

The Ethnology of People

This is a synopsis of a sixty-five page booklet: the breadth of the subject makes it difficult to précis to a few pages without omitting something of relative significance. I am therefore limiting this synopsis to the Introduction of the booklet plus a few explanatory notes to indicate its purpose. Please contact me if you require added information.

Combined with Part One this will be reformatted as a Book: Book Six in the Candlelight Series: at that happens this booklet will no longer be available

Introduction

Part One of this Booklet was - together with my comments - a general summary of the subject of Cultural Anthropology as portrayed in the Book: Cultural Anthropology; A Contemporary Perspective, second edition, by Roger M. Keesing: ISBN 4-8337-0005-0. Part Two seeks to apply the knowledge acquired from Part One to information gleaned from the following two volumes: The History and Geography of Human Genes by L. Luca Cavalli-Sforza, Paolo Menozzi, and Alberto Piazza; ISBN 0-691-02905-9: and Man Past and Present by A.H. Keane published by Cambridge University Press in 1920; note this a revised rewrite of Keane's book, originally published towards the end of the 19th century: obviously no ISBN number is available.

My comments are related to the interface between the various parts of the subject and my aim to seek the earliest, most distinctive, aboriginal peoples in order to then study their individual folklores: this being a further step along the road to seek the origins of the Nature Faiths.

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The first of these books, published in 1993/4, contains information now undoubtedly surpassed by the knowledge available from the Human Genome Projects: it likely contains sufficient for my elementary investigations; should it not do so, I shall seek answers to the specific enigmas via the Internet.

The second volume is a gem containing a wealth of the knowledge perceived, at the time of its publication, to be germane to the subject of Anthropology.

For an amateur to obtain the same information from within the maze of sub-subjects, into which Anthropology has since been divided, is now nearly impossible.

Under the headings used in this booklet I shall move between both books and supplement the sum of their relevant contents by information sought from the 'Web'.

It is of particular relevance that both books throw up enigmas that arise from observations, and results, falling outside the premised norms.

In the case of the first volume these may be the result of using established Anthropological and Archaeological conceptions as a basis for selecting information from amidst a plethora of available possibilities.

Not the least influential of these conceptions is the Out-of-Africa Hypothesis - for the genesis of modern humans - along migration routes undoubtedly based upon perceptions of the geography of our world as it has been for the last two or three millennia.

It is the intention of this booklet to highlight some of the enigmas, as well as to consider the possibilities of alternative migration routes that might have been used at different historical times, and were related to at least the last three Ice Ages.

The following extracts from Keane's book remain thought provoking:

"It cannot be said that any clear view of Pleistocene man can be obtained from the imperfect scraps of evidence available, valuable though they may be."

"We have to conceive an ancient world in which the family of mankind was broken up into narrow groups of genera, each genus again divided up into a number of species - much as we see in the monkey or ape worlds today. Out of that great welter of forms one became dominant and ultimately the sole surviving one: represented by the modern races of mankind."

We may assume therefore that the earth was mainly peopled by the generalised Pleistocene precursors; moving about - as were the other migrating faunas - unconsciously, following the lines of least resistance, advancing and receding; and acting on blind impulse rather than of any set purpose".

"Further, these migrations took place prior to the development of all cultural appliances beyond the ability to wield a broken branch or a sapling, or else chip or flake primitive stone implements".

"...for instance, during the Chellean or first period of the Old Stone Age. The implements of Palaeolithic type so common in parts of South Africa, South India, The Sudan, Egypt etc., present a remarkable resemblance to one another. This while affording a prima-facies case is not conclusive for a definite type of humanity."

"...more than one racial type was in existence in the Palaeolithic Age."

