

Moreover, the platform links each stanza to the *Avestan Digital Archive*, making the text of our edition easily comparable with the manuscripts. In a separate display, we also include the standard apparatuses of a critical edition for each stanza: parallels and text critical apparatus. The CAB Generator also provides fundamental ritual information: conditions for the recitation of the stanza, actions to be performed simultaneously, historical changes in the performance, etc. Finally, we offer our own translation of the stanza accompanied by all currently available translations.

The edition intends to reach a wider audience, facilitating its use by students and colleagues from other disciplines by including grammatical information and links to Chr. Bartholomae's *Altiranisches Wörterbuch*, the standard dictionary of the Avestan language.



The team of the *Corpus Avesticum Berolinense*

#### Principal Investigator

Prof. Dr Alberto Cantera

#### Research Assistants

Dr Götz König, Jaime Martínez Porro, Irene Fuentes

#### IT & XML Consultants

Ionuț-Valentin Cucu, Dr Arash Zeini

#### Student Assistants

Stefan Härtel, Sara Bakhtiari, Albrecht Flachowsky, Mahnaz Kadijani, Behnam Ataei, Kian Kahrom, Hamid Nikravesh, Stefan Härtel

#### Collaborators

Tatsiana Harting, Claudius Naumann

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#### Contact:

Prof. Dr Alberto Cantera  
Department of History  
and Cultural Studies  
Institute of Iranian Studies  
Fabeckstraße 23-25  
14195 Berlin

<http://www.fu-berlin.de/iranistik>

For more information on the *Corpus Avesticum Berolinense*, please contact the Office of the Institute of Iranian Studies: [iranistik@geschkult.fu-berlin.de](mailto:iranistik@geschkult.fu-berlin.de).

Institute of  
Iranian Studies  
ایران‌شناسی  
FU Berlin

Freie Universität Berlin



# Corpus Avesticum Berolinense

An Edition of the Zoroastrian  
Rituals in the Avestan Language



Ms. 4662, scribe Marzbān Wāhrom Marzbān Fīrdōn, 1653, collection of Mehrābān Poulādī

## Scope of the Project

*Corpus Avesticum Berolinense* (CAB), a DFG funded long-term project carried out at the Institute of Iranian Studies, Freie Universität Berlin, is the first endeavor of its kind to edit the entire Avestan Zoroastrian textual corpus within its ritual context. It is the result of a fundamental paradigm shift in the past decades towards recognizing the primarily ritual character of the Avestan texts. To that end, our edition represents these texts as elements of a ritual performance. The goal of the project is to produce both digital and printed editions of the texts. However, the extant material, particularly the recent discovery of a number of important manuscripts in Iran, only supports the display of the texts from the early modern, especially Safavid era. We can thus reconstruct, on the one hand, an older former *system of rituals*, going back to the Antiquity. On the other, we can edit each single text in its ritual concreteness, realised primarily through the editorial incorporation of the ritual instructions in the liturgical manuscripts.

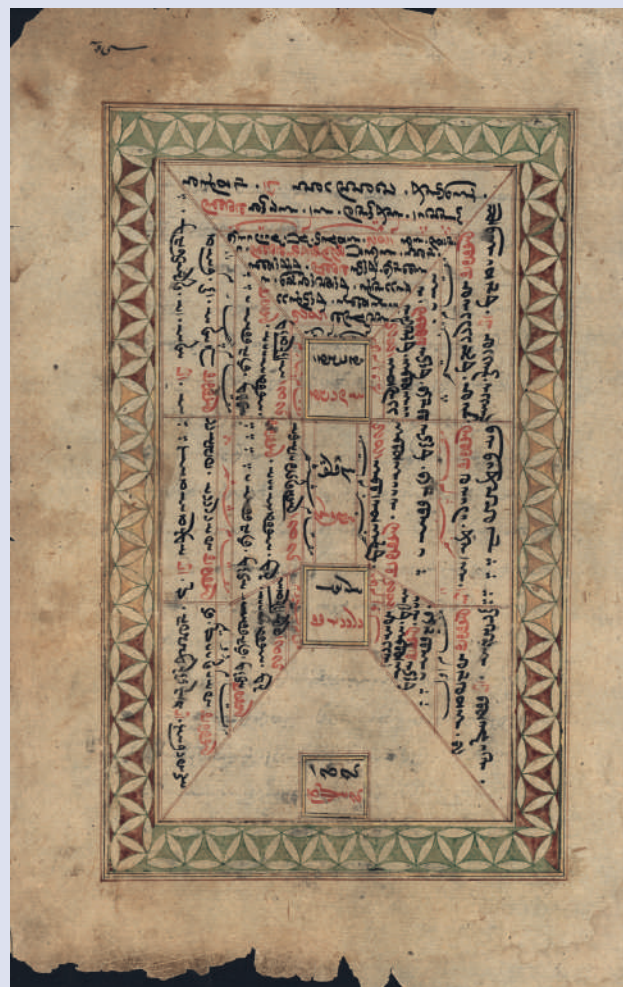
**Corpus Avesticum Berolinense**  
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DFG Freie Universität Berlin

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**The Avesta of today does not merely consist of the remnants of the Sassanian canon: its nucleus, the liturgical books (the Yasna, the Yashts, and the prayers), goes back to an independent collection with the canon.**

- Samuel Nyberg  
("Sasanid Mazdaism according to Moslem Sources", *JCOI*, 39 (1958), 1-63, p. 23)



A further innovative aspect of our edition is the reproduction of the dynamic character of the rituals. The performance of each ritual depends on several factors such as the time or place of the performance, the deity to whom the liturgy is dedicated, or the goal of the performance. For the reconstruction of these ritual factors, we have relied not only on the manuscripts, but have also considered the Persian Rivāyats written at the same time and often by the same priests.

## CAB Generator

The main platform for the display of the edited rituals is the CAB Generator, which produces a fresh ceremony based on the parameters the users have chosen (described above). These parameters necessitate changes in the text as well as in the ritual actions. Once generated, the variable sections (*frauarāne*, *gāh*, *šnūman*, etc.) are marked in our digital edition, distinguishing between fixed parts of the edited liturgy and performance dependent, variable sections. The Parallel Viewer allows users to compare each generated ceremony with other ones, a feature that highlights the view that single rituals are part of a complex ritual system.

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Show / Hide Generator

Ceremony: Yasna Dedicatory: 52. Mēnōg Navār  
Day: 1. Dadvah Ahura Mazdā Month: 1. Fravardin

**Yasna**  
See navigation bar Latin / Avestan Characters See liturgy metadata  
View Each Stanza View Complete Ceremony Search in Ceremony View Parallel Ceremonies

Y1.1 (#GY1.1)  
pad niuaēdātemi bōy o itaxi dahēn xēntman pad menēn frāz kunišn yazdān o yazēšn xwānišn  
zōt ud rāspit; niuaēdātemi; haṅkraiēmi; dāθuō. ahurab. mazdā. rātuuātō. x'arēnaq'hatō. mazištaheca.  
vahištaheca. sraēštaheca.  
xraōzdištaheca. xraθβištaheca. hukaraptōmaheca. āšit; apānō.zmaheca.  
hubāmanō. vouru.rafnaghō.  
yō. nō. dābā. yō. tataša. yō. turūniē. yō. māitiuiš. spaitō.tanō.

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<https://ada.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/exist/apps/cab/>