

FOUR IRON AGE TOMBS FROM IRBED

BY RAFIK W. DAJANI

Irbed (Biblical Irbeed) is about 110 Km. north of Amman in Jordan. It is not far from Tell el-Husn, in the South, or Tell er-Ramith (Biblical Ramoth Gilead) in the east.

The historical mound at Irbed is located in the north of the City near the Palestinian Refugee Camp. The mound was occupied anciently since the Early Bronze Age C. 2500. B.C. The City wall of this period was still existing on the western side of the mound till about 1937. Since then rapid urbanization and the expansion of the city has covered the whole tell and demolished its remains.

Irbed was also, one of the Decapolis (Arbilla) in the Hellenistic Period & was also, a big and important City in the Roman & Byzantine Period.

In 1958, four LB-EI-I and Iron Age Tombs were discovered accidentally in the Palestinian Refugee Camp, north of the tell. All these tombs were excavated by the Department of Antiquities in Jordan.

The first two tombs (Called hereafter A & B), consisted of two burial caves, connected with one another by a passage, two metres wide & two metres long and 1,90 m. high. Four steps hewn in the floor rock in this passage, were leading from burial (A) to burial (B). The entrance for burial (A) was from the westside of the Cave, about 2,50 m. wide, while the entrance to burial (B) was from the east and about one metre wide. (See Plates XXXV).

There was no evidence as to the burial Custom in these tombs, because it was found unfortunately, disturbed and, filled with debris.

More than 200 pieces of intact and broken Pottery Vessels were found and many other objects as stone vessels, metal fragments of vessels, earrings and beads, one golden earring and a bead plated in Gold leaf were also found. (See Plates XXXVII-XXXX).

The Contents of Tomb (A) are typical of the Iron Age objects, while those of tomb (B) are typical of the Late Bronze-Iron Age Pottery and was reused in the Roman Period.

Tomb (C) is a small rock cut Cave, oval in shape, 4×5 m. wide & 1,70 m. high. The entrance was from the east and about one metre high.

There was a bench, cut in the rock at the rear end of the cave, about 60 cm high. (See Plate XXXVI).

A human skeleton was placed at the top of the bench, with some Pottery Vessels near the skull. Some bone and Pottery Vessels were dropped under below the bench with many other fragments of Pottery Vessels, which indicates that the tomb was anciently disturbed & robbed.

Only fifteen intact Pottery Vessels were found in the tomb, beside many other examples in fragments.

The Zoomorphic Vessel in this tomb call a special interest. The head is missing, but the legs, the general form, the saddle on the back of the figurine, are well expressed & executed. There are two holes on either side of the body of the figurine and a third one on the neck. Traces of additional spouts or barrels are clear around the two holes on either sides. The ware is buff with lime grits, covered with creamy slip. The nearest Parallel is the Megiddo example (MII. Pl. 247.8) Str. VII (a) dated 1350-1150. B.C.

Tomb (D) has been published in (ADAJ. Vols. VIII-IX).

The Pottery as a whole, in these tombs are dirty, badly or medium fired, and most of them undecorated.

There are some similarities in the types and forms with the Palestinian Pottery, but there are some unique types, especially in Tomb (B) which I have failed to find parallel to them elsewhere.

(Tomb "A".)

(Notes & Comparison)

1. Pl. 33.1. Water decanter, buff ware, red slip, wheel burnished, disc base, collar on the neck, one handle, parallel to T N. II. Pl. 39.735 (900-700 B.C.), Ain Shems. T. 2 (A P E F. 2:67. Pl. 37.14.Ca 950-700 B.C. ibid Pl. 47:13.Ca 950-700 B.C.
2. Pl. 33.2. Jug, buff ware, creamy slip, flat base, wide neck, one handle, pinched rim, the nearest parallel though not typical in details is Zahiriyyeh Tomb (Q D A P. IV, Pl. LXI (B). 4 & Pl. LXIII (B). 4. dated El-1 ca. 1000-900 B.C.
3. Pl. 33.3. Jug with spout & strainer, red ware, dark red slip, disc base, collar on the neck, flaring rim, one handle, is similar to L. III. Pl. 72.9 & Pl. 89.364 from Tomb 521 dated 1000 B.C. (L. III. P. 222).
4. Pl. 33.4. Jug, buff ware, red slipped, vertical burnishing, one handle, wide neck & mouth is parallel to TBM (A) (AASOR) XII. pl. 58.3).
5. Pl. 33.5. Dipper juglet, elongated body, buff ware, pointed base, small narrow neck, one handle on the rim, parallel to TNII. Pl. 41.789. with slight difference in details.

