



Bridging the Human Story

Union of Saints

A Shared Legacy Across Eurasia and the Americas

Human history tells a story of migration, adaptation, divergence, and shared origins. Though cultures developed in distinct regions, all modern populations are part of a deeply interconnected human journey.

1 The Deep Beginning Out of Africa

All modern humans descend from populations that lived in Africa over 200,000 years ago. Around 60,000 to 70,000 years ago, some groups began migrating outward into Eurasia.

From this point, humanity branched into regional populations that adapted to different environments across continents.

2 The Peopling of Eurasia

As humans spread across Eurasia

Some groups moved west into Europe.

Some moved east into Asia.

Some remained in Central Asia.

Some eventually moved northeast into Siberia.

Over thousands of years, populations adapted to climate, geography, and available resources. These adaptations created distinct genetic clusters across Europe, East Asia, and Siberia.

All of these populations, however, shared common Eurasian ancestors before they differentiated.

3 The Beringian Migration

Between 15,000 and 20,000 or more years ago, small groups from northeastern Asia and Siberia crossed a landmass called Beringia, which connected Asia and North America during the Ice Age.

Their descendants became the Indigenous peoples of the Americas.

By this time, European populations and northeastern Asian populations had already formed distinct regional identities. The branching had occurred long before recorded history.

4 Where European Ancestry Fits

European populations including England, France, Poland, the Baltic regions, and others formed through layers of migration over thousands of years.

These layers included

Paleolithic hunter gatherers

Early Anatolian farmers

Steppe pastoralists often associated with the Yamnaya culture

Later medieval regional populations

Eastern European ancestry such as Poland, Lithuania, and parts of Russia includes Steppe ancestry that traces back to ancient North Eurasian populations. Some of these ancient groups also contributed ancestry to early Siberian populations.

This overlap exists at a very deep prehistoric level and represents part of the shared human story across Eurasia.

5 Shared Ancient North Eurasian Roots

Genetic research indicates that ancient Siberians carried ancestry from a population sometimes referred to as Ancient North Eurasians.

This population contributed ancestry to

Certain Siberian and East Asian groups

Some Steppe populations that later influenced Eastern Europeans

European and Native American populations today represent distinct historical developments. At the same time, they share extremely ancient Eurasian ancestors tens of thousands of years in the past.

That shared layer forms part of a broader human legacy.

6 Divergence and Distinction

Indigenous peoples of the Americas developed their own cultures, civilizations, languages, and spiritual traditions over thousands of years within the Americas.

European populations developed civilizations, languages, and political systems within Europe.

These represent separate historical paths that grew from earlier shared human origins.

Shared deep ancestry coexists with distinct cultural identities. Human populations branch and evolve across geography and time.

7 A Shared Human Legacy

When viewed across deep time

Europeans

Siberians

Native Americans

East Asians

All descend from small migrating groups who survived Ice Ages, environmental change, and immense geographic shifts.

The human story reflects movement, adaptation, and survival across continents.

It reflects resilience across climates and landscapes.

It reflects continuity across generations.

8 Bridging the Gap Through Anthropology

Bridging legacy means recognizing multiple layers of identity and ancestry.

Indigenous identity is rooted in continuous presence and cultural development in the Americas.

European ancestry is rooted in historical development across Europe.

Both share deep prehistoric Eurasian ancestry.

All humans share even deeper African origins.

The bridge exists at the anthropological level.

It exists within the shared human past.

It reflects a common origin expressed through diverse cultures.

9 A Conceptual Timeline

Africa more than 200,000 years ago

Early Eurasian migrations more than 60,000 years ago

Regional differentiation across Europe and Asia

Siberian populations

Migration across Beringia into the Americas

Development of distinct Indigenous civilizations

Later European exploration and global interaction

Across time, the branches of humanity extend outward and continue to shape the modern world.