From the above - extended by other references - we should note that:

- The presence, or absence, of technology does not reflect the level of cognition prevailing at the time.
- It is patent that cognition must pre-date technology and that the latter develops out of a necessity either, to make life easier, or, to improve the chances for survival. In all such situations in situ developments could/would be restricted by the natural materials available.
- This situation would inevitably change with the arrival of immigrants of a more advanced development.
- The presence of a 'world wide' Neolithic culture suggests that there was an extensive migration possibly related to the last Ice Age. This does not suggest there had not been earlier migrations.
- There is a distinct possibility that during the Pleistocene there were species of humanoids other than Neanderthal and Homo sapiens in existence.
- Whether vestiges of any of these, other than Neanderthal and Sapiens, remained in the several racial types present in the Neolithic is yet to be proved, or disproved.
- We can be certain only that the Neanderthals were present in Europe, West Asia and East Asia before 40,000kya and that fossil evidence of their presence after 30,000kya is yet to be discovered. After that time they had either been replaced by modern humans, or, had become biologically integrated with them.
- While there may have been no biological barriers to integration there may well have been barriers of a cultural and social nature.

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Correlation with the technology periods is of relevance when considering the presence of different peoples.

Reutalian: This was located at the junction of the Pliocene and Pleistocene periods.

Mafflian: Located within the Pleistocene possibly between the 1st and 2nd glacial periods of this age.

Mesvinian: This was possibly the 2nd glacial period.

Strepyan: Located at the end of the Pleistocene and beginning of Palaeolithic.

Chellian: Palaeolithic with evidence of warm climate. Inter 2nd and 3rd glacial period.

Acheulean: Palaeolithic with evidence of a cooler climate.

Mousterian: Palaeolithic with evidence of cold climate: distinct from last two periods. This was the Age of the Mammoths. This is recognised as the third glacial period.

Aurignation: The climate started to ease, with human settlements in the open, with no evidence of Neanderthals. Of particular note: figurines indicate evidence of steatopygous type now seen only in South African Bushmen.

Solutrian: Age of the Horse: associated with immigrants from the East with advanced culture compared with indigenous European: comparable with later Egyptian. Inter 3rd/4th.

Magdalenian: Not evolved from Solutrians: there was a marked decline in flint culture, with greater dependence upon bone and horn. This closed the Palaeolithic Period.

Azilian: Transition from Palaeolithic to Neolithic. Climate continues to warm.

A speculative chronology places the Chellian Period i.e. the inter 2nd and 3rd glacial ages to about 500kya suggesting that the Neanderthal may have disappeared earlier than the time usually stated.

The Magdalenian started after the maximum glaciation of the last i.e. (4th) Ice Age i.e. about 17 to 25kya. Thus all the artefacts discovered are considered to represent the period from after the 2nd glacial period until the present i.e. a period of about 300,000 years: arguably 500,000 years. It must follow there were precursors living before the Pleistocene who either had no recognisable artefacts, or, the ice caps associated with the 2nd and/or all previous glacial periods were of greater extent.

In this case the land occupied by the earliest ancestors is now non-accessible being either under the seas and desert sands, or, covered by the dense vegetation of the equatorial forests.

None of this gives any clue either, to the relative levels of cognition and development of the precursor populations, or, to the extent they may have travelled, in which directions, and when.

This all fits neatly within the established time scales covering the demise of Homo habilis and the emergence of Homo erectus 500,000 years ago (possibly 700,000 years ago), and finally the emergence of homo sapiens, during the last 100,000 years or so (possibly 250,000 years ago).

In consequence it is possible that habitation pre the 2nd Glaciation Period was essentially by Homo Habilis with Homo Erectus becoming established during the intermediate glacial period that followed, possibly in conjunction with other human species that like Neanderthal are now extinct, if not integrated.

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Post the 3rd Glacial period Homo Sapiens must have become the dominant species together with the last of the Neanderthals who disappeared before, or during, the 4th, and last, Ice Age.

There is a tentative indication that the steatopygous characteristic must have been innate to either, Homo erectus, or, to an alternative unknown Homo species.

That among all the various racial types now inhabiting the world, it pertains only to the South African Bushmen, either, indicates they are the nearest remaining relatives of Homo Erectus, or, are the descendants of a different Homo species: Genetic studies do not suggest the feasibility of the latter. In either case it suggests a long period of isolation: possibly for as much as 250,000 years.

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The Possibility of Alternative Migration Routes

Given that my prime purpose is to identify the most aboriginal peoples still existing, it is important to try and identify all the possible migration route that could have been used in pre-historic times: at the same time it is essential that the discussion is contained within the boundaries set by established knowledge and thus ignores other possibilities - such as crustal shift - as credible as they may seem.

