

An Analysis of the Typology and the Study of Sassanid Period Jewelry in Terms of Morphology

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Abstract

The glory and luxury tended to increase in the Sassanid period, and consequently, various ornaments were used that are unique both in terms of aesthetics and in terms of morphology and variety in species and details of the elements. Along with other cultural findings, jewelry can be considered as one of the most important sources for understanding the Sassanid civilization and culture. The same can be said about many surviving works of this period such as: coins, reliefs, Gypsum busts, metallurgy and stamping. The present research is based on a descriptive-analytical method, library studies, fieldwork, and visiting the findings of archeological excavations and ornaments in museums left from the Sassanid civilization. This study tries to fully analyze them, categorize these works in terms of form and species, and based on them, to achieve the identity of individuals. Hence, the following questions are addressed: What is the structure and morphology of Sassanid ornaments? What is the difference between these works among Sassanid men and women? and is it possible to achieve the identity and gender segregation of individuals based on the formulation of jewelry? Previous studies show that the jewelry of this period is divided into 7 groups of earrings, necklaces, crowns, rings, bracelets, beards and brooches in terms of morphology. Some of these jewels, such as beards and crowns, were reserved for kings, thus indicating the unique position of power and glory of the Sassanid kings. Jewelry such as armlets, anklets, and bracelets have been used more by Sassanid women, and necklaces and earrings have been used for both men and women. In some cases, the gender of the people has been involved in the jewelry's form.

Keywords: Jewelry, Sassanid Era, Classification, Typology, Gender

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