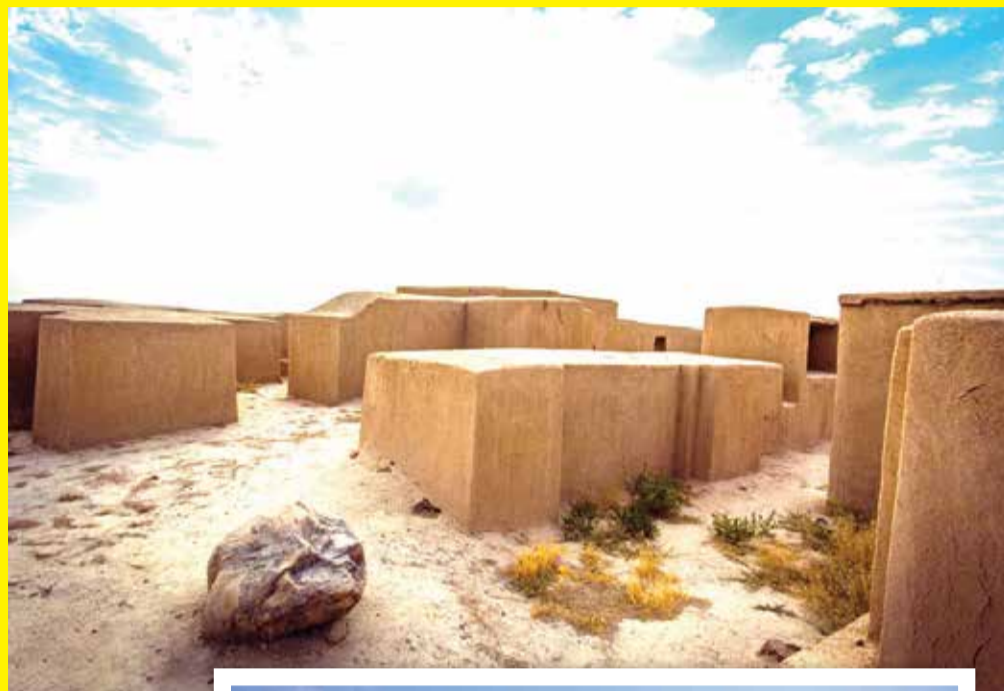
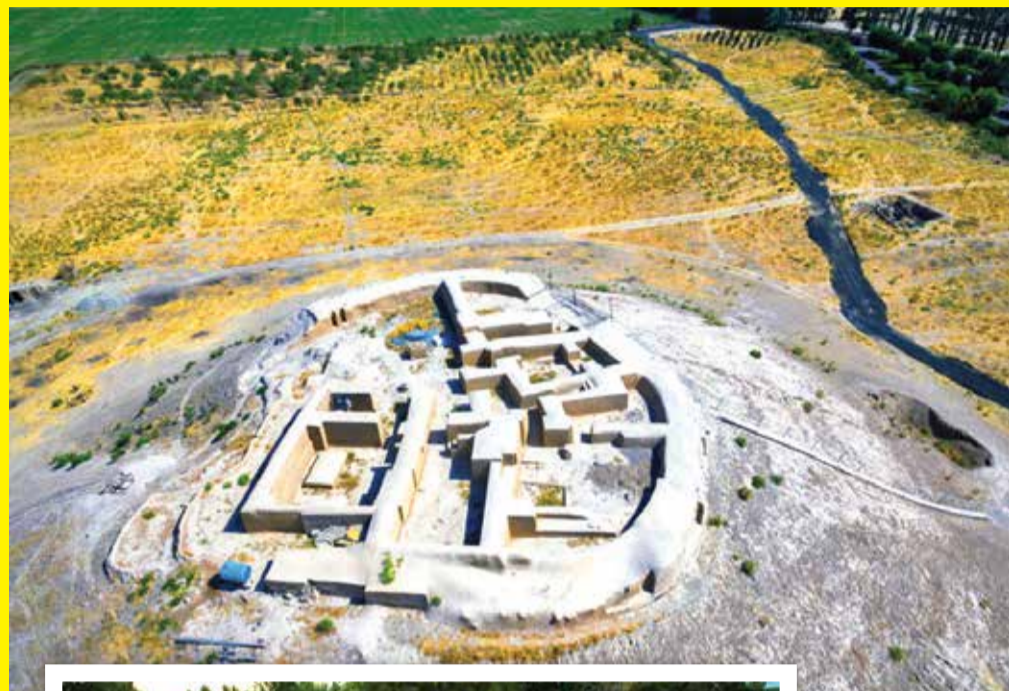


Uzbek Hill in Nazarabad, home to an ancient civilization



MEHR NEWS AGENCY



The Uzbek ancient site is bounded by Savojbolagh in the north, Eshtehard in the south, Ramjin and Saeedabad villages in the east, and Abyek, in Qazvin Province, in the west. The 9,000-year-old site was home to villagers who, for the first time, used handmade raw clay, as well as cement, as construction materials. Archeologists believe that at that time no other group of rural and urban people made raw clay from water and soil, and the cement was not used in any other structure of the world.

