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China dominates world Gold Market with over US \$ 80 billion dollar worth of ‘Supergiant’ gold deposit

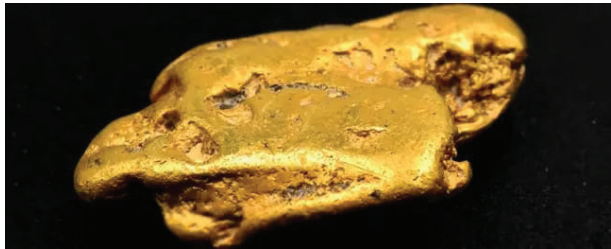
China dominates the world’s gold market with reserves considered to be in excess of 2,000 tons. Its mining industry contributing around 10 percent of the global output.

A “supergiant” deposit of high-quality gold ore containing an estimated 1,000 metric tons (1,100 US tons) of the precious metal has been discovered in the country according to Chinese state media.

Valued at up to approximately 600 billion yuan (equivalent to US\$83 billion), the discovery could be one of the largest and most lucrative reservoirs of gold ever uncovered, surpassing the 900 metric tons estimated to lie within the mother of all gold reserves, South Deep mine in South Africa. Some commentators are not yet convinced of the deposit’s scale and feasibility, but if the discovery becomes verified, it will represent a major find for China.

The Geological Bureau of Hunan Province announced the detection of 40 gold veins within a depth of 2 kilometers (1.2 miles) in the northeast Hunan county of Pingjiang in the people’s Republic of China.

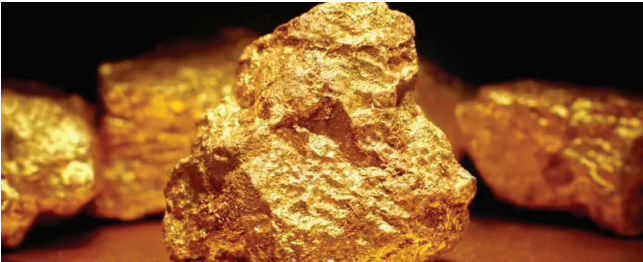
These alone were thought to contain 300 metric tons of gold, with 3D modeling suggesting additional reserves may be found to a depth of 3 kilometers. “Many drilled rock cores showed visible gold,” said bureau prospector Chen Rulin at the time of the discovery.



Core samples suggest every metric ton of ore could contain as much as 138 grams (nearly 5 ounces) of gold – an extraordinary level of quality considering ore excavated from underground mines is considered high grade if it contains more than 8 grams.

Announcements of the findings initially contributed to a further increase in the already skyrocketing gold price, with demands for the resource generally rising strongly in time of global economic uncertainty. Forged in the furnaces of embracing stars long before Earth was formed, our planet’s glittering veins are a finite resource that take eons to precipitate into an easily mineable form. Based on these findings, we might be far from exhausting economically viable reserves.

Core samples taken around the periphery of the Hunan site hint that the deposit may extend even further than initial predictions, making the reservoir beneath its soil a true dragon’s haul.



The discovery has capped off what was a notable year for gold discoveries. And much earlier, a treasure hunter in England found what was estimated to perhaps be the biggest gold nugget ever found in the country. And just months later, research by scientists in Australia discovered a new mechanism that may lead to the formation of gold, suggesting the seismic activity of earthquakes actually plays a role in the creation of large nuggets.

But that’s not all. In addition to learning more about how gold naturally forms, scientists are also investigating new things that can be done to manipulate the precious resource.

A study published earlier in April 2024 reported the creation of a new kind of two-dimensional gold called ‘goldene’, measuring only a single layer of atoms in height, which has some interesting properties not seen in the three-dimensional form of gold.

While gold is an ancient metal that has been prized all throughout human history, there’s clearly a lot we’re still finding out about it.



Investigative Journalist Anas Aremeyaw Anas wins case against Ghana’s Member of Parliament Kennedy Agyapong in US Court

A US court awarded Ghanaian investigative journalist Anas Aremeyaw Anas \$18m (£14m) in damages, after a jury said he was defamed by former Ghanaian MP Kennedy Agyapong.

