



History, Geography and Archaeology

Ali Akbar Mesgar

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Research Title: Formation, Thought, Construction and Functioning of the Sassanid Dynasty in the Third Century AD

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About Researcher

Ali Akbar Mesgar was born in 1985 in Arak. He completed his high school and pre-university education in the same city, and in 2004 he was accepted to Shahid Beheshti University for a bachelor's degree in history. In 2008, he was accepted at the University of Tehran for a master's degree in the same field with a focus on ancient Iran. In 2018, he defended his dissertation on the subject of the principles and components of Iranian identity in the Sassanid period. In 2012, he was accepted as a doctoral student in history, the orientation of ancient Iran, at the University of Tehran, and in 2018, he defended his doctoral dissertation entitled "The Construction, Function, and Thought of the Sassanid Dynasty in the Third Century AD ". So far, he has published two books, three scientific research articles, five scientific extension articles, four international conference articles, three national conference articles, and ten specialized scientific articles in the field of historical knowledge. Dr. Mesgar's research interests are historical sociology, theoretical topics related to the field of history, Iranian identity, and the study of the moods and collective psyche of Iranians.

Abstract

Understanding the logic of evolution and the conditions for the transformation of political structure from the Parthian to the Sassanid dynasty is one of the apprehensions about which little theoretical research has been done. Contrary to orientalist theories which attribute this to a shift from a decentralized, fragmented structure to a centralized, unifying structure, this study analyzes the establishment of the state in this period based on the coalition and rationality of the political and social structures and forces of that period. In fact, the concept of the state in this research has not been supposed as an inflexible mechanical figure that is constantly in the cycle of tyranny and then collapses, but as a ground that all forces have an ability to maneuver. In other words, the state is the arena of conflict and compromise of all forces involved in the power structure. This research seeks to problematize the evolution of the state in the third century AD, to evaluate the samples of this period with related theories, and after criticizing and reviewing the views, using the approach of historical sociology to present a coalition state model in the Sassanid era. The establishment of the Sassanid state was a response to the permanent crisis of the last century of the Parthian era. The rise of Kushans and obstruction in the international transits road, the dominance of Rome on commercial cities, the public decline of the economy, and the growth of productive urban forces versus feudalist economy forces resulted in the state with a coalition of new forces.

Keywords: Structure of State, Arsacid Period, Sassanid Period, Families, Coalition State.

