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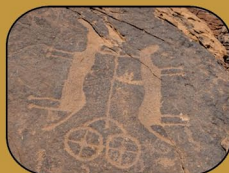
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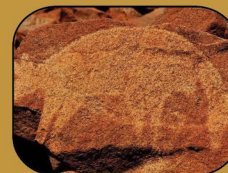
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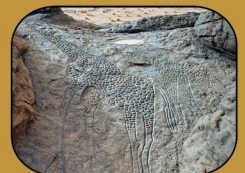
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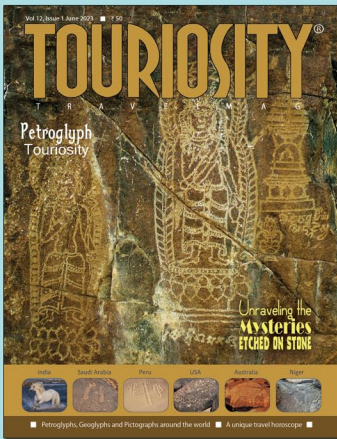
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June 2023**

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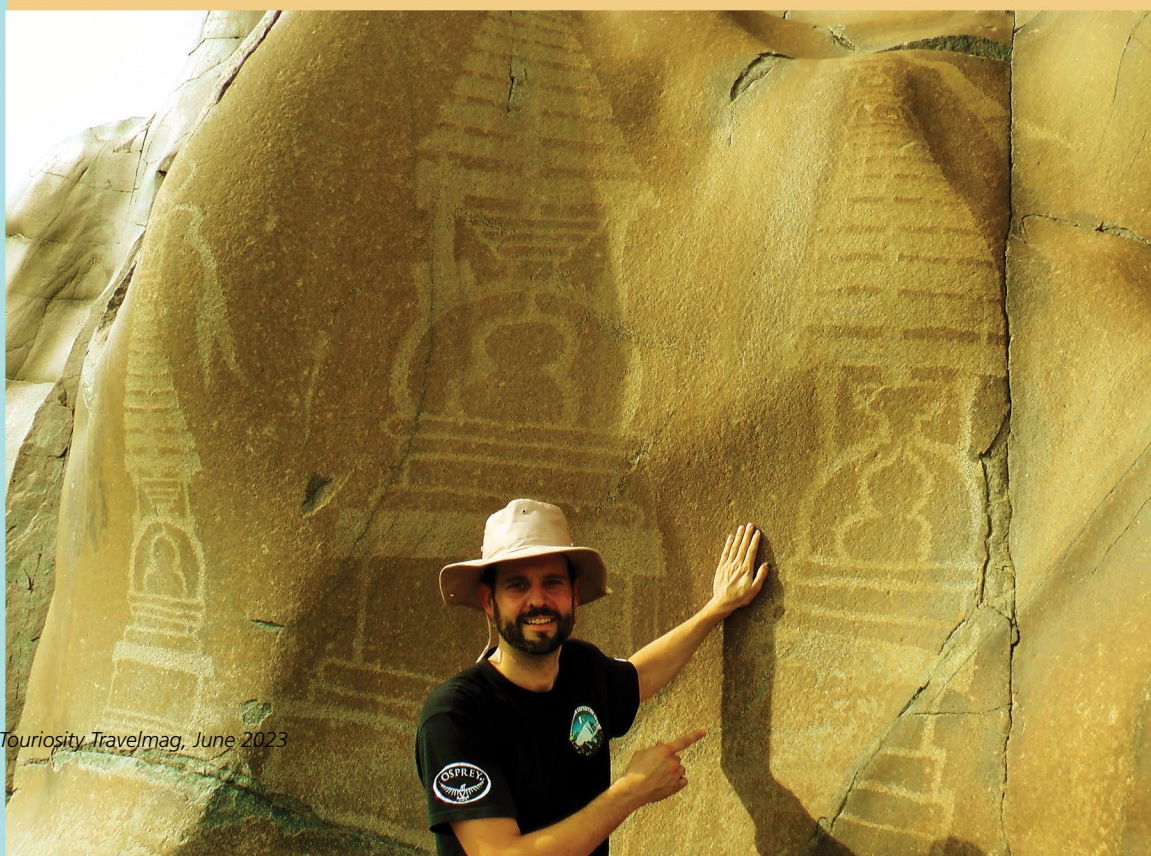
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*The mystery of petroglyphs continues to fascinate and challenge researchers and enthusiasts alike. These ancient artworks, etched onto stone, or the earth's surface, preserve the beliefs, stories, and rituals of our ancestors, providing a window into the past that is both tantalizing and elusive. The search for answers to the enigmas of rock art is an ongoing journey. This is one of the biggest adventures that travellers can embark on, to explore these signatures of our ancestors. This issue is dedicated to all such enigmatic emblems, in the form of petroglyphs, geoglyphs and pictographs.*







**AN APPEAL TO TOURISTS**

It is important to preserve the ancient wonders in the form of geoglyphs and petroglyphs. They connect us with our ancestors and stand as testimony to the unfolding of chapters in the history of mankind on earth. There have been many instances of vandalising these precious ancient art worldwide. We must approach these with a sense of wonder and respect. **LET US BE RESPONSIBLE TOURISTS!**

*etched into rock surfaces, telling stories that are no less captivating. Found in various forms and locations around the world, petroglyphs offer a unique connection to the past. In the Ha'il Region of Saudi Arabia, ancient petroglyphs depict scenes of hunting, wildlife, and human figures, providing insights into the lives and beliefs of the region's early inhabitants. In the American Southwest, Native American petroglyphs are rich in symbolism, reflecting the cultures and histories of indigenous peoples.*

*The mystery surrounding petroglyphs lies in their interpretation. Deciphering the meaning of these ancient carvings often requires a deep understanding of the culture, history, and context in which they were created. It is a puzzle that demands interdisciplinary efforts, combining archaeology, anthropology, linguistics, and more to unlock their secrets.*

*Geoglyphs and petroglyphs are not just art; they are guardians of our past, holding within them the stories, beliefs, and customs of societies long gone. They challenge us to expand our understanding of history, culture, and human expression. Geoglyphs and petroglyphs also deserve our admiration and protection. Their preservation is essential to ensure that future generations can continue to unlock their secrets and appreciate their beauty. Efforts to preserve these ancient wonders must go hand in hand with responsible tourism and educational initiatives. As we explore the enigmas etched in the Earth and stone, we must approach them with a sense of wonder and respect, acknowledging the profound connection they provide to our collective human history.*

*The geoglyphs and petroglyphs that grace our planet are both riddles and revelations, mysterious and magnificent. They invite us to contemplate the ingenuity of our ancestors, the enduring power of human expression, and the rich diversity of cultures that have shaped our world. This issue is dedicated to some such enigmatic art around the world, in the form of geoglyphs, petroglyphs and pictographs. They make us curious and sound if adventure. What can be a better excuse to go out and explore the world?*

*Readers' feedback and suggestions are always welcome. Please do send the same at [ttmag.english@gmail.com](mailto:ttmag.english@gmail.com) as usual. Happy exploring!*

*Rupanjana De*  
**Rupanjana De**





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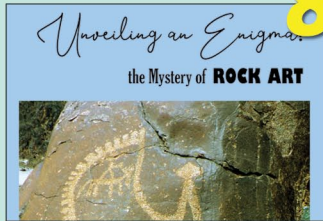


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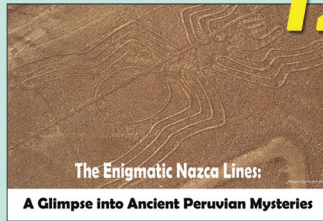




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### Rock Art

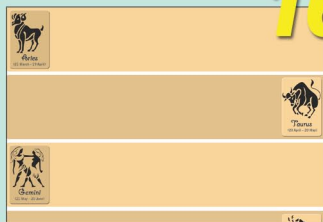
This article introduces readers to petroglyphs and other forms of ancient art.



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### Nazca Lines

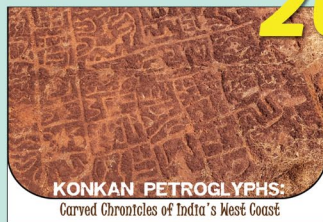
This article is about the mysterious geoglyphs of Nazca in Peru.



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### Touroscope

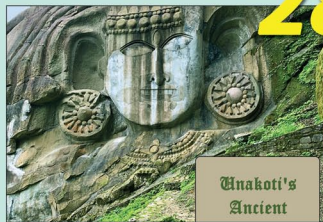
This is our regular feature on Travel-based horoscope.



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### Konkan Petroglyphs

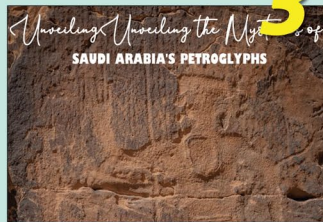
This article is about the ancient rock art across the western coast of India.



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### Rock art at Unakoti

This small village in Tripura is famous for its enigmatic rock art. This article brings to our readers more on this place.

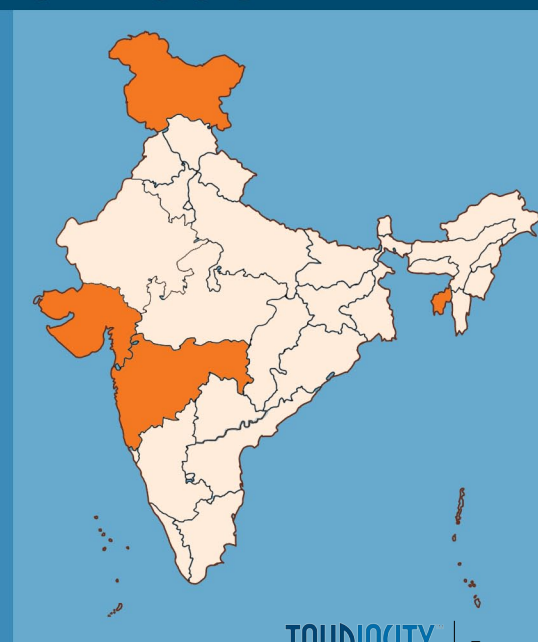
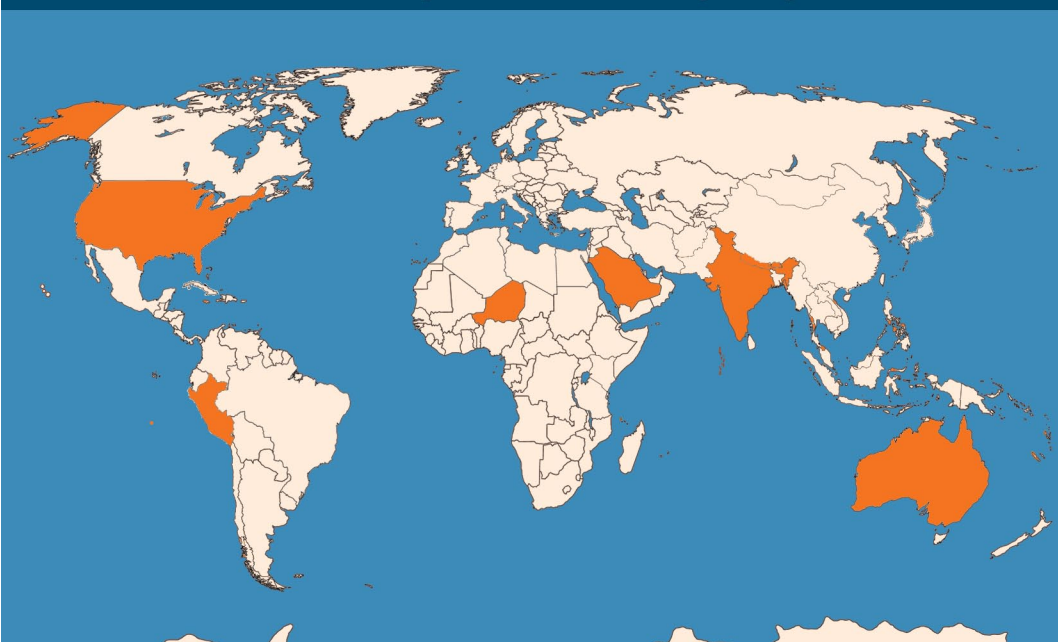


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### Saudi Arabian Petroglyphs

The desert landscape of the Ha'il region of Saudi Arabia is home to some of the best petroglyphs ever discovered on earth.

