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A selection of pre-islamic antiquities from excavations
1954-1975**

Pierre Lombard, Monik Kervran

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BAHRAIN NATIONAL MUSEUM

ARCHAEOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS

VOLUME I

**A SELECTION OF PRE-ISLAMIC ANTIQUITIES
FROM EXCAVATIONS 1954-1975**



**Edited by
Pierre LOMBARD and Monik KERVRAN**

**FRENCH ARCHAEOLOGICAL MISSION
AT BAHRAIN**

**BAHRAIN NATIONAL MUSEUM
ARCHAEOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS**

A SELECTION OF PRE-ISLAMIC ANTIQUITIES

with contributions by
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1989

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Unless otherwise specified, drawings are to scale 1: 3;
Photographs are not to scale.

Drawings of the following chapter by:
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CHAPTER 3

THE LATE DILMUN PERIOD (1000 - 400 BC.)

by Pierre LOMBARD

The Late Dilmun or Iron Age collections of Bahrain National Museum comprise the evidence of Dilmun culture during the first half of the First Millennium B.C. This period, which follows after the rather dark Kassite times, and loses its originality with the gradual hellenization of the island from the 4th cent. B.C., remains an especially unrecognized phase of Bahrain's history and archaeology.

Mentioned on several occasions in the Mesopotamian historical texts from the reign of Sargon II (725–701 B.C.) to the reign of Nabonidus (556–539 B.C.), the Bahraini Iron Age cultures have been considered for a long time only as the manifestation of the Assyrian and Neo-Babylonian influences in the Arabian Gulf area.

Most scholars concur today in the belief that this rather subjective historical literature has to be interpreted with care. In all likelihood, it is not until the 6th cent. B.C. that Dilmun really entered into the political and cultural sphere of Neo-Babylonian Mesopotamia. In the first centuries of the First Millennium B.C., Bahrain presents the picture of a small business kingdom, actually independant of the Assyrian power, even if its prosperity depended on the keeping of a good relationship with it.

Overshadowed by the intensive activity devoted to Bronze Age cultures, the Late Dilmun period was rather neglected by historians and archaeologists until the recent years, when the expansion of relevant research in the neighbouring countries of the Arabian Gulf area (U.A.E., Oman, etc.) drew back the attention to this field.

THE SITES

The Iron Age collections come mainly from two already ancient operations :

- The "Excavation 519" carried out by the Danish Expedition at Qala'at al-Bahrain. Situated at the South of the Portuguese Fort, it has revealed an architectural complex rather monumental, served by a narrow alley, which has often been considered in the archaeological literature as the "Palace of Uperi" (the historical king of Dilmun who was dealing with Sargon II of Assyria). The material kept at the Museum is composed of several of the famous « snake-bowls » (no. 99-103 : cf. Glob 1957), an earthenware « bath-tub » coffin (no. 149), some children burial-jars (no. 150), the complete set of funeral offerings from the undisturbed sarcophagus formerly published by P.V. Glob (1956) (no. 131-134), and lastly the silver hoard found in 1962 in the eastern part of the sounding (no. 135-142).
- The excavations at Al-Hajjar, site 1 and 2, which have yielded more than twenty Iron Age graves in 1970-74. This cemetery (undoubtedly one of the most representative of the period) remains unfortunately unpublished, except for a short descriptive note (Rice 1972, 1988). The material from these graves (kept in totality in the National Museum) is represented by some pottery vases (no. 87-89, 91-92, 94, 96-98, 104), an important collection of soft-stone vessels - alabaster, chlorite/steatite - (no. 107-124), weapons, domestic implements and vessels in bronze (no. 125-130) or, less commonly, in iron (no. 144-145) ; lastly, some necklaces (no. 146-147) and fine stone stamps or cylinder seals.

In addition to the discoveries from these two main sites, some other interesting pieces were found during the rescue excavations carried out at Isa Town (at the time of the construction of the new city), and at Al-Maqsha.

Lastly, very recent excavations carried out on Bahrain (Janussan, Buri, Hamad Town) slightly enriched our knowledge of the Late Dilmun period; Most of the archaeological material recovered from these sites is currently under study.

CHRONOLOGY

Attempts to periodize the Late Dilmun period still remain tentative. The main reason certainly lies in the unadvanced state of the researches carried out in this chronological field, in the similarity of the situation noted in North-Eastern Arabia, where Potts' *Early Hasaeen* (1984 : 119) is widely dated between 800 and 300 B.C.

In Bahrain, the Iron Age sites have always been intuitively dated on the one hand from the "Assyrian" period, and on the other hand from the "Neo-Babylonian" period (cf. Rice 1972). The use of these "cultural" references has already raised some reservations. For C. Larsen, "it is misleading to continually refer to Bahrain's past from the framework of Mesopotamian historical documentation" (1980 : 64); more recently, we underlined how this restrictive terminology finally obliterated Dilmun's identity at this period and led the specialists to rather neglect Bahrain's relations with neighbouring areas of Eastern Arabia, as, for example, the Oman Peninsula (Lombard 1986).

Beyond these terminological discussions, it is likely that these two designations are of *chronological* significance on Bahrain. In this study, we will consider that most of the Al-Hajjar graves (and most probably the Isa Town ones) belong to an “**Early Iron Age**”, which we are apt to situate ca. 10th–8th cent. B.C., by comparison with the relevant documentation evidenced in the Oman Peninsula. On the other hand, most of the material yielded by the so-called “City IV” at Qala’at al-Bahrain seems to be dated rather late (“**Late Iron Age**”, ca. 7th–5th cent. B.C.) (*cf.* notices). In the present state of the researches, it would be unwise to make this chronological frame more precise.

GENERAL COMMENT ON THE MATERIAL

Early Iron Age (material mainly discovered at Al-Hajjar and Isa Town)

The *pottery* ascribed to the beginning of the 1st millennium, B.C. does not always seem of local origin. Most of the vessels found in the Al-Hajjar graves recall the Omani products of the 10th–8th cent. B.C. and we are inclined to consider most of them as an illustration of the contacts kept up by Dilmun with the agricultural communities settled at the western piedmont of the Hajjar Mountains (*cf.* notably no. 95-96, 98): on the other hand, no. 97 seems more original and could be a local product.

Owing to a total absence of soft-stone (chlorite, steatite) in Bahrain substratum, we guess that all the *steatite vessels* have been most probably imported from the same area; some of the Bahraini specimens now possess too close parallels in the United Arab Emirates to allow the slightest doubt on this matter (Nos. 115, 116, 117, 118–123). It is interesting to note that some similar vessel fragments have been found in the Excavation 519 at Qala’at al-Bahrain, where they possibly represent one of the rare items related to the occupation of “Uperi’s Palace”.

The metal objects: Most of the bronze objects from Al-Hajjar appear to have suffered badly from corrosion since their discovery in 1970–71, and they do not allow a searching study. Nevertheless, one can note the originality of the disc-footed bronze vessel No 130, which possesses a close parallel from Al-Hajjar 1, too; in Eastern Arabia, this shape is presently reported only on Bahrain. The flange-hilted dagger No. 145 is one of the rare objects in iron discovered in this necropolis: its presence in grave No. 9 A/B (a well-dated burial from the Early Iron Age, without any trace of later reoccupation), is quite interesting; it could contribute to distinguish Bahrain’s metallurgy at this period from the one in the Oman Peninsula, where the appearance of iron is rather late.

