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## THE MYSTERY OF THE LOCATION OF THE CITY OF IRAM, THE ATLANTIS OF ARABIA

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### Abstract

The Land of Iram. This research is a library study that takes information from various written and video sources. The author reaches the conclusion that there are 4 characteristics of the Land of the 'Ad mentioned in the Qur'an, among them are: 1) there is a desert in it, 2) it has high buildings and pillars, 3) the buildings are visible and not hidden, 4) there is water in it. Among the several locations mentioned by scholars and researchers, Qushairat 'Ad which located in the Dahna Desert' Aflaj region of Saudi Arabia is considered a place that meets the four criteria mentioned in the Qur'an, but among its shortcomings, there is no high pillar at this location. This study wants to provide a new alternative about the location of the State of Iram based on the research of Dr. 'Aid Al-Yahya (2020) that the location of the 'Ad is in the Dahna Desert' of Saudi Arabia, and this research is not in line with the opinions of Lailatul Badriah (2020), Usama Thol'at Abdunna'im (2019), and Mark Carlotto (2021) who argues that the location of the People of 'Ad This study aims to discuss where is the location of the People of 'Ad whose country is usually called is in the territory of Yemen.

**Keywords: People of 'Ad, Prophet Hud, Iram City**

### INTRODUCTION

The people of 'Ad are the people of Prophet Hud, this story is not mentioned in the Old and New Testament, but the story of this people is told in many verses in the Qur'an, Fitriani Asri in her research revealed that the scholars consider the story of the people of Ad as the miracle of the Prophet Muhammad which is contained in the Qur'an, This proved that he was given a miracle so that he knew things that happened in the past (Asri, 2019). While the Western orientalist scholar Richard Bell accused the Qur'an as the work of Muhammad SAW, Bell considered that the

Qur'an copied this story from the story of the Arabs which was narrated by word of mouth. There are many letters that tell about the 'Ad, among them are the chapter of Al-A'rof verses 65-72, chapter of Hud verses 50-60, chapter of as-Syu'ara verse 123-140, chapter of Fushilat verses 13-16, chapter of Al-Ahqof verse 21, chapter of Adz-Dzariyat verse 41, chapter of al-Qomar verse 18, chapter of Al-Haqqh verse 6, and chapter of al-Fajr verses 7-8 (Abdunna'im, 2019) .

This story has attracted the attention of many scientists, researchers, and explorers. Because the Qur'an tells the story

of the People of 'Ad with detailed explanation, it is mentioned in the Qur'an, that the People of 'Ad have strong power. They have high pillars, they even built palaces, and have springs (Sutrisno, 2017). The description of the Qur'an makes people imagine that the Land of the 'Ad is the lost Atlantis on the Arabian Peninsula. A Dreamland buried in a sea of sand on the Arabian Peninsula (Carlotto, 2021), a country that has a high civilization, prosperous, and rich, is it true? Many questions will arise in our minds if we want to discuss about the Hud people, who exactly is the Prophet Hud, and who are the Ad people. Has the location of the people of 'Ad been found, is it true that they had high pillars and palaces? How was the story of 'Ad being destroyed, and why they were destroyed?

There are many verses that tell about the People of Ad, it makes some researchers take their time to do research about the Hud. These verses are examined from several aspects. There are some people who examine some aspects of language style, physical heritage, scientific progress, and the wisdom behind the story. The discussion on the linguistic side of the story of the Ad's was carried out by Talaal Khaleefah Salman from the University of Baghdad who examined the style of language used by the 'Ad in interacting with

the Prophet Hud. Professor Talaal concluded that the 'Ad People used a harsh language style, in the form of threats and intimidation (Al-Ubaidi, 2021). This reveals that the 'Ad did have a fairly high style of language even though it was not used for something good.

Researchers also try to uncover and examine stories about the 'Ad People written by commentators on their books, such as that of Saniah Lala Sulalatus who examined Al-Khazin's style of interpretation in his interpretation of the People 'Ad (Saniah, 2020). It turns out that this interpretation still provides a partial and incomplete explanation of the story of the Ad's which is separated from one verse to another. This of course requires the role of historians to combine all the information in one complete story, which has actually been done by several medieval scholars such as Al-Baghdadi (Died 1002 AD) in *Tarikh Anbiya* or the History of the Prophets and Ibn Kathir (Died 1301 AD) in *Qisas Anbiya* or the Stories of the Prophets.

