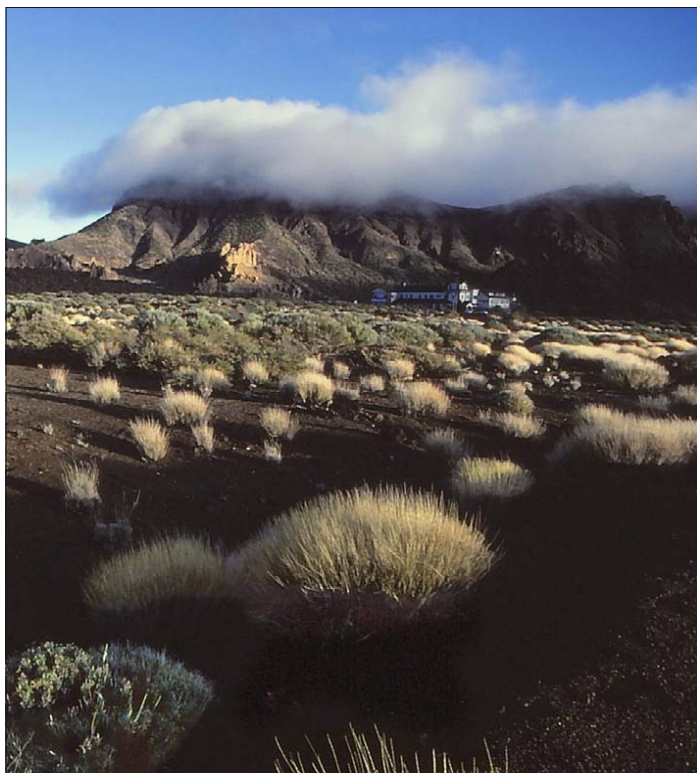


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Keywords: North Africa, Algeria, Tell Atlas, concentric circles, U-shaped monuments (USM), reincarnation cult, constructed contour lines

Zitieren Sie bitte diesen Aufsatz folgendermaßen / Please cite this article as follows:

Ulbrich, Hans-Joachim (2017): A large double-circle near Redjem Demouche (Algeria).- IC-Nachrichten 99 (Institutum Canarium), Wien, 77-80 (online)

Hans-Joachim Ulbrich

A large double-circle near Redjem Demouche (Algeria)

The circle and even more the double-circle had at all times of mankind an immense symbolic value: completeness, perfection, infinity, shelter, god & sky, the wish to become godlike and many more attributes. In proto- and pre-historic times this form was gladly used for sacred areas and council places (on the Canaries for example the *tagoror*).

The pre-Arabic Berber people of North Africa had probably the same ideas in mind when constructing their double-circles which apparently had no technical or economic purpose. This becomes evident – at least in the case described here – through the added U-shaped monuments (USMs) which are interpreted as female pubics (Ulbrich 2016). Tens of thousands of USMs (**U**, **n**) can be found in the entire Mediterranean region including the Canary Islands, the Sahara, the Black Sea hinterland and the Near East. The Google Earth photo shows the USMs best in its 2004 version.

The double-circle reported in this paper (Figs. 2, 3) is situated in the southern, increasingly arid foothills of the Tell Atlas near the town of Redjem Demouche in Algeria (UTM 30SYD0396908966). Its walls lie under and over other types of walls, regarding younger (renovated) or older contour lines respectively (Fig.1). The diameter of the giant circle are impressive 561 m.

The combination of a concentric double-circle and USMs lets think of a reincarnation cult. Similar constructions in Algeria seem to confirm this (Fig. 4).

Literature:

Ulbrich, Hans-Joachim (2016): U-shaped monuments in the badlands of northern Jordan.- IC-Nachrichten 98 (Institutum Canarium), Wien, 39-54 (online)



Fig.1 - The circle is surrounded – strangely – not by walls of terracing but by low walls of artificial contour lines which seem to have no agricultural purpose. This phenomenon can be watched in entire North Africa and looks sometimes like the ribs of a human or mammalian chest.



Google Earth (30SYD0396908966)



Fig. 2 - The diameter of this concentric circle accounts for amazing 561 m. In this 2004 version of the Google Earth satellite photo we can document 17 USMs; in the version of 2017 we find only 10 of these monuments. It is a great pity that this image of 2004 is cut by Google Earth on the left (western) side.



