DARK MOTHER TAN-TAN OF MOROCCO

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500,000-300,000  DARK MOTHER TAN-TAN OF MOROCCO

Tan-Tan.

‘Represents the oldest currently known figurine’ [figure] that predates the Late-Acheulian Berekhat Ram. (FAA: 411.)

The dark African Palaeoart figure known as Tan-Tan from Morocco appears to be the earliest of the Afrocentric (dark mother) figures. Surrounding sediments indicate that the timeline is c. 500,000 to 300,000 BCE. In Bednarik’s archaeological report, “A Figurine From the African Acheulian 1,” the Tan-Tan female icon is c. 400,000 BCE * and represents the oldest known figure, therefore predating the Late-Acheulian Berekhat Ram. Even though both Tan-Tan and the Berekhat Ram show evidence of ocher (or ochre), the Tan-Tan figure is the first “known instance of pigment application, although older indirect evidence of such a practice does exist.” (FAA: 411.) In regard to calling the Tan-Tan figure an icon, he says “unmistakable traces of moderating the level of visual ambiguity of the Tan-Tan specimen define it as iconic.” (FAA: 411.)

* (500,000-300,000 BCE.)

This intentionally enhanced icon measures around six centimeters and was discovered by German archaeologist, Lutz Fiedler. Location of the find was in a river deposit on north side of the River Dra (or Draa) just south of the township of Tan-Tan. Painted with red ocher (symbolic blood), the figure is made from quartzite and suggests ritual or spiritual importance. As discussed by Francesco d’Errico and April Nowell, archaeological evidence consistently confirms, “Neanderthals produced and used symbolic objects.” (NLBR: 163.) The dating, engravings, location, female attributes, and use of ochre (iron oxide), mirror other African dark mothers or “Venus” (?) * carved statues. Additional examples in Re-Genesis are: the Berekhat Ram followed by Brassempouy; Willendorf; Laussel; Dolni Vestonice and Lespugue. (WKP: 11-26-05; EKP: 89-135.)

* “Venus”: Medieval Latin Venus is a de-sacralized/de-sanctified term for goddess or ancestral matrix.

For further research see:
Caldwell, Duncan. "Supernatural Pregnancies: Common Features and New Ideas


For a comprehensive, continent by continent overview of Palaeoart non-utilitarian activities see:

Bednarik, Robert G. “A Figurine From the African Acheulian.” *Current Anthropology* 44.3 (Jun. 2003): 405-412. (FAA.)

For further research on the production of hand axes, including pre-and-post the Acheulian, see keywords: “hand axe” AND Oldowan OR “Olduvai Gorge” OR Mousterian OR Pleistocene OR Holocene “Homo Ergaster.” Additional searches might include: “hand axe” AND Saint-Acheul OR “Venerque France” OR Madrid OR “Moldavian Plateau.”

For additional information on ancient ochre, see BCE entries: 285,000, Ochre at Kapthurin Formation Plus Other Sites; 280,000-250,000, The Berrehat Ram Figure; 92,000, Qafzeh Cave and Ochre Symbolism; 70,000, Blombos Cave and V Shaped Engraving; 50,000, African Homo Sapiens Migrations and Matrilineal Motherline; 31,000, Chauvet Cave and Vulva Engravings; 10,000, Grotta Dell’Addaura; 2600-2000, Early Bronze Age, Crete, Chthonian * Prepalatial/Early Minoan (EM I-III); and 1500, Lachish Ewer, Triangle, and Menorah. (RGS.)

* (Earth mother, Chthonia.)

