Asia

Zhoukoudianian
Location: Eastern Asia.
Description: Nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small bands. Associated with Homo erectus.
OAT code: 0015  OWC code: A050

East Asian Middle Paleolithic
Location: Eastern Asia.
Description: Nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small bands. Associated with archaic Homo sapiens.
OAT code: 0030  OWC code: A060

Siberian Mousterian
Location: Southwest and south-central Siberia.
Description: Nomadic hunter / gatherers of Pleistocene big game. Associated with Homo neanderthalensis.
OAT code: 0050  OWC code: RR45

Caucasian Neolithic
Location: Caucasus region.
Description: Horticulturalists and pastoralists living in small villages.
OAT code: 3170  OWC code: RH55

Caucasian Chalcolithic
Location: Caucasus region.
Description: Sedentary agriculturalists and pastoralists living in small villages with a ranked or stratified social organization.
OAT code: 3175  OWC code: RH60

Caucasian Bronze Age
Location: Caucasus region.
Description: Sedentary agriculturalists and pastoralists living in complex chiefdoms or simple states. Region conquered by Scythians ca. 2700 BP.
OAT code: 3180  OWC code: RH65

Ordosian
Location: Middle and lower Yellow River valley and northern China plains.
Description: Hunter / gatherers living in small nomadic bands.
OAT code: 4005  OWC code: AF40
Peiligang  
**Years BP:** 8500 - 6200

**Location:** Middle and lower Yellow River valley, including the northern China plain.

**Description:** Sedentary horticulturalists living in small villages with some social differentiation.

**OAT code:** 4015  
**OWC code:** AF45

**Southeast China Early Neolithic**  
**Years BP:** 9000 - 5500

**Location:** Southeastern China.

**Description:** Sedentary horticulturalists living in small egalitarian villages.

**OAT code:** 4020  
**OWC code:** AF70

**Yangshao**  
**Years BP:** 7000 - 4500

**Location:** Middle Yellow River valley.

**Description:** Sedentary agriculturalists living in large villages. Socio-political organization possibly based on ranked descent groups.

**OAT code:** 4025  
**OWC code:** AF48

**Dawenkou**  
**Years BP:** 7000 - 5000

**Location:** Lower Yellow River valley.

**Description:** Sedentary agriculturalists living in large villages. Socio-political organization possibly based on ranked descent groups.

**OAT code:** 4030  
**OWC code:** AF50

**Hongshan**  
**Years BP:** 7000 - 4500

**Location:** Manchuria, northeast China.

**Description:** Sedentary village agriculturalists with a socio-political organization possibly based on ranked descent groups. Large public structures suggest a complex religious / ritual system.

**OAT code:** 4035  
**OWC code:** AG50

**Daxi**  
**Years BP:** 7000 - 4500

**Location:** Central Yangtze River valley.

**Description:** Sedentary village-dwelling agriculturalists.

**OAT code:** 4040  
**OWC code:** AF60

**Majiabang**  
**Years BP:** 7000 - 5000

**Location:** Lower Yangtze River valley.

**Description:** Village-dwelling rice agriculturalists.

**OAT code:** 4045  
**OWC code:** AF62
Longshan

*Years BP:* 4500 - 3900

*Location:* Yellow River valley and northern China plains.

*Description:* Sedentary agriculturalists living in complex chiefdoms or simple states. Spreads across north China and coastal regions of central China by 4000 BP.

*OAT code:* 4055 *OWC code:* AF51

Shang

*Years BP:* 3900 - 3100

*Location:* Yellow River valley.

*Description:* Complex state society with specialized communities, military, and political bureaucracy.

*OAT code:* 4060 *OWC code:* AF52

Early Xiajiadian

*Years BP:* 4500 - 3600

*Location:* Northeast China.

*Description:* Sedentary agriculturalists living in large villages. Socio-political organization based on ranked descent groups.

*OAT code:* 4070 *OWC code:* AG55

Late Xiajiadian

*Years BP:* 3600 - 2500

*Location:* Northeast China.

*Description:* Sedentary agriculturalists living in large villages. Socio-political organization based on ranked descent groups.

*OAT code:* 4075 *OWC code:* AG60

Southeast China Late Neolithic

*Years BP:* 5500 - 2500

*Location:* Southeastern China.

*Description:* Sedentary agriculturalists living in small villages.

*OAT code:* 4080 *OWC code:* AF75

Chulumn

*Years BP:* 8000 - 4000

*Location:* Korean peninsula.

*Description:* Sedentary agriculturalists living in small, egalitarian villages.

*OAT code:* 4105 *OWC code:* AA50

Mumum

*Years BP:* 4000 - 2300

*Location:* Korean peninsula.

*Description:* Sedentary agriculturalists living in moderate to large villages with some social differentiation.

*OAT code:* 4110 *OWC code:* AA55
Japanese Upper Paleolithic

Location: Islands of Japan.

Description: Nomadic or semi-nomadic hunter / gatherers.

OAT code: 4150
OWC code: AB70

Years BP: 20000 - 12000

Jomon

Location: Islands of Japan.

Description: Sedentary hunter / fisher / gatherers living in small, egalitarian villages.

