

1ST BIENNIAL
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
OF THE SOCIETY OF
IRANIAN ARCHAEOLOGY:
"CULTURAL INTERACTIONS,
CONTINUITY AND DISRUPTION"

EDITED BY:

SEYED MEHDI MOUSAVI
SHAHIN ARYAMANESH
MAJID MONTAZER ZOHORI
MORTEZA KHANIPOUR



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Glazed Parthian Pottery as Luxury Goods from a Roman Fortress on the Middle Euphrates' area during the II-III cent. AD.

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Abstract

This paper presents the glazed pottery found into the unpublished Roman fortress of Kifrin, on the middle Euphrates' river by the Italian excavation in Iraq (1980-1983) during the Haditha Dam project. This project aimed to understand the relations between the surveyed pottery and the archaeological contexts to define the chronology and the use of these assemblages referred to several periods between the Parthian-Roman and the Islamic periods. The whole area was subdivided in 44 sectors and all the diagnostic sherds were collected, after registered and recently studied according to their morphological and technical features, in order to find out the distribution and the meaning of the distribution of the different typological and chronological assemblages with a particular attention to the fabric which generally was without the glaze but which is recognizable as referred to the glazed pottery thanks to the specific characteristics of the fabric. A limited sounding and later a topographical survey were conducted there. In Kifrin there were a typical Parthian archaeological phase referred at a first Parthian settlement and a later phase (Late Parthian, coeval of the Roman frequentation of the site (II-III Cent. AD). When Kifrin was under the Roman Army, the urban centre was importing luxury goods as the Parthian glazed potteries (cups and jugs) from Dura Europos because of an exclusive purchaser, probably

the high officers of the Roman Army with a coordinating role in the fortress.

Key words: glazed pottery, Parthian, Roman, Euphrates, Mesopotamia.

The investigation of the site of Kifrin (1980-1983) was the Italian contribution to the Haditha Project thanks to the archaeological mission at Kifrin. The site is located on the East bank of the Euphrates, between the islands of Telbis and Bijan, 135 km SE of Dura (Fig. 1). It is a large site on a rocky spur (Fig. 2), dominating the cultivated bank of the river and included in the Roman defence system of forts, such as Ana, Ertaje, Telbis and Bijan. All these fortified settlements were key points, along the river, with a great strategic importance patrolling the southern part of the Middle Euphrates' valley. Among these fortified sites and forts, Kifrin is the largest and the most important settlement¹. The archaeological remains occupy an area longing 1 km and wide around 250 mt, clearly divided into two parts: the so-called city, closed towards the Jazira by a line of walls, and the citadel, on the northern edge of the spur, completely enclosed by defensive walls. The architectural and urban layout, with the presence of public or residential buildings underline the importance of the site. The circuit of the city walls and of the citadel are built with stone and gypsum mortar using a similar technique and are strengthened by rectangular towers².

The town displays a scattered layout which cannot be recognized as a proper urban network: the official heart of the city was the monumental area of the so-called "building A" and "building B" (Fig.

¹ (Forthcoming) Lippolis, C. (Ed.), *Kifrin: una roccaforte sull'Eufrate*, Centro Ricerche Archeologiche e Scavi, Università di Torino, Turin.

² Measures of the tower: 5-7 Mt. wide at regular distance; 15 Mt. in the citadel and 25-30 Mt. in the town. The design of wall and towers is similar to that at Dura, with stairs raising to the wall-walk. The three external ditches running parallel to the north wall of the town, cut the walls at their eastern side and it must have been dug at a later date.

3). All around a number of dwellings, barracks, graves and open areas seem to be freely distributed on the ground¹.

About the citadel (Fig. 4) its main gate was on the river side, on the very edge of the cliff. This is the only side of the fortified polygonal area where the walls are not with towers, except for the two ones flanking the gate. Inside the citadel, the buildings are located around a central soil depression. In the north corner, a building with a columned *perystilium*, an *atrium*, a vestibule and other units has been interpreted as the dwelling house of the military chief of the garrison². The ground plan of the building is strongly related with the residential private architecture of the Roman tradition³. The most significant building

¹ Because of the deep erosion of the ground, the building remains in the town are very fragmentary. Along the walls and close to the north corner of the town, there was a series of rooms and courtyards preserved at the foundation level, perhaps related to a military use. The town is dominated by the large building A (its destination could be official or religious), placed at the rear of a large enclosure with subsidiary buildings and raised three steps on the courtyard level. The ground plan of the huge building, point out a juxtaposition in a line of wide and narrow halls, opening outwards with two doors and two windows. Its façade was decorated with high half columns with ionic capitals and the interior was decorated with stucco ornaments: the stucco fragments shown besides western motives (palmettes, ovoli, astragals), human heads and figures decorating the walls, as in Hatra temples. In front of the building, but facing a different orientation, was an aedicule with columns. The building B seems a typically Parthian *iwan*, with two smaller rooms on the north side and an open space, provided with two basins, on the other. The presence of an *iwan*, in the Roman outpost of Kifrin, clearly indicates a strong co-existence of two (or more) different building traditions. The building B leads toward Parthian Mesopotamia, with its *iwan* similar to the Assur temple and its staircase climbing up to a second floor (or to the roof) is very reminiscent of similar features in the Hatra *iwan*. A religious use of this building would not be surprising because of the mixed composition of the inhabitants of this Roman garrison. Also the entire area in front of the building B must have been a public one which was in use perhaps during garrison parades and/or attended ceremonies.