For additional information on ancient African Dark Mothers and related trade routes, see BCE entries: 3,000,000, Overview of Hominid Evolution Including Dark Mothers and Later Migrations; 280,000-250,000, The Berrehat Ram Figure; 70,000, Blombos Cave and V Shaped Engraving; 50,000, African Homo Sapiens Migrations and Matrilineal Motherline; 40,000, Har Karkom; 30,000-25,000, Aurignacian Age; 30,000-25,000, Goddess of Willendorf; 26,000, Grimaldi Caves; 25,000-20,000, Gravettian Age; 25,000, Caravanserai, Trade Routes, and Dark Mothers; 25,000-20,000, Goddess of Laussel; 24,000, Dolni Vestonice; 23,000, Austrian Goddess of Lespujue; 10,000, Grotta Dell’Addaura; 7000, Jericho, Canaan/Palestine: Mesolithic to Neolithic; 7000, Hieros Gamos; 6000, Sicilians to Malta; 5200, Malta and Gozo; 4700, Dolmens; 2200, Nahariyah and Ashrath-Yam; 1900-1800, Dawning of the African Alphabet and the Aniconic Goddess Triangle; 1000, Ephesus, Anatolia; 800, Tanit; 800, Carthage, Africa, The Goddess Tanit and Sacrifice; 750-650, Cybele and King Midas, Anatolia; 664-525, Neith and the Black Virgin Mary Temple at Sais, Egypt; 600, Goddess Kaabou at Petra, Jordan plus Mecca, Saudi Arabia; 400, Cathedra Goddess Isis; and 370, Isis and Philae, Egypt. (RGS.)
IMAGE: TAN-TAN, MOROCCO.
PHOTO: GSA. DESCRIPTION: DARK MOTHER TAN-TAN, MOROCCO.
SLIDE LOCATION OCHRE DISK, SHEET, ROW, SLEEVE, SLIDE #, 500,000-300,00 BCE.
ON LOCATION: MUSEUM, CITY COUNTRY.
PHOTO NOTE: ILLUSTRATOR TAMARA THEBERT.
NOTE 1: SELECTED EXAMPLES OF AFRICAN DARK MOTHERS DISCUSSED IN RE-
GENESIS ARE: TAN-TAN; THE BEREKHAT RAM; BRASSEMPOUY; WILLENDORF;
LAUSSEL; DOLNI VESTONICE AND LESPUGUE. (SOURCE: ENTRY ABOVE.) (WKP: 11-
26-05; EKP: 89-135.)
PHOTO NOTE: FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND IMAGES:
RESOURCE: (GOOGLE IMAGES.)
RESOURCE: http://resources.ciis.edu:2058/index.aspx
(ARAS: THE ARCHIVE FOR RESEARCH IN ARCHETYPAL SYMBOLISM;
SUBSCRIPTION INDEX REQUIRES USER NAME AND CIIS ID NUMBER.)
IMAGE: BEREKHAT RAM, GOLAN HEIGHTS.
PHOTO: GSA. DESCRIPTION: BEREKHAT RAM FIGURE FROM GOLAN HEIGHTS: SECOND OLDEST REPRESENTATIONAL ART FIGURE THAT HAS BEEN DISCOVERED.
SLIDE LOCATION OCHER (OCHRE) DISK, SHEET, ROW, SLEEVE, SLIDE #, 280,000-250,000 BCE.
ON LOCATION: GOLAN HEIGHTS.
NOTE 1: SINCE THE BEREKHAT RAM INCLUDES OCHER (OCHRE) PLUS OTHER AFRICAN DARK MOTHER FIGURE ATTRIBUTES, THE EVIDENCE IS HARD TO IGNORE (RGS). (NLBR: 123-67; BRF: 327-337; FAA: 411.)
NOTE 2: SELECTED EXAMPLES OF AFRICAN DARK MOTHERS DISCUSSED IN RE-GENESIS ARE: TAN-TAN; THE BEREKHAT RAM; BRASSEMPOUY; WILLENDORF; LAUSSEL; DOLNI VESTONICE AND LESPUGUE. (SOURCE: ENTRY ABOVE.) (WKP: 11-26-05; EKP: 89-135.)
