

Ancient map of time revealing secret legacy/destiny of mankind.

The Time Rivers

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THE TIME RIVERS

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*An Ancient Map of Time
Revealing the Secret Legacy
and Destiny of Human
Civilization*

Goro Adachi

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**An Ancient Map of Time Revealing the Secret
Legacy and Destiny of Human Civilization**

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ISBN 1-59113-276-2

Published by Goro Adachi

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PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA

Cover design by Goro Adachi

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2003

To my parents and brother.

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Prologue

A Matter of Time

Where there is no vision, the people perish...

– Proverbs 29:18

Around the beginning of the 4th millennium BC, the world entered the Age of Taurus. It was then that something mysterious happened. We do not quite understand how it came about; we just know that it somehow did.

This was the birth of human civilization, the beginning of ‘history’.

Out of nowhere and without any tangible developmental phase, the first high civilization called Sumer suddenly rose in Mesopotamia, closely followed by the rise of another enigmatic civilization, ancient Egypt.

It is almost as if the fire of intellect was suddenly ignited in man through the friction of the shifting Ages. Indeed, all the indications are that something very special was ‘given’ to mankind at that particular time, and history thereafter has been just the saga of this ‘gift’ being passed through the generations.

What exactly was this ‘gift’? And whose gift was it? Our history books do not address these questions. Like the ‘missing link’ of human evolution, there is a big hole in our history that has yet to be filled. We do not like to acknowledge it, but it is clearly there nonetheless.

In this book will be revealed startling insights into such unresolved questions. We'll see that history is not at all what we thought.

Revolution

Time is the driving force behind history and reality. And through time all changes take place. Around and within us, everything is changing constantly. That is, after all, what being alive is all about.

But there are those changes that are so powerful that they shift the course of history. These are seen as 'revolutions' – the stuff our sense of history is made of.

While revolutions tend to involve violence, the shifts that really matter are actually those that take place in the mind – through acquisition or suppression of great knowledge. Revolutions of this type inevitably affect man in a more fundamental way.

For Western civilization, a particularly major 'consciousness shift' occurred during the Renaissance – the 'age of rebirth' around 1500 AD – which rekindled the 'fire' that had been suppressed by the preceding 'Dark Ages'. The confining religious outlook that had helplessly looked to God was here overcome by emerging 'humanism'. The Europeans, while not totally divorcing themselves from existing religious beliefs, began to adopt a more scientific mindset and dramatically moved human knowledge forward.

This turnaround in attitude was well exemplified by the long-held geocentric view finally giving way to the clearly more logical heliocentric model put forward by Copernicus and Galileo. Notwithstanding the theology of the Church, the domain of humanity was no longer the center of the universe.

Old habits die hard, of course. The Roman Inquisition condemned Galileo and forced him to reject his 'heretical' theory. Indeed, it wasn't until the late 20th century that the Church officially admitted that Galileo's views were actually valid. By any standard, that is a staggeringly long time to change an opinion. But this is only the microcosm of humanity's mentality in general; we tend to hold on to

convention a little too strongly and as a result contribute to the stagnation of human knowledge.

Inevitability

Today, the situation has not changed much. Although symptoms of our diseased mentality may be more carefully concealed, the dim-witted human nature of overvaluing convention and conformity is still alive and kicking. This is especially so in the scientific community – contrary to public perception.

Academia, despite its pretension, often does not work purely toward the expansion of knowledge. It is today a ‘cult’ that puts great effort into promoting its own model of reality. Through bureaucracy and peer pressure, scientific progress takes place only in permitted areas and very incrementally. This is an unseemly situation that is quietly hampering the advancement of human knowledge.

To fend off any new revolutionary ideas, the ‘skeptics’ of academia assert again and again like a broken record that ‘extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence’. This is, of course, a laughably unscientific statement. (Adjectives – such as ‘extraordinary’ – have nothing to do with objective science.)

Be that as it may, if presented with undeniable evidence that is so ‘in your face’, even the feeble mind would have difficulty denying an ‘extraordinary claim’.

Unfortunately or fortunately, depending on the point of view, this kind of ‘checkmate’ situation rarely happens, just as it is very rare for people to change their minds about issues deeply embedded in their being such as religious beliefs. But it does happen because some things are true regardless of how people feel about it.

And only truth has the ability to successfully checkmate ‘reality’. In other words, it is a foregone conclusion that every unrecognized and suppressed truth will come out – it is just a matter of time.

The longer it takes for the truth to come out, the more powerful and dangerous it becomes. This is because by the time the truth is disclosed, there would be a massive bubble produced upon the incomplete model of

reality which would be forced to burst by the new revelation. This would be a destructive event especially if the neglected truth directly affects the fundamental levels of the existing belief system.

Truth or Flood

At this time in history, we have this precarious situation, and the inevitable is fast approaching. The dam will not hold back water much longer.

There is, however, still time to arrange a controlled release of water to alleviate the pressure. Although it may cause some disturbance, it is surely better than to block the rising water as long as possible and pave the way for the inevitable, a catastrophic 'flood'. Sadly, human civilization today seems to be moving toward the latter ending. And unless some 'extraordinary' breakthrough is introduced, the trend is likely to continue.

It is my hope that the new discoveries presented in this book will have some impact on the situation and contribute to bringing about the necessary shift in history's trajectory – so that the stress in the 'reality matrix' may be relieved and a new world may be born.

It sounds overly grandiose at this point, but I only ask the reader to examine the following chapters carefully and I believe it will be quickly recognized that there is a solid basis for the sentiment.

The existence of the 'Time Rivers' is clearly 'impossible' by any realistic standard today, and yet the evidence will be so strong and clear that it should swiftly move toward checkmating the current paradigm. The Time River system, in my view, is nothing less than the 'smoking gun'.

What you are about to read will finally make it abundantly clear that there is higher intelligence in the universe, and that it has left undeniable 'footprints' on this planet – 'footprints' that we may now use as a map to guide our civilization toward a new frontier, where an exciting future awaits.

Chapter 1

A River of Time

*Time travels in divers places with divers persons. I'll tell
you who Time ambles withal, who Time trots withal, who
Time gallops withal, and who he stands still withal.*

– William Shakespeare

First Contact

Carefully scanning for clues, I kept turning the pages of the atlas.

Ironic, I thought, that I had never been interested in geography prior to this. The subject used to bore me to tears in school actually, as I simply could not see any need for knowing where things are in places that I would probably never visit. And yet here I was, poring over the maps like a little kid reading his favorite comic book.

In a dramatic 180° turn, I was slowly but surely beginning to realize that nothing on this planet was random. It was my innate and insuppressible desire to understand how reality works – its subtle patterns and its fundamental meaning – that had finally brought me to the atlas... and its shocking secret.

At the time, I was only vaguely aware that there was an inexplicable sense of order to the geographical and geodetic¹ aspects of our planet. Little did I know then that I was about to discover something beyond my wildest imagination – something that would blow ‘reality’ itself to pieces.

On this fateful day, I was to make *the first tangible contact with an undeniably higher intelligence*. I was, in a sense, about to discover the ‘fingerprints of the gods’.