I do not know the exact history of all the Ice Ages to which this planet has been subject but there seems to have been Four during the last million years; the last of which commenced about 25,000 years ago, reached its peak about 17,000 years ago and ended about 8,000 years BC: alternatively it is conceivable this last ice age was a mini reversal towards the end of an earlier major Ice Age.

Note: In this case there would have been an extended period during which land now submerged would have been above sea level and thus the possibility of land bridges and island hopping route no longer considered or contemplated.

The extent of the ice-sheet during the last Ice Age is well established, as is the fact that there were humans in Europe before its onset.

(The latest information obtained from the cores of recent drilling through the Antarctica ice seems to extend this time span to 800,000 years. This seems also to 'fit' better with the dates given for the appearance of Homo erectus.)

One of the consequences of the existence of an ice-sheet is that it locks up water on the land surface, in the form of the ice, with the result there is a lowering of the sea level: it is estimated that at the peak of the last Ice Age the sea level was 350 feet less than it is now: in consequence the continental shelves throughout the world would have been largely above sea level, and there would have been land-bridges no longer present.

One such case: where the probability was acknowledged: is the alleged first migration of humans into the Americas from North Eastern Siberia: although there has been some reluctance to accept this was most probable at the peak of the Ice Age, rather than at its end, when the sea level must have returning to 'normality'.

It should be sufficient for this factor alone to explain many of the 'known' migrations. However there is one other geological process associated with the existence of excessively large ice caps: it is known as Geodetic Balance.

The immense weight of the ice would have the effect to lower the landmass beneath and thus to displace the underlying magma: this applies added pressure below, the free of ice, landmass adjacent to the icecap; in turn this causes that landmass to rise.

It is generally accepted that the Sahara was once savannah: within the following text there will be reference to it being from 1200 to 5000 feet above sea level: are we thus to presume the possibility of land elevations 1500 to 6000 feet different to those allowed for in some hypotheses?

While we cannot assume that the geographical features of the previous Ice Ages were the same as the last Ice Age, we can assume that even if they were different, it could only be to the extent to which the sea level dropped, and the clear land elevated.

In every Ice Age there was, therefore, a likelihood of the existence of land bridges and chains of islands now not present. We thus can choose either, an Out-of-Africa Hypothesis, or, a hypothesis that accepts multi-nuclear evolution at different places within the bands stated above - wherever the conditions were both appropriate and therefore similar.

Even if we accept the second hypothesis to be the least likely, we would have to accept the possibility of parallel sites of development from Homo erectus ancestors - within the bands stated.

Thus the nature and extent of the earlier migrations must be related to the level of their development and the nature of the geographical barriers they faced.

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Africa

Given the established view, this is the natural place to start an investigation.

A cursory examination of the Genetic data indicates five categories of modern African inhabitants - excluding European and other recent immigrants - each exhibiting significant differences:

- Ethiopians (the Eastern Hamites):
- The Mbuti (pygmy tribes):
- The West African Tribes:
- The Berbers (The Northern Hamites):
- The Bushmen.

There is an undoubted relationship between the Egyptian Hamites and the Semites: the main question is whether the relationship is prehistoric or not.

It is evident that non-Hamitic traits emerged in Lower Egypt during the Second Dynasty: these are generally attributed to an Armenoid influence resulting from a significant level of trade by the Egyptians with their outside world.

Note: There has been a suggestion that this admixture took place in Syria rather than Egypt.

Also note: many of the enigmas arising from these considerations are possibly the result of the accepted dating for the Giza Pyramids; constructed allegedly by these 'aliens'. Their skeletons exhibit a sturdier stature and build, with the bones having distinctive characteristics, noted in all parts of the Middle East, Afghanistan and the Punjab, but not in India. Such finds have been unearthed sporadically over North Africa and significantly in the extinct Guanches of The Canary Islands.

Given these locations it seems possible there was a common source, from somewhere within the now Saharan region, that migrated both Westward and Eastward: probably North, and possibly South, as the land in the Sahara lowered and the favourable ecology declined.

