The Zhuan Xu People were the Founders of Sanxingdui Culture and Earliest Inhabitants of South Asia

南山經圖

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E-Leader Conference held by CASA (Chinese American Scholars Association) and Stamford International University at 388 Sukhumvit, Klongtoey, Bangkok, in January 2018 Shanhaijing (Classic of Mountains and Seas) records many ancient groups of people (or tribes) in Neolithic China. The five biggest were: Zhuan Xu, Di Jun, Huang Di, Yan Di and Shao Hao. However, the Zhuan Xu People seemed to have disappeared when the Yellow and Chang-jiang river valleys developed into advanced Neolithic cultures. Where had the Zhuan Xu People gone?.



Shanhaijing, or The Classic of Mountains and Seas, is regarded as the first geography and history book in China.

31,000 words

Eighteen Sections

西山趕還水區

Four Original Books

Classic of the Five Hidden Mountains written in the Great Yu's Time (before 2200BCE) Four Classic of Regions Beyond the Seas written during the Xia Dynasty (2070-1600BCE) Four Classic of the Great Wilderness written during the Shang Dynasty (1600-1046BCE) Five Classic of Regions Within the Seas written during the Zhou Dynasty (1046-256BCE)

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Ancient Groups of People Recorded in Shanhaijing

before 8,000 years BP Matriarchal Clan Society

after 8,000 years BP Patriarchal Clan Society

西山經遺水器

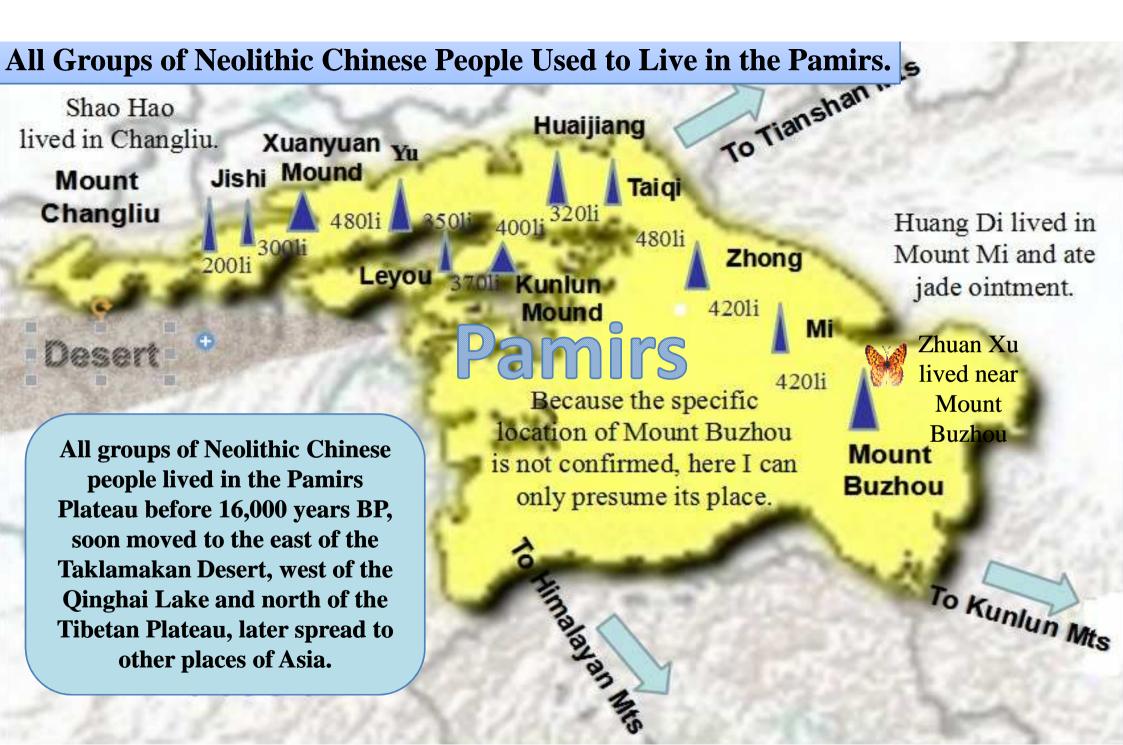
Shanhaijing records many Neolithic groups of people (or tribes), but identifies no more than 150 groups, which came from the five biggest groups: Shao Hao, Di Jun, Zhuan Xu, Huang Di and Yan Di.

