

Study and Analysis of Archaeological Findings from Systematic Survey and Determination of Privacy Dambigan Area of Qasr-e Qand

Type of Study: Research

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Abstract

One of the important features of the southern part of Baluchistan, Iran, is that this part is pristine and more unknown from the point of view of archaeological studies. This environmental diversity has led to the behavioral diversity of human societies in the past and present in this region. Dambigan site is one of these ancient sites that is located on the banks of the Kajo River in Makoran. The present research was done by descriptive-analytical method and the main part of this research includes field activities, intensive, and systematic survey. In this city and archeological site, before this research, few archaeological studies have been done. In the southeast of Iran, human habitation and livelihood have continued from prehistory to the present day. The main purpose of this study was to investigate the settlement status of the area and to present a relative chronology based on surface findings. In a survey study, it was found that the area consists of two hills close to each other. The cemetery dates back to prehistoric times (third millennium BC). Based on the surface findings, it can be acknowledged that this area was first inhabited in the third millennium BC and the scattering of various pottery species on the hill surface indicates the continuation of life in historical periods. On the other hand, statistical analysis and comparison of archeological findings in Dambigan area in Makoran, Iran with discovered samples from contemporary sites in Bampur, Helmand and Kerman basins, Kech and Rud Dasht basins in Makoran, Pakistan showed that this site has extensive cultural connections.

Key Words: Baluchestan, Dambigan, Systematic survey, Pottery

Introduction

Baluchestan is a land that is very diverse in terms of environment and geography. This environmental diversity has caused the behavioral diversity of human societies in the past and present in this region; For this reason, according to the geographical conditions and various complications in it, the land of Baluchestan is also valuable from the point of view of

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archeology and has experienced many incidents and events during its turbulent history. The general landscape of Balochestan is a mountainous land with not very high altitudes and intermountain plains. Throughout this vast land that includes a large part of Iran and Pakistan, there are surface water streams that human societies have formed along with from the past to the present. The ancient site of Dambigan in Qasr-e Qand city is one of these human settlements located in the southern part of Makran. Until this research, not many archaeological studies have been conducted in this city and the ancient site of Dambigan.

In this research, it has been tried to answer these questions: Based on the findings obtained from the methodical investigation, in what periods was the Dambigan site inhabited? Based on the study of cultural materials and pottery findings of the site, the cultural interactions of the ancient Dambigan and Qasr-e Qand sites were with which regions?

Analysis method

The research has been done in two ways: field and library. In the first stage, a methodical field investigation was carried out. Field investigations are as important as exploration and in many cases, they give us information that can never be obtained by exploration (Alizadeh, 2013: 203). For this purpose, the members of the investigation team were placed at a distance of 50 meters from each other, and in order to get to know the topographical condition of the area and the extent of cultural materials, a step-by-step survey of the area was carried out. In this survey, it was found that the area consists of two hills close to each other, that hill A is a stone cemetery and hill B was probably a settlement place for the residents of Dambigan area. After an intensive survey on the surface and around the area, it was found that the area of Dambigan area is more than 6 square kilometers.

Research results

The most important cultural find obtained from the surface investigation of Dambigan area is pottery. After the surface inspection of the selected units in the area, a total of 347 pieces of pottery have been sampled from this area. 50 representative samples were selected from the entire collection of pottery. The representative samples were designed and typified and finally used for comparative comparison in order to chronology the area.

Typology of pottery from Dambigan area of Qasr-e Qand

The results of the analysis of the pottery of hill A indicate that these potteries were made with a wheel fan and have sufficient firing. Statistical studies show that based on the characteristics and technical variables, 72% of the pottery of hill A are fine pottery, 21% are of medium construction and 7% are rough. The examination and study of the pottery of Hill A of Dambigan area in terms of decoration showed that about 69% of the pottery are undecorated and 21% of them are decorated. Hill B of Dambigan area was a place of settlement and a part of it was also used as a cemetery. In terms of time, Hill B of Dambigan site belongs to the prehistoric period (3rd millennium BC). All the studied pottery samples of Tepe B of Dambigan are wheel makers, which shows the widespread use of the pottery wheel in the Bronze Age of Makran region. The pottery of this period in the Dambigan site has been sufficiently fired, which shows the progress of the pottery kilns.

Conclusion

The recent archeological surveys conducted in the Makoran region of Iran have revealed the existence of numerous ancient monuments and sites from different eras of history in the region. However, archaeological information and knowledge about this area is very little. Therefore, the investigation and study of Dambigan Qasr-e Qand site as one of the multi-period sites in Baluchistan, Iran, made this research to some extent practical. The archeological findings of Dambigan showed that at the end of the third millennium BC, there are many similarities between the pottery of Makoran and Shahr Sokhte with Um El Nar located on the southern shores of the Makoran Sea. This area was inhabited for the first time in the third millennium BC, and the most important region that was directly related to the Indus Valley civilization was the southeast of Iran. In the Parthian historical period, the similarity of the form and motifs of Makoran pottery with the coasts of the Oman Sea has been proven, and not only in this period, Makoran of Iran played a related role; Rather, it has played a role as an important pottery production center. Most of the features shared by the pottery of southern Makoran and the southern coasts of the Oman Sea in the Parthian period are undecorated pottery. Statistical analysis and comparison of pottery from Dambigan area in Iran shows the cultural similarities of Dambigan area with the southern coasts of Makoran Sea, Balochestan of Pakistan, Kerman region, Sistan, Emirates, Oman and Central Asia.

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