Evidence shows that the site was a large city in the middle of the second millennium BCE. The Madi Fortress was built in its central part, on the ruins of some prehistoric structures. This fortress, which was built in an area of 900 square meters, had a huge fence, seven meters wide and 26 meters high. By the end of the Medes period, other fortresses were built on the ruins of the first. Uzbek ancient site has numerous hills, only 10 of which are of historical significance. An Iranian archaeologist,

Yousef Mojtahedzadeh, carried out excavations on the six hills from 1998 to 2005.

The remains of the three prehistoric, iron and Islamic ages were discovered on one of the hills of the site, named Jeyran Tappeh.

The historical hills along with the architectural remains, which have not been unearthed yet, show that the residents of the site were intelligent

people who made civilization in ancient times.

They were the first group of people in the world who built some advanced structures and tools.

A colorful temple and a number of ancient objects, including an Uzbek tripod vessel discovered on the site showed that the residents of the area had intelligent interaction with their natural environment.

Iranica Desk

EXCLUSIVE

Nazarabad is a town in Alborz Province, in which a historically important site is located.

An old hill (*tappeh* in Persian) with a peak of 26 meters, called Madi Fortress, along with a number of other hills, are in the historical region, known as the Uzbek ancient site, or

Uzbek Hill. Madi Fortress was registered on Iran's National Heritage List in 1973.

In an area of 100 hectares, the historical site is one of the most valuable in the world, such that it has been deemed worthy to be registered on UNESCO's World Heritage Site.

One of first handicrafts of the site was given by Iran to the United Nations in 2005.



farahancarpets.com



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Saruq rugs of Arak very popular in the West

Saruq, or Saruq, is a type of Persian rug that is produced in Saruq, a town located about 40 kilometers from Arak, the capital city of the central province of Markazi.

The hand-knotted Persian Saruq rugs are among the highest quality rugs originating from the well-established Arak weaving district, catalinarug.com wrote. Saruq is a mountainous region with a long history of excellence in weaving. Starting in the 19th century, and through the early 20th century, this region became one of the most active carpet-weaving centers of Iran. High quality materials, fine knotting techniques, and attractive designs all contributed to their reputation as one of the finest quality rugs

manufactured in Arak.

Saruq rugs have three telltale features: A blue stranded weft, an unusual salmon pink background, and sprays of flowers that are detached. Only some of the floral sprays have a medallion.

Weaving of Saruq rugs

Saruq rugs have a very tight weave on a cotton foundation. The knots used are mostly Persian knots, which are symmetrical, but some of the antique pieces were made using Turkish knots, which are asymmetrical. The weavers preferred not to clip the pile, leaving it long and lush. The wool used in the weaving of Saruq rugs is of very high quality. With tight knots and a long pile, the finished rug is thick, soft and

luxurious. Some of the older Saruq rugs were so skillfully woven that the finished product felt velvety and smooth.

Color and design

Botteh, *herati* and *gol hannai* motifs are commonly seen in these rugs. While some weavers preferred to place them in a medallion layout, others preferred to fill the entire rug with these motifs. The tree-of-life motif was another commonly seen feature on several of the older versions. In between the tree of life motifs, you could find realistic animal motifs, as well as motifs of other trees including cypress and willow.

The vase and prayer motif and the medallion-and-corner layout

are other commonly seen designs of many older pieces. The medallion-and-corner layout consists of stylized geometric floral motifs that look very natural.

The design of the newer rugs is quite different from that of the older versions. These new rugs feature a large-sized medallion, with pendants or concentric medallions strewn across the background.

Typical colors used in antique Saruq rugs include red, green, bright blue, burnt orange, ivory and champagne. The newer versions have a predominance of salmon pink.

With their high quality materials, fine knotting techniques, and attractive designs, Saruq rugs are very popular and in great demand in Western countries.