We had always suspected that there was some greater intelligence somewhere ‘out there’ – be it ‘God’ or ‘aliens’. But all the while we were looking up to the stars, wondering if we were alone, the answer was right under our feet, quite literally. Not radio signals, not some alien spacecraft landing in front of the White House. These are what humans might do, but too unsophisticated for a truly higher intelligence. Instead, it was to take the form of an ingeniously coded ‘message in a bottle’ – not unlike the pyramids and the Great Sphinx at Giza, Egypt, whose mysterious ‘message’ continues to fascinate us today.

The big difference, however, was the scale.

While awesome and mystifying, the Giza monuments are still passable as man-made objects. But the same simply could not be said for the ‘bottle’ I found – not even close. By any standard, it was not a product of mere man; not in the past, not today, not even in the foreseeable future. And yet, there it was.

Indeed, it was because of its unimaginable grandeur that its existence had never been detected before. It was the baffling combination of its magnitude and the demonstrable intelligence in its design that could uniquely qualify this discovery as the tangible ‘First Contact’.

As I casually turned the page of the atlas and unwittingly came upon a map of Africa, I had no way of knowing that I was in the process of picking up the ‘bottle’ that had made a long and lonely journey through time – patiently waiting for the day of revelation.

While my mind was quite oblivious to what was shown right in front of me, my eyes moved almost purposely, as if having a mind of their own. And it gradually began to seep into my consciousness that I was seeing something peculiar.

There was a distinctively vertical – or longitudinal – line running through the African continent, and yet this was a natural feature. It was the Nile, the world’s longest river and the only notable river on this planet to flow directly northward.

Still, my initial reaction to this was one of casual amusement. If it weren't for the next quick observation, I could have turned the page and moved on.

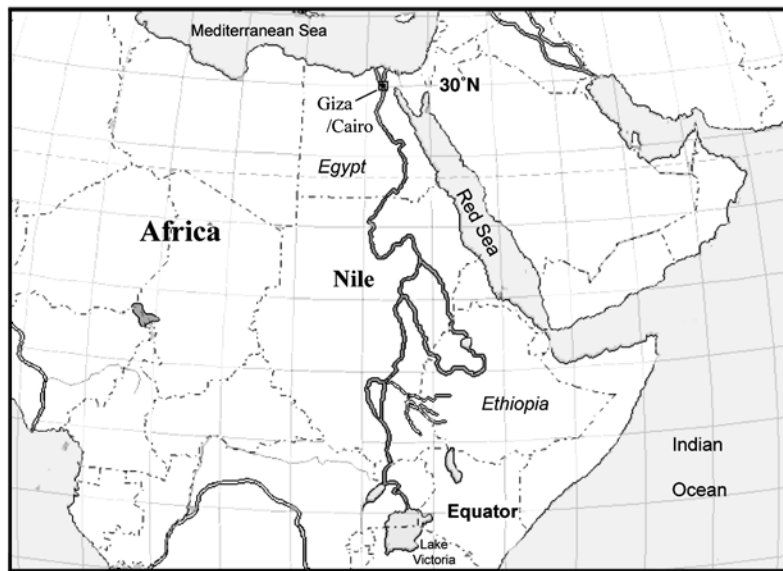


Figure 1.1 A map of Africa showing the verticality of the Nile, flowing from the equator to 30°N latitude.

As my eyes kept scanning the map, I realized that the Nile's *latitudinal* position was also peculiar. I saw that Lake Victoria, the river's source,² was crossed by the equator. And the Nile's northern edge – the point where the river breaks up to form the Nile Delta – was exactly at 30°N. latitude, accentuated by Egypt's capital Cairo and Giza nearby.

'Is this an intelligently designed river?' I found myself asking this ridiculous question.

'That's preposterous!' I reacted to my own wild thought.

But my curiosity had grown strong enough already to override the objection arising from my conservative side. On my mind also was the whispering echo of what Albert Einstein once said: ‘If at first the idea is not absurd, then there is no hope for it’.

I kept examining the map, in the childish hope that the ancient river would give up its secret, if it ever had one. My attention was then drawn to the biggest deviation in the course of the Nile, where the river makes a dramatic U-turn – the only notable section where the water runs southward. I noticed that the northern peak of this remarkable bend – called the ‘Great Bend’ – was slightly below 20°N latitude.

Increasingly curious, I wondered if it was perhaps pinpointing 19.5°N. latitude specifically. I wondered about this because I knew ‘19.5 degrees’ to be an angle of potentially great importance. According to researcher Richard Hoagland, famous for his extensive investigation into the ‘monuments of Mars’, ‘19.5°’ is even potentially a key to decoding reality itself; and it is a fact that the angle is found in the designs of many ancient monuments around the world, including those at Giza.

Hence, I casually reasoned that if I got a positive result here, I would have to start taking the matter seriously.

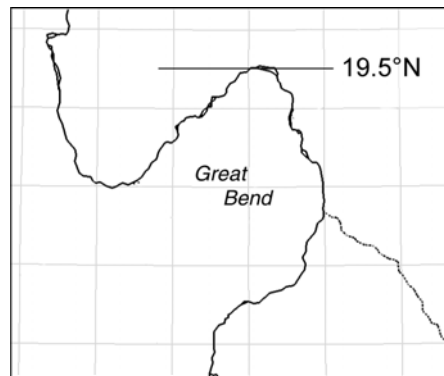


Figure 1.2 The Nile’s Great Bend has its peak exactly at latitude 19.5°N.

Half skeptical and half hopeful, I went to my computer. I fired up the atlas program, quickly zoomed in on the Great Bend region, and then carefully placed the mouse pointer at the bend's northern peak. The latitude registered – and there was no ambiguity about it – was $19^{\circ} 30' N$. That is, *precisely* $19.5^{\circ}N$!

Needless to say, I was taken aback by this improbable confirmation of my idle suspicion.

'Whoa', I said quietly with controlled but undeniable excitement underneath, 'what's going on here?'

With an intensifying sense of wonder, I sat back deeply into my armchair and stared silently at the map. My mind was working at its maximum speed trying to conjure up some kind of underlying context that could assign a fathomable meaning to what I had just found. By this time, I was beginning to feel in my gut that I had stumbled upon something momentous. But... what was it?

'A river is like the flow of time' – a quite common analogy³ – was the idea that abruptly popped in my head. I then began to entertain a crazy possibility – that the Nile might be a literal *river of time*.

And with this wild hypothesis, the bottle was uncorked and its message began to flow out.

