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The sustainable past

Humanity does not have a good record when it comes to caring for signs of its past accomplishments... But this vandalism has largely affected remains of relatively recent civilizations, the past few millennia or centuries. But in Australia there are records from the longest-known sustainable societies, Aboriginal clans going back tens of thousands of years.¹

This passage about 'preserving the deep past' laments the ongoing destruction of cultural artifacts dating back to the arrival of aborigines in Australia but some may in fact be much older. According to a report in 2016,

we find that Papuan and Aboriginal Australian ancestors diversified 25–40 thousand years ago (kya), suggesting pre-Holocene population structure in the ancient continent of Sahul (Australia, New Guinea and Tasmania). However, all of the studied Aboriginal Australians descend from a single founding population that differentiated ~10–32 kya. We infer a population expansion in northeast Australia during the Holocene epoch (past 10,000 years) associated with limited gene flow from this region to the rest of Australia, consistent with the spread of the Pama–Nyungan languages. We estimate that Aboriginal Australians and Papuans diverged from Eurasians 51–72 kya, following a single out-of-Africa dispersal, and subsequently admixed with archaic populations.²

The genetic evidence suggested that aboriginal Australians and Papuans diverged from Eurasians about 61,000 years ago but that the group of them reaching Sahul, the continent made up in the ice ages of Papua and Australia, did not diversify till about 33,000 years ago, as if they first reached Sahul nearly 30,000 years after leaving Asia or as if, on reaching Sahul, they were prevented from spreading. The latter possibility is less likely, as even in the ice ages Sahul could be reached from the Asian mainland only by crossing the Wallace line by sea, so new arrivals would hardly have been stopped by hills or deserts from sailing along the coast. Research into mitochondrial DNA a few months later pushed the date of divergence back by about 14,000 years:

The estimated ages of the indigenous haplogroups range from 39 000 to 55 000 years, dates that fit well with the estimated date of colonization of Australia based on archaeological evidence (~47 000 years ago).³

In other words, at the very earliest, Cro-magnon may have reached Sahul about 55,000 years ago and is more likely to have done so nearly 10,000 years later, but new archaeological evidence emerged in 2017.

Ehrlich AH, Ehrlich PR, Beattie A & Turnbull C. Quinkan art, preserving the deep past. MAHB 25 August 2015

 ⁷⁵ authors, including Malaspinas A-S & Westaway MC. A genomic history of aboriginal Australia. Nature,
21 September 2016

Naglo N et al. Mitochondrial DNA diversity of present-day Aboriginal Australians and implications for human evolution in Oceania. Nature, 01 December 2016

We report the results of new excavations conducted at Madjedbebe, a rock shelter in northern Australia. Artefacts in primary depositional context are concentrated in three dense bands, with the stratigraphic integrity of the deposit demonstrated by artefact refits and by optical dating and other analyses of the sediments. Human occupation began around 65,000 years ago, with a distinctive stone tool assemblage including grinding stones, ground ochers, reflective additives and ground-edge hatchet heads. This evidence sets a new minimum age for the arrival of humans in Australia, the dispersal of modern humans out of Africa, and the subsequent interactions of modern humans with Neanderthals and Denisovans.⁴

The last sentence presupposes that the artifacts were made by Cro-magnon, but the evidence is against it. The number of artifacts found at the site is said to be more than 100,000, though no more artifacts are likely to have been made than were needed. If they were not communal property, and each person used a generous range of 10, there must have been about 10,000 people living around this site before the arrival of Cro-magnon, or fewer people had been living there for generations.

The first reaction in the Australian press to the new archaeological findings was that they let aborigines off the hook, as their arrival about 47,000 years ago would have otherwise coincided with the extinction of megafauna. At this time there was also a change of climate, so was the megafauna affected by the change or by Cro-magnon's arrival due to the change? According to research published in 2021,

our models show that the macropodiformes were the least demographically susceptible to extinction, followed by carnivores, monotremes, vombatiform herbivores, and large birds. Five of the eight extant species were as or more susceptible than the extinct species ... Our results reveal that the actual mechanisms leading to the observed extinction chronology were unlikely related to variation in demographic susceptibility per se, but were possibly driven instead by finer-scale variation in climate change and/or human prey choice and relative hunting success.⁵

