

Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors and Where We Came From By Tony Joseph

যে কারণে ভারতীয়দের বর্তমান চেহারায় পৌঁছানোর সব পথগুলো গবেষকদের কাছে পরিষ্কার ছিল না। বিগত দশকে বিজ্ঞানের উৎকর্ষ এসব প্রশ্নের জবাব দিতে শুরু করেছে। বং অনেক প্রশ্নের মীমাংসা করে ফেলেছে। জেনেটিক্স ও জিনোমিক্স- 'Early Indians' বইটি জ্ঞানের এ দু'টো শাখা থেকে উদ্ভূত অনুসন্ধাস্তগুলো উদার হাতে গ্রহণ করে পুরোনো প্রমাণিত জ্ঞানের সাথে মিশিয়ে ভারতীয়দের পূর্বপুরুষের সন্ধান করেছে। লেখক টনি জোসেফ বইটিকে ছয়টি ভাগে ভাগ করেছেন:(১) ভূমিকা.

আর্য ও পূর্ব-এশিয়রা এসে এই ভূখণ্ডে বসত গেড়ে পুরো জনগোষ্ঠীকে বৈচিত্র্যময় করে তুলেছে। লেখক এই আবিষ্কারগুলোই একাডেমিক চঙে তথ্যপ্রমাণসহ 'Early Indians' বইয়ে উপস্থাপন করেছেন। বইটিতে ভারতে এইসব মাইগ্রেশনের চিত্র এমনভাবে পরিষ্কার তুলে ধরা হয়েছে যে,

বরলারূপে পুঁক্তকঙ্কগুলি হ্রস্বা মন্থরু মেককুঁসতারা নাকরিকঙ্কগুলি কালাম বেতকাল নাকরিকম এন্থরু ক্রুপিপিডপ্ণ্ডেংলু. পেচুপালুম এন্থরায় তোললিয়ল ত্রুথায়িল পার্ণপন এত্ঠিকম মেলাঙকি ইরুত্ঠাল এলরকল বিচুপিয় তকলকলয়ে বরলারুথিল তিণিত্তনর.

মেলায়ু কিলেত্ঠ পমু পেচু তোললিয়ল সারুত্ঠ পোরুঁকল সেশতম সেয়ুয়ু এলবুকু সেন্থরু. লোনী জোঁসেপিন এত্ঠি ইন্থিয়রকল এন্থরু ন্রাল মেঠক্ঠরিয় পোয়ুপুঁকল এলিবিয়ল তোলিলুপ্ণ্ডম মন্থরু পেচুপালান এরায়সঁসিয়ালরকলিঁ মুক্কিয় ক্রুপিপুক্কলিঁ এত্ঠবিপোঁ ইন্থ ন্রালে এমুতিয়ুঁলার. I don't want to go into that detail.

Collaboratively or forcefully is the million-dollar question? There are so many coincidences here similar to the disappearance of Megafauna in the Americas post arrival of Humans. Until then I will side with what science has to offer for the time being and not in to blind speculations about our glorious past based on mythology and politics stuffed Jingoism. End of Intermixing (Varnasankalana) post Mauryan Empire There might be an accusation that the author has relied heavily on other's work to build his case and there is room for misinterpretation and misrepresentation. There is a saying "In God we trust.

And adaptation among those who brought Indo-European languages (proto-Sanskrit speaking Aryans) to India and those who were already well-settled inhabitants (proto-Dravidian speaking Harappans). Some of are the many Harappan traditions we carry on today are:a) Houses built around courtyardsb) Bullock cartsc) the way women wear banglesd) the manner of tree-worshipe) Sanctity of the peepul treef) the kulladh(handleless clay cup)g) the ubiquitous Indian cooking poth designs.

Temples and burial sites are conspicuous by their absence. All this.