² See Invernizzi 1986, pp. 357-381.

³ Several architectural reasons are suggesting the residential function of the building: its elongated planimetry (6.30 Mt x 1.80 Mt) with the open passages on each of its four sides which are characterized by a raised threshold on the room floor level; the thresholds of the narrow elongated room which were not arranged on the same axis, perhaps not to allow, from the courtyard, from the view of the innermost rooms of the building, to SE; the threshold in connection with the external area with a step on the outside of the room (while the other three ones have the step in the insider

placed in the citadel is the baths' complex (Fig. 4), close to the west corner. The building was originally a house perhaps where the Roman Army commander¹ primarily took his residential place into the fortress before the construction of the northern complex of the so-called building N, but later it changed its functional destination. The building became a private bathing complex, consisting in a large central courtyard with porticos and a floor covered with baked bricks. At the southern side there was a wide exedra opened into the courtyard, while on the opposite side there was the thermal block, with the apse of *calidarium* into the courtyard². There is no evidence about the foundation date of the Roman fortress of Kifrin and traces of destructions were not identified even if the reasons for the Roman abandoning of the fortress referring at the mid of the III Cent. AD are still now misunderstood³.

Dating the site

According to the architectural remains⁴ a Parthian native settlement before the arrival of the Romans is to be dated at the II Cent. AD when Kifrin was already a trade centre in connection with the traffic network linking the mid Euphrates' area and the NE of the Mesopotamia. In the area the presence of Palmyrens is attested before the arrival of the Roman Army⁵ and the site was fortified from the first period of the settlement but during the period of Septimius Severus the fortress received its military aspect that we know now-a-day thanks to the

direction of the rooms. It is evident, thanks to the presence of the passages to the various sectors of the area, that the elongated and narrow room had a hinge role between the SW area, the courtyard and the internal rooms to SE.

¹ See Invernizzi 1986, pp. 357-381.

² Outside the walls, just beside the main gate to the citadel, the remains of a second bath are visible; it was built leaning against a rock outcrop and several parts of the *suspensurae* still remained. These *extra moenia* baths were evidently intended for the use of the garrison and the inhabitants otherwise than the inner thermal building.

³ It is possible that Kifrin was evacuated because of the advance of the Sasanian army: from 237 AD to 256 AD, the Roman garrisons of Ain Sinu, Hatra, 'Ana and Dura fell under the power of Ardashir army and of Shapur one.

⁴ See Lippolis 2006, pp.367-396.

⁵ See Isaac 1990, p.147; see Gawlikowski 1987, pp.77-80.

archaeological excavations. The archaeologists¹ can demonstrate that the citadel was built in a second architectural phase², when the town walls were enlarged and the first residential building in the citadel was adapted to be the main bath building³; the architectural intervention was also improved enforcing the NW wall closer to the main entrance of the citadel⁴. It is possible to outline the recognized construction phases considering that among the other fortresses of the valley of the low Euphrates river which are located in the South of Dura, Kifrin is the largest and the most important fortified site of this area. The fortress' structures and the architectural commitment of some monumental buildings, as well as the recurrence of structures connected to a substantial Roman military presence are elements that underline the importance of this fortified military center clearly conceived as the headquarter of a high command and a substantial garrison to patrol an important river borderline, a true wedge stretching towards the heart of the Arsacid territory.

¹(Forthcoming) Lippolis, C. (Ed.), *Kifrin: una roccaforte sull'Eufrate*, Centro Ricerche Archeologiche e Scavi, Università di Torino, Turin.

² The citadel is located on a lower level than the entire site considering the main plan of the spur on which the town stands; this element is unusual to build a fortress and it seems a not very appropriate solution if we consider contemporary the town and the citadel, but which instead finds an explanation if we accept the hypothesis that the stronghold was built later. Although the western limit is on the lowest part of the promontory, the need to control this sector whose land was relatively flat it had sooner to arise. Occupying this part of the rocky spur the enemy was deprived of a considerable advantage for military siege maneuvers. Therefore, building the new reinforced planimetry it increased the defensive potential of the entire fortified center and at the same time guaranteed the possibility of more effective control of the flood strip along the river.

³ In the Roman East the archaeological attestation of the architectural usage of the baked clay brick should be back not later than the II Cent. AD as attested into the citadel for the northern residence and for the baths building; Deichmann 1982; Fournet 2012, pp.327-336.

⁴ An ancient restoration with baked bricks was also found in the building D and it could be considered an information useful to date at a contemporary time the baths into the citadel (building SW) and the building D into the so-called town.

According to the numismatic evidence¹ the periods attested in the Roman fortress of Kifrin are referring at the period between Septimius Severus and Gordian III (193-244 AD)².

According to the texts, the itinerary written by Isidor of Carax (I century BC / I century AD) introducing the list of the significant sites of the Parthian stations describes the roads crossing the Parthian Empire from the Euphrates to the Arachosia related to the commercial stations of the late Hellenistic period, among which certainly Ana, Telbis and Bijan stand out; there is no reference of a toponymal attribution to Kifrin³. We should wait the III Cent. AD when the name of *Becchufrayn*⁴ (Kifrin) appears in several military records found at Dura Europos⁵, demonstrating the important role of this military fortress during the late Roman period in this area before the arrival of the Sasanians, when it probably had an high controlling role among this fluvial sector coordinating other fortified centres i.e. 'Ana, Bijan, Telbis.

