**Pemchint Use (Alternate Explanation)**

Archaeologists have long thought that an artifact called the pemchint was used by Dodecan people solely as a musical instrument. Pemchints consist of hollowed pieces of bone, shell, or wood that are tied together with long straps. When whirled in the air, the pemchints create pleasant tones. Until recently, pemchints were found only at locations known to be used for Dodecan rituals and celebrations. Additionally, they were always excavated in proximity to other musical artifacts. Recently, however, a pemchint was found along with Dodecan hunters’ tools located miles from the nearest known Dodecan  
settlement, while no other music-related objects were found in the area. Clearly, then, the pemchint was used by Dodecan hunters, who most probably used the sounds to repel dangerous wildlife.

Write a response in which you discuss one or more alternative explanations that could rival the proposed explanation and explain how your explanation(s) can plausibly account for the facts presented in the argument.

**Your Answer**

In the proposed explanation, the author states that the pemchint is used as a weapon to repel dangerous wildlife. The author comes to this conclusion based on recent discovery of pemchint been found mile away from the nearest know Dodecan settlement and is placed alongside with other toold used by hunters. However, before this explanation can be properly evaluated, three questions must be answered.  
  
First, would hunters of the Dodecan people play musical instruments? In other words, will the hunters play the instrument for recreation? It is possible for the Dodecan hunters to play music to themselves since their families are miles away and the options for entertainment are limited. Further, it might be common for Dodecan people to carry a pemchint with them since it is portable and create pleasant tones. If either of the above scenarios has merit, the proposed explanation is seriously weakened.  
  
Second, were pemchints used to attract prey instead of repel dangerous wildlife? The author assumes that sound made by hunters are used to repel animals. However, this might not be the case. There are countless examples in the animal world that predators used sounds to mimic water, food and other lures to attract prey. Dodecan people likely learned this practice from nature and boost their hunting efficiency. If the above is true, then the proposed argument does not hold water.  
  
Lastly, were pemchints used as a communication tool between Dodecan people? There are numerous tribes in Africa and Asia that make special noice to communicate in long distance. Drum beats, for instance, is wildly used to send signals to remote villages in Africa. Pemchint may fill the same role in long range communication between Dodecan, especially within the hunters who usually travel long distances away from home and partners. The proposed explanation will not stand firmly is the above it true.  
  
In conclusion, the argument as it stands now, is considerably flawed due to its reliance on several unwarranted assumptions. If the author is able to proved more evidence and analysis to answer the questions, then it would be possible to fully evaluate the proposed explanation.