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TYPOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF PARTHIAN POTTERY OF SANG-E SHIR CEMETERY, HAMEDAN- WESTERN IRAN

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Abstract: Sang-e Shir area is located in the east of the city of Hamedan. To the northeast of this area, there is a vast cemetery on a natural hill; stone lion statue is located on the highest point to the southwest. This cemetery was visited by Ali Akbar Sarfaraz in 1966, and later, in 1974-75 by Masoud Azarnoush as a result of which Achaemenid, Seleucid?, Parthian and Islamic graves were excavated. In this article, the Parthian potteries found in this cemetery were the subject of study, typological analysis, comparison and contrast, which led to the identification of Common, Clinky and Glazed pottery categories. Comparative study investigation indicated that these potteries are similar to the Parthian potteries of central Mesopotamia, west, southwest, and northwest of Iran. Based on the analysis, the pottery set found in Sang-e Shir Cemetery of Hamedan can be dated to the early and middle Parthian period.

Introduction

From a cultural point of view, Hamedan belongs to western cultural region of Iran. Despites its importance in archeological studies, this area has often been neglected; however, archeological findings and historical documents are indicative of the importance of this region. Our knowledge of Parthian Pottery in western parts of Iran is limited to the findings in Qal'eh Yazdgird (Keall & Keall, 1981), Parthian site of Bisotun (Alibaigi 2010, Kleiss 1996), Nush-IJan Tepe (Stronach 1969, 1974), Khorheh (Rahbar 2003), Taq-i Bustan cemetery in Kermanshah (Kambakhsh Fard 1998), discovered graves in foot at the eastern wall of Kangavar complex (Kambakhsh Fard 2007) and Laodicea Temple in Nahavand (Rahbar

and Alibaigi 2011; Rahbar et al. 2014). Except these, not much information is available about Parthian pottery in western parts of Iran, especially Hamedan; therefore, in this article, Parthian Pottery found in excavations of Sang-e Shir Cemetery of Hamedan, an important cultural material from Parthian period not properly analyzed so far, will be studied and classified to give a better understanding of the characteristics of Parthian pottery in western regions of Iran, especially Hamedan. The results of this study will definitely add to archeological knowledge about Parthian period in the territory of the city of Hamedan.

Excavations at the Sang-e Shir Cemetery of Hamedan

Sang-e Shir area, now called Sang-e Shir square, is located in the east of Hamedan city. There is a vast cemetery with an area of $200 \times 300 \text{ m}^2$ there (Sarfaraz 1966:3) (Fig1 & 2) in which the famous Stone Lion statue of Hamedan is placed on the highest point to the southwest (Azarnoush 1975:51) (Fig 3). Today, a small part of this area is turned into a square and the rest is buried under residential buildings (Fig 4). Sang-e Shir cemetery was visited by Ali Akbar Sarfaraz in 1966 and was registered in national heritage list under number 749 (Sarfaraz 1966). Archeological excavations in Sang-e Shir cemetery site was carried out in 1974, under supervision of late Dr. Masoud Azarnoush, for the first time, and these excavations were continued in 1975. During two seasons, an overall of 58 squares (5×5 m²) were excavated (Azarnoush 1975; 1976). As a result of the excavations, four different types of burial were identified including burial in clay coffins, burial in clay pithos, burial without coffin (corpse in a flexed position), and burial without coffin (corpse in a extended position) (Azarnoush 1979:282). In his 1975

report, Azarnoush divided these burials into three categories: burials flexed is considered as belonging to 4th century BC because of a coin from Caria found (Azarnoush 1976:41-42) (Fig 5). Burials with or without coffins along northeast-southwest axis in which the head is in the southwest are considered, doubtfully, to belong to Seleucid? period based on comparative studies on excavations in Egypt and Mesopotamia (Azarnoush 1976:45,47)(Fig 6). Burials with or without coffin along northeast-southwest axis in a which the head is in the northeast (Fig 7), are regarded as belonging to the late first half and early second half of 2td century BC based on the coins found in these burials that belong to Mithradates I, Phraates II and Gutarzes II (Azarnoush, 1975: 55; 1976: 42-45) (Fig. 8). Late Azarnoush has dated Sang-e Shir cemetery to Artaxerxes II through to Phraates II. He believed that these three methods of burial are indicative of emergence and spread of three different religious trends that affected Hamedan's people through two centuries. Furthermore, he has considered presence or lack of clay coffins as a sign of the economic situation of people in these periods (Azarnoush 1976). The cemetery was reused by the Islamic inhabitants of Hamedan in the 13 th and 14 th centuries A.D. (Azarnoush, 1975: 182).

Typology of Parthian Pottery of Sang-e Shir Cemetery in Hamedan

In years 1974-1975, after two seasons of excavation in Sang-e Shir cemetery, 3000 sherds of pottery from Parthian and Islamic periods were found. All these potteries were obtained from test trenches and trenches; these potteries are now kept in the pottery Department the National Museum of Iran. In the present research, from among the Parthian potteries of this collection (184 sherds), 114 sherds, which include all types and shapes, are selected for drawing, photography, classification and typology. In this research, Parthian pottery obtained from Sang-e Shir cemetery are classified and typologically analyzed based on technical features (clay color, type of Temper, degree of baking, production quality, type of slip, and finishing); decorative features (type of decoration, decoration execution technique); and their shape. In the next step, the results of this typology were compared to similar studies on Parthian pottery in other ancient sites and the relation between Parthian pottery typology of Sang-e Shir of Hamedan and other Parthian potteries was evaluated; Based on these typological relations and identified similarities a date will be suggested for this collection of pottery. The method used for classification and typology potteries in this cemetery is an adaptation of Professor Ernie Haerinck method (Haerinck 1983) for study Parthian pottery in Iran.

Generally, from a technical point of view, Parthian potteries of Sang-e Shir cemetery of Hamedan are classified into Common, Clinky and Glazed potteries. The overall characteristics of each of these groups will be described below.

The Common ware

Technical features: the clays of common potteries are buff-colored, red, brown, light gray, light brown, orange, light orange, dark orange, black, black-gray, very light brown, pink, dark pink, orange-brown, light pinkish brown and olive brown. The clay of the potteries are reinforced by temper made of grit, sand, white particles, fine grit, fine sand and in some cases spall and stucco particles; also shiny particles exist in the majority of temper. It seems that these shiny particles existed in the soil of the area and were not added to the clay by the potter on purpose. These shiny particles are probably mica, usually found in sedimentary soils, and have different types. Therefore, if the pottery clay is selected from sedimentary soil, the clay will include mica naturally (Alizadeh: 2003:92). Most of the potteries are made with pottery wheel, however, among them, there are some handmade potteries and some potteries made in a combination (wheel and hand made). Pottery samples made in combination were also found in Seleucia excavations (Debevoise 1934:13). The heat for baking the clay was sufficient in most cases, but there are instances of inappropriate heating, leading to the pottery core was black. Potteries have integrated compact texture and in some instances, traces of pottery wheel are visible in the form of grooves. Inside and outside surfaces of the potteries are in the same color as the clay and on the inside or outside surface, or both surfaces of a number of potteries, wash and slip in red, brown, buff and light gray color can be seen. In some cases, the surface of the potteries is finishing with wet smoothed. Regarding the quality, most potteries have medium clay and some have coarse or fine clay.

