

Abstract:

The seal is one of archaeological data that contain valuable information about past periods. Hunting scenes engraved on Achaemenian seals are important in terms of political, economical and social aspects. By studying of these engraving pictures, valuable information have revealed about various aspects of civilization during Achaemenian periods. This research has studied Achaemenian seals stylistics with emphasis on hunting scenes. It has performed with the purpose of studying of the effect of Achaemenids on neighboring areas and it has surveyed Achaemenian art patterns and also the allocating of these seals to special group of them. Therefore one hundred Achaemenian seals were identified, classified and cataloged from different written sources and museums.

The study of this kind of seals shows that hunting scenes as one of main scenes on Achaemenian seals were rooted from the archaeological ancient traditions and as a style entered other Achaemenian Empire areas. The discovery of these kinds of scenes in Sardis, Gordian, Daskyliyan, Vadi aldaliyeh, Babylon and Egypt show that Achaemenids had influenced on hunting scenes of the seals of this areas. Hunting scenes of the seals are symbolic tools in order to display the sensational power and dominance of monarchs on natural powers and even on supernatural ones that were imaged in the shape of powerful animals like lion and mystical animals. Also, the engraving of the hunting scenes on these seals has been allocated to Achaemenian monarchs and elders.

Key words: Achaemenian period , Seal , hunting scenes ,effect and impression