

# Ancient city of Jajarm ranks among oldest human settlements



An overview of Jajarm  
● wikipedia.org

## Iranica Desk

Jajarm is one of the most attractive cities in North Khorasan Province. The city has a long history and is considered one of the oldest human settlements in northeastern Iran. It has an area of more than 3,600 square kilometers, with a population of 36,000, according to ISNA.

## Jajarm's geographic situation



Qazlar Castle  
● ISNA

modern Jacuzzi pools. With an area of 700 meters, the bathhouse is located in the heart of Jajarm's historical section. It pertains to the late Islamic period. The monument, which has been registered on the National Heritage List, is now being used as a museum.

## Royal house

Banihashem Shahneshtin House (royal house) is one of the precious monuments of the Qajar era, built in two stories. The



Jajarm Grand Mosque  
● aslimnews.com

Jajarm is a dry region, with a desert and semi-desert climate. Some parts of the heights in the north of the city are more than 2,000 meters in elevation, which have caused milder weather in the area.

Kalshour River in the region is a permanent river, but has a low amount of water and is very salty. The river flows into the desert plain in the south of the city.

## Jajarm historical background

The city has always played a prominent role in the cultural evolution of Khorasan region, from prehistoric times to the late Islamic period. This is because of its strategic situation, being on caravan routes.

The presence of large sites from the Neolithic, Chalcolithic and Bronze ages, such as Tappeh Pahlavan (Tappeh means hill in Persian) and Tappeh Heydaran indicate that Jajarm is one of

the oldest human settlements. Ancient sites related to the Parthian and Sassanid eras are scattered in the city. They display the prosperity of this region located on the Silk Road. Reports of historians and geographers indicate that the region was prosperous in the Islamic period. The minting of various coins, especially gold coins, in the Ilkhanid era and the establishment of various caravanserais also shed light on the prosperity of the region in the middle Islamic centuries. This area maintained its importance until the end of the Qajar period. But it began to fall in importance after the arrival of modern transportation equipment, the establishment of roads, the removal of old roads, abandonment of caravan routes and caravanserais.

## Jajarm Grand Mosque

The Grand Mosque is located in the historical section of the city, some parts of which still remain in place. Some researchers attribute the original building of

the mosque to the Seljuk era. Unlike the common pattern of mosque construction, Jajarm Grand Mosque does not have a minaret. Its exterior is simple and devoid of decoration. There are only some turquoise tiles with inscriptions on the front of the porch and at the entrance to the dome area, which has been damaged.

## Tappeh Pahlavan

Tappeh Pahlavan is among the most important and oldest prehistoric sites in North Khorasan Province.

The history of settling in the region dates back to the Neolithic and Chalcolithic eras, about seven thousand years ago. Archaeological studies have shown that Teppeh Pahlavan, as a workshop site related to the production of stone tools and ornaments, had a special status among ancient sites.

## Qazlar Castle

Qazlar Castle is among the defensive castles of Jajarm, located on a high mountain north of



Jajarm ancient bathhouse  
● taptourist.ir

Joghdi village. It is oval shaped, constructed with uncut stones and mortar. It is not exactly clear when it was built, but it was most likely constructed in the Islamic Middle Ages.

## Jajarm ancient bathhouse

The bathhouse, which contains a *khazineh*, is located in the historical section of the city. *Khazineh* was a large water-filled basin in bathhouses in the past. It was located on a large metal-topped stove, under which a fire burned slowly. *Khazineh* is similar to

upper floor was a place for receiving official guests and state dignitaries. This building is unique in terms of having beautiful plaster decorations and Qura'nic inscriptions.

## Rock inscriptions

Jorbat rock inscriptions located in Jorbat village include patterns of horse riders and animals such as wild goats, antelopes with long horns, and camels. It also includes inscriptions in Arabic and Persian script.

# Tangsa waterfall, a popular natural attraction in Mamasani

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The city of Mamasani, in the southwestern province of Fars, with a four-season climate, has a collection of waterfalls, canyons and mountains. Tangsa waterfall is among its most popular attractions, drawing a large number of people interested in ecotourism.

There are strange legends about the waterfall, which is regarded by the locals as a source of blessings, IRNA reported.

Tangsa waterfall, which lies in the vicinity of Noorabad, in Fars Province, is 15 meters high. The trees, rivers and cool air of the region dazzle the eyes

of every viewer.

The abundant winter rains in the current year caused the springs of this waterfall to erupt. This caused a large number of tourists and locals to visit the waterfall during Nowruz (New Year holidays, March 21-April 2).

Mamasani has other valuable, natural and historical sites including Bovan region, Sarab-e Bahram rock relief, Imamzadeh Shirmard, Mil Ejdeha Tower, and Sarab-e Siah River.

Sarab-e Bahram rock relief is 2.66 meters high, four meters wide, and shows how four courtiers salute their king with a typical hand gesture. The king is seated on his throne, resting upon

his sword, and can be recognized by his crown.

It is the oldest Sassanid rock relief, on which the king faces the spectators. The man with the sword to the far left is Bahram's vizier Papak, recognizable by the flower on his cap, and the second man from the left is Kartir, with the scissor-like badge.

Located on a rocky and lush hillside is Mil Ejdeha, a fire temple dating back to the Parthian period.

Mamasani is the name of an ancient tribe, with numerous sub-tribes, who live in Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq. The main tribe resides in Mamasani, in Fars Province, and speak the Lori language.



Tangsa waterfall  
● tishneh.com