

America: The Underworld in Afro-Eurasian Antiquity

In the depths of the ancient world, a mysterious land laid hidden far beyond the reach of Afro-Eurasia - the Americas. While history books often overlook this transcontinental connection, recent archaeological discoveries have unveiled a web of intriguing connections between the Old and New World. This article will explore the enigmatic ties that bind Afro-Eurasia and America in antiquity, shedding light on a forgotten chapter of human history.

Uncovering the Evidence

For centuries, scholars believed that the Americas remained isolated from Afro-Eurasia until the arrival of Christopher Columbus in 1492. However, groundbreaking archaeological finds have challenged this long-held notion. Ancient artifacts, genetic studies, and linguistic similarities all point towards a thousand-year-old connection between the two continents, playing a significant role in shaping the story of human civilization.

One of the most compelling pieces of evidence comes from the archaeological site of Cahokia, located in present-day Illinois, USA. Cahokia was a thriving urban center during the Mississippian culture between the 9th and 14th centuries AD. Excavations at the site have revealed startling resemblances to cultures in Mexico, Central, and South America.

The Beautiful West: America the Underworld in Afro-Eurasian antiquity by Lisa Odham Stokes (Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Astounding parallels in architectural styles, specifically the use of platform mounds, can be seen between Cahokia and the ancient cities of Teotihuacan and Tenochtitlan. The presence of exotic materials, such as jade and copper, further emphasize the far-reaching trade networks connecting these distant lands. These findings challenge the notion of a Eurocentric narrative and demonstrate the influence of Afro-Eurasian cultures on the development of ancient America.

The Impact of Afro-Eurasian Influence

The extraordinary connections linking Afro-Eurasia and America were not limited to material exchanges alone. Genetic studies have shown that some Native American populations share ancestral ties with populations from Siberia, China, and other regions of Asia. This suggests that migration and intermingling between the two continents might have occurred as early as 20,000 years ago, long before the colonization period.

Additionally, linguistic similarities have been observed between various Native American languages and those spoken in distant corners of Afro-Eurasia. For instance, the Ainu language spoken in Japan shares striking similarities with indigenous languages in the Pacific Northwest region of the United States. These

linguistic connections offer a glimpse into the deep-rooted cultural exchanges that took place across vast geographic distances.

But how did the Afro-Eurasian influence on America remain forgotten for centuries? The colonial histories and biases prevalent in the academic world left little room for exploring these connections in detail. It is only in recent years that researchers have begun to peel back the layers of history and acknowledge the rich tapestry of global interactions that unfolded in antiquity.

The Implications for Human History

Recognizing the intricate connections between Afro-Eurasia and America has profound implications for our understanding of human history. It challenges the traditional narrative of isolated development in both continents and brings to light a fascinating era of cultural exchange.

Moreover, this rediscovery opens up new avenues for studying the development of ancient societies. By examining the influence of Afro-Eurasian cultures on American civilizations, we gain a more comprehensive understanding of the achievements, advancements, and challenges faced by our ancestors.

As we continue to uncover more evidence of the Afro-Eurasian influence on the Americas, it becomes clear that our understanding of the ancient world is far from complete. The hidden connections between continents present a tantalizing glimpse into the complex interplay of cultures and civilizations that shaped our world.

The notion of America as an isolated land, untouched by Afro-Eurasian influence, is gradually fading away. Archaeological finds, genetic studies, and linguistic similarities all point towards a far-reaching connection between the two continents in antiquity. From the monumental city of Cahokia to the intricate genetic

ancestry, evidence continues to mount, testifying to a forgotten chapter in human history.

Embracing this transcontinental connection allows us to shed light on the vibrant tapestry of cultures that shaped our world. It pushes us beyond the boundaries of traditional narratives, urging us to explore the untapped depths of our shared past. The Americas, once regarded as the underworld in Afro-Eurasian antiquity, is now emerging as a thriving node in the intricate network that defines human civilization.



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