the King of Mēšān a diadem(?), as long as (or: until?) far away the King of Armenia (=Narseh?).

“Concerning (?) the Hargbed [and the princes and] the grandees and the nobles and the others who [are] in Asōrestān [...]. [And whatever may be [...] to do, that we shall do.”
And Ādurfarrobay, King of Mēšān, how the bad lie had been given (out?), that he said, since(?) Wahnām was rebellious(?).
And [he assumed?] rulership. And he stayed(?) with the King of Sakas....

And also(?) Ardaxšēr [the Hazārbed?] called the King [of Kings = Narseh?] with horses and men to assistance [...].
(...) the king of [Mēšān?] and Wahnām and those who were with them [worshiped?] and paid homage [to the King of Sakas?]. And several(?) times they swore pacts(?) and oaths that:

"We, too, are [men of the King of Kings = Warahrān?], and with the King of Kings (=Warahrān?) we shall have (an occasion) to increase our renown.

"[And that which] is [...] we shall do, so that they may hear about us that we have arrived ... "]"
4-8,02

D 4,05  D 5,05  D 6,05
22 | LOYŠE SGYTN W MN LN| [E – ca. 18 ll - ] | ’n’k
20 - - -

D 7,05
22 ’wb’m SGY(TN)d [- ca. 5 ll. - ] | YHWWN ZY wtly
20 - - - ]|yš w[.]trd d
9,02

D 8,05  D 9,05
22 MNW | PLŠYA pyšydy ngwdy | [- - - ]
20 MN(W) [s|(p)br? - - - ]’y HQAYMWt d
10,02  d 11,02

D 10,05
22 § 45. [ - - - - - - ] | (b)’(n W mkd’)(l’n)
20 Wš | [- ca. 5 ll - -
- d 12,02

D 11,05  D 12,05  D 13,05
22 W PW)[N ’w]str’p W pt’dn| [ - - - ] | S]GYTN
20 - - - | ’[s|t]nk[- |- - - ]yng W pt’pywn| MSGYWt d 13,02 d 14,02 d 15,02

A 14,05
22 (W) LA <-> ’pclwn(y) OBLWN | [Y]HWWN W LA (p)r’c O[L
21 W LA OL ’p[crwn? - - - ]| OL
d 16-17,02  d 1,03

D 15,05  D 1,06
23 | - - - | -W?]N
21 ’w’r nytprywt rhtn | [- ca. 10 ll. –]
d 2,03

And Ā[durfarrōbay?] lead(?) them with horses and men. And from my(?) [...] they went [...] an evil time. [But for him?] was a worse(?) who had placed(?) horsemen before Ngwdy(?).
And him/his [...] proceeded [by?] oppression(?) and ... torturing(?). And there was neither a passage(?) backwards no did he hasten forth to ... pillage(?) [...].
[when...?] army(?) [...] foot-soldiers [and ... who were?] in that army with the King of Sakas departed(?) away [from?] there(?) and came to [...] the lord of Undīgān. And the Lord of Undīgān sent them to my court.

[And when?] I arrived [at ...]tw’n, [then] I sent a letter to the King of Sakas saying [that:]

“[That throne of your father and?] ancestors which you (in an) unfitting (manner) have sat [upon, that you should...?] forth, and [you should come?] forth to my court.”
[And?] that ambassador [...] to [the King] of Sakas [that?]

"Be(?) [...] and [come?] to my/our subjection [and come?] obediently(?) and with a happy heart forth to Asōrestān to [the city of?] Warahrām-šābuhr [to my court]."

[And when the King of Sakas?] saw my letter, then he detached the big [...] diadem from (his) head and threw (it?) away(?) from the throne and [...] the honour.
And he(?) was made [...] he called(?) (him?) hither to one side.

