

« Hunting the hapax: Sir Harold W. Bailey (1899-1996) », in : Nicholas Sims-Williams, ed., *Indo-Iranian languages and peoples*. London, Oxford University Press, 2002, pp. 1-17. (Proceedings of the British Academy 116).

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- 1 This paper – the first Sir Harold Bailey Memorial Lecture delivered on 16 December 1999, the hundredth anniversary of his birth – offers biographical details that were not included in Emmerick’s biography of Bailey (see *Abs. Ir.* 22 (1999), c.r. n° 31) and outlines his attitude towards philological research. Emmerick also reinterprets a Khotanese passage in the lyrical verses of the Staël-Holstein roll that was translated by Bailey as early as 1930 and again in 1951 (*StH* 73 : *khvā nā vijysye vālakā brrī mīrāra-ṃ aṃgā hamarā gūsīmdā bāsā* ‘If I do not see you, (my) little beloved one, my limbs will die, all my joints will be loosened’), expresses his favour for the translation ‘holy’ of Avestan *spənta-*, which Bailey understood as ‘possessing supernatural knowledge’ and compared with Kh. *śśandaā-* ‘earth’ etc., and corrects Bailey’s equation of Kh. *ttaira haraysä* to Av. (*taēra-*) *harā- bərəz-* (see *Abs. Ir.* 24 (2001), c.r. n° 11).

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## INDEX

**Thèmes** : 1.3. Ouvrages généraux, histoire de la discipline

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