



ANCIENT SKIES

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MYSTERY OF THE CHAVIN TEMPLE

BY RENATO LONGATO SANTIBAÑEZ*

The ruins of Chavin de Huantar are located in the Ancash Department of Peru, an eight hour drive north of the capital city of Lima. Its origin goes back to the year 1800 BC, a period which corresponds to the beginning of several great Peruvian cultures which existed before the emergence of the Incas.

No one knows precisely the origin of the Chavin culture or its language, but there is evidence of the development of an amazing political, religious and scientific society, without the presence of a military force for its defense. Surrounded by the Mosna and Huachecsa Rivers in between several mountains, it was not very strategically located and was exposed to invasion by primitive peoples. Although attacked many times, no evidence has been found that the Chavin people were devastated by war, or by epidemic; they simply disappeared.

The Chavin architects built a granite platform out of one piece of stone, which was used as an astronomical observatory, known as the Choquechinchay Altar. By an elaborate system of seven water mirrors in the surface of the stone, at certain times of the year the brightest stars of the Pleiades Cluster would be clearly observed. Known as the "seven sisters" or "seven daughters" in other parts of the world, the Pleiades are known in the Andean world as the "seven sheep".

In the oldest part of the Chavin Temple there is a remarkable sculpture called the "Oraculo", also known as the "Big Spear", because of its peculiar shape similar to a gigantic spear, or lance. Carved in silica, the spear is 4 meters high and is stuck into the floor of the room, which is in the shape of a cross. The spear is higher than the ceiling of the room and a circular opening has been cut into the ceiling to allow the spear to extend through the hole. The carvings on the spear represent some god with an awful face, whose eyes and hair are like snakes with long fangs and earrings. The figure has its right arm raised as if in a salute, showing the palm of the hand with only two lines: the mind and the heart lines. The life line is missing. Why?

According to legend, a Shaman, or priest, would pour a sacred liquid (we do not know precisely what it was) onto the top of the spear where there were seven small holes which would allow the liquid to be spread evenly over all sides of the sculpture.

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At the same time, the ceremony was observed by four other Shamans who were positioned one on each side of the inside room around the spear so that they could not see each other. Each then individually "predicted the future" by observing the sliding of the liquid down the shaft of the spear.

On the palm of the upraised hand of the figure on the spear there is carved a plait, or braid, with 33 knots which end in the direction of the seven holes. Could this be an esoteric message, since the number 33 is the highest degree of a member in an esoteric school or secret society?

Close to the room which houses the Oraculo, there is a Principal Square, with each of its four sides being 49 meters long (divisible by 7), and on each side there are seven adjacent stairways of four steps each for the public to enter the Square.

The Square has an axis oriented towards the principal entrance of the "Falconidas Gate," which has a white granite column on the left side into which has been sculpted a female Falcon (Hawk), while the right column is black granite with the figure of a male Falcon. Resting on top of the columns to form the top of the gate there is a cornice with seven birds engraved in white granite on the left side and seven birds engraved in black granite on the right side.

Throughout the site we can see the Andean Trinity represented in the engravings on the stone walls:

1. Ukhu Pacha, or the undeveloped or inferior world, represented by a snake.
2. Kay Pacha, or the actual or present world, represented by a puma.
3. Hanaq Pacha, or the spiritual world, represented by a falcon.

Near the Falcon Gate we can see a figure of a winged man carved into a stone. (See Figure 1). Could this be a representation of a space man? Were they the inhabitants of Hanaq Pacha, the spiritual world, who came down approximately 3790 years ago to teach the natives how to build a temple with its dimensions based on the figure seven, the Divine Number?

When I went inside the Chavin Temple, I noticed that it had no windows but there is an excellent system of air circulation designed into the structure. I also noticed that the risers of the stairs do not correspond to the average height of the Andean people, about 1.6 meters, but rather to much taller human beings.

Marino Guzman, the old man who is the caretaker of the Temple, told me that in 1971 a group of archaeology students from Argentina were visiting the site and they found a human thigh bone (femur) which would have belonged to a person at least two meters tall.

The Chavin people disappeared with a secret - the secret of the gods.

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Figure 1. The "winged man" of the Chavin de Huantar Temple, Ancash, Peru. Photo by Renato Longato S.



Note: For more on Chavin de Huantar, see Erich von Daniken's article in Ancient Skies 11:5.