The mouth is more similar to No. 782 on the same plate. The major range apparently Ca 1000 - 600 B.C.

6. Pl. 33.6. Bowl with wide flat base, upraised sides, dirty & coarse surface, buff ware, very gritty, creamy/buff slip. I failed to find a good parallel to this pot.
7. Pl. 33.7. Bowl small size, round base, red ware, lime grits, red slipped, wheel burnished is parallel to Hazor I. Pl. LIII. 8, stratum V (750 - 734 B.C.). TNII. Pl. 53. 1176. AS. III 79. Pl. 42.2.2 Ca 900 - 600 B.C. stratum 11a. Ca. 1000 - 950 B.C.
8. Pl. 33.8. Dipper, red/buff ware, red slipped, lime grits, wide neck, round base, one handle attached to the rim, parallel to TN II Pl. 45.949, 960, 963, 969. Zahiriyeh Tomb (QDAP. IV Pl. 62 dated Ca. 1000 - 900 B.C.) AS. level 11 Stratum 11c. Pl. 67.15.18 dated E 1 - I Albright date (AJA. 44.548.1050 - 950 B.C.).
9. Pl. 33.9. Miniature juglet, black ware & slip, knob base, one handle, short narrow neck, Parallel to Zahiriyah Tomb (QDAP. IV Pl. LX III. 2) dated El-1.ca 1000-900 B.C. TN II. Pl. 42.844. AS. V : 137 (Probable date by Grant & Wright, 9th C.B.C.). Deir Alla (unpublished) No. 3 dated El-11 by the excavators.
10. Pl. 33.10. Bowl buff/red ware, disc base, red slipped is parallel to TBM. (C). 51 (B) 19.
11. Pl. 33.11. Basalt bowl with three knob legs is parallel to Hazor II Pl. CXCV. 11. Area (F) dated LB II. At Megiddo it was found in stratum V. Ml. Pl. 112. Basalt bowls with 3 legs are very common throughout V-1 at Megiddo but with more elaborate type which indicates an earlier date for Hazor.
12. Pl. 33.12. Juglet, globular in form, narrow broken neck, round base, one handle, red buff ware, lime grits, red slipped, traces of burnishing & parallel to Zaheriyeh tomb (QDAP. IV Pl. 62.8.) dated Albright 1000-900. B.C.
13. Pl. 33.13. Small juglet black ware & slip, small disc base, one handle, a long narrow neck, parallel to TN. II. Pl. 41.798. AS. IV Pl. 27 stratum III dated 1200 - 1000 B. C.
14. Pl. 33.14. Lamp, round base, flanged rim, buff ware, greyish slip, parallel to Sahab Tomb dated 8-7th Cent. B.C. (QDAP. XIII. 3-4 fig. 8.80). Hazor II. Pl. Lxi. 19 stratum VIII dated 9th Cent. B.C.
15. Pl. 33.15. Lamp round base, flanged rim, buff ware, red slip, parallel to Sahab Tomb (QDAP. XIII - 3 - 4) fig. 8.78 dated 8-7th Cent. B. C.
16. Pl. 33.16. Clay figurine of a diety, the head & the lower part of the body are missing, buff ware, line grits, creamy slip, the figurine is holding a disc type

Tambourine in its hands. Parallel Deir Alla (unpublished) fig. 56. dated by the excavators El-11 & Meshhed in Moab (AASOR) XIV. P. 35 Fig. 8. 9th Cent. B.C. & Hazor II. Pl. LXXVII. 12 & 13 stratum VIII dated 9th Cent. B.C.

Tomb " A "

Conclusion & dating

It is difficult to give an exact date for the period of burial in this tomb, since it was disturbed & full up to the roof with debris. Or to give a clear idea about the burial custom since no location to any object can be given or to date objects according to their levels.

Some pots in this tomb are good for dating it. Most of the objects range in their dates from the 2nd half of the 10th Cent. down to the first half of the 9th C. B.C.

Water decanters Pl. 33.1 with disc base, collar on the neck with somewhat bulbous body. This kind of decanters with ring burnished are common in El-1 & El-11 periods probably they lasted till 600 B.C. great number of these decanters were found at Beth Shemesh. (APEF 11, P. 66). Their first appearance 10th Cent. B.C. They were found everywhere in central & south Palestine.