According to the archaeological materials⁶, the cultural horizons of the pottery show modality and different results, because of the Parthian-Roman bipolarism⁷ on the Euphrates' area (II-III Cent. AD), where the

¹ See Invernizzi 1986, pp.357-381; (Forthcoming) Butcher, K., *Kifrin: The Coins*, in Lippolis (Ed.), "Una fortezza sul Medio Eufrate", Centro Ricerche Archeologiche e Scavi, Università di Torino, Turin.

² The Italian archaeologists found a significant coin in the complex of bath (former western residence in the citadel) dating to the reign of Severus Alexander; it was still immersed in the mortar separating two fired bricks that constituted the bottom floor of a drainage channel of the thermal complex. This *in situ* finding could confirm the chronology of the second building phase at the kingdom of Severus Alexander or at least at the Gordian III's one.

³ The written source's silence about Kifrin during the Seleucid time could confirm its foundation after the I Cent. AD. See Chaumont, 1984, pp.63-107 but also see Gawlikowski 1988, pp.77-98.

⁴ See Welles 1955, pp.26-46; Invernizzi 1986b, pp.53-84; Pennacchietti 1986, pp.86-95.

⁵ The papyri documentation from Dura (P. Dura 100) attested the placement of the *Cohors XX milliaria equitata Palmyrenorum* in Becchufrayn under a commander in chief.

⁶ (Forthcoming) Tabita, G., *The Parthian and the Roman pottery from the fortress of Kifrin*, in Lippolis, C. (Ed.), "Kifrin: una roccaforte sull'Eufrate", Centro Ricerche Archeologiche e Scavi di Torino per il Medio Oriente e l'Asia, Università di Torino, Turin.

⁷ See Tabita 2015, pp.131-146.

formal characteristics of the frontier environment seem clearly a reflection of the specified Roman imported potteries as the kitchen pottery – the so-called *brittle-ware*¹ – but also several two-handled transport containers, stamped amphora handles and the so-called *red slip ware*². The common pottery reflects a local style and the glazed wares are strongly referable to the Parthian horizon productions.

Glazed Parthian pottery as luxury goods

The glazed pottery can especially be considering as a mark to understand the role of a defined luxury products as those used by elites, and in turn to identify elites' groups by the presence of presumed luxury products. The main characteristics of some of these typologies are the rarity of the findings in the site and this is exhibited both quantitatively in regards to the volume of material and objects and also qualitatively by the relative inaccessibility of the object due to its consumption within a limited range of functional spheres. To well define a luxury good material class – i.e. the pottery– the typology is scarce in its morphological classification, it should show to be “controlled” and the raw material used to produce objects may be regulated.

In Kifrin it seems these elements are yet attested in specific imports i.e. the amphorae with stamp, the so-called roman *brittle ware*, a small repertoire of fine tableware and the roman *mortaria*³). Considering that some characteristics of luxury objects may be intrinsic to the object itself, it bears noting that luxury items are also expected to be relative

¹ See Dyson 1968.

² In the vessel repertoire from Kifrin also there is a sporadic attestation of a red slip ware, very similar to the Roman *terra sigillata* ware for the wall surface color; this production is considered as the result of a local imitation of the *terra sigillata* ware, referring to a syro-mesopotamian cultural background (III Cent. AD): see See Cox 1949, pp.16- 24.

³ The roman *mortaria* are attested in Kifrin as a specific Roman import from the trade route of the coastal Syria - Cesarea Maritima and Ras e-Bassit: (Forthcoming) Tabita, G., *Roman mortaria from the fortress of Kifrin (Iraq) and its influence on the Early-Islamic productions from the mid Euphrates' river (VII Cent. AD)*, in Caminneci V., Giannitrapani E., Parello M C, Rizzo M S., “LRCW6 - 6th International Conference on Late Roman Coarse Ware”, Agrigento (Italy), May 2017, Ed. Archaeopress, Oxford.

and mutable between cultural contexts. A luxury in one region or context may not be a luxury in another one as it is well remarkable considering indoor plumbing in the main building of the citadel (Fig. 4, the baths) and the presence of the specific typologies of pottery i.e. glazed ware, *brittle ware*, *red slip ware* into the citadel. For this reason, a context is a paramount and an object ought not *prima facie* be labelled as a luxury object based on its fundamental properties such as material, aesthetics, or level of craftsmanship. Nor can these properties be entirely overlooked, for objects which represent an investment of skill, time, energy, and rare materials are more likely to be treated as luxury objects than objects which are the product of less skill, time, energy, and common materials. With these characteristics in mind, I turn now to an examination of the glazed ware which displays these features and may therefore be identified as luxuries in the Roman fortress of Kifrin during the II-III Cent. AD.

After a brief introduction about the archaeological contexts I continue now with a brief overview of the pottery repertoire and its archaeological periodization following the chronological reference of the available comparison with materials found in some other sites in the Roman Mesopotamia.

