



Central Baluchistan until the Mid-3rd Millennium BCE. Catalogue

Stone Objects from the Later 4th and 3rd Millennium BCE

Stone objects comprise but a minor amount of artefacts in the collection from Baluchistan. Out of the 15 objects in this section, one is a grinder (cat. no. 630), while 10 are egg-shaped weights and two are derivatives of this type (cat. nos. 631–641). These objects are known from the 4th millennium BCE cemetery at Sohr Damb/Nal (Franke-Vogt 2003/4, Fig. 34). During the excavations, one was also found in a Period II domestic context in Trench VII, but most likely in a secondary use. However, an identical weight is also on display in the Mohenjo Daro Museum, indicating that it was either used or kept as exotic object even in the later 3rd millennium BCE. Considering the rarity of these objects in general, their rather large number in the collection implies that they were collected from tombs in Central Baluchistan. The two other, more square-shaped tall weights are typical for the later

3rd millennium (cat. nos 642; 643); one is a mortar-like object (cat. no. 644).

Cat. No. 630

Grinder (?)

Central or southern Baluchistan

c. 3300–3100 BCE

Sandstone, light brown; carved, smoothed
Size (cm): d. (body) 37.0; d. (base) 13x18;
h. 7; weight (kg): 6.4



Large rectangular stone 'tray' with elegantly up-curved edges. The sides are partly ridged. The ovoid central portion is slightly deeper. The back side is convex. Traces of wear are few. Similar, but much smaller objects were found in Period I tombs at Sohr Damb/Nal, used as offering tray e.g. for pigments. Doc. No. 0428–015

Stone Weights

The egg-shaped weights vary in height from 19.5 cm to 27.3 cm (cat. nos. 641 and 637). their weight is between 8.15 and 13.82 kg (cat. nos. 641 and 631). The widths of their bases range between 13 cm and 18.7 cm (cat. nos. 636 and 638). The traces of wear at most of the perforations imply that the objects were hung on a rope. The two tallest weights are the examples dated by shape to the late 3rd millennium BCE (Type B). One of them has the typical groove that characterises comparable objects found at sites in Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Iran (cat. no. 643; see most recently on this topic a publication of a collection in the Museum of Herat in Afghanistan by U. Franke (2014), with further references). Although they mostly have a more elegantly curved shape, some are as rounded as the example from Baluchistan. The fact that one of the former types was found at Kulli demonstrates the connections between the regions (Possehl 1986, Pl. II Kulli I.x.1).





634 636

Cat. No. 631, see title image

Central Baluchistan, c. 3300–3100 BCE

Stone, grey; smoothed

Size (cm): d. (base) 16.5; h. 26;

weight (kg): 13.82

Egg-shaped stone weight with flat base.

Two perforations drilled diagonally from two sides at the top.

Doc. No. 0414–004



Cat. No. 632

Central Baluchistan, c. 3300–3100 BCE



Diorite (?), dark grey; smoothed, strong polishing traces; residues of tape near the top

Size (cm): d. (base) 14.5; h. 23;

weight (kg): 10.4

Egg-shaped stone weight with flat base.

Two perforations drilled diagonally from two sides at the top. Wedge-shaped impressions above the perforations indicate that the object was hung with a rope.

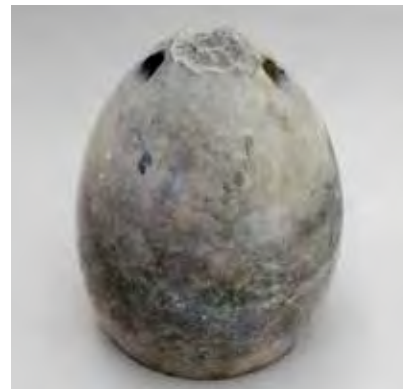
Doc. No. 0420–009

Cat. No. 633

Central Baluchistan,

c. 3300–3100 BCE

Stone, grey; smoothed; top chipped off



Size (cm): d. (base) 15.3; h. 23;

weight (kg): 11.5

Egg-shaped stone weight with flat base.

Two perforations drilled diagonally from two sides at the top. Wedge-shaped impressions above the perforations indicate that the object was hung with a rope.

Doc. No. 0411–002

Cat. No. 634

Central Baluchistan

c. 3300–3100 BCE

Stone, grey; smoothed

Size (cm): d. (base) 13.5; h. 23;

weight (kg): 9.7



Egg-shaped stone weight with flat base. Two perforations drilled diagonally from two sides at the top. Recently applied black-painted band.

