This article was the beginning to a major question. One that everyone has at least one time in their lives has contemplated about. Where did we come from? How did all these different back grounds and people end up in America? Though it may not seem very genetics related right off the bat, once you continue reading it becomes more and more obvious. This article is titled: “The Arabian Cradle: Mitochondrial Relicts of the First Steps along the Southern Route out of Africa” (Fernandes). That itself already gives you a little insight on what you are about to read in this article.

As I stated earlier, it starts with the underlying question as to where we all came from and how did we get here. Mostly some of us know the answer to this common question because we heard it from our family or have stories from generations that come before us. The authors of this article are not arguing with the stories that your grandmother or her grandmother before having been telling you or that they are in anyway wrong. They may be true; this article goes in depth to find more answers than the short abrupt answers or the acceptances that we have shown over the years as to how we all came together. The authors/ scientists wanted cold hard facts and to answer this question they needed evidence and what is evidence without a little science. Hint, this is where the genetics part kicks in.

Veronica Fernandes one of the many authors/scientists that was on this mission to find answers or even hints to answer the question we all want to know. Found that there is site of “the first human steps outside of Africa” (Fernandes), and they call it the “southern costal route” (Fernandes). Based off this model they anticipated that the first few groups lead to dispersal. They assume that when people crossed the red sea to southern Arabia this was one of the first few leads, they had of dispersal, but some of the genetic evidence has been hard to align and help prove that their theory was correct.

Next step was determining the 3 minor groups the west-Eurasian haplogroups, N1, N2, X. “These groups were the lineage branches are from the first non-African founder node, the root of haplogroup N, and coalesce to the time of the first successful movement of modern humans out of Africa” (Fernandes). What she meant by this was this was the beginning of where she thought most of our generations came from, and she was mostly right. Her and her team did tests on the DNA genome samples from 85 Southwest Asians carrying these haplogroups and compared them to about 300 European samples. Her results found that most of these people were connected to one if not more of the haplogroups.

With this discovery it demonstrated a huge lead. It brought them to believe that out of the 85 Southwest Asian people that did show some sort of haplogroup in their DNA that this may imply that there is an ancient ancestor within the Arabian Peninsula, and they probably spread from the Gulf Oasis region from the Near East and Europe during the pluvial period 55-24 ka(thousand) years ago. The fact that they found these similar DNA strands within some of the people living in southwest Asia was huge. Though, this wasn’t the direct answer to where and how they moved from Africa to Asia, it was a start. To conclude all these clues and tests did in fact lead her team to believe that the Arabia was very much so the first staging post in the spread of the modern humans around the world.

Citation of article

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