The pottery

From the archaeological contexts of the citadel area it can be possible to observe how the ceramic repertoire presented below can be dated between the II-III Cent. A.D. on the basis of comparisons with sherds found in other sites located in the central and in the northern Mesopotamian area. In Kifrin the distribution of the fragments is detectable prevalently in the citadel, despite the sporadic attestations also in the public area of the city. The fabrics of the pottery belong to the following categories: "very fine" and "fine". The glazed pottery also has a pale yellow sandy fabric and not relevant inclusion are evaluable. The glazed pottery in the citadel area is related to many sherds of the so-called *brittle ware*, few fragments of the so-called *red slip ware*, several fragments of stamp-handled amphorae, some *mortaria* rims and a few fragments of lamps, all datable around the mid II-III century A.D. during the Roman frequentation of the site.

CUPS (nn.1-8)

Cups have a medium fine ware. The clay is light, varying from creamy to yellow-pale brown sand-tempered fabric, having some not particular inclusions. The glazing is blue / turquoise with a crack effect; rare is the pearly-whitish or light greenish glaze on the external and internal walls.

Faired cups with a thin rim (Fig. 5:1) have a comparison with the known productions from Ain Sinu and from the Khabur area (mid II-III Cent. AD). The cup with a thick rim (Fig. 5:2) is attested in the Arsacid Assur (mid II Cent. – 240 AD). Another cup (Fig. 5:3) is comparable with the repertory available from the Khabur and another sherd (Fig. 5:4) is attested in Hatra but also in Dura and Barri. From the Khabur area - site of Sheikh Hamad (Syria) - another comparison is available with a sherd (Fig. 5:5) found in the citadel of Kifrin, and the faired cup with external sliding rim (Fig. 5:6) has a comparison available from the productions of Dura which are attested also from the Roman fortress of Ain Sinu and Assur; other unpublished sherds found in Hatra¹ are comparable with this shape attested in Kifrin. The cup with everted rim (Fig. 5:7) suggests some reference with the well-known ware production from Ain Sinu, Dura, the site of Umm El-Tlel and also with some unpublished sherds from Hatra. The last cup in this catalogue (Fig. 5:8) seems to have a comparison available from the Arsacid Assur.

JUGS (nn.9-11)

The closed shapes, on the other hand, are very rarely found in Kifrin and generally they are small and medium sized jugs and pitchers.

The set of pouring shapes is the second more representative typological group for the glazed pottery known from this site. The jugs have a medium fine ware, the color of the clay is between light yellow and pale buff, with a sand-tempered fabric having some not particular inclusions. The glazing is between blue-turquoise and greenish. The shape has an overflowing (Fig. 6:9), converging (Fig. 6:10) or cylindrical (Fig.6:11) neck walls, a biconical body, two high and straight handle; the thickened edge has a large groove on the top

¹ Courtesy of the University of Turin – Italy.

surface and sometimes the shoulder is decorated with a zig-zag pattern and some small appliques. The main comparing group of pottery is available from Dura and from the unpublished Bijan¹.

PITCHERS (nn.12-14)

This glazed shape has an elongated body with a short neck, a high shoulder with a broad slightly concave base and one braided-handle attaching on the shoulder with a relief termination characterized by a three-elongated digits' motif. The glaze is light turquoise and it has an elaborate spout that resembles the ripples of a ribbon bunched close together. This regional vessel was found also in the unslipped type². The glazed shape was a utilitarian vessel that may have been used for carrying water during a meal; it would have adequately served with this specific purpose. In Kifrin the pitchers were found especially in the citadel area and this small group is referring mainly to the green glazed typology, suggesting a specific and an exclusive use in a strictly cultural and social context in Kifrin.

The shape having a cylindrical neck and a thick rim with groove, with its characteristic braided-handle attaching on the shoulder (Fig. 6:12) suggests a clear comparison with the glazed pitchers' collection from Dura (II-III Cent. AD). The other ones having an overflowing edge with a thin rib or grooves under the rim (Fig. 6:13-15) show some comparison with some pitchers found in Seleucia (II-III Cent. AD) and in Dura. Some examples are also available from the unpublished Bijan. The pitcher with overflowing rim and a larger diameter is well documented in Kifrin (Fig. 6:16) and it has a good comparison with the general typology attested in Dura.

Conclusions

The cups, the jugs and the pitchers were found especially in the citadel area and this small vessel group is referring mainly to the green glazed typology, suggesting a specific and an exclusive use in a strictly contextualized cultural and social context in Kifrin. Considering the amount of Roman materials attested as trading specific imports

¹ Courtesy of Dr. Marii Krogulskiej † – University of Warsaw (Poland).

² See Dyson 1968, p.40, pl.4, n.244, YUAG n.1932.1291.

especially found in the citadel, together with the exclusivity of the accommodations (building N, former building SW/baths) it appears suggestive the historical reconstruction proposed by Invernizzi¹ with the architectural considerations of Lippolis² and the forthcoming study of the pottery from the site³.

Considering the reorganization of the citadel and the abandon phase of the site, where no traces of destruction are attested, it seems likely that the specificity of the archaeological context of the glazed ware is referable to an exclusive purchaser if the scarce findings are examined according with the restricted functional context. The citadel, as the commanding center of the fortress where the important dwellings were found represents an important archaeological context to understand the specialized use of the glazed pottery by the inhabitants of Kifrin⁴.

It seems finally a striking image that the Roman army contributed in the *Limes* area to an economic development of the eastern regions of the Late Roman empire. It stands out that the Roman presence into the East improved a complex and great system of trading and financial activities, and locally the soldiers (especially the Roman high-officials) represent a specific purchaser controlling several products and *luxury goods* according to dynamics similar to those one shown in the import of glazed pottery from Dura⁵. The green glazed pottery as a distinctive category of pottery at Dura that is also found more widely in Syria and Mesopotamia as the local vessel production that would have appeared

¹ See Invernizzi 1986, pp.357-381.