PHOTO NOTE: ILLUSTRATOR TAMARA THEBERT.
PHOTO NOTE: FOR FURTHER BEREKHAT RAM RESEARCH AND IMAGES:
RESOURCE: (ARCHAEOLOGY, ARCHITECTURE & ART.)
RESOURCE: (MUSEUM ART RESOURCE.)
RESOURCE: (GOOGLE IMAGES.)
(ARAS: THE ARCHIVE FOR RESEARCH IN ARCHETYPAL SYMBOLISM: SUBSCRIPTION INDEX REQUIRES USER NAME AND CIIS ID NUMBER.)
IMAGE: STONE CIRCLES IN GOLAN HEIGHTS, GALILEE.
*SLIDE LOCATION BIB ARCH, SHEET 1, ROW 4, SLEEVE 2, SLIDE #17, 280,000-250,000 BCE.
CU_BAR_S1_R4_SL2_S17.jpg
ON LOCATION: MUSEUM, CITY COUNTRY.
NOTE 1: FIELDWORK PROJECT.
PHOTO NOTE: ILLUSTRATOR ALEXANDER DUSHENKO.
PHOTO NOTE: FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND IMAGES:
RESOURCE: (GOOGLE IMAGES.)
(ARAS: THE ARCHIVE FOR RESEARCH IN ARCHETYPAL SYMBOLISM: SUBSCRIPTION INDEX REQUIRES USER NAME AND CIIS ID NUMBER.)
IMAGE: MAIDEN WITH HOOD: BRASSEMPOUY, LANDES, FRANCE. PHOTO: GSA. DESCRIPTION: IVORY HEAD OF VIRGIN GODDESS WITH HOOD FROM BRASSEMPOUY, LANDES, FRANCE. SLIDE LOCATION: NEO. PAL. FRANCE, SHEET 4, ROW 1, SLEEVE 3, SLIDE #3, c. 22,000 BCE. CU_NPF_S4_R1_SL3_S3.jpg
ON LOCATION: MUSÉE DES ANTIQUITÉS NATIONALES IN SAINT-GERMAIN-EN-LAYE, FRANCE, JUST OUTSIDE OF PARIS. NOTE 1: THIS IS THE OLDEST KNOWN SCULPTURE OF A GODDESS THAT HAS BEEN FOUND TO DATE. (THE GODDESSES OF WILLENDORF, LAUSSEL, LESPUGUE AND THE DOLNI VESTONICE ARE ENGRAVED) (MG: 9-11)
NOTE 2: NET-LIKE HEADDRESS CONSIDERATIONS ARE A STYLIZED KNOTTED HAIR NET, NETTED SNOOD, OR A NETTED CAP.
PHOTO NOTE: FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND IMAGES:
WOVEN HEADDRESS OR HAIR STYLE, OF PRECISELY CARVED LABYRINTHINE NOTATIONS ‘LAYERED IN SEVEN STRATA.’ (MG: 10.)
SLIDE LOCATION NEO. PAL. FRANCE. SHEET 2, ROW 1, SLEEVE 4, SLIDE #23c 30,000-25,000 BCE.
CU_NPF_S2_R1_SL4_S23c.jpg
ON LOCATION: HAUTE GARGONNE, FRANCE. MUSÉE DES ANTIQUITÉS NATIONALES IN SAINT-GERMAIN-EN-LAYE, FRANCE. JUST OUTSIDE OF PARIS.
NOTE 1: GIVEN THE MINIATURE SCALE, SHE COULD EASILY FIT IN ONE’S HAND AND SUGGESTS A “PERSONAL, NOT A COMMUNAL, RELIGIOUS ARTIFACT.” (SOTG: 26-27.)
NOTE 2: SELECTED EXAMPLES OF AFRICAN DARK MOTHERS DISCUSSED IN RE-GENESIS ARE: TAN-TAN; THE BEREKHAT RAM; BRASSEMPOUY; WILLENDORF; LAUSSEL; DOLNI VESTONICE AND LESPUGUE. (WKP: 11-26-05; EKP: 89-135.)
(SOURCE: ENTRY ABOVE.)
PHOTO NOTE KEY: ILLUSTRATOR ALEXANDER DUSHENKO.
PHOTO NOTE: (ADJUST SHADOW.)
PHOTO NOTE: FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND IMAGES:
RESOURCE: (GOOGLE IMAGES.)
(ARAS: THE ARCHIVE FOR RESEARCH IN ARCHETYPAL SYMBOLISM: SUBSCRIPTION INDEX REQUIRES USER NAME AND CIIS ID NUMBER.)

