

# ARUNACHALA PHOTOGRAPHS

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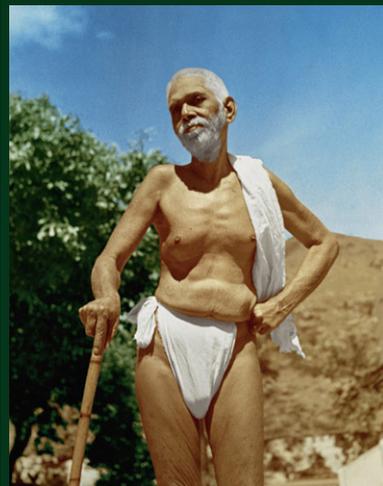
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Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi  
and Mount Arunachala

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# Welcome to Arunachala

*Iswara said:*

*37 - I truly abide here on earth in the form of an effulgence named Arunachala for (bestowing) the attainment (of Liberation).*

*38 - Since it (this Hill) removes the cruel heap of sins from all the worlds, and since bondage (runa) becomes non-existent when one sees it, it is (named) Arunachala.*

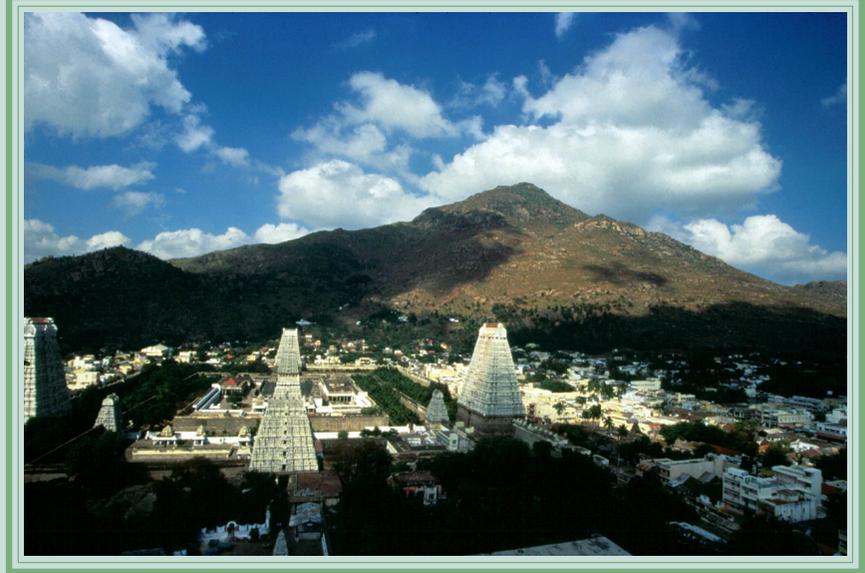
*40 - In ancient days, when a fight arose between Brahma and Vishnu, who were both born from a part of me, I manifested myself in the form of an Effulgence in order to remove their delusion.*

*43 - At their further request I, who was in the form of an Effulgence, became the motionless linga named Arunachala.*

*- Skanda Mahapurana (Arunachala Mahatmyam)*

The power of Arunachala to bring peace to all who go there is beyond all logical explanation, beyond all dispute, and defies all efforts at comprehension. It is a spiritual matter which transcends the limited aspects of the mind, for it subdues and finally destroys the impure mind, leaving behind only the pure experience of Being. Arunachala has been the home of countless sages and has blessed all who show true reverence and devotion with the ultimate goal of life, that being Mukti (final liberation from the cycle of birth and death).

Arunachala's most recent and highly renowned son was Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi, who at the moment of first arrival, addressed Arunachala as 'Father'. From the time He arrived at the age of sixteen until His passing at the age of seventy He never left this Mountain for a single minute. His state of grace was indisputable and for fifty-four years He freely gave it to all who came within His divine presence. It is impossible to speak about Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi without



Arunachala, and vice-versa, for they are considered to be 'One'

As the fame of Bhagavan Sri Ramana Maharshi grows throughout the world, so the name of Arunachala grows with it. Today, millions of devotees flood there on the annual festivals and full-moon days; tens of thousands travel to Arunachala every year from all over the world to partake of the profound spiritual atmosphere, and like a tidal wave, the palpable Grace of Lord Siva flows from Arunachala to carry everyone along as they set out on their devotional Pradakshina of this most sacred of Mountains.

Science has declared Arunachala to be the oldest geological formation on earth, and the great Temple which stands at its foot is said to be the oldest and largest Siva Temple in the world.

