



بازبینی سکه‌های کاوش ارنست هرتسفلد از تخت جمشید در موزه ملی ایران زهرا علی‌نژاد

چکیده

مقاله حاضر با هدف بازبینی سکه‌های کاوش ارنست هرتسفلد و گزارش کوتاهی از شرایط فعلی آنها در مخزن موزه ملی ایران به نگارش درآمده است. این سکه‌ها دو مجموعه را شامل می‌شوند، نخست سکه‌های در ارتباط با بن‌نیشته‌های کاخ آپادانا (IGCH 1789) و دوم مربوط به مجموعه سکه‌هایی است که در پایین دست باروی تخت جمشید یافت شده‌اند و به فرترکه‌ها تعلق دارند (IGCH 1797). این مقاله در دو بخش ارائه شده است، بخش نخست مربوط به اطلاعات و تاریخچه کشف سکه‌ها که به تاریخ کوتاهی از فعالیت هرتسفلد در ایران و تاریخ و نحوه کشف سکه‌ها می‌پردازد و در بخش دوم با ارائه کاملی از اطلاعات تخصصی سکه‌ها همراه با ابعاد، وزن و محور چرخش در کنار تصاویر پشت و روی سکه‌ها (تصاویر پشت سکه‌های کروزوسی شماره ۸ و ۱۱ برای نخستین بار منتشر می‌شوند) و نمونه‌های تطبیقی به صورت منسجم در دو جدول ارائه شده‌اند.

واژگان کلیدی: سکه‌های هخامنشی، کروزوسی، تخت‌جمشید، هرتسفلد.

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A Review of Coin Finds From Ernst Herzfeld's Excavations at Persepolis in the National Museum of Iran Zahra Alinezhad^a

Abstract

The following paper aims to review coins uncovered during Ernst Herzfeld's excavations, and present a short report on their current condition in the National Museum of Iran. These coins include two collections. The first collection consists of the coins in the Apadana foundation deposit (IGCH 1789), while the second was found below the Terrace of Persepolis and belongs to the Fratarakas (IGCH 1797). This article has been organized into two parts. The first part deals with the background of the discovery of the coins, presenting a short history of Herzfeld's activities in Iran. The second part features, a catalogue of the coins including their technical data (dimensions, weight, and die axis), identification and images of the coins (photos of the reverse of the Croeseids, nos. 8 and 11 are published for the first time), and comparable objects for certain types have been presented in two bilingual (Persian and English) tables. .

Keywords: Achaemenid coins, Croeseids, Persepolis, Herzfeld.

a. Department of Coins and Seals, National Museum of Iran, Tehran, Iran, Zahra.Alinezhad 3@gmail.com.

Introduction

The present-day remains of the buildings at Takht-e Jamshīd (in Greek; "Persépolis") have been visited by European travelers since the early Modern Ages. Extensive excavations and documentation began in the 19th century with the activities of Franz Stolze, Friedrich Carl Andreas, and other German scholars. After the first systematic excavations by Ernst Herzfeld, Friedrich Krefter, and Erich Schmidt, research activities continued at Persepolis by Ali Sami and Ali Hakemi, followed by the excavations of Ali Akbar Tajvidi, Alireza Shapur Shahbazi, and the Italian archaeologists Giuseppe and Ann Britt Tilia. Significant discoveries were made at Persepolis during these excavations, of which the two gold and two silver foundation tablets in the great audience hall (the Apadana), encased in two carefully wrought stone boxes, are of great importance. Under the stone boxes, archaic coins in gold and silver, deposited in groups of four, were found together with each pair of tablets during Ernst Herzfeld's excavations and are now kept in the National Museum of Iran (*IGCH* 1789). The second group includes the coins found below the Terrace of Persepolis in 1932 and are dated to the time of the Fratarakas and also a Seleucid issue (*IGCH* 1797).

The first collection, which was discovered along with the Apadana foundation tablets in September 1933 (Shahrivar 1312), includes 13 coins in total, one of which was found during a reexamination by Schmidt of the test trench in which Krefter had initially discovered the southeastern foundation deposit (Schmidt 1953: 79). Eight of them are Croeseid gold coins (photos of the reverse of the Croeseids, nos. 8 and 11 are published for the first time), and five of them are archaic Greek silver coins from various mints. Out of the 13 coins found, two gold Croeseids and one silver coin of the Aegina turtle type are not inventoried in the coin collection of the National Museum of Iran, they seem to have never entered the museum after the excavations. From the beginning the three coins could be in the Marble Palace Museum (Mostafavi 1962: 13; Meadows 2003, 342).