Late Iron Age (material mainly discovered at Qala’at al-Bahrain and Janussan)

The “snake-bowls”. The specimens kept in Bahrain Museum (No. 99–101, 102–104) only illustrate three types among the various shapes unearthed in Excavation 519. The complete set (vessel + lid no. 100–101) is nevertheless one of the most revealing deposits. We must remember that this discovery of 14 snake-burials, hidden in the floor of the “Palace”, remains highly debatable regarding its datation (*cf. supra*) or its cultural significance; usually these deposits, where a snake is curiously coiled around a stone-bead, have been connected with the memory of a famous episode of the Sumerian Gilgamesh epic, the stealing of the “Flower of Immortality” (the pearl) by the Snake; *cf.* Bibby 1972: 181). This uncommon finding certainly demonstrates that a part of the “Palace”

could have been used (or re-used) as a cultual place, as suggested by the Danish excavators. Nevertheless, insofar as this building was occupied during a rather long period, it is difficult to link these bowls to a definite phase of the "Palace" history. For typological reasons, we are inclined to date them rather late in the Iron Age period; nevertheless, an earlier dating (ca. 9th–8th cent. B.C.) cannot be totally excluded.

Bath-tub coffins. About ten earthenware sarcophagi have been found in Excavations 519 and 520 at Qala'at al-Bahrain. Specimen No 149 is one of the examples coated outside with bitumen. The very scarce occurrence on Bahrain of this burial method seems to indicate it was a custom foreign to the inhabitants of Iron Age Dilmun; future research would indicate whether we are in the presence of a local assimilation or if this burial custom is the result of a limited foreign population's settling on Bahrain in the mid-first millennium B.C. (from Mesopotamia?).

Bronze drinking-set. The various bronze implements Nos. 131-134 constitute what is usually called a wine- or a drinking-set (Moorey 1980a); in the Near-East, the use of fermented drinks (as barley wine, for example), forced the consumer to practice preliminary operations, such as filtration, in order to avoid the passing of seeds. Associated with the strainer (132) is a hinged ladle, to draw (133), a situla, to carry (134) and a flat bowl, to drink (131). This original category of material is widely spread in Mesopotamia and in the Syro-Palestinian area during Achaemenian times (cf. notices for comparisons).

Silver Hoard. This important find of the Danish Expedition (no. 105, and 135-142) remained largely neglected until the publication of several studies devoted to similar discoveries throughout the Near East (cf. lastly Curtis 1984 and Reade 1988) which have drawn again the regional archaeologists' interest on it. The hoard from Qala'at al-Bahrain was originally considered as «the stock of a silversmith buried in the ruins of the Kassite building» (Bibby 1964: 102-103). On the basis of new interpretation of Sumerian and Akkadian texts from Mesopotamia, it has now been suggested that most of the contents of the hoard (fragments of arm or finger rings, fragments of incised sheet silver, etc.) could have functioned as primitive money (Krauss *et al.* 1983). In addition to the stratigraphic data, the vessel (no. 105) which contained the various pieces of silver dates clearly this hoard to the late phase of the Iron Age period (7th/5th cent. BC.).

CATALOGUE

A - POTTERY

87 — Cosmetic palette

- Miniature circular shallow dish, with rather thick convex sides; horizontally-cut rim; flat disc-base. Red ware, with dark red slip, imitating the colour of stone from No. 107.
- Height : 2.3 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 4.1 cm.
- Diameter of base : 2.3 cm.
- Thickness : 0.6 cm.

- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 9B (AH 1/1/134).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.)?



88 — Cosmetic palette

- Circular shallow dish, with rather thick convex sides; bevelled rim; small, flat disc-base. Red ware, with dark red slip. imitating the colour of stone from No. 233.
- Height : 3 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 7.8 cm.
- Diameter of base : 5.3 cm.
- Thickness : 0.7 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 9B (AH 1/1/135).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.)?
- *Antiquities of Bahrain*, pl. 16.

- Similar object kept at the *Forthistorisk Museum* (Moesgaard, Denmark), coming from Qala'at al-Bahrain Excavation 519 (City IV).



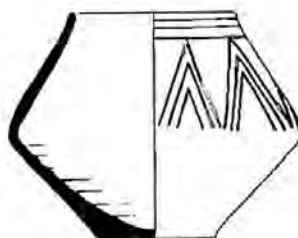
89 — Pottery vessel

- Small cylindrical vase with concave sides and slightly convex base; rounded rim. Greyish brown ware, rather fine. Incised decoration (horizontal lines, zigzags) imitating stone-vessel production.
- Height : 5.6 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 5.2 cm.
- Diameter of base : 5.1 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 2 (AH 1/1/81).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.). Probably imported from the Oman Peninsula.



90 — Pottery vessel

- Biconical carinated vessel : flaring rim, flat base. Dark grey ware, with lighter zones; traces of polishing. Incised decoration in the upper part of the vessel. Restored.
- Height : 8.7 cm; diam. of rim : 6.3 cm; diam. of base : 4.5 cm.
- Isa Town, grave unspecified (no. IT21).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).
- As no. 89, this vessel belongs to a well known category which imitates the stone-vessels. Such items are mainly known from the Oman Peninsula, from where there are possibly imported on Bahrain.



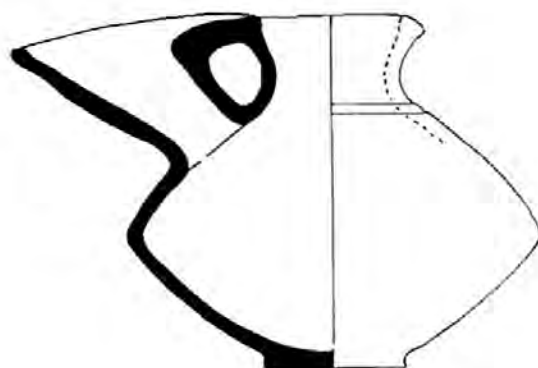
91 — Pottery vessel

- Barrel-shaped suspension vase, with four vertically pierced lugs; rolled out rim; flat base. Incised decoration (horizontal, vertical and oblique lines, dots), covering the whole body. Rather fine buff ware, straw-tempered.
- Height : 12.3 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 6 cm.
- Diameter of base : 4.4 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 2 (AH 1/1/76).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).



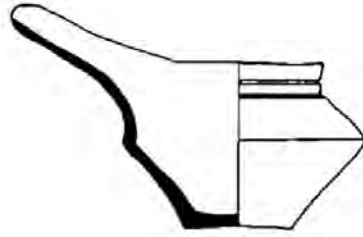
92 – Pottery vessel

- ‘Tea-pot’ with carinated body and a flat base; vertical everted rim; thickened lip; wide bridged spout, fan-shaped. Reddish buff ware, with thick red slip.
- Height : 12.5 cm; diam. of rim : 7.2 cm; diam. of body : 15.7 cm; diam. of base : 5.4 cm; length of spout : 8.5 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 2, grave no. 29 (AH/2/55).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).
- A very interesting piece from the Late Dilmun collections of Bahrain National Museum; this vessel reflects a strong Iranian influence, as no. 93. Nevertheless, it is difficult to precise if it is a production from Bahrain or an import.



