

**Sujet:** Re: Thanks for your comments regarding my report

**De:** Irna <irna@orange.fr>

**Date:** Mon, 21 Jan 2008 00:54:33 +0100

**Pour:** Aly Barakat <barakat\_aly2006@yahoo.com>

Dear sir,

thank you very much for your answer, and the opportunity you offer me to discuss with you this Bosnian pyramids affair. As you invited me to, I wish to make a few comments and ask a few more questions :-)

Aly Barakat a écrit :

Dear Miss. Irna; Thanks for your kind message and sorry for two things: I wrote your name in non correct way at the first message and delay your reply, the latter thing is because I was in a field trip and I just returned back. I promised you to reply your comments concerning my report. In this concern, you are authorized to publish what you see to be suitable for publishing. Please, find it as attachment.

Thank you again for this authorization; in fact, I would like to publish this entire correspondence, if you do not oppose, on my website, as I think it is most important to provide the public with all the available information.

The photos I left in Bosnia, but no one aware with them so they did not interested to add to the text.

That's a pity, I would have dearly liked to see your report illustrated! And thanks for the references.

If you have a look to the topographic map of the region, the contour lines of the hill can say why I do not think that natural processes may create such feature. You can see the northern side as perfect triangular shape, well oriented E-W and make 90 with the adjoin eastern side. Such feature for me is not related to natural process, but man made.

I think we can totally agree on the fact that Visocica northern side is actually triangular, and that the eastern one is also roughly triangular. But, without further evidence, I am doubtful when you say that this feature "is not related to natural process". I have seen, as I'm sure you also have, numerous strange natural features; as far as I have seen, triangular mountain sides are not so rare in this part of Bosnia, if generally not so perfect. Beginning with the five other hills Mr. Osmanagic has proclaimed pyramids on the basis of their more or less triangular sides :-). (by the way, your report says nothing about these other "pyramids": I believe you saw at least Pljesevica; do you think, like Mr. Osmanagic, it is also a pyramid?) If I do not doubt that some human interventions took place on Visocica at various times in the past (see also below), I think that the point where I have to disagree with you, at least without further evidence, is the **\*extent\*** of these interventions: the entire re-shaping of a hill this big, if, of course, not impossible, would have to be very solidly argued to convince me, and nothing I read or saw on the Foundation website offers any evidence.

The western side is straight. Decomposed constructed material may be observed in the midway during your going up to the top of the hill. This feature was reported by Dr. Andretta in June 2006, but I did not see what he see at that time. We are altogether but I did not able to recognize his view. Off course, he more acute observer and more experiences than me.

Of course, the presence of construction material would not be very surprising on a hill that has been populated at least since the Bronze Age, according to Mr. Andelic's book (you can read this article <http://irna.lautre.net/Real-archaeology-in-Visoko.html> about the prehistoric settlements in Visoko on my website). Pertaining to Dr. Andretta, do you know wether he intends to publish something about what he saw in Visoko, and wether he is still involved in the project?

Please, go up on the northern and eastern side of the hill, you will find the natural thin shale layer that intercalated naturally with the breccia/conglomerate rock, which made up the main mass of the hill, is removed to expose a white straight and smooth hard faces.

But if these sides of the hill are dip-slopes, as I supposed from the informations obtained from Dr. Smailbegovic and the geologic map (see here: <http://irna.lautre.net/Geology-of-the-Bosnian-pyramids.html>), it would not be surprising to find, once removed the superficial and altered layers, the hard layer that is precisely at the top of Lasva series stratigraphy, would it? I'm not sure I understand precisely your meaning here, some photographs or a sketch would help much.

White slaps are arranged on these two faces following the general slope. You mention in your comments that they are natural, but in fact unambiguously artificial and I will send you photo of this feature.

Well, I would really like to receive these photos, of course. What is more, if these slabs are unambiguously artificial, it should be easy to demonstrate, and Mr. Osmanagic will soon be able to show some evidence, like geological discordances, tool marks, the quarry where the slabs come from and so on.

Perfect shaped Rectangular books of hard conglomerate not from the area. They are found behind the hill on the plateau. These blocks are similar to that of the Great pyramid in size and shape (nearly 2.5 ton). I still think that they were transported from the eastern desert of Egypt until Bosnian geologist tell that he know the real quarry in Bosnia that they were cut from it. I ask the Visoko museum staff about these blocks they informed me that they are tombstones. I do not think so. All artificial blocks on the ground are tombstones in Bosnia?

Well, I suppose that the archaeologists from Visoko museum know a little bit about Bosnian archaeology, and as **\*stecci\*** (the medieval tombstones in Bosnia) are something unique and an important part of the Bosnian historic wealth, I would not dismiss so easily their opinion. What is more, the book by Pavao Andelic (of which parts were translated to you, but maybe not some of the most interesting ones), "Visoko i Okolina kroz Istoriju", mentions precisely the existence of a medieval necropolis on this exact place, on the plateau "between the village Grad and the fortress". The exact sentence (p. 160) is: "Traces of a middle medieval cemetary around our agglomeration [meaning: the fortress, royal town and the surrounding villages] are found on the crest between the village Grad and the fortress [which was, as you know, on the summit of Visocica]. There can today still be seen one (damaged) stecak [Bosnian name for these tombstones], and it is known that there were more of them in former times". I can send you a scan of this page, if you wish to ask for another translation.

Pavao Andelic et al, published the nice book entitled " Visoko I Okolina Kroz Historiju" (1984). They mention that the hill is natural but they refer to human activities that contributed to the shape of the hill. Also the interesting feature in this concern, their mentioning that the archaeology of the site is not studied yet, this means that no body can understand the full story and history of this hill. This was confirmed by the accident finding of artifacts on the top by military (not by archaeologists).

