Tabula Ansata

There is a rectangular tabula ansata bears bilingual (Greek and Syriac) inscription in Kızılkoyun Necropolis of Edessa city. The translation of the inscription dated to the 3rd century AD is ***"This monument belongs to the children of Kineas, Zooras, Bias and Boethos and their children".***



Rock Tomb No. M55

The rock tomb is the only example found in the Edessa city so far, with a temple front. There are 3 arcosolium and 1 sarcophagus in this tomb, which is the plan type with a forecourt and a single room. Both columns in front have Corinthian capitals. The middle of the architrave and pediment is in the form of an oyster. The oyster form, which is seen as a ***"protective talisman from evil spirits"*** in many mythologies from Indian to Greek, is engraved quite large. Entrance to the burial chamber is provided by a monolithic rectangular stone door.



Rock Tomb No. M54

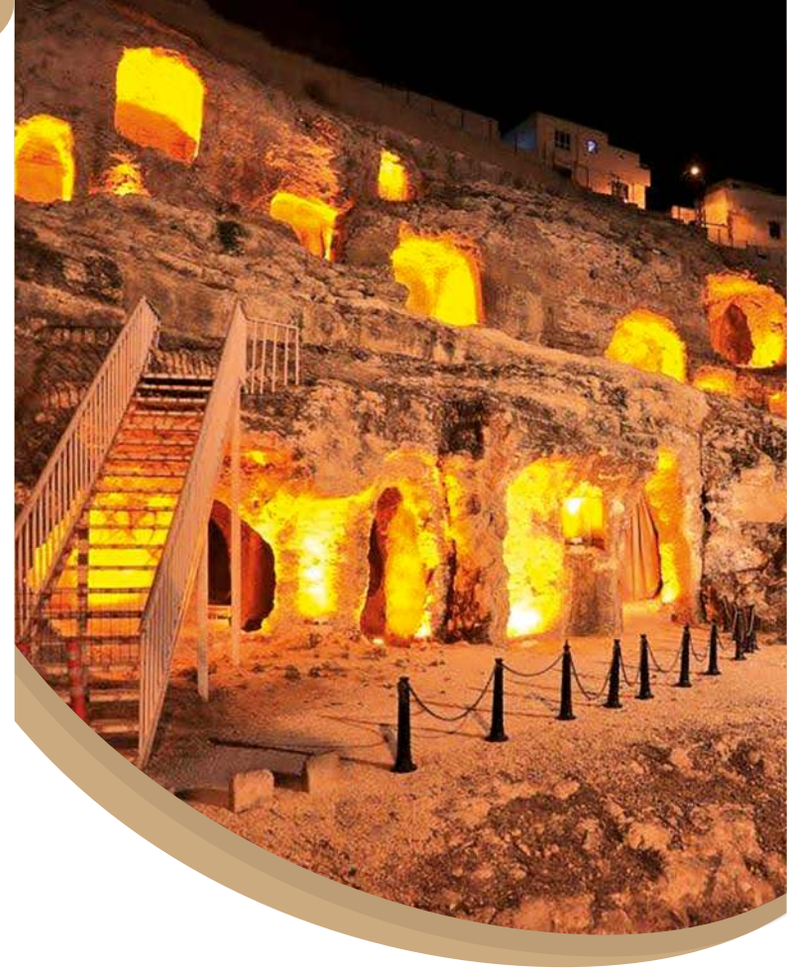
The two-chambered rock tomb is reached by a 6-step ladder. There is pedestal on both sides of the stairs. Above the entrance to the tomb, right in the middle of the door lintel, is the ***Christomonogram (Labalum) Jesus Christ*** symbole. For early Christians, this symbol had a very deep meaning and symbolized the phrase ***"Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Savior"***. The first stone door at the entrance is made of rectangular monolithic basalt stone, the second stone door was formed by Rolling a cylindrical stone block made of solid limestone.



Rock Tomb No. M51

The rock tomb has a front entrance and a single room. Both sides of the tomb's entrance there are soldier statues unearthed in niches. This statues are dressed in local Edessa clothing and military equipment. Both statues are made of limestone and monolithic. The statue on the left is 1.85m long, intact except for its arms. The head of the statue on the right is broken and missing. This statue is depicted with its right hand extended above the navel, possible towards the sword or wedge on its left. The entrance to the burial chamber is provided by rounding the cylindrical door made of monolithic limestone.





