

Contents

Acknowledgments.....	ix
Introduction.....	xi
Abbreviations.....	xv
1. The Sources.....	1
2. On the Historical <i>Personae</i> Bardiya and Gaumāta.....	27
3. The Concept and Reality of the Substitute King in Mesopotamia and Iran.....	35
4. The Evil Brothers in the Iranian Tradition.....	43
5. Oral-Formulaic Theory and Iranian Royal Inscriptions.....	73
6. Royal Usurpations in Iranian Literary Traditions I: The Inscription of Narseh at Paikuli.....	109
7. Royal Usurpations in Iranian Literary Traditions II: The Evidence of the <i>Šāhnāme</i>	139
8. Preliminary Conclusions.....	157
Appendix I. Formulaic Analysis of Kerdīr's Inscriptions.....	161
Appendix II. Thematic Analysis of Kerdīr's Inscriptions.....	175
Bibliography.....	181
Index Locorum.....	215
Subject Index.....	219