Furthermore, there is Ahmad Luthfi Karim who also tries to reveal about the characteristics of the 'Ad. Ahmad Luthfi reached the conclusion that according to the Qur'an the civilization of the 'Ad was indeed an advanced civilization. Which is shown by a description of the buildings which are explained with detailed

explanations in the Qur'an (Karim, 2016). The phenomenon of 'Ad's Civilization is also a relevant matter for us to discuss, because until today, an established and advanced civilization also tends to make its people arrogant and deny God's favor as revealed by Mutmainnah. Which discusses the phenomenon of the characteristics of the 'Ad that appear in modern society (Muthmainnah, 2020).

Eka Rizki Bastian in his research also revealed that it was the arrogant nature that destroyed the 'Ad (Bastian, 2021). Meanwhile, technological, and scientific progress of the 'Ad is also something that is commonly known, because it is very clear in historical records (Binti Hamzah & Binti Din, 2012). While the thing that also attracts people's attention is the location of the Ad. Where exactly are they located? Previous research that was accessed by the author about the location of the Ads was a research from Osama Tol'at Abdu Na'im who expressed the opinion that the location of the People of 'Ad was in the territory of Yemen (Abdunna'im, 2019). While this is also still a debate among researchers because where exactly the location is, because there are some theory about the true place of Iram City (Carlotto, 2021). So, in this paper, the author wants to reveal the facts about the People of 'Ad with a focus and emphasis on the relics of the People of

Ad, and where is the actual location of the city of Iram which is considered to be an advanced civilized city that was once inhabited by the People of 'Ad.

## **METHOD**

This research is qualitative research that used Literature Studies, a study that is usually carried out before conducting field studies (Darmalaksana, 2020). Researchers combine several sources of information, including written information in the form of related journals, the Qur'an, and classical books of Muslim Scholars. And also, audio-visual information disclosed on Youtube related to the research material. The Youtube channel chosen is a channel that is considered to have scientific responsibility with the speaker who is also a researcher who has spent quite a long time in his research, namely the Youtube Channel of Dr. 'Aid Al-Yahya, the video under study is entitled Iktisyaf Atsaar Qoum 'Ad bin Iram Ashabul Imad Allati Lam Yukhlaq Mitsluha Fil Bilad. Which means the discovery of the legacy of the people of 'Ad bin Iram, how own pillasr that had never been created before in any country. The existing information is then compiled based on the discussion. The information are compared each other to find information that is closest to the truth about who are the People of 'Ad, and where are the relics of the People of 'Ad. The steps taken by the

author in this study include: 1) collecting related materials in the form of books, journals and videos about the 'Ad, 2) reaffirming the focus on who the Ad are and where are the relics of the Ads, 3) compiling the data collected from related references, 4) reviewing the material collected to answer research questions, 5) enriching data sources to strengthen the analysis, 6) compiling research results.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The question about the origins of 'Ad has been answered by one of the legendary Muslim historians who lived in the Middle Ages, namely Ibn Kathir in his book *Bidayah wa Nihayah* volume 1 He explained that there are two theories about who Hud was, the first said that he was 'Abir the son of Shalik, the son of Arfahadz, the son of Sam, the son of Noah. While the second theory said that he is Abdullah bin Ribah bin Al-Jarud bin 'Ad bin 'Aus, bin Iram, bin Sam, bin Nuh Alaihi Salam (Ibn Katsir, 1990). Ibn Jarir at-Tobari in his commentary also mentions that Hud was part of the people of 'Ad, still descended from the Prophet Noah. They are Arabs living in Ahqof (At-Tobari, 2001). It was also mentioned by Al-Khotib Al-Baghdadi that Prophet Hud was the first Prophet to use Arabic, and there were 4 Prophets who were Arabs, namely Hud, Salih, and Shu'aib, and Muhammad SAW. So, we can

conclude that the People of 'Ad are the descendants of Sam bin Nuh, while Hud is also the descendant of 'Ad (Al-Khotib, 2004). These people are Arabs who speak Arabic, and they lived in the Arabian Peninsula, where exactly, we will talk about it later.