Jugs Pl. 33: 1,2,3 & 13. where handles are low, disc base in a bulbous form are common in El-1 ca. 10th Cent. B.C. They were found at Zahirayeh tomb (QDAP. IV. p. 61) dated 10th-9th Cent. B.C. At Duweir Tomb 521 dated 1000 B.C. & other sites in Palestine.

Figurine Pl. 33:16 has parallel at Hazor, Deir Alla, Meshhed, Megiddo & found in 9th Cent. B.C.

On the basis of the above mentioned quoted, Parallel & dating, the majority of the objects in this tomb range in date between early 10th Cent. B.C. down to end of the first half of the 9th Cent. B.C.

IRBÉD TOMB " B "

(Notes & Comparasion)

- 1) Pl. 34:1 & 2.

Bowls, with four handles attached to the midst of the rim & on the widest part of the body, upstraight vertical rim, incised by line decorations, flat cut base, buff ware, lime grits, L. red slipped, have no exact parallel elsewhere. It seems

this type is characteristic of Irbed tombs. The nearest parallel is that of Hazor II. pl. LXXXIV. 3 in the base & profile, but the rim is different & the Hazor example has two handles from stratum V (750 B.C.). At Megiddo MII. Pl. 79.1, the Krater bowl has four handles like ours, but the base is a ring type. The profile & the rim are also different. This type at Megiddo, was found in Stratum VII. A. & VI. A. The type from Megiddo Tomb 29 dated El-1 period is decorated with four handles, but the rim, the base & even the profile is different. At TBM. A (AASOR, XII. Pl. 60 A), the Kraters are with 4 handles or two, but different profiles & ring base which give a later date than our. Tell en-Nasbeh Tomb 32. TN. I. Pl. 33.17. is the nearest possible parallel to ours, with a slight difference in the rim. Ours is vertical, while the TN. example has an everted rim. The date of TN. Tomb 32, is 10-9th Cent. B.C. (Albright), while (Wright) dates this tomb 10th cent. B.C.

- 2) Pl. 34.3. A bowl, medium size, flat cut base, buff ware, creamy slip is parallel to TN. I. Pl. 33.2. Tomb 32. dated 10-9th Cent. B.C. M.I. Pl. 30.118 Stratum V date 1000-850 B.C.
- 3) Pl. 34.4. A large bowl, flat cut base, red/buff ware, smoothed surface, lime grits, red slipped from outside & inside, is similar to TN. II. Pl. 54. 1220. Major phase 1200-800 B.C. M.I. 30.117. Stratum V (1000 - 850 B.C.).
- 4) Pl. 34.5. A bowl, medium size, buff ware, red slipped, wheel burnished, flat cut base, lime grits, is parallel to M. I. Pl. 24.46. strata IV - III dated. 850-734 B.C.
- 5) Pl. 34.6. A bowl with red/buff ware, light red slipped from out side over the rim, flat cut base is parallel to M.I. 24.46. strata IV-III dated 850-734. B.C.
- 6) Pl. 34.7. A bowl with flat base, slightly carinated, lime grits red slipped is parallel to M. Tomb Pl. 8.2 (Tomb 1101. c) dated El-I. Ours is deeper & the base is smaller.
- 7) Pl. 34.8. A bowl, buff ware, coarse surface. L. red slipped, flat cut base, rim everted is parallel to SS III. fig. 4.1 period III. Ours is smaller & deeper.
- 8) Pl. 34.9. A bowl of red/buff ware, hand burnished with numerous lime grits, round base, is parallel to Hazor I. Pl. LXXIX. 28. stratum II-III. Hazor I. Pl. LXXXIII.6. dated 7 Cent. B.C.
- 9) Pl. 34.10. A shallow bowl, red ware, red slipped is similar to SSIII. fig. 10.7 period III (Late 8th Cent. B.C.). M.I. Pl. 30. 132, stratum V dated (1000-850 B.C.).
- 10) Pl. 34.11. A shallow bowl, red ware & slipped, wheel burnished fine lime grits is parallel to M.I. Pl. 28.94. stratum V-IV dated (1000 - 750 B.C.). The Samaria example is decorated while ours is not. SSIII. period VI fig. 10.7. This type of bowls is characterized by dark red ware lasted at Megiddo. from V to IV.

