

# A possible post-Flood human migration route

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The possibility that the Arctic Ocean was navigable about 4,000 years ago is a novel idea. However, the Bible documents the migration of many people groups from Babel. This historical event, combined with the concept that the Genesis Flood caused a significant increase in the temperature of the earth's oceans, provides an extraordinary possibility for a post-Flood human migration route. Ancient mariners may have navigated an ice-free Arctic Ocean after the Noahian Flood, connecting the North Atlantic and North Pacific Oceans. Arctic Ocean navigation soon after the dispersion of groups of people from Babel would explain mysteries such as the similarities in human DNA, linguistics, pottery and archaeo-astronomical sites from Great Britain and north-western Europe with those in Japan and Russia.

## After the Flood

The last forty years have witnessed renewed interest in the study of both the origin of the earth and the history of mankind from a biblical perspective. Much of this attention has focused on the geological impact of a worldwide flood. This paper will address a post-Flood human migration route that would have been possible for a time period after the worldwide Flood described in the Bible. The global Flood would have left massive geological formations, and it would also have strongly influenced the earth's climate for many years. The Genesis Flood and its influence on the earth's climate and weather is a key to understanding the ancient history of mankind.

The tenth chapter of Genesis, often referred to as the Table of Nations, records and identifies specific names and migration destinations of families of the oldest descendants of Noah. Since this dispersion or migration occurred immediately after the confusion of language at the Tower of Babel, it provides an origin for the dissemination of languages.

James Ussher stated that the dispersion of people from the Tower of Babel in Mesopotamia occurred five years after the birth of Peleg. Thus, the confusion of the common language spoken by all of the inhabitants of the earth and the subsequent dispersion of people would have occurred in about 2242 BC, 106 years after the Flood.<sup>1</sup> If this trans-

polar migration route was possible, and if it was utilized, even for a limited period of time, it would help explain the similarities between people groups and their artefacts in north-western Europe and those in Japan and Russia.

## Impact of the Genesis Flood

Both Larry Vardiman and Michael Oard have published substantial evidence indicating that during and after the Genesis Flood all of the oceans of the earth were warmer, possibly considerably warmer, than the temperature of today's ocean waters.<sup>2-3</sup> Warmer ocean water would have evaporated more rapidly and formed more clouds than today's cooler oceans do. These moisture-laden clouds, combined with a colder atmosphere, would have been an ideal source for major snow accumulations, leading to an Ice Age. The Ice Age ran its course in approximately 700 years,<sup>4</sup> with the snow accumulation reaching its maximum depth about 500 years after the Genesis Flood,<sup>5</sup> with most of the snow and ice melting away during the next 200 to 300 years.<sup>6-7</sup> The oceans cooled down in the centuries following.<sup>8</sup>

James Ussher's date for the year of the Genesis Flood is 2348 BC.<sup>9</sup> Following the timing of Oard, this would mean that the peak of the Ice Age would have occurred around 1850 BC and that the end of the Ice Age would have occurred between 1650 and 1550 BC. Table 1 provides a conservative, biblically based chronology,<sup>10</sup> which includes a proposed period of an Ice Age caused by the Genesis Flood.<sup>6</sup>

*Table 1. A brief biblical chronology of ancient history*

| Date           | Event                         |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 4004 BC        | Creation                      |
| 2348 BC        | Genesis Flood                 |
| 2347 BC *      | Ice Age begins                |
| 2242 BC *      | Dispersion from Babel         |
| 2188 BC *      | Egypt established             |
| 1921 BC        | Abram enters Canaan           |
| 1897 BC        | Sodom destroyed               |
| 1847 BC *      | Maximum/Peak of Ice Age       |
| 1821 BC        | Abraham dies at age 175       |
| 1708 BC        | 7-year famine begins in Egypt |
| 1647-1547 BC * | End of Ice Age                |
| 1635 BC        | Joseph dies at age of 110     |