The Common ware shapes

Common potteries have a wonderful variety among which we can refer to bowls, cups, necked jugs and neckless jugs, pots, goblet, plate and pithos.

1- Bowls: among index bowl prevalent in Parthian period is a bowl with outcurving rim in a overhang and a spherical body (P1. 1:1) a similar sample of which is reported from Bisotun (Alibaigi 2009, p.232: 11). The difference is that the clay of the bowl found in Bisotun has a reddish buff color and on both sides, it has a buff-colored wash.

Bowl with rounded outcurving rim and carinated bodies (P1. 1:2) are another kind of bowls which are similar to the samples found in Tepe Mian Saravan II in Sahneh city (Mohammadifar 2005, pl.12:12) and Susa (Haerinck 1983, Fig. 9:8); the differences are that the clay color of the sample from Susa is light brown, it has a shorter diameter and on both surface, it has a white slip.

There are also bowl with rounded rim and impressed decoration on the rim and semi-spherical bodies (Pl. 1:3) which are similar to the bowl found in Bisotun (Kleiss 1970, Abb. 25:3); differences are that the bowl from Bisotun is thinner and doesn't have impressed decoration on the rim.

Other shapes include bowl with rounded incurving rim (Pl. 1:4) which are similar in form to the bowl reported from Bisotun (Kleiss 1970, Abb. 26:55).

There are other forms of bowl with no similar sample in other Parthian sites, including bowl with rounded incurving rim and angle on the inside rim and slope body (Pl. 1:5), bowl with orthogonal rounded rim (Pl. 1:6), bowl with groove on the inside rim (Pl. 1:7) and small bowl with rounded rim and carinated bodies (Pl. 1:8).

2- Cups: there are cup with rounded incurving rim (Pl. 2:1) a similar sample of which is reported from Seleucia (Debevoise 1934, Fig. 1-10:6). The difference is that this cup's mouth has a bigger diameter than the Seleucid one.

Another form, is a cup with rounded rim and semi-spherical body (Pl. 2:2), similar samples of which are reported from Tepe Darougheh in Khouzestan (Khosrowzadeh and Aali 2005B, Fig.144:2) and Tepe Band-e Qir in Miyanabe Shoushtar Plain (Khosrowzadeh and Aali 2005A, Fig. 27:14); With the difference that the clay color sampls found in Tepe Darougheh and Tepe Band-e Qir is buff-colored and that the Tepe Band-e Qir sample is thicker with bigger mouth diameter.

The cup with flat outcurving rim (Pl. 2:3), was also found which is similar to sample reported from Bisotun (Alibaigi 2009, p.224: 6); The difference is that the clay color of Bisotun sample is red, it is handmade, not sufficiently baked and organic material (Chaff) is used in its temper.

Another form is a cup with thickened outcurving rim (Pl. 2:4), which is similar in form to the sample found in Bisotun (Kleiss 1996: Abb. 9).

There is another form of cup with rounded rim (Pl. 2:5), which is similar in form to the sample found in Bisotun (Kleiss 1970, Abb. 25:3).

Other cups which have no equivalents in other Parthian sites include cup with rounded incurving rim (Pl. 2:6), cup with rounded outcurving rim and a mild depression under the rim (Pl. 2:7), and a cup with thickened outcurving rim (Pl. 2:8).

3- Jugs: jugs are divided into jugs with neck and jugs without neck.

Necked jugs: these jugs have neck with different sizes; some of these have short and relatively long necks.

One of the index shapes of this cate-

gory is jug with outcurving rim with two grooves on the outside surfaces of the rim (Pl. 3:1), which has a similar sample in Bisotun (Kleiss 1970, Abb. 26: 5), and MahNeshan region in Zanjan (Khosrowzadeh and Aali 2004, Fig. 8:6). Their differences are that the clay color of MahNeshan region sample is red and it has a buff-colored slip on both surfaces.

Another sample is a jug with rounded incurving rim and a protuberance under the rim on outside (Pl. 3:2), a similar sample of which is reported from Tepe Darougheh in Khouzestan (Khosrowzadeh and Aali 2005B: Fig. 146:2); The difference is that the Tepe Daroughe sample has no slip and organic material (Chaff) is used in its temper.

The other important jug shape typical of many Parthian sites is a jug with outcurving rim in a suspended manner (Pl. 3:3), a similar sample of which is reported from MahNeshan region in Zanjan (Khosrowzadeh and Aali 2004, Fig. 8:8); The difference between the two is that the clay color of MahNeshan region sample is red-brown and it is thinner. Other shapes include:

Jug with outcurving rim and a protuberance under the rim on the outside (Pl. 3:4), the similar sample of which is reported from Susa (Boucharlat 1987, Fig. 64:3).

Jug with outcurving rim and a groove on the outside surface of the rim with Pearform mouth (Pl. 3:5), which has no equivalent in other Parthian sites.

Jug with thickened outcurving rim (Pl. 3:6), which has a similar sample in Mah-Neshan region in Zanjan (Khosrowzadeh and Aali 2004, Fig. 9:2). The only difference is that Mah-Neshan jug has slip on neither side.

Jug with outcurving rim (Pl 3:7); the similar sample of which are reported from Bisotun (Kleiss 1970, Abb. 26:51), Tepe Qalay Naneh in Marivan region (Mohammadifar 2005, pl. 34:1), Khorheh (Rahbar 2003, p.160: 109) and Tepe Kohneh Pasgah (Aghalari and Deh Pahlavan 2011, Fig. 6:7). The differences are that the sample from Khorheh is handmade and the sample from Tepe Kohneh Pasgah has incised decoration on the rim.

From other types of jug with no similar sample in other Parthian sites, we can refer to a jug with rim bending inward and an angled neck (Pl. 3:8).

Neckless Jugs: the defining feature of these jugs is that none has a neck and rim is directly attached to the body. The form of the rims are different and they have a wide variety among which we can refer to jug with outcurving rim (Pl. 4:1), jug with rounded outcurving rim (Pl. 4:2), jug with inwardbent rim thickened in the inside (Pl. 4:3), and jug with incurving rim thickened in the outside (Pl. 4:4). Sample of these jugs are not seen in other Parthian sites.

Another form of these jugs is a jug with thickened incurving rim (Pl. 4:5), similar samples of which were found in Qal'eh Yazdgird (Keall & Keall 1981, Fig. 11:19) and Bisotun (Alibaigi 2009, p.245: 11); their differences are that the sample from Bisotun has insufficient baking, and it is handmade and has a orange-red wash on both sides.