EZEKIEL'S SECRETS

BY TAPIO LAINE*

I have a comment on the articles published in Ancient Skies 18:3 and 18:5 by Kalevi Mikkonen on the mystery of the Ark of the Covenant and the expedition of Dr. Valter Juvelius to Jerusalem.

As to the secret code, or cipher, in the Book of Ezekiel, I found in my archives an article written by Rev. Voitto Viro in 1973 (Suomen Kuvalehti, No. 14, in Finnish). In this article, Rev. Viro tells that after he had copied some of Dr. Juvelius's documents he tried to break the Ezekiel code that was supposed to be extremely difficult, and moreover, the original text was in the Hebrew language. In the article, he tells:

"Next morning, June 12, 1971, I started to look at the text again, and then the code suddenly cleared. In reality it was extremely simple - after one had opened it. I understood that I was the only person in the whole world who knew the secret. And this is how the cipher starts (this translation of Hebrew to Finnish to English): 'Make a mock of Babel. Search the ruins of the devastation, look at the city of the devastation. And burn this. Do not search this neighborhood. And the wealth of water and beauty. 200 lengths of lance (from the foundation of the temple). And measure the place....'"

Rev. Viro writes that as he was not a master of Hebrew he was planning to ask a Rev. R.S. for help. However, when I telephoned Rev. Viro in February, 1992 and asked for the results, it turned out that no translation had been made. But he repeated that the code is extremely simple to translate. THE CODE IS THE FIRST LETTER OF EVERY WORD, beginning in Chapter 1 of the Book of Ezekiel, he said.

Is there somebody among the readers of Ancient Skies who can translate the secret text? And what actually is the Book of Ezekiel? Josef F. Blumrich, who worked as a Chief of the Systems Layout Branch of NASA, found that it also includes a description of a spaceship.

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STILL MORE ON THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

I. In the eastern part of Yemen can be found the ruins of the town of Marib, where the fabulous Queen of Sheba is said to have resided. Temples of the Moon and the Temple of Bilquis (the Arabian name of Sheba) are found there dug out of the desert sand where now there are derricks and oil towers rising on the desert. The legendary Queen of Sheba was the founder of the Sabean Empire.

One of the miracles of the world can be found at Marib, the Marib Dam, which was 18 meters high and 600 meters long. First constructed in 400 BC, it was broken 40 times and finally in the year of the Elephant 570 AD, the dam was broken and the area was deserted.

Queen Sheba visited King Solomon and then gave birth to his son, named Ebna Hakim. His mother called him Menelik, who later became King of Ethiopia. At age 12, Menelik visited his father and stole the Ark of the Covenant out of the Temple. When he was pursued, Menelik escaped capture because he flew on a kind of "wind wagon", whatever this vehicle might have been. So tells the Kebra Nagast, the Ethiopian epic. The Ark of the Covenant is said to have been entombed in a wall in the cathedral of Aksum, or Axum, in northern Ethiopia.

During my recent visit to Yemen I came across a sensational book entitled The Bible Came from Asir. (A New Theory About the Origin of Israel), by Dr. Kamal Salibi. The author collected with a meticulous eagerness a large number of the local names of ancient Palestine and compared them with the names of the area of Asir, a region stretching southwards of the Hijaz Mountain Range lying between Jordan and Yemen. Even the names of the flora and fauna coincided with animals and plants growing in Asir rather than in ancient Palestine. Very astonishing was the statement that the masonry of Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem must have been constructed from the heavy granite in Asir, rather than from the soft limestone found in Palestine. Helmut Zettl, Himbergerstr. 10/4, A-2435 Ebergassing, AUSTRIA.

II. I was intrigued with the articles in Ancient Skies 18:3 and 18:5 by Kalevi Mikkonen on the Mystery of the Ark of the Covenant which Jeremiah hid before Jerusalem fell in 586 BC. When I went to Jerusalem in 1938 as a young Catholic priest, I learned about Hezekiah's Tunnel - a big "S" shaped water-tunnel on the east side of the city. And the very day I got there, a bunch of us walked through the tunnel (six inches deep with water). Quite an experience! Not many that lucky.

One of the professors had been in Jerusalem from around 1890 and had been on hand in 1904 when Juvelius, a Finn, arrived with a huge crew of Welsh miners, complete with carbide-lamped hats. They were the first to go through the tunnel in almost 2,000 years. They found nothing unusual in it, except as an Englishman put it so delicately - "nothing but a vulgar WC", a chair with a hole cut out of the seat.