² See Lippolis 2006, pp.367-396.

³ Tabita, G. (Forthcoming), *The Parthian and the Roman pottery from the fortress of Kifrin*, in Lippolis, C. (Ed.), "Kifrin: una roccaforte sull'Eufrate", Centro Ricerche Archeologiche e Scavi di Torino per il Medio Oriente e l'Asia, Università di Torino, Turin.

⁴ The specific purchaser of Kifrin should be considered together with other exclusive trade objects found on the other locations of the Roman fortress and without doubt referred to the Roman presence in the fortress during the II-III Cent. AD: i.e. a roman jar-handle with a visible roman stamp "MELISSUS ET MELISSA" referring to a specific roman import from Spain: cfr. Invernizzi 1986c, p.25, fig.4; see also CALLENDER 1965, fig.9, nn.24-25, pp.158-160.

⁵ Among items that would have been available for purchaser in markets were regionally produced ceramic vessels: see Toll 1943, p.6.

at meals in Roman Kifrin. The glazed pottery shows a specific role as a direct trade import from Dura, as well as the lamps¹, the *brittle ware*, the roman *mortaria*, the *red slip ware*² and the specific roman two-handled amphoras, frequently found i.e. in Greece (Athenian Agorà)³, Syria (Dura)⁴ and in Iraq (Ain Sinu)⁵. If the two-handled vessels holding liquids to be poured out to diners were usually used during the Roman period meals, it seems that some variations on the theme were made in the typical African Red Slip (ARS), referred to the specific Roman cultural horizon, but the green glaze, squat shape, and thumb-impressed decoration all give this pieces a distinctly regional aesthetic⁶. The attestations of the green glaze pottery in the Roman fortress of Kifrin, referred to the II-III Cent. AD could mean a Roman presence which was enduring its intervention along the Euphrates as the main fortifications in Kifrin seems to confirm.

After an Assyrian frequentation (VII Cent. BC), when Rome occupied Dura (165 AD), it obtained the control on the Euphrates' river and on the Kifrin area. It has already been widely recognized that Rome arrives at the conquest (or the control) of the territories along the lower Middle Euphrates, increasingly exercising a direct military patrolling in the centers of the region; this process improved, on the one hand, the same commercial interests of an important center such as Palmyra and on the other hand reported the action of it under a closer and more effective Roman control. After the military campaigns of Septimius Severus (194-195 AD and 197-199 AD), Rome enlarged the extension of its military control, overlapping on the borders of the Euphrates, therefore determining the Parthian giving ground on the Middle Euphrates. The strategic advantage obtained by the Romans also allowed them to build the fortified post of Kifrin (mid II-III Cent.

¹ See Baur 1947, p.32, Fig. 11, Pl. V.168, YUAG 1932, Checklist n.1367; excavated from area M7-W2 at Dura Europos. Length = 7.4 cm, width = 6.5 cm and height = 2.4 cm. The lamp is described as decorated with three concentric circles of globules on top.

² D.A. Cox also underlines that in Dura "...many red wash sherds (...) come from the citadel wall, then rebuilt by the Parthians, suggesting that this pottery was in use just before the capture of the city": see Cox 1949, pp.16- 24.

³ See Robinson 1959, pl.15, type K113.

⁴ See Dyson 1968, fig.4, n.66 (256 group, mid III Cent. AD).

⁵ See Oates 1959, pl.LVII, n.60

⁶ See Heath 2011, p.68.

AD), seen from a political and military point of view as a means to enforce and to advance the eastern frontier of the empire (with the fortresses of Ana and Bijan) on the pre-existent settlement¹, as control stations from where it could be possible to patrol this vital section of the trade routes between Roman Syria and Persia, as well as a direct access route to the heart of the enemy. The control of the river corridor starting from the site of 'Ana let to understand now-a-day the military key role of Kifrin as an important Roman outpost on the eastern river bank of the Euphrates during the II-III Cent. AD. The role of the fortress and the economic trade pattern can suggest the existence of an exclusive "customer" understood as a social group with a high prestige placed in Kifrin during the II-III century AD, interested in incoming goods: probably the high officers of the Roman Army with a coordinating role in the fortress, in the context of the Eastern Late Roman Limes before the arrival of Sasanians.

Legenda

N.	Sequential number
Fabric	VF: very fine; F: fine.
Color	Fabric color
Glaze	Glaze color
Ø	diameter
Cfr.	Comparison

CUPS (nn.1-8)

N.	Fabric	Col.	Glaze	Ø	Cfr.
1	F	pale yellow	blue-greenish	11	<u>Ain Sinu</u> : OATES 1959, p.22, fig.56 (III Cent. AD) <u>Khabur</u> : ROMER 1996, p.21, fig.3e (group 4, late Parthian, II-III Cent. AD).
2	F	pale yellow	blue-greenish	14	<u>Assur</u> : HAUSER 1996, p.79, fig.5b (phase II, mid II Cent. AD – 240 AD).

¹ The area of the western residence (later baths' complex) is the area into the citadel where the presence of these two distinct phases are better understood in Kifrin after the Italian excavations.