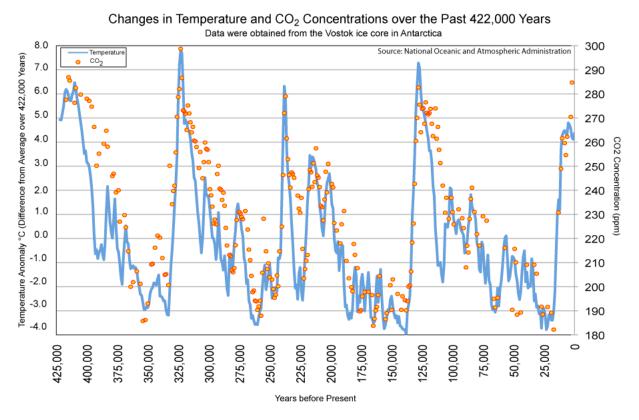
In other words, the climate model alone was not enough to explain why certain species perished and others survived, so either the model was flawed or hunting had intensified. I had already surmised that Cro-magnon was not the first human to arrive and had offered the evidence at the start of 2017 to Aulis Books, where it appeared online before the new archaeological findings.

Clarkson C, Jacobs Z & Pardoe C. Human occupation of northern Australia by 65,000 years ago. Nature,
20 July 2017

⁵ Bradshaw CJA et al. Relative demographic susceptibility does not explain the extinction chronology of Sahul's megafauna. Elife, 30 March 2021

The water-moons

I there pointed out that escaping the heat of an interglacial in the days of the great flood by traveling on foot or along the coast against the current, would have been slow and tiring, that drifting on the high seas to Antarctica and beyond on the Indian Ocean gyre would have been swifter and safer, that maps of the coast of Antarctica with the Ross Sea free from ice were still available in the renaissance, that aborigines attribute quinkan art not to themselves but to a bird called gwion-gwion or quin-quin, and that the quinkan were also the kanquin, panquin or penguins. In the sense that people from New Zealand are kiwis, the people from Antarctica were penguins, but the last great flood due to the melting of Antarctic ice was much earlier than 65,000 years ago.



Unless Australia harbored more than a single archaic race, the quinkan (the five cans or planets in the geocentric model of the system) were also the wandjina with the big nocturnal eyes of neanderthals. *Vand* is Danish for water and *šin* was the word for the moon in northern Mesopotamia, so they were the water-jinn or water-moons. Many neanderthals had surfer's ear from diving for food and for sharp shells,⁶ but Cape York and New Guinea are more notable for the presence of denisovan genes, one of which is suspected to help divers to stay underwater longer, so not only the neanderthals but also their cousins, the denisovans, may have been nocturnal and aquatic.⁷

Trinkaus E, Samsel M & Villotte S. External auditory exostoses among western Eurasian late Middle and Late Pleistocene humans. Plos One, 14 August 2021

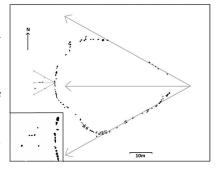
Willerslev E et al. Physiological and genetic adaptations to diving in sea nomads. Cell, March 2018

I also pointed out that the dragon or rainbow-snake motif seems to have left Africa and reached Australia and South America before reaching the Middle East and Europe, so even before the new archaeological findings, all evidence seemed to add up. It may be argued that if the quinkan had successfully traveled by sea from the east coast of Africa to Australia and South America on the ocean gyres, they could later have used the gyres for trade-cycles, but in fact they seem to have done so, as shown by the distribution of another of their motifs. 9



Wurdi Youang

Only a few miles from the south coast of Australia and Melbourne, there lie some rock alignments on the west bank of the Little River. According to the carbon-dating of sites nearby, they could be up to 11,000 years old. They form a segment with sides branching out towards the points of sunset at the summer and winter solstices, as if they served as a sundial, revealing the time of year, 10 but this fails to explain why a second set of lines forks out from the arc in the



west and why the same segment is found at higher latitudes, where the angle between the points of sunset in summer and winter is greater but the angle between the alignments is not. For astronomical purposes, the second set of lines is redundant so must rather have had a symbolic meaning. A clue is offered on East Timor, north of Australia, where the alignment appears several times as an petroglyph on a cave wall.