Doc. No. 0410–001

Cat. No. 635

Central Baluchistan

c. 3300–3100 BCE

Stone, light grey; smoothed

Size (cm): d. (base) 18; h. 23.5;

weight (kg): 13.7

Egg-shaped stone weight with flat base.

Two perforations drilled diagonally from two sides at the top.

Doc. No. 0413–003



Cat. No. 636

Central Baluchistan, c. 3300–3100 BCE

Stone, beige-coloured; smoothed

Size (cm): d. (base) 13; h. 22;

weight (kg): 8.2

Egg-shaped stone weight with flat base.

Two perforations drilled diagonally from two sides at the top.

Doc. No. 0419–008

Cat. No. 637

Central Baluchistan, c. 3300–3100 BCE



Stone, beige-coloured; smoothed

Size (cm): d. (base) 14; h. 27.3;

weight (kg): 12

Egg-shaped stone weight with flat base.

Two perforations drilled diagonally from two sides at the top. Wedge-shaped impressions above the perforations indicate that the object was hung with a rope.

Doc. No. 0415–005

Cat. No. 638

Central Baluchistan; c. 3300–3100 BCE

Stone, beige-coloured; smoothed

Size (cm): d. (base) 18.5; h. 21;

weight (kg): 8.9

Conical stone weight with flat base. Two perforations drilled diagonally from two sides at the top. Wedge-shaped impressions above the perforations indicate that the object was hung with a rope.

Doc. No. 0416–006



Cat. No. 639

Central Baluchistan; c. 3300–3100 BCE

Stone, light grey; smoothed; tape residues

Size (cm): d. (base) 13; h. 22;

weight (kg): 9.6

Egg-shaped stone weight with flat base.

Two perforations drilled diagonally from two sides at the top.

Doc. No. 0426–013



637 638

640 641



642 643

Cat. No. 640

Central or southern Baluchistan
c. 3300–3100 BCE
Stone, beige-coloured; smoothed
Size (cm): d. (base) 13.5; h. 21;
weight (kg): 7.4

Stone weight with flat base. Two perforations chopped or carved from two sides at the top. Wedge-shaped impressions above the perforations indicate that the object was hung with a rope.
Doc. No. 0418–007



top. Two large perforations chopped or carved from two sides near the top.
Doc. No. 0427–014

Cat. No. 642

Central or southern Baluchistan
c. 2300–2000 BCE (?)
Stone, grey; smoothed
Size (cm): d. (base) 15.5; h. 29;
weight (kg): 16.5

Rounded stone weight, one shallow side, with flat base and top, not perforated.
Doc. No. 0422–011

Cat. No. 643

Central or southern Baluchistan
c. 2300–2000 BCE (?)
Stone, grey; smoothed
Size (cm): d. (base) 12; h. 28;
weight (kg): 11.4

Rounded stone weight with flat base and top, not perforated. A c. 2 cm wide groove implies the fitting of a clasp or rope.
Doc. No. 0421–010

Cat. No. 644

Central Baluchistan
c. 2300–2000 BCE (?)
Stone, grey; smoothed
Size (cm): d. (base) 13.5; h. 24;
weight (kg): 9.3

Conical stone object with flat base and a wide depression on top, smoothed from wear as mortar (?).
Doc. No. 0423–012



644

Cat. No.	Custom No.	Rec No.	Description	State	Weight (kg)	Height	Base	Perforation Diam.
630	NMPK_0428	15	grinder	compl.	6.38	7.3	18 x 13	
641	NMPK_0427	14	stone weight	compl.	8.15	19.5	16	4 – 4.5
638	NMPK_0416	6	stone weight	compl.	8.91	21	18.7 – 18.5	2.3
640	NMPK_0418	7	stone weight	compl.	7.39	21.1	13.5	3.3; 2.9 x 3.4
636	NMPK_0419	8	stone weight	compl.	8.15	21.7	13	2 x 1.9; 2.2 x 2.2
639	NMPK_0426	13	stone weight	compl.	9.60	22.1	13.2	2 – 2.3
632	NMPK_0420	9	stone weight	compl.	10.36	22.9	14.5	2.5
634	NMPK_0410	1	stone weight	compl.	9.64	23	13 – 13.6	2.1 x 2.4; 2.5 x 2.6
633	NMPK_0411	2	stone weight	compl. chipped	11.47	23.1	15.3	2.2 – 2.3
635	NMPK_0413	3	stone weight	compl., chipped	13.65	23.5	18	2.8 x 2.9 – 2.7 x 2.7
631	NMPK_0414	4	stone weight	compl.	13.82	26.2	16 - 16.8	2.5 – 3.3
637	NMPK_0415	5	stone weight	compl.	11.97	27.3	14.5 x 11	3.1 x 3.6; 3.2 x 4
643	NMPK_0421	10	stone weight B	compl.	11.39	28.1	12 x 10.5	
642	NMPK_0422	11	stone weight B	compl.	16.48	28.9	16 x 15; 16.1 x 16.5	
644	NMPK_0423	12	stone mortar	compl. but chipped	9.25	24	13.5	

