

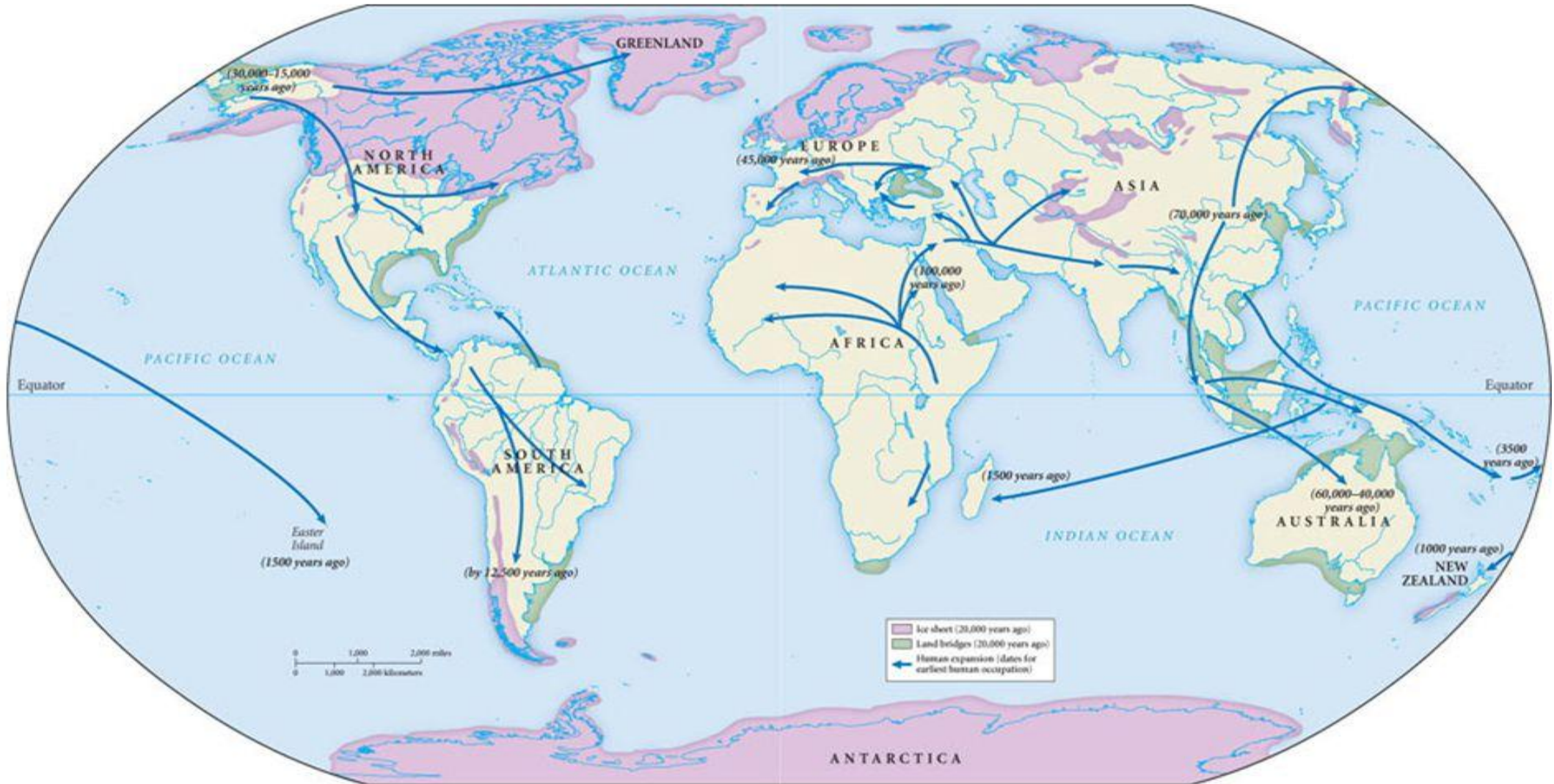
The Paleolithic Era

The Paleolithics Introduction

- *Paleolithics were the pioneers of stone tool development and made 95% of prehistoric discoveries.*
- *During the Paleolithic Era, hominins formed small social groups like bands and survived through gathering, fishing, hunting, and scavenging.*
- *The era is defined by the use of knapped stone tools, complemented by wood and bone tools.*
- *Organic materials like leather and plant fibers were also repurposed as tools.*
- *The Paleolithic people are considered the first to develop a proper oral language, representing a significant cognitive leap in human history.*