The next question: are there People of 'Ad one and People of 'Ad two? Allah SWT mentions in the Qur'an about the first 'Ad, in Surah Al-Qomar verse 50: “and indeed He has destroyed the first 'Ad”. This verse makes us think that if there is first 'Ad, it means that there is a second 'Ad. Then who is the first 'Ad, and who is the second? According to Ibn Kathir, there are people called 'The first Ad, and there are people called The Second 'Ad. The first 'Ad is the so-called Iram, which has high pillars. They are the People of the Prophet Hud. Which are mentioned in the surah Al-Fajr verses 6-14 (Ibnu Katsir, 1999), Allah Almighty said: “Have you not seen what your Lord did with the People of 'Ad Iram who had pillars. Nothing like it has ever been created in other Lands. And Thamud who took the stone in the Valley. And Pharaoh who owns the mountains. That goes beyond the limits, and they do the damage. So, we sprinkled the blows of doom”.

And the first People of 'Ad are also mentioned in Surah Hud verses 123-125:

“The people of 'Ad have denied the apostles. When their brother Hud said, would you be pious? In fact, I am a trustworthy apostle for you”. Thus, that is what Ibn Kathir calls the first 'Ad. While the second 'Ad is the one mentioned in Surah Al-Ahqaf verse 21: “And remember the brother of 'Ad when he warned his people in Ahqof”. In this surah, it is not stated who the Prophet was, but his people are mentioned, namely the 'Ad people, so it seems that they are called the second 'Ad people, who live in Ahqof. It seems, that they are people who still come from one lineage, maybe, some of them still survive the first doom, then they breed again. And when they disbelieved and denied the Prophet for the second time, and again they were punished by Allah Almighty.

How were the People of 'Ad destroyed? The Qur'an explains in the letter as-Syu'ara verses 123-139 that the Ad people are the people who deny their Prophet, namely Prophet Hud A.S. The people of 'Ad are described to Allah as a people who have strong power. They build big buildings hoping they can live forever. They are also given the blessings of springs, livestock, and children. But they refused to worship Allah and obey their Messenger, so they were punished. Then what is the form of punishment for them? Allah SWT explains in the letter Al-Haaqah verse 6-8:

“As for the people of 'Ad, we destroyed them with a swift and violent wind. Which subdued them 7 nights 8 days continuously, then you see the people fall? It's as if they are like crushed date palm trunks, so do you see anything left of them”.

Al-Khotib Al-Baghdadi in the Tarikh Anbiya explained, that the people of 'Ad before getting the punishment, were afflicted with drought for a long time. After living in a long drought, suddenly they saw a black cloud. The black cloud moved towards their village. They were very happy because they thought that the cloud brought water that would water their village which had been dry for a long time (Al-Khotib, 2004). Allah SWT says in the letter al-Ahqaf verse 24-25: “So when they saw a cloud coming towards their valley, they said, this is a cloud that has come to give us rain. No, but it is what you asked for, a wind in which there is a painful torment. So that they became invisible except for their dwelling place, thus we pay vengeance to the sinners.

Then it turned out that the cloud brought a strong wind that was so powerful. The wind destroyed the civilization of the People of Ad, they were thrown between heaven and earth, along with all their treasures and livestock. Then there is nothing left of them except their abode. From the verse above we can draw the

conclusion that Allah SWT has destroyed the people of 'Ad until they were blown away and nothing remained. However, Allah SWT said that although the people of 'Ad were no longer seen, their place of residence was still visible. Since the verse is quite clear, there are no words except where they live. This verse gives a signal to us that in fact the place where the people of 'Ad live is still there and can still be seen by us, as a learning material for mankind who are still alive. Then where exactly is the location of the 'Ad? Let's discuss further.

### **Theoretical Basis: The Qur'anic Explanation about the Location of The People of 'Ad**

If we look back at the verses of the Qur'an explaining the location of the people of 'Ad, we will find that the Qur'an does not clearly specify the geographical location of the place of the people of 'Ad, so that the people of 'Ad become a kind of a legend that is discussed by many people (Al-Hawawsheh, 2018). But from the Qur'an we can get some clues and hints about the actual location of the People of 'Ad.