This could be said to suggest the Pyramids and The Sphinx are older than attributed - as some modern analysts have claimed: or, that descendants of the eastward migration into the Middle East returned as migrants into Egypt during the First and Second Dynasty.

There has always been a minority school that thought the Egyptian culture and civilisation were derived mainly, if not wholly, from Asiatic - probably Sumerian - sources.

While they remain a minority their arguments are credible: this does not guarantee their authenticity.

The next stage is to generally compare the African data with like data from Asia and America.

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The Peoples of South East Asia and Oceania

If we were to accept the out-of-Africa hypothesis, we would have to expect there would be representatives of some of the native Africa racial types found along their migratory routes.

- Oceanic Negritos: It should not be surprising - if we accept an Out-of Africa hypothesis - that there are clusters of pygmy populations along the established migration route from Africa to the East. Differentiated by hair type and skull shape. It is possible that the Samai situated at the eastern extreme of the Indian Ocean, together with other clusters in Celebes, East Sumatra, the Vedda of Sri Lanka, some jungle tribes of the Deccan, and the chief elements of the native Australians, all represent remnants of a Pre-Dravidian race.
- The second type contains the Andamese, the Semang of the Malay peninsula, and the Aeta of the Philippines. Of possible significance is the fact that despite the presence of flint on the islands,

archaeological digs have not discovered evidence of any worked stone implements; nor did they use them when first discovered in the 19th century: it is as if the Stone Age by-passed them, which would suggest they are of Palaeolithic stock, or they are Neoliths who lost their original culture. The nature of this process may suggest that it took place in pre-historic times before the appearance of superior cultures. The evidence of the continued existence of unknown, isolated, groups of primitive cultures until late into the 20th century gives credence to the possibility that a culture may be arrested in time compared with other parts of the world.

The ethnicity of these different groups is of necessity related to the degree of isolation to which they have been exposed, or have chosen to maintain. That there have been successive migrations of other races into the region is unquestioned; it is thus inevitable that there have been various degrees of admixture that have complicated anthropological studies.

Despite such introduced complexities there remained common aspects among all the Negrito races other than their stature.

- The Southern Mongols: These include all the peoples of Tibet, the southern parts of the Himalayas, China, and those parts of South-East Asia along more or less the same latitudes, including Burma, parts of Malaysia, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam etc. In Keane's book, *Man: Past and Present*, the population of this region is divisible into five divisions:
 1. Bod-pa: including Tibetan, Tangut; Horsok; Si-fan; Balti; Ladakhi; Gurka; Bhotiya; Miri; Mishmi; and Abor.
 2. Burmese: including Naga; Kuki-Lushai; Chin; Kakyen; Manipuri; Karen; Talaing; Arakanese; Burmese proper.
 3. Tai-Shan: Ahom; Khamti; Ngiou; Lao; Siamese.
 4. Giao-Shi: Annamese; Cochinese.
 5. Chinese: Chinese proper; Hakka; Hok-lo; Pun-ti.

The culture of these different peoples varied from the savagery of the aboriginals of the then Indo-China to those including most of the elements of civilisation albeit in most cases to a lower level than has been achieved elsewhere; with indications of general stagnation.

It has to be questioned why an established process of cultural development should become stunted and stagnate.

Of significance is that spirit, or devil, worship remained rife, in many districts, despite the 'waves of cultural influences' that occurred in historic times. At the start of the 20th Century, pure animism was the only religion. Such non-cultural traits were probably the reason why the Chinese had little esteem for all their southern neighbours, including all branches of the Annamese family: an outlook expressed in the earliest Chinese records said to date to 2285BC.

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- The Annamese are the dominant race situated between the Chinese, in the North, and the Malays to the South and may be considered - with the exception of aboriginal groups - to be the exclusive ethnic element in their central South-East Asian region.
- The Chinese: Keane's book makes reference to an earlier conflict of established opinion about the roots of this race. The conflict arises about whether they were the direct descendants of an aboriginal race that, in the Stone Ages, entered the Hoang-ho valley from the Tibetan plateau; developed their culture free of foreign influence; and then spread southward into China proper, displacing the resident, ruder aboriginals. In contrast there was an opinion that holds the civilisation of China was due to intruders from Babylon - possibly of 'Akkado-Sumerian' origin - who brought their considerable knowledge with them, and civilised the aboriginal inhabitants, possibly about 4,000 to 5,000 years ago.