- 11) Pl. 34.12. A bowl, sharply carinated, ring base, high flaring rim, buff ware, creamy slip is parallel to Hazor I. CXL III. 19 dated LB II.
- 12) Pl. 34.13. A bowl sharply carinated, high flaring rim, ring base, buff ware, Creamy slipped is parallel to Hazor I. Pl. XCL. dated LB II stratum I "A".
- 13) Pl. 34.14 Small bowl, red ware, smooth red slip, flat cut base & wheel burnished is parallel to Ain Shems A S. V:31.107, level II B.S. p. 213. TN. II. Pl. 53. 1186. dated ca. 900-700 TBM. 'A' (AAS. 12. 85. Pl. 65. 15?) ca 800-600 B.C.
- 14) Pl. 34.15 Small bowl, flat cut base, red ware & slip, wheel burnished is parallel to L III. Pl. 81.95, level II. TN II. Pl. 54. 1210. (common phase 700-500 B.C.) T.N.
- 15) Pl. 34.15. A storage jar with round base, rolled rim, buff ware, two loop handles on the largest part of the body, a small handle on the neck has no example elsewhere. This type is unique & characteristic of Irbed tombs.
- 16) Pl. 34.17. A jug with round base, one handle, pinched mouth red/buff ware, lime grits, red slipped is parallel to Hazor II. Pl. CXXX 11.2. stratum (B) dated LB II. The body is not elongated as much as ours.
- 17) Pl. 34.18. Jar of Medium size, buff ware, lime grits, round base, two handles, square moulded mouth & knife cut rim is unique.
- 18) Pl. 34.19. Jug, round base, one handle below the rim, wide neck, rounded mouth, L. red ware with lime grits & slip. Traces of burnishing. Parallel to Dhahiriyyeh tomb (QDAP. IV. Pl. LXIII) dated El-1 by the excavator. Albright 10-9th Cent. B.C.
- 19) Pl. 34.20. A cup censor bowl, one handle & holes in the body of the cup is parallel to Hazor I. Pl. LV. 23, stratum VIII (9th Cent. B.C.) & to SS III fig. 26.5. period III (840-800 B.C.) fig. 5.8. Ml. Pl. 23. 20,42 strata V-II Gezer II. fig. 270. L III, 380, Pl. 90. The Lachish example has no handles. The identifications of these pots as censers is strengthened by their resemblance to a type of censor still used in various parts of the N. E.
- 20) Pl. 34.21. Dipper, buff ware, smoothed surface, creamy slipped, round base, elongated cylindrical body, one handle attached to the rim, pinched mouth, parallel Hazor II. Pl. LVIII. 5 stratum VIII dated 9th C.B.C. Dippers of this type appeared at Ain Shems T. 5 (APEF 2, 76, Pl. 41. 8.ca. 950-700 B.C.), TN II. Pl. 41. 782. Tell Jemmeh (Gerar 21. Pl. 57 : 52ca 1350). Albright (AA 5, 12.42. 119. 11th Cent.) Typical dippers appeared at Samaria in period VI (L. 8th Cent. B.C. SS. III. fig. 10.23).

- 21) Pl. 34.22. Small juglet, red ware & slip, round base, collar on a narrow neck, one handle on the collar & the body of the pot. Parallel to Ml. Pl. 5. 135. stratum V dated (1000-850 B.C.)
- 22) Pl. 34.23. Small juglet, black ware & slip, wheel burnished one handle, long narrow neck, disc base., parallel to Ml. Pl. 5. 130. stratum V (1000-850 B.C.) TN II 41. 799, 800 mainly El-1.
- 23) Pl. 34.24. Cypriote juglet, red ware, red slip, broken rim, one handle, flat cut base, decorated with horizontal bands, & intercircles, parallel to M II. Pl. L. 146.28 & Ml. Pl. 5. 123 strata V-III. (1000-734 B.C.) L III. Pl. 88. 337. TN II. 43. 873.