And when Wahnâm saw [that with the help of?] the gods, glory and rulership had been give to me, then he knew that:

“For [that?] sorcery which I have performed there is henceforth no [other?] salvation [for me?] than(?) by the gods and [the King] of Kings(?)."
“And for the deception and (evil) behaviour(?) [which ...] graciously(?) give Narseh, King of Kings.”
“[The army?] which was with the King of Sakas and Wahnām before, […] forth [to…?].

Then take and bind Wahnām and [put] him on a maimed donkey [and] bring him to my court.

And Bayš[ābuhr? …] bound Wahnām and brought him bound on a maimed donkey to the city of Warahrāmšābuhr(?) to my court.
And when the King of Sakas knew (learnt) that Wahnām [had been taken, then he?] … and sat … [ ...].

And I commanded (?) [that? ] “[… ] who […] to that liar [who] was firstly against(?) the gods and myself and secondly against(?) Ėrānsahr and the whole realm, him first […] I shall punish.
“And by [...] own ... [...] first killed(?), on account of whom (he?) rose against(?), him we shall kill(?) [...].

(II. Main Part ...)

3. The correspondence between Narseh and the dignitaries over the succession, and Narseh’s acceptance of the throne (§§ 63-90)

[And ...] I assembled(?) a council [... from Ėrān?]šahr, and I sent a message to the hargbed [and the landholders and the princes and] the grandees and the nobles and the houselords [and the others?] who were the greatest and the best (saying) that:
"This [Ērānšahr with the help of?] the gods [has endured?] much pain and trouble. [And] I(?) whom you(?) [...by your?] grace have been made Greatest Lord and Ruler of Ērānšahr and [Ān-Ēr]ānšahr.
“And if once (=since) [...], King [...] with the help of [the gods and by his own? righteous?]ness claimed the whole realm, consequently – because of the fact that since (?) [in] my family, except Ardaxšer, King of Kings, [no other?] king [was?] greater (?) [and better ?], therefore they [...] Šābuhr [...] (consequently) they ... His? Majesty Ardaxšer, King of Kings, in such as away, [...] they may have been...

“[And] if once (=since) they made King Šābuhr [...] guardian(?) [...] and (since) they gave honour(s) to the guardians(?), therefore also did [they ...].

“[And] if once (=since) they made King Šābuhr [...] guardian(?) [...] and (since) they gave honour(s) to the guardians(?), therefore also did [they ...].
"[...] for the sake of the ... of Ėrānšahr [...] they gathered(?) and made the following exposition/judgement that:

"I, from [...]ness made Šābuhr the king(?). But whoever may know [that in Ėrānšahr?] there is someone who may be more righteous than King(?) Šābuhr and more officious in the service to the gods, or better, and (who) hereafter (may be) able to keep this Ėrānšahr [better-)guarded [and healthier?] and to govern (better) than King(?) Šābuhr, let him speak!"
"'Because we wish that he may be lord of [this] our [Erânšahr and the whole?] realm whom the gods may have prepared and (who) may carry the service of the gods [higher?] and [may be able] to keep Erânšahr in peace and confident and to govern (it). '
"And as [there was no one?] more righteous and better and more pious than Šabuhr, King of Kings(!), (therefore) since(=after) Ardaxšer, [King of Kings], the whole realm [has been in peace and confident, and people?] have been content.

"If my ancestor in the family(?) [of …] had made … and had ruled(?), then also I from my own […] the gods, the well-being of Ėrānšahr."
"That I wish, that the pain and trouble which His Majesty [... endured?] with the help of the gods in the realm [...], that ... prayer(?) for(?) the gods in the realm [...] may be the establishment of a throne (or: a place for ...) (?). [And thereafter the realm?] will stay more peaceful and confident.