1. Desert. There is one word which is clearly mentioned in the Qur'an, that the People of 'Ad are in Ahqof. (Surat al-Ahqof: 21). But this word *ahqof* also has a very general meaning. The word *ahqof* is the

plural of the word *hiqfun* which means high sand. So *ahqof* can be understood as a place that contains many mountains made of rolling sand. This means that this *ahqof* is also still very common, and it could be that what is meant by this *ahqof* is the deserts that are widely scattered on this Earth, and there is no clear information about which desert is mentioned by Qur'an in the story of the 'Ad. So, there are some people who think that the desert in Qur'an is the desert on the left and right of the Nile. There are also people who argue that the desert in Qur'an is the desert in the middle and in the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula. While At-Tobari mentions that what is meant is a mountain in Sham called Ahqof, another opinion mentioned by At-Tobari is that Ahqof is a valley between Oman and Maharah. This is the opinion of Abdullah bin Abbas. Then there are some people who argue that it is a place between Oman and Hadromaut (the opinion of Ibn Ishaq). Others say that what is meant by the place between Oman and Hadromaut is the area of Yemen as a whole. There are also some people who argue that the location of the 'Ad is a place in

Yemen named As-Shihr. The desert on the side of the sea (Ibn Qotadah's opinion).

2. High buildings and poles. Another thing that the Qur'an also mentioned about the dwelling place of the people of 'Ad is that they built tall buildings (Qur'an As-Syu'ara: 128-129). In these verses the Qur'an mentions that the People of 'Ad built a "*ayah*" or sign. *Ayah* has the meaning of a sign, which is something that marks their land. And this sign according to the commentators is a large building, because a sign will not be called a sign unless the sign is clearly visible. In addition, the land of Iram is also described as having high pillars (Surah Al-Fajr: 7-8), in these verses it is stated that Iram has pillars that have never been made like that in other countries. This indicates that the pillars in the Land of Iram were extraordinary poles that were not usually found in a Land.
3. The buildings and residences of the Ad people are still visible. This is mentioned by the Qur'an in several verses such as in the surah Al-Ankabut verse 38. That 'Ad and Thamud are clear where they live. This means that the remnants of the

building where they live can still be seen and are not buried in the ground. The same thing is also mentioned in another chapter of Qur'an in surah Al-Ahqof verse 25. That the people of 'Ad, after they were punished, they could not be seen except their place of residence.

4. Springs and Gardens. Another thing that is also mentioned about the definition of the Land of the 'Ad is the existence of springs. It is mentioned in the Qur'an in surah As-Syu'ara verse 134. That Allah SWT gave them favours in the form of springs and gardens. This means that the location of the People of 'Ad should have physical evidence in the form of springs that have sprung up in the past.

The explanation above has actually given some characteristics of the location of the Land of the 'Ad quite specifically. The four characteristics above can be used as benchmarks and standards that can be used to test whether a place is the former residence of the People of 'Ad or the Land of Iram or not. From the explanation of the characteristics above we can conclude that the Land of Iram or the Land of the 'Ad is not a hidden or lost country, but the land of the 'Ad can still be seen clearly by humans because it is stated that their place of



residence is still there and can still be witnessed as a lesson for mankind in later times.

### **The Opinion of the Scholars About the Location of the People of 'Ad**

The next important question is where are the people of 'Ad lived? The location of People of 'Ad is one of the greatest mysteries in the Qur'an. The Commentators also differed in their opinion about where the actual location of the Land of the 'Ad was. In the Qur'an Surah Al-Fajr, the city of the People of 'Ad is called the city of Iram. These differing opinions can be said to be quite diverse. To be able to see these opinions more clearly, let's make a kind of classification so that we can clearly know how many locations are considered as the Land of the 'Ad. Based on references that can be accessed by the author, opinions about the location of the Land of the 'Ad can be divided into several main opinions, namely:

1. Between Alexandria and Damascus. This opinion was expressed by Lailatul Badriyah (2020) based on his research on three books of commentary, namely Tafsir Al-Khazin, Ar-Razi, and Ibn 'Asyur she revealed that the commentators said that the location of the City of Iram is somewhere between Alexandria

and Damascus (Badriyah, 2020). If we look at the map, we will find that there is indeed a large area between Alexandria and Damascus, and indeed there is a large desert between the two places.