\* Estimated date

One of the conclusions of both Vardiman and Oard is that the Arctic Ocean would most likely have been ice free until after the peak of the Ice Age and during the first part of the 200- to 300-year-long melting phase of the Ice Age.<sup>11</sup> The Arctic Ice Pack would likely have formed rapidly as the salt waters of the Arctic Ocean were overflowed by the lighter and very cold fresh waters flowing from the melting

**Table 2.** Examples of large prehistoric boats from north-west Europe

| Boat  | Location            | Length  | Width | Draught | Age     | Notes                               |
|---|---------------------|---------|-------|---------|---------|-------------------------------------|
| Hjortspring Boat <sup>23–24</sup>           | Als Island, Denmark | 14 m    | 2.5 m | 0.7m    | 350 BC  | Reconstruction tested at sea        |
| Ferriby 1, 2 & 3 Composite <sup>25–27</sup> | Humber River, UK    | 15.9 m  | 3.5 m | 0.4m    | 1900 BC | Flat-bottomed, room for 18 paddlers |
| Dover                                       | Dover, UK           | 12–15 m | 2.4 m | 0.8m    | 1550 BC | Seaworthy boat                      |

of massive amounts of snow and ice located on the adjacent landmasses.<sup>12</sup>

If the sea ice on the Arctic Ocean did not form until a minimum of 500 years after the Genesis Flood, it is possible that ancient mariners found a route that allowed them to depart north-west Europe, navigate the Arctic Ocean and enter the Pacific Ocean. These adventurous seamen could have chosen a direct route across the North Pole or a more conservative course along the coast of either Canada or Russia to reach the Bering Strait, the gateway to the Pacific Ocean. A nearly direct route for mariners leaving north-west Europe would be to navigate northward along the British Isles to the archipelago known as the Orkney Islands, located north of the northern coast of Scotland.

### The Orkney Islands

The first Neolithic farmers on the Orkney Islands are believed to have arrived between 4000 and 3500 BC. These settlers had advanced ideas of culture and society and possessed a remarkable intelligence that enabled them to construct significant stone structures.<sup>13</sup> Archaeologists date England's stone circles, including the Ring of Brodgar and the Standing Stones of Stenness on the Orkney Islands, from 3500 to 3000 BC.<sup>14</sup> This predates all but the Sumerian civilization and possibly the early Breton Passage-Tombs in France.<sup>15</sup> For comparison, Egypt appears to have been founded in 2188 BC, following the Babel dispersion.<sup>16</sup> However, these dates and others are subject to the uncertainties of carbon-14 dating and are adjusted based on dendrochronology data,<sup>17</sup> which is suspect.

The architects and builders of the Ring of Brodgar and the adjacent Standing Stones of Stenness were skilled astronomers and engineers.<sup>18</sup> The village of Skara Brae on Mainland Orkney is the best-preserved Neolithic village in northern Europe and is believed to have been inhabited before the Egyptian pyramids were built, flourishing many centuries before construction began at Stonehenge. There are ten semi-subterranean structures in the village, which is reportedly 5,000 years old.<sup>19</sup>

Crude stone implements, buttons for clothing, polished stone axes and mace heads were recovered from the Isbister Chambered Tomb, or the Tomb of the Eagles, located on the southern coast of South Ronaldsay Island in the Orkneys.<sup>20</sup> These items demonstrate that the people of this era had advanced technical skills to drill small, fine holes in hard objects. According to calibrated radiocarbon

dates, construction of the Isbister Chambered Tomb began in 3150 BC, and may have taken up to two hundred years to complete. Archaeologists believe this tomb was used regularly for 800 years, with the last burial around 1600 BC.<sup>21</sup> The artifacts and human remains found at Isbister and in many other Orcadian tombs provide a window on the civilization that flourished on the Orkneys shortly after the Noachian Flood.<sup>22</sup>

### Post-Flood boat building

Some of Noah's descendants would have retained the family knowledge regarding boat building, and many large open boats have been found in archaeological sites in north-west Europe, as detailed in table 2.

