

When Nia passed away, Bahman became king, and his first wish was to take revenge on his father's killer, Rostam's son. He gathered the heroes and elderly men, formed an army and galloped toward Nimrouz. He found the old Zal and imprisoned him. Faramarz, Rostam's son, gathered Systan's battalions against the enemy. Eventually, the two armies lined up against each other and fought a great battle.

From the sound of axe and bowstrings the ground grew more tremulous than the sky
Three days and nights on his battlefield shown the sun and moon
Maces, arrows and swords were thrown and a huge cloud of the armies' dust rose to the sky

A tornado swirled in the direction of Faramarz' army on the 4th day. Bahman's army took advantage of the confusion to attack the Systan army. They killed many and brought Faramarz, who was wounded, to Bahman. Bahman ordered his men to set up a stake near the square and hanged Faramarz. The site, where the stake was set in Bam, is now called "Darestan", and the place, where Faramarz hanged, is called "Darzin". As a memorial to this victory, Bahman built a great fort, named after him; Bam is an abbreviation of this name.

Bahman's daughter "Homa" and his son "Dara" assigned someone to rule over the citadel, until Alexander attacked Iran. Alexander appointed Antahan to rule over Khorasan, Iraq, Fars and Kerman; Antahan ruled for 4 years, till he was killed by Ashk, Dara's son. We do not know the rulers of Kerman and Bam during Parthian dynasty, except for the last of them, Belash Ashkani, who was killed by Ardeshir Babakan. Ardeshir invaded the whole of Iran. None could oppose him, except the famous Haft-vad from Bam, whose story follows:

In olden days, whoever had seven sons in a row from one wife, named the last of them "Haft-vad". "Haft" meant "seven" and "vad" meant "son" in Old Persian. Haft-vad was a poor man in Bam and could scarcely make ends meet. He also had seven sons and a daughter. In those days, farmers' daughters would assemble in groups, collect their spinning wheels and spindles, take wool and cotton, pack their lunch and leave through the city's gate. They would sit and spin all the day; they ate together and returned home at sunset. One day, Haft-vad's daughter found an apple blown from a tree. She grabbed the apple, but when she was about to eat it, she found a worm inside. She took the worm and kept it in her spindle case. She spun thread from the spindle case as on other days and made her way home. Her mother was delighted with her work and gave her 3 times as much to spin the next day. With the help of the

worm, she completed her work. She placed the worm in the spindle case every day and fed it apple slices. Her father was told the news and he was pleased. With the worm's help, Haft-vad and his children's business improved day by day, until he became a wealthy and respected man. The worm grew too big for the spindle case and carpenters made it a new home. Haft-vad became so powerful that he gathered a large force, and with the worm in his possession, he conquered the city and the Bam citadel. After that, he sent his eldest son to Narmashir in Jiroft and Roudbar and conquered it. Then, they set up a worthy place for the worm in the citadel, and in its memory, one of the citadel's gates is called "Kot Kerm" (worm's hole).

As time went by, Haft-vad placed the worm on a chariot and galloped ahead of the army in the direction of Gavashir, a city, which had recently been built by Ardeshir Babakan. He won a great victory and invaded Gavashir, and the conquered the whole of Kerman. Then he commissioned a fort, placed the worm inside and appointed a hundred men to guard it.