At TN. P. 91, not earlier than 8th Cent. B.C. Albright 12-10 Cent. B.C. TN II P. 91. BZ. fig. 31.ca, 1200-1050 B.C. TBM. (AAS, 12:72 Pl. 51:9) ca 1150-920 B.C. G. V, 185. Gerar 22 Pl. 60, 82 (e) & 82 (g) ca Albright 10th Cent. B.C. (AAs. 12:75).
- 24) Pl. 34.25. A storage jar with round base, rolled rim, two loop handles on the largest part of the body, buff ware, red slip, lime grits, coarse surface. Parallel to Hazor II Pl. LXXI. 5,6 stratum VI (800 B.C.). Pl. 21. 124, stratum V. Hazor example is more close to ours.
- 25) Pl. 34.26. Lamp, red buff ware, lime grits, round base, deeply pinched nozzle, red slip is parallel to El-Nuzha Tomb LBII-El-1. TN. Tomb 32 TN. II. Pl. 70. 1603 dated mainly LBII & El-1.
- 26) Pl. 34.27. A lamp, red/buff ware, lime grits, round base, red slip. parallel to L. II Pl. XLV (B) 201. dated temple III (1325-1225. B.C.).
- 27) Pl. 34.28. Basalt bowl, pedestal base, black colour, coarse surface. similar parallel Megiddo tomb (B) Ml. Pl. 112.4. stratum III (750-734 B.C.) The major range for this type 900-700 B.C.
- 28) Pl. 34.29. A clay figurine, buff ware, creamy slip, lime grits hand & lower parts are missing, closed parallel MII. Pl. 242. 8,9 (Stratum VIII) LB II.
- 29) Pl. 34.30. Bead, gold leaf plated. probably Roman.
- 30) Pl. 34.31. A gold earring. Parallel L III. Pl. 57.47 tomb 4021 dated 240-300 A.D. similar earrings were found at Karm Al-Shiekh - Jerusalem (QDAP. 1. P. 3) SSIII fig. 100.12. This type of gold earring appeared in a tomb at Ascalon (QDAP. 14. Pl. 48,7,8, 10 & 11) dated 3rd-4th Cent. A.D.
- 31) Pl. 34.32 & 33. Spatula spoons plain handles, bronze 10, 15 Cm. long parallel SSIII fig. 100.25. Tomb E. 220 P. 428. The tomb is dated mid. 3rd. Cent. A.D. The difference between ours & Samaria example is that the handle in ours is flat while in Samaria is rolled.

TOMB "B"

CONCLUSION AND DATING

This tomb has witnessed three periods of burials. The first burial was at the end of the Late Bronze Period Probably the end of the 13th Century B.C. This is evident from the Lamps Pl. 34 : 26 and 27, where such deep saucer lamps of upraised rim, thick ware, reddish Slip & white grits in the Paste are characteristic of L.B. Periods. The Iron Age lamps are characteristic with flat round base, flanged broad or wide flat lip .(AASOR XII P. 42. § 59).

Another good example for dating are the two sharply Curinated bowls Pl. 34 :12 and 13 with ring bases are typical of LBII types (Hazor I. CXLIII :19 end Pl. XCL from Stratum I. A.)

The jug with rounded base Pl. 34 :17, one handle, Pinched mouth, red/buff Slip, and the bowl Pl. 34 :7 with flat base, slightly carinated, lime grits, red slipped is Parallel to other examples from transitional levels, i : e L. B. 11 - E 1 -1. Similar examples from this tomb are Pl. 34 : 3-5 and 7-11 and 14 which are parallel to Jabal Nuzha Tomb (ADAJ. XI.) and Madeba Tomb (APEF. VI, 1953) which are transitional Tombs from LBII - EI -I. This period can be dated the second half of the 13th Cent. B. C. until the midst of the 12th. Cent. B.C.

The rest of the vessels from this tomb range in date from the 10th Cent. B. C. until the close end of the 9th Cent. B. C. except the metal objects ; the golden plated bead, the earring and the spatula Pl. 34 : 30,31 -33 are Romans.

On the abovementioned quoted Parallels and indications, the first burial in this tomb started in the extreme end of the second quarter of the 13th. Cent. B. C. & Continued to be used as burial until the end of the 9th Cent. B.C.

The tomb was reused by the Romans probably in the 3rd. - 4th. Century B. C.

TOMB "C" IRBED

NOTES AND COMPARISON

- 1) Pl. 32.1. A bowl medium size (Krater), handleless, flat cut base carinated body plain rim is similar to No. 3 in Megiddo tomb 1101. M.T. Pl. 87.3 dated EI -1. The base in Megiddo example is ring base which indicates an earlier date than ours. Bowls with out handles carry on as type of later periods than EI -1 (Guy & Engberg M.T.P. 159).