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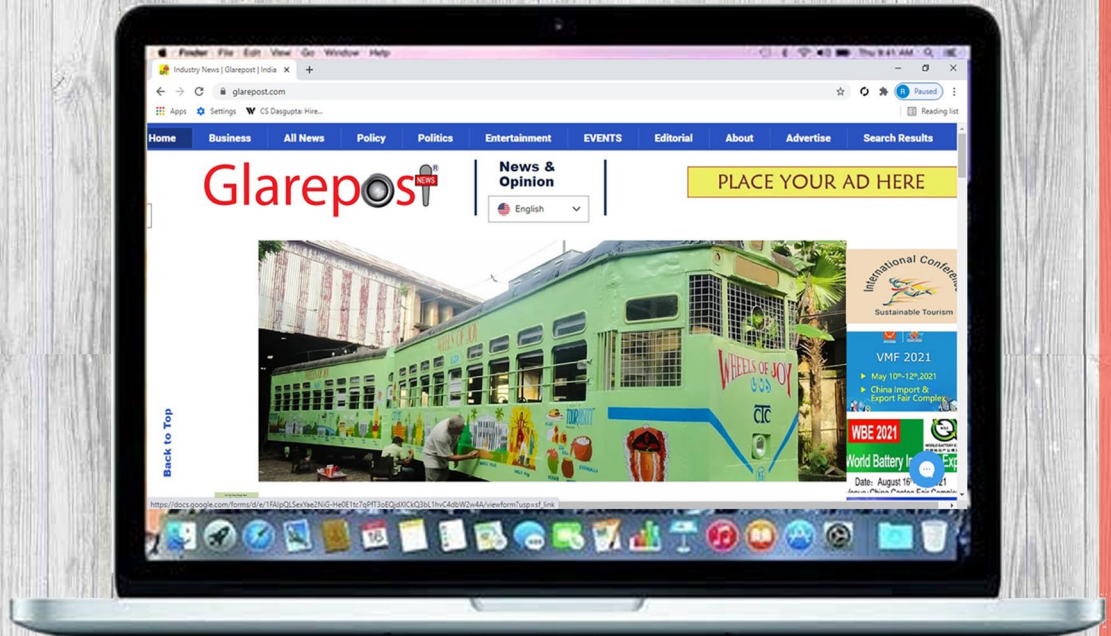
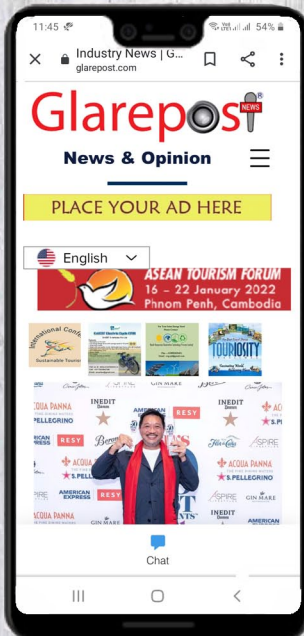




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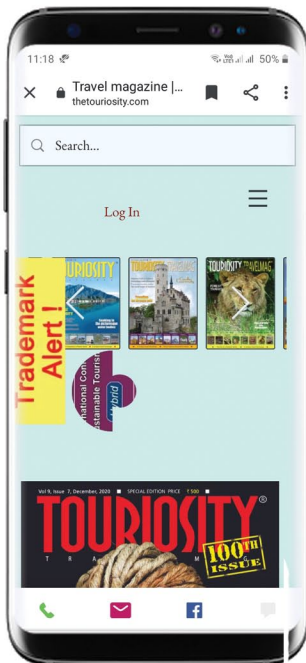
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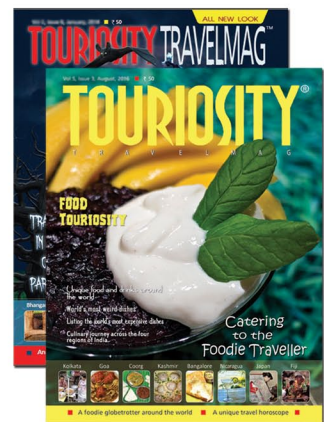
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# Unveiling an Enigma: the Mystery of **ROCK ART**



Ancient rock carvings (an axe here) in Gilgil-Baltistan (Photo by Christof Nettekoven)

Rock art, the ancient practice of creating images on natural rock surfaces, represents one of the most intriguing and enduring mysteries of human history. Spanning continents and millennia, rock art continues to captivate archaeologists, anthropologists, and art enthusiasts with its enigmatic beauty and the untold stories it holds. The purpose, meaning, and cul-

tural significance of rock art remain subjects of ongoing exploration and fascination.

## Diverse Forms of Rock Art

Rock art exists in numerous forms and styles, reflecting the creativity and cultural diversity of the societies that produced it. Key categories of rock art include:

**Petroglyphs:** These are images or designs that have been pecked, incised, or carved into the rock surface. Petroglyphs can be found on every continent, often depicting animals, humans, abstract symbols, and more.

**Pictographs:** Pictographs are painted images, created using pigments or dyes. They are commonly found in caves and rock shelters and may feature intricate designs, human figures, animals, or abstract symbols.

**Geoglyphs:** These are large-scale ground markings created by arranging stones, rocks, or other materials in patterns or shapes. Famous geoglyphs include the Nazca Lines in Peru and the Spiral Jetty in Utah.

**Fingerprints:** In some instances, ancient artists pressed their hands or fingers onto rock surfaces, leaving behind impressions that serve as a direct connection to the past.

In this issue we have focused on petroglyphs and geoglyphs only. In future we would love to bring to our readers issues focused on pictographs and fingerprints also.

## The Mystery of Rock Art

**Purpose and Meaning:** The primary mystery surrounding rock art is its purpose and meaning. While some interpretations are more straightforward, such as depictions of daily life or hunting scenes, many rock art motifs are laden with symbolism that eludes modern understanding. Some theories suggest that rock art had ritual, spiritual, or storytelling functions. Deciphering the cultural and spiritual significance of these images remains a complex puzzle.

**Cultural Context:** Rock art provides invaluable insights into the belief systems and cultural practices of the people who created



it. However, understanding the specific cultural context, the stories told through rock art, and identities of the artists themselves can be exceptionally challenging.

**Preservation:** The preservation of rock art is an ongoing concern. Natural processes, environmental changes, vandalism, and tourism can all threaten the integrity of these ancient artworks. Consequently, efforts are continuously made to protect and conserve rock art for future generations.

**Age and Dating:** Determining the age of rock art can be a complex undertaking, involving various dating techniques such as radiocarbon dating, thermoluminescence, and stylistic analysis. Precisely dating rock art is crucial for understanding its historical and cultural context.

**Global Prevalence:** Rock art is found across the world, from the petroglyphs of Hail Region in Saudi Arabia to the pictographs of the Kimberley region in Australia, and the cave art of Altamira in Spain. This global prevalence raises questions about the shared symbolism, cultural transmission, and the universality of artistic expression.

The mystery of rock art continues to fascinate and challenge researchers and enthusiasts alike. These ancient artworks, etched onto stone, preserve the beliefs, stories, and rituals of our ancestors, providing a window into the past that is both tantalizing and elusive. The search for answers to the enigmas of rock art is an ongoing journey, involving multidisciplinary research, cultural sensitivity, and a deep appreciation for the enduring power of human expression across time and space. As we unravel the mysteries of rock art, we gain a deeper understanding of the rich tapestry of human history and creativity that stretches back for millennia.

### Important Petroglyph Sites

Prominent petroglyph sites around the world are scattered across various continents and offer valuable insights into the cultural and artistic expressions of ancient civilizations. Some of the most notable

petroglyph sites include:

**Petroglyph National Monument, USA:** Located near Albuquerque, New Mexico, this site features thousands of petroglyphs etched onto volcanic rocks, showcasing the cultural heritage of the Pueblo people.

**Valley of Fire State Park, USA:** Situated in Nevada, this park boasts petroglyphs that date back over 2,000 years, with images of animals, humans, and abstract symbols.

**Tanum, Sweden:** These petroglyphs in Sweden, a UNESCO World Heritage site, contain thousands of rock carvings that shed light on the Bronze Age and Iron Age cultures of Scandinavia.

**Tassili n'Ajjer, Algeria:** This UNESCO World Heritage site in the Sahara Desert is renowned for its prehistoric petroglyphs, some of which are believed to be up to 12,000 years old.

**Haida Gwaii, Canada:** The Haida First Nations people of British Columbia created intricate petroglyphs and pictographs, reflecting their rich cultural traditions and stories.

**Cueva de las Manos, Argentina:** Located in the Patagonian region, this site features handprints and other rock art dating back over 9,000 years, providing a window into the lives of ancient indigenous peoples.

**Bhimbetka, India:** The rock shelters at Bhimbetka, a UNESCO World Heritage site, contain petroglyphs and paintings that span thousands of years, offering glimpses into India's prehistoric cultures.

**Twyfelfontein, Namibia:** This site in southern Africa boasts thousands of petroglyphs and rock engravings, some of which are over 6,000 years old, illustrating the beliefs and practices of the San people.

**Murujuga Rock Art:** Known to be the world's most ancient rock art, the Murujuga rock art is believed to be more than

“ The mystery of rock art continues to fascinate and challenge researchers and enthusiasts alike. These ancient artworks, etched onto stone, preserve the beliefs, stories, and rituals of our ancestors, providing a window into the past that is both tantalizing and elusive. The search for answers to the enigmas of rock art is an ongoing journey, involving multidisciplinary research, cultural sensitivity, and a deep appreciation for the enduring power of human expression across time and space. As we unravel the mysteries of rock art, we gain a deeper understanding of the rich tapestry of human history and creativity that stretches back for millennia. ”





forty thousand years old. The Aboriginal people of Murujuga etched away the outer millimetres of the surface of the 2.7 billion-years-old igneous rocks, thereby creating the amazing petroglyphs.

**Dabous Giraffe Rock Art, Niger:** These are two intricately carved life-sized giraffes in the Ténéré Desert. There is a highly detailed male that measures over 18 feet tall and a smaller female. There are light carvings of other smaller animal and human figures around these two central figures. This rock art is believed to be 6000-8000 years old. This rock art is believed to be world's largest petroglyph.

**Rock Art of Alta, Norway:** Another UNESCO World Heritage site, Alta features rock carvings created by the indigenous Sami people, offering a unique perspective on their culture and history.

**Kakadu National Park, Australia:** Covering almost 20,000 sq.km., this largest national park of Australia is home to ancient rock art. Kakadu is known for its Aboriginal petroglyphs that depict indigenous stories, ceremonies, and dreamtime mythology.

**Serra da Capivara, Brazil:** This UNESCO World Heritage site features some of the oldest rock art in the Americas, with carvings and paintings dating back over 25,000 years.

**Nasca and Palpa Lines, Peru:** These iconic geoglyphs, including the renowned hummingbird and spider, offer insights into the ancient Nazca civilization and their artistic and religious expressions.

These prominent petroglyph sites provide windows into the past and the cultural diversity of the world's ancient civilizations. They continue to fascinate researchers, historians, and tourists alike, offering a glimpse into the rich tapestry of human history and creativity.

1. Rock panel carved with one of the largest known collections of petroglyphs in the Newspaper Rock State Historic Monument in Canyonlands National Park, Utah, USA.
2. A petroglyph from Murujuga Rocks in Australia, world's oldest petroglyphs.
3. The 8000-years-old Dabous Giraffe Rock Art in Niger, which has two intricately carved life-sized giraffes, in the Ténéré Desert in Niger.
4. Buddhist rock carvings in Gilgit-Baltistan.

Rock art, the ancient practice of creating images on natural rock surfaces, represents one of the most intriguing and enduring mysteries of human history. Spanning continents and millennia, rock art continues to captivate archaeologists, anthropologists, and art enthusiasts with its enigmatic beauty and the untold stories it holds. The purpose, meaning, and cultural significance of rock art remain subjects of ongoing exploration and fascination.