IMAGE: GODDESS OF LAUSSEL, LAUSSEL CAVE IN DORDogne FRANCE.
PHOTO: GSA. DESCRIPTION: GODDESS OF LAUSSEL CARVED INTO A LIMESTONE SLAB ON A LOW RELIEF IN THE LAUSSEL CAVE IN THE DORDOGNE. (SOURCE: ENTRY ABOVE.)
SLIDE LOCATION NEO. PAL. FRANCE. SHEET 1, ROW 2, SLEEVE 4, SLIDE #9, 25,000-20,000 BCE.
CU_NPF_S1_R2_SL4_S9.jpg
ON LOCATION OF ORIGINAL: MUSÉE D’AQUITAINE; BORDEAUX, FRANCE.
NOTE 2: SELECTED EXAMPLES OF AFRICAN DARK MOTHERS DISCUSSED IN RE-GENESIS ARE: TAN-TAN; THE BEREKHAT RAM; BRASSEMPOUY; WILLENDORF; LAUSSEL; DOLNI VESTONICE AND LESPUGUE. (EKP: 89-135.) (SOURCE: ENTRY ABOVE.)
PHOTO NOTE: FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND IMAGES:
RESOURCE: (GOOGLE IMAGES.)
RESOURCE: http://resources.ciis.edu:2058/index.aspx
(ARAS: THE ARCHIVE FOR RESEARCH IN ARCHETYPAL SYMBOLISM; SUBSCRIPTION INDEX REQUIRES USER NAME AND CIIS ID NUMBER.)
IMAGE: GODDESS OF LAUSSEL WITH HORN, LAUSSEL CAVE IN DORDOGNE FRANCE.