First, I realized that the latitudinal length of the Nile's main course was 30 degrees. This was very much relevant to the notion of time, as 30 is traditionally a key number for chronometry. For instance, one month – the Moon's orbit around Earth – is approximately *30 days*. In ancient Egypt, in fact, each month was *exactly* 30 days and the *seb* festival, commemorating the symbolic death/renewal of the king, was held in the *30th year* of the reign.⁴

In terms of astrology and astronomy, the apparent path of the sun in the sky (the ecliptic) is traditionally divided into twelve zodiacal 'signs' (Pisces, Aires, Taurus, etc.), *30 degrees* each, corresponding to the sun's movement in two hours. The Babylonians, the Chinese, etc. actually divided the day into not 24 but 12 equal parts, and so one subdivision of the day corresponded to *30 degrees* ($360 / 12 = 30$). And most tellingly, Saturn, traditionally considered the god/planet of *time*, has an orbital period of *~30 years*!⁵

I could feel inside me the intensifying struggle between the side enthusiastically embracing the development and the side warning me that it was transgressing the bounds of reality. But I could also tell that I would have no choice but to commit myself to getting to the bottom of this – the ancient river’s message from the abyss of time.

This, in retrospect, was the ‘First Contact’. And thus began what would turn out to be a long and twisted quest for the ‘Holy Grail’.

The Nile River

Like its course, the history of the Nile is a very long one. Indeed, its beginning episodes easily precede the emergence of modern human beings (*Homo sapiens sapiens*). This gives us some sense of the grandeur involved here.

The Nile Valley was first cut during late Miocene time, which ended about five million years ago. Since then the river went through roughly five episodes, each having its own master river system, called the Eonile, Paleonile, Protonile, Prenile, and Neonile – the last one being the Nile as it exists today.⁶

It was about 120,000 years ago that the river began to flow into the region of Egypt.⁷ But it was not until about 12,500 years ago that Lake Victoria – the Nile’s largest source at the equator – became part of the system.⁸ (This will have a significant implication later on.)

The Nile begins its long journey today by ‘overflowing’ from Lake Victoria at about 0.4°N. latitude. This segment of the river is called the ‘Victoria Nile’. It goes through Lake Kioga and the Murchison Falls before flowing into Lake Albert. Upon exiting the lake, the river becomes the ‘Albert Nile’.

After going through Nimule, the river – now as *Bahr al Jabal* (‘river of the rocks’) – enters the Sudd (6°N-9°N), a vast swampy area. The Nile then moves eastward to meet the Sobat river just south of Malakal. This minor tributary brings into the Nile whitish silt that is presumably responsible for the name ‘White Nile’ given to the segment between the Sudd and Khartoum, the midpoint of the Nile (15.6°N.) in the plain of Sudan.

It is at Khartoum that the Nile's biggest tributary called the Blue Nile, coming from Lake Tana in the Ethiopian High Plateau, joins the main stream and injects its deep green water. (The Arabic name *Nil Azraq* more literally means 'Dark Nile' rather than 'Blue Nile';⁹ the Ethiopians similarly called it *Tikkur Abay*, 'Black Nile'.¹⁰)

North of Khartoum, the river becomes simply 'the Nile'.

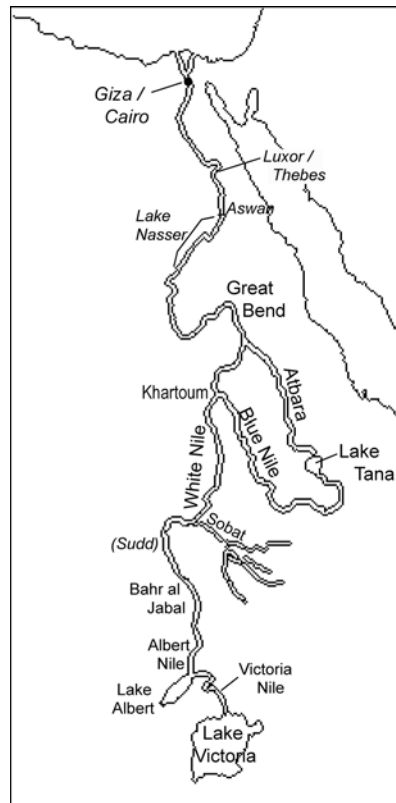


Figure 1.3 The Nile River system.

About 322 km downstream, the Nile is joined by another major tributary from the Ethiopian highlands, called the Atbara. These two major tributaries were responsible for the Nile's annual flood.

The summer inundation – caused by the seasonal water-flow fluctuations – was extremely important to the ancient Egyptians because it had the function of bringing the 'gift' of fertile black silt to their land, which they called the 'Black Land'. Indeed, it was largely thanks to the Nile's water and its 'gift' that Egypt was able to become one of the earliest and most successful civilizations in history.

At the height of the flood season, the Blue Nile provided 68%, the Atbara 22%, and the White Nile 10% of the Nile's water; and during the low-water-level period, the Blue Nile provided 17%, the Atbara 0%, and the White Nile 83% of the total water.¹¹ (The seasonal change is so extreme that the Atbara becomes a mere trickle during November-January and completely disappears during March-May.)

Following the major confluences at Khartoum and Atbara, the Nile forms the dramatic 'Great Bend' which, as already mentioned, pinpoints 19.5°N. latitude with its northern peak. The unique southward flow here continues for about 270 km before another bend turns it back northward.

The Nile next encounters a huge artificial lake called Lake Nasser created by the Aswan High Dam at Aswan (24°N.). Put in place in 1968, the dam ended the river's annual inundation and along with it the distribution of the life-giving 'gift' carried by the rising waters.

Around 26°N., the Nile forms another (small) bend – 'Luxor-Qena bend' – where the ancient Egyptian city Thebes flourished as it hosted the prosperous 18th Dynasty c. 1500-1300 BC. This ancient site is now partially occupied by the modern city of Luxor.

From there the Nile flows more or less uneventfully northward until it meets the gaze of the Great Sphinx at Giza sitting exactly at 30°N. This point is also marked by the capital city Cairo and the apex of the Nile Delta, formed by the river breaking up into many small channels.

Within the Nile Delta – which along with the Nile Valley is one of the most fertile farming areas in the world – we find two main channels called the Rosetta and the Damietta. Both drain into the Mediterranean Sea at about 31.5°N., ending the long journey of the Nile.

Now it is time to begin *our* journey into the hidden story of the ancient 'river of time'.

Tantalizing Clues

The fact that the ancient Egyptians placed their greatest monuments exactly at the key latitude of 30°N. suggests that they – at least some segment of them – had sophisticated geodetic knowledge and insights into the Nile's hidden function.

While a wild speculation, this is certainly not the first time ideas like this have been put forward. There is, for example, researcher Livio Catullo Stecchini, whose view is presented in Peter Tompkin's *Secrets of the Great Pyramid*:

The Egyptians were proud that their country had some unique geographic features which could be expressed in rigorous geometric terms and had a shape which related to the order of the cosmos as they saw it. They believed that when the gods created the cosmos they began by building Egypt and, having created it perfect, modeled the rest around it. ...[The] Egyptians put great stress also on the geographic peculiarities of the course of the Nile.¹²

The present Arabic name for Egypt is *al Misri*, which seems to reinforce the above idea in that it can denote 'drawing plan' or 'representation' – as if to say that 'Egypt is a country built according to a geometric plan'.¹³ And anchoring this plan, of course, would be the Great Pyramid, a geometric and mathematical magnum opus.

It is quite telling that this 'cornerstone' monument is sometimes considered to represent the earth's Northern Hemisphere (based on numerical correlations),¹⁴ the very hemisphere emphasized by the Nile flowing northward from the equator.

