

Evidence of the seasonal settlement during Sassanid era from Tol-e Gap Kenareh, Fars province

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Abstract

So far, much research has been done on the Sassanid period, which is generally related to state centers and large cities of this period, and less attention has been paid to rural or temporary settlements that have been associated with these centers. However, to analyze the administrative, social and economic structures along with settlement patterns, attention to all of the sites in the region is required. Tol-e Gap Kenareh is located about 9 km from Istakhr city. During the excavations in this area, deposits with Sassanid pottery were identified. Due to the low thickness of the deposits, the lack of architectural identification, and the distribution of ash, it seems that this area was temporary occupied during the Sassanid period. Introducing a temporary occupation of the Sassanid period, the current study is firstly focused on the classification and typology of pottery obtained from excavation. To obtain the composition and structure of potteries and the differences and similarities between them, kiln temperature, petrographic experiments on 5 samples of the pottery was performed, which resulted in the fact that all the pottery had a porphyry texture, and due to the presence of calcite in the samples, the temperature of the kiln was probably less than 800 degrees Celsius. Also, by studying the geology of the area and comparing the samples with other samples tested from other periods of the area, it can be said that pottery is indigenous and local production. For absolute dating, 2 animal bone specimens were tested in a laboratory that suggested the period of 250 to 350 A.D. for the Sasanian deposits in this site.

Keywords: Absolute Dating, Sasanian, Petrography.

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