

# Topic 4

Wednesday, February 8, 2023 11:16 AM

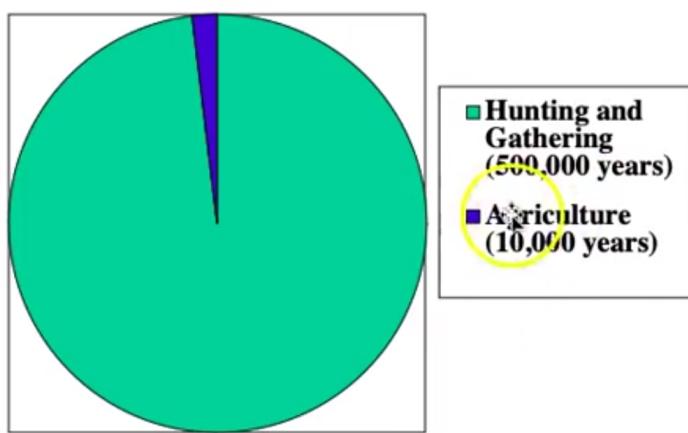
## Introduce a culture

- Material aspects / Infrastructure: subsistence strategies
- Behavioral aspect / Social Structure: political system; family, marriage, kindship
- Mental aspect / Superstructure: cosmology; religion; rituals; and art

## Five Subsistence Strategies

- Foraging
- Horticulture
- Agriculture
- Pastoralism
- Industrialism

## Subsistence: The Human Experience



### Foraging

- Until 10000 years ago, people everywhere were foragers, also known as **hunter-gathers**

- Despite difference due to environmental variation, all foraging economies have shared one essential feature: **People directly rely on nature to make their living**
- Hunter-gathers not harsh existence
- Original affluent society
- Diet surpasses the internationally recommended levels of nutrients
- Much less instances of famine than farming communities
- Hunter and Gathers - "the most leisured people"

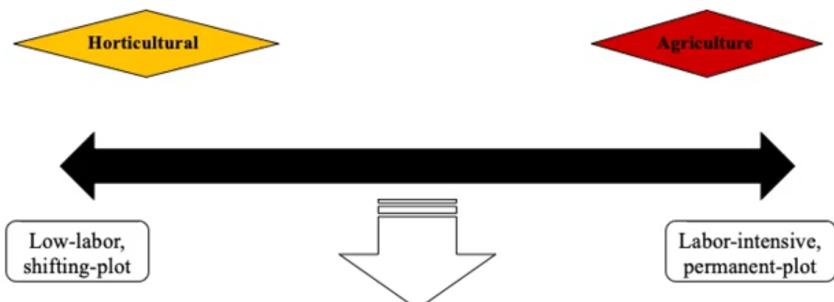
## Horticulture

- Horticulture is cultivation that makes intensive use of none of the factors of production: land, labor, capital, and machinery, but use simple tools such as hoes and digging sticks to grow crops.
- Fields are not permanently cultivated and lie fallow for varying lengths of time
- Involves slash and burn techniques
- Also called shifting cultivation

## Agriculture

- Agriculture is cultivation that requires more labor than horticulture does, because it uses land intensively and continuously. The greater labor demands associated with agriculture reflects its common use of domesticated animals, irrigation, or terracing

## The Cultivation Continuum





## Foraging Vs Agriculture

### Modes of life

[Foraging]	Modes of life [Agriculture]
Nomadic existence	Sedentary existence
Seasonal Migration	Permanent living sites
Wide variety of food sources	Less diversity of food sources
Exploit territory extensively	Territory exploited intensively
Security through diversity	Security through specialization
Small (portable) tool kits	Tool kit expands dramatically

### Characteristics of population

[Foraging]	[Agriculture]
Small bands	<b>Larger populations</b>
Low birth rate	<b>High birth rate</b>
Low dependent/adult ration	<b>High dependent/adult ration</b>
Low death rate	<b>High death rate</b>

### Social Organization

[Foraging]	[Agriculture]
Communal life	Private life/property
Little specialization	Increasing specialization
Relatively egalitarian society	Social hierarchy emerges
Decision-making: custom, transition, persuasion	Decision making: coercion

## Impact on environment

[Foraging]	[Agriculture]
Use of existing resources	Also develop new resources
Low impact	High impact

## Marriage and Kinship

### The Kinship Code

#### The Kinship Code

Anthropologists use the elements of the Kinship Code to diagram kin relationships. The elements applicable to this book are presented in Figure 1.1. Note the term *ego* at the bottom of the figure. This term refers to the discrete

