

CULTURE HEARTHS

DEFINITION

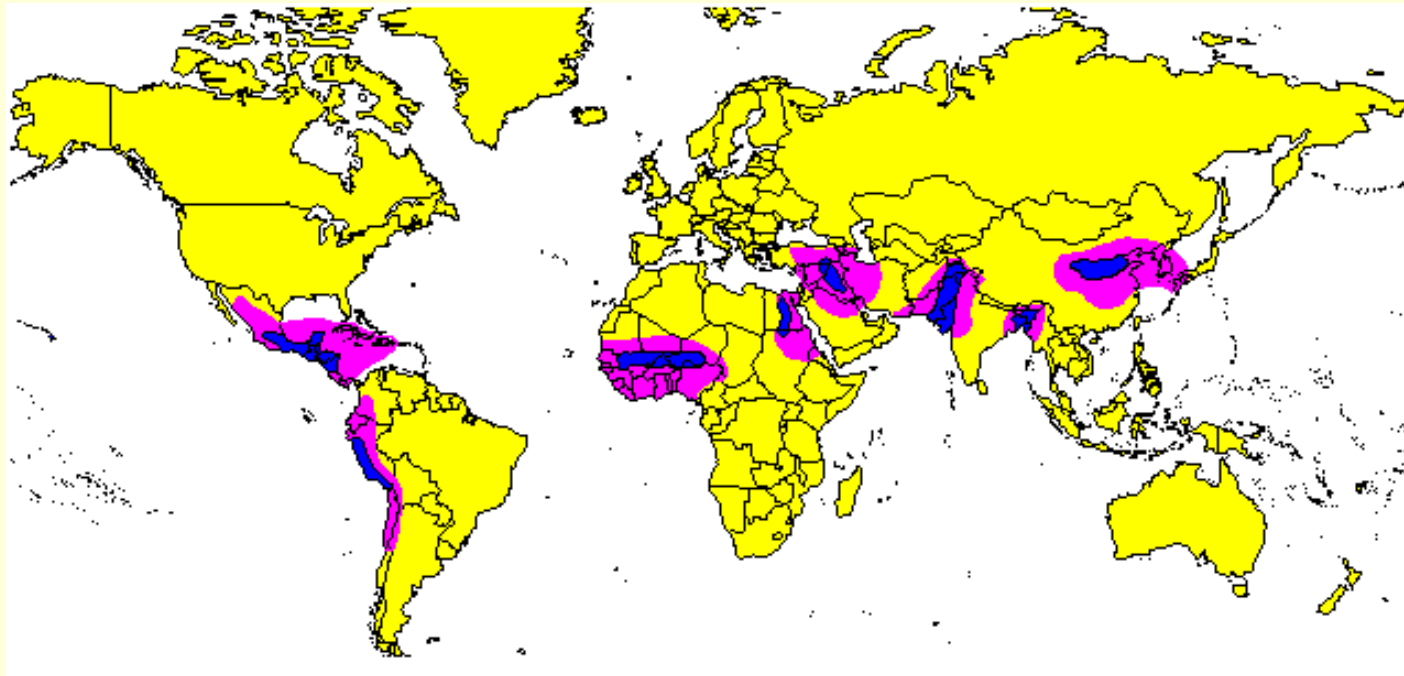
Culture Hearth:

- heartland
- source area
- innovation center
- place of origin of a major culture
- * “civilization incubator”

CULTURE HEARTHES

EXAMPLE

Primary Culture Hearths of the World



CULTURE HEARTHS

Primary Culture Hearths of the World:

Fertile Crescent (8000 BCE)

India (7000 BCE)

Huang Ho (5000 BCE)

