

Savitree,

Unfortunately, the quick successes I reported to you in my last were a short-lived enjoyment that only served as a precursor to the rapid disappointments of the past fortnight.

A cursory survey of the Northern Field has confirmed that the other Axumite stelae are merely imitative of the original Obelisk. We have therefore focused our intention wholly upon it.

Phajol's survey of the Obelisk has confirmed the presence of an unusual metallic network within the plutonic stone. He reports a "strange, scuffling groping sensation" from this network which seemed to be "reaching out for my mind as my own thoughts touched upon it". Unfortunately (or perhaps fortunately for Phajol), the breaking of the Obelisk upon its collapse has also shattered this network. All of this seems to corroborate the strange crystalline structures evident within the mineralogical samples.

Reconstruction of the Obelisk may be possible, but my current recommendation is against this course of action: Measurements taken here strongly conform to those taken by Braunlich at the Black Stone in Hungary, including those sampled using the non-traditional instrumentation. This suggests that this is merely another Fisher site. My frustration with these false seeds of the Forgotten Old One grows ever larger. They seem to have been laced deep into the historical records and I am increasingly skeptical of any references to the "earthly pillars" sealing the Liar's prison. It is possible this iconography exists only to confuse the identity of the demesne spikes of the Fisher and create false correlations between the Liar and the Forgotten.

We have not completely abandoned hope for the current site, however. Our local diggers have continued excavating the tomb beneath the stele. It appears that the looting and defacement of the tomb was extremely thorough before the resubsumation of the complex. In addition to the inscription I described in my last (which appears to post-date the defacing), only two additional inscriptions have survived.

These symbols, however, have raised one possibility of potential interest. Before abandoning our work here, I am going to spend some time researching at the Cathedral of Tsion Maryam to see if the Book of Aksum will verify my suspicions.

We are keeping the diggers on retainer while these researches are completed. This will no doubt infuriate Daniel's purse strings, but it makes little sense to rehire them in a week if further excavations prove necessary.

*Husain Soliman*