The case stems from comments Agyapong made about Anas after his BBC investigation in 2018 that exposed football corruption in Ghana and elsewhere.

The court heard that Agyapong, among other accusations made on a podcast, had called the reporter a “criminal” and alleged he was behind the murder of fellow journalist Ahmed Suale.

Anas lost a similar legal action in Ghana seven years ago. But after the release of the podcast episode in 2021 Anas went to court in the US state of New Jersey where Agyapong has a property.

The politician was in New Jersey when he was interviewed for the Daddy Fred Show podcast, according to court papers filed by his lawyers.

Last week’s initial verdict was confirmed on Tuesday. The \$18m in damages was the result of a unanimous decision by an eight-member jury in Essex County Superior Court in New Jersey, finding Agyapong liable for defamation.

The figure included \$8m in punitive damages.

“Justice has prevailed. This victory is not just for me, but for truth, press freedom, and every journalist who risks everything to expose corruption and wrongdoing,” Anas said in response.

“No amount of intimidation or falsehood will silence the pursuit of accountability even in the face of assassination. Our



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work continues, undeterred and unafraid.”

The journalist, who has won multiple international awards for his reporting, has vowed to continue fighting corruption and holding wrongdoers accountable.

Agyapong’s lawyers had unsuccessfully argued that the case should not have been brought in the US in the first place. They also said that the comments made on the podcast were the kinds of things other courts had described as hyperbole and opinion and were not subject to a defamation case.

Meanwhile, police in Ghana have arrested a suspect in connection with the murder of Anas’ colleague, Ahmed Hussein Suale, who was killed in 2019.

The suspect allegedly shared pictures of the undercover journalist with a popular Ghanaian politician before his death.

The death of Ahmed was also linked to a football corruption exposé.

The investigation sought to expose corruption in African football and was reported by BBC Africa Eye.

Africa’s Rich History: King Moshoeshoe and the Battle for Plateau Thaba Bosiu in Lesotho



King Moshoeshoe I was the first king of Lesotho. He was the first son of Mokhachane, a minor chief of the Bamokoteli lineage, a branch of the Koena (crocodile) clan in Lesotho. In his youth, he helped his father gain power over some other smaller clans. In 1820, at the age of 34, Moshoeshoe succeeded his father as the Bamokoteli chief and formed his own clan. He and his followers settled at the Butha-Buthe Mountain. He became the first and longest-serving King of Lesotho in 1822.

About Thaba Bosiu

Thaba Bosiu is a constituency and sandstone plateau with an area of approximately 2 km sq. (0.77 square miles) and a height of 1,804 meters above sea level. It is located between the Orange and Caledon Rivers in the Maseru District of Lesotho, 24 km east of the country’s capital Maseru. It was once the capital of Lesotho, having been King Moshoeshoe’s stronghold.



Thaba Bosiu was used as a hideout by King Moshoeshoe I and his subjects after they migrated from Butha-Buthe in 1824 escaping the ravages of the Difaqane/Mfecane Wars. The plateau formed a natural fortress which protected the Basotho in times of war. Moshoeshoe I and his people took occupation of this mountain in July 1824. He named it Thaba Bosiu (loosely translated – Mountain at Night) because he and his people arrived at night. To intimidate his enemies, he spread news that the mountain grew larger at night. Moshoeshoe was able to offer cattle and protection to those fleeing the ravages of Mfecane/Difaqane Wars. When Moshoeshoe settled in Thaba Bosiu, he sent for many people to be rounded up by his regiments. They were given food and shelter. The plateau’s large area meant it could hold enough livestock and provisions to support the people during a lengthy siege.

In 1837, Private David Webber from the 72nd Seaforth Highlanders reached Thaba Bosiu, where he was given refuge/sanctuary. He was a good mason and carpenter, and thus built King Moshoeshoe I a stone house. It was a rectangular building measuring 10 metres by 5 metres and was divided internally into two rooms. Moshoeshoe had four other stone buildings erected as part of his compound – three of which were rectangular and one cylindrical.



Many Basotho believe that the mountain preserved magical properties. One belief is that if an individual takes some dirt from the mountain, he will find that it is gone in the morning, having returned to the mountain. As also mentioned above, news was spread as a form of intimidation to the enemies that the mountain grew larger at night. Mzilikazi attempted to attack Moshoeshoe I at Thaba Bosiu, trying to gather strength after escaping Shaka Zulu’s rule; but was unsuccessful in his conquest.