Regarding the Dover boat, the Dover museum site notes that:

‘A boat of this size would have been capable of crossing the English Channel, carrying a substantial cargo of supplies, livestock and passengers. It was probably propelled by at least 18 paddlers. The quality of the workmanship suggests a high degree of skill, specialization and organization.’<sup>28</sup>

The general proportions of these ancient boats are strikingly similar to the proportions of Noah's Ark. These post-Flood boats demonstrate that people of this era had the ability to construct seaworthy craft that were capable of transporting significant quantities of cargo while traversing large bodies of open water.

### Northern Europe to western Pacific

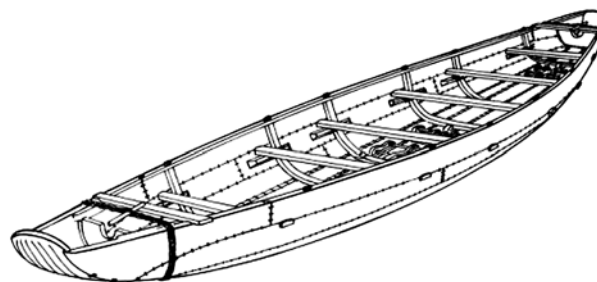


Image by the Estate of Ted Wright

*Proposed reconstruction of an ancient boat based on the three Ferriby boats found by Ted Wright in 1937, 1941 and 1963 on the shore of the Humber River estuary near North Ferriby, England. The Ferriby boats are the earliest-known planked working boats. The dimensions of the boats were 15.9 m x 2.5 m x 0.4 m. The oldest Ferriby boat was built around 2000 BC.*

Photo by the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, Scotland.



*Pieces of Unstan Ware conventionally dated to the 4<sup>th</sup> millennium BC. This fine pottery has decorative grooved patterns near the rim and an unusual rounded base. It is named after the Unstan chambered cairn found on the Orkney Islands.*

In 1935, in a British periodical titled *Mariner's Mirror*, James Hornell published some striking similarities between the unique design and construction of ancient ships, artifacts and even burial customs found in the Scandinavian area and in the western Pacific Islands.<sup>29</sup> He noted similar designs and an almost identical technique of utilizing planks and cleats in the construction of ancient boats in both Scandinavia and in areas of the western Pacific.<sup>30–31</sup> For example, the *orembai* boat, found in the Kei Islands off New Guinea, is very similar to the most ancient ships of Scandinavia.<sup>32</sup> Hornell also found similar practices of ritualistic boat burial

from Viking and Pacific Island sites.<sup>33–35</sup>

Another nautical similarity has been noted in Norway, where modern fisherman use an unusually designed water bailer that has the handle turned forward or above the scoop cavity. This peculiar form of scoop is so universal throughout the islands of the Pacific Ocean that it is called the Oceanic pattern. Nowhere in Europe, except in Scandinavia, is a similar design utilized as a water bailer.<sup>36</sup>

Hornell also pointed out the similarity of wooden arrow shafts from northern Europe and the west Pacific. Arrow shafts that have been found in peat bogs in Denmark (from about the first century AD) are enlarged at the nock and must have been associated with the use of what is known as the primary release.<sup>37</sup> It is remarkable that the Ainu of Japan and Saghalien or Sakhalin of eastern Russia, along with some of the Formosan tribes (Taiwan), are the only ones among Eurasian peoples to employ the primary release in recent times.<sup>34</sup>

Hornell postulated that there was a route between the North Atlantic and the North Pacific regions, suggesting it might have been possible to sail along the Northern coastline of Siberia and/or utilize the rivers and lakes of Europe and Asia.<sup>38</sup> This combined coastal and freshwater route may have been an alternative to entering the Pacific Ocean via the Bering Strait if the lowering of the sea level during the peak of the Ice Age indeed exposed a land bridge between Asia and Alaska.