The mien on East Timor

The petroglyph shows a face, traditionally called a mien, with big nocturnal eyes. 11 A

further clue to its meaning is the fact that the alignments at Wurdi Youang are as wide as two signs of the zodiac, to each of which a planet was assigned along an axis leading from the sun's position at the equinox in spring to its position at the equinox in fall. In symbolic terms the axis led not only from spring to



⁸ D'Huys J. Statistical methods for studying mythology. Institute d

Noah: on vellum, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Département des Manuscripts, 1400s

Figure 8 from Norris RP et al. Wurdi Youang: an aboriginal stone arrangement with possible solar indications, Rock Art Research 2013

Photo: http://www.scienceimage.csiro.au/mediarelease/mr11-14.html. Image credit – John Brush

fall, from dawn to dusk and from east to west but also from the hub to the rim of the system.

The arc marked by the stones in Wurdi Youang was at the western end of the axis, so the eyes must have stood for the outermost planet, Kāla, the deity of calendars. This implies that the axis as a whole was taken to be the body of a giant like Ymir, who in Norse mythology served as the source of creation by dividing and subdividing like a cell. In the Middle East, he appears as an emir but in Australia as an emu, a creature so resilient as to thrive in even the outback.

The old axis of the zodiac was also symbolized by the haft of a double-headed ax like the one on the right from Crete. This ax also appears in China on cards at the new year, as the end of the axis marks the end of one year and the start of the next, 12 and features in a Chinese tale (Lankeshan) about a woodcutter. The woodcutter heads upstream into the past and finds two boys playing checkers outside a cave. He is hungry but is offered only a date-stone, then after the game he looks for his



ax but the haft has rotted away. He heads back downstream into the future and reaches his village, but this has changed beyond recognition and he is violently rebuffed as a stranger.¹³

The tale implies that the old axis of the zodiac stood for the old order of society, designed to avoid dearth and warfare. The woodcutter strays into the past to a neanderthal or denisovan cave, identifiable as such by the checkered board like Gorham's Cave on Gibralter, but instead of serving as a map of the seaboard for merchant shipping or as a periodic table for medical astrology, the board is being used by the boys as a battlefield. The oldest ax found by archaeologists lay on Arnhem Land like the artifacts mentioned above and is thought to go back to about 33,500 BC.¹⁴¹⁵



The wheel of dharma

The relevance of the old axis of the zodiac lay in the fact that it stood for the old order of

society based on sustainable economics. This went back to the realization that nature relies on a boom and bust economy, whereby

Thang Qian of Luzhou University held a 2019

¹³ Photo: Gott MUTTER Darstellungen ab

World's oldest axe found in Australia. P

World's oldest axe found in Australia. Phys.org News, 5 November 2010

years of plenty are followed by years of dearth, as realized by Joseph in the Old Testament.¹⁶ When prey are abundant, they are easily found and eaten and become scarce, then predators starve and likewise become scarce, letting the prey multiply. This applies to not only locusts and greenery but also the snowshoe hare and the Arctic lynx, as shown above.¹⁷

This is the cycle of predation or the wheel of dharma, as *darm* is German for gut, and as soon as early humans had developed enough foresight, they longed to evade it, as it busted not only them but also their cultural achievements. As top predators, they could evade the wheel by limiting their rate of reproduction, but abstinence is at loggerheads with instinct, so the possibilities were to kill each other in warfare, to let a portion of children die soon after birth or to favor homosexuality.

Periodic warfare is uneconomical, as youngsters are fed for years, only to die in battle, so the two other alternatives were adopted. The anguish of letting children die was minimized by limiting it mainly to females, as the rate of reproduction depends on the number of them, and homosexuality was encouraged by offering homosexuals lighter and more interesting work, as among the Navajo.

