

PREFACE

This is the second volume of the publication of the Early Judaeo-Persian Tafsīrs of Ezekiel. Volume I, containing the Early Judaeo-Persian texts, along with an introduction and a list of bibliography, appeared as no. 40 of the series *Veröffentlichungen zur Iranistik*, edited by Bert G. Fragner and Velizar Sadovski. The third volume, no. 45 of the series, provides a grammatical commentary on these texts as well as a glossary. References to the grammar volume are made throughout the translation, in the format “Chapter + paragraph”, e.g. “Morphology §1.2.1” refers to section 1.2.1 in the Morphology chapter of volume III. The Introduction chapter appears in volume I.

GENERAL NOTES ON THE TRANSLATION

Verses from Ezekiel 1:22-39:29 are translated directly and “slavishly” from the Early Judaeo-Persian (EJP) text in order to retain the slavish nature of the EJP translation. The initial translation of each verse appears in unmarked letters; further quotes are italicized. Biblical verses from other places are quoted from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), with occasional changes that reflect the EJP commentary’s understanding of the Hebrew.

Verses and words quoted in the Tafsīr in Hebrew or (rarely) in Arabic are brought in Hebrew letters if the Hebrew is relevant for the discussion, or in italicized English if the meaning is relevant. Glosses in the translation, if adding information, are given in superscript. Underlined words in translations of biblical verses are the Hebrew words discussed by the commentary.

The location of the verse is given in the format “Book [usually 2-3 letters] chapter:verse”, e.g. “Gen 1:3” means Genesis, chapter 1, verse 3. If the quotation is from Ezekiel, the format is simply “Chapter:verse”, e.g. “24:3” means Ezekiel, chapter 24, verse 3. The abbreviations for Biblical books follow the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV). If the location in the Hebrew Bible differs from that of the NRSV, the Hebrew location is given as default, but the NRSV location is also noted.

The translation of the first 9 pages relies on an unpublished translation made by Shaked in the 1980’s. Some of his comments from this translation

as well as recent suggestions appear in the footnotes and in the glossary (in vol. III).

The numbers before each paragraph indicate the “page:line” numbers where the discussion begins. The first paragraph of each verse is its hyper-literal translation from EJP, unless otherwise stated.

Translator’s comments appear in parentheses, and may include a literal translation (“lit.”), a clarification (“i.e.”) or addition of words that would make the sentence more comprehensible to the English reader.

ABBREVIATIONS

SNP	Standard new Persian.
MP	Middle Persian
MT	Massoretic text (Canonized Hebrew Bible)
NRSV	New Revised Standard Version (for biblical quotes)