It is perhaps of interest that both hypotheses have reference to the supposed earliest history as recorded by the Chinese themselves, as well as conforming to chronological elements of Babylonian history.

The chronology of the first is aligned to the Taoist belief that Taoism was brought to China by hairy men, wearing skins, from the North.

It was also believed that at some later date that 'disciples' of Taoism travelled to the West in order to spread their faith.

In this latter case it seems possible that the second opinion took place first; before a contra spread of a then developed Babylonian culture migrated eastwards, associated with a spread of trade routes, as recorded in Sumerian history.

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The Conjectures

These are the pertinent points to remember:

1. "According to the most commonly accepted views, the nearest ancestor from which the genus Homo separated is Australopithecus afarensis, specimens of which (including the famous 'Lucy') were found in different locations in East Africa and dated between 3 and 4 million years ago. It is said that there were two other lines of descent from afarensis other than the genus Homo: these were A. africanus that evolved into A. robustus in southern Africa; and A. aethiopicus, that developed into A. boisei, in East Africa. All Australopithecus genus are said to be extinct. Although there is an apparent lack of 'scientific evidence' I cannot see there can be definitive proof that these genus disappeared one million years ago as stated.
2. The Homo genus is the third genus descended from afarensis: there are three known progressively developed descendants; the first is H. habilis, once thought to have been confined to Africa, said to have emerged 2.5 million years ago; the next is H. erectus that emerged about 1.5 million years ago, it was the first known to have ventured out of Africa into Europe, the West, East, and South Asia, but not North Asia; and finally H. sapiens who emerged some time after 700,000 years ago, and is found throughout the world.

The last anatomically modern man - H. sapiens sapiens - emerged, possibly, during the last 150,000 years.

Note: the evolution from erectus to sapiens may have followed different paths, at different time scales, in different parts of the world, and might have been later in the East.

Additionally, following the migrations of H. erectus to different regions, there are alternative models: In the first there was separate evolution of Erectus to Sapiens in each of the separate regions i.e. Poly-centric development. In the second, most descendants of migrant Erectus did not develop separately, but were subsequently replaced - presumably by later migrations - by H sapiens who had evolved from African H erectus, in Africa.

Again one has to accept the possibility that not only could both models be co-existent, but also, as a consequence of any later migrations between these centres, there may have been cross-breeding between members of any of the poly-centric lines; as well as cross-breeding with the later out of Africa migrations of H sapiens. In any event some of the cross-breeding would have been infertile, as would some of the hybrids produced; but there is sufficient evidence within Nature to suppose that some - if a few only - could have resulted in 'new' lines.

The principle argument against the poly-centric argument is the improbability - in the absence of genetic intermixes - of definitive, like, independent, parallel development, in regions far from one another: the claim being that to do so the genetic drifts in each region would have had to have been more or less identical.

Given the close genetic make-up with our simian 'cousins' in all the regions; it might suggest the explanation is less concerned with our common roots and more related to the effects dependent upon the similarities of environmental factors.

Potentialism suggests that appropriate conditions encourage the manifestation of potentials requiring such conditions: thus it seems credible that similar conditions should encourage similar manifestations from similar root-stocks.

It has to be said that the limited anthropological and archaeological evidence yet available tends to support the out-of-Africa hypothesis; and also it has support from the early genetic studies: however, it has to be remembered that the latter has to a large extent been structured upon the established perceptions of the former: more knowledge may yet allow other opinions to gain support; even some yet to emerge.

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Ice age Cycles and their geological consequences. The Pleistocene was the era of the Ice Ages: with recent drilling in Antarctica indicating there was a Major Ice Age every 250,000 years; presumably with minor glacial activity between.

The Pleistocene is said to have lasted for some one million years: thus one could suppose there have been four - possibly five - Major Ice Ages during this period.

