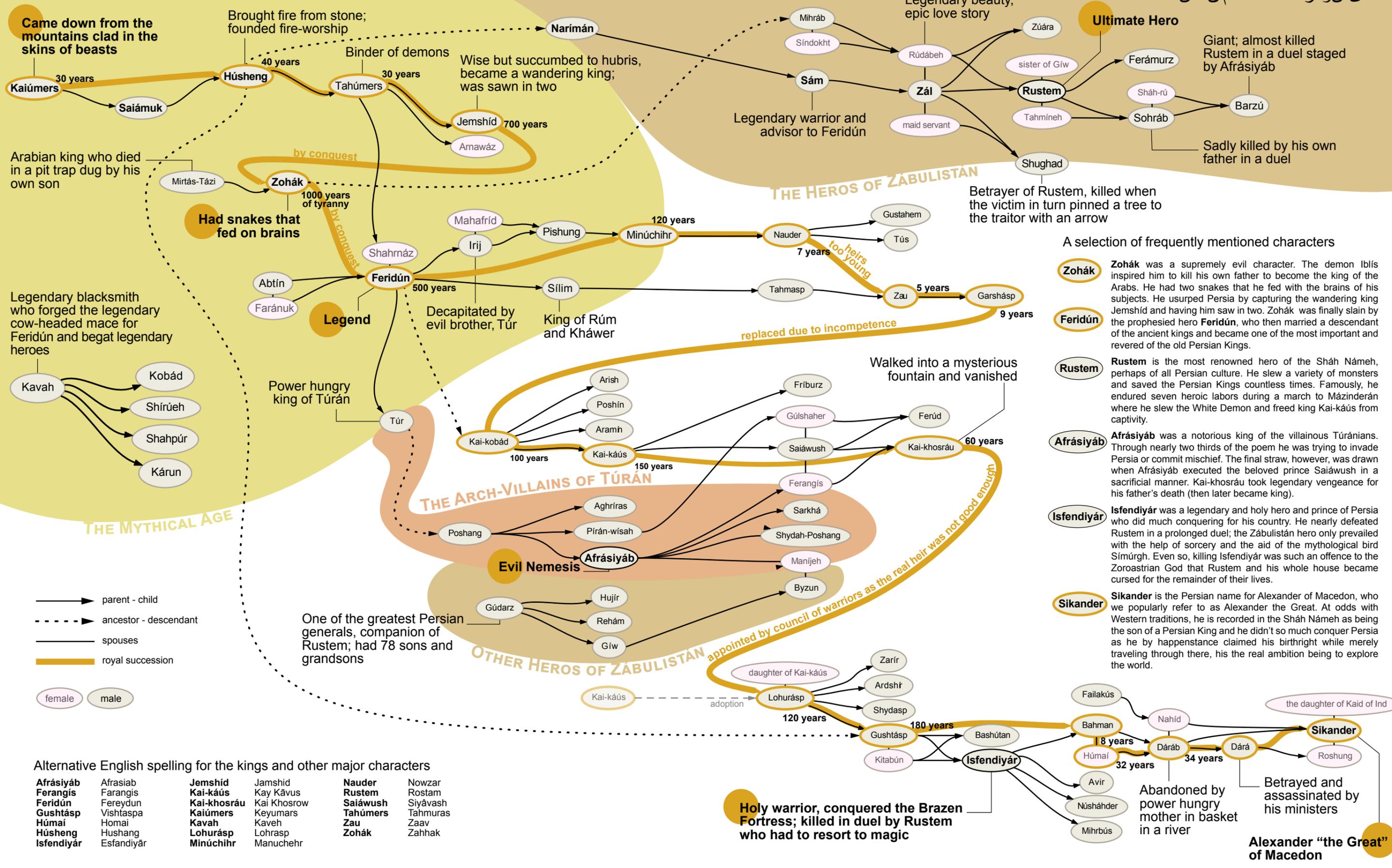


The Book of Kings by Firdausi

همان‌هاش یسودرف



- A selection of frequently mentioned characters
- Zohák** Zohák was a supremely evil character. The demon Iblís inspired him to kill his own father to become the king of the Arabs. He had two snakes that he fed with the brains of his subjects. He usurped Persia by capturing the wandering king Jemshíd and having him sawn in two. Zohák was finally slain by the prophesied hero Feridún, who then married a descendant of the ancient kings and became one of the most important and revered of the old Persian Kings.
 - Feridún** Rustem is the most renowned hero of the Sháh Námeah, perhaps of all Persian culture. He slew a variety of monsters and saved the Persian Kings countless times. Famously, he endured seven heroic labors during a march to Mázinderán where he slew the White Demon and freed king Kai-káús from captivity.
 - Rustem** Afrásiyáb was a notorious king of the villainous Túránians. Through nearly two thirds of the poem he was trying to invade Persia or commit mischief. The final straw, however, was drawn when Afrásiyáb executed the beloved prince Saiáwush in a sacrificial manner. Kai-khosráu took legendary vengeance for his father's death (then later became king).
 - Afrásiyáb** Isfendiyár was a legendary and holy hero and prince of Persia who did much conquering for his country. He nearly defeated Rustem in a prolonged duel; the Zábulistán hero only prevailed with the help of sorcery and the aid of the mythological bird Simúrgh. Even so, killing Isfendiyár was such an offence to the Zoroastrian God that Rustem and his whole house became cursed for the remainder of their lives.
 - Sikander** Sikander is the Persian name for Alexander of Macedon, who we popularly refer to as Alexander the Great. At odds with Western traditions, he is recorded in the Sháh Námeah as being the son of a Persian King and he didn't so much conquer Persia as he by happenstance claimed his birthright while merely traveling through there, his the real ambition being to explore the world.

Alternative English spelling for the kings and other major characters

Afrásiyáb	Afrasiab	Jemshíd	Jamshid	Nauder	Nowzar
Ferangís	Farangis	Kai-káús	Kay Kāvus	Rustem	Rostam
Feridún	Fereydun	Kai-khosráu	Kai Khosrow	Saiáwush	Siyávash
Gushtásp	Vishtaspa	Kaiúmers	Keyumars	Tahúmers	Tahmuras
Húmaí	Homai	Kavah	Kaveh	Zau	Zaav
Húsheng	Hushang	Lohurásp	Lohrasp	Zohák	Zahhak
Isfendiyár	Esfandiyār				