4- Pots: in this group, there are pot with spherical body and outcurving rim (Pl. 5:1) a similar sample of which is reported from Ti-Haleh site in Khorramabad Valley (Khosravi 2006, Fig. 2:6); they are different in that the clay color of the Ti-Haleh sample is buff-colored and has a buff-colored slip on both sides.

There are pot with rounded outcurving rim (Pl. 5:2), similar to a sample reported in Khorheh (Rahbar 2003, p.151:19); their difference is that the Khorheh sample has no impressed decoration, its clay color is red and has a blackish brown colored slip on the outside; it is also handmade from the technical point of view.

The other types of pot which have not been found in other Parthian sites include pot with rim bending inward thickened on the inside (Pl. 5:3), pot with rounded rim bending inward (Pl 5:4) and neckless pot with outcurving rim and a groove on the inside of the rim (Pl. 5:5).

5- Goblet: these forms include goblet with thin outcurving rim (Pl. 6:1), similar to the sample found in Shaor, Susa (Boucharlat

& Labrousse 1979, Fig. 29:4); their difference is that the sample from Susa doesn't have a slip and the clay is light yellow.

6- Plate: there is plate with outcurving rim (Pl. 6:2), which has no similar sample in other Parthian sites.

7- pithos: there is pithos with outcurving rim and a hole on the bottom (Pl. 6:3), which has no similar sample in other Parthian sites.

Among common potteries, some of the studied samples are related to the bottoms of different wares which are built either in a flat shape (Pl. 6:4,5) or a concave shape (Pl. 6:6); the sample no. 4 of Pl. 6 is similar to the sample found in Seleucia (Debevoise 1934, Fig. 178-187:187); they are different in that the clay color of Seleucia sample is dark yellow and has no slip on either side. Sample no. 5 of Pl. 6 is similar to Khorheh sample (Rahbar 2003, p.156:65) with the only difference that the clay color of Khorheh sample is buff-colored. Pottery no. 6 of Pl. 6 is similar to the sample reported from Seleucia (Debevoise 1934, Fig. 63-74:72) with the difference that the clay color of the pottery from Seleucia is dark yellow.

The Common ware decoration

Common potteries have four different decorations:

1- cordage design which can be seen on the outward surface of the pottery which is the most important decorative element on the potteries of this cemetery (Pl. 7:1). This decoration is similar to the cordage design of Parthian Burial jar in Taq-i Bustan in Kermanshah (Kambakhsh Fard 1998, Fig. 16);

2- relief decoration which can be seen in parallel strips on the outward surface of the pottery (Pl. 7: 2).

3-Finger-impressed decoration which can be seen on the outward surface of the pottery (Pl. 7:3). This decoration is similar to the decorations on Ti-Haleh site potteries in Khorramabad Valley (Khosravi 2006 Fig. 3:11)

4-Impressed decoration found on the outward surface and on the rim (Pl. 7:4); (Pl. 1:3).

The Clinky ware

Technical features: the inside and outside color of these potteries are orange, red,

brown, light brown, very light brown, orange-brown, gray, and sometimes brownish pink, buff and pink, but the core of the potteries are usually gray or light gray or dark gray. Just in one case, the clay color is pink which is due to the fine of the pottery body. The temper used in these potteries are not evident. All the potteries are made with kick wheel and have regular and uniform shapes. The heat was sufficient for baking, and the texture of the potteries was solid and firm and their clay was integrated, compact and conjoined. All potteries have smooth, fine clay. Nothing has been done on the outside and inside of the potteries; however, in one case, the outside and inside surface is burnished and in another case, the inside surface has a red slip. Furthermore, in some cases, the traces of kick wheel are visible on both sides of the potteries.

The Clinky ware shapes

In this category, we can refer to bowls and cups.

1- Bowls: among the index shapes of this category, there are bowls with thick outcurving rim (Pl. 8: 1,2,3), the Similar samples of which are reported from Bisotun (Kleiss 1996: Abb. 5), Laodicea Temple in Nahavand (Rahbar and Alibaigi 2011, Fig. 4: 23,25), Tepe Azima in Sar-i Pole Zahab (Kleiss 1973, Abb. 39) and Tepe Do Aab II in Kangavar (Mohammadifar 1384, pl. 37: 4).

Other forms include bowl with rounded rim and a groove on the outside surface of the body (Pl 8:4), which is similar to the sample reported from Tepe Nush-IJan (Haerinck 1983, Fig. 15:7). The only difference is that the diameter of Nush-IJan sample is less than this one.

The other shape is a small bowl with rounded incurving rim and a spherical body (Pl. 8:5); similar to the samples reported from Khorheh (Rahbar 2003, p.162: 121), Laodicea Temple in Nahavand (Rahbar and Alibaigi 2011, Fig. 4:24), Qal'eh Zahak in Azerbaijan (Kleiss 1973, Abb22: 4) and Mah-Neshan region in Zanjan (Khosrowzadeh and Aali 2004, Fig. 11:7).

Bowl with rounded incurving rim and spherical body (Pl. 8:6) or with thickened

rounded incurving rim (Pl. 8:7), are other shapes of clinky bowls. A similar sample of the first is reported from Bisotun (Alibaigi 2009, p.270:13; Kleiss 1970, Abb. 28. C:7) and the similar sample of the latter is not reported in other Parthian sites.

Another type of bowl, not reported in other Parthian sites, includes a bowl with sharp rim and spherical body (Pl. 8:8).

2- Cups: the index shapes of cups include cups with thick outcurving rim (Pl. 9:1,2), which are similar to the samples reported from Bisotun (Alizadeh 2003, Fig. 4: 6; Kleiss 1996: Abb. 5).

Another shape is a cup with incurving rim (Pl. 9:3), the similar sample of which is not reported from other Parthian sites.

One more type is a cup with simple rounded rim (Pl. 9:4), which is similar to the sample reported from Bisotun (Kleiss 1996, Abb. 15).

Among clinky wares, concave bottoms (Pl. 10:1-4) can also be found. These bottoms have a depression at the junction of the body and the bottom and belong to ware with different applications. Similar sample of pottery no. 1 of Pl. 10 is reported from Laodicea Temple in Nahavand (Rahbar and Alibaigi 2011, Fig. 4: 61). similar sample of Pottery no. 2 of Pl. 10 is reported from in the west of Sarab-e Bisotun, down Dariush relief's valley (Kleiss 1996: Abb. 15); however, potteries similar to no. 3 and 4 of Pl. 10 are not reported from other Parthian sites.

The Clinky ware Decoration

Clinky potteries found in Sang-e Shir site cemetery are all simple and without decoration.