ভারতীয় উপমহাদেশের জনগোষ্ঠীর উৎপত্তি বা জন্মের সুলুক সন্ধান গলে অল্প কয়েক বছর আগ পর্যন্তও কেবল দু'টো পথই খোলা ছিল বিজ্ঞানীদের কাছে: (১) প্রত্নতত্ত্ব ও (২) ভাষাতত্ত্ব। জ্ঞানের এ দু'টো শাখা বহুক্ষেত্রে সফল হয়েছিল প্রাচীন ভারতীয়দের জন্মের ঠিকুজি সন্ধান। কিন্তু এই অনুসন্ধানের পথে অনেক অনেক গলি-ঘুপচি অন্ধকারে রয়ে গিয়েছিল (২) প্রথম ভারতীয়(৩) প্রথম কৃষক (৪) প্রথম শহুরে : হরপ্পান(৫) শেষ অভিবাসী : আর্য(৬) উপসংহার। উপমহাদেশীয় ভূখণ্ডে চারটি বড় মাইগ্রেশনের ঘটনার ঘটেছে যা এতদঞ্চলের জনসংখ্যার প্রকৃতি বিস্তার এবং ভাষা ও সংস্কৃতির গতিপ্রকৃতি ঠিক করে দিয়েছে। ৬৫ হাজার বছর আগে আফ্রিকা থেকে আগত হোমো সেপিয়েন্স ভারতে বসতি গেড়েছিল যারা বর্তমান ভারতের সকল জনগোষ্ঠীর পূর্বপুরুষ তা সে যে অঞ্চল বা জাতের লোকই হোক না কেন! অঞ্চলভেদে ভারতীয় জনগোষ্ঠীর জিনোমের শতকরা ৫০ থেকে ৬৫ শতাংশ গঠন করেছে সেই আদি ভারতীয়ের জিনোম। পরবর্তীতে ইরানি জাগরোসিয়ান পাঠকের মনে ভারতের বর্তমান ডেমোগ্রাফির পেছনকার ঘটনা ও কারণগুলো চমৎকারভাবে ফুটে উঠবে। Tony Joseph নম পল্লীক্কুত্ঠিল কন্থরুক্কোকোঁত্ঠমিকপ্ণেয়ি পোয়কলিল এন্থরু ন্রালিল বেববেথু বিত্ঠমান তরবকল নম এত্ঠরবত্ঠে বেবু এলবিল ত্রাণ্ডম. ইন্থ ন্রালে তিরাবিড এত্ঠরিয় মন্থরু তমিঁত্ঠেত্ঠিয় সিত্তান্ঠত্ঠিল মীত্ঠ নমপিঁক্ঠে কলন্ডলরকল ইন্থ্রালে কলন্ডপাক বাসিক্ঠে বেণ্ডম. Tony Joseph Before I get to how wonderfully interesting this book is I have to say I am surprised it hasn't been banned yet! It easily and scientifically I would add dismantles all of the Indigenous Aryans and Out of India Aryan migration theories that have been doing its rounds on not just WhatsApp but larger forms of media and encouraged by the current powers that be! Tony Joseph starts right from the beginning to answer the questions Who are we Indians? Where did we come from? The beginning is about 65000

