

'It's a miracle': Divine figure appears in clouds over Tonga

Yahoo7 News / January 24th, 2017

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An image resembling a divine figure emerged from the clouds above Tonga before being illuminated by the sun.

A photograph has surfaced appearing to show a divine figure in the sky above the Pacific island nation of Tonga.

The image was taken by local resident, Joey Mataele, on New Year's Day above his brother's house in the village of Halaleva in Tongatapu.

With a clear outline of a head, body and feet, and a golden glow from the sun, Mr Mataele believed it was a sign from the heavens.

"This is an image that was unexpected and I know it's a miracle in my life. Thank you Lord for everything you've provided for me and my family," he captioned the photo.



Joey Mataele noticed the figure appearing in the clouds. Photo: Supplied/Facebook



The surrounding clouds disappeared and the sun lit up the figure. Photo: Supplied/Facebook

Mr Mataele's niece, Onelua, told 7 News Online that her family interpreted the image as Jesus.

"They all thought it was an image of Jesus," she said. "They were shocked, it was pretty random to see that."

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Ms Mataele, 23, said her uncle took two photos of the figure as the shape was developing.

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In the first photo, the figure in the sky is less prominent, and is surrounded by other clouds.



Onelua Mataele photographed on her deck where the image of 'Jesus' was taken. Photo: Supplied

But it was enough for Mr Mataele, a devout Catholic, to see an image emerging.

“He took one photo and then it kept getting brighter,” Ms Mataele said.

In the second photo, the rest of the clouds have vanished and the shape of a person can be seen.

Ms Mataele has spent most of her life living on the property in Tonga, and said she has never seen anything like it.