The second collection of coins, found below the Terrace of Persepolis, includes 10 tetradrachms from the time of the Fratarakas. Unfortunately, only three of these coins are kept in the National Museum of Iran not, while the others were stolen from the exhibition in 1991 (1370).

The present paper aims at revisiting these two hoards in the Department of Coins and Seals of the National Museum of Iran with a brief overview of the archaeological activities of Ernst Herzfeld; in some cases, where the depictions on the coins are damaged by wear, photos of better preserved examples of the same types are provided.

An overview of the previous studies

The Apadana foundation deposit, discovered by Friedrich Krefter during the Persepolis excavations lead by Ernest Herzfeld, was first published in a systematic catalogue in Erich Schmidt's final report of the Persepolis excavations (Schmidt 1953: 70, 79, 98; Schmidt 1957: 110, 113-114, plate 84 nos. 27-39). Subsequently, more detailed descriptions of the coins were provided by Jonathan Kagan (Kagan 1994:36-38). Kagan's work was important for his comparative study of the Apadana deposit with other coin hoards of the same period as well as his chronological analysis of the coins. Further observations were made on this deposit by Andrew Meadows, who visited the National Museum of Iran in 2002 and provided a brief overview of the current state of these coins with their technical data such as weight and die axis (Meadows 2003: 342-343). Antigoni Zournatzi revisited these coins from an archaeological perspective. Reviewing the studies of the previous scholars, addressing the importance of the Croeseids from the Apadana, and considering the chronology of the coins, Zournatzi interpreted this deposit of coins as a symbolic assemblage demonstrating Darius' dominance and control over the important sources of wealth and the advanced and leading centers of commercial/economic activities in the western territories

of the Achaemenid Empire (Zournatzi 2003: 1-28)¹.

Excavation at Persepolis

For the first time in 1926 (1305), Herzfeld accompanied the Shah of Iran on his trip to Persepolis, and shortly afterwards, he was invited to excavate Persepolis and restore the remains of this ancient Achaemenid capital. Since Germany was not able to pay the costs of research activities at that time, Herzfeld entered negotiations with American institutions and finally agreed to work together with James Henry Breasted, the director of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago; Finally, in 1931 (1310), Herzfeld started his excavations at Persepolis on behalf of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. Friedrich Krefter, an architect from Berlin, who had previously worked at Pasargadae in 1928 (1307), accompanied Herzfeld in this project, and Seyyed Mohammad Taghi Mostafavi was transferred from the excavations of Susa to Persepolis as a representative of the Iranian government (Krefter, 1979: 13-18). Friedrich Krefter, Karl Bergner, Alexander Langsdorff, Donald MacCown, and Hans von Busse (photographer) were members of Herzfeld's excavation team. During Herzfeld's excavations with 200 workers from May to July 1931 (Ordibehesht –Tir 1310) and again from November of the same year to the summer of 1932 (in April 1932, the excavation was filmed by H. Breasted, the director of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago), first the building known as the Harem and then the eastern part of the Apadana Palace and the

Gateway of All Nations were excavated (Von Gall 2003: 297).

While writing the antiquities law (Qanoun-e Atighat), Herzfeld exerted influence, suggesting that the artifacts obtained from Persepolis remain in the country and the site be restored. On the other hand, American institutions depended on private individuals and foundations to finance their research activities. To satisfy them, they had to win impressive findings for American museums. In this way, from the very beginning of the field works, a conflict emerged between the antiquities law (Qanoun-e Atighat) and the request of the Iranian government on the one hand and the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago on the other hand. In the meantime, Herzfeld played a central role in balancing the existing diplomacy for a while and took over the management of this crisis. After the important discoveries at Persepolis, such as the gold and silver tablets, it was no longer possible for the Iranian government to send the objects and findings from this site to the Oriental Institute; according to the existing law, this issue was not legally enforceable from the beginning of the excavations. This was a condition raised by the Iranian government. After a long period of conflict between the Iranian government and the Oriental Institute, in 1934 (1313), while Herzfeld was returning to Iran from a lecture in England, he was not allowed to enter the country (Nagel 2011: 45-46). Finally, his explorations at Persepolis ended in 1934 (1313), and henceforth Herzfeld left his office following long meetings between the Iranian government and the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. The main reason for the ban on the re-entry of Herzfeld to Iran has not been clearly identified yet.