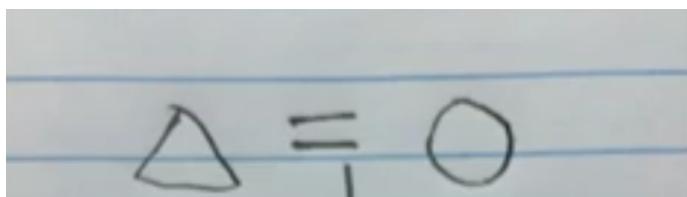
- △ Male
- Female
- Person of either sex
- △, ○, □ Deceased
- = Marriage
- ✗ Divorce
- Sexual relationship
- | Descent
- └ Sibling relationship
- ▲, ●, ■ Ego

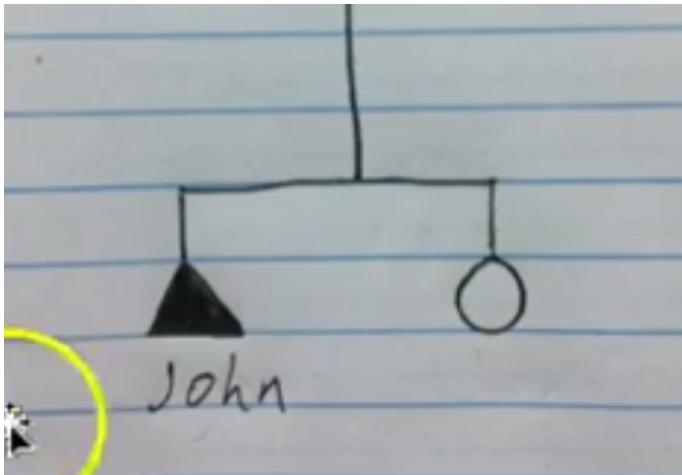
Ego: the discrete individual upon whom a particular kinship diagram is centered

Example:

Ego John (male)

Family Members: Johns mother and father (whom are married to each other) and John's sister