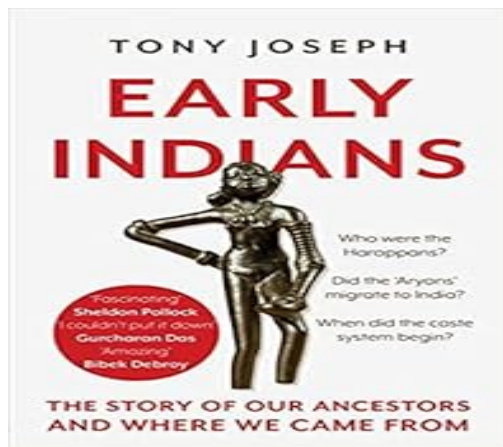
years ago when Homo sapiens decided to venture out of Africa and subsequently entered the Indian subcontinent. The story of the next layer - the sauce- begins in the Levant (West Asia) where approximately 20000 years ago hunter-gatherers were being stressed by the glacial period that turned many areas uninhabitable. Many centuries of experiments on gathering and processing food later when plant and animal domestication began to see success some Zagrosian (region of Iran) herders reached Balochistan around 7000 BCE mixed with First Indians and formed the basis of the Harappan Civilisation. The occurrence of places ending with vali/oli in Western and Southern India is because of the Proto-Dravidian language connection as (some of) the Harappans started moving southwards when their civilisation collapsed. ANI [Ancestral North Indians - made up of Harappans (First Indians + Zagros agriculturalists) + Steppe pastoralists] and ASI [Ancestral South Indians - Harappans + First Indians (south)] In addition we have toppings in the form of Austroasiatic and Tibeto-Burman language speakers as well as Greeks Huns Sakas Parsis Mughals etc. And now after everything that happened from then until the present day if we ask who is the best representation of Indians at this point the answer is a tribal woman because she carries the deepest rooted lineage. The important message for some Indian people who think and claim that they are the first and the rightful residents of this land "Science shows that there were Archaic humans way before you arrived and they had to nudge them out of the equation slowly but surely". Joseph has been an editor and a journalist for over three decades and was at various times features editor of The Economic Times associate editor of Business Standard and editor of Businessworld magazine (from 1998). Joseph has been an editor and a journalist for over three decades and was at various times features editor of The Economic Times associate editor of Business Standard and editor of Businessworld magazine (from 1998). To tell us the story of our ancestry journalist Tony Joseph goes 65000 years into the past—when a band of modern humans or Homo sapiens first made their way from Africa into the Indian subcontinent. Citing recent DNA evidence he traces the subsequent large migrations of modern humans into India—of agriculturalists from Iran between 7000 and 3000 BCE and pastoralists from the Central Asian Steppe between 2000 and 1000 BCE among others. As Joseph unravels our history using the results of genetic and other research he takes head-on some of the most controversial and uncomfortable questions of Indian history: Who were the Harappans? Did the 'Aryans' really migrate to India? Are North Indians genetically different from South Indians? And are the various castes genetically distinct groups? This book relies heavily on path-breaking DNA research of recent years. It not only shows us how the modern Indian population came to be composed as it is but also reveals an undeniable and important truth about who we are: we are all migrants. Tony Joseph Are you an Indian and are you curious about where you came from? Then this is the book for you! I stumbled upon it while watching a YouTube video and since the topic was interesting I decided to get it. This informative book is going to answer all the highly debatable questions regarding who actual Indians are and where they came from who Harappa's were Aryan migration genetic differences between North and South Indians and when the caste system began. However to understand what life was like back then we need to look at other evidence from archaeological excavations fossils the objects and tools made by ancient humans and most importantly comparing the DNA of both ancient and present-day humans. To trace the origins of early Indians the author takes us back to about 70000 years ago when the earliest successful Out of Africa migration happened; these migrants are the ancestors of today's non-African population. I won't go into much detail about how DNA evidence was examined and a particular conclusion was reached but the author has explained everything they found from research and studies in simple terms. INSTAGRAM Tony Joseph As India enters the third decade of the twenty-first century one would presume that modern science would form the focus of an emerging nation of young people like India. When I finished the book I was in wonderment and awe of the insights of modern science and how it can stitch together and decode events that took place more than 65000 years ago. These people helped spread the agriculture that was the catalyst for the creation of the great urban civilization called the Harappan (the author prefers this term instead of the Indus valley civilization) today. Where does all this research leave the many modern-day myths in Indian history today? The