- 2) Jar Pl. 32.2 medium size, with two loop handles on the widest part of the body, rounded base, a third small handle on the neck, rolled rim, red slipped, hand burnished, buff ware, lime grits is parallel to Irbed Tomb B. Pl. 34.16. In tomb B. at Irbed No. 16 is larger in size than No. 2 in C. No. exact parallel is found elsewhere. This type of jars are unique & only found in Irbed tombs.
- 3) Jugs Pl. 32.3 wide neck, one handle, flat cut base, red slip wheel burnished is parallel to Dhahiriyeh Tomb (QDAP. IV Pl. 61.4. (B)) dated El-1. 1000-950. B.C.
- 4) Water decanter ; pl. 32.4 red slip, wheel burnished, flat cut base, with a collar on the neck, one handle — L. III Pl. 87.280. TN. II. Pl. 46. 634. A.S. T. 5 (APEF. 2, 76. Pl. 41.17) ca 950-700. At tell Nasbeh the main history of the decanters falls within ca 800-586. B.C. Modified variety appears in the 9th cent. or late 10th & modifications continue into the 6th Cent. & possibly slightly later.
- 5) Jug. Pl. 32.5 with a strainer & a spout, buff ware, L. red slip, coarse & lime grits, one handle, flat cut base, rolled rim & with neck, has no exact parallel with the Palestinian types, the nearest parallel is M. II. Pl. 75.20 stratum VI dated 1150-1100. B. C.
- 6) Jug. Pl. 32.6 red slipped, round base, burnished, one handle, parallel to TN. II Pl. 45.963 dated 1050-550 B.C. This date is the range of this type.
- 7) Juglets Pl. 32.7 black ware & slip, wheel burnished with small disc base, one handle & long narrow neck is parallel to M. Tomb 76. (A) Pl. 74.19 dated E 1-11. (1050 - 950 B.C. Albright) TN 11. Pl. 41. 798. AS. R. 469 (1933) stratum III. A S IV, Pl. 37:27 ca. 1200 - 1000 B. C.
- 8) Juglet Pl. 32.8 of black ware, disc base, one handle & long narrow neck is parallel to M. II Pl. 87.16 (V) 1000-850. B.C.
- 9) Pl. 32.9. Clay figurine, representing an animal, the head is missing, but the legs, the general forms & the saddle on the head of the figurine are well executed & represented. There are two holes on either side of the body of the figurine & a third one on the neck. Traces of additional spouts or barrels are clear around the two holes on either sides. The ware is buff with grits covered with a creamy slip.

This zoomorphic vessel is parallel to M. 11. Pl. 247.8 The Megiddo example has two barrels form on either side of the body, probably ours has the same phenomena. The Megiddo Vessel is from stratum VII (a) dated 1350-1150. B.C.

- 10) Juglet Pl. 32.10 of rough & coarse surface, buff dark colour & very gritty ware is similar to Dhahiriyeh Tomb (QDAP. IV. Pl. 63.13). dated 1000-950 B.C.

- 11) Lamp Pl. 32.11 of buff ware, coarse, lime grits, red slip, round base & flanged rim, smoked, is parallel to M. 11 Pl. 86.16. Stratum 7-6 dated 1350-1100. B.C. The major range in this type 1100-1000 B.C.
- 12) Lamp Pl. 32.12 buff ware, red slipped, lime grits, round base, flanged rim — MI. Pl. 37.17. stratum V. dated 1000-850 B.C.
- 13) Lamp. Pl. 32.13 buff ware, lime grits, round base, flanged rim. L. red slipped is parallel to TN. 11. Pl. 70.1614. AS III,12. ASII:34 Pl. 45:23 Ca 1200-900 B.C. possibly 100-950 B.C. AS. V:15 Beth-Shan. 1021 A (Floor level) Ramses II level B.S. II. 11:13,33 Pl. 47:23, 1292 — 1000 B.C. M.T. 877 Al. MT. Pl. 13:11. LB 11 (1400-1200) B.C. Tel el Farah. T. 221. TFI. 13f. Pl. 41 Ca. 900 (XXII dynasty. Albright) T. 532 is of the 11th Cent. — 12th Cent. B.C.

CONCLUSION

Among the objects in this tomb, some are good for dating this tomb. Jugs Pl. 32 : 3,5 & 6. This type of jugs with handles below the rim is probably as early as the 11th Cent. B.C. (TN II. P. 16) or 10th Cent. at least & towards the end of MI, they gave ways to more slender variety. None of these new forms appeared earlier than the later part of MI. The Irbed examples, with disc base, bulbous forms & pinched mouth ; such forms & types are characteristic of jugs in EI-1, because the jugs with rounded mouthed ring bases & handles on the rim appeared in later periods. Similar to our forms appeared at Zahiriyeh Tomb (QDAP. IV. P. 61), (Albright date 1000 - 900 B.C.) At Tell Nasbeh they were found in Tombs 5,29,32 (TNI. P. 94) & dated post philistines. At Duweir similar to No. 6. was found in Tomb 521. dated 1000 B.C., & in Tomb 224 (dated 860 - 820). The Irbed examples are earlier than those of Deweir since low handles & disc bases indicate an earlier date probably Ca. 10th Cent. B.C.

