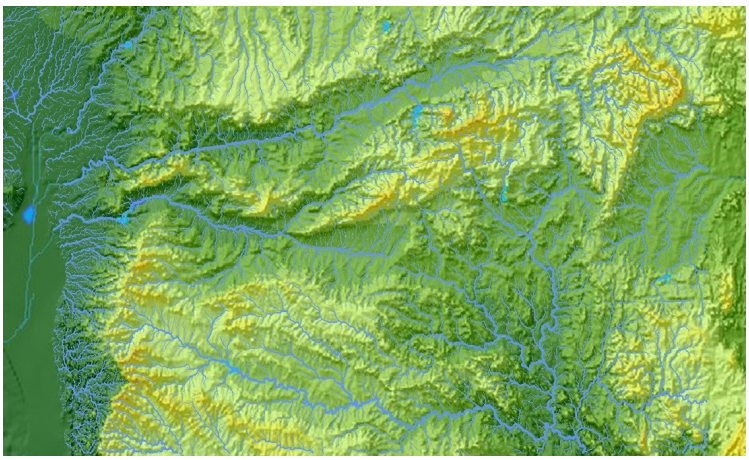
The Tapi River: An Archeological View

by Potluri Rao In Seattle ©2018 (CC BY 4.0)

The Tapi and Narmada rivers are on two sides of the Satpura Ridge and flow into the Arabian Sea to form a delta. The Indian monsoon winds reverse direction every 20,000 years due to the Earth's rotation, called Axial tilt. When the winds blew west to east, the Narmada on the west side had an inexhaustible supply of rainwater, and the Tapi on the east side was deprived of rainwater. When the winds reversed direction, the Tapi had abundant rainwater, and the Narmada was deprived of rainwater. Tapi had rainwater 40,000 years ago, and Narmada had rainwater 20,000 years ago. Currently, the Tapi is habitable, and the Narmada is not.

The Narmada Delta, Gujarat, in the now submerged west coast of India, had perpetual rainwater fed by the alternating Narmada and Tapi. The currently submerged Persian Gulf had perpetual rainwater. They were the magnets that attracted Homo Sapiens (humans) from Somalia to India. Balochistan, Punjab (Thar), Narmada, and Tapi had rainwater only every other 20,000 years. The original homelands, the Persian Gulf and Gujarat, are now submerged under 500 feet of seawater.



The DNA H, a subgroup of the F, lived in the Narmada Delta before their homeland was submerged by the glacial melt 20,000 years ago. The H moved to higher ground only along the Narmada, which had perennial rainwater at that time. Before 20,000 years ago, when the Tapi had perennial rainwater, another subgroup of the F, called the Lambadi, lived there. Lambadis lived only in the current Maharashtra, Telangana, and Karnataka states.

The archeological evidence has a fascinating story of the now-lost human history to tell.