The name 'Giza' also fits nicely into the scheme. In accordance with the plateau's position marking the 'edge' of the Nile, the name 'Giza' happens to mean 'border' or 'edge' in Arabic. The notion is further

reinforced by the ending section of the Nile overlapping the ‘black land’ of Egypt, originally called *Kemet* (*kam-t*, *kmt*); the word can mean ‘the end, end of a period, completion, a finish’.¹⁵

Cairo, situated adjacent to Giza, has a similarly suggestive name. This came to my attention when I came across the Greek term *kairos*, which I noted was very much reminiscent of ‘Cairo’. Becoming curious, I looked up its meaning and found – to my surprise – that *kairos* denotes ‘time’. Combined with Giza, then, this would nicely make the 30°N. point of the Nile the ‘*edge of time*’.

Officially, of course, Cairo derives its name from *Al Qahirah* meaning ‘the victorious’. This in turn would associate the city with Lake *Victoria* – thus creating a situation where the notion of ‘victory’ is attached to *both* ends of the Nile. And if ‘victory’ was replaced with ‘time’ as per the Cairo-*kairos* association, we would even get the implication that the whole length of the Nile – from one edge to the other – is to be viewed as ‘time’. This seemingly confirms the hypothesis that the Nile is a ‘river of time’ – or a ‘Time River’.

Chronos is another Greek word for ‘time’. From this derives the Greek name for Saturn the god of time, ‘Cronus’ (also spelled Chronus, Cronos, Kronos, etc.).¹⁶ As already mentioned, Saturn-Cronus and the Nile are linked through the connective number ‘30’. But to make the association more direct, we also have the following remark by Plutarch, a renowned Greek writer and biographer from around AD 100 who had considerable contact with the Egyptian priesthood:

There is also a religious lament sung over Cronus. The lament is for him that is born in the regions of the left, and suffers dissolution in the regions on the right; for the Egyptians believe that the eastern regions are the face of the world, the northern the right, and the southern to the left. The Nile, therefore, which runs from the south and is swallowed up by the sea in the north, is naturally said to have its birth on the left and its dissolution on the right.¹⁷

Not only does Plutarch reveal that Cronus/time arises in the south and ends in the north just like the Nile, he even goes on to draw a direct

parallel between Cronus/time and the Nile! This is almost an open and direct acknowledgement that the Nile may indeed represent the flow of time.

The idea is reinforced by the following:

- The mythical resting-place of Cronus-Saturn was called *Ogygia*, which also happens to be applicable to the Nile (called ‘Ogygian’ by the ancient Greek writer Aeschylus).¹⁸
- The Sanskrit name for Saturn is *Kala*, meaning ‘time’, ‘death’, and ‘blue-black’.¹⁹ The color ‘blue-black’ is very much attached to the Nile: there is the name ‘Blue/Black Nile’, and there is also the Nile’s early name, *Melo*, meaning ‘black’.²⁰ (This makes the ‘Black Land’, i.e. Egypt, analogous to ‘Nile Land’.)
- The Moon, associated with the ‘temporal number’ 30, is traditionally identified with the Egyptian god of wisdom called Thoth. Not only was Thoth considered the measurer of *time*, he was also represented by the ibis, an animal closely associated with the *Nile*.²¹

Thoth and the ibis yield more intriguing associations.

The ibis was viewed to herald the *flooding* of the Nile, and its identification with Thoth is said to be related to the fact that the bird resembles the *heart* when it sleeps.²² This combination is nicely relatable to Lake Tana, the primary source of the Blue Nile and the annual *flood*, for this lake too happens to be clearly *heart* shaped (see Figure 1.4).

Thoth, on the other hand, leads to Moses, as they were often compared to each other in antiquity.²³ (Moses is of course one of the most important characters in the Bible who is said to have led the Hebrew people out of Egypt and received the Ten Commandments from ‘God’ while on Mount Sinai.) Like Thoth, Moses happens to be intimately associated with the Nile, as his famous birth episode tells us that his mother released Moses onto the *Nile* in a basket. Indeed, the very name ‘Moses’ – said to mean ‘saved from water’ (*Mou-eses*) – is a reference to this Nilotic event.

Moses’ close association with ‘Mount Sinai’ reinforces the above in that the term ‘Sinai’ derives from ‘Sin’, the Babylonian *moon*-god, who

was identified with *Thoth* and considered the ‘lord of the calendar’ or one ‘who determines the destinies of distant days’, i.e. *god of time*.

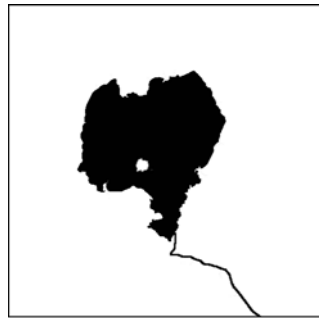


Figure 1.4 Lake Tana, the source of the Blue Nile, is heart-shaped.

Clearly, then, all the tantalizing clues are very much supportive of the seemingly outrageous hypothesis – that the flow of the Nile is a physical representation of time, and that the ancient Egyptian culture had a considerable hand in its scheme.

Classical Mythology

With Cronus, Thoth, Sin, and Moses now in the picture, we increasingly get the impression that within mythology are embedded ‘hints’ pertaining to the Nile’s hidden function as a Time River.

But why is this? Could it be that the shrouded ‘authors’ of classical myths were somehow privy to the secret of the grand geographical ‘message’? As unrealistic as this idea may seem, it’s more or less the only explanation, *if* the mythological correlations are not the product of mere coincidence (which is unlikely).

We now need to ask ourselves the question: What is myth anyway?

While most of us today are quite ignorant of the collection of irrational stories from long ago, it is still impossible to escape its echoes – because myth continues to function as an endless source of symbols. Indeed, many things surrounding us today have labels taken directly from mythology, including the planets, the days of the week, companies, cities, sport teams, vehicles of all sorts, etc. (A particularly effective example would be the space program that sent man to the Moon, i.e. *Apollo*: this name – of a Greek sun-god – is now deeply embedded in the matrix of modern society.)

The situation was quite different in ancient times, however, as much more importance was accorded to myth back then. For ancient Greeks and Romans, mythological knowledge even directly translated to the wisdom of the person.

This is sensible to some extent in that there is a certain educational, moral, religious, and/or historical value to the epic tales about the adventures of the gods, heroes, men, and fantastic creatures. And yet, their merits fall far short of being satisfactory, as no one would seriously deny that mythical stories are filled with scientifically dubious, morally objectionable, and historically inaccurate information. Indeed, finding tangible wisdom in myth is usually not an easy task.

What, then, made myth so valuable in ancient times? Should we merely view it as primitive people's attempt at explaining the nature of reality – in a deliberately confusing manner? Or was there perhaps true wisdom hiding beneath the surface that could be extracted by only those who had the 'key' (conceivably the elite/priesthood)?