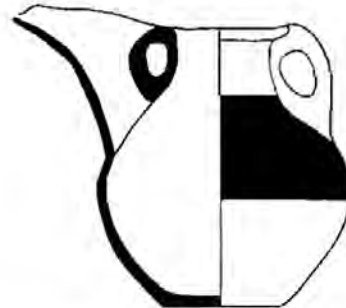
93 – Pottery vessel

- Spouted vessel with carinated profile : short vertical neck, with rounded flaring rim. Flat base. Oblique, long gutter-spout. Light brown ware, with mineral grits. Traces of light brown slip.
- Height : 6.4 cm ; diam. of rim : 6.8 cm ; diam. of base : 4.6 cm ; length of spout : ca. 6 cm (broken).
- Isa Town, grave unspecified (no. IT2).
- Early Iron Age (10th-8th cent. B.C.).
- see comment of no. 92



94 – Pottery jug

- Globular spouted-jug. Vertical neck with rolled out rim; flat base; side handle, of circular section. Bridged gutter spout. Brownish paint on the whole body, with large black strip on the shoulder (badly preserved).
- Height : 10.7 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 5.2 cm.
- Diameter of body : 9.8 cm.
- Diameter of base : 5 cm.
- Length of spout : 5 cm. (broken).
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 10 (AH 1/1/139).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.). Local?
- *Antiquities of Bahrain*, pl. 15.
- BB 15 (Sultanate of Oman) : Humphries 1974, fig. 10 : c.



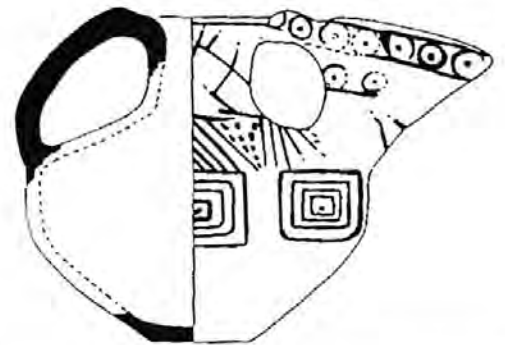
95 – Pottery jug

- Spouted jug, with cylindrical neck; rounded flaring rim; flat base; bridged gutter-spout. Traces of brownish painted decoration on gutter and body.
- Height: 10 cm; diam. of rim: 5.1 cm; diam. of body: 10.3 cm; diam. of base: 5.4 cm; length of spout: 7.4 cm.
- Isa Town, grave unspecified (no. IT1).
- Early Iron Age (10th-8th cent. B.C.).
- A very distinctive type of shape and decoration in the Oman Peninsula during the Iron Age. Cf. Boucharlat and Lombard, 1985, pl. 50: 1-3 (from Rumeilah, U.A.E.).



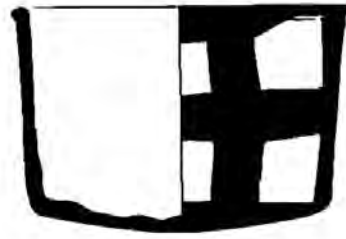
96 — Pottery jug

- Spouted jug, with cylindrical narrow neck; rounded flaring rim; flat base; side handle, of circular section; the section of the body shows two carinations; rather developed bridged spout, fan-shaped. Pinkish-buff ware, with mineral grits. Red painted geometric decoration, partly rubbed out.
- Height: 12 cm.
- Diameter of rim: 5.3 cm.
- Diameter of base: 8.1 cm.
- Diameter of body: 12.3 cm.
- Length of spout: 8.1 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 2 (AH 1/1/71).
- Early Iron Age (10th-8th cent. B.C.).
- Rather similar spout found at Rumeilah (Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.). cf. Boucharlat and Lombard, 1985, pl. 49: 12.



97 — Pottery vessel

- Cylindrical bowl with slightly convex base; rolled out rim. Buff ware, apparently straw-tempered. Dark-red painted decoration (vertical and horizontal strips).
- Height : 8.7 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 13 cm.
- Diameter of base : 11.7 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 2, grave No. 28 (AH 2/2/50).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.)? Local?



98 — Pottery vessel

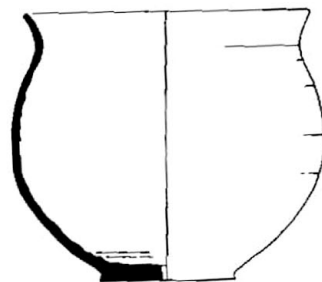
- Small footed bowl, with carinated sides and vertical tapering rim. Light red ware; inner and outer red slip. Brown-red painted decoration (combs on outer rim, hatched star pattern on floor, radiant pattern under the foot).
- Height : 8 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 7.8 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 4.6 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 9B (AH 1/1/129).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).
- *Antiquities of Bahrain*, pl. 16.
- For decoration : Hili 5/6 (Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.) : Cleuzou *et alii* 1978, fig. p. 12; Hili 2 : Rahman 1980, fig. 6; Rumeilah : Boucharlat and Lombard 1983, fig. 7 : 9, 10, 16; 1985, pl. 49 : 1, 2; fig. 16 : 1–3; Maysar 36 (Sultanate of Oman) : Weisgerber 1981, fig. 60 : 6; Lizq 1 (Sultanate of Oman) : *id.*, *ibid.* : fig. 69 : 1, 3, 5.



99 — “Snake-bowl”

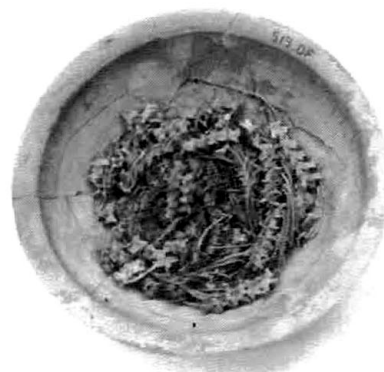
- Globular bowl with short flaring neck and rounded rim; flat disc-base. Rather fine buff ware, with traces of yellowish slip. The vessel was covered by a pottery sherd used as a lid.
- Height : 10 cm.
- Rim diameter : 11 cm.
- Diameter of base : 5 cm.
- Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 DP).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.).

— For similar shape at Qala'at. *cf.* Bibby 1972, fig. p. 180 : Larsen 1980, fig. 54 : g.



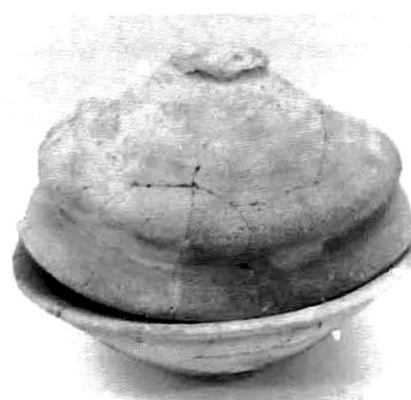
100 — “Snake-bowl”

- Bowl with carinated sides and wide flaring neck. Buff (?) ware with sandy grits, turned green from over-firing. Mended.
- Height : 6 cm.
- Rim diameter : 17.5 cm.
- Diameter of base : 5.8 cm.
- Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 DFa).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.)?
- Glob 1957, fig. 4; Bibby 1972, pl. 17a.