### The Ainu

The Ainu are considered to be some of the most ancient people of the Northern Pacific.<sup>39</sup> However, their ancestry has been problematic, due to their unique language<sup>40</sup> and different appearance to other Asian people groups, having fair



*Incipient Jomon pottery (conventionally dated 10,000–8,000 BC), Tokyo National Museum, Japan. Note the rounded base and decorative lines near the top of this piece. Some consider this style of pottery to be the oldest known pottery in the world.*

**Table 3.** Similarities between words in the Ainu and Basque languages, with English definitions

| Ainu         | English          | Basque     | English             |
|--------------|------------------|------------|---------------------|
| Aspa         | to be deaf       | aspaldiko  | old, ancient        |
| Taspere      | to sigh          | asparen    | to sigh             |
| Tur          | dirt             | lur        | dirt                |
| Mokor        | sleep            | makar      | sleep               |
| Araka        | illness          | arakatu    | to be examined      |
| Aukorespa    | to be engaged    | aukeratu   | to choose, select   |
| Kusunkur     | enemy            | kuskusean  | spying              |
| Oiakunkur    | out of doors     | oian       | forest              |
| Uraiki       | to make war      | jarraiki   | to attack           |
| Tono         | official         | tontor     | plumed, feathered   |
| Sikupu       | to perish        | siku       | shrivelled up       |
| Kayo         | to cry out       | kaio       | seagull             |
| Ese          | to answer        | esetsi     | to argue            |
| Itasa        | answer           | itaun      | question            |
| Kaya         | sail             | kaiar      | very large seagull  |
| Umusa        | to bow           | kilimusi   | to bow              |
| Omonnure     | to praise        | omendatu   | to praise           |
| kokor unpeki | to scold         | gogor egin | to scold            |
| Kukocan      | to refuse        | uko egin   | to refuse           |
| Konte        | to give          | kontentatu | to please           |
| Uk           | to receive       | ukan       | to have             |
| Ipuni        | to distribute    | ipuina     | to tell a story     |
| Iska         | to steal         | xiskatu    | to steal            |
| ikoro        | money            | koro       | money               |
| Pita         | to untie, loosen | pita       | fishing line        |
| hantasine    | barefoot         | hankagorri | barefoot            |
| eraman       | to get used to   | eramanpen  | patience, tolerance |

skins, round eyes and more body hair.<sup>41-44</sup> It is thought that around 300 BC Mongolian-type people from Korea invaded Japan and forced the Ainu to move north onto Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost main island.<sup>44</sup> Most Ainu now live on Hokkaido. However, until the mid-1900s, some Ainu also lived on Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands (Russia).<sup>40</sup> Archaeological remains from 'Neolithic' settlements on Sakhalin (believed to be from ancestors of the Ainu) include polished stone hatchets (similar to European ones) and stone weights for nets, and primitive pottery with decorations like those of the Olonets from north-west Russia.<sup>45-46</sup> The Olonets and Sakhalin are separated by thousands of miles of land in northern Asia but would have been readily accessible with a navigable Arctic Ocean, and the ancient Ainu were noted for their extraordinary sailing skills.<sup>47</sup>

### Ainu pottery

Secular archaeologists believe that the Ainu have been living on many of Japan's islands for at least 7,000 years. Their Jomon pottery is found throughout this area and has been 'dated' from 5000 BC until just before the Christian era.<sup>44</sup> Some of the oldest Jomon pottery is decorated with geometric patterns similar to the geometric patterns found decorating ancient pottery from Pusan, South Korea.<sup>48</sup> The bases of the most ancient examples of Jomon pottery have an unusual bullet shape,<sup>49</sup> which would require lateral sup-

port for the container to remain upright. Later Jomon pots are usually flat-bottomed, suggesting that they were used indoors and placed on floors or on flat surfaces. Middle Jomon-era ceramics are characterized by elaborate decoration, and many pieces seem more suited for ceremonial purposes than for eating or cooking.<sup>50</sup>

There are very strong similarities between the most ancient pottery styles from the Orkneys and the ancient Jomon pottery used by the Ainu. One of the most ancient pottery styles found in the Hebrides and Orkney Islands is called 'Unstan Ware', which has a round bottom with a pronounced shoulder and a decorated collar. Another type of the most ancient Orcadian pottery is known as 'Grooved Ware'. The decoration on Grooved Ware included zones of grooves, cuts or applied raised decoration which was usually of geometric style.

