

African Religions

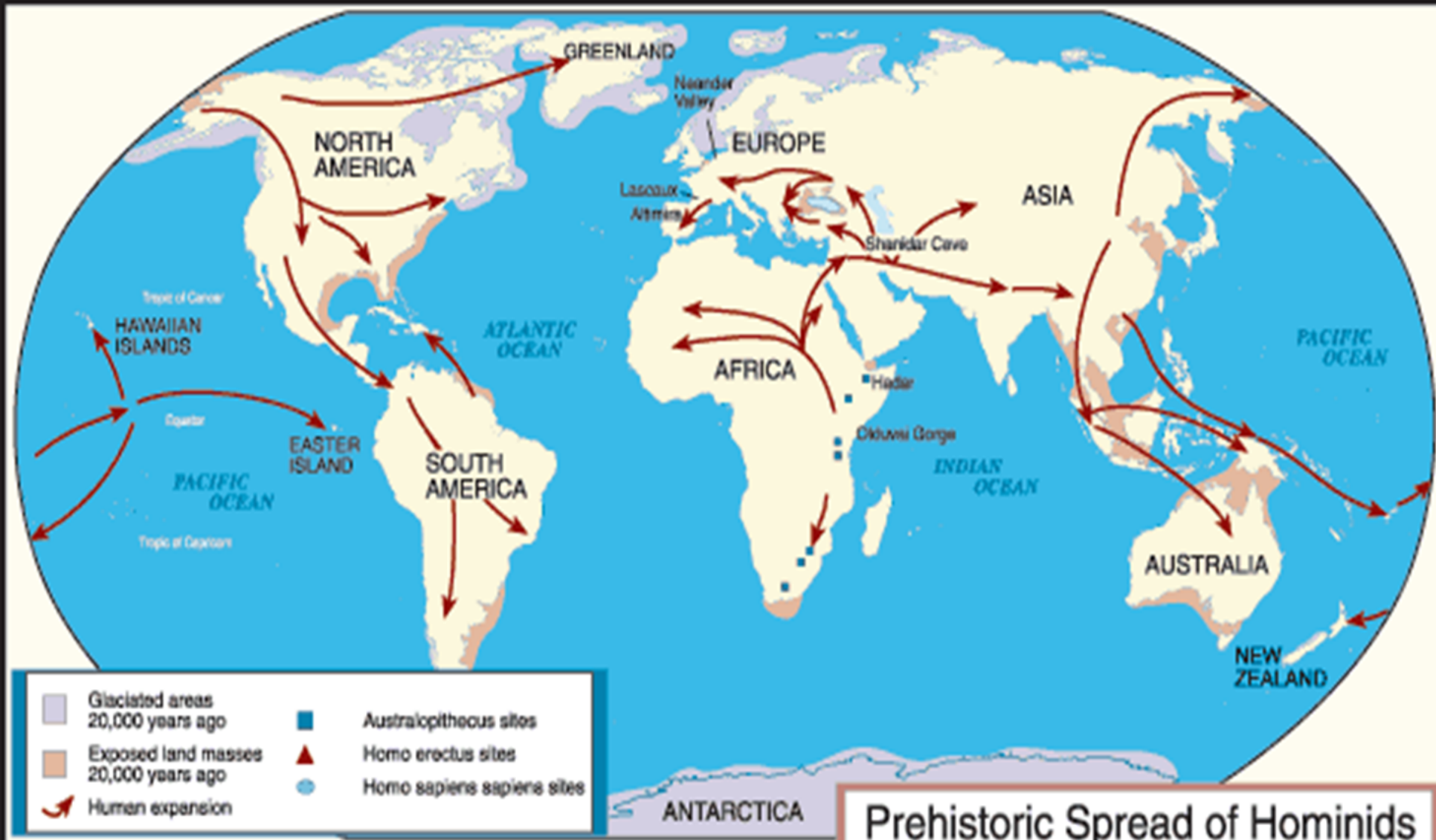


THE SEVEN DAUGHTERS OF EVE

THE SCIENCE THAT REVEALS OUR GENETIC ANCESTRY



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Africa contains 3,000 ethnic and linguistic groups with a population of 700 million



Africa's religious experience has been greatly affected by the European colonial presence during the 19th and 20th century.

Western European and American racism also affected Africa's religions and their view of African religions.

Much of the ancient religions weren't written down and have been lost overtly and covertly.

High God theology—one creator who did his/her thing and then left creation to the lesser gods to run—the “children of God.”

What Christian parallels do you see with this theological notion?

**Lesser Spirits are present in all of creation—
and they needed to be placated by rituals, etc.**

Animism is very common.

Name some animistic parallels within Christianity.

Ancestors—many religious traditions believe that the dead live on in the world or in “heaven,” and it is a good idea to respect the dead or else.

Sacrifice—attempting to influence God

Rites of Passage—naming child



In addition to indigenous African religions, many other religions came to convert them—Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Eastern religions, etc.