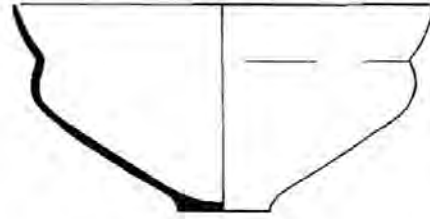
101 — « Snake-bowl » (used as a lid for no. 100)

- Bowl with strongly carinated sides and flaring neck. Buff (?) ware with sandy grits, turned green from over-firing. The latter has distorted the original shape.
- Height : 7.5 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 16 cm.
- Diameter of base : 4 cm.
- Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 DFb).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.)?
- Glob 1957, fig. 4; Bibby 1972, pl. 17a.
- This shape is the most distinctive among the “snake-bowls” category, but is not restricted to it; in Qala'at al-Bahrain, similar vessels can be found (without snake remains) in Sounding 518 (Larsen 1980 : 319–320; material kept at Moesgaard Museum, Denmark) or at Al-Hajjar, site 1 (*cf.* No. 92) and site 2. Outside Bahrain, *cf.* at Nippur (Iraq) : McGuire Gibson 1975, fig. 72 : 4; Qasr-i Abu Nasr (Iran) : Whitcomb 1984, fig. 3 : g.



102 — "Snake-bowl"

- Bowl with strongly carinated profile and rather fine sides. Flaring neck, with tapering rim; narrow flat base. Buff ware, with fine sandy grits.
- Height : 7.9 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 16 cm.
- Diameter of base : 3.5 cm.
- Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 DM).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.)?

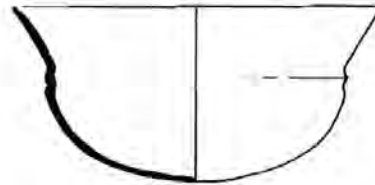


103 — "Snake-bowl"

- Bowl with flaring sides and a rounded base. Flaring neck, with slightly concave profile; tapering rim. Very fine buff ware; no visible slip.
- Height : 6.7 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 14.1 cm.
- Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 DM).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.)? This type of "snake-bowl" differs from the other ones especially by the excellent quality of its ware. The well-known profile could suggest an import from Mesopotamia or Iran. In this connection, one can note that broader "snake-bowls" in "pseudo-Barbar" ware (*cf.* the material of No. 94 a) — apparently imitating the shape of the present vessel — have been found by the

Danish Expedition : they could likely be local copies of this type.

- Bibby 1972, fig. p. 180 : 26; Larsen 1980, fig. 54 : d; Lombard, 1986, fig. 67 : 6.
- Other specimens from Qala'at al-Bahrain, with slightly different profiles are kept at Moesgaard Museum (Denmark). For comparisons outside Bahrain, *cf.* Pasargadae (Iran) : Stronach 1978, fig. 106 : 7, 8; Qasr-i Abu Nasr (Iran) : Whitcomb 1984, fig. 3 : f.



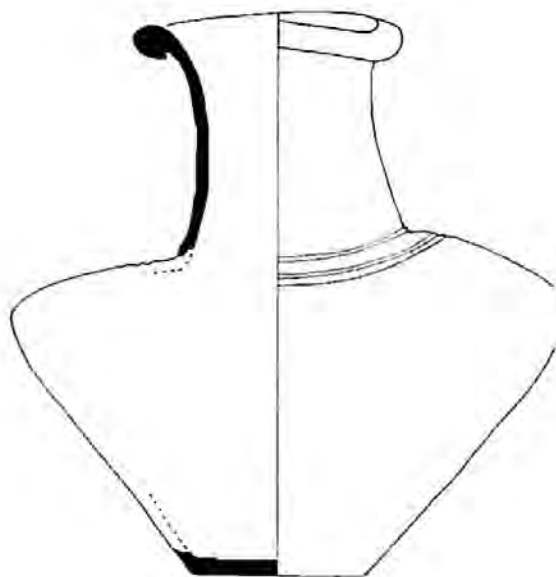
104 — Pottery vessel

- Bowl with strongly carinated profile and rather fine sides. Flaring neck, with tapering rim; narrow flat base. Buff ware, with fine sandy grits.
- Height : 6 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 14.2 cm.
- Diameter of base : 4.8 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave unspecified.
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.)?
- This vessel is similar to the Qala'at "snake-bowls" although it has been found without snake remains.



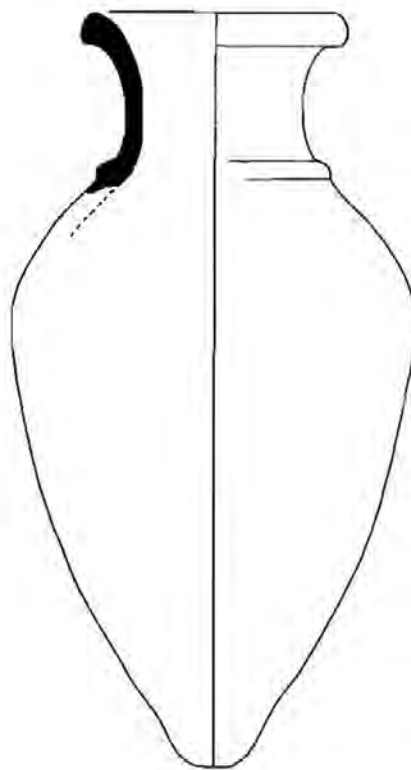
105 — Pottery jar

- Small jar with strongly carinated sides (shoulder is almost horizontal); vertical neck with slightly concave sides. Brownish ware with “exploding” white grits (“pseudo-Barbar” type). Yellowish slip turned green from over-firing; the latter has distorted the original shape.
- Height : 21.4 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 10.1 cm.
- Diameter of base : 6.2 cm.
- Maximum diameter of body : 21.1 cm.
- Silver Hoard from Qala’at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 ARV).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.).
- Bibby 1972, pl. XVII; Krauss, Lombard and Potts 1983, pl. IV : 1a–b. For general comment on the nature of the Qala’at hoard, *cf.* introduction, *supra*.
- *Qala’at al-Bahrain (Forhistorisk Museum, Moesgaard, Denmark)* : Larsen 1980, fig. 56 : a; a similar object is reported from a “bath-tub coffin cemetery” situated South of Dhahran, Saudi Arabia (Potts 1984 : 110).



106 — Pottery vessel

- Jar with spindle-shaped body and vertical neck with concave sides; thickened rim; tapering egg-shaped base. Buff ware (?), with light brownish glaze.
- Height : 29.5 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 10.1 cm.
- Maximum diameter : 16 cm.
- Intrusive burial-coffin from Qala’at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.). Probably imported from Mesopotamia.
- Glob 1956, fig. 6, p. 169.
- Babylon (Iraq) : Reuther 1926, fig. 65 : 94; Ur (Iraq) : Woolley 1962, pl. 56 : 203.



B - STONE VESSELS

107 — Cosmetic palette

- Circular shallow dish, with very thick convex sides; flat disc-base. Very fine inner and outer polishing. No decoration. Purplish red stone, finely grained, showing white spinels.

