

Moai Statues

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Moai Statues Latest News

A study warns that rising sea levels could submerge Easter Island's iconic moai statues by 2080 and it will threaten the island's cultural identity and tourism economy.

About Moai Statues

- They are **massive megalithic** stone-carved **human-shaped statues found at Easter Island**.
- The Easter Island **statues are monolithic human figures** carved from volcanic rock by the first Polynesian settlers on the island, **the Rapa Nui people**.
- They were built in **approximately 1400 – 1650 A.D.** by the natives of this island **known as Rapa Nui**.
- There are around 1000 Moai statues which are made up of volcanic tuff, the tallest of them being 33 feet.
- They carved them in the likeness of their ancestors.

What do Moais Represent?

- They were **built to honor chieftains** or other important people who had passed away.

- They were **placed on rectangular stone platforms called ahu**, which are tombs for the people that the statues represented.
- The moais were intentionally made with different characteristics since they were intended to keep the appearance of the person they represented.

Key Facts about Easter Island

- It is located in the **eastern Pacific Ocean**. Together with Hawaii and New Zealand, it forms the so-called 'Polynesian Triangle', a spearhead-shaped area in the Pacific that is the traditional homeland of the Polynesian people.

Source: DTE

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-are-moai-statues/>

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