2. In Yaman. There are several opinions about where the exact location of the People of 'Ad is in Yaman, the most important opinions are:

- a) Between Oman and Hadromaut. This is of course a very large location. This opinion is mentioned by At-Tobari in his commentary, and this is the opinion of Ibn Ishaq (At-Tobari, 2001). What is meant by the place between Oman and Hadromaut is the area of Yemen as a whole.
- b) As-Shihr. There are also those who argue that the location of the 'Ad is a place in Yemen named As-Shihr. The desert that borders the sea (Ibn Qotadah's opinion) (At-Tobari, 2001).
- c) The Awwam Temple. This temple is in the territory of Yemen. There are physical relics in the form of large pillars that are still standing

- strong. This location was excavated by Wendell Philips. The location is close to Ma'rib. This is the opinion of Mark Carlotto (Carlotto, 2021).
3. *Ar-Rub'u Al-Khali*. Many people make the theory that the 'Ad and their country are buried in a sea of sand on the Arabian Peninsula called *ar-Rubu' Al-Kholi* or the Empty Quarter. *Rubu 'Al-Kholi* is a quarter of the Arabian Peninsula which is barren and desert-shaped. This desert is located between several Arab countries: Saudi Arabia, Oman, Yemen, and the United Arab Emirates. According to the author, the theory that the State of Iram is in *Ar-Rub'u Al-Khali* or the Empty Quarter was not mentioned by the commentators, but it was mentioned by some orientalist, including Bertram Thomas in his book *Arabia Felix* (G. & Thomas, 1932). This could be taken from the legend stories circulating among the Arabs.
  4. A mountain in Sham called Ahqof. This opinion is mentioned by At-Tobari in his commentary and is a history of Muhammad bin Sa'ad (At-Tobari, 2001).
  5. Valley between Oman and Maharah. Another opinion mentioned by At-Tobari is that Ahqof is a valley between Oman and Maharah. This is the opinion of Abdullah bin Abbas mentioned by At-Tobari in his commentary (At-Tobari, 2001).
  6. Ad-Dahna'. A place in Saudi Arabia. The location is a vast desert. This place was researched by Dr. 'Aid El-Yahya from Saudi Arabia. This place is not mentioned by the commentators but has similarities with the criteria mentioned in the Qur'an (Al-Yahya, 2020).

As we mentioned before, some People make the theory that the 'Ad and their country are buried in a sea of sand on the Arabian Peninsula called *ar-Rubu' Al-Kholi*. *Rubu 'Al-Kholi* is a quarter of the Arabian Peninsula which is barren and desert-shaped (Carlotto, 2021). This desert is located between several Arab countries: Saudi Arabia, Oman, Yemen, and the United Arab Emirates. Many European explorers have explored *Rubu' Al-Kholi* to find the Land of the 'Ad, the lost city, the Atlantis of Arabia. Among the explorers is the British orientalist Bertram Tomas in 1932. He was the first westerner to explore the western part of *Rubu' Kholi* (the vast desert of the Arabian Peninsula) with the

indigenous people of *Rubu' Kholi*. They moved from south to north. He found nothing and was disappointed with his journey (G. & Thomas, 1932), because he could not find the city of Iram.

Furthermore, the orientalist Saint John Philby at the end of 1932 (Aloboudi, 2017), who traveled along *Rubu' Al-kholi* from north to south, he managed to find traces of a meteor fall in *Rubu' Kholi* but also did not find the city of Iram. Furthermore, we also find Wilfred Thesiger who explored the *Rubu' kholi* in two stages, 1946-1947, and 1948-1950, then TS Lawrence which was followed by Nicholas Clap. He used the NASA satellite to find the city of Iram, he stated that he had managed to find the city of Iram. He found an object buried in the northern region of Oman, at the *sya'sur* water source. Which is on the southern border of *Rubu' Kholi*. And it was later discovered that these relics were forts and resting places used by passing traders and were built at the end of the bronze age (3000-1200 BC) (Al-Yahya, 2020).

So, from the information we have discussed earlier, we can conclude that all these orientalists did not find the actual location of the city of Iram. So, then an expert on history and ancient relics from Saudi Arabia, Dr. 'Aid el-Yahya continued this expedition to search for the mysterious city of Iram. He spent 20 years of his life

traveling all parts of the *Rubu' Kholi*, from north to south, from west to east, He crossed the borders of various countries, from Saudi Arabia, to Oman, to Yemen, to the United Arab Emirates. After conducting a search and not finding any archaeological remains from the city of Iram, he also asked for help from the Saudi Aramco Mining Company to see if there were any archaeological objects buried in the sandy sea of *rubu' al-kholi* using modern tools commonly used for excavation to find oil sources (Al-Yahya, 2020).