3	VF	pale yellow	blue-greenish	18	<u>Sheikh Hamad</u> : ROMER 1996, p.21, fig.3f (group 4, late Parthian, II-III Cent. AD).
4	F	pale yellow	blue-greenish	18	<u>Dura</u> : DYSON 1968, p.116, fig.5. <u>Barri</u> : VENCO 1982, n.37. <u>Hatra</u> : VENCO 2008, p.164, n.3 (first mid III Cent. AD); IBRAHIM 1986, n.45, pl.207.
5	F	pale yellow	blue-greenish	20	<u>Sheikh Hamad</u> : ROMER 1996, p.21, fig.3g (group 4, late Parthian, II-III Cent. AD).
6	F	pale yellow	blue-greenish	20	<u>Ain Sinu</u> : OATES 1959, pl.LVI, n.8 (Mid. III Cent. AD). <u>Dura</u> : TOLL 1943, fig.28, YUAG nn.1930.527b, 1-923, fig.28, n.I-636 <u>Assur</u> : HAUSER 1996, p.82, fig.8a (phase II, mid. II Cent. AD – 240 AD).
7	F	pale yellow	blue-greenish	23	<u>Ain Sinu</u> : OATES 1959, pl.LVI, n.10 (Mid. III Cent. AD). <u>Dura</u> : TOLL 1943, fig.29, YUAG n.1938-4860. <u>Umm el-Tlel</u> : MAJCHEREK & TAHA 2004, p.248, n.39 (II-III Cent. AD). <u>Hatra</u> : unpublished.
8	F	pale yellow	blue-greenish	23	<u>Assur</u> : HAUSER 1996, p.82, fig.8c (II-III Cent. AD).

JUGS (nn.9-11)

N.	Fabric	Col.	Glaze	Ø	Cfr.
9	MF	pale yellow	blue-greenish	12	<u>Dura</u> : TOLL 1943, type K-58, YUAG nn.1938.4853, n.1938.4834 (II-III Cent. AD).
10	MF	pale yellow	blue-greenish	15	<u>Dura</u> : TOLL 1943, type F-256, n.34 (first half of the III Cent. AD).
11	MF	pale yellow	blue-greenish	20	<u>Dura</u> : TOLL 1943, YUAG nn.1938.4824, 1938.4826 (II-III Cent. AD).

PITCHERS (nn.12-16)

N.	Fabric	Col.	Glaze	Ø	Cfr.
12	MF	pale yellow	blue-greenish	11	<u>Dura</u> : TOLL 1943, YUAG n.1938.4810
13	F	pale yellow	blue-greenish	8	<u>Dura</u> : TOLL 1943, YUAG n.1935.66 (first half of the III Cent. AD). <u>Seleucia</u> : GULLINI et al. 1985, p.195, inv.n. S-6751 (Liv.I, II-III Cent. AD).
14	MF	pale yellow	blue-greenish	10	<u>Seleucia</u> : GULLINI et al. 1985, p.195, inv.n. S-6751 (Liv.I, II-III Cent. AD). <u>Dura</u> : TOLL 1943, pp.35-38 Fig.21: YUAG n.1935.67. <u>Bijan</u> : unpublished.
15	F	pale yellow	blue-greenish	11	<u>Seleucia</u> : GULLINI et al. 1985, p.195, inv.n. S-6751 (Level I, II-III Cent. AD). <u>Dura</u> : TOLL 1943, pp.35-38 Fig.21: YUAG n.1935.67.
16	MF	pale yellow	turquoise	18	<u>Dura</u> : TOLL 1943, pp.35-38, Fig.21, YUAG n.1935.67. <u>Bijan</u> : unpublished.

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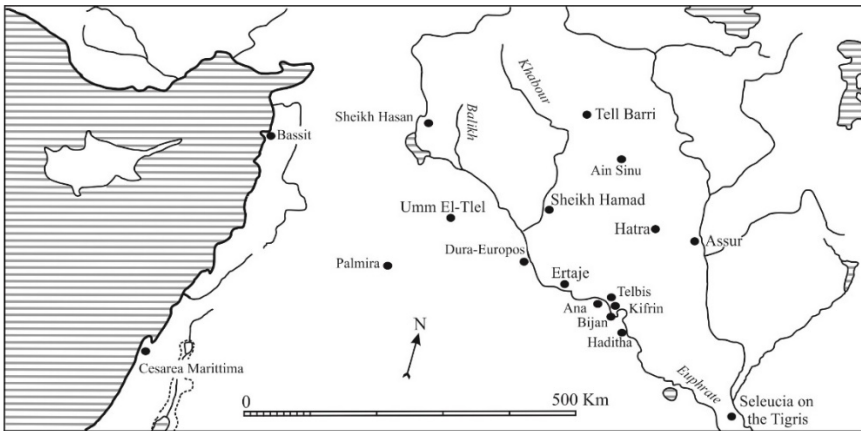


Fig 1. Map of the mentioned sites.

