

Animal Teeth and Human Tools

A Taphonomic Odyssey in Ice Age Siberia

The culmination of more than a decade of fieldwork and related study, this unique book uses analyses of perimortem taphonomy in Ice Age Siberia to propose a new hypothesis for the peopling of the New World.

The authors present evidence based on examinations of more than 9000 pieces of human- and carnivore-damaged bone from 28 late Pleistocene and two special Holocene archaeological and paleontological sites, including cave and open locations, which span more than 2000 miles, from the Ob River in the West to the Sea of Japan in the East. The observed bone damage signatures suggest that the conventional prehistory of Siberia needs revision and, in particular, that cave hyenas had a significant influence on the lives of Ice Age Siberians.

The findings are supported by more than 250 photographs, which illustrate the bone damage described and provide a valuable insight into the context and landscape of the fieldwork for those unfamiliar with Siberia.

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Note on photograph identifications

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IEL, Institute of Ethnography, Leningrad

IHPP, Institute of History, Philosophy and Philology, Akademgorodok, Novosibirsk

KSPU, Krasnoyarsk State Pedagogical University, Krasnoyarsk

LPR, Laboratory of Plastic Reconstruction, Moscow

MBSC, Mongolian and Buriat Scientific Center, Ulan-Ude

PIPM, Paleontology Institute, Paleontology Museum, Moscow

TU, Tomsk University, Tomsk

“Odyssey” refers to illustrations that help establish context, locality, people, travel, and related considerations.