- Height : 2.5 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 8.5 cm.
- Diameter of base : 5.8 cm.
- Thickness : 1.5 cm.

— Al-Hjjar, site 1, grave No. 9B (AH 1/1/133).

— Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.)?

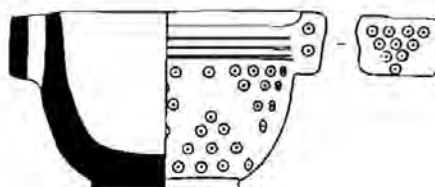
— *Antiquities of Bahrain*, pl. 16.

— AUB Museum (Beirut), local origin? Thompson 1971, fig. 2 : 3; fig. 8 : 2.

108 — Stone vessel

- Suspension bowl with thick convex sides. Horizontally-cut rim; thickened flat disc-base. Two vertically pierced side lugs. Incised decoration on the whole body and on the lugs (face and sides; triangular compositions of dotted circles). Fine grained yellowish alabaster.

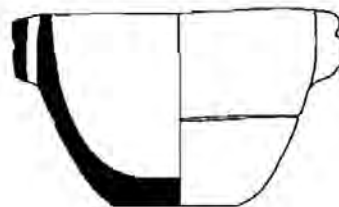
- Height : 6.9 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 10 cm.
- Diameter of base : 5.7 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 2, grave No. 28 (AH 2/2/52).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.)? Local?



109 — Stone vessel

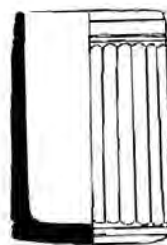
- Suspension bowl with thick convex sides. Horizontally-cut rim, thickened flat base; two vertically pierced side lugs. Decoration is restricted to only one line, deeply incised. Fine grained white alabaster.

- Height : 7.5 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 11.2 cm.
- Diameter of base : 4.8 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 2, grave No. 28 (AH 2/1/51).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.)? Local?
- A close shape can be found at Al Qusais necropolis (Dubai, U.A.E.; Dubai Museum AQ 228).



110 — Stone vessel

- Cylindrical beaker, with rounded rim and flat base. Rather fine outer polishing, broader inside the vessel. Incised decoration (horizontal and vertical lines, arches). Light-grey steatite.
- Height : 8.9 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 5.9 cm.
- Diameter of base : 6.5 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 9B (AH 1/1/130).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).



111 — Stone vessel

- Cylindrical beaker with slightly convex sides; rounded rim; thickened slightly convex base. Inner and outer polishing. Deep incised decoration, of rather good execution (herring-bone patterns, horizontal and vertical lines, arches). Light-grey steatite.
- Height : 9.4 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 5.1 cm.
- Diameter of base : 6.4 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave 7 (AH 1/1/30).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).



112 — Stone vessel

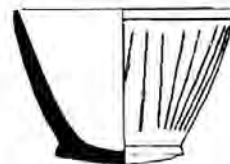
- Cylindrical beaker, with convex sides; thickened convex base. Inner and outer polishing. Incised decoration (horizontal and vertical lines, arches).
- Height : 11 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 5 cm.
- Diameter of body : 6.7 cm.
- Diameter of base : 6 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 8 (AH 1/1/115).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).



113 — Stone vessel

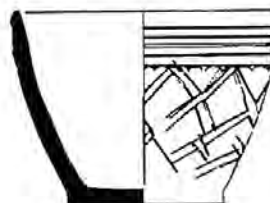
- Small bowl with flaring and slightly convex sides; tapering rounded rim; slightly convex disc-base. Fine inner and outer polishing. Incised decoration (horizontal and vertical lines). Light grey steatite.
- Height : 6 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 8.7 cm.
- Diameter of base : 5 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 10. (AH 1/1/137).

- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.). Probably imported from the Oman Peninsula.
- *Antiquities of Bahrain*, pl. 15.



114 — Stone vessel

- Bowl with slightly convex flaring sides; tapering rim; flat disc-base. Fine outer and inner polishing. Deeply incised decoration (horizontal lines, arches, and badly executed criss-cross patterns). Light-grey steatite.
- Height : 7.5 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 10 cm.
- Diameter of base : 6.2 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 3 (AH 1/1/87).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.). Probably imported from the Oman Peninsula.



115 — Stone vessel

- Flat bowl with flaring sides and horizontally-cut rim; flat base. Outer and inner polishing. Incised decoration (horizontal and vertical lines). Light grey steatite.
- Height : 4.8 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 13.5 cm.
- Diameter of base : 7.6 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 10 (AH 1/1/142).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).

- Probably imported from the Oman Peninsula.
- Qarn Bint Sa'ud (Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.) : Lombard 1982, fig. 3 : 5.



116 — Stone vessel

- Spouted cup with flaring and slightly convex sides; flat base. Inner and outer polishing. Incised decoration (horizontal and vertical lines; two deep grooves on the body). Light grey steatite.
- Height : 4.5 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 10.4 cm.
- Diameter of base : 5.6 cm.
- l. of spout : 3.2 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 9A (AH 1/1/121).

- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.). Probably imported from the Oman Peninsula.
- Qarn Bint Sa'ud (Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.) : Lombard 1982, fig. 3 : 4.



117 — Stone vessel

- Beehive-shaped closed vase, with converging and slightly convex base. Fine outer polishing, broader inside the vessel. Incised decoration (vertical and oblique lines). Light grey steatite.
- Height : 5.1 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 5.2 cm.
- Diameter of base : 8.2 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 9B (AH 1/1/131).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).
- *Antiquities of Bahrain*, pl. 16.
- Al-Qusais (Dubai, U.A.E.) : *Al-Athar* 1975, pl. 14; Qarn Bint Sa'ud (Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.) : Lombard 1982, fig. 3 : 8.



118 — Stone vessel

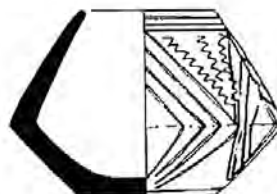
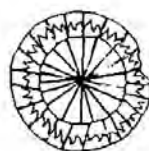
- Beehive shaped closed vase with converging sides and slightly convex base; bevelled rim. Fine outer and inner polishing; incised decoration. Four holes pierced under the rim. Light grey steatite.
- Height : 7.2 cm; diam. of rim : 7 cm; diam. of base : 10.6 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 2, grave no. 80a.
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).
- Another distinctive type of Iron Age vessel in the Oman Peninsula; see no. 117.



119 – Stone vessel

- Biconical closed vase, with carinated profile; rounded rim; flat base. Carving is very regular. Fine outer polishing, broader inside the vessel. Finely executed incised decoration (horizontal lines, concentric triangles, saw-teeth patterns). Light grey steatite.
- Height : 7.2 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 4.8 cm.
- Maximum diameter of body : 10.9 cm.
- Diameter of base : 5.2 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 7 (AH 1/1/ 103a).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.). Probably imported from the Oman Peninsula.
- A quite interesting piece from the Iron Age collections. Moreover, this vessel is one of the nicest specimens (workmanship, proportions) of the presently-known Omani

products. For comparisons. *cf.* Lizq 1 (Sultanate of Oman) : Weisgerber 1981, fig. 49 : 5; Qarn Bint Sa'ud (Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.) : Lombard 1982, fig. 4 : 15.



