The Pyramid of Cestius.

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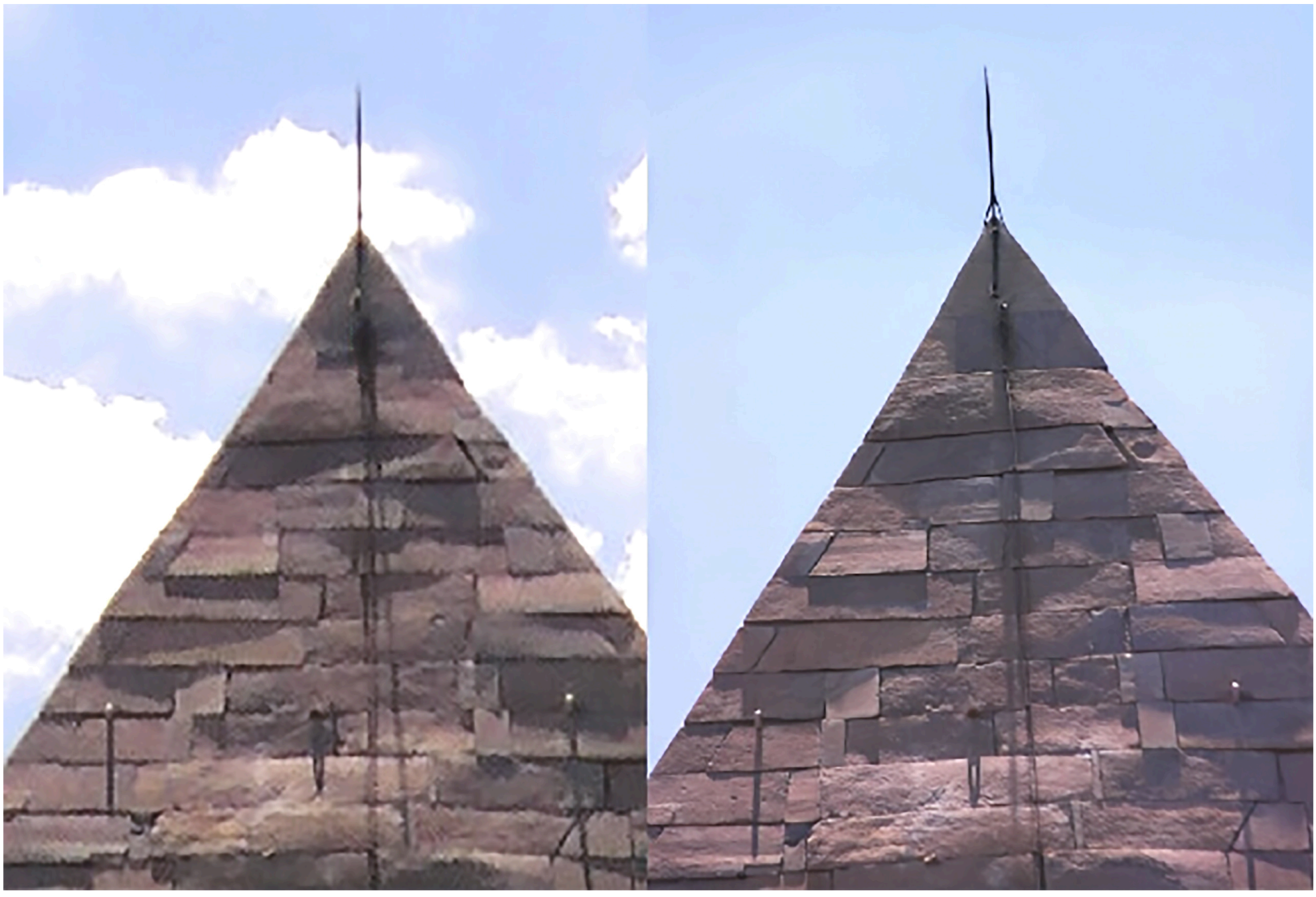
Dear ***Constantino Sigismondi***, in the section "Astronomy of the Pyramid" in my article "The Pyramid of Cestius (Cestius'un Piramiti)", I used the Sun's azimuth of 204.27° and altitude of 68.07° that you gave for the pyramid on 28 May 2015, 13:45:17 (see "Misura dell'azimut della Piramide Cestia col Sole", p. 3, Fig. 2). In Figure 1.33 I have also included photographs (original and enhanced) taken at this time by ***Francesco Di Vita***.



My questions about this photography and measurement are as follows: In these photographs it is clear that the stones on the north-east face and the top of the pyramid are separated from the centre line by mortar.

1. The shadow of the lightning rod at the top of the pyramid appears slightly to the right in the left picture and slightly to the left in the right picture. Was the shadow exactly at the centre line when you took the measurement at 13:45:17?

2. From Table 1.9, it is clear that the shadow of the lightning rod will not be at the full angle of inclination of the pyramid, as the sun's rays will not be exactly perpendicular to the southeast (east) face of the pyramid on 15.03.2023-2027. Therefore, the Sun's azimuth of 204.27° and altitude of 68.07° that you have given for the pyramid on 28 May 2015, 13:45:17 are no more than approximate. In this case, the plan of the pyramid is as I have given in Figure 1.32.

3. I wish you had measured the angle of inclination of the pyramid directly like Celeste Rinaldi-Vito Maragioglio instead of measuring it with the Sun.

15 March 2024 Experiment at the Pyramid of Cestius

By the way, if you do the following experiment, you will enlighten the Italian people.

According to Figure 1.33, the angle of inclination of the pyramid is 67°58'37'', while the angle of inclination at which the sunlight is perpendicular to the pyramid faces (except the northeast face) is 22°01'23''. However, this last angle of inclination changes according to the years: 21°52.955' on 15.03.2023, 22°07.0045' on 15.03.2024 (now), 21°51.3365' on 15.03.2026 and 21°49.718' on 15.03.2027.

Accordingly, you need to go to the Pyramid of Cestius on 15.03.2024 and make a video showing the azimuth of the Sun at 114°16.142' and the altitude of the Sun at 22°04.603' on the southeast (east) face at 08:28:01 (these values are close to exact) and post it on Youtube. Because at this moment I think that Gaius Cestius, the guard of the first Roman Emperor August, died, because the pyramid architect reflected his death date on the pyramid in this way, and this date is also the date of Julius Caesar's death according to the Julian calendar.

Yours sincerely Derya PAMUKTULUM.