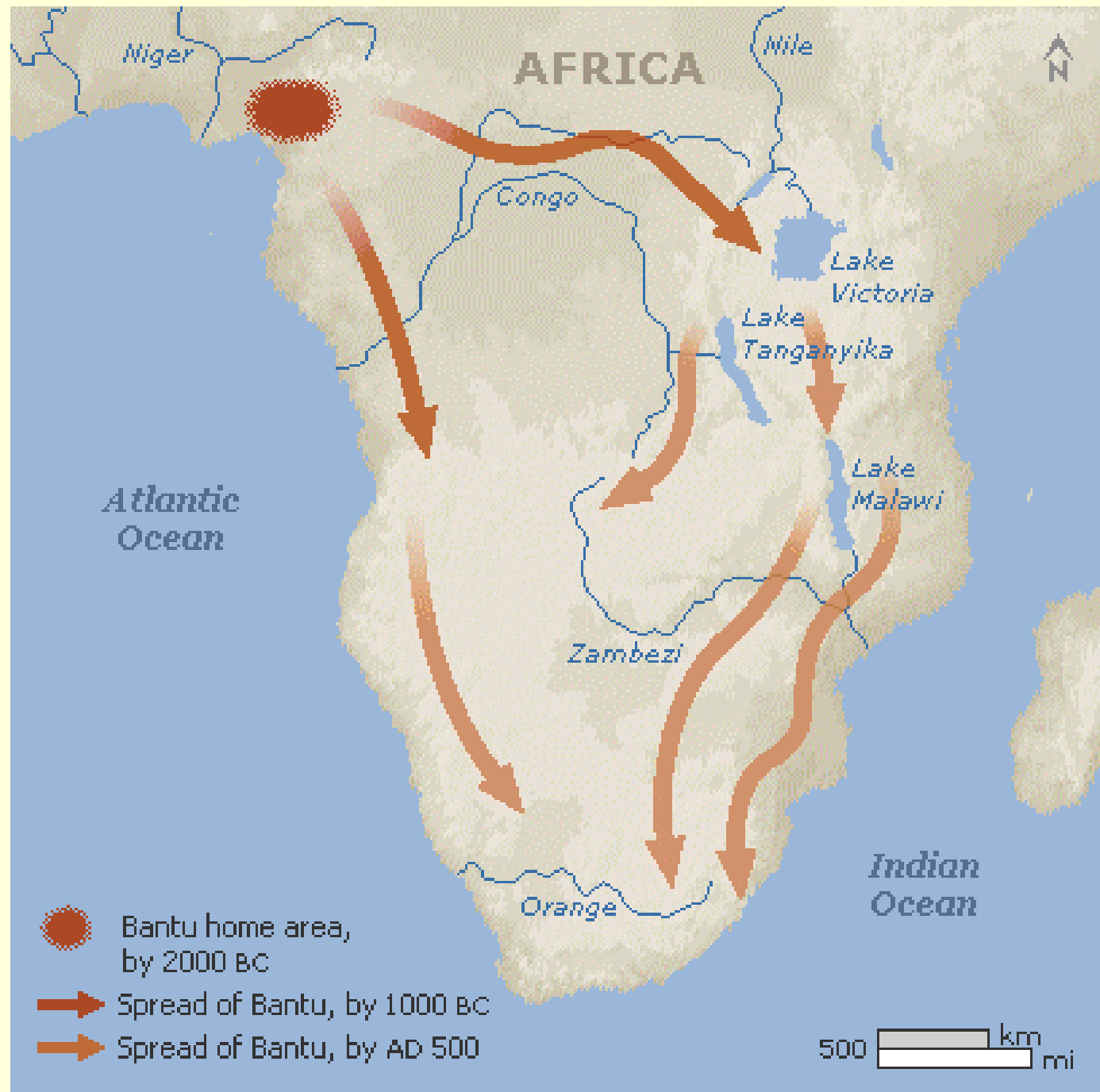
West Africa (2000 BCE)

Mesoamerica & S. America (8000-3000 BCE)

The Advent of Iron and the Bantu Migrations

- Sub-Saharan agriculture had its origins north of the equator and then spread southward. Iron working also began north of the equator and spread southward, reaching southern Africa by 800 C.E..
- Linguistic evidence suggests that the spread of iron and other technology in sub-Saharan Africa was the result of a phenomenon known as the Bantu migrations.

