



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Role of Mesopotamia land sand Iraq in Iran and Rohm relations at the Sassanid era

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ABSTRACT

This article has paramount importance from consists of the of cities and governments evaluation perspectives in Mesopotamia, Iraq and their roles between Rome and Iran's of in relations and Sassanid era. Although the writer's main goal is evaluation of Role of Mesopotamia and Iraq in Iran and Rohm relations at the Sassanid era, nevertheless in order to clarify the discussed issue, he had to describe the geographical location and status of cities and tribes in Mesopotamia and Iraq at Sassanid era, And the relationship between these tribes and cities of the Sassanid and Byzantine empires were assessed. At Sassanid era the main area of Empire of Iran was today's Iraqi and Mesopotamia lands, that those lands had always been a battlefield between the Sassanid and the Romans. All present Iraqi cities at Sassanid era and even many cities in the West Iraq and cities which were placed into the deserts were dominated by the Sassanid. Often seen on the shore of the Tigris and Euphrates, or in between these two rivers or on the edge of the Arabian Desert HIRAH, there had been several other cities that in which both Iranian and Arab's elements (or Sami) are mixed to each other. In Mesopotamia, from northern parts until the southern parts, there had been dozens of the cities and local governments, were the center of this fusion.

Keywords: Mesopotamia, Iraq, relations, Iran, Rome, era, Sassanid

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INTRODUCTION

At twentieth century, archaeologists had discovered that Mesopotamia the Land between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers were the earliest civilizations and the cradle of civilization. This territory is bounded from East with the Zagros Mountains, from the north with Taurus Mountains, from West with the Mediterranean Sea, and from South with the Arabian Desert. It is like a crescent-shaped Curved, that follows valleys of a river until the north and then cuts it, and then it moves till the southern coast of the Mediterranean. Arabs called Iraq, the southern part of Mesopotamia (ALI, 1988, PAGE, 56). The most important area of the Sassanid era for Persian Empire was Mesopotamia and Iraq that had always been a battlefield between the Sassanid and the Romans. Most people in this land were from Semitic race and were spoken Semitic languages, and they did a great service to Iran as they translated the Greek science and so-called "early science" from the Greek language into SYRIAC language and it was their language and they published medicine, mathematics, astronomy and philosophy in Iran and also had arisen many scientists from them, on the shore of the Tigris and Euphrates or between these two rivers or in the margin of the Saudi desert in addition to HIRAH there were many other cities in which both Iranian and Arab elements (or Sami) were mixed to each other. In Mesopotamia, from the northern parts to the southern parts there were dozens of cities and local government, that they were the center fusion. In Mesopotamia or at its border with the Arabian Desert most important cities existed to encounter two races of the Persian and Arabic, primarily were HIRAH and later the surrounding towns. In Islamic books when mention conquests we can see the name of this town mostly, but narratives and stories that could mention to the relations of Arabs and Iranians valuably or showing the influence of their cultures to each other are very rare. So here we will discuss only the regions and cities that had been quoted justifiable stories or narratives about it.

Cities and governments Mesopotamia and Iraq:

The most important area of the Sassanid era for Persian Empire was Mesopotamia and Iraq that had always been a battlefield between the Sassanid and the Romans Empire. Mesopotamian was very important border region between the Sassanid and the Byzantine Empires that most of this area was dominated by the Sassanid Kingdom. on the shore of the Tigris and Euphrates or between these two rivers or in the margin of the Saudi desert in addition to HIRA there were many other cities in which both Iranian and Arab elements (or Sami) were mixed to each other. Cities like ADASA, ALRHA, NASIBIN, AMAD and ANBAR were among these cities (MOHAM MADI MALAYERI, 2000, PAGE 179)

HIRA city:

HIRA city was an ancient city in Iraq, near the ancient city of Babylon (LASTRANG, 1998, PAGE 82), According to some historians HIRA city had been established by the Babylonian king BOKHOTZAR orders (DINVAR, 1992, page 82). LAKHIMAN or ALEYAKHAM governed HIRA and the surrounding lands (modern Iraq) from the end of third century AD. They were Sassanid government's function and its allies in the war against the Romans Empire. Its Kings domination, LAKHM, sometimes spread to the Arabian Peninsula, and were as a bulwark against penetration of the desert dwellers to Sassanid territory. And on the other hand in order to help Iranian, they fought with GHASANIAN (unified Roman Empire), (IBNE KHALDUN, 1984, page 196). So HIRA was considered as a military supporter for Sassanid in the war against the Romans Empire and buffer between Arabs and western borders of the Sassanid Empire (HEYYTA, 1987, page 74).

FIRUZ SHAPOOR city known ANBAR:

Another major Iranian border region, which was also important in terms of war politics between Iran and Rome, was ANBAR city that encompassed a wide area. This town was located at a distance of ten to twelve milestones in North West Ctesiphon of capital Sassanid and it was one of the well-known and strong Iranian cities located in western edge of the Euphrates and in the fringe of desert and bordering of the Roman Empire, near a aqueduct that connect and Tigris and Euphrates to each other and in Islamic book they called it ISSA river. . This aqueduct apparently, was dug by SHAPOOR II, caused that ANBAR could find great commercial importance. SHAPOOR II had frequented there and had added strength to it, and as his trophy in winzes. Rome had named it PIRUZ SHAPOOR (TABARI, 1996, page 662)

HAZAR or HATRA:

The remains of city and the ancient area of HETRA are located in Northern Mesopotamia, 110 km south-west in the Kurdish city of Mosul, (between the Tigris and Euphrates). In ancient times this city was located in 50 km North West of the ancient Assyrian capital (Herman, 1984, p 61).

