18) A Rock Exported from Somalia Turns Out to Be a Rare Mineral

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Caption: This 15-ton Rock Becomes the 9th Largest Meteorite Ever Found on Earth

TORONTO, Canada – Canadian scientists have announced that a fragment of rock taken from Somalia, believed to be a meteorite, contains highly valuable mineral elements.

The rock, discovered two years ago in El Ali, Hiiraan region, is now thought to be among the rarest space objects ever found on Earth, containing elements associated with precious minerals. Scientists at the University of Alberta in Canada have stated that they will conduct further research on additional fragments of the rock. This rock first made headlines years ago when it was seized at the Mogadishu port, preventing its export. It was reportedly traded for large sums of money, sparking significant controversy. Composed of 90% iron-nickel, the rock has attracted great interest from scientists, particularly those studying planets and the structure of the universe. At 15 tons**,** this meteorite is now ranked as the 9th largest ever to have fallen to Earth**.** Local pastoralists in Ceel Cali claim that the rock is not new, saying it had been in the area for centuries and was even used to sharpen knives.

The minerals within the rock are believed to have significant industrial and scientific applications. Dr. Chris Herd, a scientist at the University of Alberta, stated that he never imagined he would be part of the discovery of a new mineral previously unknown to the world.

The rock, which was exported from Mogadishu port in 2020**,** was reportedly taken to China, and it may have been the last time anything was heard about this extraordinary meteorite.

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