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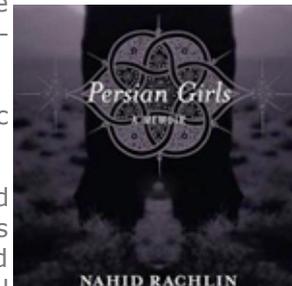
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There are few books that show the beauty and complexity of Persian art as well as the book *Disc-headed Bronze Pins from Luristan: A Symbol of Ancient Iran's Art* by Ms. Sourì Ayazi does. The book shows the magnificent collection of disc-headed bronze pins in the National Museum of Iran in Tehran, which is the best and most complete collection of these items in the world. I was honored to be chosen as the editor of this magnificent volume. Ms. Ayazi's research is superb by virtue of the fact that it takes so many different sources into consideration. This book is a magnificent volume for anyone interested in Persian art and symbology as all of these decorative items carry different symbols on them. Based on their decoration, one can classify these items into:

1. Pins with cast heads in various floral, animal, geometric, cupolaed and conic designs.
2. Pins with openwork cast heads, usually in a crescentic, circular or rectangular frames, some with iron shakes.
3. Pins with flat, mostly circular heads of wrought sheets; the surface decorated with various floral, zoomorphic, geometric, human and semi-human motifs.

The decorative motifs range from plain composite ones, from realistic forms to most abstract forms.

Ms. Sourì Ayazi obtained her Bachelor of Science in History from Shahid Beheshti University in Tehran in 1980 and later obtained a Master of Arts degree in Curatory and Archaeology from Iran Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organization. She has 25 years of work experience at the National Museum of Iran and 5 years of work experience at Sa'd-Abaad Palace Museum as the museum expert and curator of the Department of Prehistory and the head of the Historic and Luristan Department. Ms. Sourì Ayazi played a leading role in the organization of several exhibitions at the National Museum of Iran. Among many others, these exhibitions included the "Luristan Bronze Disc-Headed Pins Exhibition", "Decorative Architectural Stucco from the Parthian and Sassanid Eras Exhibition", "The Treasure of Golden and Silver Objects in the National Museum of Iran", "Music and Ceremonial Dances in Ancient Iran", "The Dialogue between two Cultures: Iran and Greece: An Exhibition of the Common Heritage of Iran and Greece at the National Museum of Iran", "The Clay Figurines and Human Heads of Ancient Iran Exhibition" and "Selection of 10,000 years of Art and Civilization of Iran". She was also involved with the "100 years of Archaeological Studies of France in Iran" exhibition.



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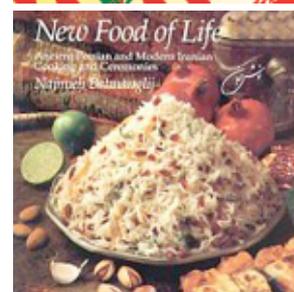
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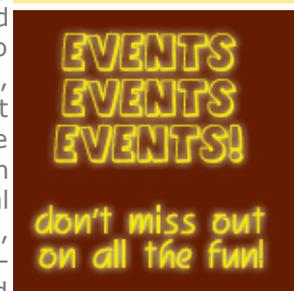
Some of the international exhibitions in which Ms. Ayazi has been involved are "7000 years of Iran's Art" (an exhibition that was shown in Austria, Italy, Spain, Belgium, Germany and other countries), "Persiens Antike Pracht" (an exhibition at the Bochum Museum in Germany), "Forgotten Empire - the world of Ancient Persia Exhibition" (in London), "Exhibition of Iran's Archaeological and Art Objects" (in Mexico and Japan), and "The Exhibition of Silver Objects of the Sassanid period" (at the Louvre Museum).

Ms. Ayazi is one of the three authors of the book "Music in Ancient Iran: Heritage of Pre-Islamic Period". There Ms Aayazi wrote a section covering the period of time from the Median period until the end of the Sassanid period. She has also published some papers such as "A Catalogue to Introduce Stone Objects Discovered from Luristan and Ashkani Period", "Bronzene Scheibenkopfnadeln aus Luristan" in Persiens Antike Pracht (exhibition catalogue), "A selection of Luristan Bronze Objects in the National Museum of Iran", and "Introduction and Studies of Bronze Human Figurines Related to Luristan". Ms. Souri Ayazi prepared several catalogues for the exhibitions held at the National Museum of Iran, specifically, the catalogues related to the exhibitions of "Bronze Disc-Headed Pins", "Decorative Architectural Stucco from the Parthian and Sassanid Period", "Golden and Silver Objects of the National Museum of Iran" and "Music and Ceremonial Dances in Ancient Iran: Dialogue between Iran and Greece." She also collaborated in the preparation of the "National Museum of Iran Catalogue", the section related to Historic and Luristan Periods and the "Ancient Iran Museum Brochure". Ms.- Souri Ayazi was identified as the best museum curator by the Iranian Cultural Heritage & Tourism Organization in 2000, and she was also awarded the ICOM (International Council of Museums) Medallion by ICOM's Iran office, for her excellent collaboration in curatory activities. She received this award on International Museum Day (May 18, 2008).