As we move on, we will see that the latter is closer to the truth. We will see that behind the confusion and irrationality actually lies a remarkably sophisticated body of information. And it seems that this hidden information was not necessarily meant to be inaccessible to the common people. Instead, myth appears to be a 'Hermetic device' designed to initiate willing people into the 'Mystery' or 'Secret', of reality.

Mythology, in other words, seems to have the function of seeding 'clues' through which it encourage those with curiosity to search for deeper and deeper meanings. It could even be said that myth has

considerable bearing on universal truths that traverse all levels of reality and time.

This view is shared by the Alsatian mathematician, philosopher, and ‘symbolist’ Egyptologist R. A. Schwaller de Lubicz:

Myth may be the earliest known means of communicating information related to the nature of the cosmos, but it is also the most precise, the most complete, and perhaps the best. Myth dramatizes cosmic laws, principles, processes, relationships and functions, which in turn may be defined and described by number and the interplay between numbers.²⁴

...To the disciple, myth is an endless source of instruction, while for the incurious majority (past and present), the myth explains reality in a story form that is easily remembered.²⁵

But where did myth originally come from?

No one really knows. It is as if human civilization was born with it. Like our arms and legs, it has always been there with us. If not in writing, it was transmitted from generation to generation through oral traditions.

In the case of classical Greek mythology, the oldest written sources we have today came from the Greek poets Homer (*The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*) and Hesiod (*Theogony* and *Works and Days*) who lived around the 8th century BC. Other important written sources subsequent to those include Aeschylus, Apollodorus, Ovid, Euripides, Sophocles, and Vergil.

While they each tell many different stories, there is an underlying mythical ‘big picture’ that sets the stage for everything else. And it may be summarized as follows.

In the beginning was just Chaos. After Chaos came Gaia (Earth) who brought order and harmony. According to Hesiod, Tartarus and Eros emerged next. Chaos then gave birth to Erebus (‘the dark’) and Nyx (Night); and Gaia to Uranus (the sky) and Pontus (the sea). After this, Gaia and Uranus together went on to produce the first race called the Titans. Among them were Cronus (Saturn) and Oceanus. The latter was the first-born of the Titans who personified the great primordial river that encircled the world. (Oceanus is rather evocative of the Nile, and they were often equated.²⁶)

The youngest Titan Cronus (Saturn) eventually overthrew Uranus and ascended the throne. The mortal race of men was finally created during his reign. This was the Golden Age when the mortals lived in a virtual paradise free from all negativity.

Next came the Silver Age, the world ruled by Zeus and the Olympians, who had overthrown Cronus and the Titans. The race of this age did not live as happily as the golden race and had more flaws. They were destroyed by Zeus because they paid no due honors to the gods.

The Bronze Age that followed continued the corruption of man. The people of this age were more war-like and pitiless.

In the Heroic Age, the downward progression was reversed by the hero-men – at least temporarily. They were more honorable than the preceding races.

Then came the men of the Iron Age, the worst of all races. Unfortunately, it is implied that the current generation of mankind belongs to this race, and that we are destined to be destroyed by Zeus in due course.

Nile Geomythics and the Ages of Man

If the Nile, time, and mythology are but portions of the same ‘grand message’ as the evidence suggests, then it seems rather natural to take the matter one step further and question whether the mythological macro chronology of the world related above may also interact with the Nile’s design.

In other words, could the Nile have coded references to the creation episodes and the five ages of man?

While improbable, I felt this was a worthwhile possibility to investigate. At this stage why discard an idea just because it sounded unrealistic? I duly went back to the maps and reexamined the ancient river for any clues.

My initial speculation was that the key here had to be the river's middle section, where the Nile's most dramatic features were found – i.e. the Great Bend and the two major confluences involving the Blue Nile and the Atbara coming in from the Ethiopian highlands.

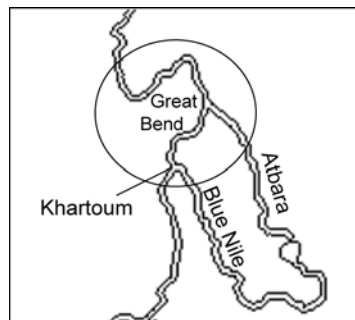


Figure 1.5 The most eventful section of the Nile.

The question was: Which age does it represent?

The Golden Age could be safely ruled out because of the described peacefulness of this particular era. Considering the central position of the river section, I could also infer that the time of Creation and the Iron Age – the first and the last of the ages – would not be applicable either. This left me with the Silver Age, Bronze Age, and Heroic Age.

Of these, I felt the most appropriate choice would be the Heroic Age. After all, just as the Great Bend is the only notable segment where the river's flow is reversed, it was only during the Heroic Age that mankind's downward progression was reversed.

From this, I further postulated that the segment around the Atbara and Khartoum confluences preceding the Great Bend would correspond to the Bronze Age, and possibly Silver Age. My feeling here was that these major confluences were perhaps to be interpreted as the starting points of the Silver Age and the Bronze Age. And following the pattern, I conjectured that the Nile's confluence with the Sobat, a small tributary just south of Malakal near latitude 10°N., might correspond to the

beginning of the Golden Age. The region south of this would then be symbolic of the period when 'Creation' was taking place.

Consequently the Nile's southernmost source, Lake Victoria, would represent the very beginning stage of Creation, i.e. 'Chaos'. I saw that it made good sense metaphorically because the water movement within the lake is indeed 'chaotic' (non-directional).

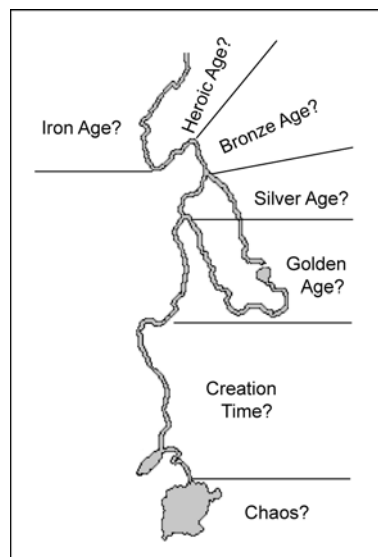


Figure 1.6 A speculative correlation between the Nile and the mythological 'ages of man'.

Additional facts below enhance the developing model:

- The supposed pre-Golden Age segment of the river is largely covered by the vegetative Sudd. It may easily signify the period's primordial conditions, when the forces of nature were busy developing the 'world'.
- The White Nile is known for its steady and peaceful flow, thus nicely reflecting the *peaceful* Golden Age allocated there.

- Above the Khartoum (Blue Nile) confluence, the river becomes rough and difficult to navigate. Accordingly, the same section coincides with the increasingly violent ages of man.
- Khartoum roughly marks the latitude where the land turns into a desert. This nicely reflects the harsher climatic conditions that befell to those who came after the Golden Age.
- Lake Tana, the source of the Blue Nile, is positioned at $12^{\circ}N$. latitude. The lake is also the ‘source’ of the Silver Age (the first age ruled by *Zeus/Jupiter*) in that the Blue Nile marks this age’s beginning point. Congruently, Lake Tana’s latitude resonates numerically with *Jupiter’s* orbital period around the sun, *12 years*.