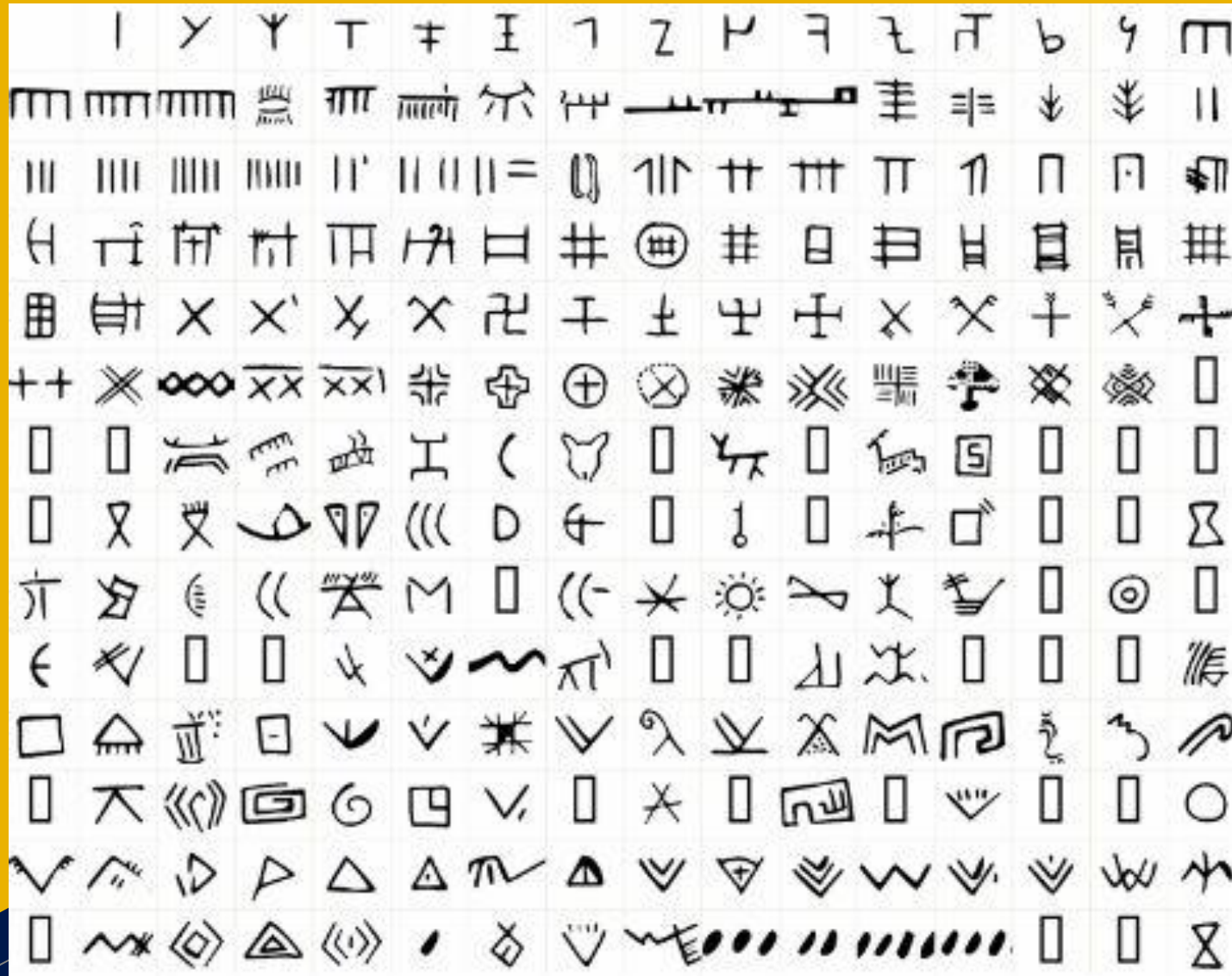
The Paleolithic era derives its name from the Greek words “paleos,” meaning “old,” and “lithos,” meaning “stone.”





The Paleolithic era (Expansion)

The Paleolithic Language



- Researchers reported in PNAS (*Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*), an official scientific journal, about the discovery of potentially the earliest known form of writing.
- The discovery is based on eggshells that have been dated to 60,000 years ago.
- The eggshells were found at the Diepkloof Rock Shelter in the Western Cape, South Africa.
- The team suggests that the symbols evolved over a period of 5,000 years.
- This finding is seen as a sign of modern human cognitive thinking.