On the basis of the above mentioned quoted, parallels & dating, the majority of the objects in this tomb range in date between early 10th Cent. & the end of the 9th Cent. a date between early 10th Cent. down to the late part of the 9th Cent. B.C. may fit this tomb.

IRBED TOMB "A" INVENTORY OF OBJECTS

SERIAL No.	DESCRIPTION	EXCA. PLATE No.	Exca. No.	BODY	FIRE SURFACE	SLIP	BURNISH	OTHER Ex.	REMARKS SERIAL
1	water decanter	1	1	Buff	M. Plain	Red	Wheel	3	Disc base, lime grits.
2	Jug	1	2	Buff	M. Plain	Creamy	Wheel	5	Round, Pinched rim.
3	Jug with	1	3	Red	H. Plain	Red	Vertical	1	Disc base, collar on the neck, strainer with spout.
4	strainer Jug	1	4	Smooth	H. Plain	Dark Red	Vertical	3	Disc base, lime grits.
5	dipper	1	5	Buff	M. Smoothed	Creamy	Vertical	1	Pointed base, pinched mouth.
6	Bowl	1	6	Buff	M. V. coarse	Creamy	—	—	Wide flat base, gritty hand made.
7	Bowl	1	7	Red	M. Plain	Red	Circle	3	Semisphere shape, round base.
8	S. dipper	1	8	Red	M. Plain	Red	Vertical	1	Round base, wide neck, rounded mouth one handle.
9	S. Juglet	1	9	Black	H. Smoothed	Black	Vertical	5	Knob base, one handle.
10	Bowl	1	10	Buff	M. Plain	L. Red	Wheel	—	Disc base, grits.
11	Basalt Bowl	1	11	Black	M. Coarse	L. Red	Wheel	—	3 Small legs, shallow.
12	S. Juglet	1	12	Buff Red	M. Smooth	Red	Vertical	—	Round basefi one handle, broken rim.
13	S. Juglet	1	13	Black	H. Smooth	Black	Vertical	3	Disc base, one handle.
14	Lamp	1	14	Buff	M. Coarse	Creamy	—	10	Rounded base, flanged rim.
15	Lamp	1	15	Buff	M. Coarse	—	Vertical	7	Rounded base, flanged rim.
16	Pottery figurine	1	16	Buff	M. Coarse	Grey	Vertical	—	The head is missing, the hands holding a loaf like, lime grits.

RAFIK W. DAJANI

IRBED TOMBS "B" INVENTORY OF TOMB "B"

SERIAL No.	DESCRIPTION	PLATE No.	Exc. No.	BODY	FIRE	SURFACE	SLIP	BURNISHING	OTHER Exc.	REMARKS
1	Bowl	II		Buff	H	Coarse	L. red	—	3	4 handles on the rim, disc base, carinated body.
2	M. S. Jar	II	25	—	H	Coarse	L. red	—	5	Two handles on the largest part of the body, round base.
3	M. S. Jar	II	16	Buff	H	Coarse	L. red	—	3	Two handles on the largest part of the body, round base, small on the neck.
4	Jar	II	18	Buff	M	Coarse	L. red	Wheel	—	Squared mouth, 2 handles & round base.
5	Jug	II	17	Buff	M	Coarse	L. red	Vertical	4	Pinched mouth, one handle, round base elongated body.
6	Jug	II	21	Buff	M	Smooth	Creamy	Vertical	4	Pinched mouth, elongated body, round base.
7	Bowl	II	8	Buff	M	Smooth	Red in	Rim	—	Flat cut base, inverted rim with slight carination.
8	S. Bowl	II	14	Red	M	Smooth	Red	Wheel	6	Flat cut base, upstraight rim, small size.
9	Strainer	II	20	Red	H	Coarse	Red	Rim	3	3 legs, one handle.
10	L. bowl	II	4	Red Buff	H	Smoothed	Red	& outside	5	Flatent base, deep.
11	S. cypriote juglet	II	24	Red	H	Decorated Smoothed	Red	Wheel	1	Flatent base, broken rims.
12	Juglet	II	22	Red	H	Smoothed	Dark Red	Wheel	3	Round base, collar on the neck, one handle.
13	M. Bowl	II	7	Red Buff	M	Smoothed	Red	Hand	2	Flatent base, deep & carinated body.
14	S. Bowl	II	9	Red Buff	M	Smoothed	Red	Hand	3	Round base, carinated body.