After Herzfeld left the stage, his colleague and assistant for many years at Persepolis, Friedrich Krefter, took charge of the affairs, and finally, a young archaeologist named Erich Schmidt resumed the work. Schmidt, a Germany born American, worked at Persepolis until 1939 (1318). Erich Schmidt's excavations focused on the southeast of the terrace, especially the building of the royal treasury.

1. Other researchers who have studied this important deposit are Margaret Cool Root in "Evidence from Persepolis for the Dating of Persian and Archaic Greek Coinage" (1988), Martin Price and Nancy Waggoner in "Archaic Greek coinage: the Asyut hoard" (1975), David Bivar in "Achaemenid Coins, Weights and Measures" (1985), Ian Carradice in "Two Achaemenid Hoards" (1998), Colin Mackennal Kraay in "The Archaic Owls of Athens: Classification and Chronology" (1956), J. M. F. May in "The Coinage of Abdera (540-345 B.C.)" (1966), David Stronach in "Early Achaemenid Coinage: Perspectives from the Homeland" (1989), and Michael Alram in "The Coinage of the Persian Empire" (2012).

The Apadana foundation deposit (*IGCH 1789*)

Herzfeld was the head of the excavation team at Persepolis for three years (1931-1934/ 1310-1313). On September 18 and 20, 1933 (27 and 29 shahrivar 1312), Friedrich Krefter discovered several coins beneath the stone boxes (33×33 cm), which contained the pairs of silver and gold tablets bearing identical trilingual inscriptions of Darius I, in the northeastern and southeastern corners of the main hall of the Apadana. Years later, Erich Schmidt published them in his book *Persepolis II* and catalogued them in the second part of the book with the numbers 27 to 39. According to Schmidt, in this period of the excavations of Persepolis, there was no notebook recording the exact details of the excavation process (Schmidt 1953:70, 79). Of course, it should be mentioned that Herzfeld never found the opportunity to publish his report on Persepolis in full. Apart from Herzfeld's unpublished notes, the notes of the other members of the team such as Krefter were never published either (Atayi 2020: 52).

According to the report of Mohammad Taghi Mostafavi (No. 49), the supervisor of the restoration and excavation at Persepolis from the Edare-ye Atighat (Department of Antiquities), the discovery of the Apadana foundation tablets and the coins took place in the last days of September 1933 (1312) and the team's activities were stopped for a short time due to the great economic recession in America. During this time, Herzfeld, the head of the excavations, was in Germany for almost three months and his first assistant, Krefter (architect and engineer) was in charge of the excavation under the supervision of Mostafavi and Karl Bergner (architect) (Mostafavi 1962: 10; Atayi 2020: 389-391).

In Hertzfeld's absence, the four foundation tablets and the coins were wrapped tightly, sealed, and deposited in a bank's treasury in Shiraz to be decided on after Hertzfeld's return (Atayi 2021: 372). At this time, Ali Asghar Hekmat, Vazir-e Ma'aref (the Minister of Education), stated in a letter addressed to Mostafavi that the tablets and the coins discovered at Persepolis were not considered to be

divided between the two parties and belonged to the Iranian government, because they were obtained as a result of the restoration work at Persepolis. Objects obtained during restoration of a historical monument were supposed to be owned by the government, while the objects found during excavations could be divided. Thus, whatever discovered during the restoration of Persepolis should be handed over in full to the government. After traveling for almost three months, Herzfeld returned to Persepolis on the 23rd of October (1 Aban). On the 25th of October (3 Aban), Herzfeld and Mostafavi collected the tablets and coins from the Shahi Bank of Shiraz and delivered them to Suleiman Sepahbodi, a member of the Edare-ye Atighat (Department of Antiquities) on behalf of the Ministry (*ibid*: 378 and 381).