Fig. 3 - This version of 2010 is complete and sharp, but some USMs are covered by debris.

The aerial images in Fig. 2-4 show the aridification of this region where farming becomes evermore difficult or has been given up.

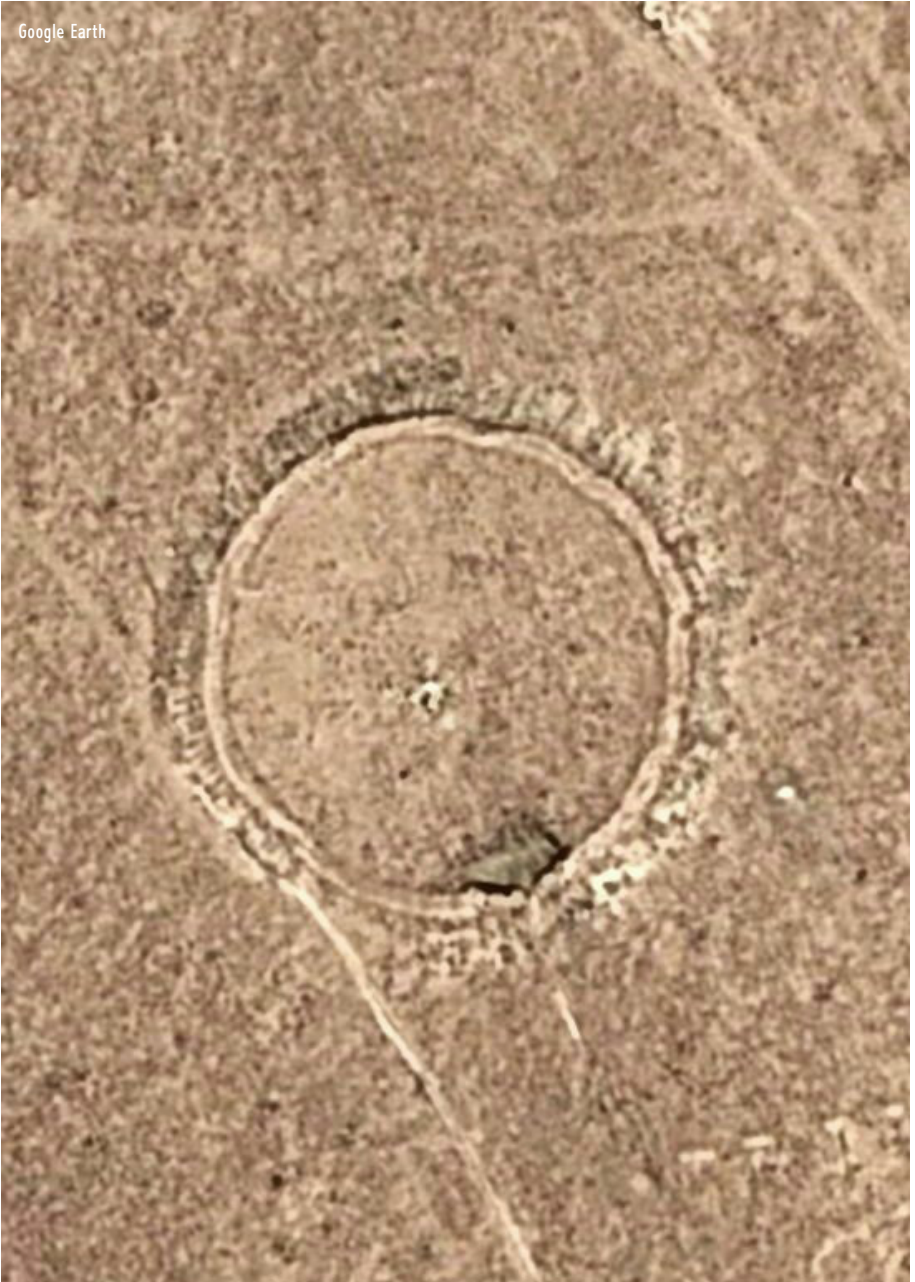


Fig. 4 - Another circle (\varnothing 160 m - UTM 30SYC1087394845) in Algeria accompanied by USMs; one of these is placed in the center of the circle.