Bantu Migrations



- The original homeland of the Bantu people was in the area on the border of modern Nigeria and Cameroon.
- Evidence suggests that the Bantu people spread out toward the east and the south through a series of migrations over the period of the first millennium C.E.. By the eighth century, Bantu-speaking people had reached East Africa.

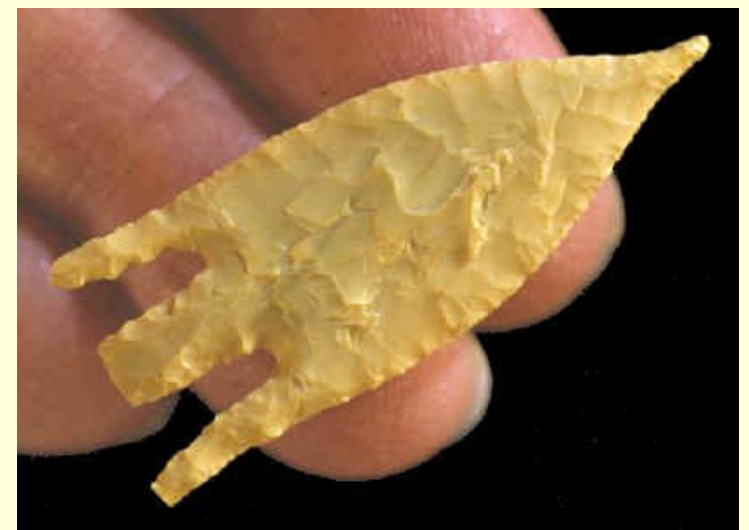
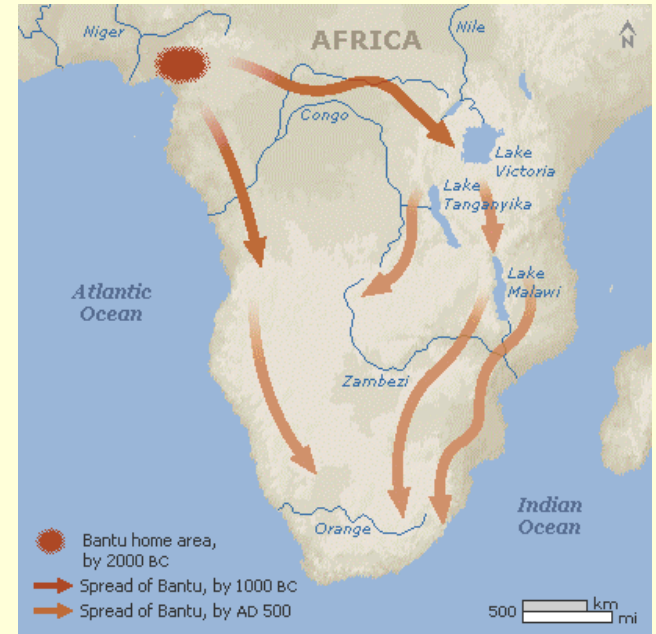
The Dynamics of Bantu Expansion

- Bantu--language group from west central Africa
 - Live along banks of rivers; use canoes
 - Cultivate yams and oil palms
 - Live in clan-based villages
 - Trade with hunting/gathering forest people



The Dynamics of Bantu Expansion

- Early migrations of Bantu (3000-1000 B.C.E.)
 - Move south and west into the forest lands
 - Move south to Congo River and east to Great Lakes region
 - Absorb much of the population of hunter/gather/fisher people
 - By 1000 B.C.E. occupy most of Africa south of the equator