120 – Stone lid (associated with no. 119)

- Circular shape, with stalked prehension lug; lower side is convex. Finely executed incised decoration (radiant lines, saw-teeth patterns). Light grey steatite.
- Height : 4 cm.
- Diameter : 5.5 cm.
- Diameter of lug : 3.6 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 7 (AH 1/1/ 103b).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.). Probably imported from the Oman Peninsula.
- Hili 2 (Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.) : Rahman 1980, fig. 7 : 2; Qarn Bint Sa'ud (Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.) : Lombard 1982, fig. 4 : 19 Al-Qusais (Dubai, U.A.E.) : *id., ibid.*, fig. 4 : 16–18, 20; Rumeilah (Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.) : Boucharlat and Lombard, 1985, pl. 61 : 1, 2, 11.



121 — Stone vessel

- Barrel-shaped suspension vase with convex sides getting thinner in the upper part; rounded rim; ring-base; 4 vertically pierced lugs on the body. Fine inner and outer polishing. Incised decoration consisting of horizontal lines and saw-teeth patterns. The latter composes a schematic drawing of an unidentified four-footed animal. Greyish-brown steatite.
- Height : 14.5 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 6.5 cm.
- Diameter of body : 9 cm.
- Diameter of base : 5.5 cm.
- Height of base : 0.5 cm.
- Height of lugs : 2.3 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 9 B (AH1/132a).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.). Probably imported from the Oman Peninsula.
- *Antiquities of Bahrain*, pl. 16.
- Oman Peninsula : Lombard 1982, fig. 5 : 21–22. The closest parallel (shape and incised pattern) can be found at Rumeilah (Al Ain oasis, Abu-Dhabi Emirate, U.A.E.), cf. Boucharlat and Lombard, 1985, pl. 61 : 10.



122 – Stone lid (associated with no. 121)

- Circular shape, with stalked prehension lug. Fine polishing. Incised decoration (radiant lines). Apparently hard greenish stone (rather chlorite than steatite). This item is probably not the original cover of vessel No. 84a.
- Height : 3.9 cm.
- Maximum diameter : 6.7 cm.
- Diameter of lug : 2.3 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1 grave No. 9 B (AH1/132b).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.). Probably imported from the Oman Peninsula.
- *Antiquities of Bahrain*, pl. 16.
- Oman Peninsula : Lombard 1982, fig. 4 : 16–20; Boucharlat and Lombard, 1985, pl. 61 : 1.



123 – Stone vessel

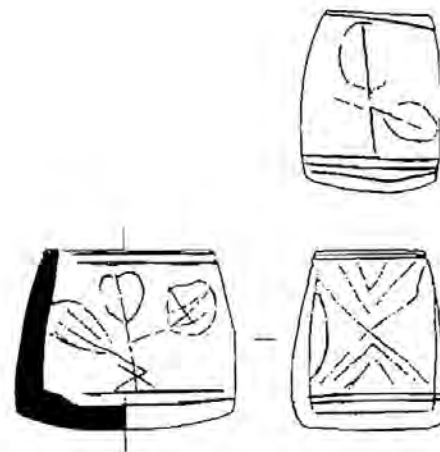
- Quadrangular pyxide with two compartments; converging sides, with slightly convex profile; rounded edges and rim; slightly convex base. Fine outer and inner polishing. Finely executed incised decoration (miniature saw-teeth composing zig-zag patterns). Light-grey micaceous steatite, with darker zones.
- Height : 9.7 cm.
- Diameter of opening : 12 x 6 cm.
- Diameter of base : 13.7 x 6 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 3 (AH 1/1/88).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).
- This shape is directly inherited from the Third millennium B.C. period where similar pyxides are often found in the Oman Peninsula (Cleuziou and Vogt 1983, fig. 10 : 1) or at Susa, Iran (de Miroschedji 1973 : 30–31). The decoration, however (saw-teeth pattern), is very distinctive of the 1st half of the First Millennium B.C. in the

Arabian Gulf area. In the Oman Peninsula (from where this object is very likely imported), the presence of such vessels is more indicated by the discovery of several adapted lids (Weisgerber 1981, fig. 49 : 9; Boucharlat and Lombard, 1985 pl. 61 : 5) rather than the pyxides themselves, cf. Maysar 9 (Sultanate of Oman), surface find; Weisgerber 1981, fig. 49 : 12 (?)



124 – Stone vessel

- Quadrangular pyxide; convergent sides, with slightly convex profile; rounded edges; horizontally cut rim; convex base. Coarse incised decoration, very worn (floral pattern?). Light greenish-grey steatite.
- Height : 7 cm; dim. of opening : 7.2 x 5 cm; dim. of base : 8.8 x 6 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 2, grave no. 80a.
- Early Iron Age (10th-8th cent. B.C.).
- see comment of no. 123.



C - METAL OBJECTS

125 — 5 bronze arrow-heads

- (among a displayed set of 15).
- (a) Tanged. Leaf-shaped blade, of biconvex section; angular stem at join of tang; tang is of rhombic section. Badly corroded.
- Length : 6 cm.
- Width : 1.2 cm.
- (b) Tanged. Leaf-shaped blade, of biconvex section; roughly spherical bulb at join of tang. Badly corroded.
- Length : 5.5 cm.
- Width : 1.3 cm.
- (c) Tanged. Oblanceolate blade, with broad midrib and roughly spherical bulb at join of tang. Badly corroded.
- Length : 5.2 cm.
- Width : 1.5 cm.
- (d) Tanged. Oblanceolate blade with wide flat midrib. Badly corroded.
- Length : 6.2 cm.
- Width : 1.3 cm.
- (e) Tanged. Leaf-shaped blade, with broad midrib; section of tang is circular. Badly corroded.
- Length : 4.7 cm.
- Width : 1.5 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 9 A/B.
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).
- For types (a-c), Lakish (Palestine) : Cleuziou 1977, fig. 3 : 2; Samaria (Palestine) : *id.*, *ibid.* : fig. 3 : 3; Nimrud (Iraq) : Stronach 1958, pl. XXXIII : 3 (all in iron). For type (c), Persepolis : Schmidt 1957, pl. 76 : 6. For type (d), Maysar 36 (Sultanate of Oman) : Weisgerber 1981, fig. 60 : 3; Rumeilah (Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.) : Boucharlat and Lombard, 1985, pl. 62 : 7. For type (e), Qarn Bint Sa'ud (Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.) : Lombard 1984, fig. 3 : 5. 6;



A



B



C



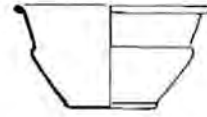
D



E

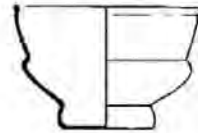
126 — Bronze vessel

- Bowl with flaring carinated sides; thickened rim, flat base. Badly corroded.
- Height : 4 cm.
- Rim diameter : 7.6 cm.
- Diameter of base : 3.5 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site I, grave unspecified (no field No.).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).
- Al-Qusais (Dubai, U.A.E.) : Salman 1974, pl. 14b.



