Intl. J. Humanities (2015) Vol. 22 (2): (85-115)

Tomb-e Kharg: A significant Seleucid/ Parthian site in Roudbar Plain within Halil Rud Basin, Southeastern Iran

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Received: 2012/11/5 **Accepted: 2013/11/22**

Abstract

Archaeologically, the Roudbar plain is one of the richest and most outstanding regions in the south east of Iran. Tomb-e Kharg, is the largest site in this region. The site is a multi-period one, but based on the surface material, the main settlement belongs to the historical period. Some things remain unknown about these periods in south-eastern Iran and lack of any reference to them in the authentic authorities, makes this region necessary to be aimed of a particularly urgent archeological research as an underlying and reliable reference. To do this, a topographic map of the mound, as well as the grid map was laid out, in which the region was divided into 10×10m^2 regions. By means of simple random sampling method, 10% of the squares were then sampled. In the light of the study on the collected cultural material, the main settlement dates back to periods ranging from the first millennium BC up to the 8th or 9th AD centuries. Moreover, there are some items of painted grey ware, suggesting that this mound leads back to 3th millennium BC.

Keywords: Southeastern Iran; Roudbar; Tomb-e Kharg; Pottery; Archaeological Survey, Historical Period.

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Introduction

Hundreds of recognized and recorded ancient mounds and places, are dated back to different cultural periods in the Halilrood Cultural Basin (e.g., Majidzadeh et al, 2002: 4; Majidzadeh, 2008: 32), point to the richness of this region, particularly Roudbar-e Jonoub Town. But, there are too few detailed, precise and methodical researches conducted in this regard (e.g., Seyyedsajjadi, 1995: 130-137; Majidzadeh, 2002: 4-5; Choobak, 2004). The paucity of archaeological research on the one hand, and inadequacy of accessible information about the history and historical geography of the region of Roudbar on the other, has destructively worked on the region and it is despite its strong potentials.

The Ancient Tomb-e Kharg

Tomb-e Kharg is a set of mounds of different altitudes - at most 13 meters above the surrounding land - which in the first sight seems to be like a single mound. This combination, however, makes up a single mound of approximately 17 hectares (fig. 1 and maps. 2&3).

Interestingly, the Kharg mound and the castle-like structure, is known as Ghale-e Dokhtar indeed constitute a part of a very broad ancient area which could, in a sense, be called Mokhtarabad ancient area."Mokhtarabad is a village that lies on an ancient area and archaeological objects lie around an area stretching away as far as 2.5 km to the north of the village, up to 2.5 km to the south with an average width of about 200 meters," as Dehghan mentions (Dehghan, 2003: 154-156; e.g., Stein, 1937: 144). A substantial part of the site is occupied by the native villager's houses, farms and gardens. Only the mound itself has survived. Regarding Ghale-e Dokhtar, it is a castle-like structure in north-western of the mound, it is known to the native people as Ghale-Dokhtar. Based on the settlement periods, on account of the surface materials and historical accounts that bear a date, this structure dates back to the seventh century AD up to 14th century (middle lunar Hegira). Afzaladdin Abohamed Kermani in *"Al-Mozaf"* (Kermani, 2004: 155), Atamalek Joveini in '*Jahangosha History*' (Joveini, 1955: 150), and Naseraddin Monshi Kermani in "*Semtalula*", like *Jahngosha History* in the account for Boragh-e Hajeb taking over, (Naseraddin Monshi Kermani, 1983: 23) all have brought up this castle in

their descriptions of the 14th century (seventh lunar hegira century, e.g., Shahsavari, 2009: 159-167).

The Background of the Archaeological Surveys

As the largest ancient mound in Roudbar, Tomb-e Kharg has always taken the fancy of a few archaeological teams (or actually a few archaeologists) passing through this region. In 1936, Sir Aurel Stein for the first time has come to this region and described it as the largest mound in the Roudbar plain (Stein, 1937: 144). Later on, in 1968, Aliakbar Sarfaraz (Ma'somi, 2004: 292-294) in 1985, Seyyedmansoor Seyyedsajjadi (Seyyedsajjadi, 1995: 232) and in 2003, Dehghan (Dehghan, 2003: 154-156) visited and looked into this area from an archaeological point of view.

The geography and historical geography of the Roudbar-e Jonoub

Today, Roudbar is a town of 6800 square kilometers, with the city of Roudbar as its centre lies in Kerman province in southeastern of Iran (map. 1: left). It borders the township of Anbarabad on the north, Iranshahr on the south, Bam on the east and finally the townships of Kahnooj and Ghale-Ganj on the west (map. 1: right). The central town, 3 constituencies, 4 villages, and 303 populated oases make up this township (the province of Kerman, a demographic and interstate approach in 2006: 125). As the etymology of this word implies in Persian, this region is a flat plain 470 meters above the sea level. Halilrood, referred to as Divrood in historical references, irrigates this plain, and interestingly Tomb-e Kharg is situated on its east bank and abutting on it.

The meager and disjointed pre-Islamic information about the south-eastern Iran, especially Jiroft and Roudbar is limited to inconsistent, and at times contradictory interpretations on the part of the contemporary researchers. The available sources to inquire into the historical geography of the Islamic era are also incoherent and ambiguous (Shahsavari, 2009: 13-20). With references to the region only touching upon it, the implication is the authors have had nothing more than a nodding acquaintance with it, probably because of the long distance between the region and the centers of political power, and to make matters worse, some misrepresentation too, have passed into the reference on the part of the copy-makers. Therefore, probing into the past

circumstances of the region turns out to be an up mound struggle. Based on the vestige information drawn from the existing sources the inference to make is: A) over the course of the Islamic era, no prominent urban center has existed in Roudbar and it has been populated by small settlements; a conclusion which ties in well with the historical references and archaeological evidence. Interestingly, even today there is no important urban center in Roudbar and in the region stretching from the southern part of the province of Kerman down to Bandar e Abbas; the township of Jiroft constitutes the only major town with Sabzevaran as its center.

B) The Kharg castle has been one of the most outstanding settlements in Roudbar in the course of the Islamic era which is known to the indigenous inhabitants as the Ghale-e Dokhtar. It is immediately adjacent to the ancient Tomb-e Kharg mound in the village of Mokhtarabad and is indeed made up as a part of it. Stein believed that Tomb-e Kharg had been the most noticeable place in early Islamic centuries (Stein, 1937: 145-147), which of course does not correspond to the archaeological evidence collected from the Kharg mound. By virtue of the archaeological data, historical evidence deriving from the historical geography of the region, this importance can be attached only to Ghale-e Dokhtar (or Kharg Castle according to historical reference). As mentioned above, settlements have endured in this castle up to 8th lunar hegira century (Shahsavari, 2010: 189).

Theoretical Framework and Research Methodology

Systematic archeological surveys, based on methodical sampling, have been applied for matters of 3 decades (Alizadeh, 2002: 3). The application of sampling methods goes back to the advent of the statistical method in archaeology: "although there is evidence suggesting an incipient use of this methodology in some archaeological reports since the early twentieth century, it has seen widespread service since the middle of this century on the part of American archaeologists. As the new archaeology took over, the sampling methods came to be recognized as the common method in archaeology"(Niknami, 2008: 87-88). The limitation in time and cost, especially considering the huge costs that the conventional researches involved and a

gradual trend towards non-destructive methods, most effectively contributed to convince archaeologists to switch over to statistical methods (Ibid: 87-90). As a systematic survey, the present research aims to examine the various aspects of the ancient Kharg mound by means of statistical methods.