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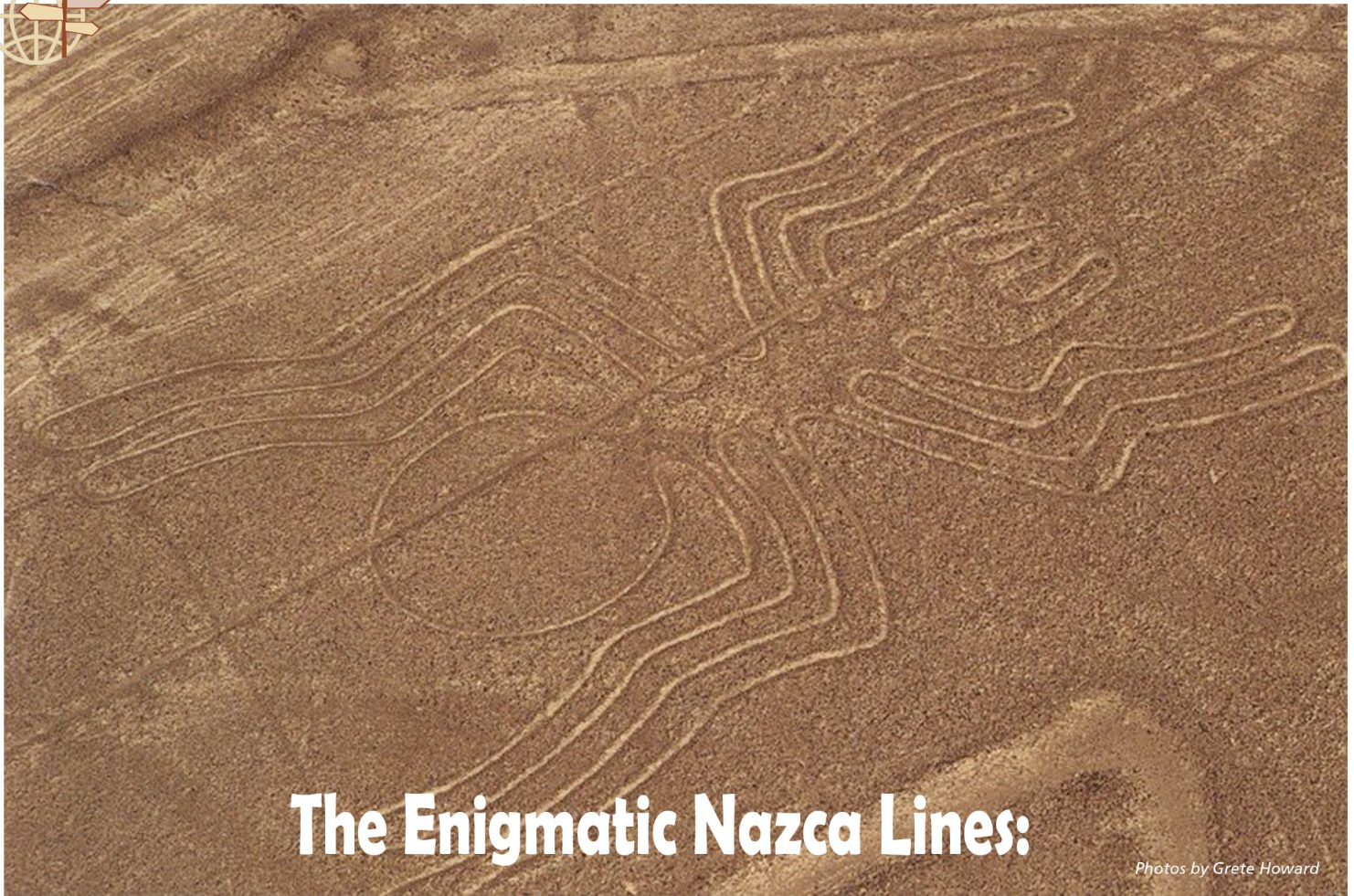
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## The Enigmatic Nazca Lines:

Photos by Grete Howard

# A Glimpse into Ancient Peruvian Mysteries

Geoglyphs are immense, intricate designs or figures etched onto the earth's surface, often in arid regions, using natural materials like rocks, dirt, and pebbles. These colossal earthworks are most famously exemplified by the Nazca Lines in Peru, but they are found in various parts of the world, and they continue to perplex researchers and enthusiasts alike. Geoglyphs present several enduring mysteries that spark curiosity and investigation. Today the geoglyphs are also a great attraction to tourists. In this article we will look into the various elements of geoglyphs and have a closer look at the famous Nazca lines later on.

### ***Purpose***

The primary and most profound mystery surrounding geoglyphs is their purpose. Why did ancient cultures invest so much time and effort into creating these gigantic designs on the ground, sometimes over vast areas? While some geoglyphs are thought to have religious or ceremonial significance, others appear to serve a different function altogether. Deciphering their intended purpose remains a challenging enigma.

### ***Creation Methods***

The methods employed by ancient civilizations to create these mas-

sive geoglyphs are still not fully understood. While some geoglyphs, like the Nazca Lines, were meticulously etched into the desert floor, others required the movement and placement of enormous stones, such as the rock circles of the Australian outback. The means by which these intricate designs were executed with such precision is a subject of ongoing investigation and debate.

### ***Astronomical Alignments***

Some geoglyphs exhibit precise astronomical alignments, leading to speculation that they might have served as celestial observatories, calendars, or markers for significant astronomical events. Understanding the extent of astronomical knowledge possessed by ancient civilizations and how it was applied in the creation of geoglyphs remains a tantalizing mystery.

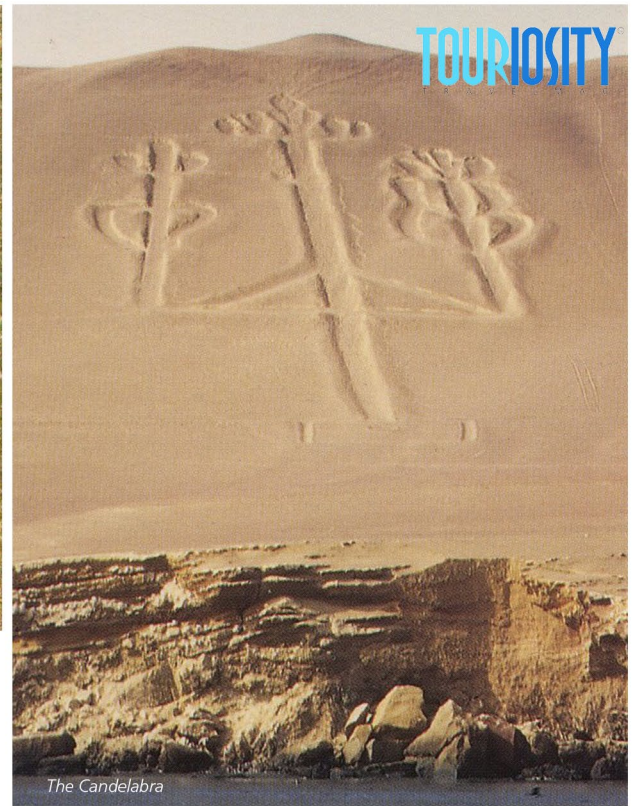
### ***Cultural Significance***

The geoglyphs are rich in cultural symbolism and meaning, but interpreting these symbols and the cultural context in which they were created by the ancient people can be challenging. Many geoglyphs are infused with religious and mythological elements that offer insights into the beliefs and practices of the ancient cultures that produced them.





The Bird



The Candelabra

### Preservation

The preservation of geoglyphs is another enigmatic issue. These colossal earthworks are susceptible to erosion, human encroachment, and other environmental factors. Preserving and protecting geoglyphs for future generations is a delicate and complex task, involving conservation efforts and sustainable tourism practices.

### Global Distribution

Geoglyphs are not exclusive to one region or culture. They can be found on every continent, from the intricate spiral designs in the Nazca Desert to the massive stone circles in the UK, the mysterious geoglyphs in the Middle East, and the abstract figures of Western Australia. The global distribution of geoglyphs also raises questions about their shared cultural significance and the potential global exchange of ideas.

Geoglyphs represent one of the most compelling archaeological and anthropological mysteries. These enigmatic earthworks continue to challenge our understanding of ancient cultures, their artistic and scientific capabilities, and the motivations that drove them to create such massive and intricate designs on the Earth's surface. While researchers have made significant strides in uncovering the meaning and methods behind some geoglyphs, much about these ancient wonders remains unexplained, making them an enduring source of fascination and intrigue.

### Nazca Lines

The Nazca Lines are among the most captivating and enduring mysteries of the ancient world. Located in the arid desert plains of southern Peru, the Nazca Lines are one of the most enigmatic and iconic archaeological wonders of the world. These massive geoglyphs, stretching across hundreds of square kilometers, depict intricate designs, shapes, animals, and humanoid figures. They have baffled researchers, scientists, and explorers for decades. These intricate and colossal designs, best observed from the air, reveal a unique chapter of the ancient Peruvian culture and continue to inspire awe and wonder.

### History and Discovery

The Nazca Lines are thought to have been created by the Nazca people, who inhabited the region between 200 BC and 600 AD. The purpose and method of their creation remain elusive, giving rise to numerous theories and speculations.

The designs remained largely unknown to the world until their aerial discovery in the early 20th century. In 1926, Peruvian archaeologist Toribio Mejia Xesspe was one of the first to study and document the lines. It was only when American researcher Paul Kosok flew over the region in 1940 that the world became aware of the full extent and intricacy of the Nazca Lines.

The following paragraphs delve into the multifaceted mysteries surrounding the Peruvian Nazca Lines.

### Designs and Geometric Precision

The Nazca Lines consist of an astonishing variety of geoglyphs including a vast array of geometric shapes including straight lines, spirals, trapezoids etc., animals, birds, humanoid and anthropomorphic figures. The largest of these geoglyphs measures over 1,200 feet in length, displaying remarkable geometric precision that is still challenging to replicate with modern technology. Their creation required immense planning, accuracy, and skill, as they were meticulously etched into the desert floor by removing the reddish-brown iron oxide-coated pebbles that cover the surface of the Nazca desert, revealing the light-coloured earth beneath.

### Purpose and Function

The purpose behind the creation of the Nazca Lines remains one of the greatest mysteries of ancient archaeology. Various theories have been proposed, and while none have been definitively proven, they





offer insights into the possible functions of these geoglyphs:

#### ***Astronomical and calendrical markers***

Some researchers suggest that the Nazca Lines could have served as a complex calendar, aligning with solar and lunar events and helping to track celestial phenomena.

#### ***Water rituals and fertility symbols***

Given the arid environment, some believe that the lines might be associated with rituals related to water and fertility. The presence of animal figures could symbolize the importance of certain animals in their culture.

#### ***Walking rituals***

Anthropologists like Johan Reinhard have suggested that the Nazca people may have walked the lines as part of religious or ceremonial rituals.

#### ***Art and cultural expression***

The Nazca Lines could also be an artistic expression of the Nazca culture, showcasing their beliefs and way of life.

#### **Challenges and Preservation**

The Nazca Lines face various threats, including erosion, human encroachment, and climate change. The fragile nature of the lines

necessitates conservation efforts to protect them for future generations. Organizations and institutions are working to safeguard these enigmatic wonders through monitoring, restoration, and sustainable tourism practices.

#### **Controversies and Speculations**

The Nazca Lines have been the subject matter of various controversies and speculations over the years. Some researchers have raised concerns about the impact of increasing overflight tourism on the geoglyphs, while others have questioned the authenticity of some figures. Nevertheless, these controversies have fueled ongoing scientific investigation and have only added to the allure of the Nazca Lines.

The Nazca Lines in Peru encompass a wide

array of geoglyphs and figures, and while all of them are remarkable, some are more prominent and famous than others due to their size, complexity, and visibility. Here are some of the most prominent Nazca Lines:

***The Hummingbird (El Colibri):*** The Hummingbird is one of the most iconic and recognizable Nazca Lines due to its intricate details and large size. It measures approximately 93 meters (305 feet) in length and is characterized by its long beak and outstretched wings.

***The Spider (La Arana):*** The Spider is another well-known geoglyph with its distinctive shape and impressive size. It spans about 46 meters (150 feet) in length and features multiple legs and a well-defined body.

***The Monkey (El Mono):*** The Monkey is recognized for its detailed portrayal of a monkey, complete with a prehensile tail and a curved body. This geoglyph is approximately 55 meters (180 feet) in length.

***The Condor (El Cóndor):*** The Condor is an enormous geoglyph that represents a bird with a wingspan of around 134 meters (440 feet). It is situated on the side of a hill, making it visible from a distance.

***The Nazca Astronaut (El Astronauta):*** The Nazca Astronaut is one of the more enigmatic and debated geoglyphs. It depicts a humanoid figure with an unusual,







Perfect spiral geoglyph



The astronaut

helmet-like headgear. Its meaning and purpose remain a subject of speculation.

**The Tree (El Árbol):** The Tree is a geoglyph that stands out due to its unique form. It has a branched structure, resembling a tree, and measures approximately 75 meters (246 feet) in length.

**The Hands (Las Manos):** These are a set of geoglyphs featuring human hands with an open palm and an extended thumb. These images are often found near animal figures and other geoglyphs.

**The Nazca Dog (El Perro):** It is a depiction of a canine figure. While it is smaller than some of the other geoglyphs, it showcases the diversity of shapes and figures within the Nazca Lines.

These are just a few of the most prominent Nazca Lines, but the region is dotted with numerous other geoglyphs

and intricate designs that continue to intrigue researchers and visitors alike. The Nazca Lines remain a testament to the artistic and engineering prowess of the ancient Nazca people, and they raise questions about the purpose and significance of these colossal drawings etched into the desert landscape.

The Nazca Lines continue to be a source of fascination, wonder, and intrigue. These ancient geoglyphs represent an enduring testament to the ingenuity, artistic prowess, human creativity, mathematical precision, and cultural expressions of the Nazca civilization. Despite centuries of study and exploration, the true purpose and methods of their creation remain shrouded in mystery. The Nazca Lines serve as a reminder of the boundless wonders of the past and the enduring allure of ancient enigmas, inviting us to continue the quest for answers and explore the depths of human history.

Geoglyphs represent one of the most compelling archaeological and anthropological mysteries. These enigmatic earth works continue to challenge our understanding of ancient cultures, their artistic and scientific capabilities, and the motivations that drove them to create such massive and intricate designs on the Earth's surface. While researchers have made significant strides in uncovering the meaning and methods behind some geoglyphs, much about these ancient wonders remains unexplained, making them an enduring source of fascination and intrigue.





**Aries**  
(21 March – 19 April)

This period marks the beginning of a cycle of education, new ideas and important plans or developments. You'll enjoy rapid-fire romantic activity, with something new always on the horizon, whether you're single or conducting a raging romance.

Places to visit: Frankfurt in Germany - The area surrounding Frankfurt is world renowned for their riesling history thanks to the cool climate producing an acidic grape that comes through in the wine.