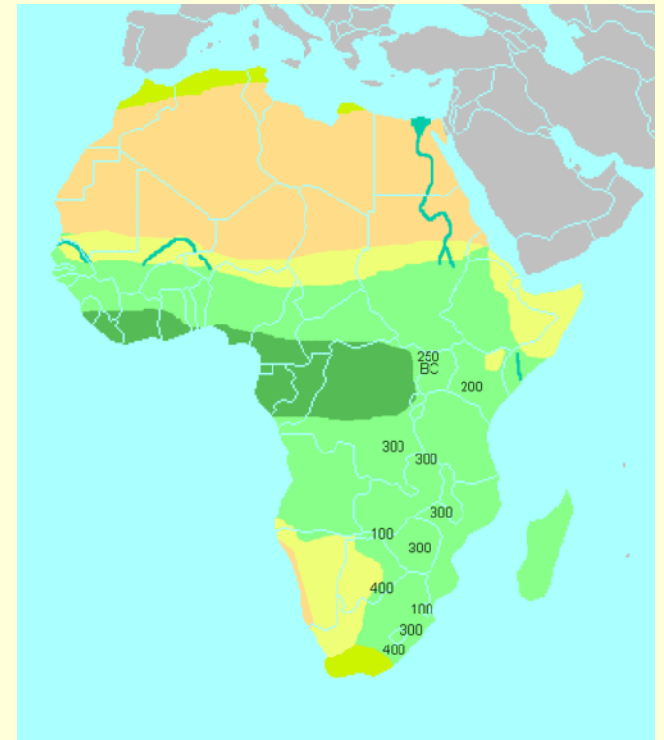
The Dynamics of Bantu Expansion

- Features of the Bantu
 - Use canoes and settle along banks of rivers; spread from there
 - Agricultural surplus causes them to move inland from rivers
 - Become involved in trade



The Dynamics of Bantu Expansion

- Bantu rate of migration increases after 1000 B.C.E. due to appearance of iron
 - Iron tools allow them to clear more land for agriculture
 - Iron weapons give them stronger position



Political Organization

- By 1000 A.D, most of the migrations were complete
- Instead of continued migrations, Africans developed increasingly complex forms of government that enabled them to organize their existing societies more efficiently
- Initially the Bantu established “stateless societies” in which they governed themselves mostly through family and kinship groups

Political Organization

- Stateless societies worked well in small-scale communities but as they grew into large populations, resources became strained and conflicts became more frequent
- Bantu communities began to organize themselves militarily and this development encouraged more formal structures of government
 - Chiefdoms overrode kinship networks and imposed their own authority
- In general, between 1000 and 1500, clusters of smaller entities gradually formed into larger states

Africa's Iron Age

The spread of iron technology after the 500s BC changed farming practices in sub-Saharan Africa. As a result, African society changed.

Iron Technology

- 500 BC, techniques for refining iron from iron ore changed
- Now possible to produce tools, weapons superior to those they had made before
- **Nok** one of earliest known peoples to practice ironworking
- Lived in what is now Nigeria, West Africa; learned to make iron tools, weapons

Population Growth

- As better-equipped farmers, hunters, warriors, Nok grew in power
- Became known for making fine sculptures out of terra-cotta
- Iron tools enabled Africans to cut down trees, clear land, and live in new areas
- Survival easier, Africa's population increased

The Bantu Migrations

Agriculture, ironworking technology spread throughout Africa because of migration

- **Number of groups in Africa spoke related languages**
 - Originated from language called Proto-Bantu
 - Developed in what is now Cameroon, Nigeria
 - Over time more than 2,000 **Bantu** languages developed

