

STATE FORMATION

Domestication in East Asia

- Major Crops: rice and millet
- Rice is a very important world resource today
- Wild Ancestor to rice: *Oryza rufipogon*
- Thrives in seasonally flooded areas
- Early domestication probably included dam construction
- The point of this is to expand flooded lands
- **Southern China**
 - Rice domesticated in Yangtze & Huai River Valleys
 - Water caltrop, fox nut also grow in flooded fields
 - Animal Domestication: dogs, pigs, water buffalo
- **Northern China**
 - Domesticated millet in Yellow River Valley
 - Millet is drought resistant.
 - Domesticated Animals: Pigs, possibly chickens
- **Earliest Pottery**
 - Xianrendong Cave, China 20,000 years ago
 - Present in pre-agricultural societies

- o Few sites in this early time
- **Pottery in East Asia**
 - o 10,000 years ago H-G societies living in semi permanent settlements produced pottery
 - o Jomon societies in Japan (13,000-2,500 years ago) elaborate pottery
- **East Asian Farmers**
 - o Earliest rice: Yangtze & Huai River Valley
 - o Pengtoushan, China 9,000 years ago
 - o Huai River region
 - o Jiahu, China 9,000-8,000 years ago Crane bone flutes found
 - o Earlier Millet : Cishan , Northern China 10,000 years ago

Farming Societies

- Hemudu, Southern China
- Village based on rice cultivation
- Houses on stilts over river
- Domesticated animals: dogs, pigs, water buffalo
- **Social Life of Farmers**
 - o Very large scale excavations to understand social life
 - o Early agriculturalists viewed as matrilineal clans (power stayed with mother, passed to daughter)
 - o Women played major role in selection and planting of crops
 - o Young women buried with elaborate mortuary artifacts.

Development of Complex Societies

- Defining Social Complexity
- Institutionalized power: Centralized government
- Relatively recent development
- Form of authority varies
- Focus in archaeological research

Centralized Authority

- It is important for (supposedly): Organization of many people living together
- Technological development
- Political complexity results in:
- Increased social inequality
- Limits individual agency
- **Social inequality**
 - Part of every society
 - Not a single trajectory to emergence of inequality
archaeological perspective
- **Archaeological Perspective**
 - Morgan and Childe
 - Civilization = inevitable next step
 - Assume progressive advancement
 - Today archaeologists interested in what pushes societies to inequality (good luck)
 - Increase population, resource stress, and competition for resources

“Legitimacy” in Archaeology