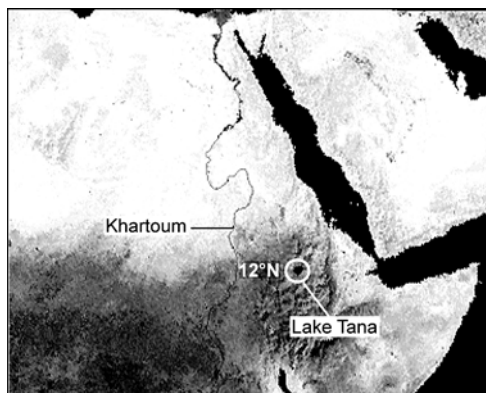


Figure 1.7 The latitude of Khartoum approximately marks the edge of the desert. The latitude of Lake Tana is $12^{\circ}N$.

Of course, the overall correspondence is not at all perfect nor is it nearly convincing yet. For example, there is no consistency in that the Ages of Heroes and Iron are not marked by a tributary as are the other Ages. And the fact that the Roman poet Ovid did not include the Heroic Age in his description of the ‘ages of man’,²⁷ as did Hesiod, would not quite mesh with our interpretation, i.e. that this age is signified by the

southward-flowing portion of the Nile. If the inclusion of the Heroic Age is optional, why should it be represented by such a prominent section of the river?

A potential solution here is the introduction of another set of mythological events that played a crucial role in the creation and development of mankind. This is the story involving fire, Prometheus, Pandora, and Zeus.

It begins with the following episode in which Prometheus outwits Zeus:

[Prometheus] was, indeed, the wisest of his race, and Athene, at whose birth from Zeus's head he had assisted, taught him architecture, astronomy, mathematics, navigation, medicine, metallurgy, and other useful arts, which he passed on to mankind. But Zeus, who had decided to extirpate the whole race of man, and spared them only at Prometheus's urgent plea, grew angry at their increasing powers and talents.

One day, when dispute took place at Sicyon, as to which portions of a sacrificial bull should be offered to the gods, and which should be reserved for men, Prometheus was invited to act as arbiter. He therefore flayed and jointed a bull, and sewed its hide to form two open-mouthed bags, filling these with what he had cut up. One bag contained all the flesh, but this he concealed beneath the stomach, which is the least tempting part of any animal; and the other contained the bones, hidden beneath a rich layer of fat. When he offered Zeus the choice of either, Zeus, easily deceived, chose the bag containing the bones and fat (which are still the divine portion); but punished Prometheus, who was laughing at him behind his back, by withholding fire from mankind. 'Let them eat their flesh raw!' he cried.²⁸

As can be inferred from this tale, Prometheus was considered the greatest benefactor of mankind. Indeed, it was sometimes said that he was the one who created men 'from water and earth'.²⁹

The story continues:

...Prometheus, the powerful son of Iapetos, stole [fire] again from Zeus of the counsels, to give to mortals. He hid it out of the sight of Zeus who delights in thunder in the hollow fennel stalk. In anger [Zeus] spoke to him: "Son of Iapetos, deviser of crafts beyond all others, you are happy that you stole the fire, and outwitted my thinking; but it will be a great sorrow to you, and to men who come after. As the price of fire I will give them an evil, and all men shall fondle this, their evil, close to their hearts, and take delight in it." So spoke the father of the gods and mortals; and laughed out loud.³⁰

As a punishment for the transgression of stealing fire and giving it to mankind, Zeus had Prometheus chained to Mount Caucasus. There, an eagle would come during daytime to devour his liver, which would then grow back each night to perpetuate his torment.

As for the 'evil' Zeus spoke of, this was the creation of the first woman, Pandora (the Greek counterpart of Eve). Her name meant 'all gifts' because the Olympian deities each gave her a gift. This beautiful girl gave rise to the female race, mesmerized mortals, and somehow brought evil to the world.

Since before this time the races of men had been living on earth free from all evils, free from laborious work, and free from all wearing sicknesses that bring their fates down on men [for men grow old suddenly in the midst of misfortune]; but the woman, with her hands lifting away the lid from the great jar, scattered its contents, and her design was sad troubles for mankind. Hope was the only spirit that stayed there in the unbreakable closure of the jar... but there are other troubles by thousands that hover about men, for the earth is full of evil things, and the sea is full of them; there are sicknesses that come to men by day, while in the night moving of themselves they haunt us, bringing sorrow to mortals, and silently, for Zeus of the counsels took the voice out of them.³¹

From the above description it is quite clear that these events are related to the Silver Age, simply because this age was when the mortals were not free from negativity for the first time.

Hesiod gives some more clues in *Works and Days* (in which the above tales are immediately followed by the exposition on the ‘five ages’.)

Hesiod first writes: ‘Pandora... to be a sorrow to men *who eat bread*’³² (emphasis added). He then tells us that the people of the Bronze Age ‘ate no bread’.³³ This implies that the Pandora episode took place before the Bronze Age, thus effectively establishing the Silver Age (or the transition from the Golden Age to the Silver Age) as the period pertinent here.

So we can now view the Silver Age’s two momentous ‘gifts’ (fire and Pandora) as corresponding to the Blue Nile and the Atbara – after all, these tributaries were indeed responsible for bringing the ‘gift’ of fertile sediment to Egypt. Since ancient times, in fact, the alluvial soil has been called a ‘gift of the Nile’.³⁴ And as Herodotus stated: ‘the Nile is the gift of Osiris, but Egypt is the gift of the Nile’.

It is certainly fitting that Lake Tana, the source of the Blue Nile presumably signifying ‘fire’, straddles 12°N. latitude because it was from *Jupiter* (Zeus) that ‘fire’ was stolen – the number ‘12’, as already mentioned, numerically relates to the planet *Jupiter* which has a 12-year orbital period. Adding to this is the fact that the spectacular Blue Nile Falls found near the lake, which is actually the river’s hydrological beginning point,³⁵ is locally called *Tis Isat*, meaning ‘smoke of the fire’.³⁶

Note also that the Atbara, presumably signifying the gift of Pandora, has its headwaters very close to Lake Tana. It is thus almost as if this mountainous Ethiopian Plateau region is designed to geomorphically represent Mount Olympus, the home of the Olympian gods and the ‘gifts’.

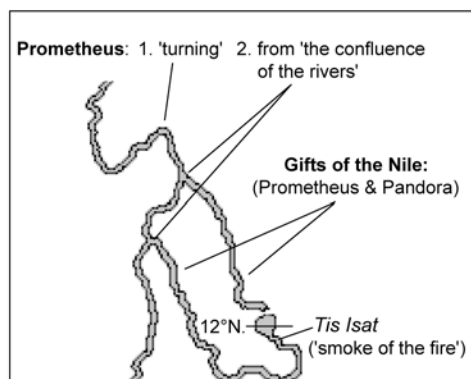


Figure 1.8 The Nile tributaries representing two mythological ‘gifts’.

As for the Great Bend, the Silver Age’s central character Prometheus happens to be closely associated with the idea of ‘churning’, ‘twisting’, or ‘turning’.