Bantu-speaking Peoples

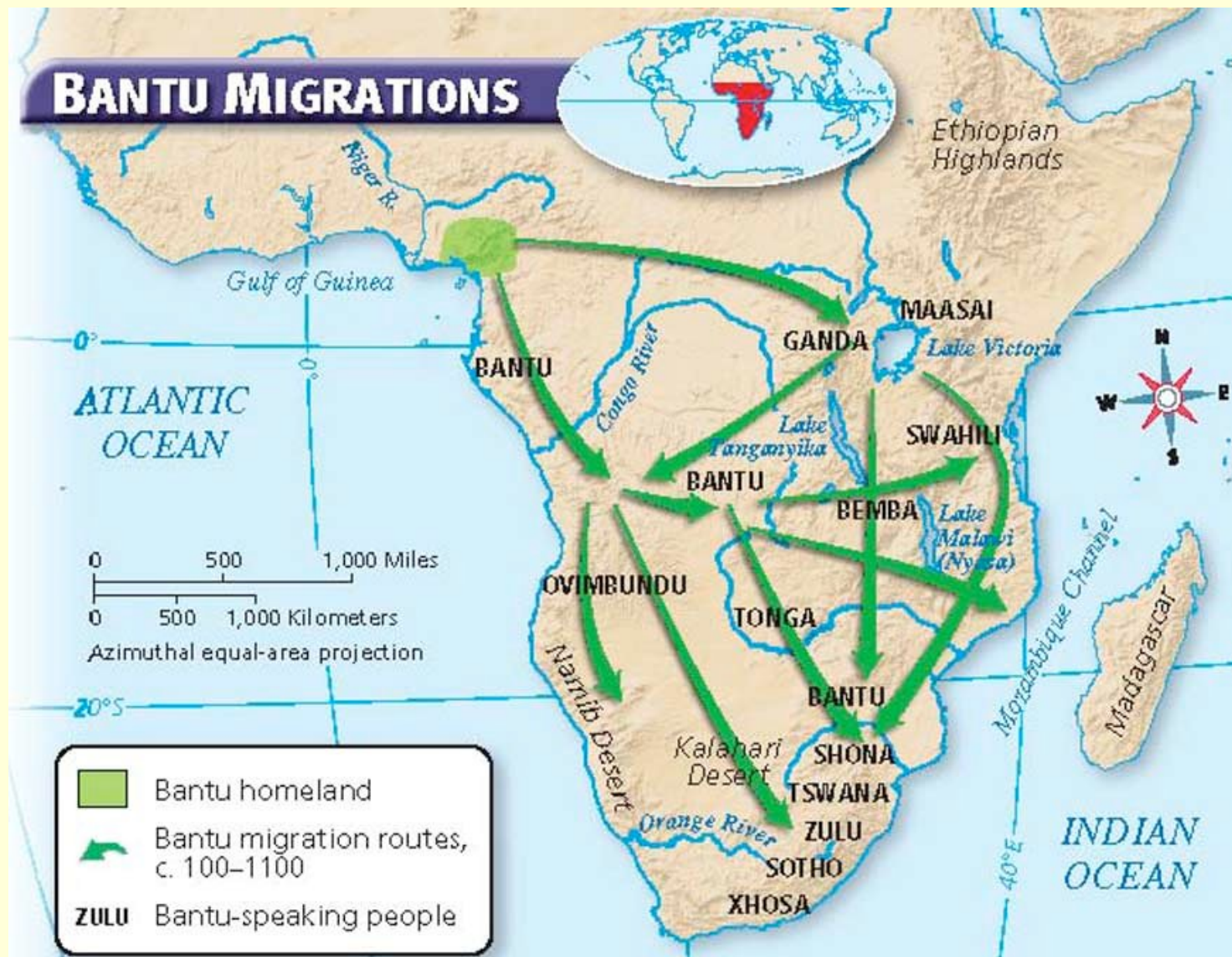
Migration

- Bantu-speaking people gradually migrated east, south during first centuries CE
- As they traveled, Bantu speakers carried knowledge of agriculture, ironworking
- Because of knowledge, established themselves as dominant group when they reached southern Africa

Bantu Social Systems

- By 900s CE, Bantu-speaking peoples had established complex social systems
- Women farmed, men mostly tended cattle
- Cattle important food source, used in ritual sacrifices
- Status in Bantu societies determined by size of cattle herds

BANTU MIGRATIONS



Effects of Migrations

- Bantu and other migrations 2000 B.C.E.--1000 C.E.
 - Agriculture and herding throughout Africa
 - Displaced and/or absorbed hunting/gathering/fishing people
 - Iron metallurgy after 500 B.C.E. facilitated clearing more land
 - Yams, sorghum, and millet cultivated
 - Introduction of bananas after 500 C.E. caused migration and population surge
- Population growth: from 3.5 million in 400 B.C.E. to 22 million by 1000 C.E.



