Censer Symbolism and the State Polity in Teotihuacán

Research Year: 1998
Culture: Teotihuacán
Chronology: Late Pre-Classic to Late Classic
Location: Highland México
Site: Teotihuacán

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Bibliography
Data Base for Theater-type Censers Found in Teotihuacán and Abroad #1
"Adornos" and molds for censers from the "North Palace" in the Ciudadela, Teotihuacán Archaeological Project 1980-82, INAH
"Adornos" and molds for censers from Compound "Group 5" of the Sector N5W1, Scholarship Program, INAH
"Adornos" and molds for censers from surface collection in Teotihuacán, Teotihuacán Mapping Project
"Adornos" and molds for censers from the Project of the Feathered Serpent Pyramid in 1988-89, Arizona State University and INAH

Preliminary Comments
Sources Cited

Note on the Conventions Used for Captions

Considering this is a collection whose origin was a workshop fully dedicated to mold production, most pieces presented are molds and reproductions.

In those cases where only the mold could be recovered, and to obtain examples of the pieces involved, reproductions were made with the clay that modern potters from the village of San Sebastián Xolalpan nowadays use.

An alphabetical order was adopted for the reading of captions, making reference to what we have enunciated in the previous lines:

Therefore:

A. Capital letters indicate: Prehispanic Mold.


c. Underlined small letters indicate: Modern Reproduction Accomplished with a Prehispanic Mold.

In the case of Molded pieces, they will be indicated throughout the text; to the effects of making comparisons of pieces between two photos, we have indicated: See Photo No....

Example:

Photo No. 1.
B. Mold.
   a, c, d, e, h, i. Prehispanic Molded Reproduction.
   f, g. Modern Reproduction Made with a Prehispanic Mold.
V. Other Pieces: Censer Fragments and Molds.

Photo 208. a. Censer fragment with appliqués of animals emerging from shells. b, c. Censer fragments with appliqués of different associated motifs.
Photo 209. Censer fragment with pierced decoration and bands modeled in the extremes.

Photo 210. a, b, c, d. Censer handles. e, f. Ceramic tubes (censer funnels). g. Fragment of censer appliqué.
Photo 211. A. Oblong form for the manufacture of funnels.

Photo 212. A. Form for vessel.
Photo 213. a. Censer base. B. Mold for the manufacture of censer bases.

Photo 214. A. Form with handle for the manufacture of small bowls. b. Reproduction of a bowl after a prehispanic form.
Photo 215.  A. Form for the manufacture of censer bases.  b. Censer base fragment.

Photo 216.  A. Small form for figurine manufacture.  b, b'. Body of articulated figurine. It has been cut for revision.