It is true to say that all mountains inspire awe in the beholder, but this Mountain does far more than that; even perfect strangers who know nothing about Arunachala are seized by Its power, and when they leave they go away rewarded.



*Photograph courtesy of - Anonymous Devotee*



*Photograph courtesy of - Anonymous Devotee*



*Photograph courtesy of - Anonymous Devotee*



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*Photograph courtesy of - Anonymous Devotee*



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*Photograph courtesy of - Anonymous Devotee*



*Photograph courtesy of - Dominica*



*Photograph courtesy of - Dominica*



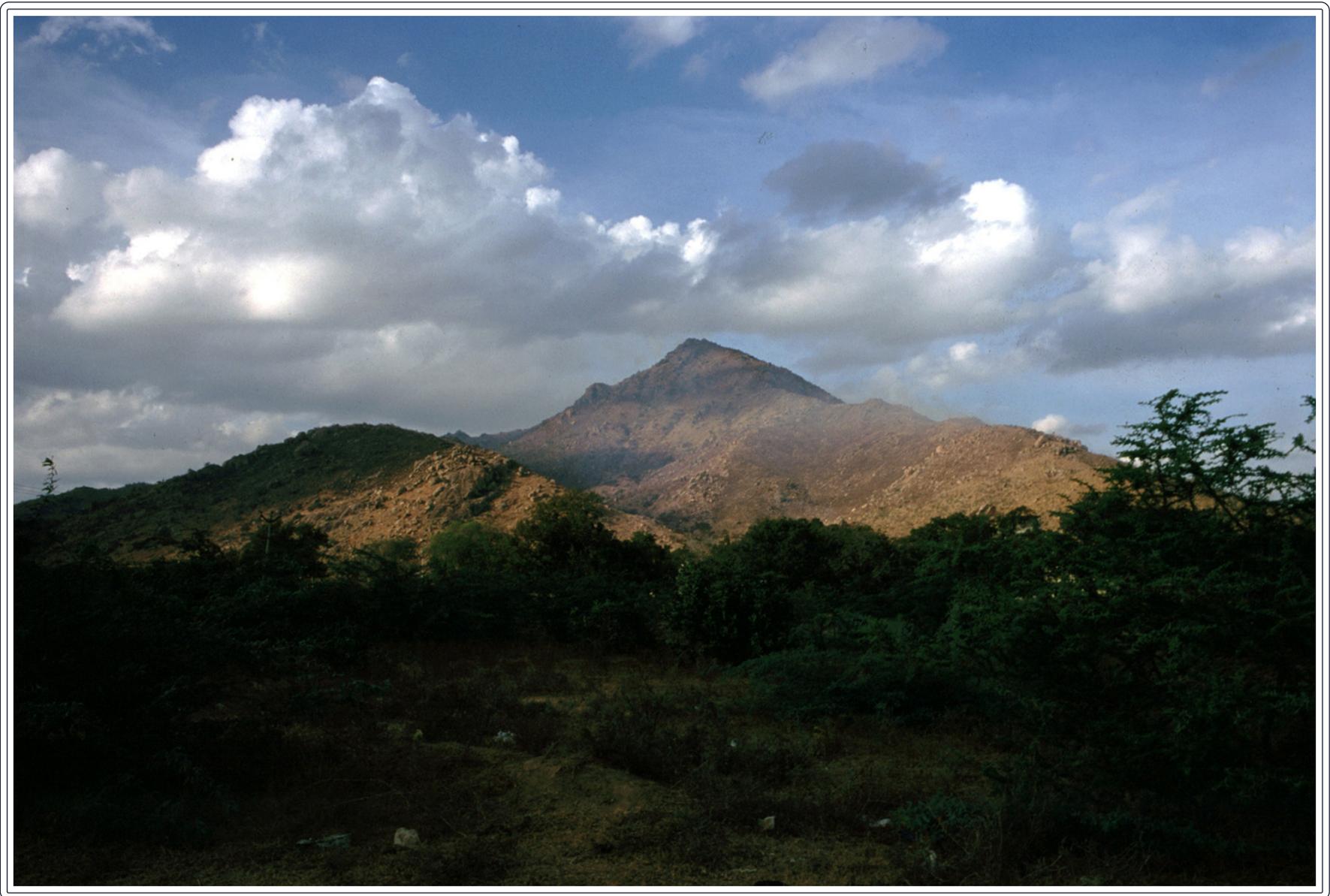
*Photograph courtesy of - Dominica*



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## Arunachala - Mountain of Fire