OTHER IMPORTANT EXAMPLES

- INDO-EUROPEAN
- JAPAN
- POLYNESIA / OCEANIA

Indo-European Migrations

- Common roots of many languages of Europe, southwest Asia, India
- Implies influence of a single Indo-European people
 - Probable original homeland: contemporary Ukraine and Russia, 4500-2500 BCE
- Domestication of horses, use of Sumerian weaponry allowed them to spread widely

The Indo-European Migrations



Implications of Indo-European Migration

- Hittites migrate to central Anatolia, c. 1900 BCE, later dominate Babylonia
- Influence on trade
 - Horses, chariots with spoke wheels, use of Iron
 - Iron
 - Migrations to western China, Greece, Italy also significant
- Influence on language and culture
 - Aryo, “noble, lord”
 - Aryan, Iranian, Irish
 - Caste system in India

Migrations: JAPAN

- around 5000 B.C.E.
- from Asia: Korea and Manchuria
- also from South Asia and Polynesia

Main influence

- China
 - language and culture
 - but institutions are adapted and simplified
 - → more compatible with Japan

Examples

- writing system
 - boost to intellectual activity
 - and political complexity
- Buddhism
 - influencing both religion and art
 - blends with Shinto → the indigenous religion

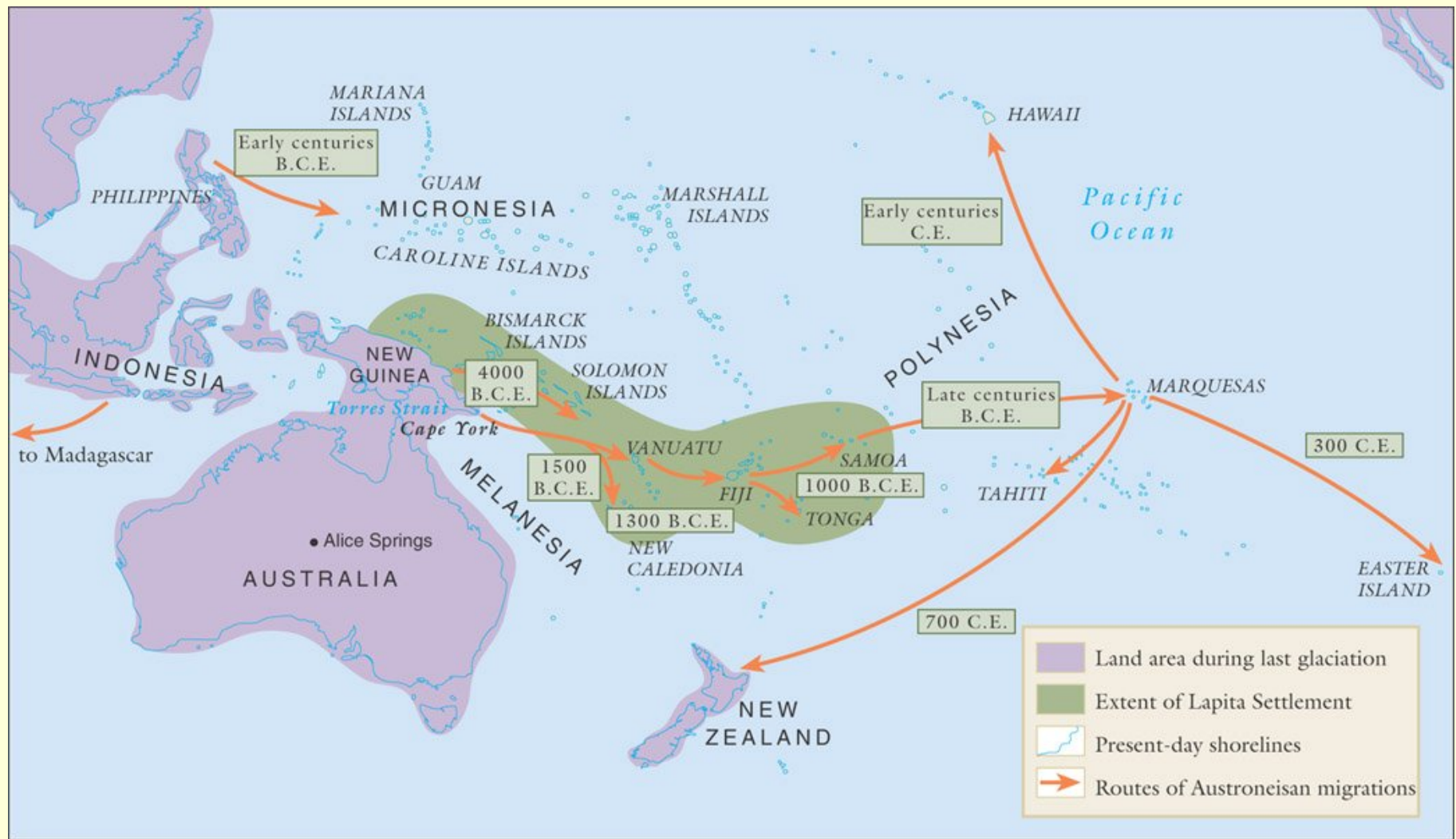
Continuing trade with China

- introduction of Buddhism
- officially adopted by the Yamato clan in 580's
- monks contributed to the growth of learning and political structures

Migrations: POLYNESIA

- peopled by migrations out of Asia
- during the late Neolithic period
- lasting several thousand years

Early societies of Oceania, 1500 B.C.E.-700 C.E.



Oceania

- Prehistoric land bridges, lower seas permit migration
- Outrigger canoes for open-sea travel
- Early hunter-gatherer societies in Australia