Seeing that to all intents and purposes, providing a complete statistics of the population is impossible and unnecessary, and that only a part of the statistics is enough to acquire the required information and draw a decent conclusion or put a hypothesis to the test over the population as a whole (Ehdaiee, 1994: 175; Delavar, 2001: 9; Niknami, 2008: 55; Shirani Bidabadi, 2000: 45), some samples were collected from various places on the mound. Getting this done and coming up with a conclusion capable of being generalized to the whole mound, called statistical method into play, in the first place to work out two underlying problems: The first being how to select the appropriate units and the second the sampling method in selected units.

A) The Way of Choosing the units: After constructing the topographical map of the mound its surface was divided up into 10×10 m^2 regions. Thus, 1662 appeared squares were horizontally labeled alphabetically from A to Z and then from AA to AT and vertically with numbers from 1 to 51 (map. 2). It should be noted that the sampling process was limited to units lying on the mound.

The next stage was determining the sample size. The statistical population in this research constituted the 1662 10×10 m^2 squares, into which the mound was divided up. Generally speaking, such factors as the size of site, time and financial resources, as well as the question to figure out and the hypothesis presented, all contribute to the process of determining the sample size (Niknami , 2008: 108). On this ground, 10% of the above-mentioned squares (which equals 162 ones) were selected as the sample size in this research. The third stage involved how to pick out the 10% already alluded to. Sampling plans can generally be categorized into two classes: the probable samples and non-probable ones. A sample is considered 'probable' when any unit belonging to the population has an equal chance of being chosen. Furthermore, any unit is supposed to have a definite probability of occurrence (Ehdaiee, 1994: 175). With a probable sample, the probability of making wrong decisions and drawing conclusions can be

assessed by means of the probability theories. On the other hand, a sample is referred to as non-probable when some units comprising the population have no chance of being chosen and any unit belonging to the population, has an indefinite probability of coming up (Ibid: 176; Delavar, 2001: 356; Shiranibidabadi, 2000: 45; Niknami, 2008: 91). Random sampling is carried out in a variety of ways, of which two are common in archaeology: the systematic or regular (e.g., Delavar, 2001: 356; Shirani Bidabadi, 2000: 63) and simple random sampling. The systematic method is more popular and, based on this method some surveys have been conducted in Iran (e.g., Niknami, 2008: 91). However, the most well-known and common method adopted in archaeology is the simple random sampling (Niknami, 2008: 91). This sort of sampling is applied especially when the population is homogeneous (Niknami, 2008: 92). When the population consists of adequately large number of units, it is most convenient to employ the random number table (map 3).

B) Sampling Method: The final stage was based on a sampling method. In this research, the selected squares were sampled by means of the systematic sampling method. In this method, all the surface objects, lying on each square are collected (Alizadeh, 2002: 6). As its most remarkable advantage, this method prevents any personal influence on the part of the research in sample collection and the unfavorable consequence which this can possibly lead to (Niknami, 2008: 94-92).

Pottery

Pottery was the most important cultural material gathered from Tomb Kharg. By means of the systematic sampling method as many as 51250 pieces of potteries were collected from the pre-selected 10% of the surface of mound, out of which 46% were too small or worn–out to be studied. Only their paste was capable of examining and being remarked upon, and for the sake of reliability and precision, these pieces were set aside, as the 'other' category and studied separately. This high number of pottery pieces, which is the result of the systematic sampling, is one of the major disadvantages of this method, as it entails huge expenditure and interminably long time. Therefore, in the present survey the total collection of potteries is the remaining 54%, and not the whole mass collected from the mound.

Although there are some glazed potteries among the pieces gathered, these account for only 0.02% of the whole collection. Included in this group are potteries with green vitrified glazes, mat blue vitrified glazes and mat green vitrified glazes, which except for the latter, are believed to belong to 3th up to 14th century AD (7th lunar hegira century).

Generally, the pottery pieces gathered from this mound fall into four groups in terms of production, paintings and patterns (chart. 1).

1. Wheel-made pottery without ornamentation after a colored-pattern fashion. These make up 98.42% of the whole collection of the studied potteries.
2. Hand-made pottery without ornamentation after a colored-pattern fashion. These form 1.24% of the whole collection of the studied potteries.
3. Decorated wheel-made pottery after a colored-patterned fashion. These constitute 0.3% of the whole collection of the studied potteries.
4. Manually-made pottery ornamented after a colored-patterned fashion. These account for 0.02% of the whole collection of the studied potteries.

With regard to the color of paste, these potteries can be divided up into four classes (Fig. 2):

A. Potteries with brick-colored paste, making a contribution of 97.77% to the whole collection studied

B. Pottery with black-colored paste, making up 2.12% the whole collection studied

C. Potteries with buff-colored paste, accounting for 0.06% the whole collection studied

D. Potteries with grey-colored paste, constituting 0.05% the whole collection studied

Incised decoration is the outstanding way of decorating the potteries under consideration; 19.67% have been ornamented in this way. 8.7% of the potteries involved in this research have been decorated in ceroplastics manner and 0.32% of them have been ornamented after a colored-patterned fashion. Other ornamentation types such as smooth, burnished and sealed fashions have also been applied, although on a very small scale.

Among the most important potteries recognized in this respect are grey painted ware (table and tablet. 4) [a type typical of

the first half of the third millennium BC in south-east of Iran] Clinky ware [dating from the middle and late Parthian ages 150 BC up to 250 AD (Rahbar , 2004: 126). Not yet reported from east of Iran], Glazed ware with mat green glaze [Leading back to the middle and late Parthian periods (Choobak, 2004: 172, Seyyedsajjadi, 1988: 58] and Namord ware (table and tablet. 3) belonging to late Parthian , up to middle Sassanid times – First up to the forth centuries AD – (Kennet 2001; Lamberg-Karlovski, 1970: 8; Seyyedsajjadi, 1991).

Seven pieces of pottery with light grey paste, less than four millimeter thick, very fine temper of quicksand, and wheel-made were observed among the collected samples. Most probably, they are all painted and in view of production technique, color and motif, compare with the prehistoric potteries of the region (those going back to the third millennium BC) (table and tablet. 4). On account of this type of pottery, settlement on the Kharg mound dates back to prehistoric times and third millennium BC.

Referred to as Namord in the Iranian literature of archaeology, these potteries are among the most common and significant pottery types collected from the Kharg mound. Seyyed Sajjadi, first named and introduced them as such (Seyyed Sajjadi, 1991; Kennet, 2001: 160-5; Lamberg-Karlovsky, 1970: 8; Chooback, 2004: 171). The color of the paste of those potteries falls within the brick spectrum and tends to pink, although red and grey are sometimes encountered as well. The temper is extremely fine and made of quicksand. The surface of the pottery is often treated in a wet-smoothed manner, so that the trace of wheel is not visible. The surfaces, most particularly the outer surfaces, are smooth. Decoration is limited to three types: colored, burnished and smooth. Almost without exception the Namord ware have been decorated in the painted way. The painting color in such potteries is black. Dark brown has only negligibly been applied. Because of the tiny size of the fragments, motives are almost unrecognizable. Moreover, they are repetitive and lack variety.

Relative Chronology

Out of the studied potteries, indexed potteries were separated and photographed which qualified for typological comparisons. Based on a typological comparison, a relative dating was achieved.