3 subdivisions of Paleolithic

- *Lower Paleolithic: Characterized by the development of simple stone tools.*
- *Middle Paleolithic: Known for flake tools and the widespread use of fire.*
- *Upper Paleolithic: Witnessed the emergence of more sophisticated tools, including those made from bone, antler, and ivory.*



LOWER PALEOLITHIC



Chopper: pebble, roughly worked on one side. Used for digging and skinning.



Biface: hand axe knapped on both sides. Used for cutting.



Knife: utensil knapped on one side. Used for cutting or as a weapon.



Scraper: used for cleaning animal hides⁵ and sharpening knives.

UPPER PALEOLITHIC

Blade: finely knapped. Used as spear heads.



Javelin: weapon for throwing. Similar to a small spear.



Needle: made of bone and used for sewing.



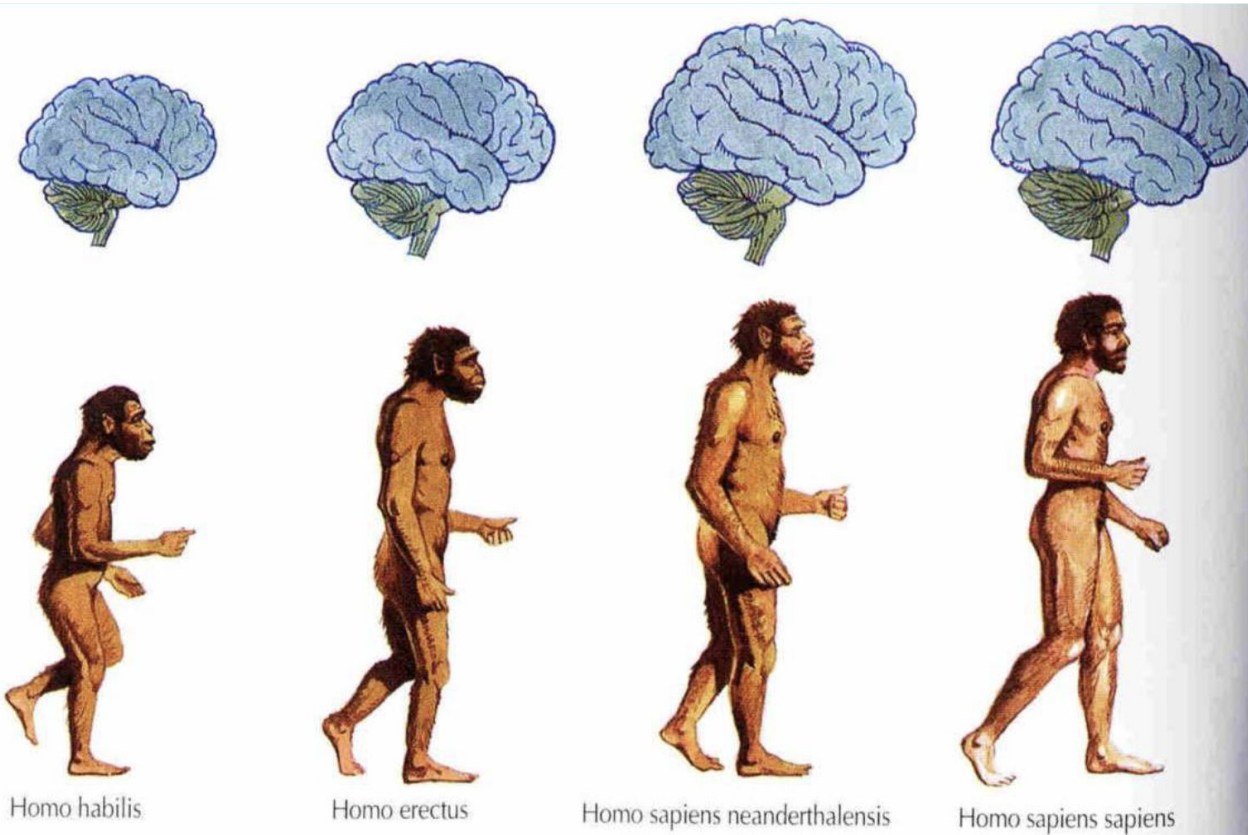
Perforator: used for making holes in hides.



Harpoon: used for fishing.