PHOTO: GSA. DESCRIPTION OF GODDESS OF LAUSSEL, IN HER RIGHT HAND, SHE HOLDS A BISON/BULL HORN OR CRESCENT SHAPED MOON THAT IS ENGRAVED OR INCISED WITH THIRTEEN DOWNWARD STROKES (RGS).

*SLIDE LOCATION NEO. FRANCE, SHEET 1, ROW 2, SLEEVE 5, SLIDE #10, 25,000-20,000 BCE.

CU_NPF_S1_R2_SL5_S10.jpg

ON LOCATION OF ORIGINAL: MUSÉE D'AQUITAINE; BORDEAUX, FRANCE.

NOTE 1: TO–SCALE PROTOTYPE FROM METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, NY AS PHOTOGRAPHIC PERMISSION DENIED AT MUSÉE D'AQUITAINE, BORDEAUX FRANCE IN NOVEMBER, 1981.

NOTE 2: SELECTED EXAMPLES OF AFRICAN DARK MOTHERS DISCUSSED IN RE-GENESIS ARE: TAN-TAN; THE BEREKHAT RAM; BRASSEMPOUY; WILLENDORF; LAUSSEL; DOLNI VESTONICE AND LESPUGUE (EKP: 89-135; RGS).


PHOTO NOTE: FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND IMAGES:

RESOURCE: (GOOGLE IMAGES.)