The Glazed ware

The clay of glazed potteries are all buff-colored and their temper are fine sand, grit and sand; however, in some cases, white particles can also be seen. All the potteries are wheel made, well-baked (with proper heat) and have integrated, compact texture (in although case has granulated texture). The glaze on the surface of the potteries isn't in an appropriate condition and in some cases, it's all destroyed or just the tint or a small

part or the crust under the glaze has remained. In one case, only the crust under the glaze has remained on both sides. The glaze remainder on other cases is matte and cracked. The glaze on potteries is complete and untouched only in two cases. The glazes on potteries' surfaces are green, dark green or light green. Most potteries have medium clay and just two cases have fine clay.

The Glazed ware shapes

Bowls and necked jugs are in this group.

1- Bowls: in this group, there are bowl with outcurving rim and slight depressions under the outside rim (Pl. 11:1), which are similar to the sample reported from Tepe Nush-IJan (Haerinck 1983, Fig. 17: 4), Masjid Soleiman (Ghirshman 1976, Pl. 49, MIS 340) and Seleucia (Debevoise 1934, Fig. 200-211:209 and fig 212-219:219). The differences are that the Nush-IJan sample's glaze color is white to light green and its rim diameter is smaller than Sang-e Shir's; the clay color of Masjid Soleiman sample is matte orange and its rim diameter is smaller than Sang-e Shir bowl and the glaze on inside and outside surfaces is destroyed. This bowl is similar to a bowl reported from Seleucia in Mesopotamia (Fig. 200-211:209) in every aspect (form, glaze color and clay color) and is comparable to another sample (Fig. 212-219:219) except for the glaze color.

Other shapes with no similar sample in other Parthian sites include a bowl with rounded outcurving rim and carinated body (Pl. 11:2) and an open-mouth bowl with incurving rim and a groove under the inside rim (Pl. 11:3).

2- Necked jugs: one of the jugs included in this category is a jug with outcurving rim (Pl. 11:4), which are similar to the sample reported from Seleucia in Mesopotamia (Debevoise 1934, Fig. 291-297:291 & Fig. 307-316: 311); this jug is comparable to one of the samples from Seleucia (Fig. 307-316:311) except for the glaze color.

Other jugs in this category include a jug with the rim sloped outward and the neck inclined inward (Pl. 11:5) and a jug with

rounded rim and a groove below the rim on the outside (Pl. 11:6) Glazed samples similar to these are not reported from other sites.

The Glazed ware Decoration

Glazed potteries found in Sang-e Shir cemetery are all simple and without decoration.

Dating of Sang-e Shir Cemetery

The dating of Sang-e Shir cemetery of Hamedan is based on the potteries found in the excavations of this site and the comparison between this site and other sites excavated in west, southwest and northwest of Iran and central Mesopotamia (Seleucia).

Considering the technical features of the Common pottery, including use of red slip, which are indicative of the first period, use of slip all over the wares or on the upper part of the pottery which is typical of middle-Parthian potteries (Haerinck 1983:24, 38), and considering the various shapes of common potteries, including goblets with flat bottoms (Pl 6:1) belonging to third-first century BC or bowls with outcurving rim and carinated body (Pl 1:2) belonging to first period or even before, to Acaemenid era based on Remy Boucharlat (Haerinck 1983:22, 56), and also regarding the comparison between these potteries and other potteries from sites dated in the west (Kangavar, Bisotun, Khorheh, Ti-Haleh site in Khorramabad Valley), southwest (Tepe Darougheh, level III of Chaour palace-Susa, eastern Apadana-Susa, level VI of Ville Royale in Susa, Masjid Soleiman), northeast of Iran (the site of Germi in Moghan plain) and central Mesopotamia (Seleucia), they can be dated back to early and middle Parthian period.

Among the most important potteries found in Sang-e Shir cemetery are clinky potteries which are very prominent and typical elements of middle Parthian period; their date and source would probably go back to the first half of second century BC (Haernick 1983:103). Comparing these with other clinky potteries discovered in dated sites in west (Bisotun, Nush-IJan, Khorheh), it can be concluded that clinky potteries of Sang-e Shir cemetery of Hamedan belong to

the middle Parthian Era.

Few glazed potteries were discovered in the excavations of this cemetery which led to few comparable forms in other Parthian sites. Considering the clay color, technical features of the glaze, including their improper condition (in some cases, the glaze is destroyed completely, in other cases only the lining of the glaze is visible on the pottery or in some other cases, the remaining glaze is cracked and flaky) and also based on the comparison between these potteries and potteries from other dated sites in the southwest (Masjid Soleiman) and central Mesopotamia (Seleucia), the glazed potteries found in this cemetery can be dated back to early Parthian period. However, among the glazed potteries, there are two sherds belonging to the body of wares which can be dated back to middle Parthian period on the basis of technical features of the glaze (which is intact and crack-less).

Generally, based on the study and typology of potteries and their comparison with potteries found in other dated sites in the four cultural regions of west, northwest and southwest of Iran and central Mesopotamia, the potteries obtained from Sang-e shir cemetery of Hamedan can be said to belong to early and middle Parthian period; this dating is confirmed with other documents found in the said cemetery, including three Parthian coins belonging to Mithradate I (171-138 BC), Phraates II (138-128 BC) and Gotarzes II (51-38 BC).

Conclusion

Comparative and typological analysis of Parthian potteries of Sang-e Shir cemetery of Hamedan reveals the following points regarding each category of potteries:

Common potteries in Sang-e Shir site of Hamedan are the most prevalent potteries used by people inhabiting this area at Parthian period. Based on the comparisons, it became apparent that there are formal similarities between potteries of this site and other Parthian potteries found in west, southwest and northwest of Iran and central Mesopotamia. However, these potteries have very few similarities with the cultural regions in west-

ern and northwestern Iran considering technical features; on this basis, it seems that there were connections between Sang-e shir site and the mentioned areas, which is indicative of cultural relations between them. In this regard, it is worth referring to the points of difference, innovations and local factors affecting the common potteries of Sang-Shir cemetery, including the quality, color, type of slip, temper, new forms and also the existence of shiny particles which were probably in the area's soil and were not added by the potter to the temper (Alizade 2003:94). Therefore, based on what was said, it seems that common pottery of Sang-e Shir cemetery of Hamedan show indigenous features and can be considered a local variety made in local kilns and are comparable to other cultural regions from a formal viewpoint.

Sang-e Shir site also shows similarities with sites in west of Iran in its clinky pottery. Clinky wares of Sang-e Shir site are similar to wares found in west of Iran, from Bisotun, Nush-IJan Tepe, Khorheh, Tepe Azima in Sar-i Pol Zahab and Tepe Do Aab II in Kangaver. In fact, the geographical distribution of clinky pottery category in western Iran and the homogeneity of these potteries indicate cultural homogeneity of these areas. Moreover, Clinky potteries of Sang-e Shir show some similarities with Northwest fields (Qaleh Zahak and MahNeshan region in Zanjan); since clinky potteries are most probably an independent and original indigenous product of western Iran (Haerinck 1983), and considering the fact that for some clinky potteries of Sang-e Shir site cemetery (47%), there were no similar sample in other cultural regions, it can be concluded that there were local shops for making this kind of pottery.

