
World Space Week OCTOBER 4-10
وزارة التعليم
Ministry of Education
الهيئة السعودية للفضاء
SAUDI SPACE COMMISSION
LIVE ON MARS
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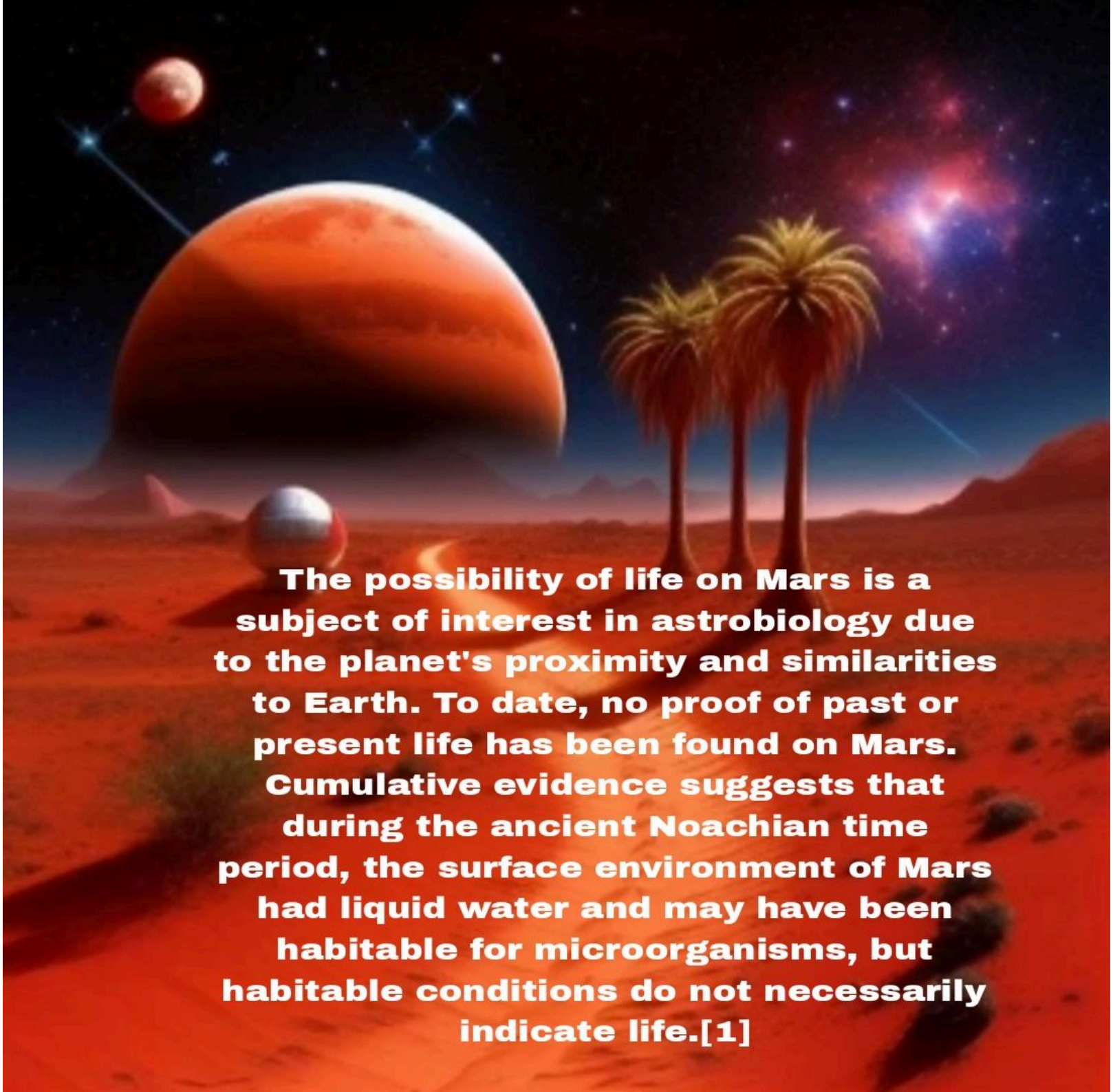
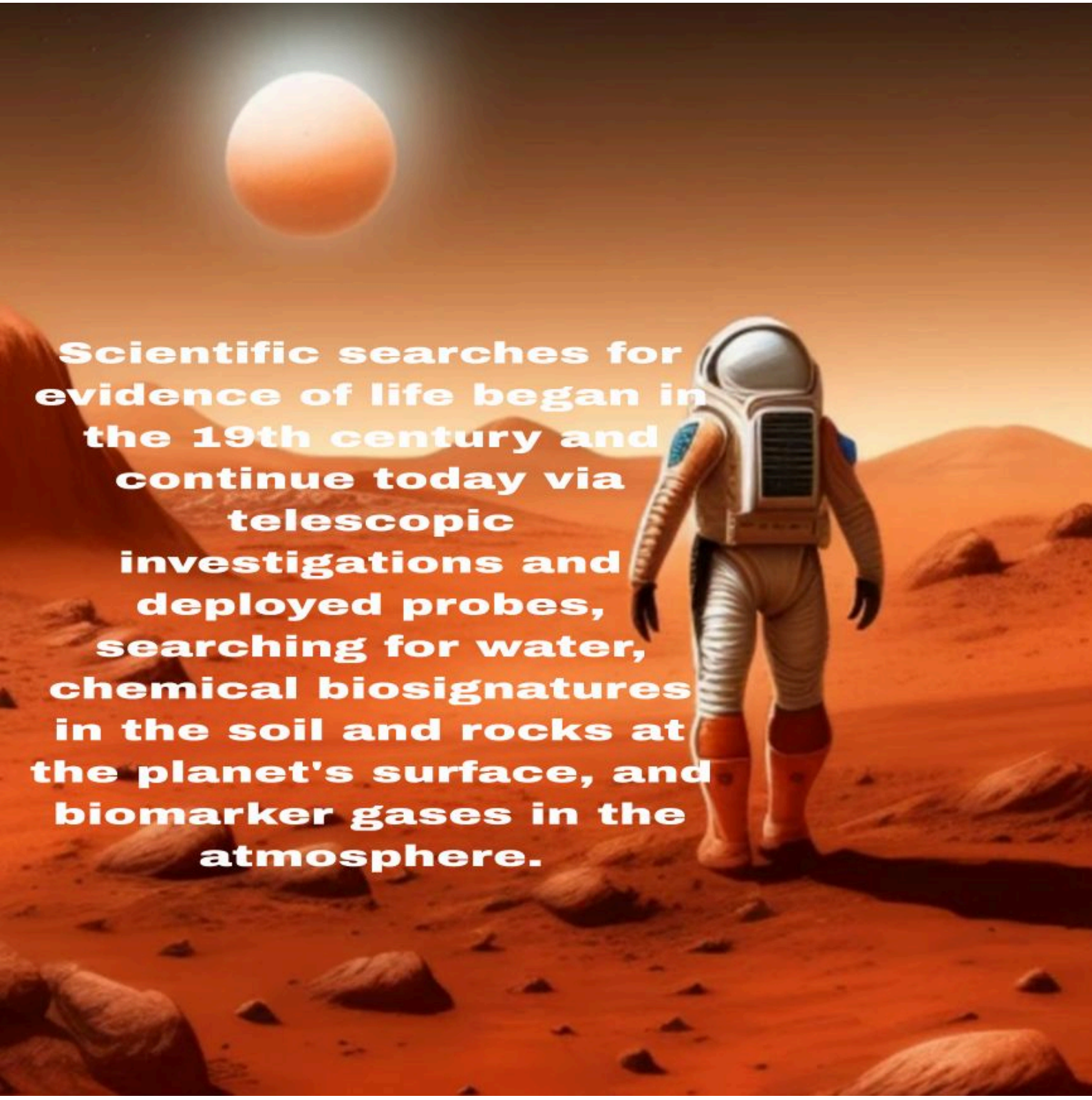

The possibility of life on Mars is a subject of interest in astrobiology due to the planet's proximity and similarities to Earth. To date, no proof of past or present life has been found on Mars. Cumulative evidence suggests that during the ancient Noachian time period, the surface environment of Mars had liquid water and may have been habitable for microorganisms, but habitable conditions do not necessarily indicate life.[1]


Mars is of particular interest for the study of the origins of life because of its similarity to the early Earth. This is especially true since Mars has a cold climate and lacks plate tectonics or continental drift, so it has remained almost unchanged since the end of the Hesperian period. At least two-thirds of Mars's surface is more than 3.5 billion years old, and it could have been habitable since 4.48 billion years ago, 500 million years before the earliest known Earth lifeforms;[4] Mars may thus hold the best record of the prebiotic conditions leading to life, even if life does not or has never existed there.


Scientific searches for evidence of life began in the 19th century and continue today via telescopic investigations and deployed probes, searching for water, chemical biosignatures in the soil and rocks at the planet's surface, and biomarker gases in the atmosphere.