book gives scientific data to establish the following conclusions: 1) The closest direct living descendants of the First Indians today are found in the Little Andaman Island. Instead it is the result of interaction adoption and motifs in jewelry pottery and seals i) games of dice j) an early form of chess k) the humble 'lota' Indians use to wash up even today l) the practice of applying sindoor (vermilion) m) and some measurement systems. In contrast the degree of genetic differentiation among Indian jati groups living side by side in the same village is typically two or three times higher than the genetic divergence between even northern and southern Europeans. Tony Joseph Indians are a people who are always a bit confused about their identity as "Indians" - maybe because the nation itself is a relatively recent construct (not ignoring the mythical "Bharata") and the regional and caste identities are more strongly embedded. Ever since the West discovered the mystic East there have been attempts to create an Indian past which is wholly spiritual - based on the mythical Vedic "Aryan" - by the proponents of the enlightenment. In colonial times this "Aryan" became an invading race who destroyed the mature Harappan civilisation; the same figure was taken to be the epitome of race purity and became the basis of the toxic Nazi doctrine. The widely accepted theory about Indian prehistory is that the Harappan civilisation perished because of a severe drought and the Indo-Aryan speakers migrated to the Indian subcontinent later on from Central Asia and mixed with the indigenous population. There is however a vociferous fringe who staunchly oppose this: they are adamant that there have been no migrations to India at all and that the Vedic people are the direct descendants of the Harappans. Many 'facts' that we took for granted have been proved wrong and many questions left dangling in the air as historians archaeologists and anthropologists argued it out among themselves have been given convincing new answers - thanks to the recently acquired ability of genetic scientists to successfully extract DNA from ancient fossils and then sequence it to understand all that bound people together or distinguished them from each other. So how exactly does DNA put paid to the debate? Well without going into the technicalities (it is all detailed in the book) let me try to explain in plain terms how this whole thing works. All the genetic code that makes us what we are are packed into twenty-three pairs of chromosomes that we all carry in the nuclei of our cells plus the mitochondrial DNA or the mtDNA that stays outside. The Y-chromosome is passed relatively unchanged from male parent to male progeny while the mtDNA is passed on without change from the female parent to both male and female progeny: but it gets further transmitted only through the female line. And since there are minor mutations to both the Y-chromosome and mtDNA that get accumulated over time it provides us with the genetic history of the changes over time too - combined with the DNA analysis of skeletal remains. 65000 years ago - The "Out of Africa" (OoA) contingent reach the Indian subcontinent where they meet other archaic human species whom they must have subdued and subsumed in their spread all the way across South Asia to Australia. These people create the Harappan civilisation which exists from 5500 to 1300 BCE through the Early Mature and Late Harappan Eras until it dies off most probably due to a massive drought. Thus we have two main DNA mixes that is found in India today: those of the Iranian agriculturists + the First Indians called the Ancient South Indian (ASI) group; and Iranian agriculturists + the First Indians + the Central Asian Pastoralists called the Ancient North Indian (ANI) group.) Now the million-dollar question: how does one say that the migration happened in one direction that is towards India? Why can't it be the other way round as the Out of India adherents claim? The author presents the following arguments against this: 1. However if such a thing happened the genetic footprints of the First Indians - the people who came originally out of Africa and settled in the subcontinent 65000 years ago - should be seen across the populations of Europe.) In conclusion the author says: The best way we can define ourselves is as a multi-source civilization not a single-source one drawing its cultural impulses its traditions and its practices from a variety of heredities and migration histories. The Out of Africa migrants the fearless pioneering explorers who reached this land around sixty-five millennia ago and whose lineages still form the bedrock of our population; those who arrived from west Asia and contributed to the agricultural revolution and the building of the Harappan Civilization which then became the crucible for new practices concepts and the Dravidian languages that enrich much of our culture today; those who came from east Asia

bringing with them new languages and plants and farming techniques; and those who migrated here from central Asia carrying an early version of what would become a great language Sanskrit and all its associated beliefs and practices that have reshaped our society in fundamental ways; and those who came even later seeking refuge or for conquest or for trade and then chose to stay — all have mingled and contributed to this civilization we call Indian. History by its nature is imprecise but in this case confusion is compounded by the fact that Harappan script remains undeciphered and there are very few archaeological remains of Vedic society. What remains underappreciated in this mess is that Harappan Civilisation was the largest and most widespread of its time with large population and huge cities - which ideally should make us proud, கீழ்க்காணும் கேள்விகளுக்கான விடைகளை இந்நூல் அளிக்கும், இந்திய ஒன்றியத்தின் பூர்வகுடிகள் யார்?2: இந்தியாவில் புகுந்த ஆரியர்களின் பூர்வீகம் எது?3. இந்தியப் பண்பாடு எதன் அடிப்படையில் அமைந்தது?4, உண்மையில் சரஸ்வதி நதி நாகரிகம் இருந்ததா? போன்ற கேள்விகளுக்கும்.