Now Juvelius is being hailed as a man of vision. Somewhere in that tunnel (through solid rock) there is a room with the Ark in it. Plus, of course, a lot of radioactive material around it to ward off possible thieves! Finding nothing but that toilet seat, Juvelius tried to dig under the Dome of the Rock under Solomon's Temple. But just about that time there arrived an American who was furious that Juvelius had beat him to the punch. He heard about the new digs under the Temple (they were done at night so as not to disturb any religious sensibilities), so he sabotaged the operation. He hired some Arabs with loud voices to run through the city at night shouting, "Thieves are desecrating our sanctuaries!" and, Jerusalem being that kind of city, it was in an uproar within a matter of minutes. Juvelius and his miners fled for their lives and escaped. Fr. Richard Murphy, Box 24040, New Orleans, LA 70184-4040 USA.

THE HELIACAL RISING MYSTERY

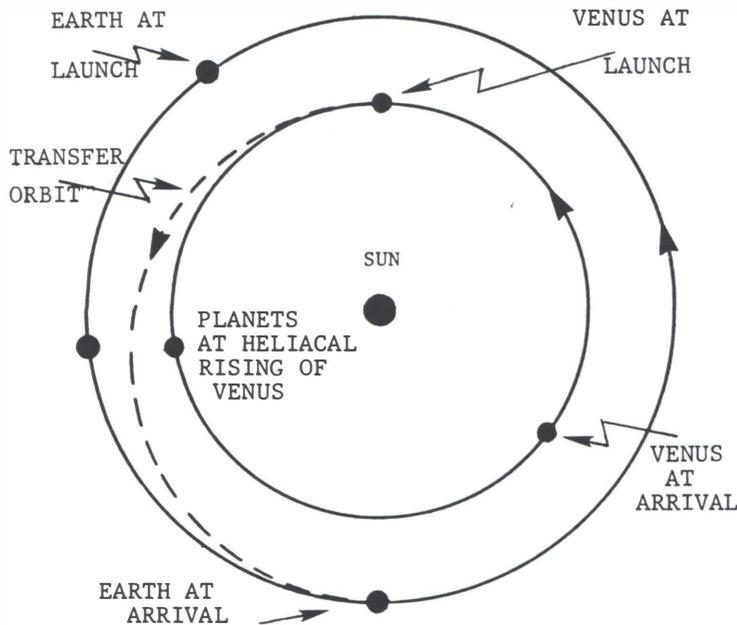
BY DR. STUART W. GREENWOOD*

In this note we shall be examining a particularly puzzling aspect of available material on the concerns of the ancient Maya and Mexicans with movements of the planet Venus. What is new about the present approach is that it will attempt to interpret movements and space flights from Venus to Earth.

As Venus and Earth travel around the Sun, Venus periodically overtakes Earth on the inside. During this motion there is a condition, known as Inferior Conjunction, when Venus lies between the Earth and the Sun, and is invisible against the glare of the Sun. Four days after Inferior Conjunction, Venus first becomes distinguishable in the dawn light, a situation described as the heliacal rising of Venus as the Morning Star.

The ancient Maya and the peoples of Southern and Central Mexico considered the heliacal rising of Venus after Inferior Conjunction to be perilous. (1) and (2). The Maya believed the light rays of the planet could inflict disease and even death. The Mexicans considered that the rays of Venus could cause wounds or bring sickness, although there were times when the rays were of good augury. (1)

Venus at heliacal rising is not the conspicuous "star" it subsequently becomes as it continues in its orbit, and even at its maximum brilliance it cannot inflict harm on the observer. What then could have caused the recurring fear, tinged to some extent with hope, that synchronized with the heliacal rising of Venus as Morning Star? There is nothing directly astronomical that could account for this, so we turn to the possibility of a trigger provided by an astronomical event dependent on the relative motions of Venus and Earth. We find a possible solution in considering space flights from Venus to Earth.



The above diagram shows, in somewhat idealized form, a space flight from Venus to Earth, assuming selection of a minimum-energy flight path. The journey would take 146 days, and a heliacal rising of Venus would occur en route, about 84 days prior to arrival at Earth.

In practice one would expect the flight plan to be compressed to reduce the travel time, though at some cost in energy expenditure. This in turn would reduce the interval between the heliacal rising of Venus and the arrival at Earth.

Which leads us to the hypothetical conclusion that people would observe the heliacal rising of Venus as presaging the interval as Morning Star when our planet would receive a visit from Venus. What could have inspired the fear is another question. Was the prospect of contact with at least some of the visitors accompanied by the dread of contracting disease?

