



Neanderthal & Shanider Cave

Shanider Cave is located in Bradost Mountain, about 2 km from Shanider Village on the latitude 36.5 northwards; and longitude 44.20 eastwards; height: 2500 ft. above the sea level. The cave has an arched aperture which is looking down upon the Upper Zab. Its floor is even; its area is about 11.700 ft.

Neanderthal man lived the cave about 50.000 to 70.000 years Before Christ (B.C.). Inside the cave there are remains of the bones of various animals, which prove that it was dwelt by wild animals.

The first visit to the cave was done by Soliky in 1951. In his expeditions, Soliky discovered that there were (4) categories in the cave: (A, B, C, & D) which represent 4 different cultures. The Category D produced an ancient guide for nine skeletons, (two of them were children; the rest were adults. The explorer called them Shanidar.

However the expeditions of Madam Arlet Lerwa that the man of Shanidar was very fond of flowers. He mixed flowers with pine weeds and made a laurel (for the first time prehistorically). He set it on the grave of Shanidar No. IV. This is an example of the first laurel which goes back o 60.000 (sixty thousand years



This cave is located about 39 km to the south west of Soran Area. One can reach the cave by passing through a branch road, which is going towards the south near Hawdiyan village. Then the road is heading upwards to Bradost Mt., where two caves are found. The first is called Diyan, the second is Bestoon. In 1951 expedition missions have found stone tools from the Modern Stone Age. Inside each cave there is a deep cleft in which water is flowing. Inside both caves the natural phenomena of Stalktite & Stlakmite can easily be seen.

Bestoon Cave:



