

## Counting Down from the Ancient Past - Prehistoric Migration of Humans



Scientists think the first humans lived in the highlands of East Africa at least 90,000 years ago (maybe as many as 130,000). After many thousands of years, the climate changed. People moved to other parts of the world.

We do not know exactly where they traveled. We know only where and when they left bones and tools for us to find.

You can make a map that shows how they might have traveled. Draw arrows FROM each large number (old date) TO at least one smaller number nearby (newer date). For example, you should draw an arrow north from the 9 in east Africa to the 8 in Egypt.

Here are four logical "rules" for drawing arrows:

1. People probably stayed on land until they invented good boats. That happened at about 2 on this time scale.
2. People probably did not go over high mountains if they could go around them.
3. People sometimes split into groups that went different directions. For example, from the 7 at the east end of the Mediterranean Sea, one group went west toward Europe while another group went east toward India and China.
4. People sometimes moved faster than at other times. For example, they moved very fast along the coast around modern India. Draw a long arrow from the 7 noted above through three 6s - in Pakistan, India, and Southeast Asia - and on to a 5 in China.

Use these rules to draw arrows all over the map, starting with three groups going different directions from the 9 in East Africa.