KIZILKOYUN NECROPOLIS

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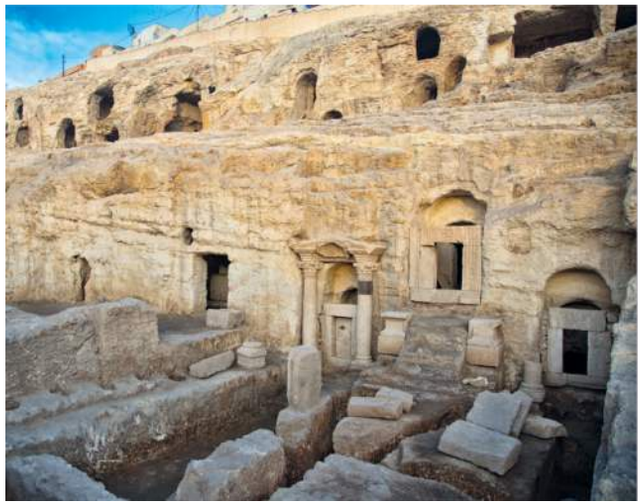
KIZILKOYUN NECROPOLIS

Necropolis are cemetery areas located in the ancient Greek and Roman cities outside the city center, consisting of Nekros = Dead and Police = City words in Ancient Greek.

The Kızılkoyun Necropolis was astablished on the slopes of Tilfındır Hill in the east of Haleplibahçe, north of Balıklı Lake. It is one of the most important rwmains of the ancient Greek and Roman culture in the Edessa city center.

With the expropriation works carried out in the Kızılkoyun Necropolis, 389 slums were demolished. 103 rock tomb chambers were unearthed as a result of archaeological excavations and cleaning works carried out jointly by Şanlıurfa Museum Directorate and Şanlıurfa Metropolitan Municipality. These graves date back to the 2nd-4th AD.

Burial chambers; They were generally built with a square plan, an arcosolium, and in different sizes ranging from 3×3 m to 12×10 m. When we look at the size, type, relief and decoration elements and findings of the graves in the Kızılkoyun Necropolis, it is obvious that most of the graves were built for nobles. Additionally, in order to revive the burial tradition of the period, statues, replica works, and skeletons laid on klines are exhibited together with their gifts.



Mosaic Rock Tomb
The burial chamber has a rectangular plan with 5 arcosolium. The entrance section of the tomb has been destroyed. Mosaic and skeleton imitation (artificial) located in the burial chamber with a mosaic floor. The original of the mosaic is located in the Museum.



Rock Tomb No. M13
The western wall and the entrance part of the rock cut tomb were heavily damaged. A peacock figure was carved in the middle of the pediment façade in the east of the tomb. The peacock is partially destroyed and its body, wings, neck and head can be seen. There are decorations on the right and left of the peacock.



M14 Nolu Kaya Mezarı
There are statue niches both side of the main entrance of the single-roomed rock-cut tomb. The tomb has 5 arcosolium. The burial chamber is very splendid and has columns. On each side of the eastern arcosolium, there are columns with an Ionic order. On the pediment of the arcosolium, there is a depiction of ***ichthyocenthaur (sea centaur)*** in hight relief.
Ichthyocenthaurs are mixed creatures that have the upper body of a human, the lower front half and front legs of a horse, and the tail of a fish. There are two pits in the burial chamber. One of them should probably be a skeleton pit and the other is treasure hunter's pit. It can mostly be associated with natural disasters and floods.



M16 Nolu Kaya Mezarı
The door of the rock-cut tomb was damaged. The single-room burial chamber has square plan and 5 arcosolium. There is a relief in the eastern arcosolium; from right to left, a man lying on a dead bed/kline and holding a glass in his right hand, just to the left a boy and two female figures are engraved near his. One of the women has a high headdress (kofi). It is probably a family relief belonging to the grave owner. On the north wall of the same arcosolium, a relief of a soldier with a helmet and a sword is depicted.