

Tepe Hissar sealings compared with Sarasvati hieroglyphs

➔ Rows 1 to 3 (showing glyphs + cuneiform writing); at the bottom a photograph of 5 sealings.



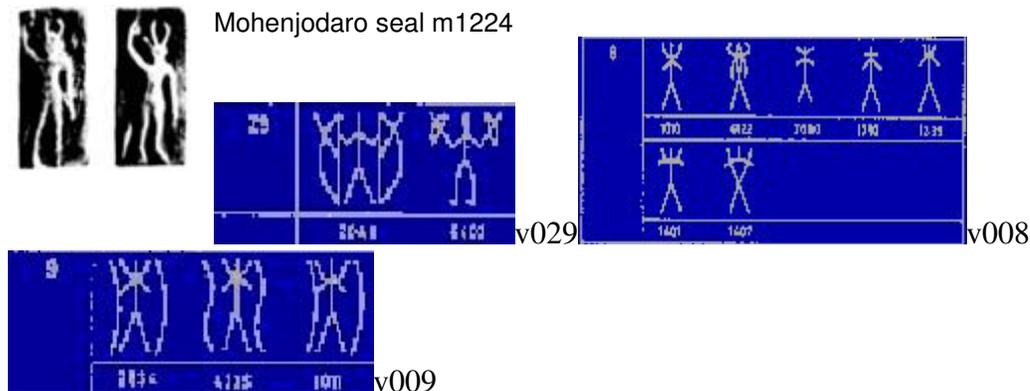
Thanks to Chris Thornton of UPenn who posted images of these sealings found between 1996 to 2001 at Tepe Hissar, NE Iran. These are stated to be salvage excavations when a railwayline (which runs between the Main Mound and North Flat) to two tracks. Shown at the bottom of the figure are five 'tags' of sealings found together with

the 6 'sealings' depicted on top.

Source: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Indo-Eurasian_research/message/6255 (March 11, 2007).

I do not know what the cuneiform-like incisions connote or represent on one side of the sealing. But there are some pictorials on these sealings which find parallels in other archaeological finds of this and nearby regions.

The sealing showing a person with upraised arms is comparable to the following seal hieroglyph (horned person ligatured to the hindpart of a bovine):



Tigers shown on sealing in row 3 are comparable to the following hieroglyphs:

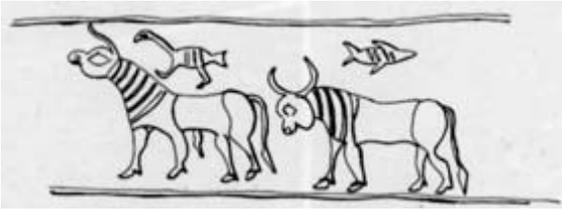


Pict-103 Horned (female with breasts hanging down?) person with a tail and bovine legs standing near a tree fisting a horned tiger rearing on its hindlegs. Text 1357 (Mahadevan)

The bull shown on the second row (right) and the long body of a person shown above a tiger on sealing (left on row 3) -- both images are comparable to the following cylinder seal impressions of hieroglyphs.

m0304AC Pict- 81: Person (with three visible faces) wearing bangles and surrounded among others by a leaping tiger (comparable [the leaping tiger shown on sealing (right) on row 3]





A fish over a short-horned bull and a bird over a one-horned bull; cylinder seal impression (Akkadian to early Old Babylonian). Gypsum. 2.6 cm. Long 1.6 cm. Dia. (Drawing by Larnia Al-Gailani Werr. Cf. Dominique Collon 1987, *First impressions: cylinder seals in the ancient Near East*, London: 143, no. 609).



urseal6 Cylinder seal; BM 122947; U. 16220 (cut down into Ur III mausolea from Larsa level; U. 16220), enstatite; Legrain, 1951, No. 632; Collon, 1987, Fig. 611. Humped bull stands before a palm-tree, feeding from a round manger or a bundle of fodder (or, probably, a cactus); behind the bull is a scorpion and two snakes; above the whole a human figure, placed horizontally, with fantastically long arms and legs, and rays about his head.

A Tepe Hissar III (2000 to 1500 BCE) seal shows a four-spoked wheel (comparable to six-spoked wheel on Sarasvati hieroglyphs). Cf. also a seals showing a horse-drawn vehicle. Finds of lapis lazuli and bronze artifacts at Tepe Hissar indicate trade with contact areas.

[quote] Minor arts of the late third and early second millennium B.C. in eastern Iran. Small objects of copper and chlorite constitute distinctive products of eastern Iran. Most characteristic of the copper objects are the circular openwork, copper seals with a loop handle, which were used to stamp pottery as could be shown by examples from Shahdad. Such compartmented seals were found at Tepe Hissar in Gurgan (E. F. Schmidt, *Excavations at Tepe Hissar Damghan*, Philadelphia, 1937, fig. 118, H. 2697)...[unquote] loc.cit.

www.iranica.com/newsite/articles/v2f5/v2f5a028.html "An earlier type of geometric seal may be represented at Tepe Hissar in level III, where the back of the seal is still solid (plate xli/5; Schmidt, 1937, fig. 118: H.2697). One may guess that the display seals were made in the refined artistic atmosphere existing in and around the Third Dynasty of Ur in the 21st century b.c.e. (Pottier, 1980)." Loc. cit. <http://www.iranica.com/newsite/articles/v6f5/v6f5a019.html>

Since the pictographic glyphs have been deciphered as minerals in mleccha (meluhha language), it is possible that the Hissar sealings represented – as hieroglyphs read rebus – as bills of lading of specified minerals conveyed in trade. For decipherment of these hieroglyphs, see

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