



Ancient 'Wheel of Ghosts' Redefines Astronomy Mystery

Description

The ancient site called [Rujm el-Hiri](#), which means 'Wheel of Ghosts,' is located on the [Golan Heights](#) plateau in southwest Syria. It is a fascinating monument that was once believed to be an astronomical observatory.

Some studies suggested that Rujm el-Hiri was built to observe stars. However, a new study shows this might not be true. Researchers from Tel Aviv University and Ben-Gurion University found that Rujm el-Hiri has moved over thousands of years. It no longer lines up with the stars as it used to.

The team used different methods to investigate the site. They studied the magnetic signs in the ground, looked at changes in the land, and used satellite images.

The research suggests that people started building Rujm el-Hiri as far back as 4500 BCE. The site has a central stone mound surrounded by circles of basalt stones. It covers about 150 meters. Researchers think it may have also served as a gathering space or fort.

This study helps us learn more about ancient sites and can help find similar structures in other places.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Astronomical** /ˌæs.trəˈnɒː.mɪ.kəl/ (adjective): Relating to astronomy or the observation of celestial bodies.
2. **Observatory** /əbˈzɜːr.və.tɔːr.i/ (noun): A building or place from which people can observe astronomical events.
3. **Research** /ˈriː.sɜːrtʃ/ (noun): The systematic investigation into and study of materials and sources to establish facts and reach new conclusions.
4. **Investigate** /ɪnˈves.tɪ.geɪt/ (verb): To carry out research or study into a subject to discover facts or information.
5. **Magnitude** /ˈmæɡ.nɪ.tjuːd/ (noun): The size extent or importance of something often used to refer to celestial bodies.
6. **Structures** /ˈstrʌk.tʃərz/ (noun): The arrangement of and relations between the parts or elements of something complex.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. Where is the ancient site Rujm el-Hiri located?



- Option: a) Giza Plateau, Egypt
- Option: b) Golan Heights, Syria
- Option: c) Machu Picchu, Peru
- Option: d) Stonehenge, England

2. What was the original belief about Rujm el-Hiri?

- Option: a) Fort
- Option: b) Astronomical observatory
- Option: c) Temple
- Option: d) Palace

3. According to the new study, why might Rujm el-Hiri no longer be used for observing stars?

- Option: a) Movement over time
- Option: b) Decrease in visibility
- Option: c) Lack of interest
- Option: d) Destruction of the site

4. What methods did the researchers use to investigate Rujm el-Hiri?

- Option: a) Studying bird populations
- Option: b) Analyzing ancient texts
- Option: c) Magnetic signs, changes in land, satellite images
- Option: d) Interviewing local residents

5. When do researchers believe people started building Rujm el-Hiri?

- Option: a) 2500 BCE
- Option: b) 1000 BCE
- Option: c) 4500 BCE
- Option: d) 200 CE

6. What is the approximate size of Rujm el-Hiri?

- Option: a) 50 meters
- Option: b) 75 meters
- Option: c) 150 meters
- Option: d) 200 meters

True-False

7. Rujm el-Hiri is believed to have always lined up with the stars throughout its history.



8. The recent study on Rujm el-Hiri was conducted by researchers from Tel Aviv University and Ben-Gurion University.

9. Rujm el-Hiri is located in Egypt.

10. The site of Rujm el-Hiri has a central stone mound and circles of basalt stones.

11. The research on Rujm el-Hiri suggests it may have served as a marketplace.

12. The primary purpose of the recent study on Rujm el-Hiri was to verify its astronomical observatory function.

Gap-Fill

13. Rujm el-Hiri is located on the Golan Heights plateau in southwest _____.

14. According to the research, people started building Rujm el-Hiri as far back as _____

BCE.

15. The site of Rujm el-Hiri is surrounded by circles of _____ stones.

16. The recent study conducted on Rujm el-Hiri involved examining magnetic signs in the ground, changes in the land, and _____ images.

17. Researchers suggest that Rujm el-Hiri might have also served as a gathering space or _____.

18. The size of Rujm el-Hiri is approximately _____ meters.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. b) Golan Heights, Syria 2. b) Astronomical observatory 3. a) Movement over time 4. c) Magnetic signs, changes in land, satellite images 5. c) 4500 BCE 6. c) 150 meters

True-False: 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. True 11. False 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. Syria 14. 4500 15. basalt 16. satellite 17. fort 18. 150



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What type of facility is used to observe celestial events?
Option: Hospital
Option: Library
Option: Observatory
Option: School
2. Which branch of physics deals with subatomic particles?
Option: Classical
Option: Quantum
Option: Thermodynamics
Option: Astrophysics
3. What is the treatment method that aims at healing or recovering from an injury?
Option: Surgery
Option: Therapy
Option: Medication
Option: Exercise
4. Which method is used to test a hypothesis?
Option: Guessing
Option: Reflection
Option: Experiment
Option: Assumption
5. Who conducts scientific investigations and studies?
Option: Teachers
Option: Students
Option: Researchers
Option: Politicians
6. What is the mental action or process of acquiring knowledge and understanding through thought experience and the senses?
Option: Navigation
Option: Cognition
Option: Respiration
Option: Digestion



7. What describes linking two or more things together?

- Option: Isolation
- Option: Distraction
- Option: Connection
- Option: Separation

8. What term refers to the options or potential outcomes of a situation?

- Option: Limitations
- Option: Impossibilities
- Option: Possibilities
- Option: Certainties

9. What is the final time or date before which something must be completed?

- Option: Beginning
- Option: Middle
- Option: Deadline
- Option: End

10. How does one typically feel when under a lot of pressure or worry?

- Option: Relaxed
- Option: Content
- Option: Stressed
- Option: Happy

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. After the surgery the patient needed time to _____.

12. A heart _____ can save a person's life.

13. Clear _____ is essential for problem-solving.

14. The new smartphone features a revolutionary AI-powered _____.

15. _____ are heart muscle cells responsible for contraction.

16. Buying in bulk is usually _____ than buying individually.

17. Earthquakes are measured on the Richter scale in terms of _____.



18. The radio _____ picked up signals from far away stations.
19. Fiber is essential for a healthy digestive system and regular _____.
20. Exploring new paths opens up endless _____ for growth.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. Studying stars and galaxies falls under the field of astronomy.
22. Architects design buildings bridges and other structures.
23. The process of recovery from an illness or injury is crucial for healing.
24. Chemical reactions occur due to molecular interactions.
25. Competing in swimming cycling and running is part of a triathlon event.
26. The Stroop test assesses the ability to focus attention and cognitive flexibility.
27. Excessive concern or anxiety about a situation may lead to worry.
28. The state of things as they exist is considered reality.
29. The study of forces and motion is a part of mechanics in physics.
30. A smartphone is an example of a handheld electronic device.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Observatory 2. Quantum 3. Therapy 4. Experiment 5. Researchers 6. Cognition
7. Connection 8. Possibilities 9. Deadline 10. Stressed

Gap-Fill: 11. recover 12. transplant 13. thinking 14. device 15. Cardiomyocytes 16. cheaper 17. magnitudes
18. receiver 19. bowels 20. possibilities

Matching sentence: 1. Astronomical 2. Structures 3. Healing 4. Interactions 5. Triathlon 6. Stroop test 7. Worry
8. Reality 9. Mechanics 10. Device

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL1

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