*Photograph courtesy of - Eurico M. S. Saraiva*



*Photograph courtesy of - Ilaya Raja*



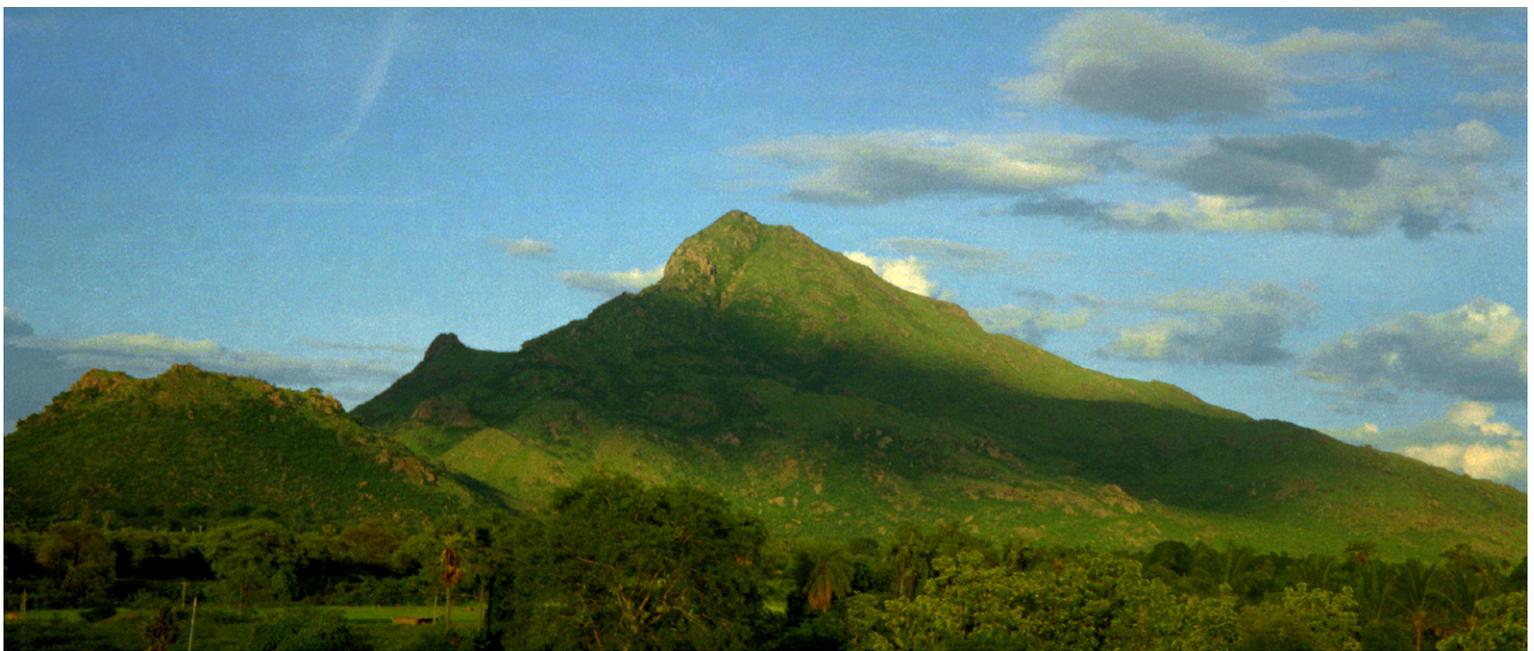
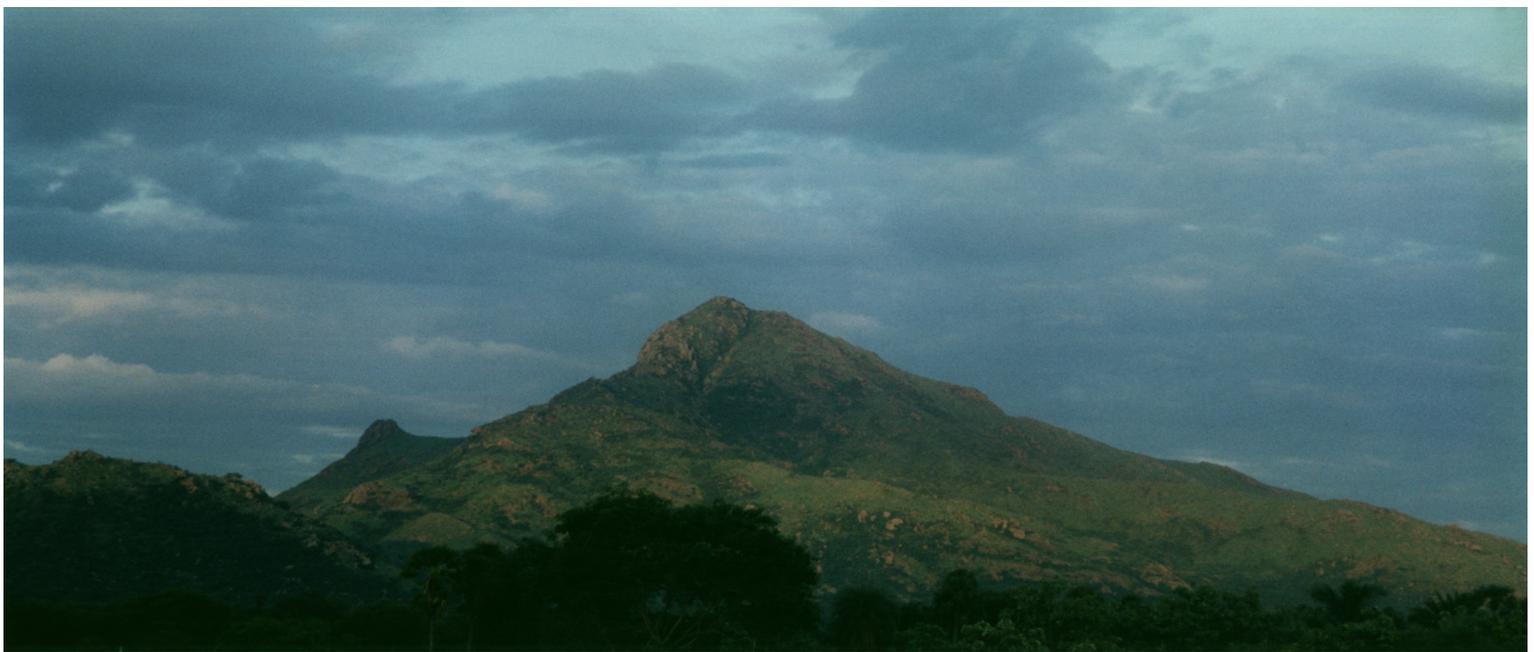
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*Photographs courtesy of Sharyn Rubin*