- Early agriculture in New Guinea

- 30 different languages
 - Austronesian language group

First inhabitants

- dark skinned
- settled in New Guinea and Australia
- 38,000 years ago
- Australian aborigines

Great Migrations

- big, double-hulled canoes
- island to island
- sophisticated navigation

Hawaii

- = “paradise”
 - eight major islands
 - volcanic
 - tropical climate
 - considerable wildlife, most hunted to extinction

- settled in two major waves
- beginning 300 A.D.
- good soil
- support a large population
- 700,000 people by 1700's

Settlement patterns

- no towns or cities
- small villages along the coast
- divided islands into wedge-shaped territories
- controlled by powerful families
 - power of chiefs was absolute
 - few constraints on their behavior

Social classes

- commoner supported the culture
- viewed as virtually a separate people
- subject to all sorts of taboos
 - violation meant death
- life highly ritualized
 - including human sacrifice

New Zealand

- = not “paradise”
 - two major islands
- not tropical, not particularly fertile
- 200,000 people by 1700's

Early Settlement

- few edible plants
- animals: bats, birds, people
- fishing and some crops

Maori Culture

- Tribal
- subdivided into village-groups
- land owned communally
 - distributed by a council
- each village leader a great warrior

Maori Society

- lived by war
- fought regularly and seasonally
- proof of manhood
- legitimized positions of chiefs
- defeated enemies were eaten

Inter-Regional Networks and Contacts

- Mediterranean trade circuit
- Silk Routes
- Indian Ocean
- Trans-Saharan Trade
- Trans-American circuits
- Religious connections: missionaries, inter-religious contact
- Impact of Mongols