The Southeastern Deposit includes 4 gold Croeseids (No. 1-4) and 3 silver Double siglos, (No. 5-7), two of which (No. 5 and 6) were unearthed during Herzfeld's excavation in the summer of 1933 (1312), The third silver coin (No. 7) was found in Krefter's test trench in the southeastern deposit, which was enclosed in the bottom of the trench by the mudbrick of the wall. The complete information on the coins along with comparative samples presented in Table 1.

Coin 1: 8.09 g, AV. Stater.

Obv. Light series. Confronted foreparts of lion and bull.

Rev. two incuses square punches of unequal size. Imperial coinage at Sardeis, c. 520-500 BC. (Schmidt 1957: 110, pl. 84, n.32; Kagan, p. 37; Meadows, p. 343, 10).

Coin 2: 8.05 g, AV. Stater.

Obv. Light series. Confronted foreparts of lion and bull.

Rev. two incuses square punches of unequal size. Imperial coinage at Sardeis, c. 520-500 BC. (Schmidt 1957: 110, pl. 84, n.33; Kagan, p. 37; Meadows, p. 343, 11).

Coin 3: 8.06 g, AV. Stater.

Obv. Light series. Confronted foreparts of lion and bull.

Rev. two incuses square punches of unequal size.

Imperial coinage at Sardeis, c. 520-500 BC.
(Schmidt 1957: 110, pl. 84, n.34; Kagan, p. 37; Meadows, p. 343, 12).

Coin 4: 8.06 g, AV. Stater.
Obv. Light series. Confronted foreparts of lion and bull.
Rev. two incuses square punches of unequal size. Imperial coinage at Sardeis, c. 520-500 BC.
(Schmidt 1957: 110, pl. 84, n.35; Kagan, p. 37; Meadows, p. 343, 13).

Coin 5: 10.09 g, 10^h, AR. Double siglos.
Obv. Lion forepart r., with open jaws.
Rev. Rough incuse with two Cypriot sigs. Uncertain Cypriot Mint, before 500 BC
(Schmidt 1957: 110, pl. 84, n.37; Kagan, p. 37, pl. 7, B; Meadows, p. 342, 7).

Coin 6: 10.84 g, 5^h, AR. Double siglos.
Obv. Bull walking l.
Rev. Eagle head l., palmette above, guilloche pattern below, all in dotted square within incuse square.
Paphos?, before 500 BC
(Schmidt 1957: 110, pl. 84, n.38; Kagan, pp. 28-30 and 37-8, pl. 6, c.; Meadows, p. 343, 8).

Coin 7: (from Krefter's test trench): 10.84 g, 3^h, AR. Double siglos.
Obv. Kneeling giant?
Rev. Herakles kneeling-running right, lionskin on head and down his back, holding club, bow, and arrows, in a dotted border within an incuse square. Lapethus, possibly before 500 BC
(Schmidt 1957: 110, pl. 84, n.39; Kagan, p. 38; Meadows, p. 343, 9).

Northeastern Deposit includes 4 gold Croeseids (No. 8-11) and two silver coins (No.12 and 13) which belong to the 6th century BC. The complete information of the coins along with comparative samples presented in Table 1.

Of the gold and silver coins recovered from the northeastern deposit, only 2 gold coins and one silver coin are kept in the National Museum of Iran. Gold coins are Croeseids with the features described below, and the missing silver coin was of the Aegina turtle (with thin collar) coin type.

Coin 8: 8.06 g, AV. Stater.
Obv. Light series. Confronted foreparts of lion and bull.
Rev. two incuses square punches of unequal size. Imperial coinage at Sardeis, c. 520-500 BC.
(Schmidt 1957: 110, pl. 84, n.28; Meadows, p. 342, 3).

Coin 9 (missing coin): -, AV. Stater.
Obv. Light series. Confronted foreparts of lion and bull.
Rev. two incuses square punches of unequal size. Imperial coinage at Sardeis, c. 520-500 BC.
(Schmidt 1957: 110, pl. 84, n.29; Meadows, p. 342, 4).

Coin 10 (missing coin): -, AV. Stater.
Obv. Light series. Confronted foreparts of lion and bull.
Rev. two incuses square punches of unequal size. Imperial coinage at Sardeis, c. 520-500 BC.
(Schmidt 1957: 110, pl. 84, n.30; Meadows, p. 342, 5).

