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Archaic Homo Sapiens and Neanderthals

Homo Habilis

• first user of Oldowan Tools

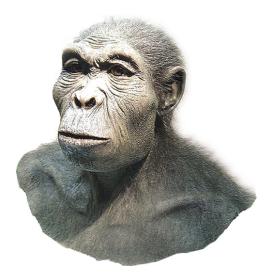


Figure 1: Homo Habilis

H. Rudolfensis

- On the morphological boundary between the genera Homo and Australopithecus
- Only know through a handful of fossils gathered in 1972



Figure 2: Homo rudolfensis

Homo Ergaster

Characteristics:

- Thinner cranium
- Less brow ridge than *erectus*
- Very human like in many respects
- May have been first hominid to migrate out of Africa

Homo Erectus

- Nariokotome (Turkana) Boy in Kenya
 - 1.5 to 1.6 MYA
- Over time brain increased across range
 - From 640cc to 1200cc with a 900cc average



Figure 3: Homo Erectus

Tools

- Early Stone Age
 - From 1.8 to 1.5 MYA only **Oldowan** tool (ASIA)
- Lower Paleolithic (Africa)
- Smashing rocks until the rocks become sharp tools
- Children most likely learned from their parents by watching and doing themselves
- Oldowan Technology:
 - New technology did not emerge for another million years

• Acheulean:

- It took years to master this technique
- Pressure flaking

Mousterian:

- Does not require labor intensive pressure flaking
- Prepare a core and one perfectly placed blow will become a sharp edgea

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Stone tool industry	Oldowan	Acheulean	Mousterian	Aurignacian and others	Various
Age (in years)	2.6 million-1.7 million	1.7 million-200,000	200,000-40,000	40,000-12,000	12,000-7,000
Signature artifacts	Chopping tools	Large cutting tools	Flakes struck from cores	Rectangular flakes	Small, geometric flakes

Figure 4: Tool Lineage

- Middle Stone Age
 - This era gave rise to projectile tools, used to injure animals from afar



Figure 5: Oldowan Tool



Figure 6: Middle Age Spear Head

Homo Naledi

- Very small brain (around 450cc)
- · Long legs for distance walking
- Intentional "burial"
 - Intricate tunnels where bodies were placed
 - Lesedi Chamber
 - Dinaledi Chamber
 - People who were small enough were sent to excavate the chambers
 - It was apparent that this place was meant to be a site where people disposed of human remains but motive is unclear (religious ceremonies).

Homo Floresiensis (Hobbit)

Characteristics:

- Wrist, ankle, humerous, femur, pelvis almost identical to chimps and Au. aferensis
- Skull almost identical to small human skull, except teeth reduced for smaller jaw and brain case reduced for smaller ape-sized
- Lived in Flores from 94 KYA until 12,000 YA
- · Co-existed with modern humans
- Some speculate descendants could exist today
- · Stone tools associated

Height Comparision to Homo Erectus

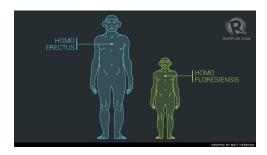


Figure 7: Homo Floresiensis

Origins of Humanity

- It is unclear which of the species we are learning about contributed the most to modern Homo Sapiens
- Glacier → River → Lake
- Coywolf example
 - A mixture of wolves, coyotes and domesticated dogs



Figure 8: Coywolf

Types of Homo Fossils (Informal Labels)

Finish this section

- Early Pleistocene
 - Classic Homo Erectus aka Homo Ergaster

- Possibly extends into middle Pleistocene in China and Indonesia (the first hominid out of Africa)
- Middle Pleistocene
 - Advanced or late Homo Erectus
 - * H. antecessor link to H. heidelbergenis
 - Archaic Homo Sapiens
 - * H. heidelbergensis, rhodensiensis
 - · Evolved into Neanderthals in Europe, into Denisovans east through Asia, possibly in Africa into earliest Homo Sapiens
 - Late Pleistocene
 - * Anatomically modern Homo Sapiens
 - * Also H. floresiensis, H. Neanderthalensis, and Denisovans

European Archaic Homo Sapiens

- Homo Heidelbergensis (found in Germany)
- Earliest to populate Europe
 - Possibly 600 KYA
- Atapuerca (N. Spain)
 - 28 skeletons
 - Burial w/ symbolic behavior (pink quartz along with a handaxe)
 - Species seems to be disposing of their dead
- Perhaps became Neanderthals, Denisovans and Homo Sapiens about 130 KYA