Mzilikazi Moselekatse, Khumalo was a Southern African king who founded the Ndebele Kingdom now called Matabeleland which is now part of Zimbabwe. His name means “the great river of blood”. He was born the son of Mashobane kaMangethe near Mkuze, Zululand (now known as KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa), and died at Ingama, Matabeleland (near Bulawayo, Zimbabwe). Many consider him (Mzilikazi) to be the greatest Southern African military leader after the Zulu king, Shaka. In his autobiography, David Livingstone referred to Mzilikazi as the second most impressive leader he encountered on the African continent.

European invaders in 1852 and the Boers of the Orange Free State were unable to storm Moshoeshoe’s mountain during the siege of Thaba Bosiu on 18 August 1865. However, Louw Wepener and 6 000 armed Boers volunteered to charge Thaba Bosiu. Their strategy was simply for the Free State Artillery (Vrystaatse Artillerie Regiment) to bombard the top of the mountain. As they approached, only 100 Boers were still with Wepener by 5pm and others had retreated to the Boer lines. Wepener made it to the top of Khubelu pass only to have his head struck by a bullet. He is the only enemy ever to reach the mountain top and has been linked to it as Khubelu pass is also known as Wepener’s pass. The siege of Thaba Bosiu continued until January 1866 when General Jan Fick and his men returned to Free State to reorganize.



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The Treaty of Thaba Bosiu

Due to being starved after the siege, the Basotho signed a treaty in April 1866 in which they agreed to surrender 3,000 cattle. They also surrendered more than two-thirds of their arable land. At the time, Basotho faced large scale starvation and thus Moshoeshoe and his subjects agreed to the Orange Free State’s terms. The land they forfeited during this treaty included conquered territory on the west of the bank of the Caledon River and Orange River. This left Basotho with a significantly reduced cultivable area close to Thaba Bosiu, as well as 32 kilometres of arable soil on the east bank of the Caledon River. The inhabitants however, did not vacate the surrendered territory and in March 1867, Orange Free State President Johannes Henricus Brand ordered both a resumption and intensification of Free State military action.

In 1867, After the Third Free State-Basotho War, when Free State conquered the whole Lowlands, Moshoeshoe requested British protection which was granted in March 1868 on the eve of the Boer attack on Thaba Boisu. Lesotho became a British territory. Thaba Bosiu was the only part of the territory which had remained invincible.

The Thaba Bosiu Affair

On 27 December 1966, King Moshoeshoe II organized protest meetings which culminated in a prayer meeting at Thaba Bosiu. This was a reaction to Prime Minister Chief Leabua Jonathan’s governance (leader of the Basotho National Party - BNP). Moshoeshoe II contested the legitimacy of the BNP governance and his lack of executive powers in the governance of Lesotho. When the prayer meeting was held, Chief Jonathan perceived this defiance as a promotion of insurrection and banned the meeting. A conflict between the security forces and demonstrators ensued, resulting in 10 dead and arrests of many opposition party leaders. Under house arrest, Moshoeshoe II was forced to sign a document promising not to convene or address public gatherings without consent of his government and to present only speeches required and prepared by the government.

In 1967, the Lesotho government declared the mountain a national monument. In the 1990s, the United Nation Development Programme in conjunction with the Basotho government, initiated the Preservation and Presentation of Thaba Bosiu, the national monument to preserve this historical landmark. This mountain has become a tourist attraction, with a

conference centre, a cultural village and accommodation facilities.

Grave Of Moshoeshoe I Atop Thaba Bosiu

In 1996, Moshoeshoe II was buried on the mountain, joining Moshoeshoe I. To keep the cultural significance, several political organizations held meetings or rallies at Thaba Bosiu. For example, Lekhotla la Bafo (a political organization) held many meetings on top of the mountain. In 1957, Lekhotla la Bafo held a joint meeting with the Basotoland Congress Party (BCP) at Thaba Bosiu.