The result, unexpectedly, was that no archaeological objects were found by officers from Aramco. This makes Dr. Yahya thought that the land of the 'Ads was elsewhere, and not in the *Rubu' Kholi*. After further searching, he arrived in an area in Saudi Arabia, namely Aflaj Province, in this province there is a desert called Dahna '. After conducting observations and research, he found that in that place there was an ancient building still standing. the building by the indigenous People called the palace 'Ad or qushairat 'Ad. He also found that the place was close to several ancient springs that had dried up, besides that there were several sightings such as a wall standing not far from the palace of 'Ad (Al-Yahya, 2020).

Thus he concluded that this was the place he had been looking for. This is the

place where the Ad's lived before they were destroyed. While the pillars mentioned in the letter al-fajr, *Irama dzatu Imad*, according to Dr. Yahya, and as Ibn Kathir mentioned, he said that the pillars were tents. According to him and Ibn Kathir, the tent was supported by high pillars, so they were called the Irams who had pillars (Al-Yahya, 2020). this is an important search that answers the accusations of the orientalist who say that the Qur'an is only the composition of the Prophet Muhammad. because these relics are physical evidence that the People of Ad once existed and lived on the Arabian Peninsula, then they were destroyed and punished by God.

Apart from *Ar-Rub'u Al-Khali* and Dahna' there is one more place that according to the author we need to discuss in more detail. This place is in Yemen, a place called the Village of the Prophet Hud AS. Which is in the Ahqaf area. This place is a place that is considered the most famous as the location where the Hud lived. Moreover, in this place there is also a tomb which the locals consider to be the tomb of the Prophet Hud, the Prophet who was sent to the people of 'Ad, the inhabitants of the land of Iram. This means that this place is actually one of the places that has a high probability that it is the former residence of the People of 'Ad (Abdunna'im, 2019).

Muslim geographers do differ on where the actual location of the grave of Prophet Hud is, and where is also the location of al-Ahqaf mentioned in the Qur'an. But between many opinions, which ever been mentioned, this opinion is almost agreed by all scholars, that the location is in the eastern region of Yemen. There is also a mention in more detail that the location is near the Al-Hafif river. It is also mentioned in the History that there was an Arab Muslim from Yemen who came to Ali bin Abi Talib and explained about the grave of the Prophet Hud. There are also those who argue that its location is in as-Shihr, an area on the east coast of Yemen. Meanwhile, there is also an opinion which states that the tomb of Prophet Hud is in the Damascus area while Nasir Khosru argues that the tomb of Prophet Hud is in 'Aka, and that he visited the tomb while in Sham (Abdunna'im, 2019).

Although the existence of the Prophet Hud's tomb in Yemen is still uncertain, the tomb is still visited by many visitors from various places. The building has been renovated and built a mosque and dome on it. The building built on the tomb is built by Abdullah Baqsyir (died 879 H/1474 AD). he built a dome over the tomb and made a path to the tomb. Meanwhile, the mosque began to be perfected in 903 H/1497 AD.

This also shows that before that year there was already a mosque (Abdunna'im, 2019).

## CONCLUSION

The exact location of the Land of the 'Ad is a mystery that has not been solved until now. To be able to ascertain the location of the 'Ad, further research is still needed. However, the author reaches the conclusion that *Ar-Rub'u al-Khali* is not the location of the Land of the 'Ad, because it does not comply with some of the criteria mentioned in the Qur'an. Although *Ar-Rub'u Al-Khali*, according to some orientalist, is considered the location of the land of the 'Ad. While the location that seems to be considered the strongest candidate among the existing locations is the Dahna Desert, which is in the Aflaj area of Saudi Arabia. This location has the criteria mentioned in the Qur'an. This place is surrounded by desert, has large ancient buildings, and has relics of dried springs. The location is also quite clearly visible and even by residents of surrounding area, the location is known as the palace of the 'Ad or *Qushairat 'Ad*. Although no tall pillars were found which is one of the characteristics of the residence of the 'Ad, because some scholars said that the tall pillars were actually used by the People of 'Ad to build the tent and the tent has already disappeared.

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