Darjeeling - Famous for its beautiful tea plantations and the quality of Darjeeling tea, Darjeeling in West Bengal is a delight for all kind of tourists.

Favourable Dates: July 1, 3, 10, 12, 19, 21      Favourable Colours: Blue & White

This month brings a renewed sense of purpose and lots of high energy. You may need to invest more time and energy than you feel you've got in your career and your group affiliations.

Places to visit: Sydney in Australia - The Barangaroo Reserve, a terraced finger of sandstone and native plants that juts into the harbor are the sights to watch for in Sydney

Andaman and Nicobar Islands - These islands are covered with lush forests and endless varieties of exotic flora and fauna. Incredible corals and marine life, crystal clear water and mangrove-lined creeks lure travellers to these picturesque islands.

Favourable Dates: July 1, 4, 10, 13, 19, 22      Favourable Colours : Yellow & White



**Taurus**  
(20 April – 20 May)



**Gemini**  
(21 May – 20 June)

This month will arrive with the chance to join forces with a whole new group, either for spiritual or metaphysical reasons. This month marks the beginning of an era when important changes with your philosophies and beliefs are on the cards.

Places to visit: Auckland in New Zealand - There is adventurous fun to be had, from the SkyWalk right in the city to the Waitakere Ranges to ziplining on Waiheke

Rishikesh - This place has been a hub of Sadhus (saints) and there are numerous ashrams teaching spirituality, yoga, meditation and Ayurveda.

Favourable Dates: July 1, 6, 10, 15, 19, 24      Favourable Colours: Red & Grey

You will need to continue developing good financial practices. This month finds your natural charm turned way, way up; the coupled up can enjoy some extra coziness, while singletons can attract someone as loving and loyal as they themselves.

Places to visit: Chiloe in Chile - People come to see wooden churches declared UNESCO monuments, the palafitos, or stilt houses, typical of the island.

Gangtok - Gangtok, with magnificent views of Kanchenjunga, uniqueness and vibrancy in colors of culture and tradition, infused into the stunning sceneries and just the right dash of subtle city life is worth to see.

Favourable Dates: July 3, 5, 12, 14, 21, 23      Favourable Colours: Red & Blue



**Cancer**  
(21 June – 22 July)



**Leo**  
(23 July – 22 August)

You may feel torn between putting in more time at work and giving yourself some quality time alone. Relationships you begin or reinvest in now have especially high chances of blooming amazingly.

Places to visit: Abu Dhabi – Abu Dhabi is employing its staggering wealth to up its ante, with the recent opening of a raft of beach clubs, high-end mega-malls and a sprinkling of world-class theme parks including the awesome – and line free – Ferrari World

Jaisalmer - It is called the 'golden city' due to its bounteous sand dunes flowing in the Thar Desert. People gather here to witness different ethnic culture and pumped up adventure.

Favourable Dates: July 3, 7, 12, 16, 21, 25      Favourable Colours: Yellow & Purple

There may be sudden or dramatic changes with partners or close associates that will influence or even change completely your direction in this month. Your successes might spark a bit of a competitive frenzy among your peers, but you'll end up ahead.

Places to visit: Burgundy, France - Known for its terroir and the area's climat system, Burgundy produces several notable wine varieties like Pinot Noir, Chablis and Beaujolais.

Manali - Surrounded by majestic hills and woody forests, and The pristine River Beas flows right through the town, creating a mesmerising and spellbinding landscape

Favourable Dates: July 1, 4, 10, 13, 19, 22      Favourable Colours: Yellow & Orange



**Virgo**  
(23 August – 22 Sept)



**Manish Kumar Arora** is a renowned KP Astrologer, Numerologist, Tarot Reader and Vastu Consultant. He will be with Touriosity Travelmag to bring to our readers monthly predictions based on zodiac signs with special emphasis on travel predictions. Our readers can plan their tours accordingly. He can be reached at [manish@manishastrologer.com](mailto:manish@manishastrologer.com)



This month heralds new colleagues, teammates and customers. Your eagerness to please will be mirrored by their enthusiasm for you, so you can expect smooth sailing during this month.

Places to visit: Hanoi in Vietnam - Known for being an inexpensive city with a wealth of culture and history, Hanoi is an amazing destination that takes visitors by surprise – and keeps them coming back again and again for more discoveries.

Puri in Odisha - There are a lot of places near Puri that one must visit, like the Chilika lake, Puri beach, Gundicha Ghar and the very famous Sun temple of Konark

Favourable Dates: July 3, 6, 12, 15, 21, 24 Favourable Colours: Blue & White

Your combination of rock-steady loyalty and alluring appeal gets recognized big-time. If you're coupled up, you can take your relationship down a sweet garden path.

Places to visit: Miami in Florida - Miami is actually a city of culture and arts heavily influenced by immigrating Latinos from primarily Cuba just 90 miles south of the Floridian peninsula.

New Delhi - From historical monuments to crowded shopping malls, from Mughal gardens to Delhi University campus, New Delhi is a vivid blend of traditions, cultural diversity, political importance as well as architectural brilliance.

Favourable Dates: July 2, 5, 11, 14, 20, 23 Favourable Colours: Blue & Grey

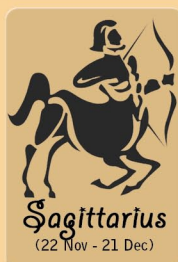


Your mind may be more active when you have multiple people to bounce ideas off of. July promises singles a rollicking good time, while those romantically entangled will enjoy leading their significant other into all sorts of new adventures.

Places to visit: Azores, Portugal - A history of lucrative whaling has given way to whale watching for tourists, with humpbacks and sperm whales common sightings.

Hampi in Karnataka - The city is surrounded by boulders of different sizes, and you can climb to the top of them with a little effort to get a stunning view of the entire city and the geography.

Favourable Dates: July 2, 3, 11, 12, 20, 21 Favourable Colours: Blue & White



This month is a time of big change for you in one way or another, but you'll absorb it quickly. You outlast those who may be much stronger, by adapting more easily to the demands of changing circumstances.

Places to visit: Stellenbosch in South Africa – You could spend weeks meandering from wine estate to wine estate and never tire of the mountainous scenery and luscious wines.

Rishikesh – Besides being a holy city Rishikesh has also been developed as the hub of Adventure Sports in India as there is multitude of options including White Water Rafting, Bungee Jumping, Flying Fox, Mountain Biking, etc

Favourable Dates: July 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22 Favourable Colours: Blue & White



This is not the time to tell everyone what you're up to. Share on a 'need to know' basis. Hold a little back. A romantic event will spark up your relationship axis, asking that you turn your attention to one-to-one encounters.

Places to visit: Busan in South Korea - The city is known for its beaches, parks, temples, and excellent shopping. It's also home to some of the biggest hot spring resorts in all of Korea.

Ladakh - A land like no other with superabundance of attractions to visit and phantasmagoric and fabulous landscapes, amazing people and culture, Ladakh is truly a heaven on Earth.

Favourable Dates: July 3, 8, 12, 17, 21, 26 Favourable Colours: Yellow & Grey



You'll charm the socks off anyone you choose, and social events seem made for you to be the centre piece. And with your high energy you can initiate something very sweet, whether it's with your long time love or someone brand-new.

Places to visit: Norway - Norway renowned for its dramatic scenery, but it's a hotspot for winter sports and activities, from snowshoeing and snowmobile rides, to husky sledding and cross-country skiing.

Mussoorie - At Kempty Falls, immerse yourself in the natural wonders which surround this perennial waterfall. Admire the artfully arranged flower beds, with their blooms timed in rhythm at Company Garden.

Favourable Dates: June 2, 7, 11, 16, 20, 25 Favourable Colours: Yellow & Purple

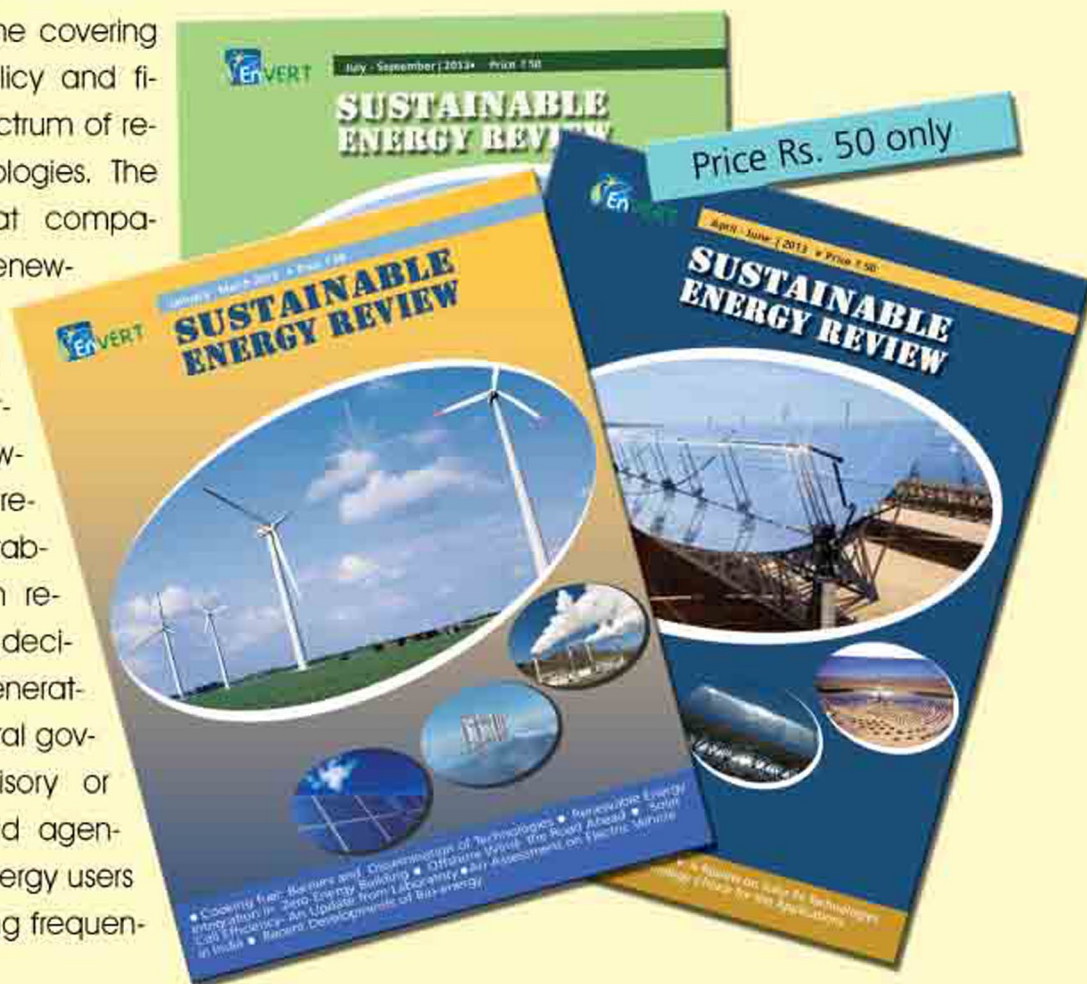




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The magazine seeks to disseminate the knowledge of renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency and is therefore aimed at publicizing the major technical and non technical issues of these technologies in a simplified manner. It is aimed at reaching a large number of people – the commoners, those from the Industry and the Institutes wherein people are somehow facing the challenges of energy. The **trans-disciplinary magazine** has a long way to go.