For example, the ‘mantha’ part of the Sanskrit term *Pramantha* (i.e. Prometheus) has the meaning of ‘churning’.³⁷ Enhancing this is the Vedic fire-god Agni, a form of *pramantha*, who is said to come from the *confluence of the rivers* – nicely reinforcing the connection made between Promethean fire and the Nilotic confluence(s).³⁸

Agni is also linked with the mythological character *Heimdal/Hallinskidi/Vindler* whose name is said to mean ‘a bent, bowed, or slanted stake’ (*Hallinskidi*) and ‘to twist, turn, etc.’ (*Vindler*), as if in reference to the Great Bend!³⁹

Clearly, basing on all the supportive evidence presented above, we can now conclude with a high degree of confidence that the Nile’s eventful middle segment corresponds solely to the Silver Age. And we can further infer that the succeeding Bronze, Heroic, and Iron Ages are to be superimposed on the segments north of the Bend (roughly 20°-30°N.).

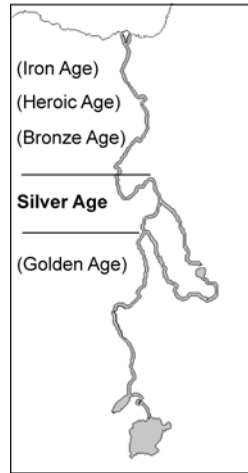


Figure 1.9 The ‘five ages of man’ on the Nile – a revised version.

Though still largely incomplete, the correlation between the Nile and the ‘ages of man’ is certainly beginning to show a sign of more coherence.

At this time, we need to move on and explore other aspects of the ancient river. We will later return to this issue and bring it to a most elegant completion – though that *still* will not be the ‘punch line’. Not even close.

Indeed, this is just a tame prelude to what will be revealed in the following chapters.

Chapter 2

The Winding Waterway

The Nile is the gift of Osiris, but Egypt is the gift of the Nile.

– Herodotus

God of the Nile and Time

There is something unnatural about having Greco-Roman mythology interact harmoniously with a river in Africa. After all, they belong to two different continents. Although we'll soon realize that the intelligence behind the Nile's geomythical¹ scheme is simply beyond that level of perspective, it would surely be more natural if we could use African or Egyptian mythology to decode the Nile.

Actually, Egyptian mythology *is* capable of just that.

We have already seen how the Egyptian god of wisdom named Thoth has much relevance to the Nile. It is, however, the Egyptian god of the dead and the underworld called *Osiris* – one of the most revered and complex deities in ancient Egypt – that is found to be most 'Nilotic'.

Osiris is quite simply the 'god of the Nile'. This can be established through his traditional identification with Apis and Hapi, both of which were considered to represent the Nile. Osiris was also known as Serapis, a name deriving from Ausar-Hapi, meaning 'Osiris of the Nile'. And there is a passage in the 'Pyramid Texts' describing Osiris in such a way that it might as well be a description of the Nile's alter ego, Oceanus, the

great primordial river encircling the world. (The Pyramid Texts are the oldest Egyptian religious writings, found in the pyramids of the Fifth and Sixth Dynasties.)

[Osiris is]...the Great Circle, in your name of 'Great Surround', an enveloping ring, in the 'Ring that encircle the Outermost Lands', a Great Circle in the Great Round of the Surrounding Ocean.²

There is also a strong link between Osiris and Moses. For instance, just like Moses, Osiris was put into a coffer (an 'ark'), tossed into the Nile, and was later saved by the 'queen' Isis (Moses was saved by an Egyptian princess).³ And like Moses, Osiris is closely associated with the Moon and Thoth,⁴ thus also with the notion of time.

Osiris was even identified with the phoenix, the mythical fire-bird of cyclical rebirth and the patron of all *time* division.⁵ In fact, Osiris and time can unite more fully through the statement found in the ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead: '*I am Time and Osiris*'.⁶ Similarly, in ancient India, the name given to Orion (the celestial form of Osiris) was *Kal-Purush*, or 'Time Man'.⁷

So, to all intents and purposes, Osiris is to be considered the Egyptian version of Cronus-Saturn, the god of time.⁸ Indeed, when examined further, these two deities are found to have much more in common.

For example, just as Osiris is the god of the dead: Saturn along with his scythe embodies death; Saturn's Sanskrit name, *Kala*, has the meaning of 'death'; and Saturn is said to have entered the state of 'life-in-death'⁹ on a blissful island after being dethroned by Zeus. And both Osiris and Saturn were: 1) the fallen ruler of the Golden Age (known as the 'First Time' in ancient Egypt); 2) considered a 'once and future king' who would one day be resurrected; 3) overthrown by a storm-thunder god (Jupiter and Seth); and 4) closely associated with corn.

But perhaps most striking is Orion (= Osiris) somehow having the title 'Saturnus' – that is, Saturn!¹⁰

Time and Fire

We find that Prometheus, the personification of the Nile's middle (Nubian) region, also has much in common with Osiris and Saturn.

For starters, Prometheus was opposed and chained by Jupiter, just as was the case with Saturn. In Hesiod's *Theogony*, Cronus-Saturn is repeatedly described as 'devious-devising',¹¹ which is then followed by Prometheus being similarly called 'the devious-deviser'.¹² And in *Hamlet's Mill*, an influential book on mythology, it is concluded simply that Prometheus *is* Saturn, or at least 'a portion of Saturn'.¹³

Prometheus (as *pramantha*) is also associated with *Mundilfoeri/Mundill* (related to fire-making), which is significant in that the '*mund*' part happens to have the meaning of 'time'.¹⁴ We even find that Prometheus was chained to a mountain for *30 years*¹⁵ – that is, exactly Saturn's orbital period.

As for Osiris, a connection can be made through the notion of 'fire'. Just as Prometheus is closely associated with fire, so was Osiris – as indicated by the following passages found in the 'Coffin Texts' (from ancient Egypt):

This is the sealed thing which is in darkness, with **fire** about it, which contains the efflux of **Osiris**, and it is put in Rostau...¹⁶

Fire is about it, which contains this efflux of **Osiris**. As for any man who shall know it, he will never perish there, since he knows what shall be in Rostau...¹⁷

Fire. Spell for the paths of Rostau...¹⁸

(Emphasis added)

In these passages we find 'Rostau' repeatedly mentioned. It refers to a mythical region associated with what is called the 'Fifth Division of the Duat' or 'the kingdom of Osiris in the Tomb'.¹⁹ It was also another name for Giza, where the great pyramids stand. This is interesting because the term 'pyramid' can denote '*fiery*' via the probable root word *pyrinos*,

which can also mean ‘wheaten’ (recall that corn is associated with Osiris-Saturn).²⁰ Complementing this is the fact that the Giza pyramids were almost certainly built as the terrestrial replica of the three Orion Belt Stars (as first pointed out by researcher Robert Bauval), i.e. *Osiris* in the sky.