36 § 73. [ - - -

33 'k hštrdry | [YDOE- AYK – ca. 18 ll. –

f 4-

5,03

36 - - -

33 AYŠ AYTY MNW ?] | MN LN pty y’ztn r’štstr | W

prtr f 6,03

f 7,03

G 12,02

G 13,02-

1,03

36 | W krtk’ntly HWE ‘yw’p | [ - - -

33 W krtneystr HWYndy ’km ’ry’n-|hštr MN LN

f

7,03

36 - - -

'twky HWE ? - - -

33 pryt’mstr (W) | [wyšthw - - -

HHSNtn W

p’rsn f 9-11,03

36 - - -

33 k’ry prmytn ? – ca. 10 ll. -] | W .wn’n W

dwšmyn f 12,03

G 2,03

G 3-5,03

37 - - - d’?|tny ZK KON ’yw YMLLWNt | [ - - -

33 ptyshw | YNTNtn LHw ’ws hyp YMLLW[-] | AYK

hštr f 13,03

f 14,03

G

6,03
“If the landholders [know that in Ŗānsahr there is someone who?] would be more righteous and better and more pious with respect to the gods than myself or [who would be more able] than myself [to keep] Ŗānsahr in peace [and confident and to govern the affairs of the Persians and ... and] to answer ... and enemies, let him say so now, so that [he may be lord of?] the realm and (its various) districts [who] is able to keep and govern the realm.”

And from the hargbed [and the landholders and the princes and the grandees and the nobles and the Persians] and the Parthians a message and an answer was brought to me (saying) that:
“We the landholders and the princes, the grandees and the nobles and [the Persians and the Parthians ... are content?] that Your Majesty informs us of that matter.

“If Your Majesty (MP: you) from old (or: from the ancestors) [has ...], then ...] just as that message which was brought from Your Majesty [that:]

“If there is someone who] would be [more righteous and] better and more pious [than Your Majesty?], (then) he shall assume the rulership.
“The landholders and the princes and the grandees and the nobles, the Persians [and the Parthians will then be more distinguished and?] the well-doer of the gods will then reach higher and Ėrānšahr will then stay healthier and more protected.

“[…] he who may perform the most correct offices with respect to the gods [and may be … and] virtuous.
“(But) because-(ever) since(?) the gods gave glory and rulership to the family of Sāsān [and (ever since) His Majesty Ardaxšer] King [of Kings?], who was your grandfather, in the name of the gods had made the whole realm...

- (because ever since then) no one else has been similar to You [whom ...] the gods have favoured(?) [and (who) by Your?] fortune(?) and wisdom and Own [courage(?) have kept?] oppression [away from Ėrān?]šahr, ...
"[therefore (do now)?] ascend Your Own throne and (receive) the honour(s) [of] (Your) father and ancestors, so that [henceforth ... in Ērān?]šahr things ... [will be more?] righteous(?) [...] and higher."

40 § 83.  [ - - - ]
38 [ W hšt[r]drn BRB[YTAn | W RBAn] | W 'z'tn g 16,01 g 1,02 g 2,02

40 [ - - - ]
38 W ktkhwtywn | [W p’rsn W partw’n] | prtgm ŠLHWm AYK g 3,02 g 4,02

And to the landholders, the princes [and the grandees] and the nobles and the houselords [and the Persians and the Parthians] I sent a message saying that:

41 § 84.  | [ - - - ]
38 hsyn[k- - - - - ca. 8 ll. -] | pwty hšt g 5,02 g 6,02

G 2,07 G 3-5,07

41 - - - MLYA ZY | yzd?]’n
38 hrtlyn [- ca. 8 ll. - | M]N[W] nhwšt pty y’ztn mLYA g 7,02

G 6,07

41 - - - 11,07
38 | W T[WB? | - - - ] pty ’ry’n?]–hšt W hmk hšt mLYA | [AY?]K g 8,02 g 9,02 g 10,02

“[The ancestors?] [...] ... the realm ... [...] firstly by the word of the gods and secondly [by] the word of [Ērān?]šahr and the whole realm that:

G 12,07

41 § 85.  [ - - - ]
38 hšt h[wtwy- ? | - ca. 50 ll. - - - ] - g 11-14,02
"Lord(?) of the realm [he shall be who(m) ...] ... and [is] able to govern the affairs [of the Persians] and answer the enemies."