IRBED TOMBS "B" INVENTORY OF TOMB "B" (Continued)

SERIAL No.	DESCRIPTION	PLATE No.		BODY	FIRE	SURFACE	SLIP	BURNISHING EXAMPLE		REMARKS
		No.	Ex.					OTHER		
15	Bowl	II	12	Red/Buf	M	Smoothed	Creamy	Hand	2	Small ring base, sharp, carinated body large flaming rim.
16	Bowl	II	13	Red/Buf	M	Smoothed	Creamy	Hand	3	Small ring base, sharp, carinated body large flaming rim.
17	Bowl	II	3	Buf	M	Smoothed	Creamy	Rim Wheel	3	Flat cut base, deep & straight rim. lime grits.
18	S. bowl	II	11	Red	H	Smoothed	Red	Wheel	5	Flat round base, lime grits.
19	Bowl	II	6	Red/Buf	M	Coarse	Creamy	—	1	Flat base, deep & thickened rim.
20	Lamp	II	26	Red	M	Coarse	Red		3	Deep, round base, lime grits.
21	Lamp	II	27		M	Coarse	Creamy		6	Flat base, flanged rim.
22	Figurine	II	29	Buf	M	Smoothed	Creamy		1	Fragment of Mother goddess of fertility head & tower part missing.
23	Baslt Bowl	II	28	—		Coarse				Pedestal base, black, flat cut base grits.
24	Bowl	II	15	Red	H	Smoothed	Red	Wheel	5	Flat cut base, grits.
25	Bowl	II	10	Red	H	Smoothed	Red	Wheel	4	Flat cut base, lime grits.
26	Bowl	II	5	Buf	M	Smoothed	Red	Wheel	5	Flat cut base, upraised rim, lime grits.
27	S. Juglet	II	23	Black	H	Smoothed	Black	Wheel	3	Small disc base, one handle & long narrow neck.
28	Jug	II	19	L. red	H	Coarse	Buff			Round base, wide necks, round mouth, lime grits.
29	Bowl	II	2	L. red	H	Smoothed	L. red	Wheel	1	Disc base, 4 handles, carinated body, incised rim, lime grits.
30	Bead plated with gold leaf	II	30							Decorated with small cuells gold leaf plated.
31	Earring	II	31							Small thin gold wire.
32	Spetula	II	32							10,5 cm. long, copper.
33	Fragment of spetula	II	33							5,5 cm. long, copper.

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IRBED TOMB "C" INVENTORY OF OBJECTS

SERIAL No.	DESCRIPTION	PLATE	EXCA. No.	BODY	FIRE	SURFACE	SLIP	BURNISH	OTHER EXAMPLE	REMARKS
1	Bowl	III	1	Buff	H	Coarse	L. Red	Wheel	—	Disc base, carinated body.
2	Jar	III	2	Buff	H	Coarse	L. Red	Wheel	—	Round base, 3 handle, two large & one small on the rim.
3	Jug	III	3	Red	H	Smooth	Red	Wheel	2	Pinched mouth, disc base, one handle.
4	Decanter	III	4	Red	H	Smooth	Red	Wheel	—	Flat base, one handle, collar on the neck.
5	Jug with strainer & spout	III	5	Red	H	Plain	L. Red	Vertical	2	Flat base, wide neck, no collar.
6	S. Jug	III	6	Buff	H	Coarse	L. Red	Traces	—	Round base, one handle, broken rim & neck.
7	S. Juglet	III	7	Black	H	Smooth	Black	Wheel	3	S. disc base, long neck, one handle.
8	S. Juglet	III	8	Black	H	Smooth	Black	Wheel	2	Disc base, long neck one handle.
9	Figurine	III	9	Buff	H		Creamy	Wheel	—	Zoomorphic vessel, head is missing, lime grits.
10	S. Juglet	III	10	Buff	S	very coarse & gritty	Buff Black	Wheel	—	Flat concave base, handles, everted rim.
11	Lamp	III	11	Buff	M	Coarse	L. Red	Wheel	5	Round base flanged rim.
12	Lamp	III	12	Buff	M	Coarse	L. Red	Wheel	3	Round base flanged rim.
13	Lamp	III	13	Buff	M	Coarse	L. Red	Wheel	4	Round base flanged rim.