This town was founded in the second century BC and in the second century and early third century AD it reached its zenith in prosperity and greatness. Before Sassanid, HAZAR was besieged by The Romans several time sbut none of the Kaisers of Rome did succeed to conquer it (VINTER / DIGNAS, 2007, page 151). After capturing the HITRA by the Sassanid in year 240, political balance between the major powers in the region was faltered and its consequences were new wars. Apparently, Rome Emperor, Philip Arab in Roman-Sassanid peace deal relinquished the Romans protectorate over the region of the HITRA city in year 244 and pulled out his forces from SHAPOOR I pressure. HITRA was attacked and weakened at the time of ARDASHIR BABAKAN. Then at the time of SHAPOOR I, and SHAPOR ZOLAKTAF that all three were Sassanid king had been occupied and orders of its destruction was issued. HITRA city after these three devastating attack, never again saw the prosperity and forever remained desolate. HITRA's fate illustrates the role that buffer countries between the two great powers in the world (PIGOLASKAYA, and others, 1984, page 89).

NASIBIN city:

NASIBIN is the roman's NACCIBIN city:

This city was located in the Upper parts HARMAS River - the left branch of the Euphrates River - and the Greek geographers called it 'SOKORS' or 'MAKLONIS' (HUF, 1995, page 40). This name had been written as NESIBIN (LUSKAYA, 1993, page 130). When the Iranian Sassanid government established economic and cultural relations with the Eastern Roman Empire (Byzantium), the border town of NASIBI Nannounced as center of Byzantine merchants to trade with Iran, which had no barrier to entry. Frequently in the NISIBIN city political negotiations were conducted and peace treats were done between two countries (LESTEREN], 1998, page 120).

DARA city:

DARA city was a military city. In the northern Mesopotamia, the Eastern Roman or Byzantine government had made. This castle was located at the border between the Sassanid and Byzantine governments, in terms of military and strategic had special importance. During the Sassanid era, DARA city sometimes was captured by Roman and Iranian governments. The last time that its name went in the history and was captured by Iranian government, was at year 572 AD at KEYKHOSRO ANOSHIRVAN era (LOKONIN, 1971, page 150).

AMED (Diyarbakir):

AMED or now days Diyarbakir is a city placed in high plains west of the Upper Tigris. Diyarbakir city (AMED) has strong historical fort which is related to the Byzantine Empire. When this region was under the hegemony of the Eastern Roman Empire, the city was called AMIDA (YAR SHATER, 2010, page 138 and 139). In 338 CE Sassanid army besieged the AMED but in the 349 CE Constantine captured it, until in the 359 AD, SHAPOUR again attacked to the city. At the end of the year 363 AD, the Romans would come again. In 503 CE QOBAD Sassanid king during a campaign to Armenia captured it (QARACHANLU, 2001, page 306 and 307).

Ctesiphon:

Ctesiphon was located in East of the Tigris and the left Coast of it. This town was located about 35 kilometers south of Baghdad in an area where the Tigris and Euphrates rivers were close to each other. Ctesiphon until the early Islamic centuries also was called "hearts of Iran SHAHR". This city in the Parthian era were made as the capital of western Iran in and Mesopotamia, And in the Sassanid era kept its value as a center of political and economic force. During the life period and Kingdom SHAPOUR II (309-379 CE ZOLAKTAF), Ctesiphon became a beautiful and glorious city (NOLEDKE, TEODOR, 1999, page 98). At the time of SHAPOUR II of the Sassanid Ctesiphon became the major centers of Christianity in the Sassanid territory. From the beginning fourth century, the diocese Seleucia, Ctesiphon was placed at the head of the Iranian Churches and abounded a lot of power (TAGI ZADE, 2000,page 48).

CONCLUSIONS

At Sassanid era the main area of Iran Empire were Iraqi and Mesopotamia, those lands had always been a battlefield between the Sassanid and the Romans Empire, HIRAw as the Sassanid government's function and its allies in the war against the Romans Empire. Rulers of this town were chosen by the Sassanid government and even the influence of the Sassanid culture, art, architecture and religion in this town were visible. ANBAR city had been considered as one of the most important cities of the Sassanid Empire, this city was located in the western edge of Euphrates River and near the border of Rome that Sassanid army was storing arms and supplies and ammunition there. When economic and cultural relations between the Roman Empire and the Sassanid Empire was established, NASIBIN was announced as one of the centers of the Roman merchants there were no barriers to entry for them. DARA city was a military fortress on the border of two Roman and Sassanid governments and it was belonged to the Sassanid government. . Ctesiphon was the capital of the Sassanid government in East Tigris River. At the time of SHAPOUR II it was one of the most important centers of Christianity that its conquered was extremely important for Rome government.

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