Comparative Study of Parthian Pottery Discovered From the Archeological Survey of the Northern Part of Baluchestan (Case Study: Khash City)

Yasaman Nasiripour¹, Zohreh Jozi², Mohammad Keikha³, Sahar Bakhtiari⁴

Abstract

As a natural gateway of the Indian subcontinent, Baluchestan has long attracted attention. Pottery, as a characteristic of artistic and applied styles of different periods, in addition to determining the age of a settlement, can help in knowing the social conditions, historical developments, and the quality of trade exchanges. Therefore, one of the most basic ways to understand cultural connections in different periods is to study pottery. So far, no research has been done on Parthian pottery in Khash city. So, conducting a descriptive-analytical study of potteries, the authors of this study try to investigate the relative chronology of the Parthian sites of Khash city and the cultural interactions inside and outside of this region. In order to achieve the mentioned purposes and to understand the cultural trends in the Parthian period, the following questions are raised: 1- What is the predominant decoration of Parthian pottery in Khash city? 2- What have been the cultural interactions inside and outside the region based on the typological results of pottery? The results of typology show that the predominant decoration of Parthian pottery in Khash city is painting. Also, the results indicate a cultural relationship during the Parthian period, between Khash city and cultural regions of South Baluchistan, Sistan, Kerman, Greater Khorasan, some areas of the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. As a result, by comparing the typology of pottery, a relatively clear situation of the pottery industry of Khash city in the Parthian period and cultural connections within and outside the region of this city was revealed.

Keywords: Northern Baluchestan (Khash City), Parthian Pottery, Typology, Typological Comparison

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¹⁻ MA in Archaeology, University of Sistan and Baluchestan.

²⁻ Assistant professor, Department of Archeology, University of Sistan and Baluchestan.

^{3 -} MA in Archaeology, University of Sistan and Baluchestan.

⁴⁻ Phd in Archaeology, University of Sistan and Baluchestan.

^{*} Corresponding Author: Nasiripour2016@gmail.com