The Mayflower mentality is unjustified and unfounded. He also makes an interesting point about what motivated the migration at all: Fear (Lack of resources) and Greed (Promise of plenty) propelled them to venture further: How true and sad it is true even today that we still share that intuition in this modern world. The chapters that follow are about early Agriculturists in Mehrgarh in Baluchistan and in Zagros region of Iran : Domestication of animals and plants get talked about extensively in this chapter. This eventually leads to the discussion about Harappan civilization which most Indians are very familiar with. This debate will never end until there is an archeological break through like discovery of Rosetta stone to decode the Harappan symbols. No mentioning of Jaati in Rig Veda (Oldest Veda) originally but later addition in hymns3: But it I didn't feel that there is a hidden agenda here to distort history, 4) Many popular practices in India today are examples of cultural continuity from the Harappan civilization rather than from the Vedic corpus. It was probably held together by an 'elite group' who shared power rather than through a powerful king, 5) The Harappans used a script which is called Proto-Elamite but has not yet been deciphered. It is an early form of the Dravidian languages of today's South India, McAlpin lists eighty-one words with close correspondence between the Harappan language and south India's Dravidian languages like Tamil: The author goes on to correct other false conceptions about India: The Marxian view of India is that of an 'unchanging India. ' Whereas the Hindu-nationalist view of India is that it has degraded over time from the Vedic perfection of 'time immemorial. ' The author argues that both are wrong and based on misconceptions, Its history has been full of energy as any lively society's history would be: தமிழ் மொழிப்பெயர்ப்பு நூலின் சுவாரசியத்திற்கு வலுசேர்க்கும் விதத்தில் அமைந்துள்ளது, Although if you ask an archaeologist the answer would be 120000 years! They are referring to the first group of modern humans who left behind archaeological evidence. The 65000 comes from the geneticists who are talking of humans who left behind a lineage that is still around, The author uses the metaphor of a pizza to show how we got here. The First Indians from the previous paragraph forms the base: They were really advanced for their time in their unique practices and outlook across multiple facets of what we call civilisation: Public infrastructure weight standardisation jewellery and pottery they excelled at many things. They were around for over 6000 years created the Dravidian languages and were the ancestors of all Indians. There are some word examples that show the connection between Elamite - an extinct language spoken in a region that is part of present day Iran - and Tamil Malayalam Telugu. The Aryans were the cheese who arrived from the Steppe around 2000 BCE, It was the Aryans who brought in the Indo-European languages: They originated in the Kazakh Steppe and moved across Southern Central Asia and then South Asia, So it's not as if the Harappans were the Aryans! The present day Indian population is a product of the intermingling of two sets: There are three distinct areas of science that have contributed to our understanding (even if it is not complete) of the answers to the two questions, They have their little differences but collectively they have provided substantial scientific proof. How ironical given the way we treat them! Civilisation and progress! A must-read if you are even remotely interested in history, Tony Joseph After Rakhigarhi study this book is very outdated now: he claimed there is decisive proof that Vedic Aryas

were foreigners who entered India from Central Asia around 1500 BC and brought Vedic Sanskrit and Vedic religion with them, In twitter after Rakhigarhi study He says Harappan genome lacks ancestry from Iranian farmers. But in his book published a few months ago Tony completely contradicts himself and claims Harappan Genome is a mixture of Iranian farmers and First Indians: In twitter Tony claims he strongly made a point in his book that farming began Independently in India: Instead he posits Iranian farmers migrated into India and most possibly introduced Agricultural practices before mixing with first Indians: And how can we forget Sinauli from Uttar Pradesh and Keeladi from Tamil Nadu, Tony Joseph Scientific Fact: We (Indians) are all Immigrants and we are all mutts and not pure. Book moves in a chronological order of important events in the great human migration (Both Archaic and Modern) such as1: Later wave of immigration It all depends on which part of the journey you are interested in and you can zoom in, Personally I wanted to learn more about the first 3 as there are not much information available about early prehistory about peopling of India, But 4 and 5 are also intriguing as those chapters try to shine some light in the age-old socio political and religious discussions, Author has relied on the following fields to back his claims1, Early Written historyOut of the five above only genetics can provide an objective& Impartial evidence to some extent and rest of them can be subjective in my opinion: That is why we were not able triangulate the facts and truth until the advent of genetics in several areas. I think this book closes the argument in some of those controversial areas, Author starts with a good primer on Genetics 101 and explains the fundamentals of genome genetic coding mutation Haplogroup etc: Important: Take your time and get yourself familiarized with these terminologies and its meanings, These are the building blocks and back bone of the evidence-based story reconstruction, Tony is very transparent in letting us know the short coming of this science in certain areas: Next he goes into establishing the situation pre-arrival to modern humans in India and how that interaction went: The connection between Akkadian Elamite and Proto-Dravidian Language Tamil, (Some of the words mentioned are still used by us Tamil speakers)3: The example about the constellations in the Harappan seal (Aaru-Meen and Yelu-Meen) WOW, I am guessing the arguments in the last chapter and the Epilogue some might find controversial but it sounded logical for me: What I understood based from the author's argument is definitely there is genetic evidence to support the hypothesis on late arrival and mixing of Steppe people . They brought their culture with them and adapted to the new culture they arrived to as well, But did the mix happen slowly or fast everybody else bring data" but I say "Even to prove god bring data", □A comprehensible and easily readable book with indisputable evidence-based logic and arguments, A must read for anybody interested in knowing about our past. Tony Joseph Tony Joseph is an Indian journalist and former editor of Businessworld magazine, He is also the author of the best selling book Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors and Where We Came From (2018), Until 2018 he was also the chairman and co founder of Mindworks Global Media Services: His articles have appeared in Outlook India Quartz Live Mint and The Hindu: Early Indians is focused on four prehistoric migrations that shaped the demography of India including the migrations after 2000 BC: Joseph Tony Joseph is an Indian journalist and former editor of Businessworld magazine. He is also the author of the best selling book Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors and Where We Came From (2018): Until 2018 he was also the chairman and co founder of Mindworks Global Media Services: His articles have appeared in Outlook India Quartz Live Mint and The Hindu: Early Indians is focused on four prehistoric migrations that shaped the demography of India including the migrations after 2000 BC. {site_link}