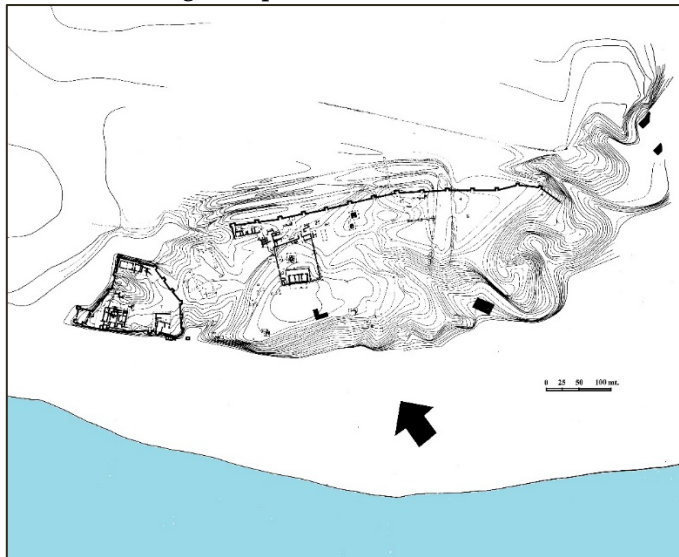


Fig 2. Planimetric map of Kifrin.

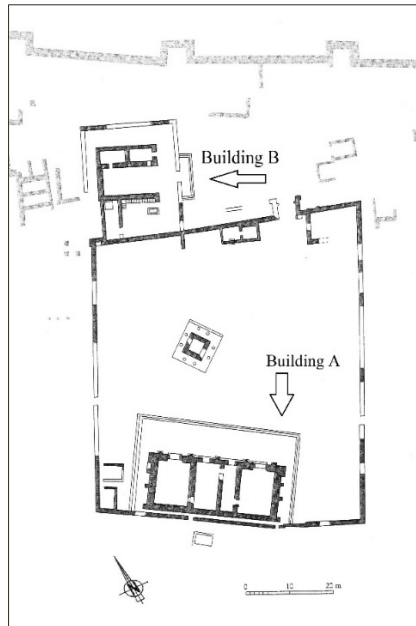


Fig 3. Buildings A and B.

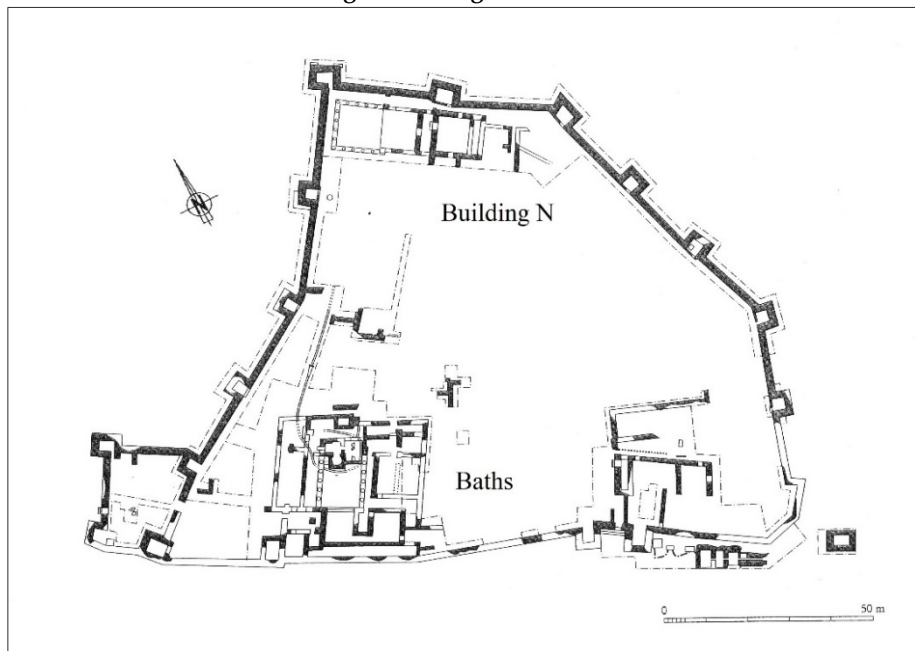


Fig 4. Map of the citadel.

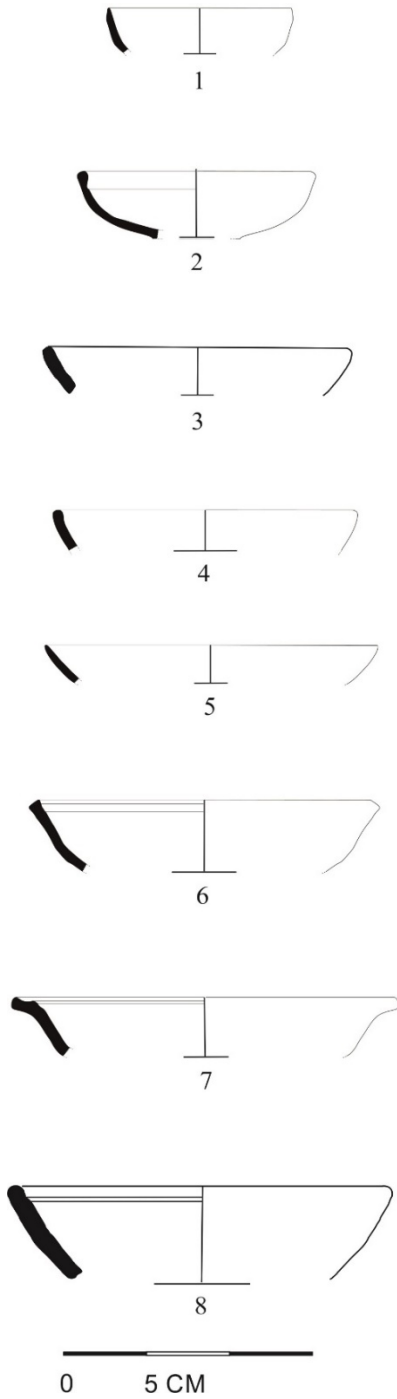


Fig 5. Glazed ware: cups (nn.1-8).