Berdaches were so well known for their skills that many tribes viewed berdaches as inherently successful, generating both a powerful inspiration for young people to become berdaches as well as for parents to value education and advanced training for children who chose the berdache way of life.¹⁸

Since women were then in the minority, this led to polyandry, as in Tibet, first peopled by denisovans. The two most influential factions then consisted of pretty young women and of canny elderly homosexuals, valued respectively as brides and planners. An elderly skilled woman could serve as not only an intermediary but also a unifying symbol in the form of the so-called Venus figurines. This alliance of the queens and the canny was exemplified by the quinkan, *qvinde* in Danish being merely the word for woman. They differed not only in their roles in society but also in their cosmogony.

At first, stars and planets were thought to move round the earth, as if they had erupted from Mother Earth like milk from a cow's udders, to form the Milky Way. This version appealed to women in seeming to imply that motherhood is the most basic role in society. Later, it was noticed that not only the sun and moon but also the planets follow the same path through the stars, as if they all lie on a single plane and had evolved from the disc of a nebula. This version of genesis appealed to the canny, but women still identified with the earth, so each faction of society then had its own version.

The start of the axis of the zodiac stood for the earth and thus for women, and the end of it stood for the outermost planet and the disc as a whole and thus for the canny. The axis

¹⁶ Genesis 41

¹⁷ Graph: MacLulich after Elton, 1925

¹⁸ Isselhardt T. Native American Indian or 'two Spirit' tradition. Owlcation, 22 September 2016

ran in the symbolical sense from east to west so could be symbolized by not only the haft of an ax but also a rainbow.

The heads of society

Spring leads to fall, and fall to spring, an end to a fresh beginning, so from the curved

western end of the axis at Wurdi Youang, new radii branch out in the same directions as the old. But the segment in Wurdi Youang was also shown as a mien on East Timor, so lines must have branched out from the mien too, and indeed they did, as shown by a painting of the quinkan. Their bodies branch out into arms, and these into fingers, and their heads into hair or feathered crowns like those of neanderthals. 1920

Hence a blind man treated by Jesus is said to have opened his eyes and seen people like trees walking,²¹ and the huldra or little people in Scandinavia are said to have had backs as hollow as caves or covered in bark. This branching illustrates the version of genesis favored by the canny, in which a nebula divides into 5 parts, to form the



Earth, Sun, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn, with the moon as only the earth's partner, but it must soon have become clear to the quinkan that the sun is much bigger than the earth so more likely to be central:

During an eclipse of the moon, the earth's shadow passes over the moon and reveals that the earth is not much bigger, whereas the moon looks as big as the sun but is much nearer. This is shown by the fact that just after the new moon, when the moon is near the sun as seen from the earth, the moon is only a sickle, not a half moon, so the sun must be far beyond it.

Once the quinkan had realized that the earth moves round the sun, they could find the relative distances of planets by noting the effects of a change in the earth's position on the planets' apparent positions. They then found a series of seven planets at regularly doubled distances from the sun, as if the nebula had been in the form of a logarithmic spiral. In China the 8 members of the system were called the 8 xian (jinn or wandjina) or 8 immortals, each of which was shown as a person or as a can (法器), since a line winding up from the tip of a conical can is a spiral, so a spiral nebula could be symbolized by a can, as could the secondary spirals forming the planets.

Finlayson C, Brown K, Blasco R, Rosell J, Negro JJ, et al. Birds of a Feather: Neanderthal Exploitation of Raptors and Corvids. PLOS ONE 7(10), 12 Oct 2012

Finlayson C, Brown K, Blasco R, Rosell J, Negro JJ, et al. Birds of a Feather: Neanderthal Exploitation of Raptors and Corvids. PLOS ONE 7(10), 12 Oct 2012

²¹ Mark 8.24

In effect the quinkan (the 5 cans) became the ottocan. This change in the model required a change in mythology, and the nebula had been symbolized by an emu, who had laid the earth as her egg, so

the Yuwaalaray and other groups in New South Wales ... say that the sun was made by throwing an emu's egg into the sky.²²

The rock art on the right shows the replacement of the geocentric model made up of 5 bodies – the Earth, Sun, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn – by the heliocentric model made up of 8 – the Sun, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Ceres, Jupiter, Saturn and Uranus – as well as the principle of division and subdivision. The principle of asexual reproduction by division is also shown in the zodiac by Gemini the twin humans, by Libra the twin shells and by Pisces the twin fishes.²³²⁴



The east-west antithesis

The spiral nebula was symbolized in Australia by the rainbow-water-snake and in East Asia by the airborne water-snake in the form of the dragon, and even today they are revered by indigenous people round the Pacific, the traditional domain of denisovans, and are slandered in Europe, taken over early by Cro-magnon.