In Shanhaijing:

The River refers to the Yellow River. The Jiang refers to the Chang-jiang River. The Mobile Desert refers to the Taklamakan Desert.

The Great Wilderness refers to the Tibetan Plateau. The Northwest Sea refers to the Qinghai Lake.

Shao Hao	was called White King for having white skin colour, suggesting he had a clear Caucasoid racial characteristic - white skin. His offspring worshipped bird totems.
Zhuan Xu	had Mongoloid racial characteristic. His offspring worshipped animal totems.
Di Jun	had Mongoloid racial characteristic. His offspring mainly worshipped animal totems.
Huang Di	was called Yellow King for having yellow skin colour, suggesting he had a clear Mongoloid racial characteristic - yellow skin. His offspring mainly worshipped dragon or snake totems.
Yan Di	had Mongoloid racial characteristic. His offspring worshipped animal totems.



The Famous Legendary Stories of the Zhuan Xu People

Sanhaijing records that Kua Fu, who was overblown, followed the sun, wanting to catch it in Yu Gu in the far east. He was very thirsty after drinking up all the water in the Yellow River. He went to the big pool but was killed by the Ying Long People (Huang Di's offspring) before reached it.

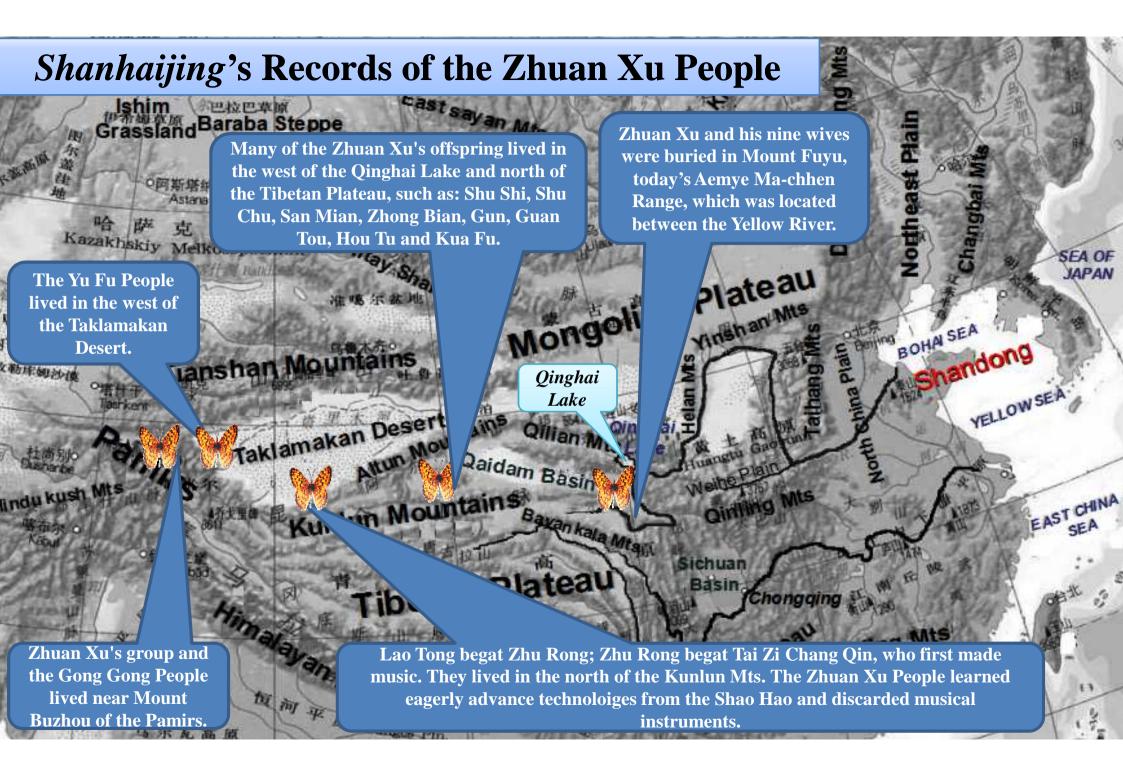
We could grasp some historical truths. The Kua Fu People, who lived in the northern Tibetan Plateau, believed that the sun rose from the legendary Yu Gu in the far east. They undertook a mass migration to Yu Gu. During the dry season of the upper reach of the Yellow River, they were very thirsty and moved toward a big pool, but they were killed by the Ying Long People before reached it. Ancient people believed that the dry season of the upper reach of the Yellow River was because of the Kua Fu People drinking up all the water in the Yellow River.