Although the presence of some grey painted ware implies that settlement on the mound goes as far back as the third millennium BC- these potteries are neatly comparable to those found in the region and belonging to the third millennium BC-. Generally speaking and in conformity with the typological comparisons made, the great settlement in Tomb-e Kharg leads back to the interval starting from 8th BC up to the early Islamic periods and has mainly continued up to the middle lunar hegira centuries (14th century AD) (table and tablets 1&2). Also, it seems that the center of settlement has shifted from the Kharg mound to the site of the structure, known as Ghale-e Dokhtar in 14thcentury.

Statistical Results

Out of the 162 10×10m^2 squares, marked out on the surface of the mound, 37 turned out not to contain any cultural material. In the course of sampling from the remaining 125 ones, cultural materials including pottery, slag, brick, brick fragments, waster, grinding stone and negligibly small amount of metallic (iron) objects were turned up and collected. Slag distribution only leads to the conclusion that smelting and melting shops probably existed in the region and metallic objects were capable of being made there. This conclusion also applies to waster distribution, implying potteries production in the very site.

Pottery accounts for the predominant cultural material taken from Tomb-e Kharg: over the course of systematic sampling, as many as 51250 fragments of pottery were collected from the mound. Then those qualifying for typological comparison were picked out, designed and photographed. Based on a typological comparison between these pieces and the potteries of some authoritatively dated ancient sites in and out of Iranian borders, they were comparatively dated. Attention must be paid to the fact that such comparisons turned only on the form, and in few cases, on comparing the technical properties of the potteries. In spite of the proposed theory, some painted grey ware among the collected samples, imply that settlement in the mound leads back to the third millennium BC (e.g., map. 4). These potteries perfectly compare with the ones dating back to the third millennium BC (map. 4). All the same, settlement in Tomb-e Kharg flourished mainly from early 8th century BC, up to early Muslim lunar hegira centuries (8 & 9th AD). It should be added that the settlement has survived in this

mound after Arab invasion into Iran up to the middle lunar hegira (14th century AD).

As mentioned earlier, 125 squares out of those marked out contained cultural materials of which 109 ones are capable of dating in terms of the pottery data derived from them. Proper heed must be paid to the fact that not all archaeologists have taken the same approach to dating and consequently, come up with the same dating. For instance 250-500 BC, on the part of Lamberg-Karlovski coincides with Achaemenid, late Achaemenid and post Achaemenid as Stronach mentions. To date these squares, different datings were modified and overlapped. In the end, the squares were dated century after century from the 8th century BC as far ahead as the 9th century AD.

Conclusion

After studying and classifying the potteries gathered from the Kharg mound, they were dated via typological comparison. On this account, settlement in this mound leads back to the third millennium BC. However, settlement has existed in this mound mainly from as far back as the 8th century BC up to early lunar hegira centuries, and on a smaller scale, to the middle lunar hegira centuries. Studying the distribution of different centuries on the topographical map of the mound, it can be concluded that, taking one thing with another, the mound has experienced the most outstanding settlement periods from the 5th century BC up to the 4th century AD, which historically speaking, includes the Achaemenids up to middle Sassanid eras. Although the distribution of different historical centuries is not appreciably significant on the map, the distribution pattern of the units containing potteries, belonging to the 5th centuries BC up to the 4th centuries AD shows only negligible difference and, for all practical purposes, they are alike. Despite the number of units declining dramatically in the 1th century BC, once again this trend resumes from the 2th up to the 4th century BC. Things go through an abrupt change from the 5th century onwards, so much that the material corresponding to this century and the subsequent ones has been recognized only in two of the squares. Adequate attention must be paid to the fact that these conclusions rest only on classifying the pottery samples and also on the typological comparison made by means of the conventional methods.

Consequently, the dating of this nature is too relative and is not very reliable. Sad to say, historical and historical geography sources fail to bring to light the circumstances this area has been in during historical ages. It is as though these sources have consigned the south-eastern Iran to oblivion. The silence of above-mentioned sources is the very antithesis of ndance of ancient mounds and outstanding sites belonging to historical periods in the south-eastern Iran, particularly in the Roudbar-e Jonoub region. As a result, systematic archaeological researches are the only substantial and authoritative sources.

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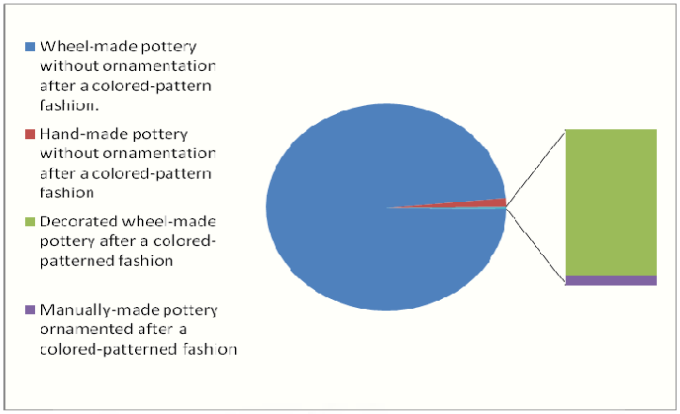
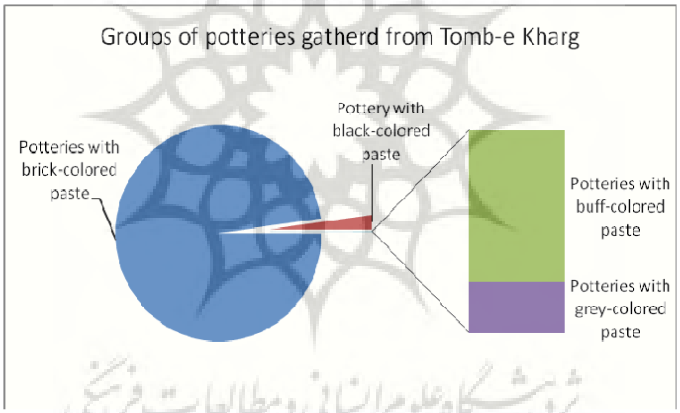
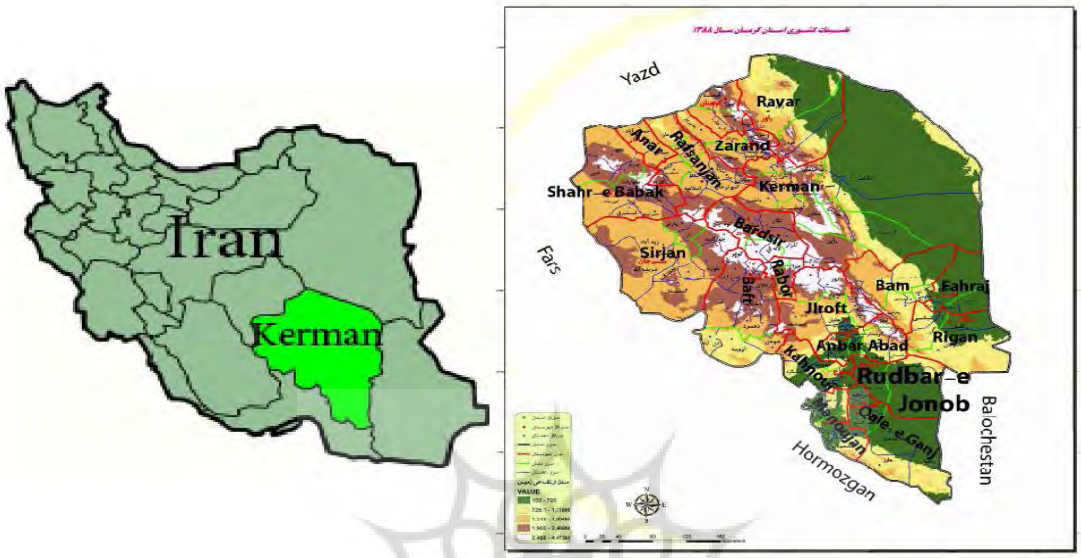
Chart. 2