Africa’s Travel Destinations – Discover Namibia’s Skeleton Coast ‘The Land God made in Anger’

The Skeleton Coast is the northern part of the Atlantic coast of Namibia. Immediately south of Angola, it stretches from the Kunene River to the Swakop River, although the name is sometimes used to describe the entire Namib Desert coast. The indigenous San people (formerly known as Bushmen), of the Namibian interior called the region “The Land God Made in Anger”, while Portuguese sailors once referred to it as “The Gates of Hell”.

On the coast, the upwelling of the cold Benguela current gives rise to dense ocean fogs (called cassimbo by the Angolans) for much of the year. The winds blow from land to sea, rainfall rarely exceeds 10 millimetres (0.39 inches) annually, and the climate is highly inhospitable. There is a constant, heavy surf on the beaches. In the days before engine-powered ships and boats, it was possible to get ashore through the surf, but impossible to launch from the shore. The only way out was by going through a marsh hundreds of kilometres long and only accessible via a hot and arid desert. The coast is largely made up of soft sand occasionally interrupted by rocky outcrops. The southern section consists of gravel plains, while north of Terrace Bay the landscape is dominated by high sand dunes. Skeleton Bay is also known as a great location for surfing.



Namibia’s Skeleton Coast is one of Africa’s lesser-known but very valuable gems. This remote and desolate region is home to spectacular scenery, consisting of sweeping vistas of deserts, ocean and sky, as well as a few hidden surprises.

Much of the coast falls under the protection of the Skeleton Coast National Park, with more flora and fauna thriving here than you’d think possible. Game drives in the region often deliver exciting sightings of Namibia wildlife-making Skeleton Coast Namibia’s most mind-boggling safari destination.

There are only a handful of exclusive lodges in Skeleton Coast National Park, affording the intrepid safari traveller a safe, comfortable and luxurious base from which to experience this extraordinary destination. Explore the coastline and its hinterland – dunes, ephemeral river valleys and patches of woodland – by 4X4 or on foot.

Why It Is Called The Skeleton Coast?

The Skeleton Coast in Namibia gets its striking name from the shipwrecks and the remains of whale and seal bones that litter the shoreline, from the beaches north of Swakopmund all the way to the Angolan border. The coast has long been a graveyard for shipwrecked sailors whose vessels fell victim to the Atlantic’s treacherous currents, shifting sandbanks and thick fog. The dangers of this deadly coastline also earned it the moniker “The Land God Made in Anger” by indigenous San people.

The exact Skeleton Coast location is in the northwestern region of Namibia. Approximately 40 kilometres (25 miles) wide and 500 kilometres (311 miles) long, the stretch of coastline runs alongside the Atlantic Ocean and reaches from the Kunene River down to the Swakop River. It also forms part of the larger Skeleton Coast National Park, a vast expanse of land that takes up over 16,000 square kilometres (6,178 square miles).

Why You Should Visit The Skeleton Coast?

See Maritime Shipwrecks & Marine Remains

Skeleton Coast’s shipwrecks and skeletal remains are not only the inspiration for the region’s name but also its biggest attraction. The golden beaches of this notorious coastline make up the world’s largest ship cemetery dotted with the remnants of the unlucky vessels that tangled with and lost against the cold and unpredictable Benguela Current of the Atlantic Ocean. The rusted debris is not the only relics of the sea found on Skeleton Coast. Bleached bones of



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particular) litter the coastline, partly due to the whaling industry that once existed nearby.

The dramatic scenery of Skeleton Coast evokes a sense of mystery and history whose eerie allure compels you to explore the coastline.

Despite the harsh environment, the animal populations that make up the Skeleton Coast wildlife are varied and thriving. Bird watchers on a Skeleton Coast safari will be pleasantly surprised by the nearly 250 species in the area while black-backed jackals are among the most seen animals. Hardy antelope species such as gemsbok, kudu and springbok can be seen at freshwater seeps and are sometimes joined by the mega-sightings of the region – desert-adapted elephants and giraffes. And if your luck is in, you might even get to see lions in Skeleton Coast.

