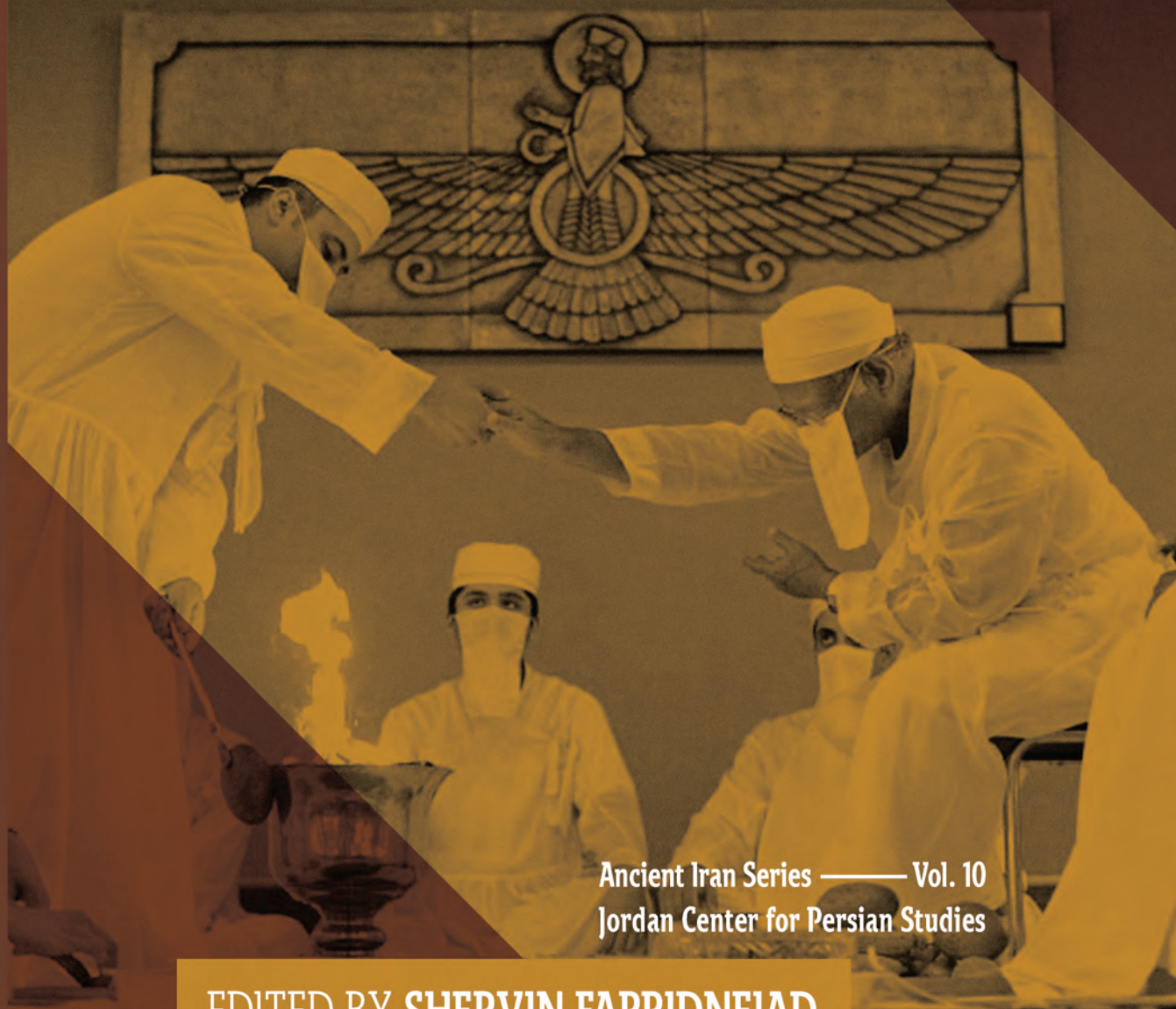


ZARAΘUŠTRŌTĒMA | Festschrift for Philip G. Kreyenbroek | Ed. by Shervin Farridnejad