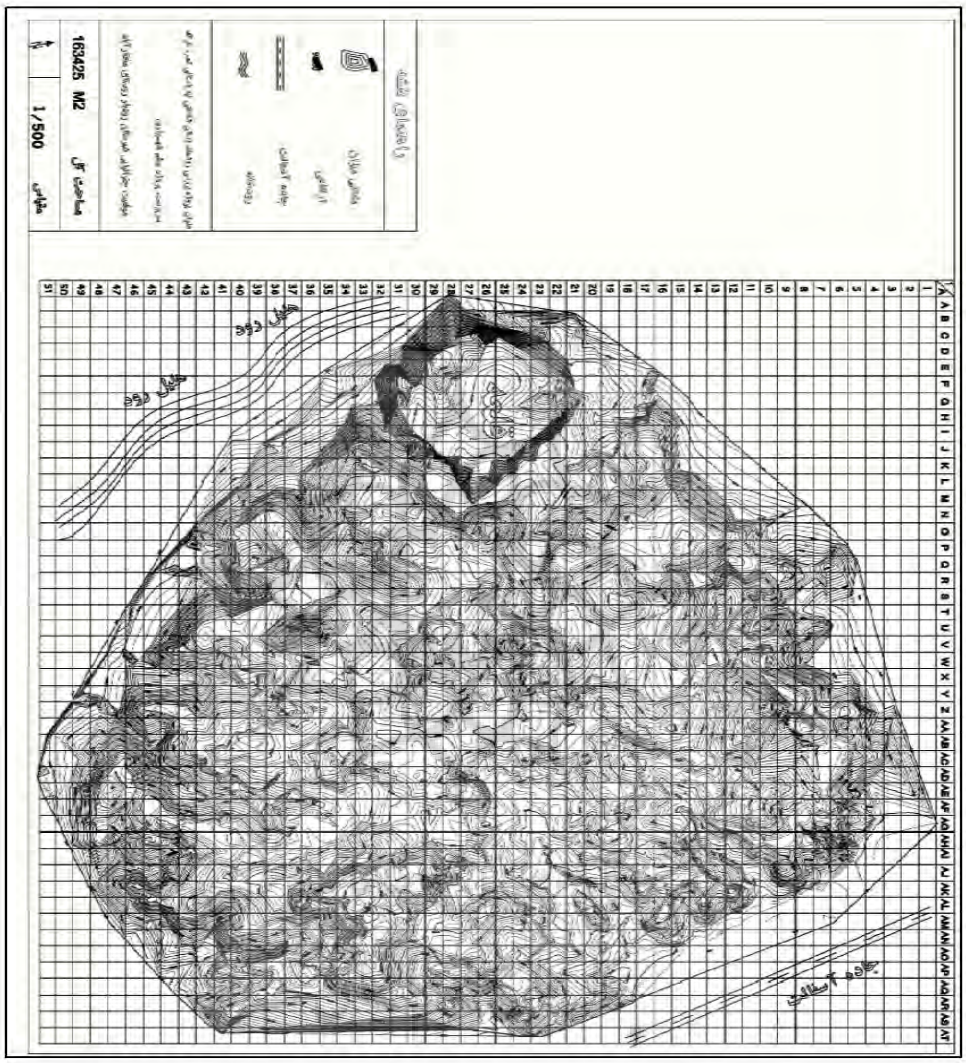




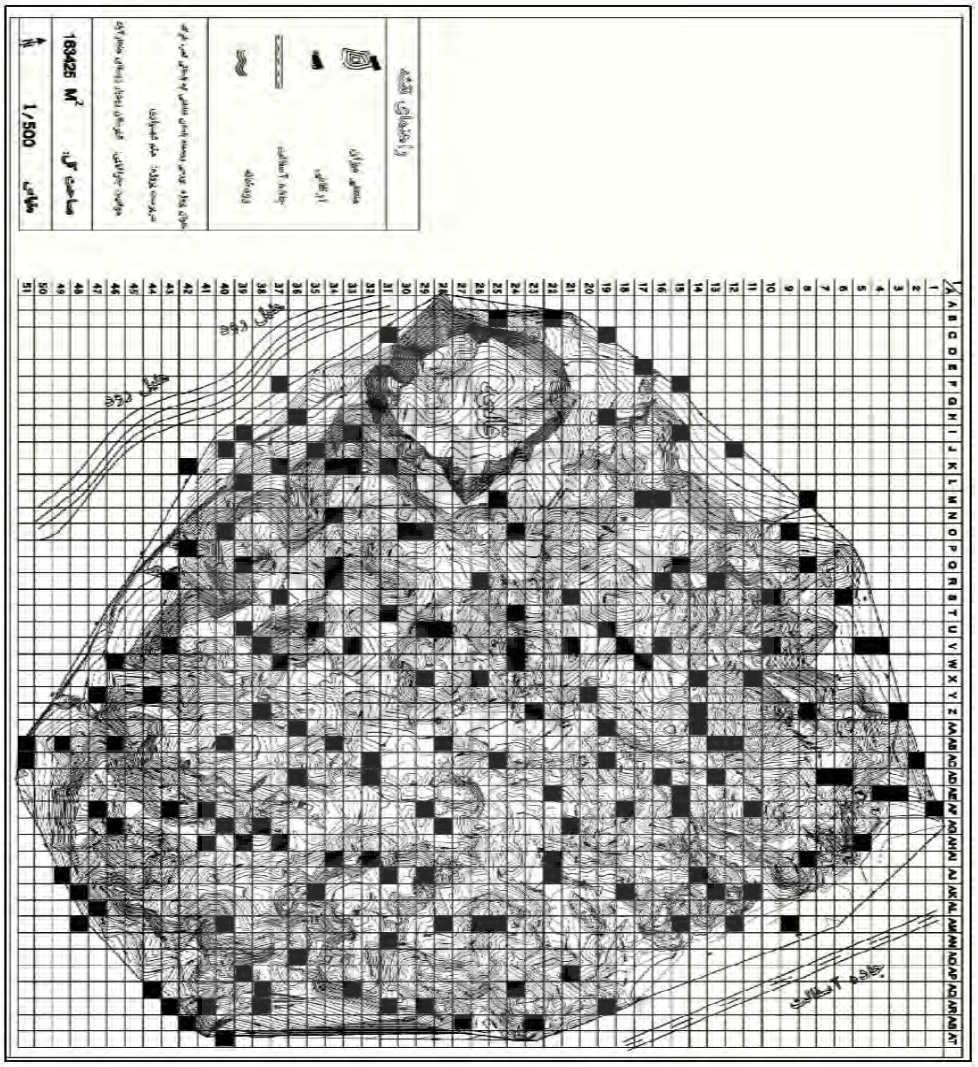
Pic.1: aerial view of Tomb-e Kharg and Qale-e Dokhtar- from



map.2: topographical map of Tomb-e Kharg and grid (a topographic map as well as the grid map in which the region was divided into $10 \times 10 m_2$)