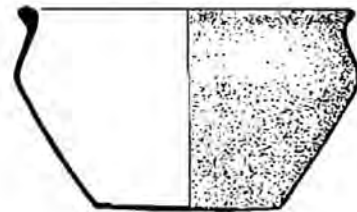
127 — Bronze vessel

- Bowl with flaring carinated sides and a flat disc-base; thickened rim. Badly corroded.
- Height : 4.8 cm.
- Rim diameter : 7.2 cm.
- Diameter of base : 4 cm.
- Height of base : 0.9 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave unspecified. (no field No.).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.).



128 — Two bronze vessels

- The two bowls are stuck together by corrosion, the smaller in the larger. Both shapes are carinated, with thickened flaring rims and flat bases. Fragments of bones *in situ*, stuck by corrosion.
- (a) *Outer bowl* :
 - Height : 8 cm.
 - Diameter of rim : 13.3 cm.
 - Maximum diameter of body : 13.5
 - Diameter of base : 6.2 cm.
- (b) *Inner bowl* :
 - Diameter unspecified.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 9A.
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.)?
- (Outer bowl) : Al-Qusais (Dubai, U.A.E.) : Salman 1974, pl. 14b.



129 — Bronze vessel

- Bowl with lenticular profile; rounded rim; rounded base. Strongly corroded.
- Height : c. 4 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 13 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave No. 9 (?).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.)?
- Ur (Iraq): Woolley 1962, pl. 32 : 7; Nippur (Iraq) : McCown and Haines 1967, pl. 108 : 5, 15; Luristan : Vanden-Berghe 1979, fig. 5 : 1, 2.



130 — Bronze vessel

- Small disc-footed vase with globular body and vertical high neck; strongly corroded.
- Height : 6 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 5.5 cm.
- Diameter of body : 6.6 cm.
- Diameter of base : 4.6 cm.
- Height of base : 0.4 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave unspecified (no field No.); probably No. 9 A/B (according to archives).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.)?



131 — Bronze dish

- Flat circular bowl, with rounded base; horizontally folded rim; hammered. Very bad state of preservation (strongly restored with plaster).
- Maximum diameter : 20.5 cm.
- Depth : 4 cm. (total height is undeterminable because of restorations).
- Intrusive burial-coffin from Qala'at al Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.).
- Glob 1956, fig. 7, p. 170.



132 — Bronze strainer

- Hemispherical strainer, with side handle. The item being stuck on a plastic stand, it has not been possible to examine the decoration on the upper side. The curved extremity of the fluted handle represents the head of a duck (?). Medium state of preservation; numerous restorations.
- Total Length : 21.2 cm.
- Length of handle : 11.5 cm.
- Maximum diameter : 10.5 cm.
- Diameter of strainer : 7 cm.
- Intrusive burial-coffin from Qala'at al Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.).
- Glob 1956, fig. 8, p. 171; Lombard, 1986, fig. 65.
- One of the most interesting pieces from the Iron Age collections. Neirab (Syria) : Abel and Barrois 1928, fig. 4 : e; Till-Barsib (Syria) : Thureau-Dangin and Dunand 1936, pl. XIX : 1; Sechem (Palestine) : Stern 1980, fig. 6 : 5; Meqabelein (Palestine) : Harding 1950, pl. 14 : 15–16; Ain Shems (Palestine) : Grant and Wright 1939, IV, pl. 48 : 23; V, 144; Nimrud

(Iraq) : Moorey 1980a, pl. 1a; British Museum (unknown origin) : Moorey 1980a, pl. 1b.

For general comment about drinking sets, cf. introduction, *supra*.



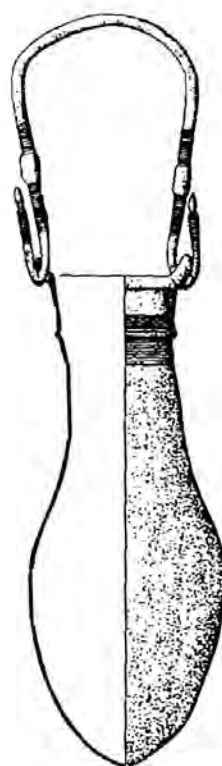
133 — Bronze ladle

- Piriform bowl, with egg-shaped body; thickened rounded rim. The bowl hinges on a long handle with curved extremity. Corroded.
- Total l. : 25 cm.
- Height of bowl : 7 cm.
- Diameter of rim : 4.5 cm.
- Maximum diameter : 5.3 cm.
- Intrusive burial-coffin from Qala'at al Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.).
- Glob 1956, fig. 8, p. 171.
- Neirab (Syria) : Abel and Barrois 1928, fig. 4 : b; for hinged specimens (rather exceptional) : Amathus (Cyprus) : Murray 1900, fig. 148 : 4; Lindos (Greece) : Blinkenberg 1931, pl. 32 : 793.



134 — Bronze situla

- Piriform situla, with loop handle; tapering egg-shaped body; constricted neck and slightly thickened rim. Fluted decoration on handle; incisions on neck. Hammered: rather good state of preservation (restored), except a hole at the base.
- Length : 18.5 cm.
- Diameter of base : 6.9 cm.
- Diameter of body : 7.7 cm.
- Intrusive burial-coffin from Qala'at al Bahrain. Excavation 519 (City IV).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.).
- Glob 1956, fig. 7, p. 170; Lombard, 1986, fig. 64.
- This object is a nice example of the type known as "egyptian situla" (cf., mainly, Lichtheim 1947). From Qala'at al-Bahrain, another specimen (of broader shape) is kept at Moesgard Museum (Denmark). For comparisons outside Bahrain, cf. : with loop handle, Neirab (Syria) : Abel and Barrois 1928, fig. 4 : a; Till-Barsib (Syria) : Thureau-Dangin and Dunand 1936, pl. XIX : 3; Ur (Iraq) : Woolley 1962, pl. 23 : U6644; without handle, Deve-Hüyük (Syria) : Moorey 1980b, fig. 7 : 124–125; Nippur (Iraq) : McCown and Haines 1967, pl. 108 : 19.



135 — Silver ring

- Flat ring coiled in a spiral, with a snake-head terminal; scales are stylized at the back of the head by several dots.
- Height maximum : 0.8 cm.
- Maximum diameter : 2.8 cm.
- Silver Hoard from Qala'at al Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 ARS)
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.).
- Silver (or bronze) rings with animal-head terminal are rather common in the Near-East from the Early Iron Age down to the

Achaemenian period (Moorey 1971 : 220). This specimen, coiled in a spiral, nevertheless seems unique.



136 — Silver signet-ring

- Signet-ring, with fixed oval bezel of uniformly rounded section. The shank is soldered on the underside of the bezel; the latter bears a egyptianizing cartouche.
- Total Height : 2.85 cm.
- Diameter of ring : 2.6 cm.
- Thickness of ring : c. 0.4 cm.
- Diameter of bezel : 2.05 x 1.3 cm.
- Thickness of bezel : 0.5 cm.
- Silver Hoard from Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 ARS).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.).
- Krauss, Lombard and Potts, 1983, pl. VIII : 10–12.
- This signet-ring is one of the most interesting pieces from the Iron Age collections. It can be used as a rather safe chronological criterion for dating the Qala'at hoard. According to R. Krauss, who recently re-examined the object, the bezel-rings with a shank round in section are typical of the periods later than the New Egyptian Kingdom, notably of the Saitic Period; moreover, the soldering of the shank to the underside of the bezel appear as a feature of similar Late Periods rings (Krauss, Lombard and Potts 1983 : 162). The hieroglyphic nature of the decoration is clearly recognizable but it is difficult to identify the signs. One can probably assume that the engraver has copied here an Egyptian inscription, neither the lan-

guage nor the significance of which were understandable to him. This object does not come from an Egyptian workshop, but is probably the copy of an Egyptian model (made in Bahrain?); the silversmith better succeeded in rendering the shape than copying the hieroglyphs.



