A000-Mex-Chupicuaro Tripod-Rattle Bowl-Triangular Design-300-100 BCE

MASTER



Mexico-Chupicuaro Tripod-Rattle Bowl-Triangular Design-300-100 BCE

**Case no.: 9**

**Accession Number:**

**Formal Label:** Mexico-Chupicuaro Tripod-Rattle Bowl-Triangular Design-300-100 BCE

**Display Description:**

This is a Chupicuaro tripod-rattle bowl. Bi-chrome painted in red, black and cream with three sets of chevrons radiating outward from the center along with pairs of wavy lines. The shallow bowl sits on three pointy, hollow legs containing rattles.

A cult of the dead is characterized by tombs containing trophy skulls, tripod bowls, obsidian arrowheads, metates, figurines, shell ornaments, necklaces and beads, bone artifacts and musical instruments. All of these were found during excavations ca 1950-1951..

The many burials and offerings provide knowledge of the way of life of the ancient Chupícuaro inhabitants. it is inferred that they were farmers who lived in huts built from perishable materials forming an extended rural village of low platforms habitations with clay floors which were sometimes grouped together, over which their roofs were built. They harvested corn, beans and pumpkin, and pineapple (Chan, 1967: 263).

**LC Classification:**

**Date or Time Horizon:** 300-100 BCE

**Geographical Area:**

Chupicuaro is located in the northern Mesoamerican border, west of the Mexican Plateau, it is on hills nearby the Lerma River and its tributary Coroneo or Tiger River; currently most part is under water by the Solis dam, just 7 kilometers from Acámbaro, in Guanajuato State. México.

**Map, GPS coordinates:**

**Cultural Affiliation:** Chupicuaro

**Media:** polychrome ceramic

**Dimensions:**

**Weight:**

**Condition: Original.** A well-executed example.

**Provenance:** Ex. K. Reyes collection of Indio, CA.

**Discussion:**

Chupícuaro was recognized as one of the best ceramic centers in Mesoamerica in its fine ceramic finishing and decoration, which were developed in multiple shapes and colors, some with geometrical drawings. The motifs included triangular geometrical designs, deities, maternity, animals and plants. Ceramic treatments included multiple monochromatic forms and a variety of three-color polychromes (red, beige and black) with triangular geometrical drawings or zig-zag. Clay figurines used “pastillaje” techniques and hollow figures. Shell, bone and stone were used.

**References:**

**AP: 1**