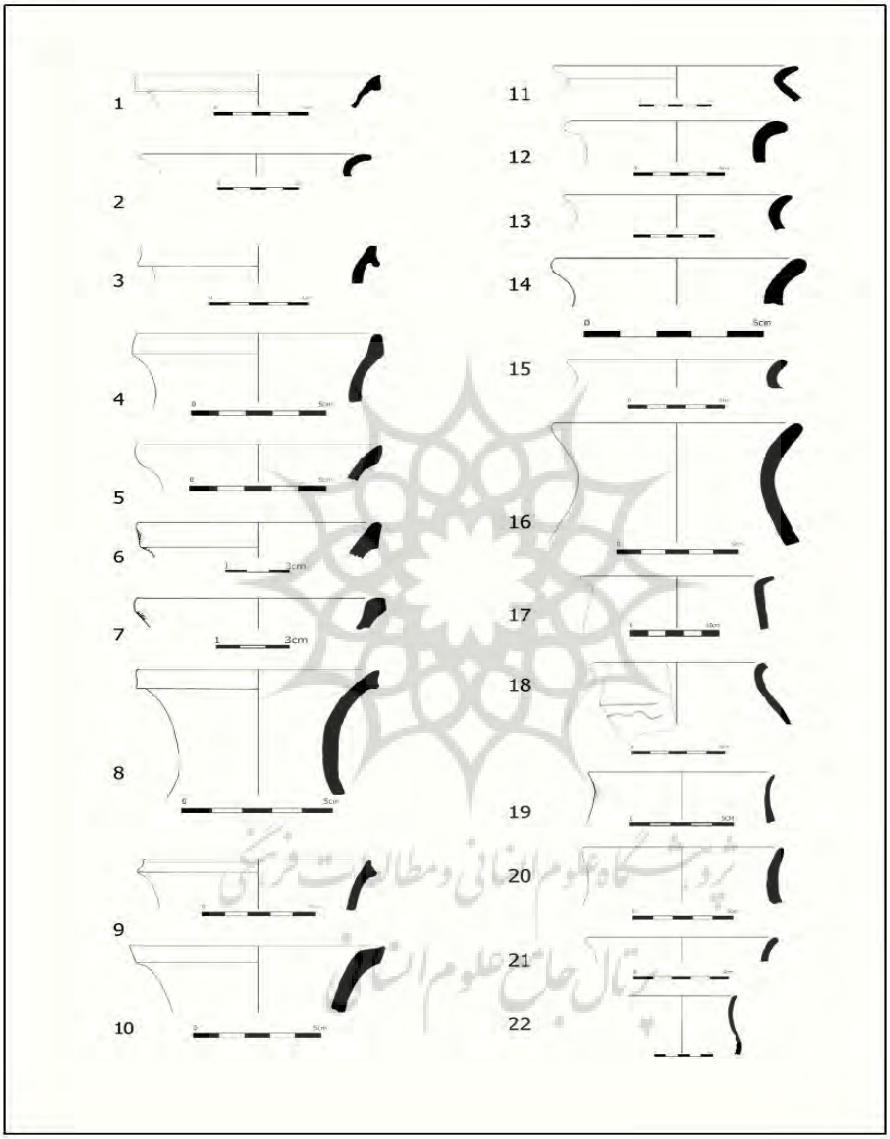
map.3: selected squires in tomb- Kharg



Tablet.1

row	type of particle, undecorated/decoration: type of decoration, motif, colour of motif, moth diameter/? to centimeter, thick to millimeter (colour of past: brick, colour of external slip: brick)	Compare with	Relative Chronology
1	Rim, undecorated, 13centimeter, 3millimeter	Wheeller 1962; fig 38: 353	8th AD
2	Rim, undecorated, 14centimeter, 4millimeter	Mehrafarin 2004; table. 3-11: fig. 5	Achaemenid
3	Rim, undecorated, 12centimeter, 5millimeter	Ataee 2004; table. 55: 12 Stronach 2000: fig. 120: 13	Achaemenid; Post Achaemenid
4	Rim, undecorated, 9centimeter, 5millimeter	Ataee 2004; table. 52: 3 Khosrozaeh et al 2006: fig.4: 4	Achaemenid; Late Achaemenid middle Parthian
5	Rim, undecorated, 9centimeter, 5millimeter	Stronach 2000: fig. 117: 5 Khosrozaeh et al 2006: fig.3: 6	Post Achaemenid; Late Achaemenid middle Parthian
6	Rim, undecorated, 11centimeter, 5millimeter	Lamberg-Karlovsky 2004, fig 4.24: a	650-500 BC
7	Rim, undecorated, 10centimeter, 5millimeter	Rahbar 2006: 1/7	Sassanid
8	Rim, undecorated, 8centimeter, 5millimeter	Stronach 2000: fig. 120: 12	Achmeid
9	Rim, undecorated, 10centimeter, 3millimeter	Stronach 2000: fig. 117: 25	Late Achaemenid
10	Rim, undecorated, 11centimeter, 5millimeter	Lamberg-Karlovsky 1970؛ Figure 3: B	Before 400 AD
11	Rim, undecorated, 17centimeter, 4millimeter	Wheeller 1962, fig 11: 11	Sixth to forth BC century
12	Rim, undecorated, 12centimeter, 5millimeter	Stronach 2000: fig. 117: 4	Achmenid;
13	Rim, undecorated, 10centimeter, 3millimeter	Khosrozaeh et al 2006: fig.3: 9 Ataee 2004; table. 1: 11	Achmenid; Middle of Parthian
14	Rim, undecorated, 7centimeter, 3millimeter	Stronach 2000: fig. 116: 7	Achmenid
15	Rim, undecorated, 11centimeter, 3millimeter	Herrmann 2000; fig 19: 5	Middle of Sassanid
16	Rim, undecorated, 10centimeter, 5millimeter	Lamberg-Karlovsky 2004, fig 4.4: a Stronach 2000: fig. 116: 7	800-650 BC; Achaemenid

		Ataee 2004; table. 55: 12	
17	Rim, undecorated, 11centimeter, 4millimeter	Khosrozaeh et al 2006: fig.3: 9	Late Achaemenid middle Parthian
18	Rim, undecorated, 9centimeter, 4millimeter	Rahbar 2004: 56	Sassanid
19	Rim, undecorated, 9centimeter, 3millimeter	Lamberg-Karlovsky 2004, fig 4.4: c	800-650 BC
20	Rim, undecorated, 10centimeter, 5millimeter	Wheeller 1962, fig 24: 170	Third BC century
21	Rim, undecorated, 10centimeter, 4millimeter	Wheeller 1962, fig 21: 123	Third BC century
22	Rim, undecorated, 10centimeter, 3millimeter	Lamberg-Karlovsky 2004, fig 4.4:c Wheeller 1962; fig 17 : 63	800-650 BC; Third to fourth century BC

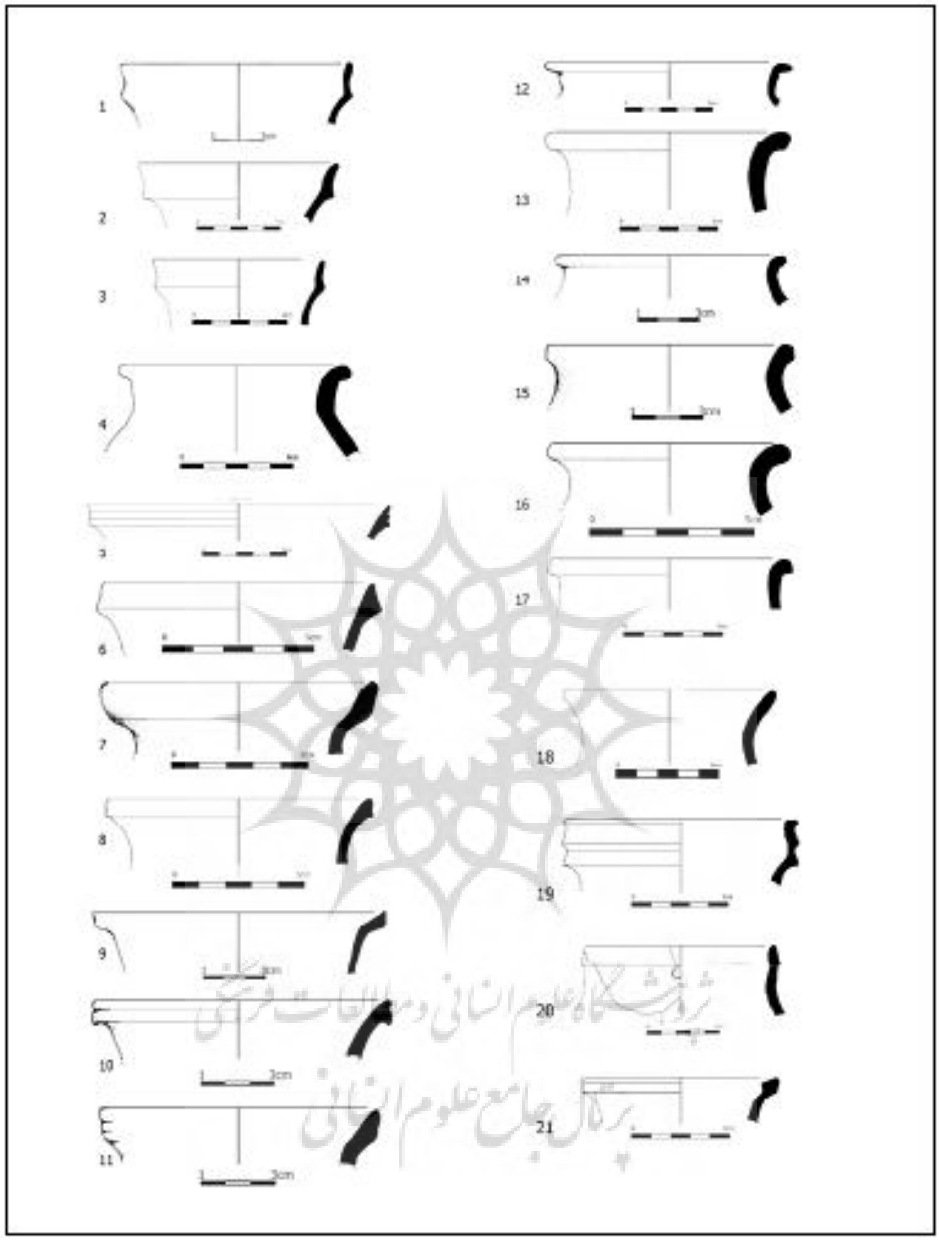


Cat.2

Tablet. 2

row	type of particle, undecorated/decoration: type of decoration, motif, colour of motif, moth diameter/? to centimeter, thick to millimeter (colour of past: brick, colour of external slip: buff)	Compare with	Relative Chronology
1	Rim, undecorated, 13centimeter, 3millimeter	Herrmann 2001; fig 18: 2	Late Seleucid, early Parthian
3	Rim, undecorated, 12centimeter, 5millimeter	Lamberg-Karlovsky 2004, fig 5.22: c II	500-250 BC
4	Rim, undecorated, 10centimeter, 5millimeter	Lamberg-Karlovsky 1972; fig I: K	Achaemenid
5	Rim, undecorated, 18centimeter, 3millimeter	Stronach 2000: fig. 116: 19	Post Achmenid
6	Rim, undecorated, 9centimeter, 3millimeter	Stronach 2000: fig. 117: 25& fig. 119: 10	Achmenid; Post Achaemenid
7	Rim, undecorated, 10centimeter, 3millimeter	Wheeler 1962; fig 26: 193	Second BC century
8	Rim, undecorated, 10centimeter, 3millimeter	Ataee 2004; table. 52: 3 Rahbar 2004: 124	Achaemenid; Parthian
9	Rim, undecorated, 14centimeter, 3millimeter	Stronach 2000: fig. 119: 26	Post Achaemenid
10	Rim, undecorated, 14centimeter, 3millimeter	Stronach 2000: fig. 117: 28	Post Achaemenid
11	Rim, undecorated, 11centimeter, 5millimeter	Stronach 2000: fig. 118: 6	Post Achaemenid
12	Rim, undecorated, 12centimeter, 4millimeter	Mehrafarin 2007; trench. 088	Second BC century
13	Rim, undecorated, 13centimeter, 8millimeter	Lamberg-Karlovsky 2004, fig 4.17: e	650-500 BC
14	Rim, undecorated, 11centimeter, 4millimeter	Stronach 2000: fig. 119: 25	Post Achaemenid
15	Rim, undecorated, 10centimeter, 5millimeter	Alden 1967; fig 5: 2	300 BC
16	Rim, undecorated, 7centimeter, 3millimeter	Stronach 2000: fig. 116: 7	Achaemenid; Late Achaemenid middle Parthian
17	Rim, undecorated, 16centimeter, 6millimeter	Ataee 2004; table. 45: 8	Achaemenid

18	Rim, undecorated, 10centimeter, 4millimeter	Lamberg-Karlovsky 2004, fig 4.4: a Stronach 2000: fig. 117: 2	800-650 BC Achaemenid
19	Rim, undecorated, 12centimeter, 5millimeter	Herrman 1995; fig 10: 7	Late Sassanid
20	Rim, undecorated, 13centimeter, 5millimeter	Lamberg-Karlovsky 2004, fig 5.22: b	500-250 BC
21	Rim, undecorated, 13centimeter, 8millimeter	Wheeller 1962; fig 34: 305	Second to forth AD century



Cat 1.

Tablet.3

row	type of particle, undecorated/decoration: type of decoration, motif, colour of motif, moth diameter/? to centimeter, thick to millimeter Namord type	Compare with	Relative Chronology
1	Rim, painted, 11 centimeter, 3 millimeter	Kennet 2002; fig 6 & Lamberg-Karlovsky 1970؛ Figure 4	First to forth BC century
2	Rim, painted, 11 centimeter, 3 millimeter	"	"
3	Rim, painted, 13 centimeter, 3 millimeter- slip colour is عنابی	"	"
4	Rim, painted, 11 centimeter, 3 millimeter- slip colour is red	"	"
5	Rim, painted, 11 centimeter, 3 millimeter- slip colour is عنابی	"	"
6	Rim, painted, 12 centimeter, 3 millimeter- slip colour is red	"	"
7	Rim, painted, 12 centimeter, 3 millimeter- slip colour is golden	"	"
8	Rim, painted, 11 centimeter, 4 millimeter- slip colour is عنابی	"	"
9	base, , painted, 6 centimeter, 4 millimeter- with grey past	"	"
10	base, , painted, 7 centimeter, 4 millimeter- slip colour is red and with vertical burnished	"	"
11	base, , painted, 7 centimeter, 4 millimeter- slip colour is red	"	"
12	base, , painted, 5 centimeter, 4 millimeter- with grey past	"	"
13	base, , painted, 5 centimeter, 4 millimeter- slip colour is golden with vertical burnished	"	"
14	base, , painted, 6 centimeter, 4 millimeter- slip colour is عنابی with vertical burnished	"	"
15	base, , painted, 6 centimeter, 5 millimeter – the golden-coloued slip with crossover burnished		

