

Bosnian Pyramid excavator digs his heels into the UK

Submitted by: Histories & Mysteries conference

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The so-called “Bosnian Pyramids” acquired international media attention in late 2005, when Bosnian entrepreneur Sam Osmanagic invested in a geological survey. Since then, the excavation of what may turn out to be the oldest pyramid on Earth has gone on to feature in the popular “The Daily Show with Jon Stewart” and have made Osmanagic a national celebrity in Bosnia.

In 2006, Osmanagic kicked off a five-year project, in an effort to find out whether the Bosnia town of Visoko has one – if not more – pyramids. So far, archaeological excavations have been carried out at four sites, two of which are on the pyramids itself, namely the so-called Pyramid of the Sun and the Pyramid of the Moon. Most work, however, has been focused on two tunnel systems, one of which continues to reveal signs of human activity with every spade. The tunnel system of Ravne sits in the immediate vicinity of the Pyramid of the Sun and over the next few years, the excavation work will enter the mass of the pyramid itself.

As with all such things, the project has not been without its critics, but an important swing in the controversy came in September 2007, when Egyptian archaeologist Dr. Nabil Swelim – who discovered no less than four pyramids in Egypt himself – concluded that the pyramids were indeed man-made, labelling them “pyramid hills”: natural hills that have been reshaped into the form of a pyramid by human intervention.

When and whom precisely did this, is so far not clear, but the valley is known to have been one of the most fertile in Bosnia, and has seen human occupation from at least 5000 BC – as discovered by other recent archaeological excavations in the valley. In fact, one excavation in September 2008 was able to unearth a small ceramic object, dated to 6000-3000 BC, in the shape of a pyramid.

Osmanagic is aware that such projects will by default come with controversy. He is very much familiar with the controversy surrounding the tomb of Tutankhamen and how Howard Carter, for several years, found nothing, until one day, he struck – literally – gold. Osmanagic feels that in the past three seasons of excavations, he has done much more and much better than Carter, and that with a little bit more time, the archaeologists will be able to find evidence that will sway even the fiercest of critics.

To provide an overview of the current state of research, between November 14 and November 22, Osmanagic is touring the UK. His tour starts in Bury St. Edmunds at the Stars and Stones Winter Forum on November 15 and will finish at the Histories & Mysteries Conference in Edinburgh, on November 22.

For further information on Osmanagic’s work, see www.piramidasunca.ba/en/

Schedule:

Stars and Stones Winter Forum

Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk

Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th November 2008

Booking Enquiries: 01359 270524.

<http://www.starsandstonesforum.net/Events.html>

Monday 17th November 2008 at 7.30pm
Methodist Church, Fore Street, Totnes, Devon
Booking enquiries: 01803 868744 or 01963 251772 patrickfound@btinternet.com

Tuesday 18th November 2008 at 7.30pm
Springhead, Mill Lane, Fontmell Magna, Shaftesbury, Dorset SP7 0NU
Booking enquiries: 01963 251772 patrickfound@btinternet.com

Wednesday 19th November 2008 at 7.30pm
Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institute (BRLSI), 16 Queens Square, Bath, BA1 2HN
Booking enquiries: 01225 312085 or 01963 251772 patrickfound@btinternet.com

Saturday 22nd November 2008, 10-6pm
The Hub, Edinburgh
Booking enquiries: 01620 894 902 www.histories-mysteries.com

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Photographs:

http://www.histories-mysteries.com/sam_osmanagic_hr.jpg

<http://www.histories-mysteries.com/pyramidofthesun.jpg>

