Manfred Brust. *Die indischen und iranischen Lehnwörter im Griechischen*

Rüdiger Schmitt
The first edition of this book, published in 2005, provided, for the first time, a rather complete description of Iranian (and Indo-Aryan) loanwords in ancient Greek. These words were examined philologically and linguistically. Iranian and Indo-Aryan loanwords were dealt with together since most of the latter found their way into Greek through contacts with Iran. Some words attested only by later (Byzantine) lexicographers were missing, as were several others that lack a convincing (Iranian) etymology but are, for one reason or another, of Iranian origin. The wide-ranging but detailed grammatical discussion had considerable weaknesses. It is, therefore, good news to learn that a “corrected and augmented” new edition has come out so soon afterwards. But of the two lemmata in the new addition, the one (Scyth. ἄριμα “one”, once in Herodotus) is a mere Greek etymological fabrication, whereas the other (Βαζιγράβαν, once in Isidorus of Charax) is attested only as a toponym. Time constraints have kept the author from correcting the many points that critics previously made (e.g., those by this reviewer in Kratylos 52, 2007, p. 76-86). For this reason, the new edition has barely improved on the initial version.
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