The dragon in this painting by Paulo Uccello (1397-1475) has 8 dots for planets on his wing, to reveal his allegiance to the quinkan, and has a tail like a spiral nebula but is being attacked, as if he oppressed women. In fact, this was a feature of societies run by warriors, as men die in battle, so there are then more women than men, and houris become whores. The



woman is dressed in red, the hue of John the Baptist, the water-john or wandjina, so the dragon is her guardian, not oppressor.

The quinkan's good nature is shown by their transformation in China into the kanquin or Guanyin, the embodiment of empathy, who holds in her left hand a can of water and in her right hand a willow branch. The water stands for the earth as the source of planets, and the willow, as a branching tree, stands for the spiral nebula as the alternative source. Both symbols are ambiguous, as a conical can stood for the spiral nebula, and a willow is associated with water, so they were acceptable to both women and skilled workers.

²² Wikipedia. Emu, 2021

²³ Image credit: Lee Scott-Virtue

²⁴ Image credit: Lee Scott-Virtue

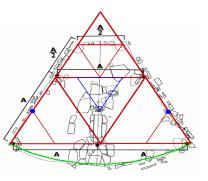
Sites of the mien

Lepenski Vir in Serbia

The branches of a tree are like a trunk, and the twigs are like branches, as if the quinkan viewed nature in terms of self-similarity. This is a hallmark of the mien on the cave wall on East Timor, as the nose is a segment within the segment of the mien as a whole,²⁵ and is also a hallmark of the huts in Lepenski vir, a settlement by the Danube dating back to about 7,000 BC.

The main difference between the huts in Lepenski Vir and the alignments in Wurdi Youang is that the curved end of each hut lies in the east beside a river and that the curved end of the alignments in Wurdi Youang lies in the west away from a river, so the former stands for the start and the latter for the end of the axis. A lesser difference is that the tip of the segment is missing in the case of the huts. This is because the segment at the end of the axis could be shown as a flatfish with two eyes gazing up, so its tail-fin was taken away from the segment at





Both the huts and the mien, however, exemplify the principle of self-similarity, as each segment contains at least one smaller segment pointing in the opposite direction.²⁶ Much later, as guardians of the seaboard, the Knights Templar cut a flatfish into a wall in Domme in the Dordogne, where they were jailed on the order of Philippe IV of France.

Domme in Aquitaine

the start of the axis.

The segment shown as a fish has lines branching out above it like the lines from the arc of stones in Wurdi Youang and from the heads of the quinkan, and the lines are enclosed by an octagon standing for the system of 8 planets. 27 The cross stood originally for the two axes of the zodiac – for the old geocentric axis running from the sun's position at the spring equinox to its position at the fall equinox and for the new heliocentric axis at right angles to it – so the segment at the bottom of the cross on



the left stands for the two signs at the end of one of the axes as a hint that the same is true of the fish.

²⁵ leneharaface2sm.ipg (448×300) (donsmaps.com)

Image credit: Obscured by clouds: Lepenski Vir Settlement. Hidden architecture, 23 May, 2017

²⁷ Image credit: Jerry Glover

The Southern Cross became emblematic of the quinkan, but a cross was incised onto a nummulite left in a neanderthal cave near Tata in Hungary about 90,000 years ago. Nummulites lived in the sea so could stand for the start of the geocentric axis but they also grew in spirals so could also stand for its end. The addition of a second axis suggests that by this time the quinkan and their cousins had agreed that planets orbit the sun, not the earth. Hot cross buns are handed out at the spring equinox, when the sun moves over the start of the old axis.



