Outlook

Re: Shiid Birood is in need of conservation...

From Ahmed Mohamed <ahmedgacal@somasa.gov.so>
Date Sat 1/10/2026 4:19 AM
To Nicholas Gessler, Ph.D. <nick.gessler@duke.edu>
Cc Chairman Somasa <chairman@somasa.gov.so>; mohhaggi@gmail.com <mohhaggi@gmail.com>

Dear Nicholas,

On behalf of the Chairman of SOMASA, I am writing to provide an update regarding your recent correspondence concerning the Shiid Birood site and the El Ali meteorite research.

We acknowledge the concerns you have raised. Please be assured that we are actively engaging with other relevant government officials to address this matter comprehensively. While Somalia continues to face various internal and external challenges, preserving our cultural and scientific heritage remains a priority. We are committed to fostering a transparent environment for research that benefits both the international scientific community and the citizens of Somalia.

We will keep you informed as these official engagements progress.

Best regards,

Ahmed Mohamed M Gacal
Director of Policy and Planning
Somali Academy of Science and Arts (SOMASA)

On Wed, Jan 7, 2026, 9:31 PM Chairman Somasa <chairman@somasa.gov.so> wrote:

> FYI
>
> **Ismail Yusuf Osman**
>
> ***Chairman of Somasa***
>
> **Somali Academy of Science and Arts (Somasa)**
>
> **Mobile: +252615113927**

Email: osmanismael@hotmail.com

Web: www.somasa.gov.so

Facebook: Ismail Yusuf Osman

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Chairman Somasa** <chairman@somasa.gov.so>
Date: Wed, Jan 7, 2026 at 5:50 AM
Subject: Re: Shiid Birood is in need of conservation...
To: Nicholas Gessler, Ph.D. <nick.gessler@duke.edu>
Cc: Osmanismael@hotmail.com <Osmanismael@hotmail.com>, Mohamed <mohhaggi@gmail.com>

Dear Nicholas

Thank You for your emails, I was in journey so it was difficult to response your emails, but you will get my official response after two days.

Best regards
On Tuesday, January 6, 2026, Nicholas Gessler, Ph.D. <nick.gessler@duke.edu> wrote:

> Dear Ismail,
>
> I previously wrote you at your SOMASA email address. Perhaps that communication never reached you?
>
> Nur Hassan now wants us to delete our website, censoring five years of research on a globally important site to Somalia, Somalia's citizens, and to the international community of meteoriticists, archaeologists, anthropologists, human rights groups, and others. He has threatened to take us to court.
>
> Inadvertently, he has provided us with more incontrovertible evidence that Shiid Birood had been previously worked by residents since prehistoric times.
> https://people.duke.edu/~ng46/El-Ali/pictures.htm#:~:text=Photo%204%20from%20Nur%20Hassan
>
> We would appreciate your consideratio of the matter.

With best regards,
Nick

Nicholas Gessler, Ph.D.
nick.gessler@duke.edu
https://people.duke.edu/gessler

Research Associate, RETIRED
INFORMATION SCIENCE & INFORMATION STUDIES
Duke University, Durham, North Carolina

EL ALI Research Archive (7th largest meteorite in the world)
"Probably no other meteorite has been so intimately connected with the life and fate of so many people..."
https://people.duke.edu/~ng46/El-Ali/

* COMPLEX SYSTEMS: ARTIFICIAL LIFE, CULTURE & EVOLUTIONARY COMPUTATION, Multiagent Modeling & Simulation: ISIS-170, CompSci-107, VisualMediaStudies-172
* ESPIONAGE, CRYPTOLOGY & PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS, Networks of Trust, Secrecy & Deception: ISIS-235, CulturalAnthropology-226, VisualMediaStudies-245.
* METEORITICS: METEORITES & SOLAR SYSTEM HISTORY, Science, culture and history of Meteorites: ISIS-230, EarthOceanSciences-230

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Ismail Yusuf Osman

Chairman of Somasa

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