

## Re: Vinca script, cross bar angle – Ki Ri Ke

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- *From:* "Franz Gnaedinger" <[frgn@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:frgn@xxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* 27 Jun 2006 07:37:35 -0700
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John Atkinson wrote:

True. I didn't reply because you got back onto your "GU" hobbyhorse, which I found too boring to even read.

Known as Peter T. Daniels Syndrom: judging a book or a message without having much as read it. And, by the way, my Middle Stone Age word for woman is KU.

I did (the first six volumes). As you noticed, the editors have the authors prepare short lists of words in categories like "humans" and "kinship", which made it very easy to select all the "woman" words. I have several dictionaries and a few dozen grammars of other Australian languages, but I didn't use them because it would have been more like work, and the 18 languages in the Handbooks provided me with more than enough examples

As I assumed. You consulted Dixon and Blake and just looked up words for woman. All I say about my method of proposing an early word and following it along the arrow of time and pondering how it may have evolved and developed and split up and survive in an array of similar words was in vain. Language is a basic feature of life, words formed along human experience, they are a most fascinating mental tool, and the only way one is allowed to look at them is by consulting a dictionary one way, and following phonetic laws. As if language were that simple and boring.

[snip!]

"snip" is the most powerful argument in sci.lang.

Re: Vinca script, cross bar angle – Ki Ri Ke

The Ord (river in the Kimberley region where Chatwin was) is a much more impressive river than the Garonne and the Dordogne.

Did you ever look at a map of the Guyenne? There is a river system that links every place and village. No such a thing in Australia.

"Civilization"? Was there a city there?

The Blombos cave was the center of that civilization, or one of the centers. Look up the excellent Blombos cave website by Christopher Henshilwood.

So? Whatever, it wasn't a cold climate.

Cold climates trigger inventions and progress. New ideas from the north, from the time of the Ice Age, found into Egypt. And there are other challenges apart from a cold climate. Desertification that turned the Sahara into an arid zone in around 7 500 BP and made people venture into the Nile Valley and tame the "angry river" (Rushdi Said), which was the great achievement of ancient Egypt, by far bigger than the building of all the pyramids.

I'll throw in another typical Gnaedinger irrelevancy here, and point out that Detroit and Chigago are now on the skids as far as industry is concerned, and that the centres of industry in America are, or soon will be, on the West Coast and (especially) in the South.

Microsoft is based in Seattle and not in Santa Monica, where you find the Getty Center of the Humanities.

Others, of course, reason that the Egyptian thing started about 10 500 BP in the eastern Sahara and northern Sudan, from where cattle-keeping people spread westwards and northwards, the latter becoming Ancient Egypt. The cold dry spell about 7800 BP may have been a stimulus.

The desertification of the once greener Sahara was the reason why people ventured into the Nile Valley where nobody in his or her right mind would have settled before, as the Nile was an "angry river" (see above).

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Leaving out nebulosities like "ideas" and "vitality", Egypt certainly may well be a combination of south (see above) and north (cereal and sheep farmers from the Levant, possibly taking to the road to escape the same dry spell.)

There are two time levels of Egypt, first in around 7 500 BP when tribes from the Sahara, from Arabia and from Asia Minor (Levant) began to settle in the Nile Valley, and again in around 5 400 BP when a tribe from Asia Minor if not from Anatolia entered Upper Egypt via the wadi Hammamat.

In history, all "general rules:" are wrong much more often than not. (That's a general rule.)

The future belongs Canada and Alaska, mark my word.

Why don't you answer the questions instead of going off on yet another irrelevant tangent?

I answered all your question, but as you are throwing in so many points I have to make it short. If you want a long answer ask me one (1) ((one single)) question.

No comment.

Dito, Franz Gnaedinger

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