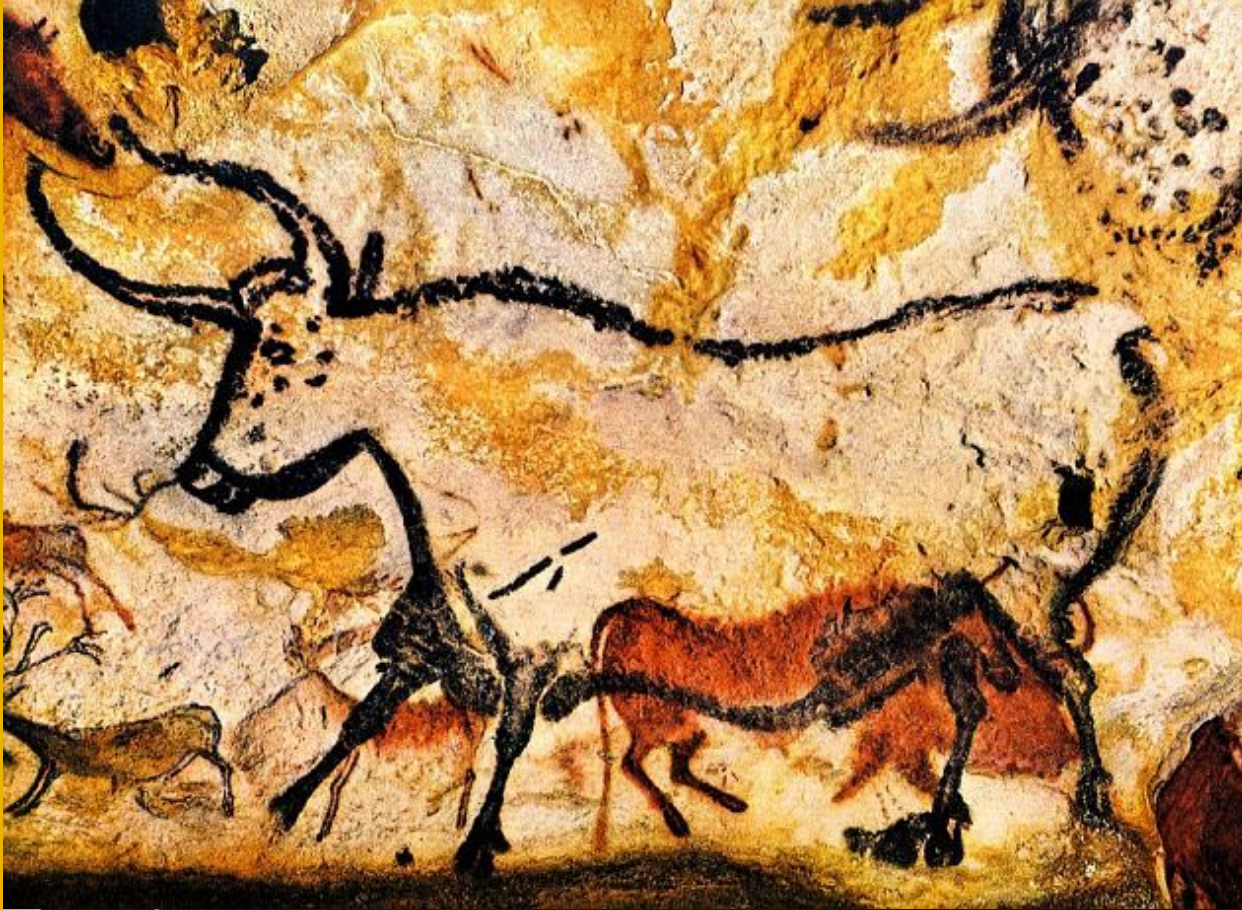
*The
Paleolithic
tools*

*Different Homo species, such as **Homo habilis**, **Homo erectus**, **Homo neanderthalensis** (Neanderthals), and **Homo sapiens** (modern humans), inhabited the Paleolithic Era.*



***Homo Species
during
Paleolithic Era***

Importance and Impact of Paleolithic Era



- *The Paleolithic Era laid the foundation for many aspects of modern human society, including toolmaking, social organization, and early forms of art.*
- *The Paleolithic Era represents the vast majority of human technological history, accounting for approximately 99% of humanity's prehistoric existence.*
- *The Paleolithic Era witnessed the development of various regional cultures and traditions.*
- *The era reflects the cognitive development of early humans, as evidenced by their ability to create and use tools, develop language and communication, and express themselves through art and symbolism.*

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