The Knights Templar vowed to defend *l'outremer*, the otter-sea, so-called because the quinkan (five cans) or ottokan (eight cans) were known along the shores of America and the northwestern coast of Europe as the klabautermänner – the kelp-otter men. In Homer's epic, the Otter-Sea (Odyssey) – *odder* being Danish for *otter*, and *otte* being Danish for *eight* – the seafarers meet a one-eyed caveman, whom they blind with a stake (the old axis of the zodiac). This incident alludes to a lunar calendar based on the one used by the nocturnal quinkan, as their hours of activity varied in the course of a month according to the hours of moonlight available:

The period from new moon to new moon lasts about 29.5 days, so 12 periods would come to about 354 days with an extra month every third year. Less usefully, a month could be defined as having 28 days, then a year could be made up of 13, represented by 13 signs of the zodiac. If the old axis ended between two signs, it began in the middle of one, so if shown as the mien of a person lying the other way round, it had only one eye with the axis running through it.

Guernsey near Brittany

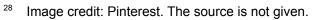
On sailing to Brittany, the quinkan took their knowledge and symbols with them, so their mien appears over the entrance to a passage grave on Guernsey, as shown on the right.²⁸ Just as New Zealanders may be called kiwis by outsiders, the quinkan were called kangaroos. The Guugu Ymithirr word for



the eastern grey kangaroo in far north Queensland is gangurru alias gurrugan or korrigan, the word used for them in Brittany.²⁹

Jutland in Denmark

The Snaptun stone was found on a beach in Denmark and had been used in kindling a fire, as there is a hole in front for the bellows. The air and the spiral embellishments link it to the version of genesis out of a spiral nebula, and in having flames inside, it is like a jack o' lantern lit for a harvest festival, when



Stephens SE & Cliento R. Introduction to Cooktown and its Museum, 197



the sun passes over the end of the old axis of the zodiac and shines from within the mien. A feature shared with the depiction on Guernsey is the continuity of the brow-ridge over the eyes, which was typical of neanderthals. Till now, no denisovan skull has been identified as such, but a single brow-ridge is also typical of the redheaded statues on Easter Island.

Kikonai on Hokkaido

Common on the Channel islands and in Brittany, dolmen are even more common in Korea, so the mien was also painted on a stone segment in Kikonai on Hokkaido during the Jōmon period (10,500-300 BC).³⁰ The segment was found at the former site of a pit house such as the ones used by korrigans in Brittany, where they spent much of winter asleep underground, as such houses offer cozier nooks and more safety from predators.



The Bolivian Andes

The Ross Sea, reached by the quinkan on their voyage from Africa, is already east of New Zealand, so from there they could sail on to the Antarctic Peninsula and up to South America, where their mien appears Bolivia in the form of the coiled fronds of ferns. The mien is made up of two fronds with the eyes as coils but then divides into hairs which are likewise coils.³¹



Boa Island in Ireland

Two upright slabs featuring the mien on Boa island near the west coast of Ireland have two key features. Firstly the arms form a cross and secondly there is a mien on each side of each slab. The crossed arms show that the mien was linked to the axes of the zodiac, and in being traditionally at the end of the old axis, the mien marked the end of one season and the start of the next so gazed backwards into the past and forwards into the future.³² This has led archaeologists suppose that the slabs represent the Roman god



Image credit: www.asahi.com

Image credit: Bradshaw Foundation

³² Photo: Catawiki, dated about 1970

Janus, but the Romans and merchant seamen such as the Carthaginians were not on good terms.

Angola

This Mwano Po mask from the Chokwe in West Africa shows the mien of a woman.³³ The cross on the brow alludes to the zodiac, the ends of whose axes are shown as segments simplified into equilateral triangles. The eyes with slits are like those of dogū figurines on Hokkaido and go back to the time when cowrie shells were placed in the eye sockets of the dead.³⁴ Cowries come from the watery depths of Mother Earth and grow in whorls like spiral nebulae so like the nummulite in the neanderthal cave could appeal to both mothers and skilled workers. Cowries were used as currency throughout the quinkan commonwealth, so when they were replaced by coins, the eyes of the dead were covered by coins instead.



Bhutan

This example of the mien comes from Bhutan, where it was worn by an actor playing the role of a hunter.³⁵ The mien originally stood for skilled workers, mainly homosexual, not for hunters, as shown by the mien on the rocks in Bolivia and on the Snaptune stone in Denmark, whose spiral decorations link it to the holy and erudite. The change in the mien's meaning was due to a change in the zodiac, as sustainable societies were replaced by unsustainable ones and the zodiac acquired a second axis.