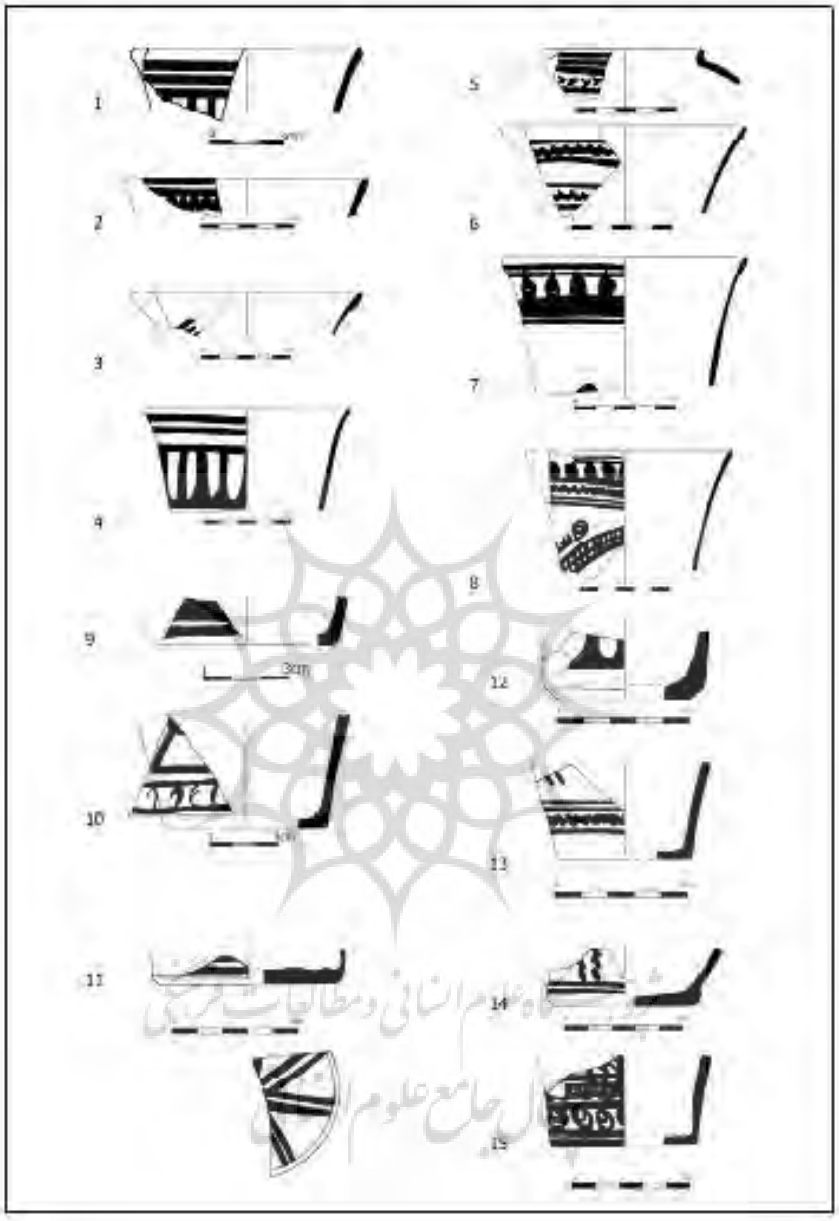
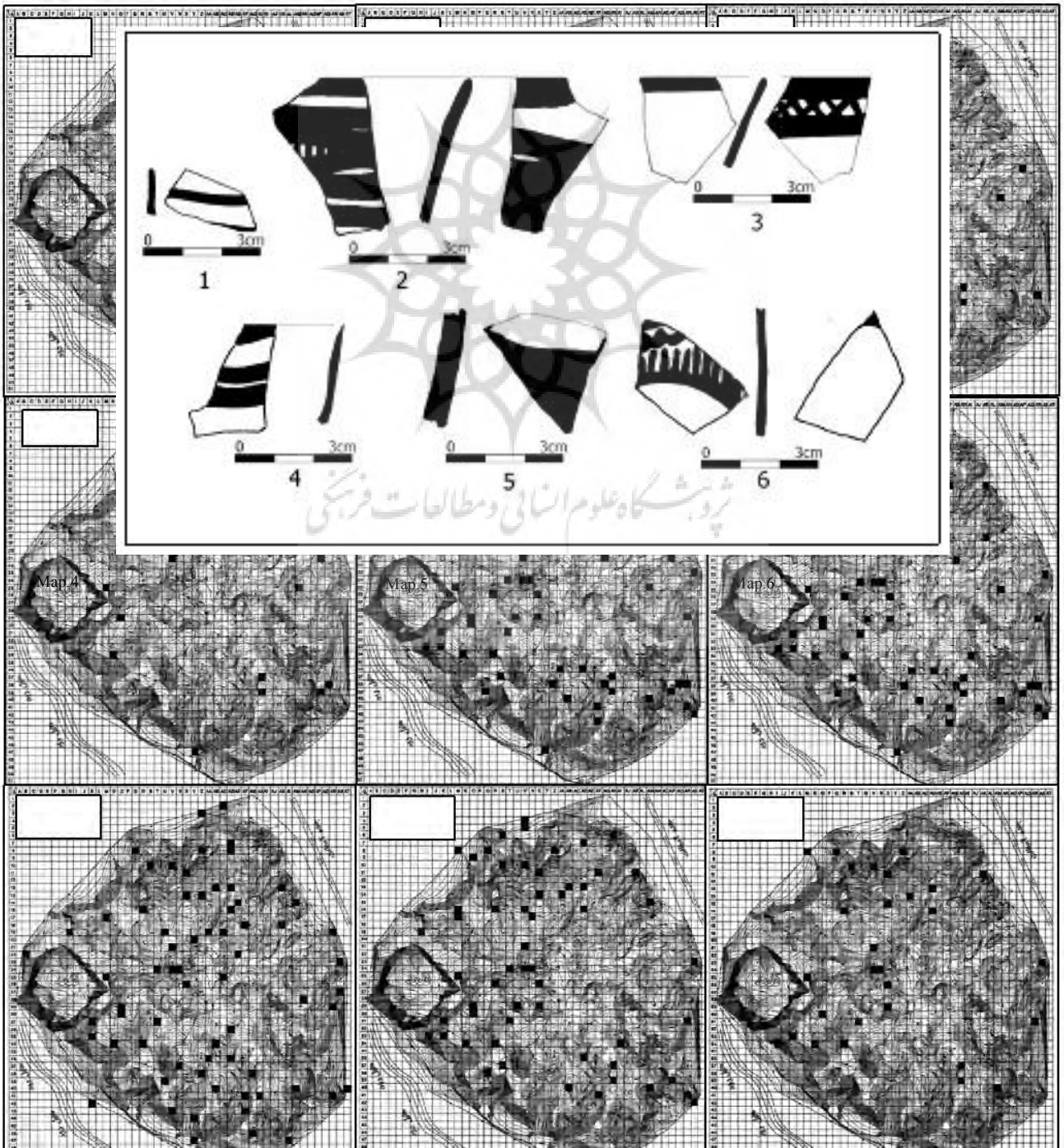