As I mentioned earlier, I have read (in Bosnian as I can read it quite easily) large parts of this book, and I think that maybe you were given a slightly wrong idea of its content. I could find no reference to human activities "that contributed to the shape of the hill", except the mention of several terraces and platforms on the slopes, particularly on the south-east side, and on the south side of the hill below the medieval fortress. These artificial terraces bore medieval settlements (and it seems that some remains of these may have been destroyed, as geologist Nadija Nukic mentions the finding of remains of hearths that were later suppressed. But in all the parts of the book I could read (about prehistory and Middle Ages), there is no mention of giving a triangular shape to Visocica. Pertaining to the expression "city pyramid", I have received a scan of the entire chapter. The word "pyramid" is used twice: first, on page

158, where the author explains the strategic location of the fortress on Visocica, and writes about the hill: "Seen from the Bosna valley, Visocica, with the ruins of Visoko town, looks like a big four-sided pyramid". Then on page 159, the sentence mentioning a long wall along the "northern angle of the city pyramid". I must mention that the word "grad", which means "city", is also the name of the entire hill (and of the village on the plateau), so that the translation could also be "of the hill pyramid". I really think that the word pyramid is used here exclusively in a descriptive meaning, as one could use the word "tower" or "wall" to describe a natural rock shelf for instance, and that it absolutely cannot be used as an evidence of anything, and surely not as evidence of a reference to a man-made pyramid.

Before I forget to mention it, a Bosnian friend answered me that about the word "misir" (not "miser") that you say is used in Visoko to refer to the site:

"To your question about the word "Misir": yes, it is quite common in usage in Bosnia and is considered a Turkism - there are words like "misir" for a kind of corn, "misiraca", "misirka" or "mesiraca" that stands for a kind of pumpkin, "misirbaba" (word of Jewish-Persian origin) that stands for a beardless man (also implying impotence), "Misirlija" - Egyptian and "misirlija" - horse trained in an Egyptian manner (Mameluk)."

Other Bosnian geologists- (Mensur Omerbashich (2007): Bosnian "Pyramids": Hills shaped by Romans. <http://omerbashich.blogspot.com/>.

(September 20, 2007)- sees that Romans shaped the northern side to oriented it in east-west for watching and recording the militaries campaign of the enemies (their rights) and me see this was to shape pyramid.

I would not give much credence to Mr. Omerbashich's theories. I have read his blog, and exchanged a few mails with him (see here <http://irna.lautre.net/Pyramids-shaped-by-Romans.html>). As far as I respect his knowledge as geodesist and geophysicist, he is not a field geologist and seems unable to recognize simple sedimentary features like Liesegang rings that, as Mr. Osmanagic before him, he interprets as a shoe-mould; he is no archaeologist either, and maybe ventures quite far from his field of competence when he constructs his theory with the utmost disdain for the knowledge of the specialists - that he admits never having read. And, lastly, judging by the subject and the tone of his last posts, and of the posts on his other blog (<http://bosniafordummies.blogspot.com/>), he is much more interested in his nationalist agenda than in science in this affair...

We reported human bones in a grave on the plateau with black material in a vessel. I think it represent liquid food during historical times, because I ask if this feature is known during the prehistoric time, museum specialists informed me: No. this feature appeared in definite time in Egypt. The people provided food to the died person. I can send you the reference if you interesting.

What much intrigues me is the fact that this discovery of yours, which seems quite interesting, was never even **\*mentioned\*** by any of the Foundation team. Was any archaeologist present when you found these bones? or sent later to study them? I find quite troubling the fact that Mr. Osmanagic never mentioned this, when he is so prone to claim fantastic discoveries on his website. Do you have any picture of the place? And I would have the same question about the artifacts you mention. I'm not surprised at all that you found various neolithic tools, given the fact that man has been present in this region for at least 7000 years, not to find one artifact would have been really strange :-). But as far as I know these artifacts have never been shown by the Foundation on their website (when they have shown a lot of "pseudo-artifacts"...). This kind of mysteries may give credence to the opinion of some "anti-pyramid" bloggers in Bosnia, who think that Mr. Osmanagic has hidden the artifacts which do not suit his fantastic chronology. If you have any information about this, I would really appreciate the sharing!

This mail is already much too long!

But I still have a few questions I would ask you, if you accept to answer, not related directly with your report. I hope you will not resent it as rude from me that I ask so much questions, but, having followed this story for almost two years, and having read so much about it, that's the first time I have the opportunity to discuss it with someone directly involved - and having the necessary scientific background,

which is not the case with the voluntaries and "pyramid-believers" you can meet on forums... So, here are my last questions for today :-)

- Have you been able to read the report written by Ms. Nadija Nukic about the drill-holes (not the one translated in English wich is present on the Foundation website, but the one which, according to Ms. Nukic, was never published)?
- I understand you have met, when you were in Visoko, Bosnian geologists and archaeologists: did you discuss with them your idea of a man-shaped hill?
- Are you aware that every scientist of the team has left the project, some at the beginning and some later? As far as I know, there is now only one scientist in the team, an English archaeologist named Andrew Lawler, all the others are gone.
- And are you aware that the main members of the team, the ones that drive the project, are not scientists but various "New age" mystics and believers, writers, librarians, mechanical engineers and so on, who regularly publish on the Foundation website their deliriums (pyramids being gigantic oscillators or radiators, ghosts in the tunnels, stone spheres used as energy concentrators and this kind of rubbish)?

I surely will find other questions in a few days :-), but it will suffice for tonight! Sorry again to bother you with such demands, but, after all, you offered to answer my questions - not knowing, maybe, what an inexhaustible asker I can reveal myself :-).

I really hope to hear from you soon,  
best regards, Irna