

Luristan Special

What Makes it Special?

Over the years I have produced an increasing number of modules dealing with some Luristan issues. I'm still doing it now (2025). I have lost track of all this stuff myself on occasion so I decided to give you an overview here. The modules are arranged in three groups, with some overlap and redundancies. The groups are:

1. The Luristan Project.
Ideas and results from a scientific project concerning iron masl swords.
2. Luristan Swords
Mostly about Iron masl swords, going into great detail in some cases.
3. Luristan Miscellaneous
Mostly looking at "Master of Annals" bronzes and related issues. Including a new and exciting throe about their meaning

The Luristan Project

I have collected a few Luristan mask swords (i.e. I bought them from the antiquity market) with the intention of doing a bit metallurgy on my own. However, an opportunity for starting a small but proper research project (defined as being paid by others) came up and I wrote a proposal. It was granted by the "Petersen Stiftung" and some work was done in 2017 / 18.

The basic idea was:

1. Do some radiocarbon dating for 4 swords.
2. Use the small specimen that needed to be cut for the dating to check the basic metallography
3. Cut one sword into two parts with very little saw losses using modern cutting technologies.

That's what we did and the results (including a publication that resulted from this work) can be found in the links provided below.

Luristan Project	
Document	Content
Antrag (Proposal): <i>pdf document</i>	<i>In German</i> Describes what we wanted to do, lists the available specimen, describes technologies.
Abschlussbericht (Final Report) <i>pdf document</i>	<i>In German</i> Describes the results with a few illustrations.
Anhang zum Abschlussbericht (addendum to the final report) <i>pdf document</i>	<i>In German</i> Contains the detailed data and plenty of pictures
General Project Results HTML module	<i>In English</i> Summarizes the findings in some detail and gives some additional results
First set of Large Pictures HTML module	<i>In English</i> Some first large pictures to the "cut sword" No. 5
Special "Cut Sword" results HTML module	<i>In English</i> Several modules with many pictures of the etched surface plus some interpretation and discussion
Second set of Large Pictures HTML module	<i>In English</i> Large to very large pictures of the etched surface of the <i>cut sword</i>
Literature Review HTML module: leading to <i>Word document</i>	<i>In English</i> Evaluation of some papers plus links to these papers

Publication M. Hüls, I. Petri, H.Föll <i>pdf document</i>	In English "Radiocarbon Dating of Luristan Mask Swords"; in: Radiocarbon, Vol 61, Nr 5, 2019, p 1229–1238
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Luristan Swords

As time progresses, I produced more information about Luristan swords. On occasion, I wrote it down. There is some overlap and redundancy.

Luristan Swords	
Module	Content
First Iron Swords	Contains a lot about Luristan swords with links to more modules (including the next 2 ones below).
Luristan 1 Swords	Gives a few new data and pictures including a "repaired" sword
Luristan 2 Swords	Summarizes all the stuff already covered elsewhere in this hyperscript. Looks at possible sources outside of Luristan. Details about this type of sword found in the literature.
Luristan Swords Details A Module Hub with many entries	Detailed data and some special observations on iron mask swords and related swords. Includes data on a very unusual sword that is a kind of mix of Luristan type 1 and type 2 swords.

Luristan Miscellaneous

I did not only become enthralled with Luristan iron swords but also with Luristan bronze objects. I have actually acquired a few "Master of animals" finials, some of them in very bad condition. Having some experience in treating metals, I was bold enough to clean some of them with satisfying results. I also collected all kinds of information and produced some ideas of my own. This eventually produced a completely new interpretation of the meaning of these bronze figures.

In the links below I will share some of that with you. It should be understood, however, that..

1. This has nothing to do with iron steel and swords, and ...
2. what I'm relating to the history of these things may be utter nonsense. No guarantees are given.

What you can access are these modules:

Luristan Miscellaneous	
Document	Content
The "old" Luristan "Advanced"	Written long before the Luristan project started and all the other modules here.
Luristan "Master of Animals"-conventional interpretation	Some first thoughts about how these finials developed and what they might mean
Luristan "Master of Animals" - heretic interpretation	Some afterthoughts about how these finials developed and what they might mean. Rather heretic or unconventional
Luristan pin head collection	Looking mostly at pin heads and how they tie in with MoA finials
Luristan MoA finials Pictures 1 Before MoA Luristan MoA finials Pictures 2 MoA=Master of Animals	My collections of Luristan finial pictures <i>pdf documents</i>

[Master of Animals General](#)

Essentially a picture collection of all kinds of MoA throughout history