The most dramatic wildlife spectacle is in the south of the Skeleton Coast National Park and in the National West Coast Recreational Area. The icy Atlantic is hugely fertile and supports an enormous colony of between 80,000 and 100,000 Cape fur seals at Cape Cross, about 130 kilometres (81 miles) north of Swakopmund. The noise and smell are often overpowering, not least during the November – December breeding season when as many as 200,000 seals gather on the shore. Predators such as brown hyena and black-backed jackal lurk on the periphery to take advantage of any opportunities.

Indulge In Adventure & Solitude

One of the best reasons to visit Skeleton Coast is undoubtedly the privacy and exclusivity you'll enjoy during your stay. This hidden gem sees little foot traffic and is one of the most remote places in the world, ensuring unparalleled solitude and immersion in nature. And with few Beyond the peace and tranquility, adventure is also on offer. The Skeleton Coast activities available are exciting and varied, from thrilling game drives in a 4x4 and hiking to the top of towering sand dunes to scenic flights over the coast and quad biking through the unique desert landscape.



For those who prefer a slower pace, take your time exploring the many shipwrecks scattered along the coast, visit the Himba communities and learn about their traditional lifestyle, or spend an afternoon deep-sea fishing before visiting the Cape



Cross Seal Reserve to see thousands of Cape fur seals play in the water.

Learn About Namibia's Rich Cultural History

Namibia's Skeleton Coast not only offers an abundance of natural wonders but also holds a wealth of cultural significance. The northern region of Skeleton Coast is home to the Himba people, one of Namibia's indigenous groups who are semi-nomadic pastoralists. A Skeleton Coast safari affords the rare opportunity to visit a Himba village and learn about their unique way of life, traditional customs, and how they've managed to adapt to the harsh desert environment and thrive for centuries.



So are you not visiting the Skeleton Coast in Namibia? if you are... then I know you are going to enjoy a wonderful experience... And if not yet, then pls add it to your bucket list of travel destinations this year.

African-American Billionaire, Tyler Perry pays Mortgage for 85-year old Woman

Tyler Perry has provided great financial relief for 85-year-old Anniece Tisdale.

According to WSMV-4, Tisdale hired an unlicensed contractor to renovate her East Nashville, TN, home to accommodate her disability and growing family. However, the project took a turn for the worse when the contractor abandoned it altogether after not meeting completion expectations. Tisdale was then left with a home unsafe to live in and thousands of dollars lost.

After an interview with the local news station, Tisdale was asked by Sherri Shepherd to appear on her "Sherri" talk show, and was joined by her daughter, Yolanda, who revealed that at least \$180,000 had been invested into the home renovation project. Yolanda and her husband both took out personal loans and pooled from savings and credit cards to gather the funds.

Yolanda also helped to refinance her mom's mortgage to pay for the \$200,000 in renovations.

"We signed the contract in January. We were supposed to be finished March 31. It was a five-phase-to-pay [agreement], because I knew not to pay all the way. So, the first, second, and third, it looked like things were going well, but with the fourth payment, which equaled to about \$180,000 we had given to him in his pocket, things stopped... It was just the outside was done, but the inside was ridiculously just in bad shape," Yolanda said on the "Sherri" show.

Tisdale told WSMV-4: "I pray this never happens to no one else."

The home holds great significance as one of her four daughters passed away from a heart attack, and her memories are within that home, Tisdale shared with the outlet.

Tyler Perry, a billionaire filmmaker who owns the first Black-owned film studio, caught wind of Tisdale's situation and has offered to pay off her mortgage.

"Tyler Perry heard about what you have been going through, and he feels, as I do, at 85 years old you didn't deserve this," Shepherd revealed to Tisdale during the show's taping. "You didn't deserve to have this happen to you, not with all of the storms that you have weathered throughout your life. But your strength and your faith have gotten you through, and Tyler is aware of all the piled-up bills this ordeal has caused you, and he wants to take that financial burden off of you."

The surprise left the mother and daughter in tears. The night that Tisdale's other daughter passed away, Tyler Perry's play at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center was one of her final stops, Tisdale shared.

"I couldn't believe it," she expressed, per WSMV-4. "...It was a coincidence that she was watching over me with Tyler and helped him bless me with this."

Tisdale's home is now nearly furnished. The family said they plan to pay it forward, and the next mortgage payment will be donated to Habitat for Humanity.

