

Kharg Island Rock Inscription (𐎧) "True or false" and "new or old" Kharg Inscription

Rasul Bashash Kanzaq¹

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Abstract

The inscription on the coral reef of Kharg, which was accidentally found in the ١٣٧٠'s on Kharg Island, has caused a debate in recent years about the reality and unreality of the cuneiform engraved on it. In ١٣٨٦ I was invited by Dr.Sarfaraz, head of the archeological excavation site at that time in Borazjan, to the site where the kharg inscription had been found. There in the presence of kharg island state officials and some other Bushehr cultural heritage members I gathered all the necessary information and materials including photos and reproduction of inscription I needed and returned to Teheran. Based on preliminary comparative studies, my tentative reading of the inscription was carried out through referring to almost all old persian rock and artifact inscriptions , while studying at the same time, the other contemporary and coincidental Elamite and also some Avestan texts the closest cognate language to old Persian language. After that, some opponents and supporters of archaeologists and comparative language experts have given different opinions about the authenticity of this inscription. In the past years, the author of the article considering the important and undeniable points in the inscription and acknowledging the points mentioned by the critics, has published several articles regarding the authenticity of the inscription, and at the same time answering all the criticisms of the critics. Hence and in this direction, the present article is based on the assumption that this time by proposing two hypotheses "true or false" and "new or old", by using the method of comparative linguistics and paying attention to significant and non-negligible points to examine the authenticity or inauthenticity of the inscription. Conducting dating experiments using radiocarbon and carbon ١٤ methods to determine and prove the age of the rock

¹. Retired faculty member of the Research Institute of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism. r_bashash@yahoo.com

and the lines of the inscription to eliminate the challenges and express positive and negative opinions is one of the suggestions made by the author of this article .

Key Terms

Persian Gulf; Kharg Island; Achaemenid inscriptions; Doubtful inscriptions reading.