(AARAS: THE ARCHIVE FOR RESEARCH IN ARCHETYPAL SYMBOLISM: SUBSCRIPTION INDEX REQUIRES USER NAME AND CIIS ID NUMBER.)
IMAGE: ANIMAL FRIEZE INCLUDING BISON FROM LE ROC DE SERS FRANCE.
PHOTO: GSA. DESCRIPTION: FRIEZE OF ANIMALS FROM LE ROC DE SERS,
CHARENTE FRANCE, SOLUTREAN PERIOD.
*SLIDE LOCATION FRANCE, SHEET 4, ROW 2, SLEEVE 4, SLIDE #7, 20,000-15,000 BCE.
CO_FRA_S4_R2_SL4_S7.jpg
ON LOCATION: MUSÉE DES ANTIQUITÉS NATIONALES IN SAINT-GERMAIN-EN-
LAYE, FRANCE, JUST OUTSIDE OF PARIS.
NOTE 1:
A SOLUTREAN AGE MAMMOTH-HUNTING EXAMPLE IS ILLUSTRATED IN
THIS LE ROC DE SERS FRIEZE DISCOVERED IN A CLIFF ROCK SHELTER
NEAR ANGOULÉME VILLAGE, FRANCE. THE ENGRAVINGS INCLUDE
HORSES, BEAR, A BOAR, A BISON AND TWO BUTTING IBEXES.
PHOTO NOTE: FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND IMAGES:
RESOURCE: (GOOGLE IMAGES.)
(ARAS: THE ARCHIVE FOR RESEARCH IN ARCHETYPAL SYMBOLISM:
SUBSCRIPTION INDEX REQUIRES USER NAME AND CIIS ID NUMBER.)
IMAGE: DOLNI VESTONICE, MORAVIA, CZECH REPUBLIC.
PHOTO: GSA. IMAGE: DOLNI VESTONICE.
*SLIDE LOCATION NEO. PAL. FRANCE: SHEET 5, ROW 4, SLEEVE 2, SLIDE #35, c.
24,000 BCE.
CU_NPF_S5_R4_SL2_S35.jpg
ON LOCATION: MORAVIA, SOUTH OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC. DOLNI VESTONICE
MUSEUM, CZECHOSLOVAKIA.
NOTE 1: TO–SCALE PROTOTYPE.
NOTE 2: ALSO SEE DOLNI VESTONICE CZECH REPUBLIC IN GOOGLE IMAGES.
NOTE 3: SELECTED EXAMPLES OF AFRICAN DARK MOTHERS DISCUSSED IN RE-
GENESIS ARE: TAN-TAN; THE BEREKHAT RAM; BRASSEMPOUY; WILLENDORF;
LAUSSEL; DOLNI VESTONICE AND LESPUGUE. (EKP: 89-135.) (SOURCE: ENTRY
ABOVE.)
NOTE 4: FIELDWORK PROJECT.
PHOTO NOTE: FOR FURTHER DOLNI VESTONICE (CZECH REPUBLIC) RESEARCH
AND IMAGES:
RESOURCE: (ARCHAEOLOGY, ARCHITECTURE & ART.)
RESOURCE: (MUSEUM ART RESOURCE.)
(BRITISH MUSEUM.)
RESOURCE: (GOOGLE IMAGES.)
(ARAS: THE ARCHIVE FOR RESEARCH IN ARCHETYPAL SYMBOLISM:
SUBSCRIPTION INDEX REQUIRES USER NAME AND CIIS ID NUMBER.)
IMAGE: GODDESS OF LESPUGUE, LESPUGUE CAVE FRANCE.
PHOTO: GSA. DESCRIPTION: STEATOPYGOUS IVORY NUDE GODDESS OF LESPUGUE.
SLIDE LOCATION NEO. PAL. FRANCE, SHEET 1, ROW 3, SLEEVE 4, SLIDE #14, c. 23,000 BCE.
CU_NPF_S1_R3_SL4_S14.jpg
ON LOCATION: MUSÉE DES ANTIQUITÉS NATIONALES, SAINT-GERMAIN-EN-LAYE, FRANCE, JUST OUTSIDE OF PARIS.
NOTE 1: ORIGINAL.
NOTE 2: SELECTED EXAMPLES OF AFRICAN DARK MOTHERS DISCUSSED IN RE-GENESIS ARE: TAN-TAN; THE BEREKHAT RAM; BRASSEMPOUY; WILLENDORF; LAUSSEL; DOLNI VESTONICE AND LESPUGUE. (WKP: 11-26-05; EKP: 89-135.) (SOURCE: ENTRY ABOVE.)
PHOTO NOTE KEY: ILLUSTRATOR ALEXANDER DUSHENKO.
PHOTO NOTE: FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND IMAGES:
RESOURCE: (GOOGLE IMAGES.)
(ARAS: THE ARCHIVE FOR RESEARCH IN ARCHETYPAL SYMBOLISM:
SUBSCRIPTION INDEX REQUIRES USER NAME AND CIIS ID NUMBER.)
IMAGE: KYBELE INC. OCHRE STRIPES, (ANATOLIA) TURKEY.
PHOTO: GSA. DESCRIPTION: BACK SIDE OF ANATOLIAN KYBELE WITH EXTENSIVE OCHRE STRIPES OR NET DESIGN SUGGESTING A SNAKE DEITY.
SLIDE LOCATION TURKEY, SHEET 87, ROW 3, SLEEVE #2, SLIDE #Bd72.
CO_TUR_S87_R3_SL2_SBd72
ON LOCATION: ANTALYA (ANATOLIA) TURKEY. TURKEY, PRIVATE COLLECTION.
NOTE 1: SCHEMATIC RENDERING SIMILAR TO CLASSICAL CUCUTENI FIGURES INC. ALL-OVER NET–DESIGN. (COG: 110.)
NOTE 2: FOR A RITUAL RELATED GILAT DEITY WITH BODY PAINTED STRIPES (POSSIBLY OCHER) SEE: (SGG) AND (MOF: 81). (AS THE DEITY IS SEATED, SHE IS THEREFORE CONSIDERED A CATHEDRA DEITY.)
PHOTO NOTE: FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND IMAGES:
RESOURCE: (GOOGLE IMAGES.)
RESOURCE: (ARAS: THE ARCHIVE FOR RESEARCH IN ARCHETYPAL SYMBOLISM. SUBSCRIPTION INDEX REQUIRES USER NAME AND CIIS ID NUMBER.)
IMAGE: KYBELE INC. OCHRE STRIPES, (ANATOLIA) TURKEY.
PHOTO: GSA. DESCRIPTION: FRONT SIDE OF ANATOLIAN KYBELE WITH
EXTENSIVE OCHRE STRIPES OR NET DESIGN SUGGESTING A SNAKE DEITY.
SLIDE LOCATION TURKEY, SHEET 87, ROW 2, SLEEVE #2, SLIDE #Bd68.
CO_TUR_S87_R2_SL2_SBd68
ON LOCATION: ANTALYA (ANATOLIA) TURKEY. TURKEY, PRIVATE COLLECTION.
NOTE 1: SCHEMATIC RENDERING SIMILAR TO CLASSICAL CUCUTENI FIGURES INC.
ALL-OVER NET–DESIGN. (COG: 110.)
NOTE 2: FOR A RITUAL RELATED GILAT DEITY WITH BODY PAINTED STRIPES
(POSSIBLY OCHER) SEE: (SGG) AND (MOF: 81). (AS THE DEITY IS SEATED, SHE IS
THEREFORE CONSIDERED A CATHEDRA DEITY.)
PHOTO NOTE: FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND IMAGES:
RESOURCE: (GOOGLE IMAGES.)
RESOURCE: (ARAS: THE ARCHIVE FOR RESEARCH IN ARCHETYPAL SYMBOLISM.
SUBSCRIPTION INDEX REQUIRES USER NAME AND CIIS ID NUMBER.)