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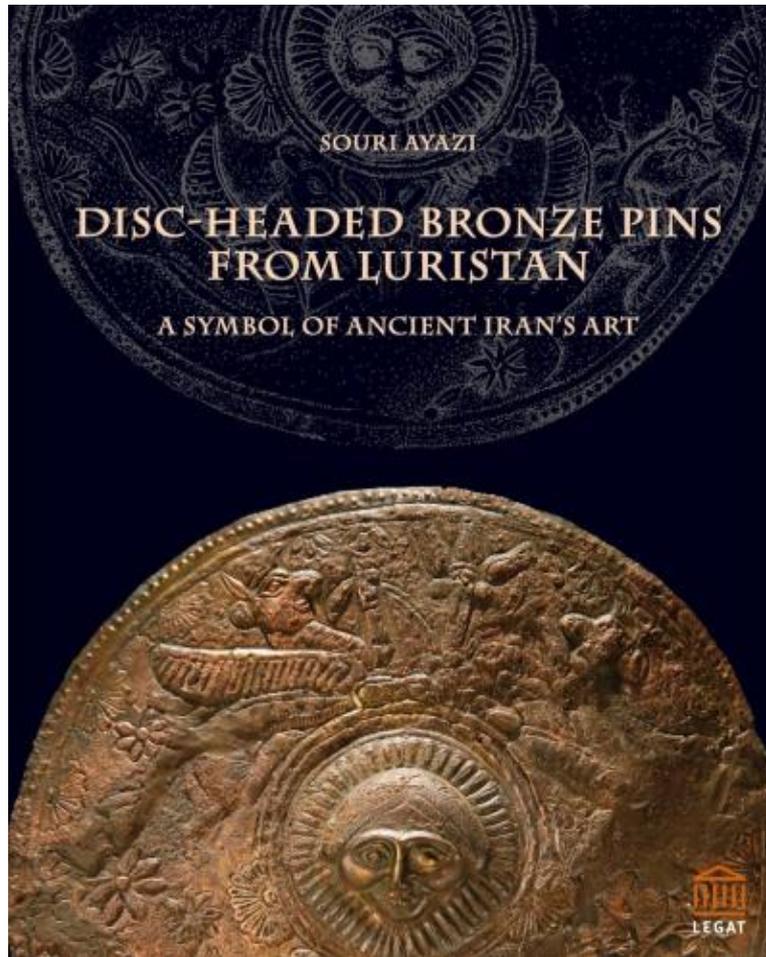
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Iran has many top scholars in different fields. Without any doubt, Ms. Soury Ayazi is one of them. An established scholar who has dedicated her life to the study, identification and preservation of historical objects and artifacts from Iran, Ms. Ayazi has played a crucial role in supporting my research on arms and armor from Iran. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her support. I wish her all the best with her future research.

More information about the book [\*Disc-headed Bronze Pins from Luristan: A Symbol of Ancient Iran's Art.\*](#)



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#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Dr. Manouchehr Moshtagh Khorasani writes for PersianMirror from Germany. He is the author of the book "[Arms and Armor from Iran](#) - The Bronze Age to the End of the Qajar Period".

Dr. Manouchehr Moshtagh Khorasani wrote his doctorate thesis in English linguistics on the analysis of conflicts and controversies under Professor Dr. Andreas H. Jucker (and Professor Dr. Joybrato Mukherjee, Professor Dr. Gerd Fritz, and Professor Dr. Thomas Gloning) at Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen, Germany, while doing research and writing books and print articles in English, German, Spanish, and Persian in the field of historical arms and armor from Iran. For his publication list see: [http://www.arms-and-armor-from-iran.de/b03\\_publications.html](http://www.arms-and-armor-from-iran.de/b03_publications.html)

This article was contributed by **DR. MANOUCHEHR MOSHTAGH KHORASANI**, **Special Contributor** for PersianMirror.



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