



## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

# The Small-Scale Sculptures of Armenia in the Iron Age

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## Abstract

In the territory of the Republic of Armenia during the second half of the 1st century, small bronze sculptures were widely produced. These sculptures typically depicted anthropomorphic and zoomorphic subjects. The primary area where such sculptures were found was the northern part of Armenia, mainly in the Tavush region. Some examples were also discovered in the Syunik and Armavir regions.

Anthropological (representing men and women) statuettes range in height from 4/5 to 7.5/8 centimeters. Those sculptures often portrayed figures in the nude, emphasizing sex organs. Male statuettes were depicted wearing helmets with sharpened ends. In their hands, they carried weapons such as shields, swords/daggers, and spearheads. Some examples show stylized or absent weapons, with only the sex organ indicating gender.

Female statuettes featured accentuated breasts and female reproductive organs. While mostly naked, they wore pieces of jewelry like necklaces and bracelets. Female statuettes typically had stylized heads resembling hair, although some examples showcased beautiful hairstyles. In many instances, women were depicted holding objects on their heads—possibly vessels or cups used for serving wine.

These statuettes were associated with worship and ritual beliefs prevalent during the Iron Age.

## Keywords

small bronze sculptures, Armenia, Iron Age, anthropomorphic, zoomorphic

## Session

7. Characterizing culture ?

## Type of paper

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