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Electronic version

URL: <https://journals.openedition.org/abstractairanica/53349>

DOI: 10.4000/abstractairanica.53349

ISSN: 1961-960X

Publisher:

CNRS (UMR 7528 Mondes iraniens et indiens), Éditions de l'IFRI

Electronic reference

Reinhard Pirngruber, "Irene Madreiter, Udo Hartmann. "Women at the Arsacid Court"", *Abstracta Iranica* [Online], Volume 42-43 | 2021, document 62, Online since 30 December 2021, connection on 14 December 2022. URL: <http://journals.openedition.org/abstractairanica/53349> ; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4000/abstractairanica.53349>

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- 1 This contribution provides a succinct summary of our (scarce) knowledge of Arsacid queens. The authors make a case for a rather limited role of women at court, with Mousa, a former concubine turned queen(-mother) constituting a conspicuous exception, and interpret the appearance of queens in date formulas in cuneiform documents and the Avrōmān parchments as a reflection of the importance of the royal family and dynastic principles. Marriage strategies of the Arsacids, including both consanguine marriages (sisters and mothers; the latter being the case with abovementioned Mousa who married her son Phraatakes) as well as arrangements with foreign dynasts are also treated, as is the role of female members of the royal family as hostages abroad, in particular in Rome.

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