

## LECTURE 02: Rise of Hominids, Palaeolithic, Mesolithic Culture, “Neolithic Revolution”

Australopithecus (ca. 3.0-2.5 million years bp).

Neanderthal (ca. 140,000-35,000 years bp)

Cro-Magnon (*Homo sapiens*; ca. 35,000-10,000 years bp)

Pleistocene (“ice age”; ca. 1.8 million-15,000 years bp)

“Peking Man” (*Homo erectus*), ca. 500,000 bp

Regular tool-making by 400,000 bp

Some standardization of tools by 250,000 bp

Some specialization of tools by 100,000 bp (Neanderthals?)

Composite tools 35,000 bp (*Homo sapiens*)

Palaeolithic (“Old Stone Age”), ca. 500k-10k bp.

Mesolithic (“Middle SA”), ca. 10,000-7,000 BC

Neolithic (“New SA”), ca. 7,000-3,500 BC

microliths (small flake tools)

“Survival of the fittest” (?) (SB 1.24)

Aristotle: human skill (*techné*) conquers nature (*physis*) (SB 1.19)

Diodorus, Pliny, Hesiod: necessity (*chreia*) drives innovation (SB 1.16, 1.18), also envy or competition (*eris*) (SB 1.28).

Melos, obsidian trade, ca. 8000 BC.

wheat, emmer, einkorn, spelt, barley

quern (hand mill for grain)

asses, onager, horse, steer, pig, camel

Çatal Hüyük (ca. 5000 BC)

Haçılar (ca. 5000 BC)

Sesklo (ca. 4000 BC)