The glazed potteries of Sang-e Shir site are also similar to the prevalent potteries of Mesopotamia and southwest Iran. These potteries have buff-colored clay and are wheelmade which is typical of Mesopotamia and southwest Iran's pottery. This leads to the conclusion that there were relations between Sang-Shir site and Mesopotamia and southern Iran in Parthian period, and this

relation can be confirmed based on the similarities between glazed potteries of these sites at the mentioned period. Glazed potteries found in Sang-e Shir cemetery site in Hamedan are very few in number, but it was very glazed pottery in Mesopotamia and Khouzistan, which may lead to the conclusion that this category of pottery were imported to this site as a result of cultural contact between Sang-e Shir site and the said regions through commercial relations.

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Leyla Əfşari

QƏRBİ İRAN - HƏMƏDAN SANG-E SİR NEKROPOLUNUN PARFİYA DULUS MƏMULATLARININ TİPOLOJİ ANALİZİ

XÜLASƏ

Sang-e-Şir bölgəsi Həmədan şəhərinin şərqində yerləşir. Bu bölgənin şimal-şərq hissəsində təbii təpə üzərində böyük nekropol mövcuddur. Daş aslan heykəli isə bölgənin cənub-qərbində ən yüksək zirvəsində yerləşir. Bu nekropol ilk dəfə 1966-cı ildə Əli Əkbər Sərfərəz tərəfindən aşkar edilmiş, daha sonralar isə həmin ərazidə 1974-75-ci illərdə Məsud Azarnoş tərəfindən Əhəməni, Selevki, Parfiya dövlətləri tarixi və islam dövrünə aid qəbirlər tədqiq edilmişdir. Bu məqalədə nekropoldan aşkar edilmiş Parfiya saxsı məmulatlarının öyrənilməsi, tipoloji analizi, müqayisə və onların arasındakı fərqlər nəzərdən keçirilmiş, nəticədə bu qabların müxtəlif tipləri (ümumi, şirli) müəyyənləşdirilmişdir. Dulusçuluq məmulatlarının müqayisəli öyrənilməsi Parfiya saxsı qablarının mərkəzi Mesopotomiya, qərbi, cənub-qərbi və şimal-qərbi İran saxsı qabları ilə oxşarlıq təşkil etdiyini söyləməyə imkan verir. Bu təhlil əsasında Həmədan ərazisindəki Sang-e Sir nekropolundan aşkar edilmiş saxsı məmulatlarını erkən və orta Parfiya dövrünə aid etmək olar.

Parallel	Comments	Kind and Place of Decoration	Surface	Degree of Baking	Making Quality	Making Technique	Internal Slip	External Slip	Internal Color	External Color	Temper	ClayColor	Test Trench	Trench	No.
Alibaigi 2009, P.232: 11 Khosrozadeh &Aali, 2005, Fig 59:2	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Slip	Slip	Red (Destro- yed)	Red (Destro- yed)	Grit and Sand	Light brown	-	J13.	1
Moham- madifar, 2005, pl. 12:12, Haerinck 1983, Fig 9:8	-	-	Both sides, Wet- smooth	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Buff	Buff	Grit	Buff	-	J12	2
Kleiss 1970, Abb 25:3	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	Impressed decoration – on the rim	,	Insufficient	Medium	Hand made	1	,	Brown	Brown	Grit, Sand Spall, and Stucco particles impurity	Brown	-	G10	3
Kleiss 1970, Abb 26: 55	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made?	?	Wash	?	Buff	Grit, Sand and White granules	Light brown	T.T.2	•	4
-	-	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Slip	Slip, (Destro- yed)	Red	Red (destro- yed)	Grit, Spall, and White granules	Light brown	-	C13	5
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	-	-	Dark orange	Dark orange	Grit, Sand, and White granules	Dark orange	-	E3	6
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	ı	1	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Wash	Wash	Gray	Gray	Sand and white granules	Black	-	J13	7
	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-		Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	?	Wash	?	Buff	Grit, Sand	Light brown	T.T. 2	-	8

Parallel	Comments	Kind and Place of Decoration	Surface	Degree of Baking	Making Quality	Making Technique	Internal Slip	External Slip	Internal Color	External Color	Temper	Clay color	Test Trench	Trench	No.
Debevoise 1934, Fig 1- 10:6	-	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	-	Wash	Very light brown	Buff-	Grit, Sand, White granules	Very light brown	T.T. 2		1
Khosrozadeh and Aali 2005B, Fig. 144:2, Khosrozadeh and Aali 2005A, Fig 27:14	-	-	Outside, Wet- smooth	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	?	-	?	Very light brown	Non visible	Pink	T.T. 2	-	2
Alibaigi 2009, P.244:6	-	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Slip	Slip, (Destro- yed)	Red	Red (Destro- yed)	Grit, Sand and White granules	Light orange	-	C13	3
Kleiss 1996, Abb 9	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	?	-	?	Dark orange	Grit, Sand and Few white granules	Dark orange	T.T.2	-	4
Kleiss 1970, Abb 25:3	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Orange	Orange	Non visible	Orange	T.T.2	-	5
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	•	Outside, Wet- smooth	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	?	-	?	Very light brown	Grit, Sand	Light orange	T.T.2		6
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Insufficient	Medium	Wheel made	-	-	Brown	Brown	Grit	Gray- Black	T.T.2	-	7
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area		Outside, Wet- smooth	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	?	-	?	Brown- Red	Grit, Sand and White granules	Dark orange	-	B14	8

Parallel	Comments	Kind and Place of Decoration	Surface	Degree of Baking	Making Quality	Making Technique	Internal Slip	External Slip	Internal Color	External Color	Temper	ClayColor	Test Trench	Trench	No.
Kleiss 1070, Abb 26:5 Khosrozadeh &Aali 2004, Fig 8:6	Shiny parti- cles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	-	-	Orange	Orange	Grit, White granules	Dark orange	T.T. 2	-	1
Khosrozadeh and Aali 2005B, Fig. 146:2	Shiny parti- cles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Slip	Slip	Buff	Buff	Grit, Sand	Light brown	-	B15	2
Khosrozadeh&Aali 2004, Fig 8:8	-	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Slip	Slip	Buff	Buff	Grit and White granules	Light orange	-	C13	3
Boucharlat 1987, Fig 64:3	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Wash	Wash	Buff	Buff	Grit, Sand and White granules	Orange	-	F7	4
-	Shiny parti- cles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Slip	Slip	Buff	Buff	Sand and White granules	Very light orange	-	E7	5
Khosrozadeh&Aali 2004, Fig 9:2	Shiny parti- cles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Slip	Slip	Buff	Buff	Grit, Sand, White granules, Chipped - stone	Light brown	-	J13	6
Kleiss 1970, Abb 26:51, Mohammadifar 2005, Pl. 34:1, Rahbar 2003, P.160:109, Aghalari&dehPahlavan 2011, Pl. 6:7	Shiny parti- cles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	-	-	Dark orange	Dark orange	Grit, Sand, White granules	Dark orange	-	G7	7
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	Wash	Dark orange	Light brown	Fine grit, Sand	Dark orange	T.T.2	-	8