OAT code: 4155
OWC code: AB75

Years BP: 12000 - 2500

Yayoi

Location: Islands of Japan.

Description: Sedentary rice agriculturalists living in large, politically centralized villages, with class stratification. Spreads south to north. Continues into the historic period.

OAT code: 4160
OWC code: AB80

Years BP: 2500 - 1500

Siberian Early Upper Paleolithic

Location: Southern Siberia to northern Mongolia.

Description: Nomadic big game hunters.

OAT code: 4300
OWC code: RR50

Years BP: 42000 - 28000

Siberian Middle Upper Paleolithic

Location: Southern and subarctic Siberia to northern Mongolia.

Description: Nomadic big game hunters.

OAT code: 4301
OWC code: RR52

Years BP: 28000 - 19000

Siberian Late Upper Paleolithic

Location: Southern and subarctic Siberia to northern Mongolia.

Description: Nomadic big game hunters.

OAT code: 4302
OWC code: RR55

Years BP: 19000 - 10000

Amur Paleolithic

Location: Amur River basin and northern Manchuria.

Description: Semi-sedentary, broad-spectrum hunter / gatherers.

OAT code: 4305
OWC code: RX55

Years BP: 30000 - 12000

Amur Neolithic and Bronze Age

Location: Amur River basin and northern Manchuria.

Description: Semi-sedentary hunter / fisher / gatherers living in large egalitarian bands. Continues into the historic period.

OAT code: 4310
OWC code: RX65

Years BP: 12000 - 1500
Baikal Neolithic and Bronze Age

Location: Forested areas north of Mongolia and south of Siberia.
Description: Semi-sedentary hunter / fishers living in large egalitarian bands. Continues into the historic period.

**Years BP:** 8000 - 3000

OAT code: 4320  OWC code: RT65

Siberian Neolithic and Bronze Age

Location: Forests and tundra of Siberia.
Description: Nomadic hunter / fishers living in small egalitarian bands.

**Years BP:** 10000 - 2100

OAT code: 4340  OWC code: RR65

Siberian Protohistoric

Location: Tundra and forests of northern Siberia.
Description: Nomadic hunter / fisher / gatherers living in small egalitarian bands. Continues into the historic period.

**Years BP:** 2100 - 500

OAT code: 4350  OWC code: RR70

Holocene Stone Age of Northeast Asia

Location: Chuckchi peninsula and Okhotsk coast.
Description: Nomadic hunter / gatherers living in egalitarian bands.

**Years BP:** 10500 - 3000

OAT code: 4360  OWC code: RY50

Kamchatka Mesolithic

Location: The Kamchatka peninsula.
Description: Sedentary or semi-sedentary fishers and hunters of marine mammals.

**Years BP:** 7000 - 4000

OAT code: 4370  OWC code: RY60

Tarya Neolithic

Location: The Kamchatka peninsula.
Description: Sedentary or semi-sedentary fishers and hunters of marine mammals.

**Years BP:** 4000 - 2500

OAT code: 4375  OWC code: RY64

Old Itel'man

Location: The Kamchatka peninsula.
Description: Sedentary or semi-sedentary fishers and hunters of marine mammals. Ancestral to the historic peoples of Kamchatka.

**Years BP:** 2500 - 500

OAT code: 4380  OWC code: RY67
Kelteminar

*Location:* Steppes and forests of Central Asia.
*Description:* Sedentary hunter / fisher / gatherers with some supplemental agriculture, and living in egalitarian villages.
*OAT code:* 4400  
*OWC code:* RL55

*Years BP:* 8000 - 4000

Andronovo

*Location:* Steppes and grasslands of central Asia.
*Description:* Sedentary agriculturalists and pastoralists living in small villages with a ranked or stratified social organization.
*OAT code:* 4410  
*OWC code:* RL58

*Years BP:* 4000 - 2800

Early Nomad

*Location:* Steppes of east Central and Eastern Asia.
*Description:* Nomadic pastoralists living in stratified societies.
*OAT code:* 4420  
*OWC code:* RL60

*Years BP:* 2800 - 2300

Late Nomad

*Location:* Steppes of eastern Central and Eastern Asia.
*Description:* Nomadic pastoralists living in complex state societies. Continues into the historic period.
*OAT code:* 4425  
*OWC code:* RL62

*Years BP:* 2300 - 1500

Scythian-Sarmatian

*Location:* Steppes north of the Black Sea from the Don River to the Urals.
*Description:* Nomadic and militaristic pastoralists living in a state society.
*OAT code:* 4430  
*OWC code:* MA51

*Years BP:* 4000 - 1700

Eastern Central Asia Paleolithic

*Location:* Western China, Tibet, Himalayan region.
*Description:* Nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small egalitarian bands.
*OAT code:* 4500  
*OWC code:* AJ45

*Years BP:* 40000 - 6000

Eastern Central Asia Neolithic and Bronze

*Location:* Western China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.
*Description:* Semi-nomadic pastoralist / hunters, some sedentary communities in river valleys, but all small and egalitarian.
*OAT code:* 4510  
*OWC code:* AJ50

*Years BP:* 6000 - 1500
Southeast Asia Upper Paleolithic  
**Years BP:** 40000 - 10000  
**Location:** Island and mainland Southeast Asia from India to China.  
**Description:** Nomadic hunter / gatherers with an economy based on hunting and shellfish. Most known occupations in caves or rock shelters. Exists only in Island Southeast Asia after 12000 BP.  
  