It follows that the first of these occurred during the last years of the existence of Homo habilis and that they continued during the period during which Homo erectus evolved; with the evolution of Homo sapiens being associated with the period before the last Major Ice Age, and Homo sapiens sapiens with the period immediately before and after it.

Archaeological evidence of habilis settlements in Southern Europe seems to suggest the possibility of cycles of migration associated with the cycles of glaciation.

While we may never be able to establish the truth of such possibilities, any credibility we have would also

have to accept that migrations Northward would not necessarily be followed by Southward retreats within the same narrow bands of Longitude.

Such possibilities open up speculation of migration movements other than those conventionally accepted.

Whenever routes of migration are considered one has to give consideration to the topography of the land surface involved.

It is possible that too little consideration has been given to the effects on the topography likely from glaciation of large areas of the Earth's surface as earlier mentioned. Thus the Continental Shelves would have been exposed to some degree - reproducible by the use of Computer Models - creating both Land Bridges and Island chains that do not now exist. In addition this would expose large areas of habitable land that were almost certainly suitable for the needs of human population.

As well as becoming the Shangri-la's for those migrating Southward before the advancing ice, they would also have offered attraction to those migrating Northward, seeking temperate conditions in place of the extremes of Equatorial conditions.

With the end of an Ice Age, and the consequent rising sea level there would have been pressure on these population areas to migrate to higher land: the directions of the outward migrations not necessarily coincident with those of the inward migrations of the unknown time in their Past.

One such area known to have been elevated to perhaps 5,000ft compared with its present level is the Sahara: It is significant that Anthropological and Genetic enigmas exist in this region and that northward migrations from here directly into Southern Europe, were probably coincident with the loss of altitude, following the retreat of the ice, is perceived by many to provide the most logic explanation for the racial anomalies found in Southern Europe.

One must suppose there are other such regions where the potential existed for similar events to have taken place: The Caribbean and the offshore of Central America are examples.

Unfortunately there is, as yet, no flexibility within the conventional wisdom that encourages seeking alternative solutions.

Despite this there is sufficient ambiguity within the accepted view of the migration between Siberia and North America to allow the potential for consideration of migration over a wider range of Latitude: even the possibility of counter-migrations from West to East.

Of even greater credence is the likelihood of an area between Japan, Korea, and the Chinese Mainland from which there was the possibility of migration in almost all directions when the sea level rose and the land sunk.

Perhaps the conflicts are associated only with the relevant timings of the events.

As unlikely as it may seem, can we exclude the possibility of migrations between these regions in a time before the last Ice Age i.e. by Erectus humans?

The following are some of the speculative options related to the possible areas of development mentioned in the previous section:

The differences of the various, racial types of observable, physical characteristics in the human race are generally assumed to have become established due to the conditional, genetic responses that arose from a change of environment either, in their aboriginal homeland, or, by migrating to other areas.

There are the obvious differences related to Latitude: these have tended to become modified by inter-racial breeding as the different racial groups have become more exposed to each other.

However, given the limited gene pool inherent in the Out-of-Africa hypothesis there seems a greater degree of diversity than one would suppose.

In particular this applies to diversity not seemingly related to continental migrations.

Likewise there are a few genetic similarities shared by groups that seem to fall outside established explanation.

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Within the wider spectrum of the evolution of life in general, it seems more likely that bacterial life has always been more spontaneous and vigorous in Equatorial conditions. It is also evident that all life within + or - 15° of the Equator is relatively specialised compared with life forms in temperate conditions. In consequence it could be considered that a typical Gauss Curve depicting the Latitude away from the Equator on the 'X' Axis, and the Number of Species evolved on the 'Y' Axis, would indicate the emergence of the majority between 10° and 40°, with the Median situated between 20° and 30°.

There were possibly numerous appropriate sites for homelands relevant to the ecological and geological conditions pertaining to the periods during and between each of the successive Ice Ages. In the absence of any specific information, at any of these times, to any such site, it is necessary to consider sites as they are today.

There seems to be a possible five such sites, not only because they seem relatively obvious candidates for consideration, but also because there is a probability they would have been so during much of pre-history.