Parallel	Comments	Kind and Place of Decoration	surface	Degree of Baking	Making Quality	Making Technique	Internal Slip	External Slip	Internal Color	External Color	Temper	Clay Color	Test Trench	Trench	No.
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Slip	-	Dark buff	Orange	Grit, Sand, White granules	Orange	-	E7	1
-	-	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	-	Wash	Light orange	Buff colored	Grit, Fine sand, White granules	Light orange	-	D12	2
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	-	-	Brown	Dark orange	Grit, Sand, White granules	Light orange	T.T.2	-	3
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Coarse	Wheel made	-	1	Pink	Pink	Grit, Sand, White granules, Chipped- stone	Red	-	B15	4
Keall&Keall 1981, Fig 11:19 Alibaigi 2009, P.245: 11	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	1	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	?	Slip	?	Light orange	Sand	Dark orange	-	B15	5

Parallel	Comments	Kind and Place o Decoration	Surface	Degree of Baking	Making Quality	Making Technique	Internal Slip	External Slip	Internal Color	External Color	Temper	Clay Color	Test Trench	Trench	No.
Khosravi 2006, Fig. 2:6	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Insufficient	Medium	Wheel made	-	-	Light orange	Light orange	Grit, Sand White granules, Chipped- stone	Dark orange	-	G10	1
Rahbar 2003, P.151: 19	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	Impressed decoration- outside	-	Insufficient	Coarse	Combination (Wheel made and Hand made)	-	-	Brown	Brown	Grit, Sand, White granules	Brown	-	G10	2
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Insufficient	Medium	Wheel made	?	-	?	Light brown	Sand, White granules	Red	-	G10	3
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	-	Slip	Light orange	Orange	Grit, White granules	Brown	-	G8	4
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Wash	Wash	Light buff	Light buff	Grit, Spall	Light brown	T.T. 2	-	5

Parallel	Comments	Kind and Place of Decoration	Surface	Degree of Baking	Making Quality	Making Technique	Internal Slip	External Slip	Internal Color	External Color	Temper	Clay Color	Test Trench	Trench	No.
Boucharlat& Labrousse 1979, Fig 29:4	In the inside surface, there are traces similar to textile in vertical shape	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made?	Slip, (Destroy)	Wash	Red	Buff	Sand	Brown	-	K9	1
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Wash	Wash	Light gray	Light gray	Grit, Sand and White granules	Brown- Olive	T.T. 2	1	2
-	-	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Combination (wheel made and Handmade)	-	?	Light orange	?	Grit, Spall, Stucco particles impurity	Orange	-	C20	3
Debevoise 1934, Fig 178-187: 187	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area			Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	-	Slip	Orange	Dark red	Grit, Sand, Stucco particles impurity	Orange	,	G10	4
Rahbar 2003, P.156: 65	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	-	-	Dark orange	Dark orange	Grit, Sand and White granules	Dark orange	-	G7	5
Debevoise 1934, Fig 63- 74: 72	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Pink	Pink	Non visible	Light gray	T.T.2	-	6

Parallel	Comments	Kind and Place of Decoration	Surface	Degree of Baking	Making Quality	Making Technique	Internal Slip	External Slip	Internal Color	External Color	Temper	Clay Color	Test Trench	Trench	No.
Kambakhsh Fard 1998, Fig 16	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	Cordage design- Outside	-	Insufficient	Medium	Hand made	-	-	Brown	Brown	Grit, Spall	Brown	-	G10	1
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	Relief decoration- Outside	,	Sufficient	Medium	wheel made	-	Slip	Orange	Buff	Grit, Sand, White granules	Orange	,	M10	2
Khosravi 2006, Fig 3: 11	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	Finger- impressed decoration- Outside	-	Sufficient	Coarse	Hand made	?	-	?	Light orange	Grit, Sand, White granules, Chipped- stone	Orange	-	B15	3
-	Shiny particles in temper; probably because of the soil of the area	Impressed decoration- outside	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Dark orange	Dark orange	Grit, Sand and White granules	Dark orange	T.T.2	-	4

Parallel	Comments	Kind and Place of Decoration	Surface	Degree of Baking	Making Quality	Making Technique	Internal Slip	External Slip	Internal Color	External Color	Temper	Clay Color	Test Trench	Trench	No.
Kleiss 1996, Abb 5, Rahbar&Alibaigi 2011, Fig 4: 25	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Very light brown	Very light brown	Non visible	Gray	T.T. 2		1
Kleiss 1996, Abb 5, Rahbar&Alibaigi 2011, Fig 4: 23	-	-	1	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	1	1	Pink	Very light pink- brown	Non visible	Gray	T.T. 2	-	2
Kleiss 1996, Abb 5, Kleiss, 1973: Abb 39 Mohammadifar 2005, Pl. 37: 4	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Very light brown	Very light brown	Non visible	Gray	T.T. 2	-	3
Haerinck 1983, Fig 15:7	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	?	•	?	Orange- Brown	Non visible	Gray	-	F6	4
Rahbar 2003, P.162: 121 Rahbar & Alibaigi 2011, Fig:4: 24 Kleiss 1973, Abb 22:4 Khosrowzadeh & Aali 2004, Fig 11: 7	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Light brown	Light brown	Non visible	Gray	-	C 13	5
Kleiss 1996, Abb 5, Alibaigi 2009, P.270: 13 Kleiss 1970 Abb. 28. C:7	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Very light brown	Very light brown	Non visible	Gray	T.T.2	-	6
-	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Light orange	Light orange	Non visible	Gray	T.T.2	-	7
-	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Light brown	Light orange	Non visible	Gray	T.T.2	-	8

Parallel	Comments	Kind and Place of Decoration	Surface	Degree of Baking	Making Quality	Making Technique	Internal Slip	External Sip	Internal Color	External Color	Temper	Clay Color	Test Trench	Trench	No.
Kleiss 1996, Abb 5	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Brown	Brown	Non visible	Dark gray	-	F7	1
Alizadeh 2003, Fig 4: 6	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Light brown	Light brown	Non visible	Gray	-	F7	2
-	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	1	-	Orange - Brown	Orange - Brown	Non visible	Dark gray	-	B 14	3
Haerinck 1983, Fig 15:1	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	Slip	-	Red	Brown	Non visible	Gray	T.T.2	-	4

Parallel	Comments	Kind and Place of Decoration	Surface	Degree of Baking	Making Quality	Making Technique	Internal Slip	External Slip	Internal Color	External Color	Temper	Clay Color	Test Trench	Trench	No.
-	-	-		Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Light gray	Light gray	Non visible	Light gray	T.T.2	-	1
-	-	-		Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Light brown	Lighr brown	Non visible	Gray	T.T.2	-	2
-	Traces of kick wheel are visible on both surfaces	-	Burnished- both Surface	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Brown- Pink	Brown- Pink	Non visible	Gray		E7	3
-	-	-		Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	-	-	Orange	Orange	Non visible	Dark gray		B14	4

