Enigmatic Cliff's Rare Phenomenon: "Stone Eggs" Laid Every 30 Yearsaa

If you’ve never heard of an egg-laying mountain, you probably don’t know about Chan Da Ya, a mysterious cliff in China that reportedly lays perfectly round or oval stone eggs every 30 years.

Located in Qiannan Buyi and Miao Autonomous Region, China’s Guizhou Province, Chan Da Ya – Mandarin for “egg laying cliff” – has been puzzling geologists for decades. The 9ft high and 65ft long heavily eroded formation has an uneven surface dotted with dozens of round and oval-shaped stones ofvarious sizes. As the elements continue to eat away at the cliff, the harder “eggs” become even moreexposed and eventually fall out of their natural sockets. According to the people of the nearby Guluvillage, Chan Da Ya takes 30 years to lay its strange stone eggs.

The egg-laying phenomenon of Chan Da Ya is considered unique, so geologists hoping to come up withan explanation have had to travel to the remote mountainous region to study it first-hand. Their testsshowed that while most of Mount Gandeng is made of harder sediments, this particular section is mostlymade of calcareous rock, which is easily eroded. The eggs are made of much tougher rock, so thedifference in time needed for the elements to go through the different types of rock explainsthe egglaying phenomenon. However, no one has yet been able to explain how a calcareous sectionthat wasformed during the Cambrian period can still be around 500 million years later, or why thestone eggs areall round or oval.