Coin 11: 8.07 g, AV. Stater.
Obv. Light series. Confronted foreparts of lion and bull.
Rev. two incuses square punches of unequal size. Imperial coinage at Sardeis, c. 520-500 BC.
(Schmidt 1957: 110, pl. 84, n.31; Meadows, p. 342, 6).

Coin 12: -, AR. Stater.
Obv. Sea turtle, viewed from above, head turned sideways, with thin collar and row of dots down center of shell. *Rev.* Large mill-sail incuse square punch with six sunken compartments.
Aegina, Before 500 BC.
(Schmidt 1957: 110, pl. 84, n.27; Kagan, p. 37; Meadows, p. 342, 1).








Coin 13: 13.32 g, 5^h, AR. Tetradrachm.
Obv. Griffin sitting l, raising paw.
Rev. Quadripartite incuse square.
Abdera, c. conservative *terminus ante quem* of 515/510 BC
(Schmidt 1957: 110; Kagan, p. 37; Meadows, p. 342, 2).

A total of 13 coins were found from the excavations in the Apadana Palace, 12 coins were found during the excavation of Herzfeld in Sep-

Table 1

The Apadana foundation deposit <i>IGCH 1789</i>							
No.	Inv. No.	Wight gr.	Diam. mm	Schmidt. No.	Description	Photo	Reference/ Housed in
Southeastern Deposit							
1	8.3	8.09	16	32	AV. Croeseid of late type, Sardeis, c. 520-500 BCE		National Museum of Iran
2	8.4	8.05	17	33	AV. Croeseid of late type, Sardeis, c. 520-500 BCE		National Museum of Iran
3	8.1	8.06	15	34	AV. Croeseid of late type, Sardeis, c. 520-500 BCE		National Museum of Iran
4	1940.2	8.06	15	35	AV. Croeseid of late type, Sardeis, c. 520-500 BCE		National Museum of Iran
5	33	10.09	24	37	Cyprus, Uncertain mint, AR. Double siglos, before 500 BCE		National Museum of Iran ----- Kagan, pp. 28-30 and 37-8, pl. 6, c.
6	42	10.84	21	38	Cyprus, Paphos?, AR. Double siglos, before 500 BCE		National Museum of Iran ----- Kagan, pp. 28-30 and 37-8, pl. 6, c.
		11.18					Comparative coin: British Museum, Museum number: 1871,0701.1 ----- Kagan, p. 29 and pl. 6, B ²
Krefter's Test Trench							
7	38.1	10.84	23	39	Cyprus, Lapithos, AR. Double siglos. before 500 BCE		National Museum of Iran ----- Kagan, p. 38
		10.82					Comparative coin: CNG coins, auction 72, Lot 851, June 2006.

2. On the base of Kagan, the coin on pl. 6, B shares the same obverse and possibly also the same reverse die with the Persepolis coin.

The Apadana foundation deposit <i>IGCH 1789</i>							
No.	Inv. No.	Wight gr.	Diam. mm	Schmidt. No.	Description	Photo	Reference/ Housed in
Northeastern Deposit							
8	1940.1	8.06	15	28	AV. Croeseid of late type, Sardeis, c. 520-500 BCE		National Museum of Iran
9	-	-	-	29	AV. Croeseid of late type, Sardeis, c. 520-500 BCE		Missing coin
10	-	-	-	30	AV. Croeseid of late type, Sardeis, c. 520-500 BCE		Missing coin
11	8.2	8.07	17	31	AV. Croeseid of late type, Sardeis, c. 520-500 BCE		National Museum of Iran
12	-	-	-	27	Aegina, AR. Stater. Before 500 BCE		Missing coin
13	26.1	13.32	19	36	Thrace, Abdera. Tetradrachm, c. 515-510 BCE		National Museum of Iran ----- Kagan, p. 37
							Comparative coin: (Octadrachm), Numismatica Ars Classica, Auction 133, 21 November 2022

tember 1933 (Shahrivar 1312), and coin No. 7 was subsequently discovered in Krefter's test trench.

Below the Terrace hoard (*IGCH 1797*)

In 1932 (1311), Herzfeld found several coins of Persis below the Terrace of Persepolis. He refers to them in connection to plaques with names of Greek divinities found below the Terrace (Herzfeld 1934: 232). He rightly compared them with the coins of Persis and dated them to about 250 BC.