## Publisher Details:

Nandi Resources Generation Technology Pvt. Ltd.  
Flat E, B/6 Bapujinagar  
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Tel: +91-33-32613664;  
Website : [www.nrgindia.com](http://www.nrgindia.com)

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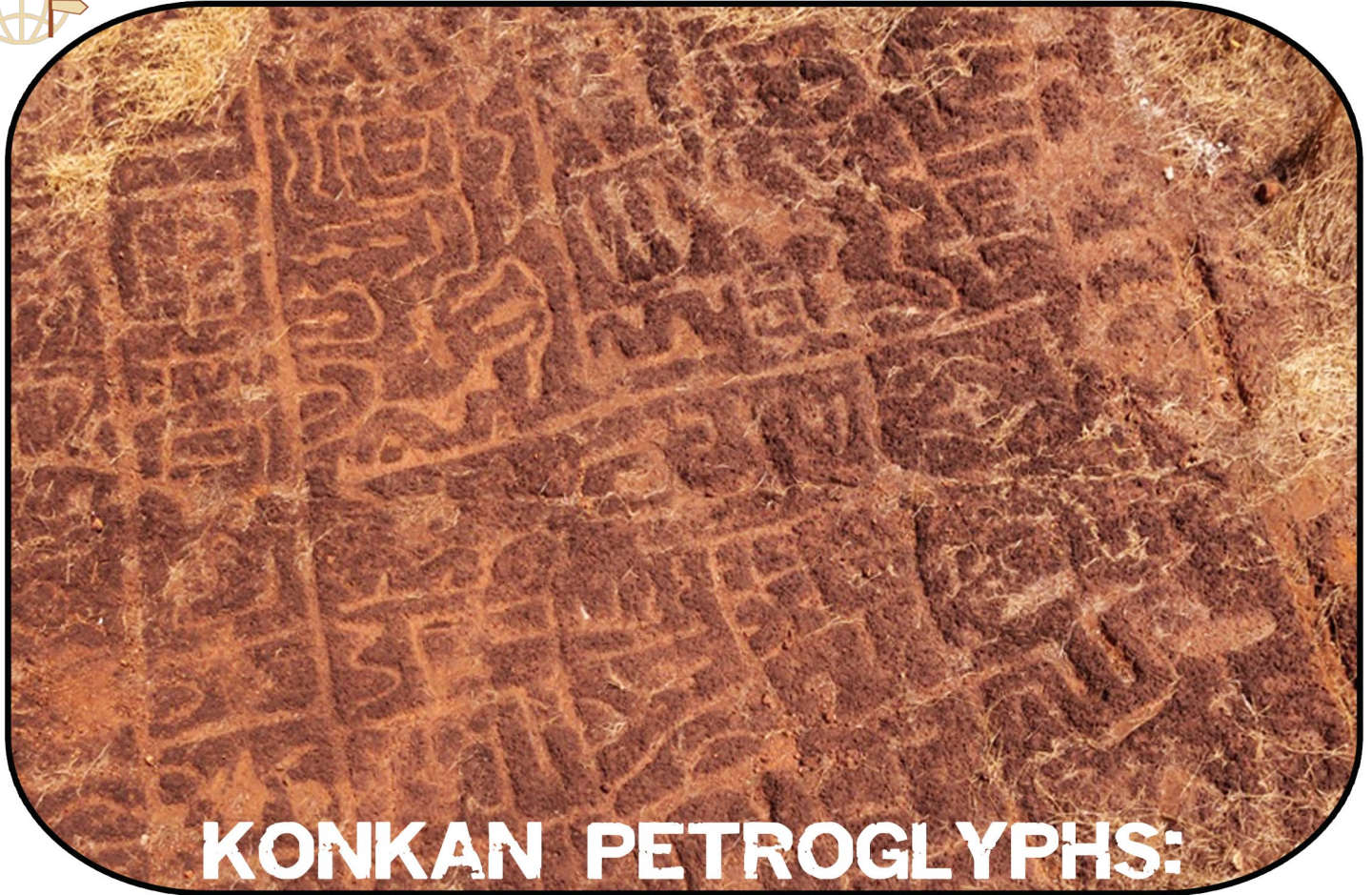
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# KONKAN PETROGLYPHS: Carved Chronicles of India's West Coast

Hidden amidst the lush green landscapes of the Konkan region, a treasure trove of ancient artistry and cultural history unfolds. The Konkan petroglyphs are a collection of rock carvings, etched into the natural rock surfaces of this coastal region in western India. These enigmatic carvings, often found in remote and picturesque settings, have sparked the curiosity of archaeologists, historians, and art enthusiasts. They provide a unique window into the rich history and cultural diversity of the region. In this article, we will explore the Konkan petroglyphs, their historical context, significance, and the ongoing efforts to preserve these remarkable relics.

## Historical Context

The Konkan region is known for its rich cultural heritage and historical significance. The petroglyphs found in this area date back to various periods, with some believed to be over 2,000 years old. These carvings are a testament to the diverse cultures and communities that have thrived in the region, including the Konkanastha Brahmins, the Kunbis, and the indigenous tribes.

## Significance of the Petroglyphs

The Konkan petroglyphs are a valuable historical and cultural resource. They depict a wide range of motifs, including human figures, animals, birds, geometric designs, and symbols. These carvings offer insights into the daily life, religious beliefs and

artistic expressions of the people who once inhabited the region. Some of the key aspects of their significance include:

**Cultural Heritage:** The petroglyphs are a tangible link to the past, preserving the artistic and cultural heritage of the Konkan region. They help us understand the evolving traditions and practices of the people who carved them.

**Historical Documentation:** Many of the carvings are believed to depict events, rituals, and customs of the time. They serve as historical documents that provide valuable information about the communities that left their mark on the rocks.

**Artistic Expression:** The petroglyphs are a form of artistic expression, showcasing the skill and creativity of the ancient inhabitants. They exhibit a remarkable level of detail, highlighting the talent of the artists.

**Religious Significance:** Some petroglyphs are believed to have religious or spiritual significance. They may depict deities, rituals, or symbols associated with the belief systems of the communities.

## Efforts in Preservation

The Konkan petroglyphs are not without their challenges. Erosion, environmental factors, vandalism, and unchecked tourism have posed threats to their preservation. Recognizing the importance of safeguard-



ing this cultural heritage, various governmental and non-governmental organizations have taken steps to protect the petroglyphs. Such conservation measures include:

**Site Protection:** The identification and protection of petroglyph sites have been a priority. These areas are often cordoned off, and access is restricted to prevent further damage.

**Public Awareness:** Raising public awareness about the significance of the petroglyphs and the need for their protection is vital. Educational programs and interpretive signage at key sites help convey their importance.

**Documentation:** Ongoing research and documentation efforts are crucial for cataloging and understanding the petroglyphs. Modern technology, such as 3D laser scanning, has been employed to create digital records of the carvings.

**Community Involvement:** Engaging local communities in the preservation and conservation efforts is essential. Their involvement ensures a sense of ownership and responsibility for the petroglyphs' protection.

### Prominent Locations

The Konkan region has many petroglyphs in various sites, however, some stand out as the most prominent and well-known ones. Here are some of the most significant petroglyph sites



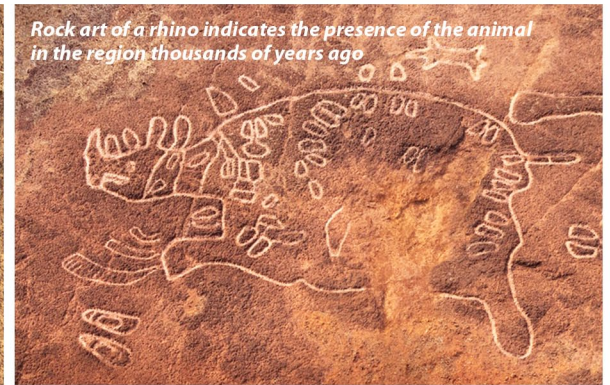
Konkan rock art of a deer



A rock art at Barsu Sada



A rock art at Kasheli



Rock art of a rhino indicates the presence of the animal in the region thousands of years ago

in the Konkan area:

#### Ratnagiri District

Ratnagiri is one of the most well-known areas for Konkan petroglyphs. Sites like Pachal, Kudopi, and Devache Gothane in this district are known for their ancient rock carvings.

##### Rajapur

The Rajapur area in Ratnagiri District is renowned for its petroglyphs, which include a diverse range of carvings. Some of the carvings depict intricate designs and motifs that offer insights into the cultural and artistic traditions of the region. There are several sites showcasing a variety of carvings, including human figures, animals, and symbols.

##### Panhalekaji

Located in Ratnagiri District, Panhalekaji is perhaps the most famous petroglyph site in the Konkan region. It is home to one of the largest concentrations of petroglyphs in the Konkan region. The carvings here depict a range of motifs, including animals, hunting scenes, and religious symbols. It is known for its extensive collection of rock carvings, including human figures, animals, hunting scenes, and various symbols. The site is located in Ratnagiri District and is often visited by researchers and tourists.

##### Nivati Beach

This scenic beach in Sindhudurg District is famous not only for its natural beauty but also for the nearby

petroglyphs at Kudipada. You can enjoy a day at the beach and then explore the ancient carvings.

##### Barsu Sada

In Sindhudurg District, Barsu Sada is another site with petroglyphs. These carvings are believed to be around 2,000 years old and feature various motifs.

##### Ghosale Village

Located near Ganapatipule in Ratnagiri District, Ghosale Village boasts petroglyphs that include intricate designs and figures, offering a glimpse into the artistry of the ancient inhabitants. The Ghosale Rock Art Site features rock carvings that are believed to be over 2,000 years old. The carvings include hunting scenes and various symbols.

##### Kudopi

The forested areas of Kudopi, in the Ratnagiri District, is known for its rock carvings of animals, humans, and geometric patterns. There are hundreds of petroglyphs here that are believed to date back many thousand years and provide valuable insights into the prehistoric cultures of the region.

##### Unhavare

Unhavare, near Dapoli in Ratnagiri District, is another prominent site with petroglyphs. The carvings at Unhavare feature a variety of figures, including human forms, animals, and symbols. The site's historical and cultural significance makes it a popular destination for those interested in rock art.





An aerial view of Konkan rock art



A rock art at Niwali



Another rock art at Niwali



A rock art depicting an elephant at Ukshi

### Dapoli

This town in Ratnagiri District is home to several sites with petroglyphs. The carvings here are diverse and depict animals, human figures, and geometric designs.

### Gangangiri Fort

Situated near Dapoli, Gangangiri Fort has a petroglyph site with carvings of animals and other designs. The fort itself is a historical attraction worth exploring.

### Borgaon Village

This village in the Ratnagiri District, has petroglyphs that include human figures, animals, and symbolic representations. These carvings provide a glimpse into the artistry and beliefs of the ancient inhabitants of the region.

While these sites are among the most promi-

nent, there are many more petroglyph locations throughout the Konkan area, each with its unique characteristics and cultural significance. Many of them are in remote areas, so plan your trip accordingly and consider engaging a local guide who can provide insights into the history and significance of these ancient carvings. Exploring these ancient carvings offers a fascinating journey into the history and heritage of the region.

The Konkan petroglyphs are an invaluable part of India's cultural heritage, offering a unique perspective on the region's history, culture, and artistic traditions. As we continue to unveil the stories etched in stone, it becomes apparent that preserving these treasures is not only essential for understanding our past but also for celebrating the enduring creativity of the people who once inhabited the Konkan region. The efforts to protect and study the petroglyphs serve as a testament to our commitment to safeguarding the legacy of our ancestors for generations to come.

