

may justly be inferred that there was a Middle-Persian form *magutan or *magudan, from which the Chinese transcription was exactly made.

98. 泥忽汗 *ni-hu-han*, *ni-hwut-yan. Officials of Persia who have charge of the Treasury (*Wei šu*, Ch. 102, p. 6). The word, in fact, is a family-name or title written by the Greek authors *Ναχοπαγάν*, *Ναχοεργάν*, *Σαρναχοπαγάνης* (prefixed by the word *sar*, "head, upper"). Firdausi mentions repeatedly under the reign of Khosrau II a Naxwāra, and the treasurer of this king is styled "son of Naxwāra."¹ The treasury is named for him al-Naxīrajān. The Chinese transcription is made after the Pahlavi model *Nixuryan or Nexuryan; and, indeed, the form Nixorakan is also found.²

99. 地卑勃 *ti-pei-p'o*, *di-pi-bwiδ(bir, wir). Officials of Persia who have charge of official documents and all affairs (*Čou šu*, Ch. 50, p. 5b). In the parallel passage of the *Wei šu* (Ch. 102, p. 6), the second character is misprinted 早 *tsao*,³ *tsaw; *di-tsaw would not correspond to any Iranian word. From the definition of the term it becomes obvious that the above transcription *di-pi answers to *dipi* ("writing, inscription"),⁴ Middle Persian *dipīr* or *dapīr*, New Persian *dibīr* or *dabīr* (Armenian *dpir*); and that *di-pi-bwiδ corresponds to Middle Persian *dipīvar*, from *dipi-bara, the suffix *-var* (anciently *bara*) meaning "carrying, bearing."⁵ The forms *dipīr* and *dibīr* are contractions from *dipīvar*. This word, as follows from the definition, appears to have comprised also what was understood by *dēvān*, the administrative chanceries of the Sasanian empire.

100. 遏羅訶地 *no-lo-ho-ti*, *at(ar)-la-ha-di. Officials of Persia who superintended the inner affairs of the king (or the affairs of the royal household — *Wei šu*, Ch. 102, p. 6). Theophylactus Simocatta⁶ gives the following information on the hereditary functions among the seven high families in the Sasanian empire: "The family called Artabides possesses the royal dignity, and has also the office of placing

¹ NÖLDEKE, Tabari, pp. 152-153, 439.

² JUSTI, Iran. Namenbuch, p. 219. In Naxuraqān or Naxīrajān *q* and *j* represent Pahlavi *g*. The reconstructions attempted by MODI (Spiegel Memorial Volume, p. LIX) of this and other Sino-Iranian words on the basis of the modern Chinese pronunciation do not call for any discussion.

³ This misprint is not peculiar to the modern editions, but occurs in an edition of this work printed in 1596, so that in all probability it was extant in the original issue. It is easy to see how the two characters were confounded.

⁴ In the Old-Persian inscriptions, where it occurs in the accusative form *dipim* and in the locative *dipiyā* (A. MEILLET, Grammaire du vieux perse, pp. 147, 183).

⁵ C. SALEMAN, Grundriss iran. Phil., Vol. I, pt. I, pp. 272, 282.

⁶ III, 8.