These jars could have a diameter of up to 0.6 m and were flat-based and often heavily decorated.<sup>51</sup>

### Languages

The Ainu language is not related to the languages spoken by neighbouring peoples, including Japanese,<sup>52</sup> and some linguists consider it most akin to some languages spoken by American Indians.<sup>53</sup> Until the twentieth century, when the Japanese government established schools for the Ainu, they had no written language and no written history. But the Ainu have a rich folklore that is based on a strong oral tradition, using around 14,000 words.

Edo Nyland is a linguistic archaeologist who has made several observations about the Ainu in his paper titled *The Relationship between Basque and Ainu*. Nyland gives evidence that the Ainu language is genetically related to the Basque dialect from northern Spain / southern France. Listed in table 3 are vocabulary similarities that he obtained from: *An Ainu Dialect Dictionary*, edited by Shiro Hattori, which was printed in mostly Latin characters.<sup>54</sup> Christopher Knight and Robert Lomas agree that there are many striking similarities between the languages of the Ainu and the Basques (whose language is unrelated to other European languages).<sup>47</sup> They believe there could be a connection between ancient Europeans, the Ainu and ancient peoples who



inhabited parts of North America.<sup>55</sup> Nyland also states:

‘There are indications that the Ainu sailed regularly to Alaska to obtain reindeer hides from the Aleuts established there, which they needed for their sails, exactly the same as was done by the Basques, the Irish, and the Scots who went to Arctic Norway for their reindeer-leather sails. The Ainu must have been great long-distance sea-farers to keep up contact with their home-base, which may have been in Mesopotamia. The Ainu appeared to have been the “*avant-garde*” of the Pacific migration.’<sup>56</sup>

### Stone circles

Three hundred and ninety sites of stone circles or stone arrangements have been identified in Britain, Ireland, north-west France and Senegal,<sup>57</sup> the most famous of which is Stonehenge. The ancient Ainu also built stone circles, which can be found on the islands of Japan and in eastern Russia.<sup>58</sup> A few of the Ainu circles still have the slender, upright stone in the centre, similar to the European and north-west African ones.

One of the best examples is the Kanayama Megaliths, located in a mountainous area close to the town of Kanayama, between Tokyo and Osaka on Honshu. The Kanayama Megaliths are believed to have been built at the same time as Stonehenge, during the mid-Jomon Period,<sup>59</sup> and are the first sites in Japan that have been given a systematic archaeo-astronomical investigation. Research reveals that all three magnificent stone arrangements were designed and constructed to serve as solar calendars, as was Stonehenge.<sup>60</sup> It is significant that ancient astronomers living in Japan and Europe, soon after the Flood, both utilized similar systems and techniques to monitor the movement of the sun and moon. This would be a truly remarkable coincidence if there were no connection between the two areas or if there were no common origin for this knowledge of astronomy and engineering that was capable of constructing such precise arrays of stones.

### Anatomy

Recent papers scientifically documenting variations in either cranial anatomy or DNA have provided deeper insight into the similarities of the Ainu and other specific people groups. These findings provide a remarkable confirmation of a connection between the Ainu and people groups from Europe.

Brace *et al.* made the following statements in a 2001 paper published in *PNAS*:

‘The first entrants to the western hemisphere of maybe 15,000 years ago gave rise to the continuing native inhabitants south of the U.S.–Canadian border. These show no close association with any known mainland Asian population. Instead they show ties to the Ainu of Hokkaido and their Jomon predecessors in prehistoric Japan and to the

Polynesians of remote Oceania. All of these also have ties to the Pleistocene and recent inhabitants of Europe and may represent an extension from a Late Pleistocene continuum of people across the northern fringe of the Old World.

