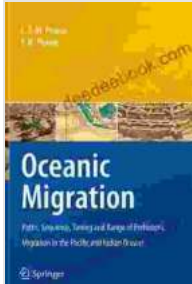


Paths, Sequence, Timing, and Range of Prehistoric Migration in the Pacific and Beyond



Oceanic Migration: Paths, Sequence, Timing and Range of Prehistoric Migration in the Pacific and Indian

Oceans by Charles E.M. Pearce

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

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The story of human migration is a complex and fascinating one, and the Pacific region is no exception. Over thousands of years, humans have migrated across vast distances and settled in some of the most remote and challenging environments on Earth. In this article, we will explore the paths, sequence, timing, and range of prehistoric migration in the Pacific and beyond, drawing on evidence from archaeology, anthropology, genetics, and linguistics.

Early Migrations to the Pacific

The first humans to reach the Pacific islands are thought to have arrived from Southeast Asia around 50,000 years ago. These early migrants were

likely hunter-gatherers who traveled in small boats and followed the coastlines of the islands. They eventually settled in a number of different areas, including the Philippines, Indonesia, and New Guinea.

Around 3,500 years ago, a group of people from Southeast Asia known as the Lapita culture began to migrate into the Pacific. The Lapita people were skilled seafarers and navigators, and they quickly spread their culture throughout the region. They are thought to have been the ancestors of the Polynesians, who eventually settled in the islands of Hawaii, Tahiti, and New Zealand.

The Polynesian Expansion

The Polynesian expansion was one of the most remarkable migrations in human history. Over a period of several centuries, the Polynesians traveled across thousands of miles of ocean and settled in a number of islands in the Pacific. They were able to do this thanks to their advanced seafaring skills and their knowledge of navigation.

The Polynesians are thought to have originated in the islands of Tonga and Samoa. From there, they spread out to the Cook Islands, the Society Islands, and the Marquesas Islands. They eventually reached Hawaii around 400 AD and New Zealand around 1300 AD.

The Melanesian Expansion

The Melanesians are another group of people who migrated to the Pacific from Southeast Asia. They are thought to have arrived around 3,000 years ago and settled in the islands of Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, and the Vanuatu Islands. The Melanesians are a diverse group of people with a variety of cultures and languages.

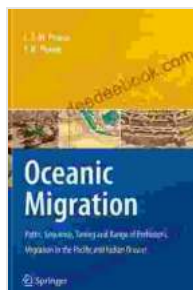
The Micronesian Expansion

The Micronesians are the third group of people who migrated to the Pacific from Southeast Asia. They are thought to have arrived around 2,500 years ago and settled in the islands of the Caroline Islands, the Mariana Islands, and the Marshall Islands. The Micronesians are a relatively small group of people with a distinct culture and language.

The prehistoric migration of humans to the Pacific was a complex and fascinating process that spanned thousands of years. The paths, sequence, timing, and range of these migrations are still being studied by scientists, but the evidence suggests that the Pacific was settled by a series of different groups of people from Southeast Asia.

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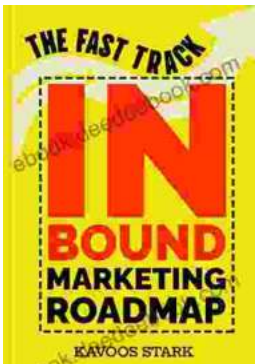
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