



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Regional and trans-regional Cultural Interactions in Southeastern Iran during the third millennium BC: Production, Distribution and Iconography of Chlorite vessels

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Abstract

Southeastern Iran witnessed a period of cultural prosperity during the third millennium BC. One of the most prominent objects of this region are engraved chlorite vessels. These chlorite objects, dating back to the Bronze Age, have been found in a very large corridor from Mesopotamia via the Iranian plateau into the Indus valley. After extensive illegal excavations in the Halilrud valley and the discovery of thousands of chlorite objects, the Halilrud cultural basin was considered as the main possible chlorite production center. Archaeological surveys and researches have revealed that some of the stone vessels of the Halilrud valley are consistent with the mining areas in the region. Archaeological excavations in Tepe Yahya, Konar Sandal and Hajiabad Varamin in Jiroft have led to the identification of workshops for the chlorite production.

This article deals with regional and trans-regional interactions of Southeastern Iran in the third millennium BC with a focus on chlorite objects; their production, distribution and function. In addition, by studying the iconography of these vessels, the characteristics of Halilrud style and its cultural interactions with the neighboring regions are investigated.

Keywords

chlorite, Halilrud, cultural interaction, Jiroft

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