

Cast of the Semitic Storm God, Hadad

This cast was ordered from the former Royal Museum of Berlin, February 20, 1895, where the original is housed, by the U. S. National Museum for exhibition at the Atlanta Exposition, 1895.

This statue of Hadad, the Semitic storm god, was found at a site known as Jerjin, which is located near Zinjirli, in northern Syria. (For a description of the find spot, see KONIGLICHE MUSEEN ZU BERLIN MITTHEILUNGEN AUS DEN ORIENTALISCHEN SAMMLUNGEN. Heft XI: AUSGRABUNGEN IN SENDSCHIRLI I: EINLEITUNG UND INSCRIFTEN. (Berlin, 1893), pp. 46ff.) The statue was found exposed on the surface of the mound in 3 large parts: 1. the shoulder and lower face, 2. the upper head and cap, and 3. the cylindrical-shaped, inscribed body. The statue is of fine grain dolerite. Its present height is 11' with base, but its original height must have been about 13'. The forearms were not found, but the hands probably held objects which were divine attributes of Hadad. The statue dates from the 9th-8th century B. C.

This is one of the largest pieces of North Syrian sculpture and reflects the influence of two cultural areas, Asia Minor and Mesopotamia. It is a blending of the Hittite art form with the art form of Mesopotamia.