[And from the Hargbed] and the landholders and the princes [and the grandees and the nobles and] the Persians and the Parthians then also a message [and] an answer was brought to me (saying) thus that:
“If we knew that there is either of the landholders and all the princes or in Ėrānšahr and the whole realm someone who would be more suitable for the rulership [than?] Your Majesty, [then] he should be king.

“But we know [that] there is not. Your Majesty is the greatest and the best, and the rulership suits (you) and is most becoming for Your Majesty.”
“[It is fitting for?] Your Majesty [that you should ascend?] the throne which the gods gave [and (that) you should be [...] and should keep and govern the realm until the time of the Renovation and be happy by your own glory and realm.”

_H 8,02_  
43 W PWN NPŠ|E GDE  W štry š’ty YHWWNt  
40 | [- - -] | W hštr š’t  YHWEd  
g 8,04  g 9,04

_H 9,02_  
43 § 90.  H 10,02  
[A]HR LNE PWN pwš[ty] W | ŠM ZY  
40 BATR LN pty pwšt W ŠME ME  
g 10,04

_H 11,02_  
43 yzd’n W NPŠE | [- ca. 5 ll. -] b[...]m[...]  
40 | [- - -]

_H 12,02_  
43 pyt [- ca. 10 ll. -] AB[Ytr] | W nyd’k’n YKOYMWNm

Then I with the support of and in the name of the gods and my own [ancestors? …] ascent [the throne of?] (my) father and ancestors.

**III. Conclusion §§ 91-95**

_H 15,02_  
43 § 91.  H 16,02  
| APn kysly W hlwm’[dyk?] PWN  
40 | [- - -]  

_H 17,02_  
43 l’pyklyhy W ’št[yhy] W ’lmy YKOY[M]WN[d]  
40 | [- - -] | W štrpy W šyrkmkpy | HQAYMWnt  
g 15,04  g 16,04

And Caesar and the Romans were in gratitude(?) and peace and friendship with me.
And the King of Kušān, [and ...] Aspnay(?), and the King of Xwārizm, and D/Zāmadīgp[utr?] the [...] bed of Kwšān ... and Pgymbk [...], and Šēd(?)[w...] the Šyk‘n of Harēw, and Pāk Mehmān, and Birvān Spandwardān, and the King of Pāradān, and King Rāzgurd, and King Pndplnk, and the King of Makurān, and the King of Tūrān, [and] the King [...] the King of [Gur]gān][Balāsa]gān, and the King of Msyk‘n, and the King of Iberia, and the King of Sigān, and King Tirdād, and Amru King of the Lahmids, and Amru [King of] the Abgars(?), ...

H 2,04
45 § 93. [W – ca. 5 ll. -] | ZY dhydkn nhwphy
42 [ - - - - - - ]r <> [...]dyn nppt[y g
2,06

H 3,04
45 W lzm’g[wd]y [ZY] šnb[y]tkn | [ - ca. 5 ll. - - -
42 | - - - - - - ] | s’trp g
3,06

H 6,04
45 - - - ]‘gwdy ZY shwlc’n MROHY
42 dwnb’w[n]tš W - - - ] | <> spwlṣn h[wt]wy g
5,06

H 7,04
45 | W p]wlsm’n ZY mwk’n MR|OHY W bgdt ZY zwl’dcyn
42 <= 42 g 9-14,06 (alter 45 H 16,04) - - -
And I claimed the whole realm anew. And he, who came to my court himself or [sent?] an envoy and presents and letters [and] hostages (as) promises (or loyalty)(?) to [my] court, would have fame(?) and other things(?).

Him I [pardoned?], and his realm and districts prospered(?). And those who were willing(?) came to my subjection and service.