The change in the zodiac

Originally the zodiac had only one axis, the rainbow bridge or arch of the covenant leading from mothers to skilled workers. With the discovery that planets move round the sun, not round the earth, a second axis was added at right angles, to lead from the sun's position at the summer solstice to its position at the winter solstice. As shown by the nummulite in the

³³ Photo: Hamill Gallery, 2021

Editorial. The 'Jericho Skulls'. The Archaeologist, 5 April 2021

This photograph of an alche-lhamo mask was taken in the 1930s by an unknown photographer and was kindly sent to me by the sinologist Wolf Kahlen.

neanderthal cave, this happened long before Cro-magnon colonized the world by land and hunted many species to extinction.

Hunters as unskilled workers had little influence in the old order but then became warriors and took over the leadership of the new and adopted the heliocentric model of the system of planets, arguing that the planets had erupted from the sun and fall back periodically to be purged, so warriors are entitled to purge neighbors by setting fire to them and their property. The old order was loved and the new was loathed, so to fog the issue, they swapped the two ends of the axes of the zodiac. The old axis then led from mothers to hunters, and the new axis from warriors to the erudite, so no axis could be upheld without upholding warfare.

This is the theme of *Oidipus* by Sophocles (c.497- c.406)). Oidipus is living in a crowded city in the midst of a pandemic and swears to bring whoever is responsible to justice. He begins as a warrior with sight without insight at the start of the new axis and ends with insight without sight at its end. Much the same happens in *King Lear* by Shakespeare (1564-1616), where the king gains insight only on being thrust from his fortified city, to wander alone in the wilderness. The change of the old order into the new appears in the Old Testament, where David begins as a homosexual musician and ends as a heterosexual warrior married to the widow of a man whom he has had killed. The change was registered by Australian aborigines too.

At the Australian Rock Art Association (AURA) conference in 1998 one of the Ngarinyin Elders, Paddy Nyawarra, revealed that Gwion Gwion was the title of one of three groups of ancient Kimberley artists: Gwion Gwion were artists who invented hunting technology and painting techniques.³⁶

This was merely a revelation of fogging. The skilled workers at the end of the old axis of the zodiac were replaced by hunters, as the quinkan were replaced by Cro-magnon, but the painting was done by the quinkan, not by Cro-magnon.

He (Walsh) constantly questioned Aboriginal elders, but maintained the elders told him they knew nothing about Bradshaw (gwion gwion) paintings; they were done by "different people to us". Walsh heard stories that indigenous people believed the paintings were made by the gwion gwion, a long-beaked bird that pecks at rock faces to catch insects and sometimes draws blood.³⁷

The guinkan were the kanguin, panguin or penguins so in this sense were long-beaked

birds. A bird can hardly draw blood from a rock but can have a red beak. A penguin was attractive as an emblem in being a bird as much at home in the water as on the earth, but quinkan society was swayed

⁶ Editorial. Gwion Gwion rock art. Creative Spirits,

Hawley J. Desert masters: the mysterious rock ar 2010



not only by mothers, who favored the version of genesis from Mother Earth, but also by skilled workers, who favored the version of genesis from an airy nebula, and unfortunately few penguins are still at home in the air. An exception is the rockhopper, who in hopping between rocks can spread his wings and glide, while wearing a feathered crown like a quinkan.

This change in the zodiac is shown by Jieronymus Bosch ((c.1450-1516)) in a triptych in the Prado. In the middle scene, the four ends of the two axes of the zodiac have changed into fortresses, and the old axis in the form of an icicle has snapped, as its end has been swapped with the end of the other axis, while people are reproducing in the foreground.

The minnesänger

The renaissance was not the first attempt to revive the old order. The period from 1100 to 1300 was notable for not only the rise of the Knights Templar and the Cathars in the south of France but also for troubadours, trouvères and minnesänger, the singers of the mien. The quinkan looked like monkeys but were renowned for their siren song, so the word *singe* means *monkey* in French but is also related to *singer*.