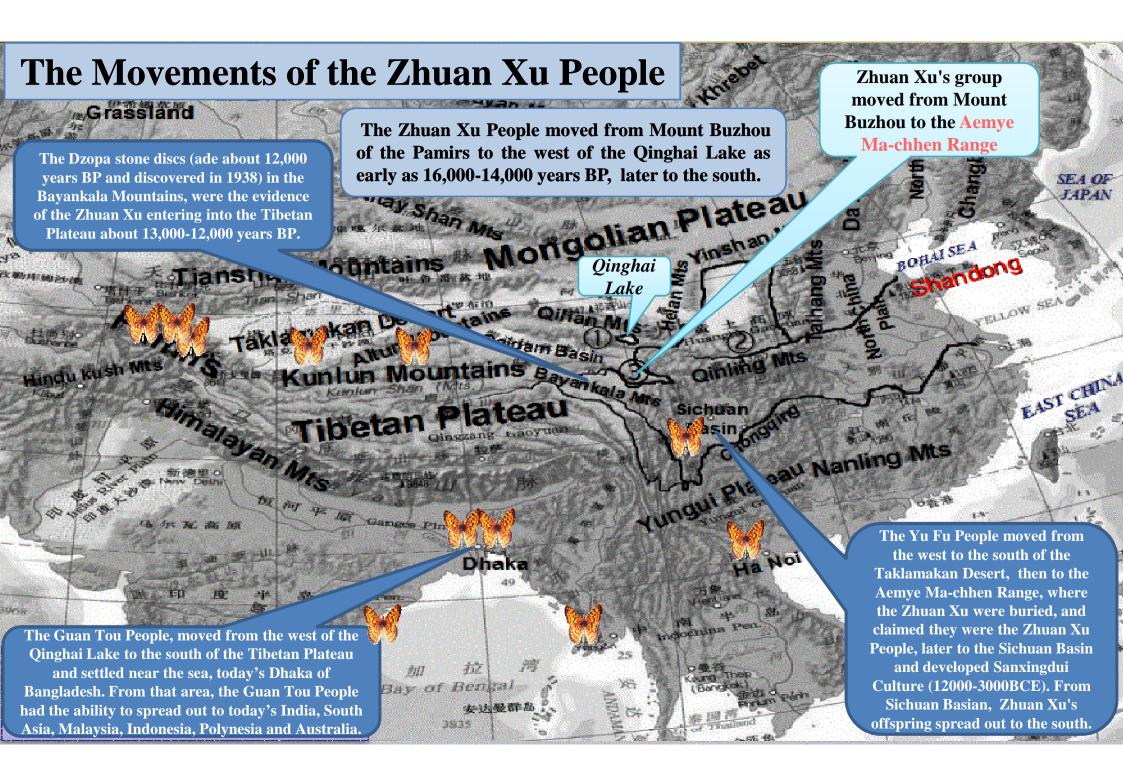
Liezi (475-221BCE) records a famous legend of Gong Gong fighting with the Zhuan Xu for the leadership but losing, bumping his head against Mount Buzhou in anger.

