



Arms and Armor from Iran

The Bronze Age to the End of the Qajar Period

Publication

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Forewords

Acknowledgement

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The book Arms and Armor from Iran: the Bronze Age to the End of the Qajar Period is the result of years of research and fieldwork by Mr. Manouchehr Moshtagh Khorasani, which opens a new chapter in the analysis and understanding of arms and armor through different periods of Iran. Based on the archaeological evidence, the usage of the metal copper goes back to 7000 B.C. to the beginning of 5000 B.C. With strong determination, the author of this valuable book has analyzed the development and changes of the metalwork in Iran with the advent of 3000 B.C., which started with the introduction of the metal bronze, until the age of iron in 1000 B.C. when iron could be extracted from iron ore and a new development started. The extensive use of these metals in making different tools, especially arms and armor, is proof of economic, political, and social developments and, at the same time, testimony to the development and high standards of the metalwork. The author has described all these aspects very successfully in his book. Arms and Armor from Iran offers very valuable, factual, and complete information about the arms and armor kept in important Iranian museums and palace museums. An essential fact to take into consideration is that Mr. Moshtagh Khorasani has introduced many artifacts in his book that are shown for the first time. This significant text is a very reliable source and heritage for all scholars, students, and lovers of the cultural heritage of Iran as the author not only displays the pieces of arms and armor but also offers complete background information on the manufacturing methods, art history, beliefs, and technological developments used by the makers of these weapons. This book offers a solid framework for a comparative analysis with neighboring regions.

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