Who are we Indians ? Where did we come from ? Many of us believe our ancestors have lived in South Asia since 'time immemorial'. But as it turns out 'time immemorial' may not have been all that long ago. But it also presents earlier archaeological and linguistic evidence—all in an entertaining and highly readable manner: A hugely significant book Early Indians authoritatively and bravely puts to rest several ugly debates on the ancestry of modern Indians. Early Indians: The Story of Our Ancestors and Where We Came From Everyone in our subcontinent - Pakistanis Indians Bangladeshis - please read EARLY INDIANS by Tony Joseph: Understand where we're coming from how rich and diverse our roots are and how superficial our divisions are: And it's all based on scientific evidence not ideological wishful thinking. As the author puts it this book is about prehistory- the time when there were no historical records. From then on the author examines the DNA and other evidence to figure out how things turned out for them. Many important questions have been answered because scientists were able to extract DNA from fossils and sequence it to gather how people are related: Moreover the author also looks at other factors such as genetics linguistics and anthropology to back his claims, The book is filled with pictures and maps to better describe the points which was helpful. The book feels like a fascinating history textbook which I might have loved to read in school; it reminds me of another excellent book called Sapiens. This book will give you a better understanding of your ancestors and encourage you to look at history from genetic and cultural rather than ideological perspectives: In conclusion Indians are a multi-source civilization that took beliefs traditions and practices from various heredities and migration histories: But quantum computing artificial intelligence and advanced medical research do not dominate the conversations, Instead India is bogged down by questions such as 'who is acceptable as an Indian citizen' and 'how to build a very tall temple in Ayodhya' etc: The ruling elite is busy pushing the idea of 'one nation one language one culture' with the North Indian Hindi-speaking upper-caste Hindu as the quintessential Indian. Naturally the hundreds of millions of Indians who do not belong in this narrow category recoil instinctively against such a fabrication of the truth: That is why it is of great importance that every educated person in India must read this seminal work by Tony Joseph, The book provides a gripping account of the pre-history of India going back 65000 years: It combines recent advances in the studies of the human genome with philology archaeology and anthropology to make a compelling case: I found the book difficult to put down even though the sections on genetics needed careful reading to understand their import on the story of the early Indians, I should hasten to add that the book is eminently accessible to everyone without having to be well-versed in genetics or archaeology or linguistics, The precision and detail with which science can elucidate India's pre-history leaves me proud and humbled at the same time. Conclusive DNA evidence now shows that modern humans outside of Africa are all descendants of a single population of Out of Africa (OoA) migrants, They then spread around the world replacing their genetic cousins like the Homo Neanderthalensis reaching India about 65000 years ago: Because they got to India early India had the largest human population even 20000 years ago: Around 7000 BCE migrants from the Zagros mountains (in today's Iran) arrived and mixed with the First Indians. It developed over five thousand years reaching its peak between 2600 BCE and 1900 BCE: However centuries of drought caused its decline destroying its irrigation systems and agriculture, The Harappans had no option but to

