

# British/US culture (Pr. EL HADARI)

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## Lecture3:

### ➤ Dating system in the UK:

Some abbreviations:

**B.C:** Before Christ (Jesus Christ).

**B.C.E:** Before Christian era.

**A.D:** After the birth of Jesus / in the year of lord.

**C.E:** Common/Current Era.

**C.:** Cicera (about / approximatly).

**A.U.C:** (Roman time) from the founding of the city of Rome.

There are three main calendars which can be considered when we talk about the dating system in the UK:

Roman calendar	Julian calendar	Gregorian calendar
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It is lunar</li><li>• It was originally made up of 10 months and of a year of 304 days</li><li>• Developed in Rome before the C.E</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It is solar</li><li>• Made up of 12 months and of a year 365/366 days</li><li>• Created by <b>Julius CEASAR</b> who added two months January and February</li><li>• Made official in 46 B.C</li><li>• Replaced with the Gregorian calendar in 1582</li><li>• Used by the <b>Orthodox Christians</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It is solar</li><li>• Made up of 12 months</li><li>• It was created by <b>Pope Gregory</b> who wanted to change Julian calendar with ran a few minutes each day</li><li>• Great Britain changed to the Gregorian calendar in 1752</li><li>• This calendar used in most parts of the world</li><li>• It is used by <b>the Catholic Christians</b></li></ul>

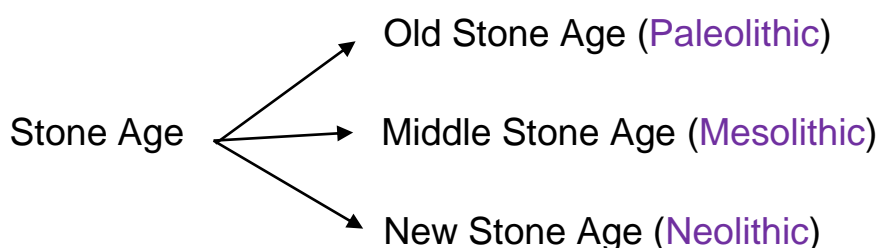
### ➤ Britain's pre-History:

(Period before the invention of writing and the beginning of history)

- 1) There is no accurate picture about Britain's pre-history because of the absence of written records.
- 2) A lot of islands in the UK were not inhabited.
- 3) The identity of very first Britains is still a mystery. Nothing is dead sure about this period.
- 4) Recent archeological finds/discoveries and the use of highly developed and sophisticated tools to know more about this period have over-turned the ideas already established about Britain's pre-History.
- 5) Different human species visited prehistoric Britain according to archeological research, for instance:
  - **Homo Heidelbergensis**: These are the oldest human remains found in England date from about C. 500.000 years ago belonged to a tall man from this species. In 2010 archeologists found some tools which dated back to C. 900.000 years ago. They used these tools by early humans known as **Hominids**.
  - **Hominids**: Who periodically visited Britain in warmer eras between Ice-ages
- 6) Britain was a peninsula of the European continent.
- 7) Pre-historic British society was not static. It was in constant change as it moved from one age to another.

### ➤ Britain in the Stone Age:

- 1) This age dates back C. 2,5 million years ago.
- 2) This age is most often divided to three main Ages:



#### ○ Paleolithic Age:

- During the Old Stone Age, British people used mainly Stones to make tools that help them overcome the difficulties/hardships/challenges imposed on them by nature.
- They were **nomads** who travelled from mainland, Europe to Britain by land and sea.
- They used stones with cutting edges for hunting animals.
- They rubbed stones to get fire for cooking.

- **Mesolithic Age:**

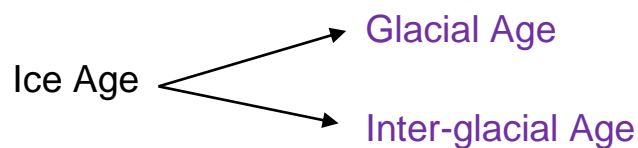
- British people sharpened stones to do well in hunting. They consumed the flesh (meat) of animals and the fruits they gathered (collected).
- They also consumed fish.

- **Neolithic Age:**

- They started learning farming.
- They started cultivating the land with help of animals. They started producing grains, fruits and vegetables from seeds.
- They used stones and wood to prepare food.

- **Britain in the Ice-Age :**

The Ice-Ages started C.2, 4 million years ago



- **Glacial Age:** The period was marked with cold temperature and the advances of Glaciers (large body of ice covering mountain/lands.....)
- **Inter-glacial Age:** The period between two Glaciers. Characterized by warm temperature.