

Could Scientists Really Have Found Noah's Ark?

Scientists excavating a large boat-shaped mound in the eastern mountains of Turkey have announced their tests on the rock and soil samples they collected at the site indicate humans were living at the site 5,000 years ago—the same time frame that some biblical scholars link to the Great Flood from the Bible's Old Testament book of Genesis.

The research team from three Turkish and American universities has been investigating the theory that the geologic formation is actually the ruins of Noah's Ark.

According to the test results, there were human activities in the region from 5,550 to 3,000 BC, according to Arkeonews. The mound exists in the Ararat region which was known as Urartu in the ancient past.

Excavations at Durupinar formation, as the site is known, began in 2021. After receiving special permission to collect the rock and soil samples in December of 2022, tests conducted over the last year at Istanbul Technical University indicate the samples to be clayey materials, marine materials, and seafood, the outlet reported.

"It is known that the event of Prophet Noah's flood dates back approximately 5,000 years from today. In terms of dating, it is stated that there was human activity in this region. This was revealed in the laboratory results. However, with the dating, it is not possible to definitively say that the ship was here," Prof. Dr. Faruk Kaya, the Vice Rector of Ağrı İbrahim Çeçen University told Arkeonews.

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“Extensive research is needed for this to be established. In the coming period, we have reached an agreement to collaborate on joint research led by Istanbul Technical University, Andrew University and Ağrı İbrahim Çeçen University. In the future, these three universities will come together and establish new commissions to continue their work in this field,” Kaya added.

The site of the formation located in the Doğubayazıt district of Ağrı wasn't discovered until 1956, according to The Daily Mail.

But the possibility that the site is the remains of Noah's boat has detractors too. According to the outlet, Dr. Andrew Snelling, Ph.D., a young Earth creationist from the University of Sydney previously said that Mount Ararat could not be the ark's location because the mountain did not form until after the flood waters receded.

According to the Bible, the Great Flood lasted 150 days, covering the entire Earth and drowning everything except Noah and his family on the wooden ship they built, along with their precious cargo of two of every kind of animal. Genesis also records where the large boat landed.

“And on the seventeenth day of the seventh month the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat” (Gen. 8:4).

The book of Genesis also reveals Noah received specific instructions from God for the ark's dimensions—300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide, and 30 cubits high. A cubit is an ancient unit of length, the distance from the elbow to the middle finger, or around 18 inches long. The Ark Encounter, the sister attraction of the Creation Museum located in Williamstown, Kentucky, translated the length into modern measurements when building its replica ark at 510 feet long, 85 feet wide, and 51 feet high.

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