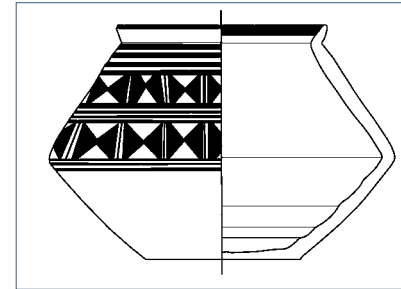
Table 1 Stone objects sorted by height

Ceramic Vessels

Cat. No. 645

Carinated pot

Northern Baluchistan, c. 3000–2800 BCE



Earthenware, pale pinkish red; w/m, very well fired, coiled base, trimmed; thick buff slip
 Size (cm): d. (rim) 7.3; d. (base) 5.1; h. 8.2
 Small carinated pot with outward-turned neck and flat base. The upper wall is decorated with two identical superimposed friezes with butterfly patterns, black-painted and subdivided by a vertical line. The well-executed patterns play with a black-and-white effect. The friezes are separated by two horizontal lines and framed above by three lines and below by two. Pots with similar shapes and decorations were found at several sites near Quetta.

See: Fairservis 1956, Fig. 48
 Doc. No. 0544–144

Cat. No. 646

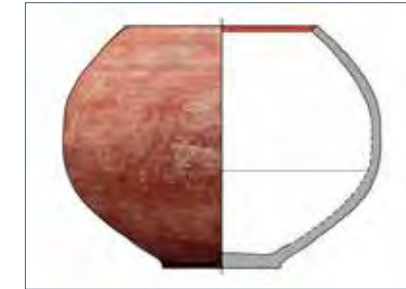
Globular pot

Central Baluchistan (?), 2800–2600 BCE
 Earthenware, orange; h/m and finished on wheel, carved and trimmed; thick red slip



< Cat. No. 645

mottled to brown at places and over rim
 Size (cm): d. (rim) 13.0; d. (base) 8.4; h. 17.3
 Medium-sized hole-mouth jar with short, outward-turned rim and flat disc base. Incised on the upper body are wavy and



horizontal lines. Similar shapes and designs are known from the early 3rd millennium BCE at many sites in central and southeastern Baluchistan (see Franke-Vogt 2002).
 Doc. No. 1078–232

Cat. No. 647

Carinated pot

Central Baluchistan, 2800–2600 BCE
 Earthenware, pale orange-red; w/m, trimmed and carved, well fired; thick very dark grey-blackish slip, mottled to dark red over rim
 Size (cm): d. (rim) 8.0; d. (base) 7.1; h. 11.0



Small carinated pot with short upright neck and flat base. Impressed under the outer rim is a comb pattern. Similar shapes and decorations were documented at Sohr Damb/Nal, Period III.



See: Langer 2008, Fig. 4A
 Doc. No. 1171–089

Cat. No. 648

Cylindrical beaker

Central Baluchistan

2800–2600 BCE

Earthenware, buff-orange; w/m, trimmed; thin buff slip

Size (cm): d. (rim) 11.2; d. (base) 6.0; h. 13.0

Tall beaker with slightly outward-turned rim and disc base. The decoration under the outer rim shows a bracket pattern with five arms, sloppily painted in brown. Below the frieze run thinly coloured bands applied with a large brush. They cover a 'rouletted' pattern. Large parts of the beaker are mended. Shape and decoration are common in Period III at Sohr Damb/Nal.

See: Langer 2008, Fig. 4D
 Doc. No. 0541–129