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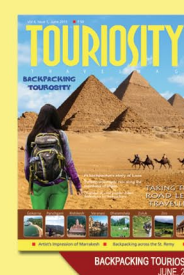
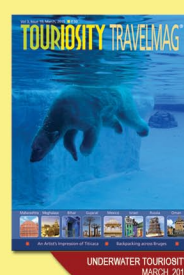
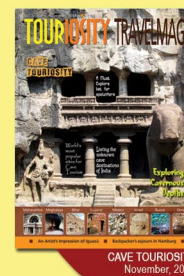
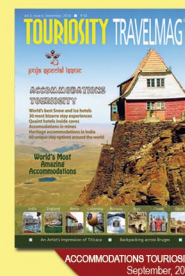
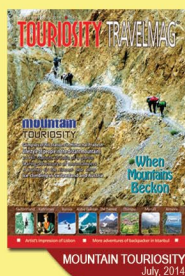
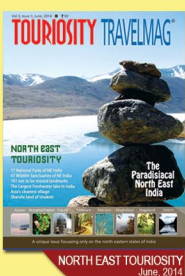
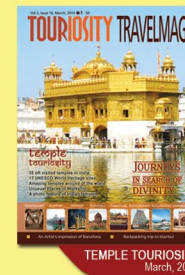
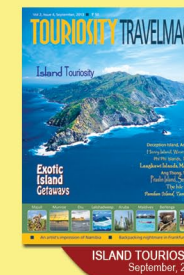
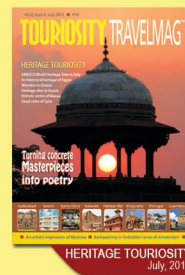
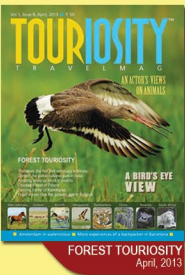
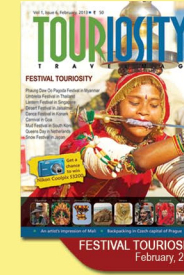
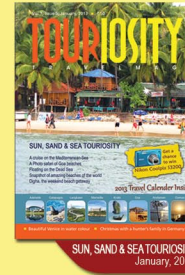
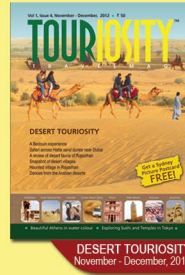
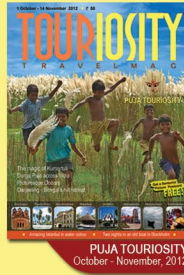
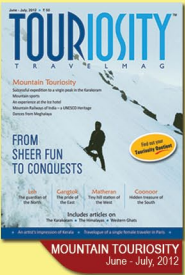
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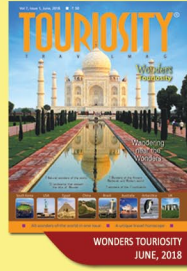
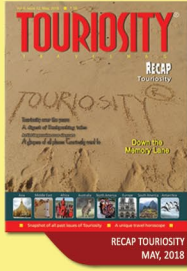
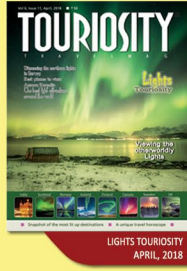
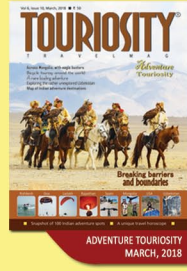
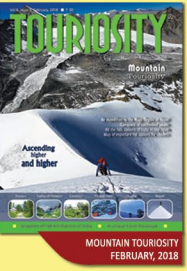
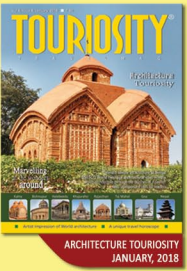
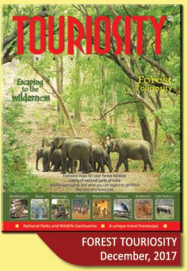
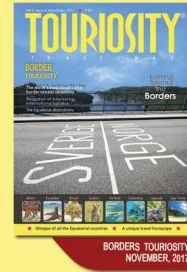
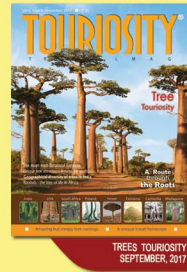
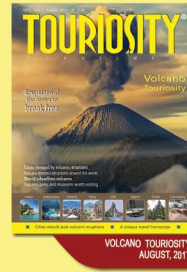
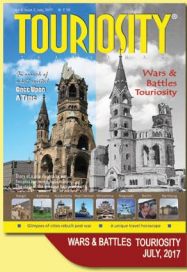
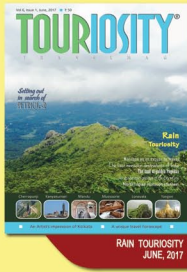
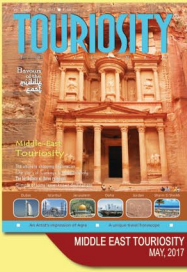
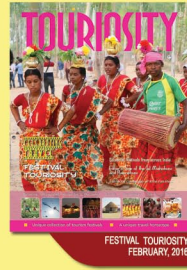
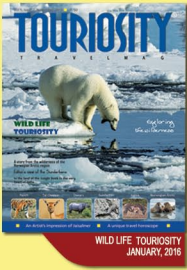
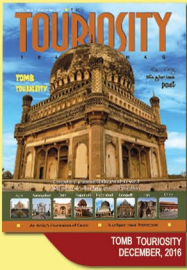
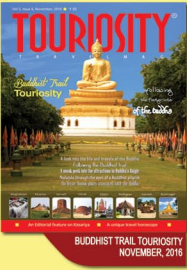
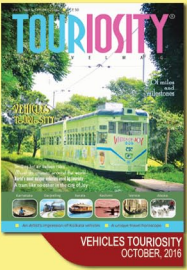
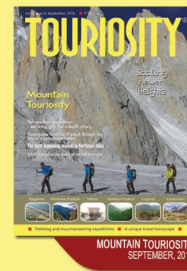
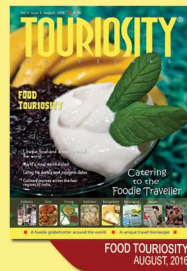
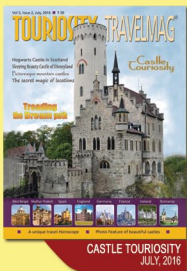
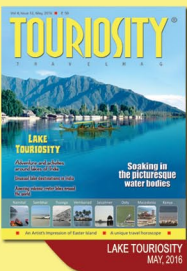
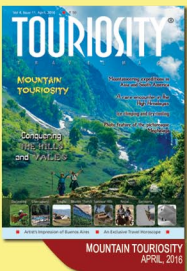
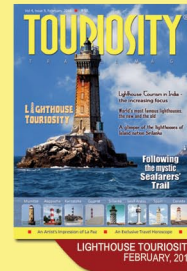
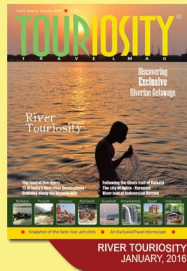
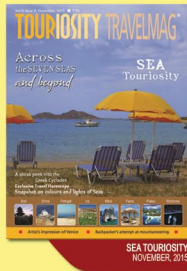
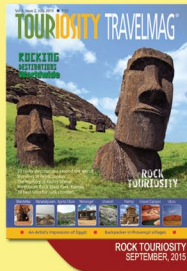
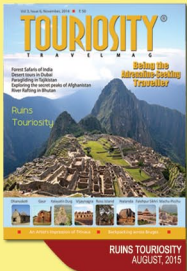




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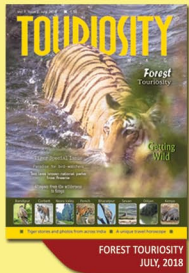
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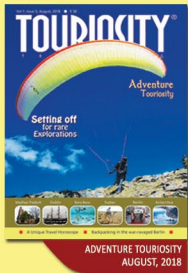




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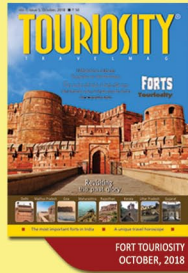
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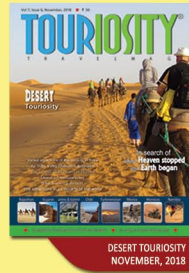
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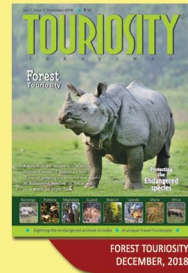
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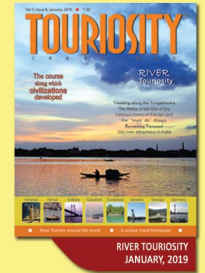
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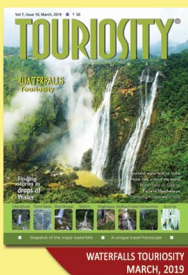
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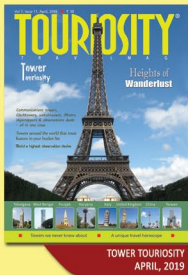
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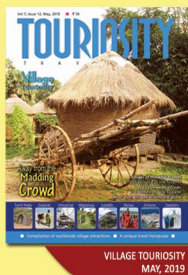
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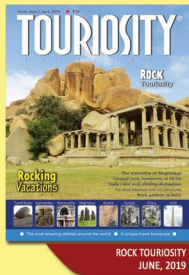
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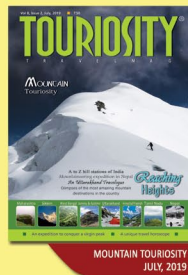
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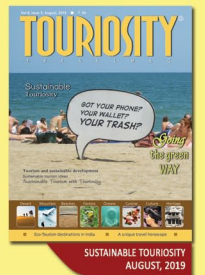
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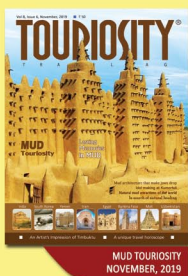
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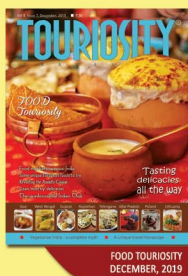
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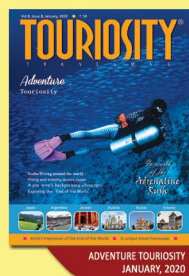
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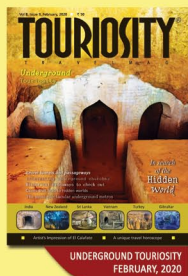
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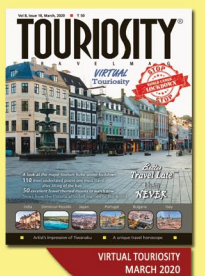
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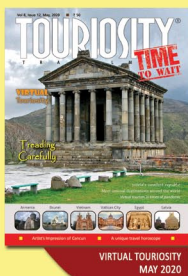
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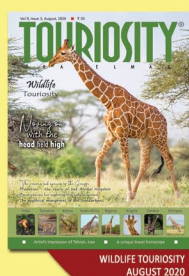
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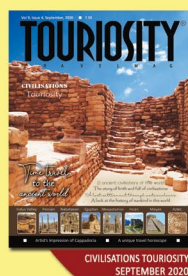
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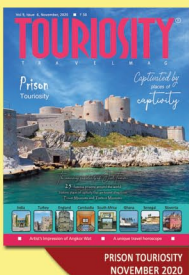
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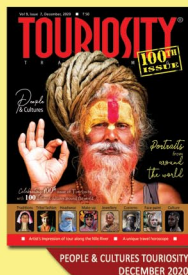
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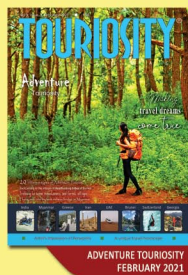
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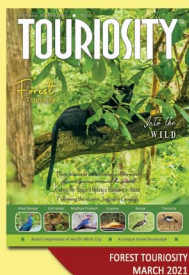
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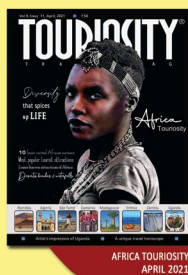
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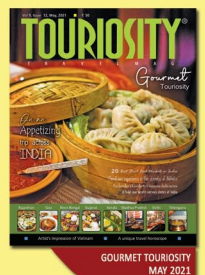
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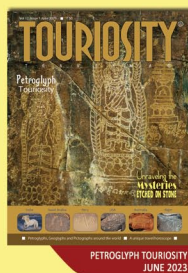
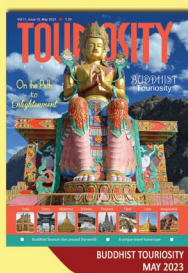
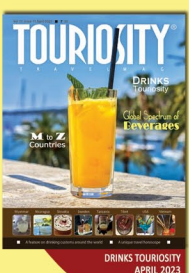
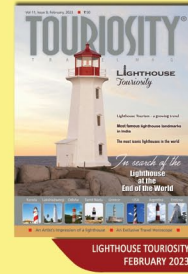
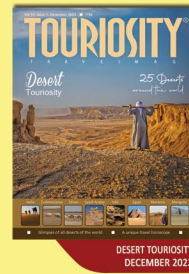
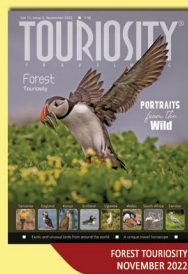
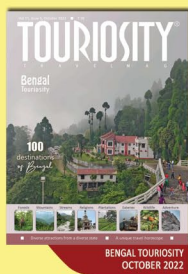
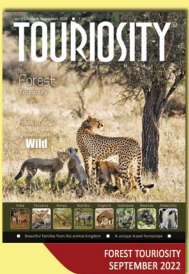
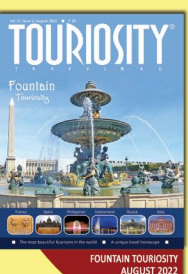
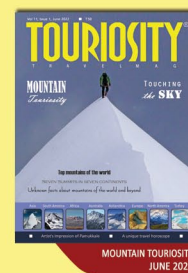
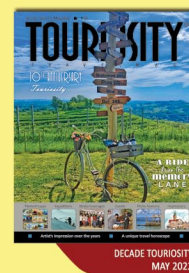
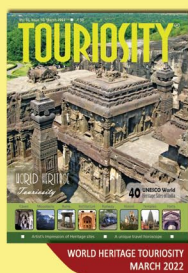
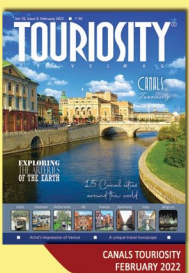
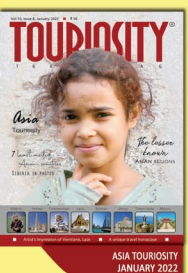
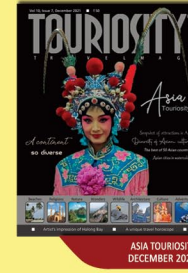
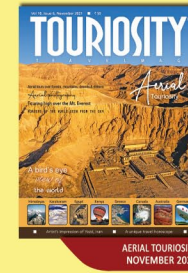
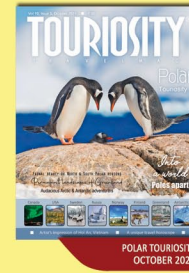
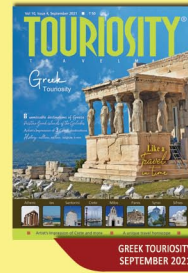
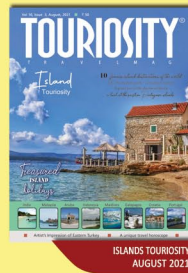
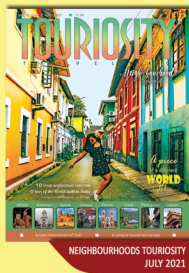
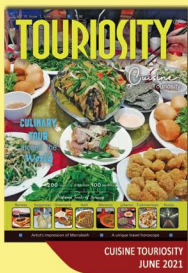
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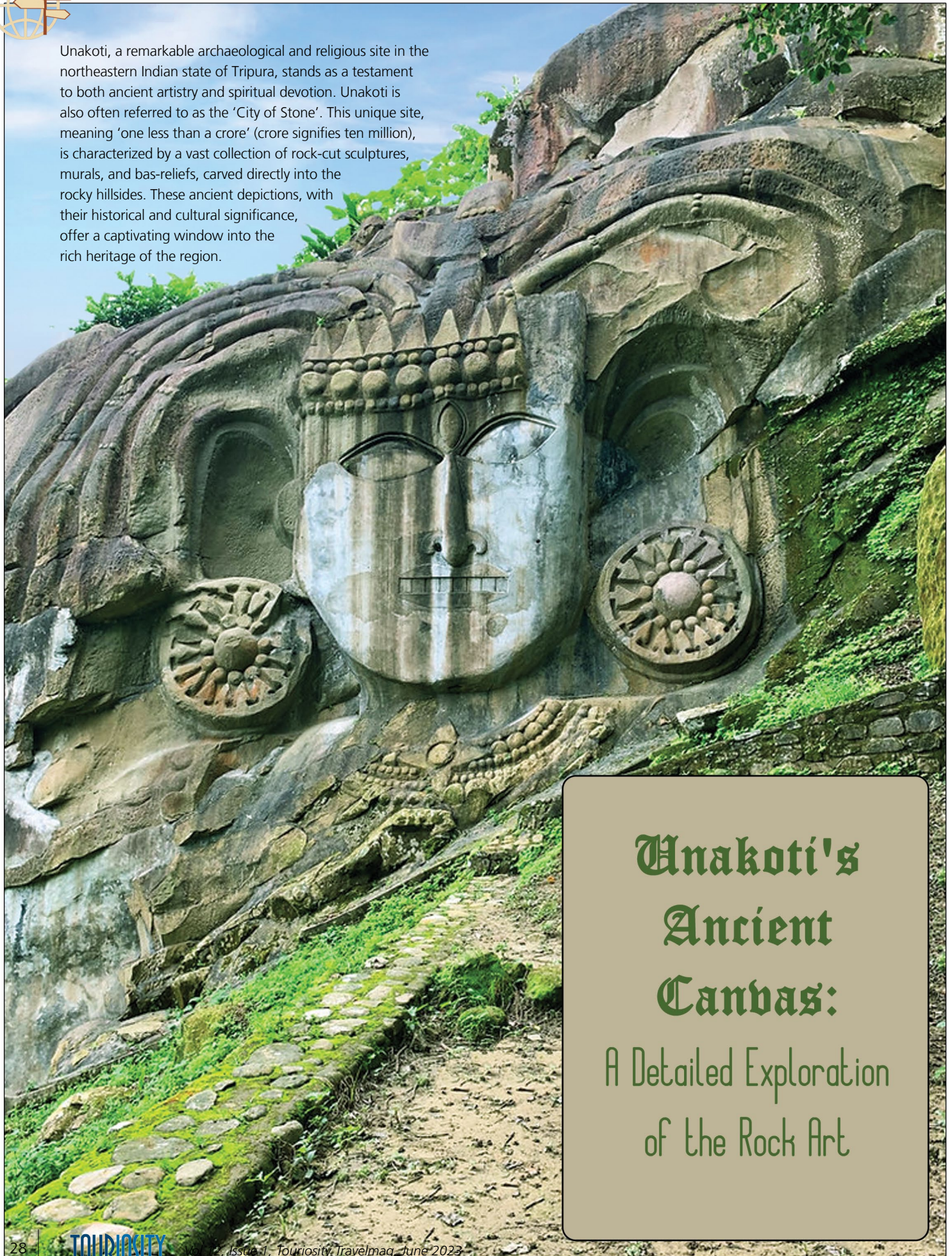
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Unakoti, a remarkable archaeological and religious site in the northeastern Indian state of Tripura, stands as a testament to both ancient artistry and spiritual devotion. Unakoti is also often referred to as the 'City of Stone'. This unique site, meaning 'one less than a crore' (crore signifies ten million), is characterized by a vast collection of rock-cut sculptures, murals, and bas-reliefs, carved directly into the rocky hillsides. These ancient depictions, with their historical and cultural significance, offer a captivating window into the rich heritage of the region.