The songs of the mien-singers were often addressed to a lady but were not licentious, as the revered lady was the embodiment of the old order, of the kanquin or Guanyin. A tale about Guanyin, dating back to about the 11th century, features her as the daughter of a king, who would like her to marry a



wealthy man.³⁸ She agrees if it can only be shown that by doing so she would ease the suffering of illness, age and death. In effect she remains faithful to the old order,

The perishing present

Noah set forth on the high seas, as men began to multiply and spread violence on the mien of the earth.³⁹ Neither the mien nor the rainbow covenant between women and skilled workers was still respected, so rather than counter violence with violence and thereby enhance it, Noah opted for apartheid. As long as he alone was able to reach his islands, his planning could be effective., but once they were reachable by others, they could plunder whatever he saved.

By the time that European settlers arrived, aboriginal societies were squabbling among themselves, as shown by a custom in Arnhem Land. Adolescents had to lie on ant heaps in the sun for several hours, till a portion of them had perished. It is uneconomic to feed more youngsters for years, only to let some of them perish, so this custom was an

³⁸ Jiang Zhiki J (?). Precious Scroll of Fragrant Mountain. 11th century

³⁹ Genesis 6

awkward compromise. The problem was, that if a war with a neighboring tribe was imminent, there was no time to bear more children and to wait for them to grow into warriors, so more youngsters had to be available already, then if war was avoided, the surplus had to be scrapped. In other words, there was a lack of good faith between neighboring clans, so both sides had to invest in precautionary measures then scrap them at the first opportunity.⁴⁰

Nonetheless, the aborigines revered their forerunners and mentors to the point of portraying them on rocks and preserving their paintings. This is more than can be said of European settlers:

Aerial fire-bombing and ground burning is ongoing in far-north Western Australia as part of the government's fire prevention strategy but the collateral damage is having a devastating impact on the region... Ms Scott-Virtue said her research had determined that 27 to 30 per cent of the rock art in the Bungle Bungles had already been lost.⁴¹

Since the industrial revolution, the reigning paradigm has been one of endless progress, that technological innovation can press ever more juice out of a lemon. Two of the leading lights at the climate conference in Glasgow in November 2021 were the British Prime Minister, who has admitted to having at least 6 children, and the President of the European Union, who has 7. Given that they were leading by example and that a generation bridges on average 30 years, the world's population should be 3 times as great in 2050, 9 times as great in 2080 and 27 times as great in 2110. It is unclear how 27 times as much energy and food can be produced within 90 years without wrecking the planet, so who is to take this seriously?

The wheel of dharma was recognized as such in the early stone age. About 2,000,000 years ago, the average size of the human brain began increasing at an unprecedented rate, as if social planning had been inaugurated and led to the social selection of better planners. The covenant of women and the wise was then upheld till the advent of Cro-magnon as an invasive species, which led to a change in society and thus in social selection.

Over the past 20,000 years, the average volume of the human male brain has decreased from 1,500 cubic centimeters to 1,350 cc, losing a chunk the size of a tennis ball. The female brain has shrunk by about the same proportion.⁴²

⁴⁰ I read about the ceremony in an old book in the Berlin national library years ago, where the ceremony was also photographed. Oddly, there is nothing about it online, as if mentioning the custom would pointlessly stain the aborigines' reputation. In fact sacrificing a surplus is less risky than attacking neighbors for the sake of more land and resources, so what is shameful is really the production of a surplus in the first place.

⁴¹ Holland S. 'Negligent' burning in WA's north threatening rock art, homes. WA Today, 2 December 2014

McCauliffe K. If modern humans are so smart, why are our brains shrinking? Disover Magazine, 20 Jan 2011

This is an 11% loss but a much greater loss in terms of IQ, as an IQ scale is like the Fahrenheit scale of temperatures in beginning well above absolute zero, so even a substandard quinkan would have taken to Stanford like a penguin to water. Our future may consist of endless expansion into the universe, to devastate further worlds, of a lapse into the wheel of dharma and warfare, or of commitment to the thrift and planning which led to the flowering of quinkan culture in safe havens from Australia to Crete and from Hokkaido to Iceland. A critical problem is that no havens are now safe.