Parallel	Comments	Kind and Place of Decoration	Surface	Degree of Baking	Making Quality	Making Technique	Internal Slip	External Slip	Internal Color	External Color	Temper	Clay color	Test Trench	Trench	No.
Haerinck 1983, Fig 17:4 Ghirshman 1976, Pl. 49, MIS 340 Debevoise 1934, Fig 200-211: 209; Fig 212-219:	-	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	Glazed	Glazed (Destro- yed)	Dark green	Dark green (Destro- yed)	Fine sand	Buff	T.T. 2	1	1
-	The outside glaze is destroyed and only the lining is remained	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	Glazed	Glazed	Green (Destro- yed)	Destro- yed	Fine sand	Buff	T.T. 2	-	2
-	-	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Glazed (Destro- yed)	Glazed (Destro- yed)	Green (Destro- yed)	Green (Destro- yed)	Grit	Buff	T.T. 2	-	3
Debevoise 1934, Fig 291- 297: 291; Fig 307- 316: 311	-	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Glazed	Glazed	Bluish green (Destro- yed)	Bluish green (Destro- yed)	Grit, Sand	Buff	-	C 18	4
-	The outside glaze is destroyed and only the lining is remained	-	-	Sufficient	Fine	Wheel made	Glazed	Glazed (Destro- yed)	Green (Destro- yed)	Destro- yed	Fine sand, Grit	Buff	T.T.2	ı	5
-	The glaze on both sides is destroyed and only the lining has remained	-	-	Sufficient	Medium	Wheel made	Glazed (Destro- yed)	Glazed (Destro- yed)	Destro- yed	Destro- yed	Grit, Sand and Few white granules	Buff	T.T.2	-	6

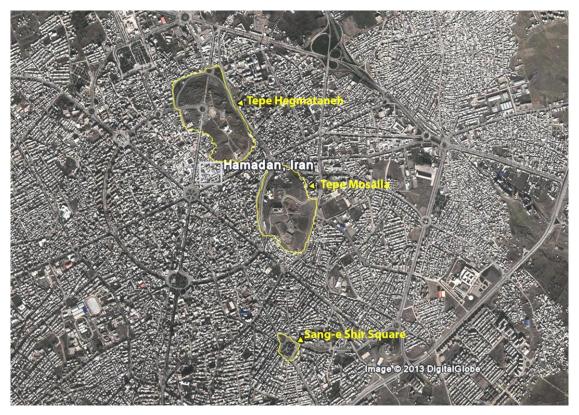


Fig. 1. Aerial view of Hamedan and the location of Sang-e Shir Square.



Fig. 2. The view of Parthian Cemetery of Hamedan to Tepe Mosalla which there are traces of a Parthian fortress,1966 (Sarfaraz, 1966: 7).

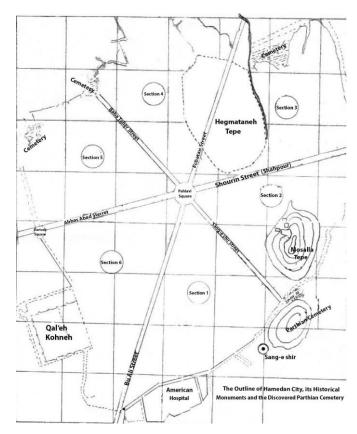


Fig. 3. The outline of Hamedan city, its historical monuments and the discovered Parthian cemetery (Sarfaraz, 1966: 8).



Fig. 4. Stone Lion statuary and the part of Sang-e Shir site which is turned into square.

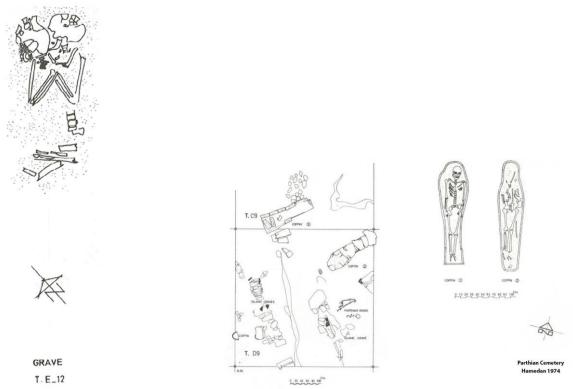


Fig. 5. Squat burial, Sang-e Shir cemetery Hamedan (Azarnoush, 1975: 68).

Fig. 6. Coffin burials plan with the head oriented to South-West (Azarnoush, 1975: 67).

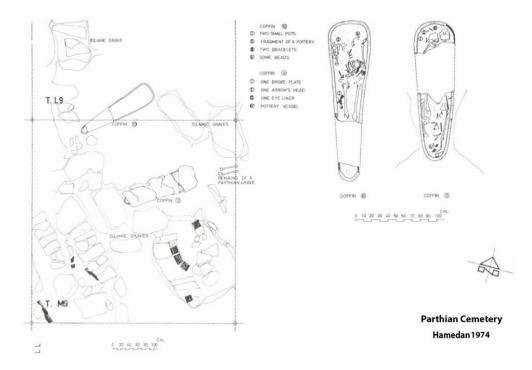
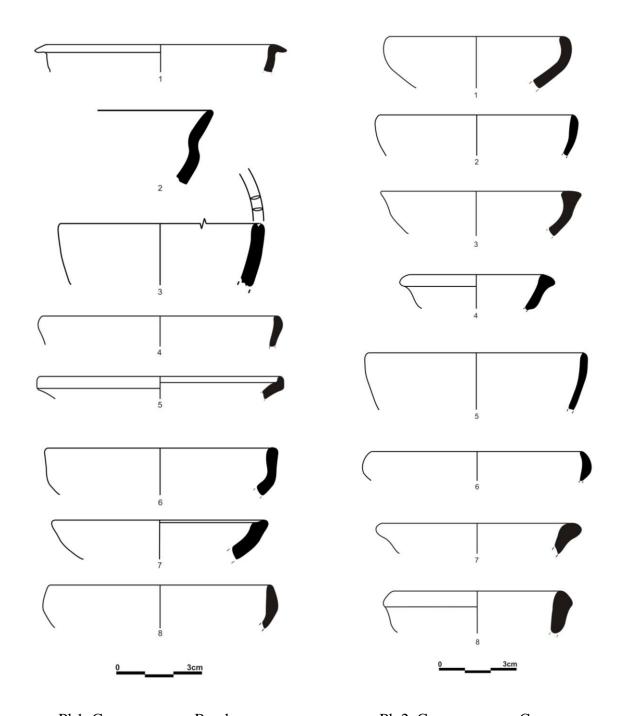


Fig.7. Coffin burials plan with the head oriented to North-East (Azarnoush, 1975: 66).