## Unakoti's Ancient Canvas:

A Detailed Exploration  
of the Rock Art



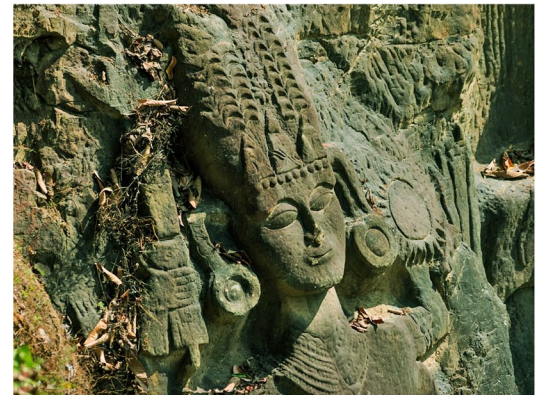
Unakoti is believed to date back to between the 7th and 9th centuries, during the rule of the Kailasa dynasty. Legends and local folklore recount the story of a sculptor who, summoned by Lord Shiva, was instructed to create one crore (ten million) deities overnight. The sculptor, however, could only carve 999,999 deities before daybreak, which is how the site received its name.

The sculptures at Unakoti represent a mix of Hindu and Shaivite iconography, with many dedicated to Lord Shiva. The site is considered an important pilgrimage destination for Shaivites, who believe that visiting Unakoti washes away one's sins and brings blessings from the deities.

#### Artistic Marvels

Unakoti is renowned for its intricately carved rock sculptures, each possessing a unique style and aura. The central figure, known as the 'Unakotiswara Kal Bhairava', is an imposing 30-foot-high Shiva sculpture, flanked by smaller idols and carved figures of deities, both male and female. The site also contains murals and bas-reliefs, all masterfully crafted into the rocky cliffs.

These sculptures showcase high level of artistic skill and craftsmanship of their creators. The attention to detail, especially in the facial expressions and the symbolism behind each deity, is awe-inspiring. The sculptures are carved directly into the rocky cliffs, merging seamlessly with the natural surroundings. Unakoti's art reflects the fusion of tribal and Hindu cultural elements, providing insights into the assimilation of various traditions in the region.



#### Religious and Cultural Significance

Unakoti serves as an essential pilgrimage site for Shaivites, who consider it sacred. Devotees believe that a visit to Unakoti and a holy dip in the nearby natural springs can purify the soul, relieve them of their sins, and fulfill their wishes. The site sees an influx of visitors, particularly during the annual Ashokastami festival, when devotees congregate for prayers and celebrations.

Beyond its religious significance, Unakoti plays a crucial role in preserving the cultural and historical heritage of Tripura. It showcases the synthesis of local tribal traditions and Hindu beliefs, a harmonious coexistence that continues to be a defining aspect of the region's culture.

#### Interpreting the Art

Interpreting Unakoti's rock art requires an understanding of symbolism and iconography of Hindu and Shaivite traditions. The central deity, Lord Shiva, is depicted with attributes like a third eye, a crescent moon on his head, and a trident, all of which have symbolic meanings in Hindu mythology. The presence of various female deities and celestial beings in the carvings also adds depth to the narrative. Each deity and figure has its significance, often related to the Hindu pantheon.

#### Major figures

Unakoti is a significant pilgrimage site as well as

an archaeological and cultural treasure. While there are many rock carvings and sculptures at Unakoti, some are more prominent and well-known than others. Here are a few of the most significant rock art and sculptures at Unakoti:

**Unakotiswara Kal Bhairava:** The central attraction of Unakoti is the colossal rock-cut sculpture of Lord Shiva, known as Unakotiswara Kal Bhairava. It stands at approximately 30 feet in height and is a representation of Lord Shiva in his fierce aspect. This is one of the largest bas-relief sculptures in India.

**Ganesha Images:** There are numerous carvings of Lord Ganesha at Unakoti. Some of the Ganesha sculptures are depicted as free-standing figures, while others are integrated into the rock faces and boulders.

**Nandi Bull:** A significant sculpture at Unakoti is that of Nandi, the sacred bull and the vehicle of Lord Shiva. This large rock-cut Nandi sculpture is positioned near the central Shiva figure.

**Maa Kali:** There are depictions of Goddess Kali, a revered deity, at Unakoti. These rock carvings showcase the goddess in various forms, including her iconic fierce aspect.

**Headless Idols:** Among the rock carvings at Unakoti, there are several headless figures, which remain a subject of debate and speculation. These mysterious sculptures add to the intrigue of Unakoti.





UNAKOTI, A REMARKABLE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND RELIGIOUS SITE IN THE NORTHEASTERN INDIAN STATE OF TRIPURA, STANDS AS A TESTAMENT TO BOTH ANCIENT ARTISTRY AND SPIRITUAL DEVOTION. UNAKOTI IS ALSO OFTEN REFERRED TO AS THE 'CITY OF STONE'. THIS UNIQUE SITE, MEANING 'ONE LESS THAN A CRORE' (CRORE SIGNIFIES TEN MILLION), IS CHARACTERIZED BY A VAST COLLECTION OF ROCK-CUT SCULPTURES, MURALS, AND BAS-RELIEFS, CARVED DIRECTLY INTO THE ROCKY HILLSIDES. THESE ANCIENT DEPICTIONS, WITH THEIR HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, OFFER A CAPTIVATING WINDOW INTO THE RICH HERITAGE OF THE REGION.



**Various Deities and Symbols:** The rock art site at Unakoti is adorned with a variety of carvings representing different deities, human figures, animals, and symbols. These carvings provide insights into the religious and artistic expressions of the past.

**Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati Sculptures:** The confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati Rivers is a recurring theme in Indian art. At Unakoti, you can find rock-cut sculptures representing these sacred rivers.

**Natural Scenery:** The site of rock carvings at Unakoti is surrounded by lush greenery and natural beauty, creating a serene and picturesque backdrop for the rock art and sculptures. This is an additional attraction for visitors

#### Conservation Efforts

To protect and preserve the fragile rock-cut sculptures at Unakoti, there have been efforts to ensure their long-term survival. Local and national authorities have undertaken restoration projects and implemented measures to prevent further erosion and damage. These initiatives are vital for maintaining the integrity of the site and securing its legacy for future generations.

Unakoti stands as a symbol of fusion of art, culture, and religion. Unakoti's

rock art is a breathtaking testimony to the artistic brilliance, cultural richness, and spiritual devotion of its creators. The rock-cut marvels, each narrating a story, reflect the enduring devotion and artistic prowess of its creators. Unakoti has the power to transport visitors to a bygone era and inspire awe in the face of ancient craftsmanship and spiritual devotion. This historic and cultural treasure in Tripura, India, continues to enchant and educate, reminding us of the intricate tapestry of human heritage and creativity.

#### Location

Unakoti is a small village in the north-east Indian state of Tripura. It lies 178 km away from Agartala, the state capital, 18 km from Dharmanagar and 8 km from Kailashahar, the district headquarters.

#### How to reach Unakoti

Agartala, the capital of Tripura, is connected with various cities of India through daily domestic flights. Kailashahar is connected by regular Bus service with Agartala and other major towns of Tripura and with other major towns of northeast India like with Guwahati, Shillong and Silchar. From Unakoti, the nearest airport is Agartala and the nearest rail station is Kumarghat (26 km from Kailashahar).



# Unveiling Unveiling the Mysteries of

## SAUDI ARABIA'S PETROGLYPHS

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Vol 12, Issue 1, Touriosity Travelmag, June 2023

**TOURIOSITY**  
TRAVELMAG

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Saudi Arabia is known for its abundant petroglyphs and inscriptions that date back thousands of years. These rock arts constitute a significant archaeological and cultural heritage. These sites provide valuable insights into the prehistoric and historic cultures of the Arabian Peninsula. Some of the prominent petroglyph sites in Saudi Arabia include:

**Jubbah and Shuwaymis:** Located in the Ha'il Region, the Jubbah and Shuwaymis areas are known for their impressive collection of Neolithic rock art, including human and animal figures, as well as various geometric designs. These petroglyphs are believed to date back to around 6,000 to 8,000 years ago.

**Hail Region:** In addition to Jubbah and Shuwaymis, the region is home to several other petroglyph sites, including Jabal Umm Sanman, which is known for its extensive collection of ancient rock art including depictions of animals, humans, and geometric motifs.



**Najran:** In this region, there are several petroglyph sites, including Bir Hima and Yabreen. These sites feature rock art that represents a variety of subjects, such

as human and animal figures, hunting scenes, and inscriptions. Some of the petroglyphs in this region date back to the Bronze Age and beyond.

**Tayma:** Located in the Al Madinah Region, Tayma is an ancient oasis city with a history that spans thousands of years. The area contains petroglyphs that provide insight into the cultural and artistic traditions of the region's early inhabitants.

**Al-Ula:** In the Al-Ula region of Saudi Arabia, you can



find rock art sites with intricate depictions of animals, hunting scenes, and human figures. The petroglyphs in Al-Ula are thought to date back to different periods in prehistory.