We can only continue to research the past in the context of the ancient astronaut hypothesis in the hope that it will contribute to an understanding of events otherwise defying rational explanation.

References:

- (1) Anthony F. Aveni, Skywatchers of Ancient Mexico, University of Texas Press, 1980.
- (2) J. Eric S. Thompson, Maya Hieroglyphic Writing, University of Oklahoma Press, Third Edition, 1960.

*Dr. Greenwood, a Ph.D. in aerospace engineering, is a Program Manager of the University Foundation, a non-profit affiliate of the University of Maryland. His address is 9607 McAlpine Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20901 USA.

THE ARK OF MOUNT NIZIR

BY MAURICE CHATELAIN**

Biblical fundamentalists are still searching, on the slopes of Mount Ararat in eastern Turkey whose summit is 5137 meters high, for the remains of Noah's Ark which, according to them, should have the shape of an enormous shoebox 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide and 30 cubits high.

Now the Arabs have known for a long time that such remains do exist at an altitude of 1900 meters on the northwestern slopes of Mount Nizir whose summit is 2114 meters high, which is easier to believe. That mountain, whose modern name is Akyayla Dagir, or the "high white mountain", and which is located 25 kilometers southwest of Mount Ararat, was already mentioned in the Sumerian and Babylonian cuneiform clay tablets six thousand years ago as the landing site of Gilgamesh and Ziusudra.

That ship wreck which is pointed at both ends and therefore not rectangular, on Mount Nizir and therefore not on Mount Ararat, was never accepted by Jews or Christians as the remains of Noah's Ark, even though it had been known and described by Arab and Persian writers about the year 880 BC. It has been rediscovered by chance in 1959 by a Turkish aviator named Sevket Kurtis, then explored by such famous writers as René Noorbergen in 1960, Ron Wyatt in 1977 and David Fasold in 1984 and 1985. As a matter of fact, it was after reading The Ark of Noah, the remarkable book of David Fasold, that I decided to do some research on this subject and even to write a book about my own discoveries.

As a former NASA scientist and one of the first designers of the APOLLO spacecraft which landed on the Moon, I was especially interested in the dimensions indicated by the author, even though he had measured them in feet instead of meters as I would have done. I also was very curious about that mysterious ship made of reeds, tar and cement whose metallic parts had allowed David Fasold to measure its dimensions with his radar metal detector through mud, snow and ice.

Following these measurements, it was for me relatively easy to design in cubits the floor plan of a ship supposed to be 300 cubits long, 50 wide and 30 high. I only had to divide that floor plan into four different geometric figures whose surfaces could easily be measured, namely a rectangle, a trapezium and two triangles. We first have a prow triangle 60 cubits long and 60 wide with a surface of 1800 square cubits. Then we have a trapezium 24 cubits

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long whose transversal dimensions are 60 and 80 cubits with a surface of 1680 square cubits. Then we have a rectangle 72 cubits long and 80 wide with a surface of 5760 square cubits. And finally, we have a stern triangle 144 cubits long and 80 wide with a surface of 5760 square cubits. With those dimensions the Ark of Mount Nizir would have a length of 300 cubits and a deck surface of 15,000 square cubits as in the Bible.

The trouble started when I tried to determine which cubit had been used for the construction of the Ark and for that purpose, it was necessary to review what I knew about the different measuring systems of our ancestors, thanks to the remarkable work of Livio Stecchini.

The Egyptians, who certainly knew the metric system and the polar circumference of the Earth, had discovered that a length of 110,880 meters represented at the same time a longitude degree at a latitude of 5 degrees, and a latitude degree at a latitude of 32 degrees, or 211,200 cubits of 525.000 millimeters.

The Babylonians, who probably also knew the metric system, had discovered that the polar circumference of the Earth was about forty million meters, which they divided into 3750 Berus, or 75 million cubits of 533.333 mm. Let us now compare the five different cubits that could have been used for the construction of the Ark, in order to discover which one was the most compatible with the measurements of David Fasold.

The first one is the Hebraic cubit of 457.142 mm, or 16/35 of one meter which was used by King Hiram of Tyre for the construction of the Temple of Solomon in Jerusalem and was also discovered in the dimensions of the Pyramid of the Sun in Teotihuacan in Mexico and in that of Chavin de Huantar in Peru. That cubit represents 6/7 of the Babylonian cubit.