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EDITED BY SHERVIN FARRIDNEJAD

# zaraθuštrōtēma

ZOROASTRIAN AND IRANIAN STUDIES IN  
HONOUR OF PHILIP G. KREYENBROEK

# *zaraθuštrōtəma*

Zoroastrian and Iranian Studies in Honour of  
Philip G. Kreyenbroek

Edited by  
Shervin Farridnejad

**UCI** Jordan Center for  
Persian Studies



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Zoroastrian and Iranian Studies in Honour of Philip G. Kreyenbroek

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PHILIP G. KREYENBROEK

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گمان مبر کہ بہ پایان رسید کارمغان  
ہزار بادۂ ناخوردہ در کستاک است

Do not believe that the work of the Magi is complete,  
With thousands of undrunk wines, the vine is still replete.

Iqbal, *Message from the East* (1923)

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## **Foreword**

### **In honour of Philip G. Kreyenbroek: A life dedicated to Iranian Studies**

This volume is a collection of articles dedicated to one of the most distinguished scholars of Iranian Studies and a most prolific teacher of Zoroastrian and Kurdish literatures and religions, Philip G. Kreyenbroek, and to his scientific work, on the belated occasion of his seventieth birthday in 2018. He was professor and director of the Institute of Iranian Studies at the Georg-August University of Göttingen from 1996 to 2017. Over the past decades, he has studied, published and taught on various aspects of his interests, including Zoroastrianism, Yezidism, minority religions among the Kurds, oral literature and culture, ancient Iranian literature and languages, and memory in Iranian cultures.

Since the 1990s, Kreyenbroek has established a fresh methodological approach to reading and understanding Zoroastrian literature for the sake of a new understanding of the history of the faith, based on the consideration of orality. His research in this regard has profited greatly from his other pioneering works on Yezidis and the Ahl-e Ḥaqq as well as their oral traditions. By focusing on the oral character of the Zoroastrian tradition and highlighting the long oral transmission of Avestan texts, he has succeeded in paving a new path to permit reconstruction of pre- and early Islamic Zoroastrianism, as well as



enabling the revelation of a concrete textual history in Avestan studies. The significance of Kreyenbroek's contribution to future research on Zoroastrianism is based on its methodological combination of the study of different aspects of orality to philological and historical questions. It thereby opens the way to a dynamic reconstruction of the history of the faith, drawing on the strength of textually based history, namely the restitution of the historical circumstances and relating it to the general history of pre-Islamic Iran.

As a former student of his, I always enjoyed his keen humour and benefited beyond all description from all his dedicated attempts to provide his students with a well-rounded liberal education, to furnish them with all necessary tools for intellectual and critical grappling with different subjects. Being always optimistic and cheerful, he continues to be an encouraging voice calling others to the fascinating study of Zoroastrianism. This stunning accomplishment is a sign of his generous spirit, which, united with an original intellectual mind and great sense of wit, has made every moment of compiling this volume worth its while for me and surely for all who have contributed.

This most modestly sized Festschrift in honour of Philip G. Kreyenbroek consists of thirteen contributions, brings together some of the best known experts in their fields to reflect the love and admiration of his students, colleagues and friends, and is representative of some of his wide-ranging scholarly interests, including Zoroastrian literature and rituals as well as Iranian philology and mythology. I have been truly fortunate to have worked with such patient colleagues and friends in collecting the essays for this volume, to all of whom I would like to express my sincere thanks. Furthermore, I would particularly like to thank Touraj Daryaee (University of California, Irvine) for his generous support for the publication of this volume. I am also grateful to Arne Bansch, Aidin Farridnejad, Rebecca Stengel and Céline Redard, who have given me a great deal of help in various academic and technical matters.

Shervin Farridnejad  
Berlin, December 2019