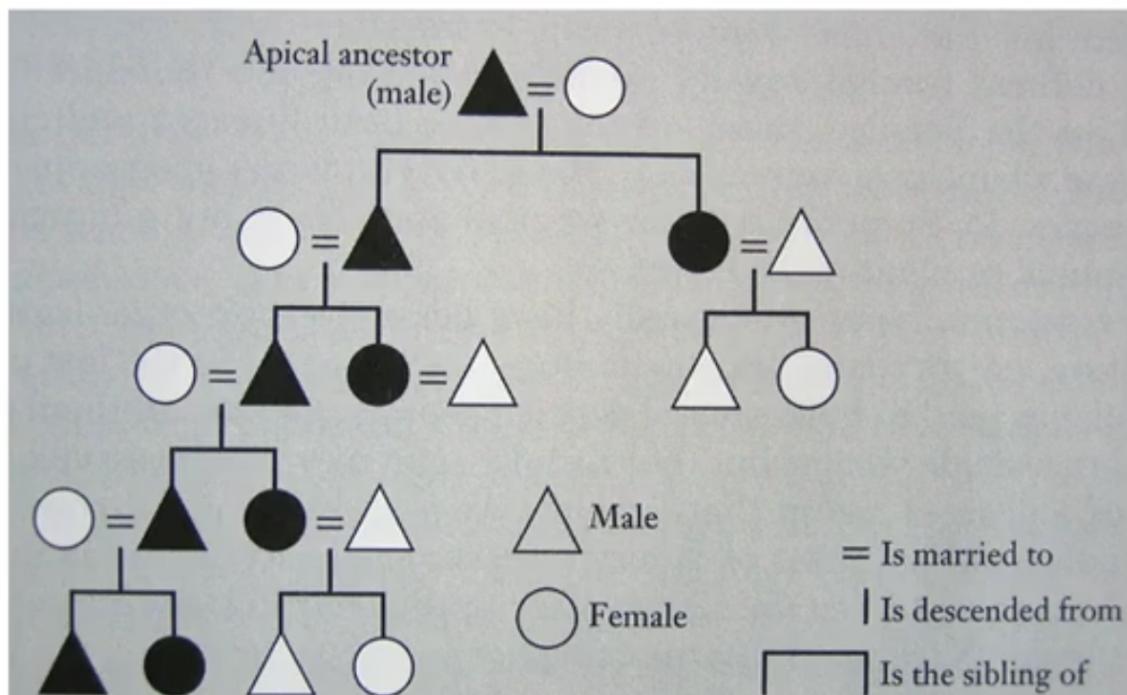
### Descents

A descent group is a permanent social unit whose members claim common ancestry

Patrilineal decent & Matrilineal descent -> unilineal descent

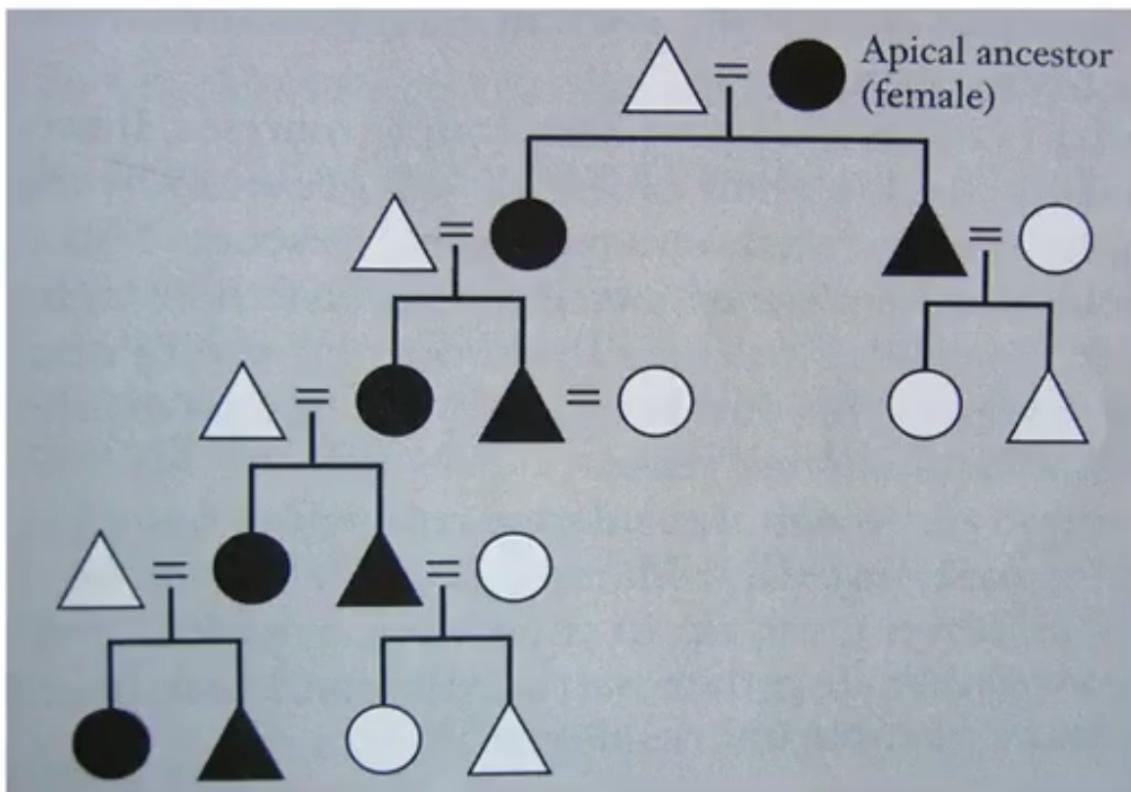
The belief that members descend from the same apical ancestor, the person who stands at the apex, or top, of the common genealogy

## Patrilineal Descent Group



Membership is based on links through the father. Sons and daughters are members of their father's group (dark green) as are the children of the sons

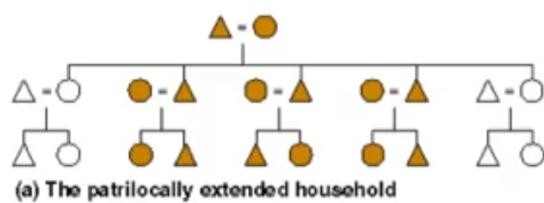
## Matrilineal Descent Group



Membership is defined by links through the mother. Sons and daughter are members of their mothers group as are the children's of the daughters

## Post-marital Residence Rules: Three Common Ones

- Patrilocal: the rule that when a couple marries, it moves to the husband's community, so that their children will grow up in their father's village.



(a) The patrilocally extended household

- Matrilocal: married couples live in the wife's community, and their children grow up in their mother's village.
- Neolocal: married couples are expected to establish a new place of residence, a "home of their own".