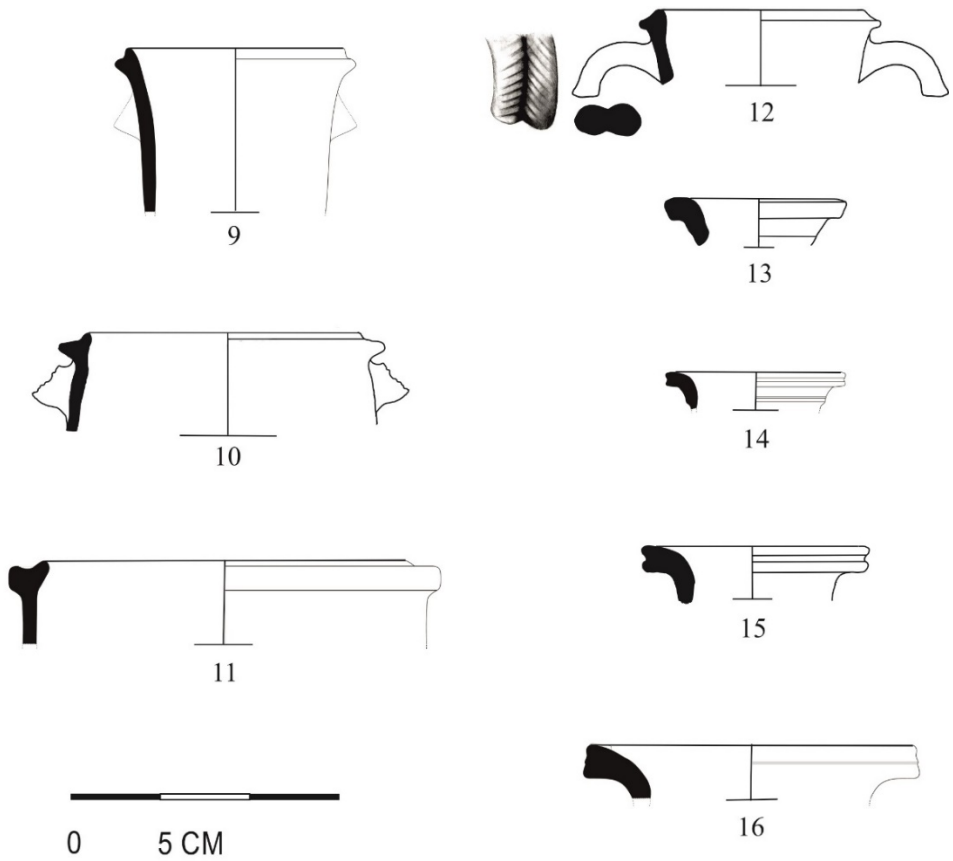


Fig 6. Glazed ware: jugs (nn.9-11); pitchers (nn.12-16).

انتشارات آریارنا

انتشارات آریارنا بر آن است تا کتاب‌های ارزندهٔ تألیفی و ترجمه‌ای پژوهشگران ایرانی یا نیرانی را در زمینه‌های گوناگون ایران‌شناسی همچون باستان‌شناسی، تاریخ، فرهنگ و زبان‌های باستانی منتشر کند، کتاب‌هایی که برای شناخت تاریخ و فرهنگ گرانسنگ و ورجاوند ایران بسیار ارزشمند باشند. با توجه به پیوندها و ریشه‌های ژرف و عمیق فرهنگی میان ایران و جهان بشکوه ایرانی که از سده‌ها بلکه هزاره‌های دور و دراز برجا بوده است و در دهه‌های اخیر تلاش دشمنان بر آن بوده تا این پیوندهای ژرف را بگسلند و ریشه‌های عمیق را با تیشه برکنند، ایران فرهنگی که دل و دین به آن سپرده‌ایم از چشم دست‌اندرکاران انتشارات آریارنا دور نمانده و چاپ کتاب‌های پژوهشی و ترجمه‌ای ارزنده دربارهٔ جهان ایرانی یا ایران فرهنگی از اولویت‌های انتشارات آریارنا است؛ باشد که از این راه پیوندهایمان پیوسته‌تر و ریشه‌هایمان ژرف‌تر شود. کتاب‌های انتشارات آریارنا پیشکشی ناچیز است به ایرانیان، ایرانی‌تباران، ایران‌دوستان و همهٔ مردمان جهان ایرانی که ایران و جهان ایرانی را از جان دوست‌تر می‌دارند.



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نخستین همایش دوسالانه بین‌المللی
انجمن علمی باستان‌شناسی ایران

به کوشش
دکتر سیدمهدی موسوی، دکتر شاهین آریامتش
دکتر مجید منتظر ظهوری و دکتر مرتضی خانی‌پور



انتشارات آریامنا



انجمن علمی باستان‌شناسی ایران
Society of Iranian Archaeology



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نخستین

همایش دوسالانه بین‌المللی
انجمن علمی باستان‌شناسی ایران:

”برهمکنش‌های فرهنگی، پیوست و گسست“

به کوشش

سیدمهدی موسوی، شاهین آریامنش
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انتشارات آریارمنا