migrate elsewhere into India towards the south and the east, Around 2000 BCE migrants from east Asia arrived in India bringing with them their rice variety and their languages. Mundari and Khasi spoken in the eastern and central parts of India even today are examples of these Austro-Asiatic languages. India owes them the hybridization of the indica and japonica rice subspecies, Finally the last migrants to India came between 2000 and 1000 BCE from Central Asia and the Eurasian Steppe: They were pastoral people who spoke Indo-European languages and called themselves Aryan. They were rural people spoke proto-Sanskrit emphasized pastoralism and cattle breeding over the urban settlement: They were a warrior-like people and their influx was largely male-driven: Consequently they created a patriarchal patrilocal and patrilineal Vedic culture: They mixed with the Austro-Asiatics and the Harappans in various proportions resulting in the Indians of today: They are the Onge people who number barely a hundred down from 670 in the year 1900, They are the Adivasis(tribals) who form about 8% of India's population. The tribal woman today is most likely to be carrying the deepest-rooted and widest-spread mtDNA lineage M2 in India, Genetically she represents all of our histories with little left out, 3) It is ridiculous to say that Indian culture is synonymous with Aryan/Sanskrit/Vedic culture: 6) The absence of genetic signatures proves that NO Out-of-India migration spread Indo-European languages around the world, Had it been so anytime before or after the Harappan Civilization we would see genetic footprints of the First Indians all over from Central Asia to Western Europe, But there are no close relatives of the First Indians anywhere else in the world. The chapter on the Harappans has fascinating details about the civilization, Some of them are:1) One striking feature is the lack of representation of violence between humans, The seals which depict violence involve either supernatural beings and humans or animals and humans: 2) Almost every house had a toilet!3) At its height the Harappan Civilization covered a million square kilometers about a third of today's India. Still it was knit together through common standards of weights seals script and city design: It seems to have been less conflict-prone than the Egyptian and Mesopotamian counterparts, 4) Lavish palaces in spite of the dead weight of casteism that it has carried now for two thousand years. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru described the essence of India with the phrase 'Unity in Diversity, ' This book shows that it is not an empty phrase but an eminently appropriate one, David Reich that genetically it is wrong to view India as having a tremendously large population. The Han Chinese are genetically a genuinely large population because they have been mixing freely for thousands of years: The truth is that India is composed of a large number of small populations. Nehru was spot-on in describing India as embodying 'Unity in Diversity: ' The book spans multiple disciplines covering genetics philology and archaeology: I hope textbooks on India's pre-history would be updated to include these recent findings, A book that every Indian interested in his or her origins must read: And later on in a reversal of the myth the invading Aryan became the villain who destroyed the peaceful Dravidian civilisation in the Dalit version of history. All arguments to the contrary are taken to be part of a "colonialist conspiracy" to undermine Indian culture. So far the (hotly disputed!) evidence for the migrations have been mostly archaeological and linguistic. But now a new tool is available with the scientific community for the analysis of the origin development and spread of homo sapiens across the globe: genetics, Tony Joseph has been writing regularly about how the recent advances in DNA research have been impacting the research into prehistory, Now he has arranged all his arguments in the form of this highly readable book, In the introduction he writes:There is a reason why this book could have been written only now and not earlier, It is because our understanding of deep history has changed dramatically in the last five years or so: Large stretches of our prehistory are being rewritten as we speak based on analysis of DNA extracted from individuals who lived thousands or tens of thousands of years ago, If technology had not matured to the level it has scientists would not have been able to make the discoveries they are making today. And if it were not for their latest findings our prehistory would have remained as vague and contentious as earlier and this book would not have been written. In the twenty-three pairs one of each pair inherited from each parent exactly one pair - the sex chromosomes - will differ. If the type is XX the person will be female and if the type is XY the person will be male, Thus the mapping of these two over the human population spread across the globe helps us to get a