- Homeland (1) This is the region now containing Bihar, West Bengal, and Bangladesh.
- Homeland (2) This second region is located farther East, beyond the Nagaland uplands. These uplands, although an undoubted geographical barrier, were not likely to have prevented migration eastward; nonetheless it is possible the inhabitants of Nagaland were pre-Dravidian and may well be considered to have become established early in the Palaeolithic, or even before. This could apply to an Out-of Africa hypothesis as well as to any credible alternative.
- Homeland (3) This is the Karat Plateau in Thailand. In this case the weight of probability seems to suggest either, a northward migration spur from a general West to East coastal migration; or, a southward migration from China. In the case of the latter there are two possibilities, being the two regions discussed in (4) and (5) below. In either case the Chins - or their antecedents - are likely to have been involved.
- Homeland (4) The Sichuan Pendi is located to the east of the mountain ranges of Tibet. This is a favourable site of relocation for an eastward migration from the Tibetan Homeland, particularly if one assumes, that at the time of such a migration - necessitated as it probably was by the increasing elevation of the land - it did not require passage over the mountains as they are today. The landlocked nature of this region makes one consider the possibility that the folklore of the adjoining mountainous regions would have been the basis for the stories of 'Shangri-La'. Further the probability of isolation over long periods would have been ideal for cultural and genetic drift.
- Homeland (5) This is the Hubei region, west of Shanghai. It would have been accessible to migrants retreating southward in front of glacial ice. While more difficult, northward migrations - from the area now occupied by Macao and Hong Kong - cannot be excluded.
- Of greater speculation would be a westward migration from a region now located beneath the Yellow Sea, but which would have been above sea level during periods of maximum glaciation. It is of significance that this may have been the 'homeland' for the peoples of Japan. If this were the case it seems to be related to the Third principal components of the genetic history, or even before.

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It may be of some interest that all of the regions discussed in the last Section are located plus or minus some 10° of latitude of the Tropic of Cancer. It is also of interest that its equivalent zone South of the equator contains southern Africa, Madagascar and Australia: in the case of the last two they have a uniqueness of species - of both flora and fauna - not native to anywhere elsewhere in the world.

That this is not so obvious in southern Africa is probably because of its mainland status, as compared with that of an island, giving greater opportunity for migration to different conditions and assimilation with other appropriate species.

Clearly the size of Australia and its geographical and ecological extremes make for areas of relative isolation that may mitigate against a more general pattern of evolution.

We cannot leave consideration of the migrations between Africa and Asia - as well as those within Asia - without examining those parts of South East Asia that fall in latitudes less favourable to unspecialised evolution.

We accept that in the latitudes to the North there has been the need for cyclic migrations associated with glacial activity.

While this has encouraged the development of both genetic and cultural specialisation, it has never applied to more than a minority of the population. Thus while there are those who have always chosen to remain in hostile climates; the majority, given the choice, continue to opt for more clement conditions, despite the technological advances that make living in hostile conditions more tolerable.

There is no reason to suppose that this position has not always been the case such that distances of migratory retreats were influenced by the genetic specialisation that had taken place.

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The regions to the South now occupied by Malaysia, Indonesia, Borneo and Papua New Guinea are located between 10° South and 10° North of the Equator: possibly the worst location for the evolution of modern Man.

That it is now highly populated is almost certainly due to technology, but it contains a wide diversity of ethnic and cultural types.

Clearly those who we may classify as developed and educated are likely to represent the most recent migrants over perhaps the last 1,000 years: others represent earlier migrations, within the last 50,000/70,000 years.

Between these groups there will have been a probable multitude of cross-assimilations.

It also contains minority groups, who have not assimilated to the same degree.

Logical process demands we should be considering the Mongol peoples associated with the latitudes North of 40°. However the recent 'Hobbit' finds in Indonesia; by opening the possibility of separate development - or at least survivors from earlier migrations not previously considered relevant - suggests that considerations within the same latitudes in The Americas may prove equally enigmatic.

