



BASIAGO DISCUSSES HIS DISCOVERY THAT "THE BEINGS ON THE EDGE" ARE A STATUE

Here is an excerpt from a recent letter written by Andrew D. Basiago, the president of MARS, to several researchers in the Mars anomaly research community. In this letter, he discusses the first among many anomalies on Mars he has found in NASA photograph PIA10214 and the one that led to his discovery of life there. This anomaly, an apparently human figure seen on the far left edge of the Home Plate plateau in a photograph of the Martian surface taken by NASA's Mars Exploration Rover Spirit in 2007, has been the subject of much speculation since it was first published by NASA on the World Wide Web in January 2008. In December 2008, Basiago found that the object is standing on an ornately carved pediment featuring a plumed serpent motif, establishing that it is a statue and not a rock formation or a living being.

Thank you for your recent e-mails! They give me some of the very interesting history of Mars anomaly research...

I would like to propose a very quick way to cut to the chase and resolve, first, that I have found dispositive evidence of life on Mars in PIA10214 and, second, that something about the imaging capabilities of my HP Pavilion Entertainment PC Model 6700-DV might have in some way enabled my discovery.

What I would like to suggest is that we focus on one piece of evidence that establishes that the human figure that can be seen on the far left edge of the plateau is, indeed, a statue.

This figure has been disparaged as "Bigfoot" and "Little Bigfoot." The "Bigfoot" meme has been used to debunk what is there in the very process of defining it, which I think is dishonest and deceptive. This is a disinformation ploy that emerged in January 2008, when this anomaly first began to appear on the Web. It was used again recently to dismiss the wide-ranging arguments made, and abundant evidence cited, in my landmark paper "The Discovery of Life on Mars" (2008). Suddenly, it was all about "Little Bigfoot" again. Well, no, it's about a lot more than that, but let's focus on this statue for a moment anyway.

I am calling these figures not "Bigfoot" but something merely descriptive – "The Beings on the Edge." Throughout my paper, I try to give each piece of evidence a simple, descriptive name, so that Mars anomaly researchers – indeed, members of the general public – can begin referring to these anomalies on Mars using a common lexicon. Certainly, "The Face on Mars" was the progenitor of this style and I think that it exemplifies a good, practical style that deserves wider application.

Early on, I knew that "The Beings on the Edge" were almost certainly a statue, because they possess the following characteristics that any student of archaeology or art history would be able to identify:

- (1) **Highly Articulated Human Form.** Unlike any natural rock formation on Earth, and in terms of probability, these figures simply exceed the capacity of natural forces to craft something so highly defined and easily recognizable as humanoid beings;
- (2) **Duality.** There is a second human figure near the first one. It is a male figure that has apparently broken off and slid down the edge of the cliff to the right;
- (3) **Correspondence.** When you recompose these two separate figures, the left side of the female figure (on the *left*) complements the right side of the male figure lying prone (to her *right*), in the way that, say, South America and Africa do as a result of their connection before the breakup of Pangaea;



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(4) **Gender.** The figure on the left seems to be clothed in a dress and possess the wider hip displacement and curvaceous body type of an adult female human. The figure on the right seems to be wearing a shirt and pants, to be bald (as male humans tend to be more frequently than female humans), and to possess the more rectilinear body type of an adult male human;

(5) **Clothing.** The figure on the left seems to be wearing an elaborately carved rendition of a flowing dress. The figure on the right has a skin tone on his head that can be discerned from his clothing;

(6) **Movement.** The figure on the left seems to be running or moving to the right. By contrast, the figure on the right seems to be immobile;

(7) **Artistic Styling.** The figure on the left seems artificially crafted to convey a sense of drama and urgency;

(8) **Fragmentation.** The fact that both figures have only the vestiges of arms, as well as the relative form and position of the figures, suggest that this is an ancient statue that has fragmented. The Venus de Milo, for example, once had arms. Arms frequently break off of statues made from stone because they are supported by less of the rocky material from which the statue is sculpted.

In January 2008, these eight factors caused me to conclude that this was *probably* a statue, perhaps carved from the bedrock of the plateau itself, of two figures with arms entwined, sculpted either running, sitting, or kneeling at that location, that then fragmented, whereupon the male figure in the statue broke off and slid down the edge of the cliff towards the right, where he remains to this day.

In December 2008, I identified new evidence, however, that *proves* that this anomaly is, in fact, a statue. I found the *pediment* of the statue. Statues have pediments. That's not speculation or belief. It's archaeology. This stone object, resembling a human female, in a dress, has a *pediment*, and therefore, by ordinary photographic analysis, we can conclude that The Beings on the Edge are a statue.

If you step back, and examine this object at a slightly more distant range than is taken in all of the many photographs of this object published thus far on the World Wide Web, you will see that beneath her is a stone pediment in the nature of what statues must be mounted on in order to stand upright.

Beneath her, on the side of the pediment, is a painted rock carving. This rock carving consists of the head of a hirsute snake (on the *right*), biting the neck of a bearded white male human figure (on the *left*). The reptile or serpent was painted in different colors, including red and green. While these pigments have faded, they are still evident. The bearded male human figure was painted with brown hair and blue clothing. Red pigment was used to show blood emanating from his neck wound trailing down and to the right across his chest. Not just his face but his shoulders are evident in my enlargement from the original NASA photograph that is **Figure 1** (*below*). Several other faces – “reptilian” in nature – surround his.

I can readily see these details on my personal computer. If you can't, then we have to resolve these technical impediments before moving on to address the many other details in the NASA photo. If you can see them, however, hopefully that will constitute an initial proof of my case that I have found artifacts on Mars that establish human or humanoid habitation of and/or visitation to the Red Planet by some form of beings that were either human beings from Earth or familiar with human beings as they appear on Earth.



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Another possibility is that human life on Earth first emerged on Mars and these are artifacts from what may have been the primordial human civilization in our solar system.

I regard this scrutiny of The Beings on the Edge as just a threshold exercise. I say that because it is not the best evidence. The Humanoid Being in The Rock Enclosure is probably the best evidence. This is just one small detail among a myriad of highly intriguing and highly unusual – even bizarre – elements in this photograph, which together make it the most significant archaeological site ever uncovered and PIA10214 the most significant photograph ever taken by human beings from Earth...

The data is there, and it's revolutionary, and it's ample. I predict that within ten years, over 100 books will have been written about this photograph, and what it contains, and what this evidence will mean to both our understanding of the past on Earth and our exploration of outer space now and in the future.

My discoveries, and analyses of NASA photograph PIA10214 done by others, will, in coming years, both revolutionize our understanding of Mars and redefine our understanding of reality.

Thank you very much for your interest in the evolving quest of the Mars Anomaly Research Society.

Andy



Figure 1. The Beings on the Edge with Plumed Serpent Biting Man