137 — Silver pendant

- Flat pendant, oval-shaped, with tubular shankle. Spherical protuberance on lower extremity. Cartouche on both sides, rubbed out.
- Height : 2.6 cm.
- Thickness : 0.4 cm.
- Diameter of cartouche : 1.6 x 1 cm.
- Diameter of shankle : 0.6 x 0.4 cm.
- Silver Hoard from Qala'at al-Bahrain. Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 ARS).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.).

- Krauss, Lombard and Potts 1983, pl. IX : 13, 14.
- Close Phoenician object (in gold) in Reade 1978, No. 352.



138 — Fragments of silver arm-rings

- Clipped pieces, of circular section, with ribbed and flattened ends.
- Average diameter : 0.6 cm.
- Silver Hoard from Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 ARV).
- Krauss, Lombard and Potts 1983, pl. VI : 4, 5.
- Similar clipped pieces of silver can be found in several Near-Eastern "silver-ward", for example the one from Megiddo (Loud 1948, pl. 229); *cf. supra* for general comment on the nature of the Qala'at al-Bahrain hoard. For the type of the arm-rings, *cf.* Dhahran South : Potts et alii 1978, pl. 10 : 52; Ur (gold sp.) : Woolley 1962, pl. 21 : U.457.

139 — Fragments of silver finger-rings (?)

- 65 clipped pieces.
- Average diameter : 0.35 cm.
- Silver Hoard from Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 ARV).
- Krauss, Lombard and Potts 1983, pl. VI : 6.
- Similar clipped pieces of silver can be found in several Near-Eastern "silver-ward", for example the one from Megiddo (Loud 1948, pl. 229).

140 — Fragments of silver tubular-rings

- 15 crushed pieces.
- Average length : 2 cm.
- Average diameter : 0.4 cm.
- Silver Hoard from Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 ARV).
- Krauss, Lombard and Potts 1983, pl. VII : 7.

141 — Fragments of incised sheet silver

- 31 fragments.
- Average diameter : 1.8 x 0.7 cm.
- Silver Hoard from Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 ARV).
- Krauss, Lombard and Potts 1983, pl. VIII : 8–9.
- Several of these fragments could be compared with bronze ring fragments from Bogazköy, dated from the Phrygian Period : Boehmer 1972,

142 — Fragments of smelted silver

- 58 flat, coarse pieces.
- Silver Hoard from Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 ARV).
- Krauss, Lombard and Potts 1983, pl. V : 2.



Silver hoard no. 135-142.

140



141



138



142



139



143 — Iron dagger

- Tanged blade only, with straight sides; point is missing. Badly corroded.
- Total Length : 30 cm.
- Length of tang : 5.6 cm.
- Intrusive burial-coffin from Qala'at al Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV).
- Late Iron Age (7th-5th cent. B.C.).
- Glob 1956, fig. 5, p. 168.



144 — Iron dagger

- Blade only; leaf-shaped; tanged. Point is missing. Badly corroded.
- Length : 22.8 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave unspecified (no field No.).
- Late Iron Age (7th-5th cent. B.C.)?



145 — Iron dagger

- Flange-hilted dagger with crescentic pommel and slightly constricted grip; triangular blade tapering towards point. Corroded. Broken in four pieces.
- Reconstructed length : c. 41 cm.
- Length of hilt : 7.5 cm.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave unspecified (no field No.); probably No. 9 A/B (according to archives).
- Late Iron Age (7th-5th cent. B.C.)?
- Copy in iron of a standard form of bronze dagger widespread in the Near-East from the Syro-Palestinian area to the Luristan (Iran) (cf. Moorey 1971 : 71-73; Moorey 1980b; 53). Such copies in iron appear in Iran from the 8th cent. B.C. (Bard-i Bal : Vanden-Berghe 1973, fig. 8. 94-96).



D - JEWELLERY

146 — Necklace

- 58 various beads (flat, biconical, annular, tubular, barrel-shaped, nail-shaped) including onyx, carnelian, amethyst, porcelain, and some undetermined coloured stones. Reconstructed.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave unspecified (no field No.); probably No. 10 (according to archives).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.)?
- Similar nail-shaped beads from Rumeilah (Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.) in Boucharlat and Lombard, 1985, pl. 66: 16.



147 — Necklace

- 74 round, tubular, biconical, triangular and barrel-shaped beads, mostly including carnelian, and few pieces of amethyst, stone (?), and rock-crystal. Reconstructed.
- Al-Hajjar, site 1, grave unspecified (no field No.); probably No. 10 (according to archives).
- Early Iron Age (10th–8th cent. B.C.)?
- Similar triangular carnelian beads from Rumeilah (Abu-Dhabi, U.A.E.) in Boucharlat and Lombard, 1985, pl. 66 : 15.



148 — Necklace

- 26 various beads, including agate, amethyst, blue glass paste and porcelain; a silver ring, reported in the original publication, is presently missing. Reconstructed.
- Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 DK).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.)?
- Glob 1957, fig. 6. This necklace was found among the "snake-bowls" recovered from the building in Excavation 519. It was similarly buried below the floor and has been covered by a single sherd showing traces of bitumen.



E - COFFINS AND BURIAL JARS

149— "Bath-tub coffin"

- Sarcophagus with vertical sides and thickened flat rim; roughly square at one end, rounded at the other; thick coarse greenish buff ware, coated outside with bitumen.
- Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV)?
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.).
- Glob 1954, fig. 1. (?)
- Similar earthenware coffins were found at the site of Karzakan on Bahrain. Outside Dilmun, Babylon (Iraq), "*Hockersurge*" : Reuther 1926, pl. 68–71; Nippur (Iraq) : McCown and Haines 1967, pl. 157 : 12, 14; McGuire Gibson 1975, fig. 63, p. 87; Nimrud (Iraq) : Oates 1957, pl. VI : 2; Sippar (Iraq) : Haerinck 1980, pl. 7 : 1–2.



150 — Child burial

- Few bones have been found in this wide trough with flaring sides, and wide vertical neck; rounded rim. Buff ware, with small mineral grits; no slip.
- Height : 24 cm.
- Diameter of rim : c. 37 cm.
- Diameter of base : c. 11 cm.
- Qala'at al-Bahrain, Excavation 519 (City IV) (519 CR).
- Late Iron Age (7th–5th cent. B.C.).
- Stratigraphically, this inhumation-bowl is related with the bath-tub coffins discovered in Excavation 519. Burial-jars are reported from Al-Hajjar, site 1 (grave No. 4, Rice 1972) and from Janussan (Mound IIIB; Lombard and Salles 1984 : 73–87).



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