**Al-Jouf:** The Al-Jouf Region contains several petroglyph sites, such as Jabal Al-Mahar and Jabal Al-Manjor, featuring rock art that dates back thousands of years. These petroglyphs often depict hunting scenes, animals, and inscriptions.

#### Ha'il Region

Key features of the rock art in the Hail Region include:

**Petroglyphs:** Petroglyphs are images or designs carved or pecked into the surface of rocks. In Hail,



these petroglyphs often depict various scenes, such as hunting, wildlife, human figures, and symbolic motifs. These images provide a glimpse into the daily life, beliefs, and practices of the ancient people who lived in the region.

**Inscriptions:** In addition to petroglyphs, many of the rocks in Hail bear inscriptions in various ancient scripts, such as Thamudic, Nabatean, and Arabic. These inscriptions have been instrumental in deciphering the history and languages of the Arabian Peninsula.

**Time Period:** The rock art in Hail covers a wide range of time periods, from the Neolithic era to more recent historical periods. This long time span reflects the cultural continuity in the region and its importance in various historical periods.

**Cultural Significance:** The rock art in the Hail Region is essential for understanding the history and culture of the Arabian Peninsula. It sheds light on the lifestyles, religious beliefs, and artistic expressions of the ancient inhabitants. The inscriptions, in particular, have contributed to the understanding of ancient Arabian languages and scripts.

**UNESCO World Heritage:** In 2015, some of the rock art sites in the Hail Region were designated as UNESCO World Heritage sites. This recognition highlights the global significance of these archaeological treasures and their importance for the study of human history.

### Petroglyphs of Jubbah

Jubbah, also called Jubbat Ha'il is a city in the Ha'il Region in the north-central region of Saudi Arabia. It is located 90 km from the city of Ha'il. The city is important historically as it lies on the old caravan route. It is home to a treasure trove of ancient rock art, known as petroglyphs. These petroglyphs, etched into the rocky landscapes of the area, offer a profound glimpse into the rich history, culture, and lives of the people who inhabited this region thousands of years ago. The petroglyphs of Jubbah are among the most significant in the Arabian Peninsula and have played a vital role in deciphering the past of this enigmatic land. This article delves into the history, significance, and cultural insights provided by the petroglyphs of Jubbah.

#### Historical Context

The petroglyphs of Jubbah are an integral part of the extensive rock art heritage of Saudi Arabia and the Arabian Peninsula. These carvings, often referred to as "the writing on the rocks," have been created over several millennia. The Jubbah region has petroglyphs dating back to various time periods, including the Neolithic era, Bronze Age, and Iron Age, providing a multifaceted view of the cultural evolution of the people who once inhabited this area.

#### Themes and Motifs

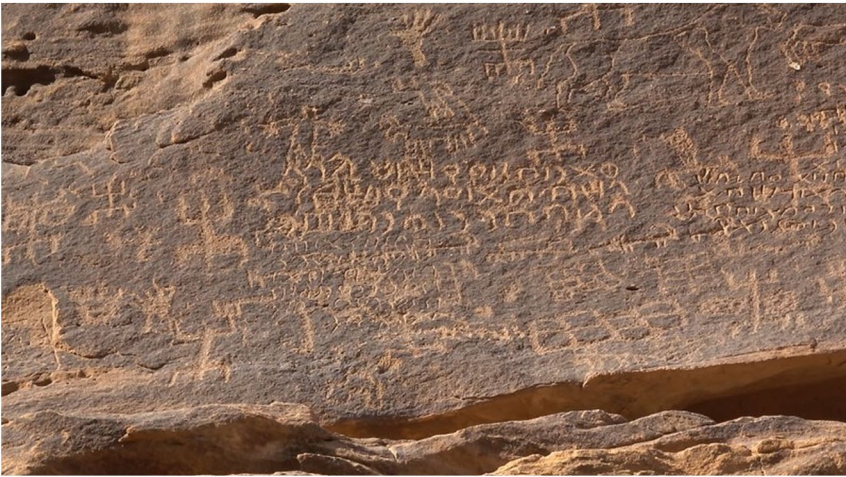
The petroglyphs of Jubbah cover a diverse range of themes and motifs, reflecting the lives and beliefs of the ancient inhabitants. Common motifs include depictions of human figures, animals, hunting scenes, caravans, warriors, geometric designs, and various symbols. These carvings offer insights into daily life, trade routes, hunting prac-







THE PETROGLYPHS OF JUBBAH ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE EXTENSIVE ROCK ART HERITAGE OF SAUDI ARABIA AND THE ARABIAN PENINSULA. THESE CARVINGS, OFTEN REFERRED TO AS "THE WRITING ON THE ROCKS," HAVE BEEN CREATED OVER SEVERAL MILLENNIA. THE JUBBAH REGION HAS PETROGLYPHS DATING BACK TO VARIOUS TIME PERIODS, INCLUDING THE NEOLITHIC ERA, BRONZE AGE, AND IRON AGE, PROVIDING A MULTIFACETED VIEW OF THE CULTURAL EVOLUTION OF THE PEOPLE WHO ONCE INHABITED THIS AREA.



tices, and perhaps even religious beliefs.

One distinctive aspect of Jubbah's petroglyphs is their depictions of camel caravans. These carvings reveal the vital role of camels as transportation and trade in the ancient Arabian Peninsula, with detailed representations of the camels' features, saddles, and cargo. Such petroglyphs provide important historical information about the region's economy and trade networks.

**Cultural Significance**

The petroglyphs of Jubbah are a cultural treasure that has sparked the interest of archaeologists, historians, and researchers worldwide. They provide a vital link to the past, allowing us to better understand the diverse cultures that thrived in the region over the centuries. These carvings offer insights into language, clothing, customs, and technological advancements of the people who once inhabited this land.



Deciphering the petroglyphs can be challenging, but it has led to significant discoveries. For instance, the presence of Thamudic inscriptions at some sites indicates the use of the Thamudic script, an ancient Arabian writing system, further deepening our understanding of the history of the Arabian Peninsula.

#### Conservation and Preservation

The protection and preservation of the petroglyphs of Jubbah are of utmost importance. These ancient artworks are susceptible to erosion, vandalism, and the impact of tourism. In recognition of their significance, some petroglyph sites in the Jubbah region have been designated as UNESCO World Heritage Sites, ensuring their long-term conservation and responsible tourism.

The petroglyphs of Saudi Arabia are a testament to the enduring power of human expression and the value of preserving our cultural heritage. They invite us to explore the past and to appreciate the cultural richness of this region. These enigmatic carvings not only serve as historical documents but also as a source of inspiration for artists, historians, and those who seek to understand the shared history of humanity. The petroglyphs of Jubbah remain an integral part of Saudi Arabia's cultural tapestry, offering a tangible connection to the mysteries of the past. Preservation efforts and ongoing research are crucial to protecting and understanding the rock art in the Hail Region of Saudi Arabia. These ancient artworks offer a unique window into the past and enrich our knowledge of the region's cultural heritage.





# Women Travel Network

ADVERTORIAL

Women have many roles to play in various arenas. Her place in society is punctuated with many tasks. While accomplishing such tasks she compromises with her love to explore the unknown. Kayaking through seas, relishing exquisite delicacies of various countries, experiencing deep water snorkelling or just seeing the world can be any woman's dream waiting to be fulfilled. Making such dreams come true for many women are the new era all-women travel services.

## Why Women Travel Network?

Many a times, when your skin thirsts for a touch of mist or dew drops and your heart yearns for an escape far from the daily life routine or the load of work in your respective jobs, you start seeking for people eager to accompany you. You try convincing your husband or children to take some time out of their busy schedules, but many times in vain. At those difficult times, the Women Travel Network (WTN) gives you the grand idea to set out alone to evaluate the passion of you. Personal safety is of great concern these days, so maybe fearing to set sail for your

maiden venture all by yourselves. WTN takes this into account and enables you to indulge in thrilling vacations with a group of spirited women tourists of all ages all geared with the same vigour. Things can be made easy and trouble-free yet well organised by WTN as it reduces the prime inconveniences like buying tickets, booking for lodging and drawing up itinerary.

## What exactly WTN does?

With WTN you have the option of getting the best possible accommodation that would not harm your budget and the discretion of staying alone in rooms or sharing with someone. WTN also ensures that a suitable poise is maintained between seeing around and resting not making someone too fatigued with consistent tours. This network looks after all the formalities giving you a chance to pack your belongings without any hesitation. The organised travel plans will help gather fruitful travelling experiences in the company of like-minded women. WTN gives you the scope of bonding, and at the same time helps you make new friends. So if you are looking for a getaway, an escapade and your husband's/son's/father's /boyfriend's/friend's dates are bothering, Woman Travel







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WTN offers to make those unfulfilled travel wishes come true for many women. With a number of national and international tour packages of WTN you can travel the world, alone, with your son (below 8 years) or your daughter (no age bar) and make unforgettable journeys. Whether you travel alone, or with a kid, friends, neighbours or relations, Women Travel Network can give you memorable trips. Absolutely hassle-free and comfortable, yet adventurous and safe fun trips are what this Network has in bag for you. A real boon for a n y woman!

If you have your own group of women

It is also possible to make your own preferred groups and Women Travel Network will take care of all the formalities of booking, ticketing and managing the tour. You just need to enjoy your trip and forget about everything else. So get geared up ladies and make your dream come true.

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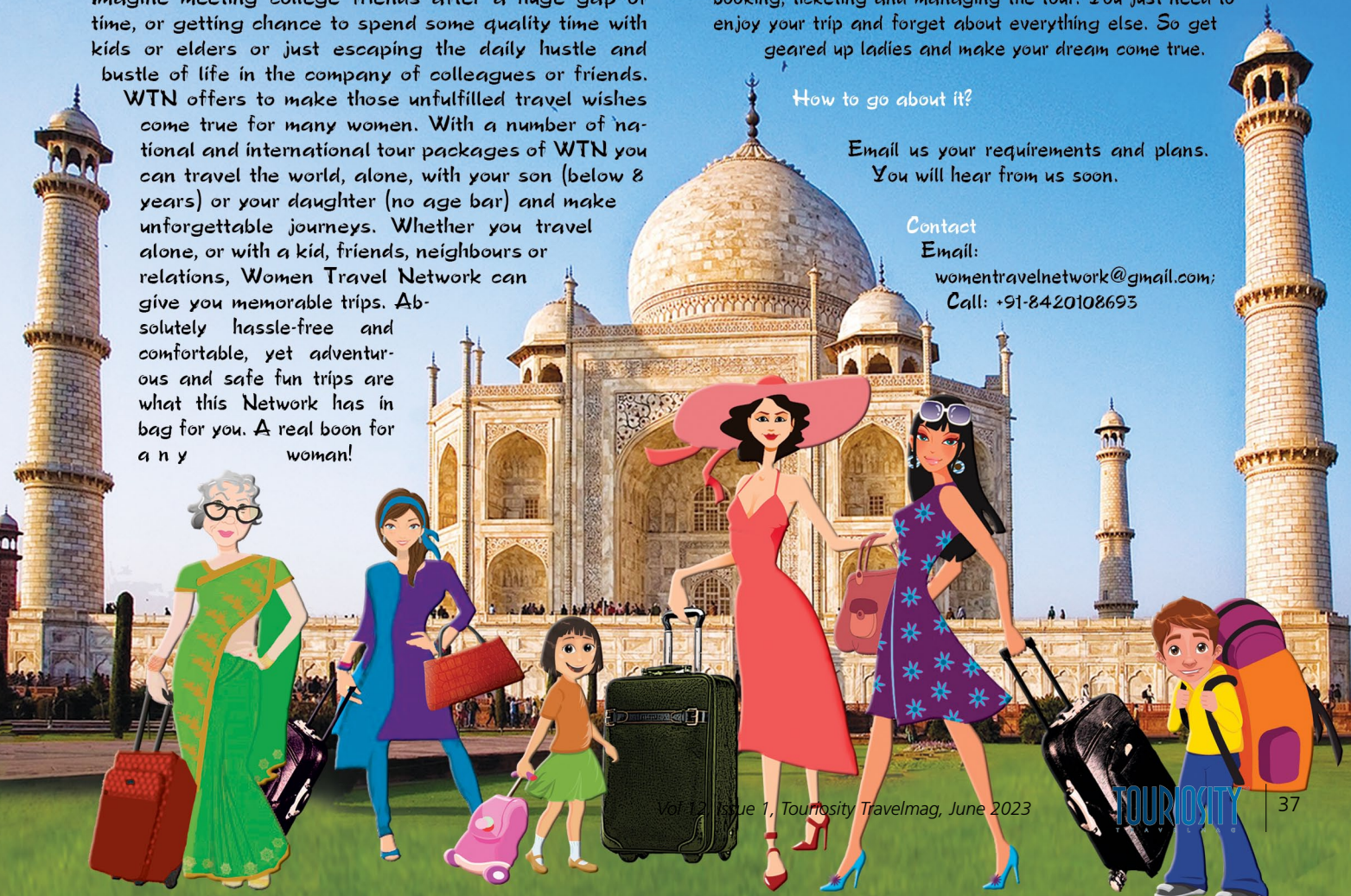
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