

A New Migratory Map of Australian Aboriginal Pre-history

I believe “Constructing a New World Map” is essential reading for any person with an interest in pre-history or Aboriginal culture. The central premise, that Aboriginal people are separate from Africa in ancestry and were the first Homo sapiens to leave Australia in search of new lands, is extremely well argued. The book is written in an engaging style that manages to take some rather complex arguments and concepts, and present the arguments for and against in a clear and interesting manner.

They bring an impressive array of evidence in support of the Aboriginal Elder’s case. What stands out, is the diversity of evidence used to substantiate their hypothesis. Genetics, blood comparisons, the most recent advances in dating, reports of first contact with traditional Australian Aboriginals, Serpent myths, an extremely large collection of ancient Egyptian artefacts discovered in Australia, *Dreaming* stories, Biblical accounts, and many other sources are combined to present a very compelling case in support of their understanding.

But before continuing, to state it is their theory would be a disservice to the authors. They make it clear from the beginning this is not what they suspect but what the Aboriginal Elders insist is their history. The author’s aim is to find facts that explain what actually happened. There is one quote, used as their foundation, which I believe sums up where the book is directed, and is worth restating.

“They say we have been here for 60,000 years, but it is much longer. We have been here since the time before time began ... we have lived and kept the Earth as it was on the First Day. All other peoples of the world come from us ... People who farm the land or make buildings and keep animals-these people do not belong to the spirit of this land and must go out from here because these things are against the Law of this land.”

Within this quote, according to the authors, is the reason some Aboriginal people left, or were more than likely banished, from this land 50,000 years ago by boat. Their lack of blood and genetic connection, and belief that their existence has no connection to Africa, are major areas of research in their investigation, and purely an elaboration of this Aboriginal Elder’s words. The evidence they supply in support of an Aboriginal presence in America is both quite recent and very convincing, as is the prolific amount of ancient Egyptian artefacts found in Australia. It is this connection to ancient Egypt that intrigues me. During my extensive research into this area, in particular the mythology associated with Isis, I have never, until now, heard mention of or been aware of the ancient Egyptian links and ancestry to the traditional Aboriginals. I find these proposals most fascinating and worthy of serious discussion and further research.

I am convinced this theory, and the belief that the traditional Aboriginal people were the first inter-continental mariners, is sound and deserving of debate at the highest levels of academia. This is a story about an Aboriginal history that has been lost, ignored and, in some cases ridiculed. The dates and events will surprise many, but within this reclaimed Aboriginal history, contains the first to sail boats across oceans as depicted in Kimberley rock paintings, and many other firsts in culture, art, surgery, new styles of co-operative living, axes, and all the hallmarks of civilised living.

Associated with this Aboriginal time-line, is another recurring theme found throughout this book, which is extended in far greater depth in their second book (“Mary Magdalene’s Dreaming”): the Aboriginal religious gnosis, called the *Dreaming*, was the primal philosophy that inspired a variety of religions, most particularly, the Isaic religion and Gnostic Christianity.

I believe “Constructing a New World Map” is appropriately named and an essential read, providing a new and quite literal slant on the term missing link. Not only do the authors fill in some quite obvious gaps in traditional explanations accounting for the rise of Homo sapien, which almost conveniently inevitably ignore the Australian Aboriginals, but they finally give voice and belated respect to the oldest civilisation and most spiritual culture in the world.

As controversial as this theory may first appear, it is based in solid facts, genes and mythology, and needs to be given credit and will generate a great deal of discussion.

John McGrath

Retired senior lecturer Newcastle University