‘... archaeological evidence supports a north-east Asian source for the first human inhabitants of the Western Hemisphere. Some interpretations have suggested that the distribution of linguistically identifiable groups in the New World may have been the result of separate prehistoric population movements into the Western Hemisphere. ... the East Asian Pleistocene and the Ainu samples cluster with the European Upper Palaeolithic and latterly with modern Europe itself before showing any linkage with the rest of the world. ... The prehistoric Jomon and the Ainu of Japan are actually closer to the prehistoric and living European groups than to the core populations of continental Asia. The Polynesians of Oceania are close to being between the European and Asian ends of the spectrum. Along with the Ainu and the Jomon, they could be described as Eurasian. ...

‘The fact that Late Pleistocene populations in northwest Europe and northeast Asia show morphological similarities suggests that there may have been actual genetic ties at one time. Those morphological similarities can still be shown between Europe and the descendants of the aboriginal populations of the Japanese archipelago, i.e., the Ainu. This similarity provides some basis for the long-time claim that the Ainu represent an “Indo-European”, “Aryan”, or “Caucasoid” “type” or “race”, however unfortunate those designations and their implications may be.

‘That there is no evidence that the Late Pleistocene occupants of the longer-inhabited western end of that human extent [Asia] migrated eastward suggests that the genetic link may stem from a late Middle Pleistocene population that spread across the northern edge of the Old World. ...

‘The reduction in robustness that produced the “modern” form from an archaic version of *Homo sapiens* in the Late Pleistocene led to the emergence of people of similar appearance at the northwestern and northeastern edges of the Old World. Technological developments and climatic amelioration starting 17,000 years ago allowed the population segment across the northern edge of the inhabited Old World to extend north toward the previously uninhabited Arctic.’<sup>61</sup>

### Blood Lines

A technical paper on similarities in HLA class I and II alleles of the Nivkhi, a native people isolated in the Nogliki region of Sakhalin, far-east Russia, with other people

groups stated that major Nivkhi class II alleles were similar to those of the Ainu in Hokkaido, Japan, but dissimilar to those of other Asian Mongoloids, including the general Japanese population.<sup>62</sup> The authors suggest that the Nivkhi might be closely related to the north-east Asian native people groups called the Orochon and Yakut, intermediately related to South American natives, and most distant from Asian Mongoloid people groups, including the Japanese, Ainu and Okinawans. The origin of HTLV-I is unknown, but it is hypothesized that the Nivkhi migrated from an ancestral palaeomongoloid people carrying HTLV-I to or from South America. The HTLV-I isolated from the Nivkhi was a cosmopolitan 'A' subtype which is commonly found in Japanese, Ainu, Okinawan, Iranian and South American natives.<sup>63</sup> Is it possible that multiple family groups with different blood lines utilized the Arctic Ocean route and migrated to lands adjacent to the Pacific Ocean?

A subsequent paper reporting on analyses of HLA genes and haplotypes in the Ainu supports the premise that they descended from Upper Palaeolithic populations of East Asia.<sup>64</sup> This paper states that the Ainu are somewhat distantly related to both Asian and Native American populations. The authors suggest that the Ainu and Native Americans descended from some common ancestral populations, as marked by the HLA alleles.<sup>65</sup>

### Navigation barrier

One possible barrier/obstacle to a continual navigable route across the Arctic Ocean and the North Pole during this period would have been the lowering of the global sea level during the peak years of the Ice Age. The lowering of the global sea level would result when major snowstorms caused massive amounts of snow and ice to accumulate on land, primarily in the northern and southern latitudes. From a young-earth perspective, it has been estimated that the decrease in the global sea level may have been in the magnitude of fifty to sixty metres.<sup>66</sup> Long-age geologists also indicate a similar range of sea level decline. Thus, the lowering of the global sea level during the Ice Age was likely sufficient to produce a bridge of dry land, often referred to as Beringia, between Asia and Alaska, for a period of years during the peak of the Ice Age.

However, the existence of a dry-land connection between Asia and Alaska would not necessarily have eliminated the polar migration route, but rather would have made it necessary for ancient sea travellers to portage across an area of land in the vicinity of the Bering Strait. By using rivers that entered the Arctic Ocean and rivers flowing into the Pacific Ocean, it is possible that this portage may have been shortened. The North Ferriby boat should have been able to be carried, or at least dragged, across dry land by

its crew, as it was a long and narrow craft.

