

IMAGES OF ANCIENT IRAN: SASANIAN DYNASTY (224-651 CE) DAM CONSTRUCTIONS

Iran is one of the few countries in the world with a long and extensive background on establishing ancient civilisation, which the water scarcity and precipitation have never caused to freeze the civilisation and humanisation formation. This is due to the fact that ancients have realised the importance of an organisation to supervise the irrigation and water conveyance affairs. As the result, they have always exploited technology and precise engineering to control water, and utilise it in the best way to flourish the economical, cultural and social statuses of the country.

An important factor in water harvesting, maintaining, conveying and distributing is water resources management, especially in the arid and semiarid countries like Iran, which is necessary to have an independent organization. This type of organization became sophisticated from the early days of Achaemenid dynastic eras, and reached its technological zenith during the Sasanian dynasty (224-651 CE). This organization under Sasanians was called "Divān-i Kāšt" as well as "Fozūn".

Although there are records of the water-establishments in some of the historical documents, rarely did it mention to the supervision organizations of those establishments. The most important establishments and water conveyance networks were located in Fars and Khuzestan provinces, which have mostly been remained so far.

One of these historical water establishments was located at the south part of Iran in Khuzestan province where the ancient civilisation of Iran flourished and bricked up about 4000 years ago. This complex consists of Mizan Dyke, Shadravan Dam Bridge, Darian Canal, Jareh Dam, Salasel Castle, Gargar Canal, Gargar weir and their watermills which are located in the historical city of Shushtar on Karun River.

Jareh Dam, North-East of Ramhormuz Khuzestan Province (Destroyed by newly built Kuh-Shur Dam)



Gavmishan



Gerdab-e Sangi - Lorestan Province



Mizan Weir/Dyke - Khuzestan Province



Shadravan Dam-Bridge - Khuzestan Province



Lashgar dam-Bridge, Shushtar, Khuzestan Province



GarGar Weir/Dyke, Shushtar - Khuzestan Province



Ghozivand Bridge - Kermanshah Province



Pol-e Dokhtar - Firuzabad, Fars Province



Pol-e Dokhtar, Kohkiluyeh & Boyer Ahmadi Province



Pol-e Dezful, Khuzestan Province



Pol-e Dokhtar/Shapur, Lorestan Province



Pol-e Sharestan, Esfahan Province



Pol-e Shapur, Savad Kuh, Mazandaran Province

