

The Inscriptions Of
Darius, The Great

By :

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You who shall hereafter see this inscription which I have inscribed, or these sculptures, do not destroy them, while you shall be in good strength, as they stand preserve them. If you shall see this inscription or these sculptures, and shall not destroy them and shall protect them as long as there is strength to you, may the God be your friend, and may family be unto you in abundance, and may you live long, and what you shall do, that may the God make successful for you..

(A part of Darius' speech at Behistun, column 4, lines: 67-76)

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Contents

FOREWORD.....	7
DARIUS, THE GREAT.....	9
DARIUS, THE GREAT & THE WORLD-EMPIRE.....	11
THE OLD PERSIAN.....	13
THE OLD PERSIAN.....	15
The Old Persian Alphabet.....	16
Ideograms in Old Persian.....	17
Some numbers found in old Persian.....	18
Some old persian words.....	19
THE INSCRIPTIONS OF DARIUS AT BEHISTUN.....	21
THE INSCRIPTIONS OF DARIUS AT BEHISTUN.....	23
column 1.....	24
column 2.....	33
column 3.....	41
column 4.....	49
column 5.....	57
The other Inscriptions of Darius at Behistun.....	61
DBa.....	61
DBb.....	62
DBc.....	62
THE INSCRIPTIONS OF DARIUS AT PERSEPOLIS.....	63
THE INSCRIPTIONS OF DARIUS AT PERSEPOLIS.....	65
DPa.....	66
DPb.....	67
DPc.....	67
DPd.....	68
DPh.....	73
DPi.....	75
DR.....	75
THE INSCRIPTIONS OF DARIUS AT NAQSH- E - RUSTAM.....	77
THE INSCRIPTIONS OF DARIUS AT NAQSH-E- RUSTAM.....	79
DNa.....	80
DNb.....	84

THE OTHER INSCRIPTIONS OF DARIUS AT NAQSH-E- RUSTAM.....	89
DNe.....	89
DNd	89
DNe.....	90
THE INSCRIPTIONS OF DARIUS AT SUSAN	91
THE INSCRIPTIONS OF DARIUS AT SUSAN	93
Dsa	94
Dsb.....	94
DSe.....	95
DSf.....	99
DSg.....	104
DSi	104
DSj	104
DSk.....	105
DSl	106
DSm.....	106
DSn.....	107
DSo.....	107
DSp.....	108
DSq.....	108
DSs.....	108
DSt.....	109
DSu.....	109
DSv.....	110
DSw.....	110
THE INSCRIPTION OF DARIUS AT HAMADAN	111
THE INSCRIPTION OF DARIUS AT HAMADAN	113
THE INSCRIPTIONS OF DARIUS IN EGYPT.....	115
THE INSCRIPTIONS OF DARIUS IN EGYPT	117
Dzb.....	118
Dzc.....	118
THE INSCRIPTIONS OF DARIUS ON WEIGHTS AND SEALS	121
THE INSCRIPTIONS OF DARIUS ON WEIGHTS	123
DWa.....	123
DWb.....	123
DWc.....	123
DWd.....	124
THE SEALS OF DARIUS.....	125
BIBLIOGRAPHY:	126

foreword...

Darius, a leading army general of King Cambyses, son of Cyrus, the great, was one of the princes of the Achaemenian family. False or real Smerdis, the second son of Cyrus, the great, was overthrown by him and seven noble Persian families. Eventually, Darius became king in Iran. When victory was complete, and his authority established throughout the empire, He innovated a new cuneiform script for writing the old Persian.

The inscriptions of Darius, engraved on gold, silver, clay tablets, on polished surfaces of mountains and on stone vessels and weight and seals, provide valuable information about historical events, military victories, arts, the constituent countries of the Persian Empire and the ethical qualities of the Achaemenian monarches and are the best sources of history, civilization and culture of the ancient Iran.

This book, containing the cuneiform text of the extant inscriptions in old Persian, for amateurs, students and other interesting people, when visiting these noble monuments, may be able to study and scrutinize the original Persian was the first script of the Persians. It is hoped that readers will kindly overlook the defects, they may notice in this book, and by studying it, realize more than ever how great & imposing was ancient Iran, and how magnificent was its civilization and culture. I would be delighted to receive any corrections & suggestions for incorporation in the next edition.

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Persepolis

1th June. 2016