



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

All Quiet on the Eastern Foothills? The Local Pottery of the Sharizor Plain and Its Eastern Influences

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Abstract

This research examines the material culture, settlement structures, and community development in the Sharizor region, located in the Sulaymaniyah and Halabja provinces of Iraqi Kurdistan, between the late 7th century BCE and the first quarter of the 3rd century CE. Following the collapse of the Neo-Assyrian Empire, the region exhibited remarkable cultural continuity, where local traditions persisted while blending with West Iranian influences, particularly evident in the ceramic assemblages. As a peripheral area within post-Assyrian empires, the Sharizor region offers a compelling case study of the complex interactions between local traditions and external imperial influences. This paper focuses on pottery from key archaeological sites such as Gird-i Qalrakh and Bakr Awa to explore how the region maintained a degree of cultural autonomy while integrating foreign elements.

The research underscores the significance of eastern West Iranian influences and how they are reflected in the material culture of the region. By investigating these dynamics, the study contributes to a broader understanding of continuity and change in a cultural borderland situated between major empires and local traditions.

Keywords

Sulaymaniyah region, Late Iron Age, Seleucid period, Parthian period, Material culture

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7. Characterizing culture ?

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