



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Connectivity between Persia and the western Achaemenid Persian Empire: a reassessment

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Abstract

Rulers, ambassadors, artefacts: Persia and the western areas of the Achaemenid Persian empire were connected through the circulation of people and goods attested by literary sources and material evidence. This issue implies a wide range of contacts between the centre and the western part of the empire bordering the eastern Mediterranean. Over the decades, scholars have differently interpreted these processes according to the prevailing historiographical tendencies: for instance, in the period when a Hellenocentric view dominated, much weight was given to the impact of Greek civilisation. My paper thus intends to offer a critical survey of the phenomena of connectivity between the centre and the western peripheries of the Achaemenid Persian empire through the analysis of literary sources and material evidence. Attention will be devoted to multi-directional movements along the communication routes and to the plurality of cultural and artistic horizons with which the Persians came into contact in the western part of the empire. The aim is to propose a reassessment of the connectivity between these areas of the empire through a balanced interpretation.

Keywords

Persia, western Achaemenid Persian Empire, connectivity, contacts, communication routes

Session

7. Characterizing culture ?

Workshop

A16474ZZ - Connectivity in the Ancient Iranian World: Trade, Culture, and Communication

Type of paper

Oral presentation