

A characteristic feature of the glazed graffito pottery of Tīz, as illustrated in Pl. IV, is the great range of colouring in the glaze, varying in the same piece from pale straw and yellow to brown, green, pink, or crimson, always with a mottled and patchy appearance. Side by side with this style we find a somewhat different and bolder decoration of glazed pottery attested by pieces from Tīz III, like 186, 188 A, 196-201, 274, &c. (Pl. IV). In this the fine incised designs are replaced by broad strokes. Another type illustrated by III. 242 shows dots and bands painted on with a light coloured slip. The relief decoration of unpainted pottery, of which Pl. V shows a specimen in Tīz surf. 136, was mostly produced from moulds and, as finds of moulds (Tīz III. surf. 142; II. vi. 84) show, done locally. The rarity of pottery distinctly indicating Chinese origin suggests that the port of Tīz had ceased to be much frequented by maritime trade before the import of Chinese porcelain into Persia was fully developed in Mongol times. Stone beads of manifold material and shape are found plentifully over the whole site. A collection of them was acquired and awaits expert examination.

However this may be, it is clear that a place situated like Tīz far away from any considerable area of agricultural or industrial resources could not have supported the fairly large population which the remains examined indicate, had it not been for the advantages which its port offered for sea intercourse between the Persian Gulf and the coast of India and the Far East. The south-west monsoon must always have interposed a very serious obstacle to that intercourse during a considerable portion of the year. Tīz lying just to the west of that stretch of the Makrān coast which the monsoon strikes with full force, would offer then the last safe harbour for ships seeking India from the side of the Gulf. It would provide shelter also for shipping on the opposite course when held up from approach to the mouth of the Gulf by the violent winds which at other seasons often blow from the north-west and north. Hence it may well be believed that at a certain period in early medieval times Tīz was used as a port for convenient trade exchange between the south of Persia and India. The possibility of its having served as the port for some caravan traffic passing from Sīstān and Khorāsān to the sea through Bampūr should also not be ignored.

We have probably a classical mention of Tīz in Τείσα, a locality which Ptolemy's *Geography* places on the Gedrosian coast to the west of Κύριζα and beyond the cape of Βαγειῶν.⁴ Nearchos's account of the voyage of Alexander's fleet, as reproduced in Arrian's *Indikê*, xxix. 1, also refers to the last two localities in the same order from east to west, and places the good harbour of Talmena (Τάλμενα) beyond Bageia. In view of the identical location in the two notices,

⁴ Cf. Ptolemy, *Geographia*, vi. viii.