

Kimler ?

ABAKUS

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Arablar ~~aba~~ kusu biliyor muydu?

- Sütun Başlığı

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**CAPITALS**, in architectural terminology transitional elements between weight-bearing supports (see *COLUMNS*) and the roofs or vaults supported (*WASMUTHS Lexikon*, p. 320). The development of the capital began in Assyria, when a tree trunk was inserted in the earth with another trunk or branch laid in the fork to carry the roof construction (Figure 57a). From this forked grip the transverse beam soon developed; in the course of time it came to be worked and richly decorated (Figure 57b-c). This ancient building technique is still widespread in rural construction in Iran: the trunks (columns) stand on stone bases, which are worked to a greater or lesser degree. From the Assyrian transverse beam there evolved the Achaemenid double-protome capital, the first artistic version of the simple transitional element between support and beam in Iranian architectural history. As a rule such capitals rested directly on smooth or fluted columns, with the animal heads (usually bulls but also eagles and lions) flanking the transverse beam at right angles. The Achaemenid double-protome capital can be viewed as an Iranian invention, though Mesopotamian influences in the representation of composite creatures are also recognizable (Figure 57d-g).

In Persepolis, at the tribute gate, at the door to the royal palace, and especially in the large audience hall (*apadâna*), the double-protome capital was supplemented by a second transitional element, articulated on each of its four sides by superimposed volutes and resting in turn on a double corolla of petals (Figure 57d), a form that had its forerunners in ancient Near Eastern art. Whether or not the volutes, like the fluting of the column shafts, reflected the influence of Greek stonemasons is uncertain, but the floral form of the bell-shaped lowest element suggests an entirely indigenous feature, owing nothing to ancient Egyptian art, as has sometimes been suggested (Figure 58). The construction of the three-part double-protome capitals, measuring 8 m high on columns about 19 m high, was an entirely Persian development, limited to Persepolis and Susa (Schmidt, p. 3). In other capitals at Persepolis, however, Egyptian influence is clearly recognizable in the details of the lotus flowers (Figure 57e); perhaps they were even carved by Egyptian stonemasons. Nevertheless, the column shafts, with a diameter of 1.60 m, are too large to have been imported from Egypt.

At the so-called "Median" stone tombs, which are now recognized as the burial places of late Achaemenid notables (Gall, 1966), there are scroll capitals somewhat resembling Ionic forms (e.g., those on the tomb of Qyzqapan; Gall, 1988, pp. 557ff.; see Figure 57h).

After the Achaemenid period the animal-protome capital lived on in the Hellenistic world, for example, at Sidon, on Delos and Thasos, and at Salamis (Ghirshman, 1964, pp. 351ff.). On the other hand, Hellenistic capitals in Iran include an acanthus capital from 3rd- or 2nd-century B.C. Eṣṭaḳr, now in the museum at Persepolis (Figure 57i; Ghirshman, 1962, p. 23, fig. 29), as well as a palmette capital on a strongly convex echinus molding (Figure 57j), also from Eṣṭaḳr (Herzfeld, 1948, p. 279, fig. 376). A third type comes from the area around Eṣṭaḳr: the capital of an engaged column, carved in the form of a corolla of everted leaves (Figure 57k; Herzfeld, 1948, p. 277, fig. 375). Achaemenid architectural features also had a strong impact on the Maurya architecture of India, especially during the reign of Aśoka (r. ca. 274-37 B.C.). Iranian influence is particularly reflected in the lion sculptures on bell-shaped capitals from Sarnath and the volute capitals from Pataliputra (Rowland, pp. 68, fig. 20, 72 fig. 23).

In the Parthian period (3rd century B.C.-A.D. 3rd century) Greek and Roman influence on the volute forms of Persian capitals is unmistakable. It can be seen in the red-sandstone capitals from Bard-e Nesūnda (q.v.) in the museum at Susa (Figure 58a), the capitals from the Parthian palace precinct of Qal'a-ye Zohhāk (Figure 58b; Kleiss, 1973, p. 177, fig. 14), and the capitals from the Parthian columned hall (palace) at Kōrha (village 12 miles north of Maḥallāt; Figure 58c; Kleiss, 1973, pp. 173-74, figs. 9-10, pp. 181-82, figs. 18-19).

The published capitals from the Sasanian period (A.D. 224-641) can be divided into four groups.

Makale s. 774-780 arasındadır.