

ATLAS OF THE GREAT CAVES OF THE WORLD

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LIBYA

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Several expeditions have explored the speleological potential of Libya (Circolo Speleologica Romano, 1959-1960, between Banghazi and Al-Bayda, Cyrenaica; Comex and Société des Eaux de Marseille, near Banghazi; and a Hungarian team led by Attila Kósa, 1979-1981, exploring the gypsum karst of Dir al Ghanam, Tripoli area). In spite of the climate, which is unfavorable for karstification, some remarkable caves have nonetheless developed. Few Libians seem interested in caving, and the sole publication dedicated to Libya, to which we owe a great debt, is the excellent report of Attila Kósa, *Bir al Ghanam Karst Study Project* (1981).

DEEP CAVES:

1. **Bukarma** (Banghazi, Cyrenaica) -101 m
Alt. 25 m. 78 m are underwater. In 1975 by COMEX and S.E.M.
2. **Abraq** (Abraq, Cyrenaica) -92 m
In 1983 by A. Kósa and Csernavölgyi.
3. **aïn Mizraq** (Nasmah, Tripolitainia) -86 m
Alt. 200 m approx. Descended around 1936 (Kósa, *op. cit.*, profile).
4. **"puits aux jumars"** (Banghazi, Cyrenaica) ... -85 m
In 1977 by COMEX and S.E.M. Has 60 m underwater.
5. **"gouffre sans nom"** -75 m
(Jebel Akhdar, Banghazi, Cyrenaica)
In 1959 by C.S.R. (*Notiziario C.S.R.*, 1969 (18-19) profile).
6. **Muntaqa Aqaranta** (al Marj, Cyrenaica) -60 m
In 1983 by A. Kósa and Csernavölgyi. Depth estimated at 100 m.
7. **haua el Labrag** (Labrag, Cyrenaica) -53 m
In 1959 by C.S.R. (*Not. C.S.R.*, 1969 (18-19) profile).
8. **Umm al Masabih** +52.5 m
(Bir al Ghanam, Tripolitainia)

LONG CAVES:

1. **Umm al Masabih** 3593 m
(Bir al Ghanam, Tripolitainia)
Twelve entrances. Gypsum. in 1981 (Kósa, *op. cit.*, plan).
2. **Bukarma-Habibi** (Banghazi, Cyrenaica) 2256 m
Part of the Zayana system. In 1976 and 1977 by COMEX and S.E.M. Total of 1454 m underwater. Map not drawn.
3. **Mirisi** (Banghazi, Cyrenaica) 2117 m
In 1976 by COMEX and S.E.M. Totally underwater. Part of the Zayana system. Map not drawn.
4. **Abu an Niran N° 1** 858 m
(Bir al Ghanam, Jefren, Tripolitaine)
(Kósa, (*op. cit.*), plan.)
5. **aïn Debussia** (Banghazi, Cyrenaica) 847 m
Partly underwater (1977, COMEX and S.E.M.)
6. **"puits aux jumars"** (Banghazi, Cyrenaica) ... 830 m
Part of the Zayana system (1977, COMEX and S.E.M.).
7. **aïn Fasat** (Bir al Ghanam, Tripolitainia) 618 m
(Kósa, (*op. cit.*), plan.)
8. **Abu an Niran N° 3;** 365 m
(Bir al Ghanam, Jefren, Tripolitaine)
(Kósa, (*op. cit.*), plan.)