



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

# New insights into the Tape Men?r of Belqis (Old Esfarayen) based on archeological findings

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## Abstract

The ruins of the historical city of Esfrain ( Belqis historical site) are located 3 kilometers southwest of the current town of Esfarayen in northeastern Iran. 150 hectares of Balqis historical area has the conditions and characteristics of an Islamic city, which consists of three parts (Arg or citadel, Sh?rest?n or Residential area of ??the town, and Rabaz or Agricultural area ). Sh?rest?n includes the architectural structures of the city of the Islamic period, which recent archaeological investigations have revealed some cases. In Sh?rest?n, Tape Men?r is known as the Old Mosque of Esfarayen. Unauthorized excavations of the area and changes in the structure in different periods have made its use unclear. Due to the remains of technological activities (slag), in the vicinity of the structure, there was potential for industrial use in the past. Additionally, considering the columnar architecture, it is possible that it served a public function, such as a mosque or a school. This research examines the subject through archaeological findings, existing architectural evidence, and historical texts. Current information indicates that the usage of the Tape Men?r has varied throughout different periods.

## Keywords

Belqis, Islamic Urbanization, Archeological Architecture, Tape Men?r

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