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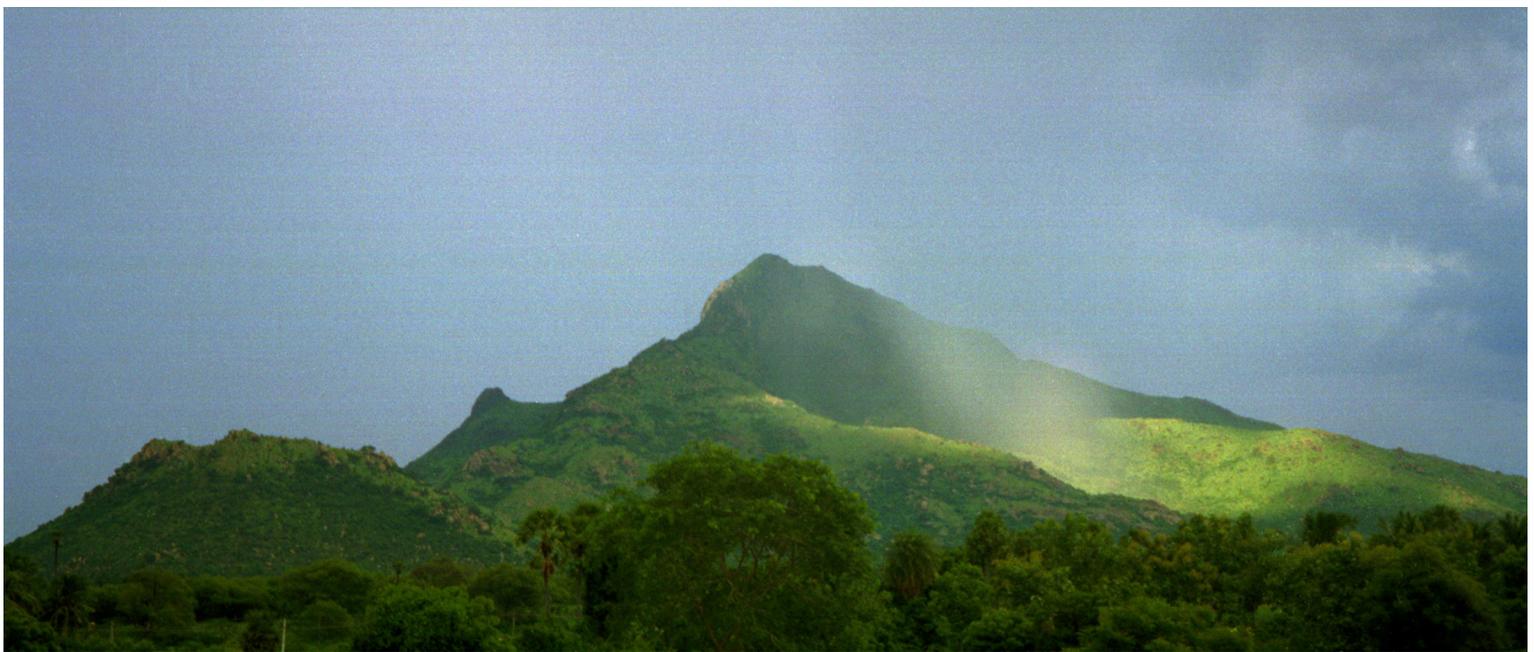
*Photographs courtesy of Sharyn Rubin*