Herzfeld never published an excavation report, but Erich. F. Schmidt published a summary of his excavation in the book *Persepolis I* and used Herzfeld's field catalogue and building plan. Schmidt also published photographs of the two reliefs but did not mention the coins discovered in the Herzfeld excavations in his report.

The coin hoard found by Herzfeld below the Terrace of Persepolis was published in 1938 by Edward Newell in *The Coinage of the Eastern Seleucid Mints from Seleucus I to Antiochus III* and Margaret Thompson, Otto

Mørkholm, and Colin Kraay in *An Inventory of Greek Coin Hoards*. According to Newell (Newell 1938: 159-160, n. 28), the mentioned hoard was found “during the campaign of 1934-5, about a quarter of a mile to the north of the great Palace terrace. It lay on the floor of a small room belonging to some insignificant building which had been erected after the destruction of the palace itself”. Newell wrote that these coins were “in possession of Riza Khan Pahlevi, Shah of Iran. Photographs of these coins are also kept in the library of the American Numismatic Society and in the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago” (Ibid 1938: 159-160, n. 28). The images of these coins were published by Dr. Vesta Sarkhosh Curtis in "The Frataraka Coins of Persis: Bridging the Gap between Achaemenid and Sasanian Persia" in 2010, which was translated into Persian by Dr. Mostafa Deh Pahlavan.

The tetradrachms are described in the following:

- 1 tetradrachm of Seleucus I, of victory and trophy type.
- 1 tetradrachm of Bagadat.
- 1 tetradrachm of Oberzos.
- 7 tetradrachms of Autophradates (Vādfradād) I.

All mentioned hoards were presented to Pahlavi I and he ordered that the coins be placed in the Golestan Palace in Tehran, from where they were later transferred to the National Museum of Iran (Sarkhosh Curtis 2010: 385).

Although Herzfeld's Persepolis hoard contained ten tetradrachms that Newell mentioned in his work and can be clearly identified among the photos of the Persis hoard of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, only three tetradrachms from this hoard are currently kept in the National Museum of Iran, which can be matched with the photos of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. The rest of this hoard was unfortunately stolen in 1991 (1370).

These three tetradrachms belong to Autophradates (Vādfradād) I.

Obverse: Diademed head right, wearing *kyrbasia*

Reverse: Fire temple of Ahura-Mazda;

to left, Vādfradād standing right; bow set on ground before; standard to right; with Aramaic inscription.

Conclusion




The coins in the Department of Coins and Seals of the National Museum of Iran from Ernst Herzfeld's excavation at Persepolis include two groups. The first one including the coins connected with the Apadana foundation deposit, found in September 1933, contains 13 specimens, one of which comes from the in Krefter's test trench, discovered from the same place in the following years. The hoard of coins from the southeastern deposit includes 4 gold coins of the late Croeseid type dating to 520-500 BC, and 3 Cyprus silver Double siglos dating before 500 BC. The hoard of coins from the northeastern deposit also includes 4 gold coins of the late Croeseids type of dating to 520-500 BC and a Thracian, Abdera Tetradrachm dating around 515-510 BC, as presented in Table 1.

The hoard of coins of the second group, found below the Terrace of Persepolis, includes three tetradrachms of Autophradates (Vādfradād) I, as presented in Table 2.

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Table 2

Below the Terrace hoard IGCH 1797 Housed in: National Museum of Iran							
No.	Inv. No.	Wight gr.	Die Axis	Diam. mm	Sarkhosh Curtis	Description	Photo
1	193.2	14.36	4 ^h	35	(o-p)	Autophradates I (Vādfradād) (ca. 3 rd century BC). AR tetradrachm, Sunrise 568-569. Alram 1986, 533/535/538.	
2	193.3	15.21	10 ^h	30	(m-n)	Autophradates I (Vādfradād) (ca. 3 rd century BC). AR tetradrachm, Sunrise 568-569. Alram 1986, 533/535/538.	
3	194	15.81	3 ^h	30	(q-r)	Autophradates I (Vādfradād) (ca. 3 rd century BC). AR tetradrachm, Sunrise 568-569. Alram 1986, 533/535/538.	

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