Damanhour University
Faculty of Arts
Department of Greek and Roman Archaeology and Studies

Depiction of Slaves in Greek Art

From the Archaic Age until the Beginning of the Hellenistic Age

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's Degree in Arts (Department of Greek and Roman Archaeology – Credit Hour System)

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✓ Summary in English:

This study explores the depiction of slaves in Greek art from the Archaic period to the beginning of the Hellenistic era—a time marked by significant socio-political and cultural transformations in ancient Greece. The research focuses on the social and legal conditions of slaves, their roles in daily life, and how these were reflected in various forms of art, including theater, pottery (vase painting), and sculpture.

The study relied on both literary and historical sources, as well as a wide analysis of artifacts such as vases, sculptures, inscriptions, and reliefs portraying slaves in diverse contexts—from domestic work to funerary scenes and mythological settings. The findings show that Greek art did not merely present slaves as servile figures but rather as dynamic elements that mirrored the complex social and cultural fabric of Greek society.