Native Pottery of Minab in Iran

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Abstract : South of Iran is conveniently well connected through sea routes with other lands like India, Pakistan, Africa, and Arabian countries, to name a few. Hormozgan province, located in the south, has the Persian Gulf on the western half and the Gulf of Oman towards the east and its ports through history-initiated business, hosted alliances and built strategic partnerships. The province was commonly accessed by foreign travellers and had a long history dating back to ancient times. The natives of this land have a rich cultural inheritance. Their tradition of pottery is one of the oldest known crafts, which still survives in the region and, in particular, the Minab area. Here some potters still continue to make use of ancient methods of pottery, which are not practiced anymore in other parts of Iran. Hokmi and Shahwar are the two villages in Minab, which have small settlements of a few potter families. This paper focuses primarily on the traditional water pot known as Jahle being made by the potters here. The aim of the research was to look deeper into the method and material, form and style, decoration, baking process, and use of Jahle to preserve the knowledge before the tradition dies out and also to understand the scope of continuing the ancient traditional practices in contemporary times.

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Keywords : Minab, native pottery, Iran, Jahle

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