

## Asia

### Zhoukoudianian

*Years BP:* 800000 - 600000

*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

*Years BP:* 200000 - 40000

*Location:* Eastern Asia.

*Description:* Nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small bands. Associated with archaic *Homo sapiens*.

*OAT code:* 0030

*OWC code:* A060

### Siberian Mousterian

*Years BP:* 130000 - 42000

*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

*Years BP:* 8000 - 6500

*Location:* Caucasus region.

*Description:* Horticulturalists and pastoralists living in small villages.

*OAT code:* 3170

*OWC code:* RH55

### Caucasian Chalcolithic

*Years BP:* 6500 - 5500

*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

*Years BP:* 5600 - 2700

*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

*Years BP:* 40000 - 8500

*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** *Years BP:* 20000 - 12000  
*Location:* Islands of Japan.  
*Description:* Nomadic or semi-nomadic hunter / gatherers.  
*OAT code:* 4150 *OWC code:* AB70
- Jomon** *Years BP:* 12000 - 2500  
*Location:* Islands of Japan.  
*Description:* Sedentary hunter / fisher / gatherers living in small, egalitarian villages.  
*OAT code:* 4155 *OWC code:* AB75
- Yayoi** *Years BP:* 2500 - 1500  
*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
- Siberian Early Upper Paleolithic** *Years BP:* 42000 - 28000  
*Location:* Southern Siberia to northern Mongolia.  
*Description:* Nomadic big game hunters.  
*OAT code:* 4300 *OWC code:* RR50
- Siberian Middle Upper Paleolithic** *Years BP:* 28000 - 19000  
*Location:* Southern and subarctic Siberia to northern Mongolia.  
*Description:* Nomadic big game hunters.  
*OAT code:* 4301 *OWC code:* RR52
- Siberian Late Upper Paleolithic** *Years BP:* 19000 - 10000  
*Location:* Southern and subarctic Siberia to northern Mongolia.  
*Description:* Nomadic big game hunters.  
*OAT code:* 4302 *OWC code:* RR55
- Amur Paleolithic** *Years BP:* 30000 - 12000  
*Location:* Amur River basin and northern Manchuria.  
*Description:* Semi-sedentary, broad-spectrum hunter / gatherers.  
*OAT code:* 4305 *OWC code:* RX55
- Amur Neolithic and Bronze Age** *Years BP:* 12000 - 1500  
*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

- Baikal Neolithic and Bronze Age** *Years BP:* 8000 - 3000  
*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.  
*OAT code:* 4320 *OWC code:* RT65
- Siberian Neolithic and Bronze Age** *Years BP:* 10000 - 2100  
*Location:* Forests and tundra of Siberia.  
*Description:* Nomadic hunter / fishers living in small egalitarian bands.  
*OAT code:* 4340 *OWC code:* RR65
- Siberian Protohistoric** *Years BP:* 2100 - 500  
*Location:* Tundra and forests of northern Siberia.  
*Description:* Nomadic hunter / fisher / gatherers living in small egalitarian bands. Continues into the historic period.  
*OAT code:* 4350 *OWC code:* RR70
- Holocene Stone Age of Northeast Asia** *Years BP:* 10500 - 3000  
*Location:* Chuckchi peninsula and Okhotsk coast.  
*Description:* Nomadic hunter / gatherers living in egalitarian bands.  
*OAT code:* 4360 *OWC code:* RY50
- Kamchatka Mesolithic** *Years BP:* 7000 - 4000  
*Location:* The Kamchatka peninsula.  
*Description:* Sedentary or semi-sedentary fishers and hunters of marine mammals.  
*OAT code:* 4370 *OWC code:* RY60
- Tarya Neolithic** *Years BP:* 4000 - 2500  
*Location:* The Kamchatka peninsula.  
*Description:* Sedentary or semi-sedentary fishers and hunters of marine mammals.  
*OAT code:* 4375 *OWC code:* RY64
- Old Itel'man** *Years BP:* 2500 - 500  
*Location:* The Kamchatka peninsula.  
*Description:* Sedentary or semi-sedentary fishers and hunters of marine mammals. Ancestral to the historic peoples of Kamchatka.  
*OAT code:* 4380 *OWC code:* RY67

- Kelteminar** *Years BP:* 8000 - 4000  
*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
- Andronovo** *Years BP:* 4000 - 2800  
*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
- Early Nomad** *Years BP:* 2800 - 2300  
*Location:* Steppes of east Central and Eastern Asia.  
*Description:* Nomadic pastoralists living in stratified societies.  
*OAT code:* 4420 *OWC code:* RL60
- Late Nomad** *Years BP:* 2300 - 1500  
*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
- Scythian-Sarmatian** *Years BP:* 4000 - 1700  
*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
- Eastern Central Asia Paleolithic** *Years BP:* 40000 - 6000  
*Location:* Western China, Tibet, Himalayan region.  
*Description:* Nomadic hunter / gatherers living in small egalitarian bands.  
*OAT code:* 4500 *OWC code:* AJ45
- Eastern Central Asia Neolithic and Bronze** *Years BP:* 6000 - 1500  
*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

- 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** *Years BP:* 7000 - 5000  
*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** *Years BP:* 4000 - 2500  
*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** *Years BP:* 5000 - 3100  
*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** *Years BP:* 5000 - 4600  
*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** *Years BP:* 4600 - 3900  
*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** *Years BP:* 5000 - 3100  
*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** *Years BP:* 2500 - 2000  
*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***Years BP:* 3900 - 2000

*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***Years BP:* 3100 - 2100

*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***Years BP:* 3100 - 2100

*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