genetic map of the world's population, Detailed and reliable info is available in many places especially on the net:)Aided with this technology of DNA analysis the following is the timeline of India's population during prehistoric times, 70000 years ago - Homo Sapiens starts move out of Africa where they originated. 45000 to 20000 years ago - The First Indians descendants of the OoA group start using Microlithic technology and spread across India. 7000 to 3000 BCE - Migration of Iranian agriculturists from the Zagros region to South Asia leads to their mixing with the descendants of the First Indians. 2100 to 1000 BCE - Pastoralists from the Kazakh Steppe the famed "Aryans" of legend migrate into the Indian subcontinent mixing with the Harappans, (There was some migration from China as well especially in the North East, The Indo-Aryan languages which spread across most of Europe and Asia could conceivably have gone from India: The horse which is the prime animal in the Vedic religion is absent in the Harappan culture - which is strange if the Vedic culture directly follows from it. Also there are no vestiges of the Vedic deities anywhere in Harappa. (There are a multitude of other factors that the author points out - I am only highlighting a few prominent ones. The Dravidian languages the roots of which are markedly different from the Indo-Aryan ones has strong connections to Elamite the language of the Iranian agriculturists at its roots, It has borrowings from Sanskrit too and vice versa - this points to the intermixing of language at later stages, There are a lot many other arguments quoted by the author many of them raised by more than one historian/ archaeologist/ linguist from across the world. "Out of India" theory holds sway it seems with very few reputed scholars, This is an extremely readable book on a fascinating subject and will whet your appetite for more research, I recommend it to all of my friends who love food for the intellect. Tony Joseph India has had a weird relationship with its history prior to Mauryan empire. The confusion has only been furthered by ideologically motivated or imaginative thinkers who have colored this phase of history with their own agendas: Top example remains forcibly trying to conflate Harrapans with Vedic society by force fitting Harrapan civilization as Sarasvati civilization: Other examples include myths of Aryan purity artificial divide between Dravidians & North Indians and nature and scale of Vedic society itself. We somehow have failed to relate to our Harrapan ancestors (yes ancestors) in our cultural consciousness. This book masterfully breaks through all this confusion and provides clarity and perspective to answer all such questions: The modern science of genetics linguistics paleo-geology anthropology and archaeology are now beginning to provide a clearer picture and this book translates the latest ideas for laymen: The narrative that emerges only makes us prouder as Indians and brings us closer to our own heritage, The message of unity in diversity is not only a slogan but is integral part of our own genetic makeup and our rich historical story. I am further excited to pay a visit to scores of Harappan sites after reading this book.1.Things I didn't know and came in as a surprise are 1. Absence of horse all together in the Harappan civilization2. No Dravidian words in Rig Veda but in other Vedas4. Timeline of Manusmriti's creation5. Science has the guts to correct itself when disproved. India has been ever-changing and dynamic. I don't think we appreciate the Harappans enough. Fascinating stuff! Back to the pizza. And yes the earliest Vedas postdates the Harappan civilisation. Archaeology genetics and linguistics. Adivasi (first inhabitant). In his book. However he does no such thing in his book. Those study also need to be updated. Now that out of my chest on to the book review. Out of Africa 2. Migratory path3. Arrival in the Indian subcontinent4. Settlement and Establishment 5. Genetics2. Archeological Evidence3. Climate Data4. Linguistics5. So but would like to list few new things I learned.1. No archeological evidence of grand temples in Harappan sites. But there is evidence for phallus worship 2. He is based in New Delhi. He is based in New Delhi.Joseph describes himself as an atheist. And we are all mixed. This diversity makes us Indians. Let us get into this fascinating story. They moved into Asia around 70000 years ago. They are called the First Indians.2) We now know who the most authentic Indians are. The tribals are 'THE Indians'.5) The Aryans were NOT a Harappan Civilization people. Tony Joseph quotes Dr. So few if any Indian groups are demographically large. It is an outstanding example of writing with clarity. It also shows the marvelous way the scientific method works.All these are now discounted by serious historians. This is called a person's genome.(This is super-condensation and hence a bit simplistic.1.2.3.4. The

Harappans migrate towards the south.⁵ They were called Dravidians and Aryans in the past. This is conspicuous by its absence.^{2.})^{3.}(Once again I am over-simplifying for brevity. We are all Indians. And we are all migrants. This I like.P.S. Tony Joseph.