Travel by sea has clear advantages, and many researchers have indicated that migrants from Asia to North America would have used watercraft along the southern margin of Beringia and then sailed southwards along the north-west coast of North America.<sup>67</sup> This may have enabled humans to enter the southern areas of the Americas prior to the melting of the continental glaciers. This mode of transportation may have been used to reach the coast of Peru and Chile during the last Ice Age.<sup>68</sup>

It is possible that travellers using a trans-polar migration route may have left artifacts, and some boats might have been lost during navigation of the Arctic Ocean. The underwater remains of these vessels might still be identifiable along this route. In addition, it is possible that the remains of ancient communities might be found under water in the area of the Bering Strait or along the coast of the Arctic Ocean. If ancient mankind utilized this trans-polar route, it is possible that evidence of this travel may still remain. In 1941, J.L. Giddings, an archaeologist, discovered the Onion Portage site located on the Kobuk River, about 100 miles inland from the west coast of Alaska. At this site, more than fifty human occupation levels have been identified that reportedly date back at least nine thousand years.<sup>69</sup> Major variations in the climate of this area have been noted in some of the different levels.<sup>70</sup>

In December 2002, Dr Silvia Gonzalez announced that



Two routes that could have been used by ancient mariners using Ferriby boats are identified with white lines running from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans. Following the Flood, navigation would have been possible in an ice-free Arctic Ocean.

Map image by MountainHigh Maps®, <www.digvis.com>. Migration route developed by Ken King

a human female skull and other bones found near an ancient lake bed near Mexico City in 1959 had recently been dated by Oxford University's Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit to be 13,000 years old.<sup>71</sup> These remains are being called the Penon Woman III. Gonzalez has developed a theory that the Penon woman does not belong to Native Americans, but is a descendant of the Ainu people of Japan because of the elongated, narrow shape of the skull. She believes the Ainu made their way to the New World by island hopping on boats.<sup>72</sup>

On 24 June 2004, a joint Russian–Norwegian archaeological expedition announced a ‘new theory on early human migration patterns’. After years of excavations at a site called Mammoth Kurye (north of the Arctic Circle on the Usy River in the Republic of Komi, Russia), researchers believe the collected evidence indicates that humans with a ‘high level of development’ lived in this region nearly 40,000 years ago. Findings at this site support the existence of a northern climate that used to be warm and where living conditions were remarkably beneficial.<sup>73</sup>

### Conclusion

There is an abundance of various types of evidence that supports the possibility of an ancient human migration route from Babel to the Pacific Ocean via north-western Europe and the navigable waters of an ice-free Arctic Ocean. Entrance to the Pacific Ocean could have been achieved for an indefinite period of time through the Bering Strait or as a portage over the Beringia land-mass. This unique polar migration route can help explain how groups of people rapidly migrated to parts of the earth that are quite remote from Babel, in Mesopotamia. Biblical historical information combined with scientific data and human artifacts can provide answers to questions about ancient mankind and the world in which he lived.<sup>74</sup> Perhaps the concept presented in this paper will help develop an improved understanding of ancient history from a biblical perspective.

### Glossary

*Allele*: A form of gene usually occurring in pairs; one on each chromosome in the cell nucleus.

*Archaeo-astronomy*: Anthropology of astronomy.

*Beringia*: A large land area stretching from Siberia to the Yukon in Canada, which includes a large area of land between Asia and North America that is now under water.

*Cairn*: A burial mound, long or circular, composed of a mass of small stones.

*Cup mark*: A small, man-made, circular hollow, ground into stone with unclear significance, but may be related to the sun or to the moon.

*Kanayama*: A town in central Japan adjacent to an array of ancient megaliths.

*Megalith*: Large stone.

*Passage-Tomb*: A Neolithic megalithic tomb, usually

circular, with a stone-lined passage leading to a burial chamber inside the mound.

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