African Archaic Homo Sapiens

- Homo Rhodesiensis
- · Look different than the European sites
- 600 125 KYA
- 1300cc, others were smaller ~900cc
- Oldest signs of stone tool defleshing of conspecific (of their own kind) skull
 - Possible evidence of cannibalism or maybe ritual, there is no way of knowing
- Evolved into the earliest modern H. Sapiens
 - Not yet anatomically modern

Asian Archaic H. Sapiens

- Possibly related to Denisovans
- Up to 200 to 130 KYA
- 1150 to 1400cc (brain size)
- Less represented than European and African archaic H. Sapiens
- Not enough information to actually name them
- Site in China called Ngandong



Figure 9: Dali Skull

Homo Neanderthals

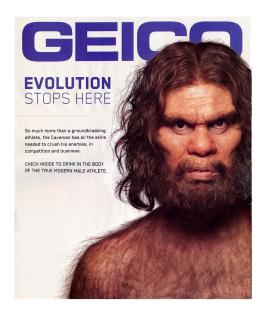


Figure 10: Geico Neanderthal

- Slightly larger brains
- Ocipital bun
- Most of the remains were found in caves
- The most fossil evidence
- 100s of finds throughout Europe, Middle East, western Asia to Siberia
- More muscular, thicker bones, barallel chested, midfacial prognathism, double arched browridge, no chin, faster life-history
- Mousterian tools, later Chatelperrornian blades, fire, cannibalism, adornment
- Exclusively carnivore, dangerous large mammal hunting
 - Healed fractures
- Reveals great similarities with us; differing in DNA by just 0.12%

Denisovans

- DNA extracted from molars
- Not yet named as a species, pending more fossils



Figure 11: Denisovan Molar

Anatomically Modern Homo Sapiens

- Emerging around 200 KYA, last human to evolve
- Move to omnivory (to cope with climate fluctuation)
 - Gathering shellfish, roots, berries already seen 200-70 KYA
- Population bottleneck around 140 KYA when only 600 individuals
 - We barely made it
- · Showed symbolic culture
 - Blombos 75 KYA

Identification Activity

This will be on the exam

- one of these is not from the genus homo, can you identify
- · identify the four different homo specimens
 - Look at skull case (dome, occipital bun, overall size), browridge, prognathism (lower, midfacial), chin
 - Include from slides and identify each skull

Hominin/Human Evolution

- Behavior associated with tool production, tool use, and subsistence
- Symbolic items and behaviors after ~40KYA
 - Beads, buttons
 - Ochre, symbolic carvings
 - Venus figurines, zoomorphic statuettes (early pornographic material possibly)
 - Grave goods, arranged burials, cremations
 - Cave paintings

Models of Human Origins

- Hard to agree upon what was the first anatomically modern human
- Difference in body shapes that had to reflect with dietary adaptations)

Replacement Model

- · Second migration outside of Africa
- Replacement of H. Erectus (not by a gradual change)
- This is where the evolution of anatomically modern humans
- Unknown in the disappearance of Neanderthals
 - Homo Sapiens were somehow superior to Neanderthals

Multiregional Model

- A gradual flow of new species and interbreeding
- · Movement inside and outside of Africa

Final Notes

- Replacement: there are shared genes in Homo Sapiens (gene flow)
- Multiregional: there is an abrupt change in population (some places where there is interbreeding and other places shows abrupt change)
- There is a mixture of the two philosophy, based on what is most important to the scientist

Peopling of the New World

- Bearing land bridge (from Siberia) open after 15 KYA interior cooridoor later 14-13 KYA
- Followed Pleistocene megafauna along ice-free corridors
- Preclovis
 - May have arrive by water craft (known @ 40KYA)
 - Monte Verde, Chile 13.9 14.2 KYA
 - Buttermilk Creek Texas 15-13.2 KYA
- Most Pacific Islands colonized ~3.5 KYA or late
 - Likely with outrigger canoes and supplies

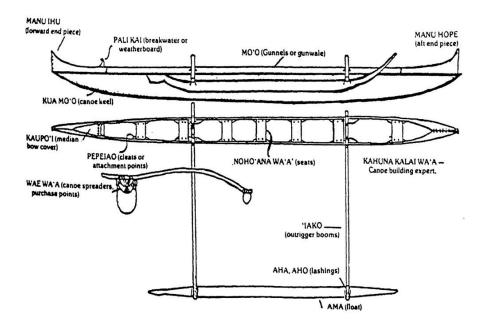


Figure 12: Outrigger Canoe

External Links

Middle Age Stone Tools

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