

# 1 Early Settlements and Civilizations

100,000 B.C. to 500 B.C.

8000 B.C. Jericho is one of the first cities.

7000 B.C. Symbols, earliest ancestors of writing, are first used.

4000 B.C. Sahara gets drier, soon becomes desert.

3500 B.C. First civilization rises in Sumer. Bronze tools are made.

2350 B.C. First empire rises in Akkad.

By 1200 B.C. Hebrews live in Canaan.

539 B.C. Cyrus of Persia conquers Babylon.

100,000 B.C. 10,000 B.C.

100,000 B.C. People migrate beyond East Africa.

9000 B.C. Farming and herding begin in Fertile Crescent.

8000 B.C.

By 6000 B.C. Farming begins in Egypt, India, and China.

6000 B.C.

4000 B.C.

5000 B.C. Irrigation is used in farming.

2000 B.C.

1800-1600 B.C. Assyria and Babylonia create empires in Mesopotamia.

900 B.C. Phoenicians sail to the Atlantic Ocean.

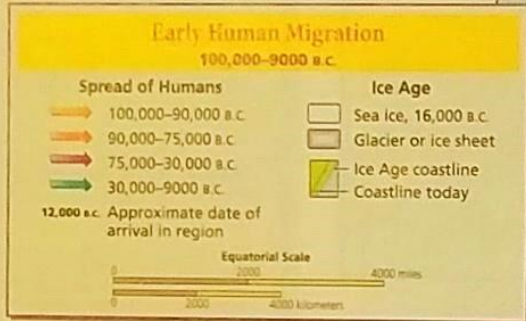
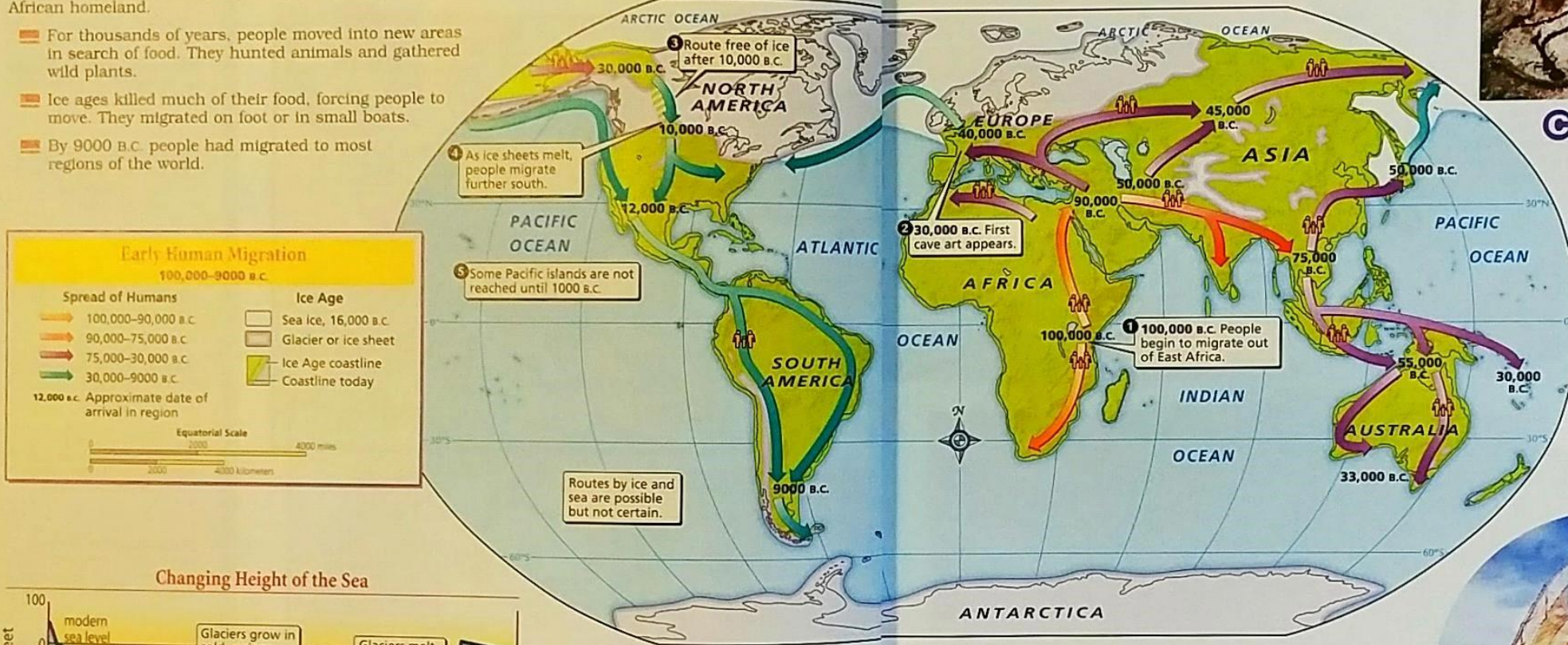
B.C. <-> A.D.

## People Migrate Across the Earth

About 100,000 B.C. early people began migrating from their African homeland.

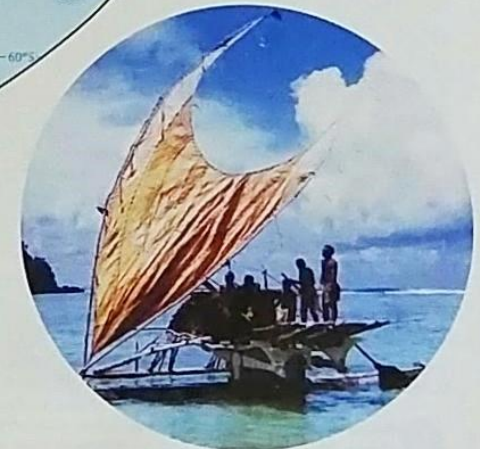
- For thousands of years, people moved into new areas in search of food. They hunted animals and gathered wild plants.
- Ice ages killed much of their food, forcing people to move. They migrated on foot or in small boats.
- By 9000 B.C. people had migrated to most regions of the world.

**A** People first migrated to regions that had plenty of food and comfortable climates. Which continents had been reached by 30,000 B.C.?

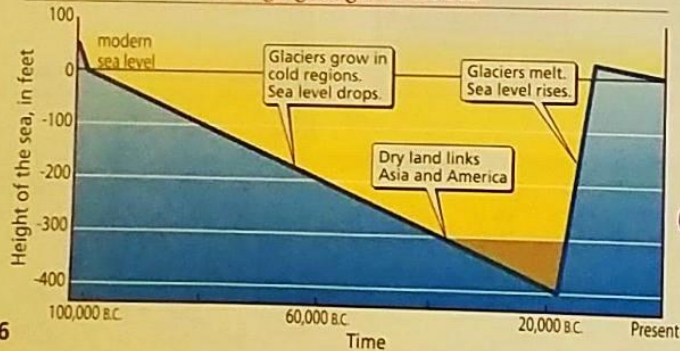


**C** One early form of expression was cave painting. Many cave paintings show animals that people hunted.

**D** About 2000 B.C. people with advanced skills and improved boats began sailing to distant islands in the Pacific Ocean.



### Changing Height of the Sea



**B** The earth's temperature began to fall around 100,000 B.C. Rivers froze, so water could not flow back to the sea and sea level dropped. Areas that had been underwater were exposed as dry land.

### What are ice sheets?

Ice sheets are thick layers of ice that once covered large parts of the earth. They formed during cold periods known as ice ages, which lasted thousands of years.