The second one is a cubit of 523.809 mm, or 11/21 of one meter which also was 1/6 of Ezekiel's rod of 3.142857 meter, or 22/7 of one meter, which also was the PI factor of our ancestors. The use of that cubit for the construction of the Ark of Mount Nizir would therefore be justified if it had been built by Hebrews. With that cubit, the Ark would have a length of 157.143 meters and a surface of 4116 square meters.

The third one is the Cheops cubit of 525.000 mm, or 21/40 of one meter which can be found 440 times in the base length of the Great Pyramid, 410 times in that of Chephren and 205 times in that of Mykerinos. It was the first one to come to my mind, knowing that Moses had been raised and educated at the court of the Pharaoh and was also supposed to be the one who had indicated the dimensions of the Ark in the Ancient Testament. With that cubit, the Ark would have a length of 157.500 meters and a surface of 4134 m².

The fourth one is the famous Babylonian cubit of 533.333 mm, or 8/15 of one meter which has been found in the ruins of the ancient city of Babylon and possibly in the distances and dimensions of the mysterious monuments recently discovered on the surface of the planet Mars. The use of that cubit for the construction of the Ark, with reeds of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, would therefore be perfectly justified. That cubit represents 7/6 of the ordinary cubit of the Hebrews who had been deported to Babylon by Sennacherib. With that cubit, the Ark would have a length of 160.000 meters and a surface of 4266 m².

The fifth one is a Mayan cubit of 540.000 mm, or 27/50 of one meter which has been found, with its corresponding foot of 360.000 mm, in the dimensions of the pages of the Dresden Codex. That foot seems to have also been used by the Sumerians who counted everything by 360, such as the degrees in a circle, or the days in a year. The use of that cubit for the construction of the Ark would therefore also be ex-

plained, if it had been built by Sumerians, such as Gilgamesh or Ziusudra. With that cubit, the Ark would have a length of 162.000 meters and a surface of 4374 m².

Of course it will be very difficult to discover which cubit had been used for the construction of the Ark of Mount Nizir. First of all because we do not know if the length of 300 cubits indicated in the Bible was that of the inside deck of the ship, or the external length at the water level, or the total length of the reeds before they were curved upwards to form the bow and stern. And also because it will be impossible to measure exact lengths before the ship is completely lifted from the mud, snow and ice which cover it now.

I think however, that the cubit used was that of Babylon, first because the Ark could have been built by Martian Ancient Astronauts who had landed in Mesopotamia before the Flood, with the same unit of length that they used on their planet. Further, because the legend of the Ark and the Flood has been found in the cuneiform clay tablets of Babylon and Neneveh. Then because the existence of the Ark on Mount Nizir was known and mentioned by ancient historians such as Berossus who lived in Babylon 2300 years ago, Flavius Josephus who lived in Rome 2000 years ago, and Al Masudi who lived in Baghdad 1200 years ago. Then because the Babylonian cubit is the most compatible with the measurements of David Fasold in American feet which represent about 4/7 of it. And finally, because the length of 160.000 meters of the Ark with that cubit is exactly contained 250,000 times in the polar circumference of the Earth, which our ancestors probably knew several thousand years before the Flood.

****This article is copyrighted (C) by Maurice Chatelain 1992. Mr. Chatelain was a space scientist with North American Aviation in charge of the design for NASA of the communication and data processing system of the APOLLO spacecraft which landed on the Moon. His book, Our Cosmic Ancestors, one of the classics in the ancient astronaut field, can be obtained in oversize paperback from the author. Also available in photocopy format, are his books, The First Americans, The First Christians, and Nostradamus Decoded. Mr. Chatelain is now retired but continues his writing and research at his home at 3976 Kenosha Avenue, San Diego, CA 92117 USA.**

I WAS INTERESTED IN THE ARTICLE IN ANCIENT SKIES 19:1 concerning the figures of what appear to be white men on the building at Tulum. The present accepted view is that the native American peoples are descended from Asiatics who crossed the Bering Strait thousands of years ago. The fact is, however, that there is a considerable amount of evidence to suggest that there were also white races in the Americas. When Columbus arrived in the New World he is reported to have seen white men with the Indians. Thor Heyerdahl says that there were whites amongst the Incan and Aztec ruling classes. The murals at the Temple of the Warriors at Chichen-Itza clearly show both dark-skinned Maya and others of a white race. Early Chimu pottery includes portraits of men with European features. A Cambridge student who visited some little known hillforts in Peru stated that, according to the local Indians, these had been built by men of a white race. Len Farra, 2 The Albany, Sunset Avenue, Woodford Green, Essex, ENGLAND IG8 OTJ.

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