John Hyland. "The Achaemenid Messenger System and the Ionian Revolt: New Evidence from the Persepolis Fortification Archive"

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- 1 This article deals with the *pirradaziš*, translated as 'express messengers', attested in the Persepolis Fortification tablets, and the role these persons may have played in the wars waged in the imperial periphery, most notably Ionia. The author identifies an interesting small dossier of texts issues of travel rations on royal roads for such *pirradaziš*. This dossier attests to missions sent back and forth between Darius and his brother Artaphernes, satrap of Sardis in the run-up to the conquest of Miletos during the Ionian revolt (494/3 BCE).
- 2 These tablets are in agreement with Herodotus' reports of local officers' frequent consultations with the Great King and the latter's a personal involvement – and ultimately, his power of decision – in war campaigns also while physically distant.
- 3 Another roughly contemporary groups of tablets from Persepolis documents the exchange of Darius with a certain Mišmina and may be relevant for the Ionian revolt as well; the author tentatively suggests that this official may have been the satrap of Cilicia.
- 4 The appendix provides translations of pertinent texts.

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