Abstract

The name Sangbast is now devoted to a village 35 km south of Mashhad, at the beginning of Mashhad-Sarakhs Road. The historical and archeological significance of the place comes from Sangbast Oasis and the Tomb and Minaret of Arsalan Jazib the emir of Toos in years 389-421 of the Lunar Hijri calendar near the village.

The focus of this paper is on the controversy and doubt among researchers about the use of the said building as a tomb or mausoleum and its being owned by Asralan Jazib. Moreover, the ruined parts surrounding the building are a very important issue as well, because they are dated back to the Ghaznavid Period. The site has not been subject to any archeological studies except for the efforts devoted to protection and restoration of the tomb.

The goals of this paper are therefore defined as finding suitable answers to existing ambiguities. When exactly was the place known as Sangbast was formed? What was the real use of the major spaces of the site? What was the use and age of the building known as the tomb of Arsalan Jazib on the southwestern part of the site? What was the relationship of the two buildings? Does the tomb in Sangbast really belong to Arsalan Jazib?

The method employed in the present paper is fundamental in terms of goals and comparative in descriptive-historical terms. Data was collected by library and field approaches. Based on the available texts, style of architecture, decorations, and surface data such as clay, rock ... the site was probably populated from the late fourth to the seventh centuries of the Lunar Hijri calendar. Also, it was confirmed that the tomb existing on the site actually belonged to Arsalan Jazib and it was the structurally linked to the adjacent buildings.

Keywords: Khorasan, Sang Bast, Asralan Jazib tomb, Ghaznavid Architecture