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North America

If the suggested Latitude 'Rules' are applied to North America the Median Zone would include Mexico; Florida; Cuba, the Bahamas, and the northern part of the Yucatan Peninsular: while the band between 10° and 20° Latitude includes the whole of Central America and the Caribbean.

It should also be remembered that the landmass, within these latitudes, would have been much greater during the periods of maximum glaciation.

South America:

Considerations of the Aborigines of South America tend to have been centred upon the Mayan and Aztec cultures both of which were located in latitudes North of the Equator, as well as being dated in relatively recent historical times.

If comparisons are to be made with Africa and Asia; we should first consider those aborigines located in the southern latitudes.

1. From the Equator to 10° South lay Ecuador, northern Peru, northern Brazil including the whole of the Amazon Basin.
2. Between, 10° and 20° South lay southern Peru, Bolivia, and central Brazil - mainly the Matta Grosso and the Brazilian Highlands.
3. From 20° to 30° includes northern Chile, Paraguay, the northernmost regions of Argentina and the southernmost regions of Brazil.
4. Between, 30° and 40° South lays the central region of Chile, much of Argentina, and Uruguay.
5. Beyond the 40th latitude lay the southern-most regions of Chile, Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego: the limit of the southern glacial ice was located in this section.

The following quotes from Keane may give some indications of the differences between the aborigines of South America compared with those of the North:

"With the Muyscans we at once enter a new ethical and cultural domain, in which may be studied the resemblances due to the common origin of all the American aborigines, and the divergences due obviously to long isolation and independent local developments in the two continental divisions.

In general the southern populations presents more violent contrasts than the northern in their social and intellectual developments, so that while the wild tribes touch a lower level of savagery, some at least of the civilised peoples rise to a higher degree of excellence, if not in letters - where the inferiority is manifest - certainly in the arts of engineering, architecture, agriculture, and political organisation."

"In the question of cannibalism, at the discovery, it was incomparably more prevalent south than north of the equator."

"In the south cannibalism in some of its most repulsive forms was common almost everywhere. In the southern continent the social conditions illustrated by these practices prevailed everywhere, except on the elevated plateaus of the western Cordilleras, which for many ages before the discovery had been the seats of several successive cultures."

To the South of these 'civilisations' the land was inhabited by tribes of aborigines based upon a territorial structure: cooperation between territories seems to have been limited to times of conflict when some tribes would unite under a war-chief.

"Spirits of the dead go west over the sea to a place of abundance where no evil spirits have entry."

It may be of significance that the 'nirvana' of these people lay to the West; whereas for the people of the North it lay to the East: in neither case did it lay to the North.

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A Comparison between the Principal Genetic Components in Africa, Asia and America.

- First Principal Component. This has the highest concentrations in the northern parts of North America and the concentrations reduce progressively from North to South with the lowest concentrations distributed throughout Central and South America.
- Second Principal Component. This category lists nineteen genes; with the highest concentrations spread throughout the USA and Central America; the lowest are confined to Arctic North America and the Interior of the Amazon Basin.
- Third Principal Component. There are fourteen genes listed with the concentrations distributed in a manner consistent with the established view of a North to South migration initiated at about the time of the end of the last glaciation period. The highest concentrations are in the Arctic North and the southernmost part of South America. The lowest concentrations are located throughout the North East and East of North America and the North East of South America. Such a distribution is generally in accord with a North to South migration down the eastern seaboard with secondary migrations from West to East throughout both sub-continent.
- Fourth Principal Component. There are eight genes listed: their distribution gives the highest concentrations on the West of North America and in eastern Brazil in South America. In North America the concentration decreases from West to East: in South America the decrease is more or less from the North-East to South-West. The logical explanation is a bi-directional migration from the Central American region: while this would be, almost certainly, a post-glacial migration it seems more likely to not have been the associated with the last Ice Age: if it were the one before the timing would be 250,000 years ago.
- Fifth Principal Component. There are fourteen genes listed with the highest concentrations in Central America and the North-West of South America: the lowest concentrations are located in the East of South America and the eastern part of Canada. There are anomalies of middle concentrations in the southernmost part of South America and more surprisingly in Greenland. **Does this represent the time before the last but one glacial period?**

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