

Q. Write note on Homo Sapiens.

Ans:

Cro-Magnon. Why Cro-Magnon is called modern man. Justify.

Ans: **Discovery:** The term Cro-Magnon has been derived from the locality of the same name in Les Eyzied, France, where remain of five human skeletons were discovered. The finds consists of skeletons of two adult men, one woman, an infant and an old man. The first discovery was made by M. Louis Larter in 1868.

Age and culture: Geologically Cro-Magnon men belong to late Pleistocene period. The associated implements show that they flourished in Aurignacian time to the Upper Palaeolithic period.

Fauna: The animal bones found in the deposits of Upper palaeolithic time are of mammoth, cave bear, woolly rhinoceros.

Physical characters of Cro-Magnon:

1. The skull is large and massive. It is very long (20.3cm) in relation to its breadth

The sigmoid notch is fairly deep.

2. The vault is high.
3. The cranial capacity is estimated at 1600 cc by Keith and 1590 cc by Boule.
4. The parietal tuberosities are placed laterally and are markedly projecting making the contour of the cranium pentagonal.
5. The forehead is broad and moderately high.
6. Supra-orbital ridges are low and wide.
7. The occiput is projecting notably and it is flattened at the parieto occipital region.
8. The face is very broad, short and flat.
9. Thus the long, narrow head is associated with short, broad, flat face – a disharmonious combination.
10. A well marked chin is present.
11. The long bones suggest an athletic physique with strong muscles and a tall stature.
12. The height is estimated at 168.4 cm.
13. As regards limb proportions the leg is long as compared with the thigh, and the forearm is long in relation to arm.
14. According to some, this is a Negroid proportion.

Affinity (Phylogenetic position): There are evidences to show that the Cro-Magnon people did not become extinct at the end of Upper Palaeolithic times but continued to survive through the Neolithic period up to present day. Therefore, they are called as modern man.

Grimaldi

Discovery: The remains were discovered in the cave called the Grotte des Enfants, in the village of Grimaldi on the Mediterranean coastal region.

Material: Skeleton of a woman of about 30 years of age and of a boy of about 15. The skeleton of the later was stained with red ochre. The manner in which the skeletons were placed suggests intentional burial.

Associated Finds: In the same site were found artifacts of Aurignacian type. The flints were worked on both the sides. Knives, scrapers, gravers, saws etc. were the important tools.

Age: The geological age is late Pleistocene.

The orbit are large and rectangular.

The nose is long narrow leptorrhine.

The palate is narrow.

The nasal bones are high.

Physical characters of Grimaldi:

1. The skull is long, narrow and high. They are hyperdolichocephalic.
2. The head height is about 11.5 cm.
3. The cranial capacity of the female was 1265 cc and male was 1455 cc.
4. Mastoid process is small.
5. Face is large and short.
6. The orbits are large and sub-rectangular.
7. The nose is broad, bridge is low and the nasal root is depressed.
8. The lower limb is exaggeratedly long in relation to the upper limb.
9. The forearm and leg are very long in proportion to the arm and thigh respectively.
10. Thus in limb proportions the Grimaldi man resembles Negroids.

Affinity (Phylogenetic position): The Grimaldi man is comparable to the modern Negro or Negroid types. Prof. Sollas and Prof. Boule pointed out the affinity of the Grimaldi Negroid to the Bushmen and the Hottentots of South Africa on the basis of strong resemblances of certain characteristics.

Chancelade

Discovery: The discovery was made in a rock shelter near Chancelade in Dordogne, France in the year 1888. A human skeleton with its arms folded on its breast region and the knees just touching the jaw was unearthed. The body was powdered with red ochre. The posture in which the skeleton was laid suggests method of burial among many ancient and modern people.

Habitat: The Chancelade lived in Magdalenian time. In the same rock shelter some typical fauna and implements of the Magdalenian period were also found.

Description:

1. The skull is long and narrow measuring 19.4 cm in length and 18.75 cm in breadth and thus showing a cranial index of 70.9.
2. The cranial capacity is estimated at 1530 cc.
3. The vault is high.
4. The supraorbital ridges are slightly marked.
5. The forehead is almost vertical.
6. The mastoid processes are fully developed.
7. The face is very long and broad. Thus the skull is said to be harmonic.

8. The nose is leptorrhine.
9. The chin is prominent.
10. The limb bones are strong and massive, which indicate that the man had a strong muscular body.
11. The upper limbs are comparatively longer.
12. The femur is bent.
13. The foot is large.

Affinity (Phylogenetic position): The Chancelade man resembles the modern Eskimo in the following characters: short stature, large, high dolichocephalic head, elevated sagittal region, a very wide and long face, flat, prominent cheek bones, narrow nasal aperture, powerful masticatory apparatus. Besides the physical characteristics, there exist between the Chancelade and the Eskimo some cultural similarities also. On the basis of which some authorities are inclined to consider the former as the ancestor of the later.

Unit IV: General study of the following fossil forms: Solo Man, Heiderberg Man, Wadiak Man.

The ascending ramus are very broad.

well developed cheek bone
palate is narrow.