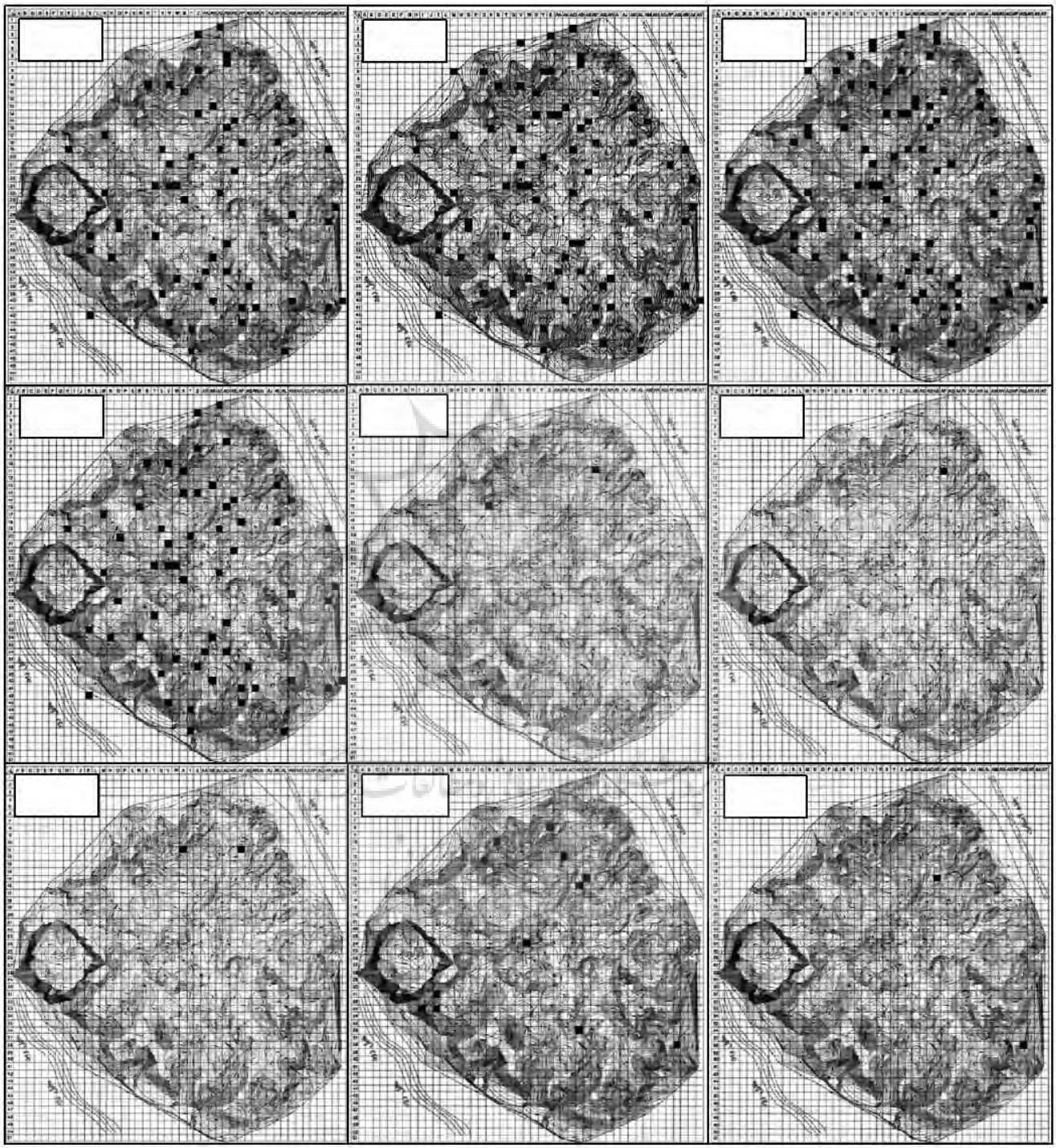
Table 4

row	type of particle, undecorated/decoration: type of decoration, motif, colour of motif, moth diameter/? to centimeter, thick to millimeter (colour of past: grey, colour of external slip: grey)	Compare with	Relative Chronology
1	Body, painted,?, black, 2 millimeter		Third millennium BC
2	Rim, painted,?, black, 3 millimeter		"
3	Rim, painted,?, black, 3 millimeter		"
4	Rim, painted,?, black, 2 millimeter		"
5	Body, painted,?, black, 4 millimeter		"



Map.7 Map.8 Map.9

Map.10 Map.11 Map.12



Map.4 squares belonging to Third millennium BC

Map.5 squares belonging to 8th BC century

Map.6 squares belonging to 7th BC century

Map.7 squares belonging to 6th BC century

Map.8 squares belonging to 5th BC century

Map.9 squares belonging to 4th BC century

Map.10 squares belonging to 3 th BC century

Map.11 squares belonging to 2th BC century

Map.12 squares belonging to 1 th BC century

Map.13 squares belonging to 1 th AD century

Map.14 squares belonging to 2th AD century

Map.15 squares belonging to 3 th AD century

Map.16 squares belonging to 4th AD century

Map.17 squares belonging to 5th AD century

Map.18 squares belonging to 6th AD century

Map.19 squares belonging to 7th AD century

Map.20 squares belonging to 8th AD century

Map.21 squares belonging to 9th AD century

تمب خرگ یک محوطهٔ شاخص دوران سلوکی ـ پارتی در حوزهٔ هلیل‌رود

(شهرستان رودبار جنوب، استان کرمان)

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تاریخ دریافت: ۹۱/۸/۱۵ تاریخ پذیرش: ۹۲/۸/۳۱

شهرستان رودبار جنوب از دیدگاه دارا بودن آثار و مکان‌های باستانی، یکی از غنی‌ترین و مهم‌ترین بخش‌های منطقه‌ی جنوب شرق ایران کنونی به شمار می‌رود. تپه‌ی باستانی تمب‌خرگ بزرگ‌ترین تپه‌ی باستانی این منطقه است. با توجه به مواد فرهنگی پراکنده بر سطح تپه‌ی خرگ، استقرار عمده در این تپه متعلق به دوره‌های تاریخی است. ناشناخته بودن این دوره‌های مهم در منطقه‌ی جنوب شرق و سکوت منابع مکتوب در باره‌ی این منطقه، لزوم انجام پژوهش‌های باستان‌شناختی را به عنوان مرجعی مهم و معتبر در این منطقه دو چندان می‌کند. بدین منظور پس از تهیه‌ی نقشه‌ی ناهمواری‌نگاری از تپه‌ی خرگ، و شبکه‌بندی نقشه به مربع‌های ۱۰ ×۱۰ متر ، با استفاده از روش نمونه‌برداری تصادفی ساده، ده درصد مربع‌های مزبور نمونه‌برداری شدند. سپس کلیه‌ی مواد فرهنگی موجود در هر مربع، به شیوه‌ی نمونه‌برداری روشمند جمع‌آوری شد. مطالعه‌ی مواد فرهنگی به دست آمده از این بررسی ، عمده‌ی استقرار در این تپه را حدوداً از آغاز هزارهٔ یکم پ‌م تا پایان سده‌های هشتم و نهم میلادی نشان می‌دهد. همچنین با توجه به یافته‌شدن قطعاتی از سفال خاکستری منقوش، به نظر می‌رسد که قدمت استقرار در این تپه را به هزاره‌ی سوم پ. م. هم برسد.

واژگان کلیدی: شهرستان رودبار جنوب، تُمب خَرگ، بررسی باستان‌شناختی، سفال، دوره‌ی تاریخی

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