

The story of the NIGHTFALL and how it was discovered:

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For centuries, Somalia Central Region, it wasn't unusual to see a meteor shower or as it is known in Somalia – shooting stars – flash across the night sky.

In late 1800's a fireball appeared over the Somali Peninsula and detonations were heard all over Somalia. A shower meteorite fell in all parts of Somalia. These celestial debris's (also known as meteorites) were found in abundance in Somalia. It was recorded only three of them which are currently held in USA, UK and Italy. It is well known especially in Central Regions of Somalia's residents, as well as other regions of Somalia, the abundance of meteorites in Somalia, as there have been many discoveries of meteorites were made by locals till to this day.

Fast forward to the year of 2020: Sunday, April 5th, 2020, a group of four Somali men prospecting precious stones in the Hiiraan region of Central Regions of Somalia found a boulder near the city of Beledweyne.

The prospectors' attention was peaked when they came across this huge boulder in the middle of the bush. The boulder was just sitting right there in the middle of the bush in the open space and by chance, their path came across to where the boulder was and curiosity took over the group to find out what this boulder was. The boulder was immersed with sand but somehow looked different from any normal earth stone they used to see in the area. The boulder was not excavated as it was just lying on top of the soil. There was no other debris in the surrounding areas.

The group's curiosity peaked further once they hit the boulder with a sledgehammer and realized it was not regular stone due to their observation. They took a sample and sent it to Nairobi, Kenya for further investigation of the find.

Once the initial XRF was done in Nairobi Lab on the sample as is, without etching, it was concluded that it was definitely an Iron Meteorite.

They named it NIGHTFALL which is basically the best time in Somalia, especially in the rural areas, for reflection, planning and meditation.

It is also when everyone wakes up to prepare for their daily work; traveling, etc as it is close to dawn. It is the time they start to prepare for Morning Prayer which is very important and integral part of their faith. It is time for reflection, planning and meditation. Basically it is the best time of their day, as the air is usually fresh and sweet.

The group then removed extra samples and sent to different parts of the World where they had contacts to do further characterization of the boulder, chemical composition and classification.

One of the agents of the group, Global Resources Ltd, contacted Dr. Nicolas Gessler and sent samples of the NIGHTFALL as the locals named the iron meteorite, which weight a little over 15 ton (around 15150 kg).

Dr. Nicolas Gessler formed consortium composed of renowned experts in the field of meteorites to undertake the characterization of the NIGHTFALL, its chemical composition and classification. As well as to find the right buyer for this special iron meteorite known as NIGHTFALL.

As you can see in the findings of the experts; which consist of collaboration between University of Arizona, UCLA, University of Alberta and Dr. Nicolas Gessler; the NIGHTFALL is unique in terms of it is characterization, chemical composition and classification.