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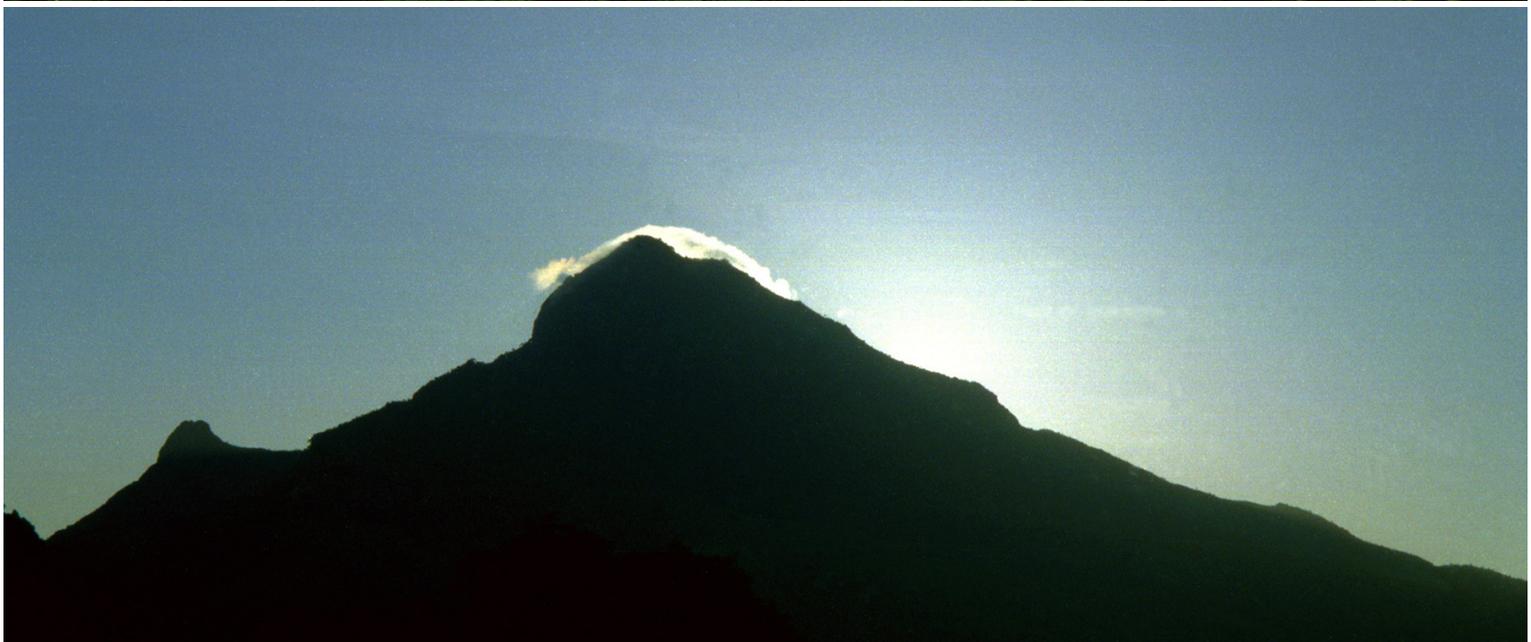
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