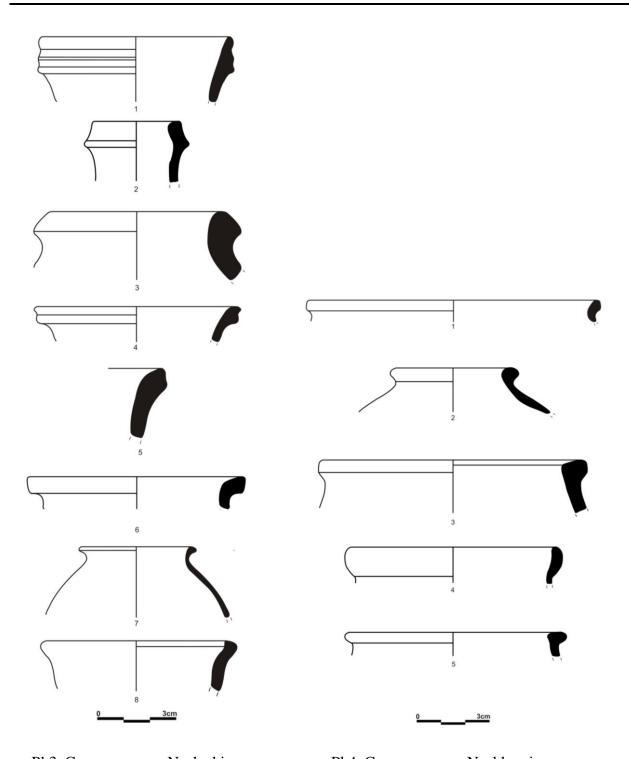


Fig. 8. Coin belonging to Mithradate I (No. 1), Coin belonging to Phraates II (No. 2), Coin belonging to Gotarzes II (No. 3); Sang-e Shir cemetery of Hamedan (The National Museum of Iran-Historical Section).



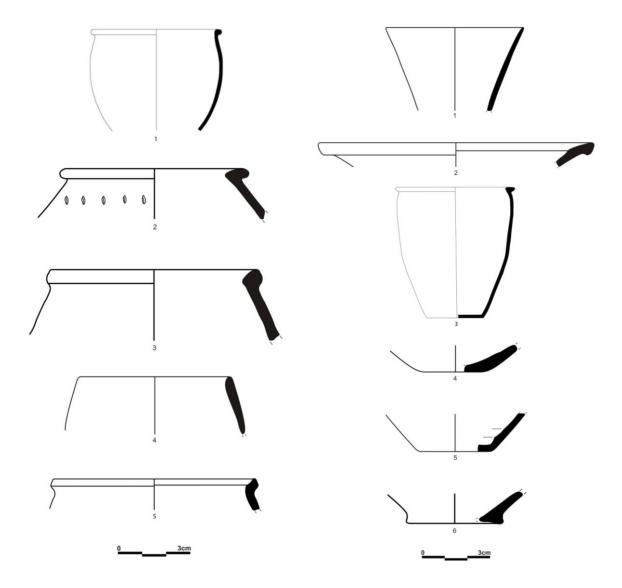
Pl.1. Common ware, Bowls

Pl. 2. Common ware, Cups



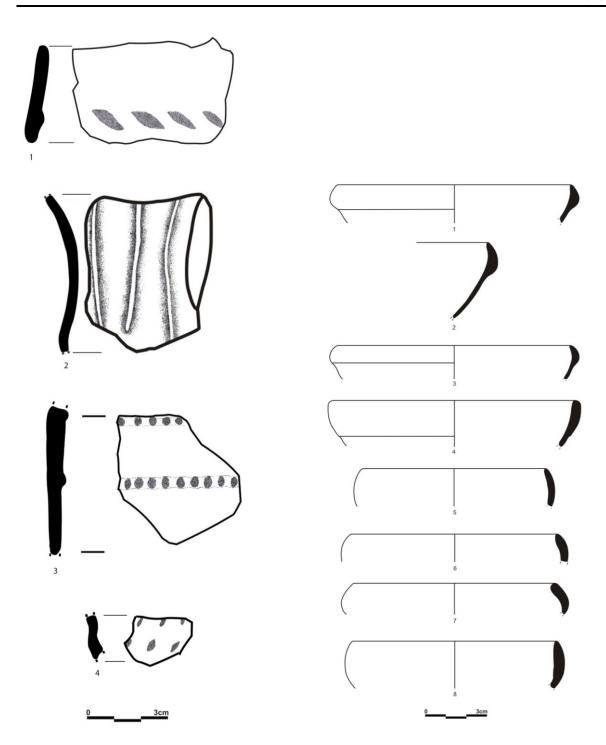
Pl.3. Common ware, Necked jugs

Pl.4. Common ware, Neckless jugs



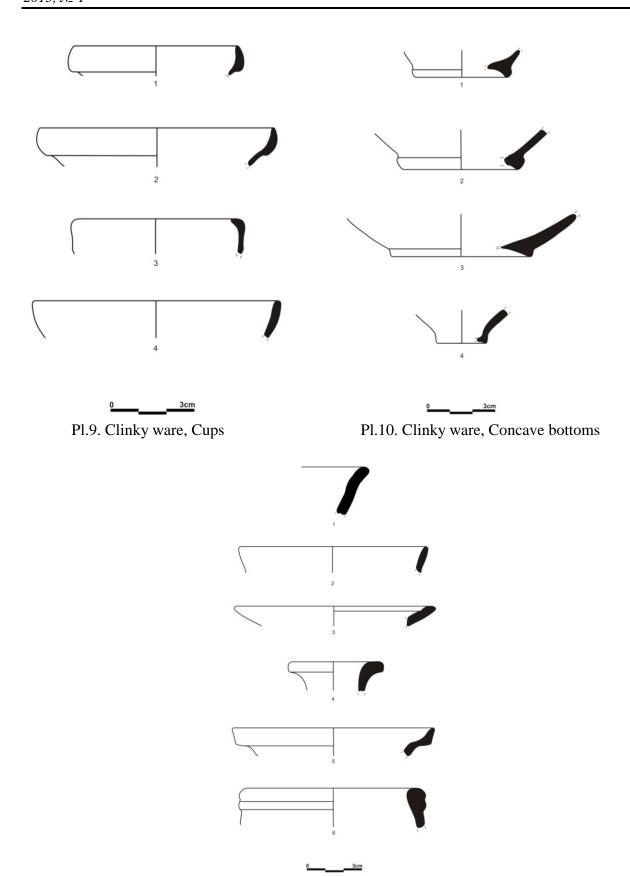
Pl.5. Common ware, Pots Pl.6.

Common ware, Goblet, Plate, Pithos and Flat and Concave bottoms



Pl.7. Common ware, With cordage design, Relief, Finger impressed and Impressed decorations.

Pl.8. Clinky ware, Bowls



Pl.11. Glazed ware, Bowls and Necked jugs