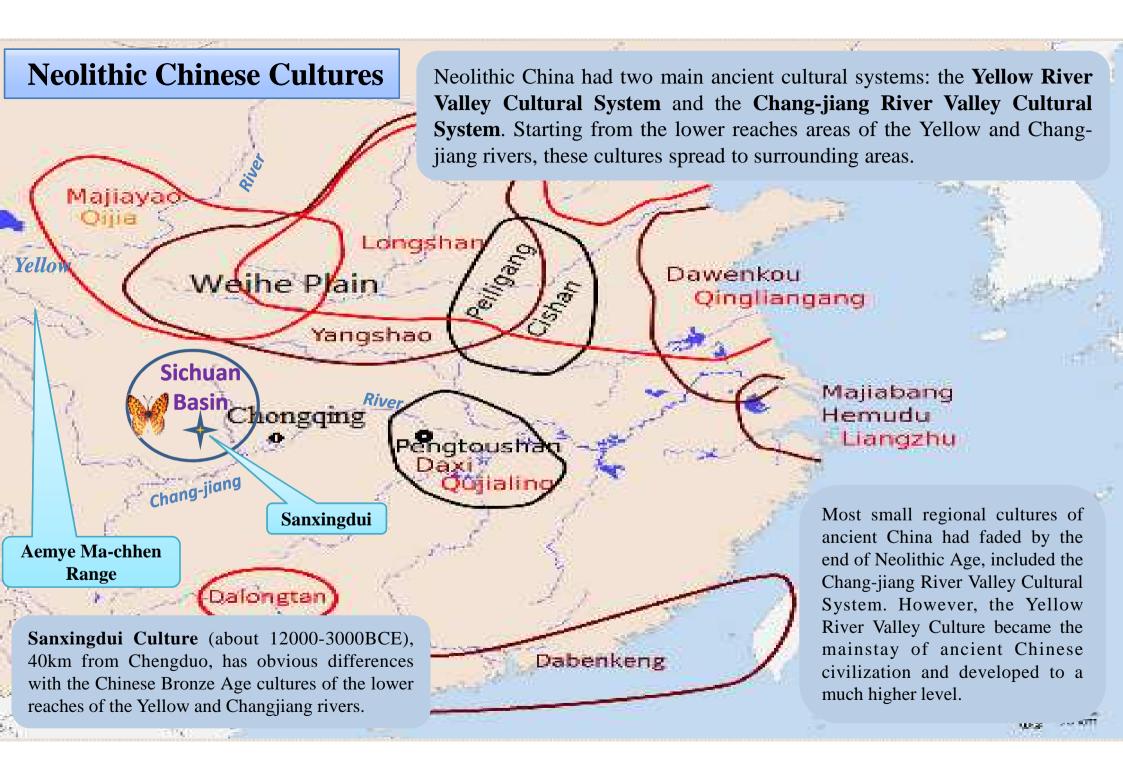
西山經遺水圖

Sanhaijing records the Yu People fought with the Gong Gong People in the Guo Mountain near Mount Buzhou. Also the Gong Gong's minister Xiang Yao, which had a snake body with nine heads, was killed by the Yu People in the north of the Kunlun Mountains.









Sanxingdui (Mure (about 12000-3000BCE)

The site of Sanxingdui is located in the city of Guanghan, 40km from Chengdu, Sichuan Province. Archaeologists have discovered remains of human activity in Sanxingdui as early as 12,000 years BP.



Chengdu

Shanhaijing tells the Yu Fu People moved from the west to the south of the Taklamakan Desert, and later to the Aemye Ma-chhen Range, which is located between the Yellow River in the north of the Sichuan Basin. Some legends said that the ancestors of Sanxingdui came from the north along the rivers. Archaeologists believe that the Yu Fu Culture in *Shanhaijing* was the ancestor of Sanxingdui Culture.



The Sanxingdui Culture (about 5,000-3,000 years BP) was an obscure civilization in southern China. However, they developed a different method of bronze-making from the Shang. The most obvious difference, between Sanxingdui and the Chinese Bronze Age cultures of Henan, is the presence at Sanxingdui of a figural bronze tradition – statues, heads, and faces – without precedent elsewhere in China.

The Sanxingdui Culture ended, possibly either as a result of natural disasters (evidence of massive flooding has been found), or invasion by a different culture.

Archaeologists have discovered the archaeological sites of jinsha near Chengdu, 50 kilometers to Sanxingdui. The cultural relics of **Jinsha Culture** (about 1250-650BCE) share similarities with Sanxingdui, but some of Jinsha's relics share similarities with Liangzhu Culture (5300-4200BCE) in the lower reach of the Changjiang River. Historians believe that the Jinsha People came from Sanxingdui, but had influenced by the Changjiang River Valley cultures.