  *OAT code:* 5100  
  *OWC code:* AL50

Hoabinhian  
**Years BP:** 10000 - 4000  
**Location:** Southeast Asia.  
**Description:** Nomadic hunter / gatherers living off shellfish, small game, and diverse plant foods.  
  
  *OAT code:* 5105  
  *OWC code:* AL55

Southeast Asia Neolithic and Early Bronze  
**Years BP:** 6500 - 2500  
**Location:** Mainland and island Southeast Asia.  
**Description:** Sedentary and mobile horticulturalists living in farmsteads, hamlets, and some villages. Raised rice, pigs, tubers, and fruit trees. Developed metallurgy by ca. 3800 B.P.  
  
  *OAT code:* 5110  
  *OWC code:* AL60

Island Southeast Asia Late Prehistoric  
**Years BP:** 2500 - 1500  
**Location:** Island (and southern mainland) Southeast Asia.  
**Description:** Sedentary agriculturalists living in hamlets or small villages. Metal tools, traction animals (cattle and buffalo), and irrigation agriculture used. Increasing social stratification. Contact with states of India and China. Probably ancestral to Lapita.  
  
  *OAT code:* 5115  
  *OWC code:* OB70

Mainland Southeast Asia Late Prehistoric  
**Years BP:** 2500 - 1500  
**Location:** Mainland Southeast Asia.  
**Description:** Settled village agriculturalists, using metal tools, traction animals, and irrigation, and living in chiefdoms or incipient states. Contact with Indian and Chinese states.  
  
  *OAT code:* 5120  
  *OWC code:* AL65

South Asian Upper Paleolithic  
**Years BP:** 30000 - 7000  
**Location:** The South Asian subcontinent.  
**Description:** Mobile hunter / fisher / gatherers.  
  
  *OAT code:* 5505  
  *OWC code:* AQ30

South Asian Microlithic  
**Years BP:** 7000 - 3500  
**Location:** The South Asian subcontinent, retreating into non-riverine settings through time.  
**Description:** Semi-sedentary hunter / fisher / gatherers living in small hamlets or villages. Some groups practiced animal husbandry and horticulture later in the tradition.  
  
  *OAT code:* 5510  
  *OWC code:* AQ35
Indus Neolithic

Location: Indus River valley and tributaries.
Description: Sedentary village agriculturalists growing wheat and barley. Social differentiation present. First pottery made by 7000 BP.

OAT code: 5515  OWC code: AQ40

Ganges Neolithic

Location: Ganges River valley and tributaries.
Description: Settled village agriculturalists living in small-scale societies with minimal social differentiation.

OAT code: 5520  OWC code: AQ50

South Indian Chalcolithic

Location: The Indian subcontinent south of the Ganges River valley.
Description: Settled agriculturalists living in small villages with minimal social differentiation.

OAT code: 5525  OWC code: AQ73

Early Indus

Location: Indus River valley and tributaries.
Description: Settled agriculturalists, some living in large villages and/or regional centers.

OAT code: 5530  OWC code: AQ43

Mature Indus

Location: Indus River valley and tributaries.
Description: Settled agriculturalists living in complex urban settings with writing, elaborate craft technology, and large public works.

OAT code: 5535  OWC code: AQ45

Central Indian Neolithic

Location: Central Indian subcontinent south of the Thar Desert, west of the central Ganges River, and north of the Ghat Mountains.
Description: Settled village agriculturalists living in regionally-distinct, stratified societies.

OAT code: 5540  OWC code: AQ63

Gangetic India

Location: Ganges River valley and its tributaries.
Description: Urban civilization with writing, coinage, political and religious bureaucracy, craft specialists and artisans, and markets. Time range covers only the protohistoric period, the tradition continues as the historic Gangetic civilization.

OAT code: 5550  OWC code: AQ56
Vedic

Location: The Indus River valley and its tributaries, extending eastward to the Ganges and south into the Thar Desert.

Description: Sedentary agriculturalists and semi-sedentary pastoralists living in large villages and regionally-distinct stratified polities. Time range only covers prehistoric period, the tradition continues into the historic period.

OAT code: 5555  OWC code: AQ47

Central Indian Iron Age

Location: Central Indian subcontinent south of the Thar Desert, west of the central Ganges River, and north of the Ghat Mountains.

Description: Settled village agriculturalists living in regionally-distinct, stratified societies. Time range only covers prehistoric period, the tradition continues into the historic period.

OAT code: 5560  OWC code: AQ66

South Indian Iron Age

Location: Southern Indian subcontinent, between the two ranges of the Ghat mountains.

Description: Settled village agriculturalists living in regionally-distinct, stratified societies. Time range only covers prehistoric period, the tradition continues into the historic period.

OAT code: 5565  OWC code: AQ76