In the Egyptian religious texts are also found some clues hinting at *Osiris*’ relevance to the ‘*Promethean* section’ of the Nile, the Great Bend. Here is an example (emphasis added):

...May you make **Osiris** content because of me...
Great-Face, who opposes the aggressors and who guards them
in his house; he it is who enters beneath this **bend**...²¹

References to the ‘bend of the waterway’ are abundant in Egyptian texts. And they are usually accompanied by references to fire:

Your god has come into being, and his name is Khopri. He is the keeper of the **bend** of this waterway, and his name is Sharp of Vision. **Fire** is this which is on him... What is under the waterway is the name of this **bend**.²²

Its name is ‘The **lake of fire** of the knife-wielders’. There is no-one who knows how to enter the **fire**... Great-face who repels the aggressors is the keeper of this **bend**. He of the sharp knife is the keeper of the waterway and the keeper of the **bend**.²³

There is a similar but more striking passage that nicely unites Osiris, the bend, and fire:

“...a greyhound... who watcheth at the **Bend** of the **Lake of Fire**, who devoureth the bodies of the dead...”
Who is this greyhound-faced god?
“His name is ‘Everlasting Devourer,’ and he liveth in the Domain [of **Fire**]...”

“...others say that his name is ‘Beba,’ and that he keepeth watch over the **Bend** [of the stream] of Amentet...

“Hail, Lord of Terror...”

Who is this Lord of Terror?

“It is the Keeper of the **Bend** [of the stream] of Amentet.”

Who is this Keeper?

“It is the **Heart of Osiris**, which is the devourer of all slaughtered things...”²⁴

Aside from the mentions of the ‘Bend’, notice how the ‘Lake of Fire’ of the first line and the ‘Heart of Osiris’ of the last line are essentially interchangeable because both are directly associated with devouring of the dead. This nicely relates to the fact that: 1) the Nilotic ‘*lake of fire*’ (Lake Tana) is *heart-shaped*; and 2) *Osiris*’ alter ego Hapi personifies the Nile inundation,²⁵ the biggest source of which was *Lake Tana*.

In the Coffin Texts are found other interesting passages such as this:

...Lady of offerings...who laid **Osiris** down... who gave abundance to the Lord of the **Flood**... I am **Osiris**; I have come to Rostau in order to know the secret of the Duat... I have come equipped with magic, I have quenched my thirst with it, I live on white emmer, filling the **Winding Waterway**...²⁶

The key word here is the ‘Winding Waterway’, which is clearly associated with Osiris. It is more than evocative of the Great Bend, the only ‘winding’ section of the Nile. Indeed, we find that the Winding Waterway did traditionally signify the Nile and its flood!²⁷

Sirius Upon the Great Bend

We find the following passage in the Pyramid Texts:

O you good companion, lift the double aloft, turn about ...; be firm O King, on the underside of the sky with the beautiful star [i.e. Sirius] upon the bends of the Winding Waterway...²⁸

Here, even more directly than with Osiris, the Winding Waterway seems to be associated with the brightest star in the night sky, Sirius, traditionally identified with Osiris' sister-wife named Isis. And as if in reference to the Great Bend, the star is even said to be 'upon the bends'.

The association is reinforced by Sirius having an undeniable connection with the *Nile inundation*: in ancient Egypt, Sirius' 'heliacal rising' (i.e. rising just before the sun) signaled the beginning of the flood. Moreover, one of Sirius' nicknames, 'Bow Star', clearly resonates with 'Lands of the Bows', an old name given to the Nubian region surrounding the Great Bend!

Promethean fire-god Agni similarly relates to the 'bow' (*Hallinskidi*), and it had another name *Apam Napat*, 'which belongs also to Iranian *Tishtriya*, Sirius'.²⁹

The goddess star is even highly relevant to the Osirian pyramids at Giza. As first noted by Robert Bauval,³⁰ one of the four shafts inside the Great Pyramid was targeted toward the transit of Sirius at the meridian during the Pyramid Age (around 2500 BC), when the pyramids were constructed. (See Figure 2.1.)

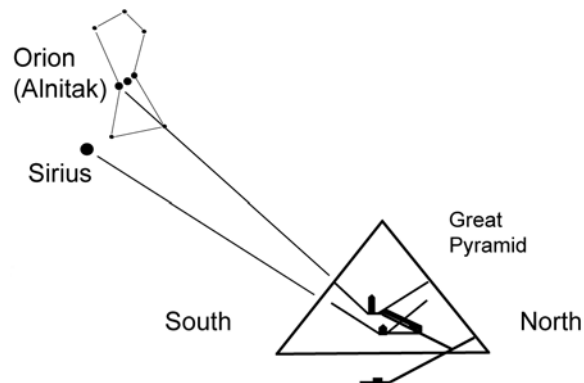


Figure 2.1 Two of the Great Pyramid's internal shafts were aligned with the transits of Orion (star Al Nitak) and Sirius during the Pyramid Age.

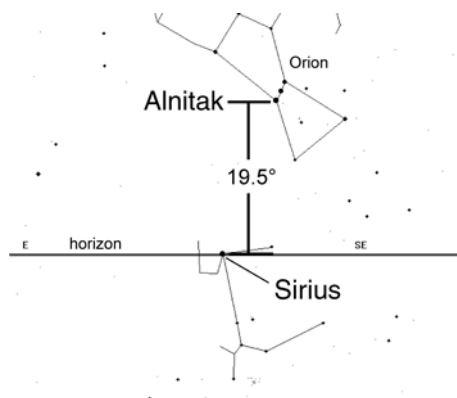


Figure 2.2 During the Pyramid Age (more specifically around 2350 BC), Al Nitak was positioned precisely 19.5° above the horizon at the moment Sirius was on the horizon.

In the same epoch,³¹ Sirius and one of the Orion Belt Stars called Al Nitak – represented on earth by the Great Pyramid as per Bauval’s ‘Orion Correlation Theory’ – together produced the angle 19.5° to exactly match the latitude of the Great Bend’s crest (19.5°N.). This is a direct manifestation of the imagery expressed by the Pyramid Texts – i.e. Sirius being ‘upon the bends of the Winding Waterway’!

Specifically, this celestial angle was produced by the star Al Nitak hovering precisely 19.5° above the horizon as seen from Giza at the very moment Sirius was on the horizon. (The Giza- 19.5° connection is also evident in the layout of the Giza pyramids, as illustrated in Fig. 2.3.)

The associative web is becoming quite extensive at this point. But there is one particular mythological character through whom the key concepts may be neatly summarized. This is the great hero of Sumerian-Babylonian mythology, Gilgamesh.

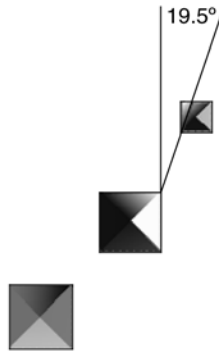


Figure 2.3 The key angle 19.5° is found in the layout of the Giza pyramids.

We learn that: 1) he is sometimes called ‘a true *Prometheus*’;³² 2) he is intimately associated with *fire*; 3) in order to obtain immortality, he set out to find the Mesopotamian version of Noah called Utnapishtim (survivor of the *Flood*) who dwelled at the ‘*confluence of the rivers*’;³³ and 4) he is described as only two-thirds divine, which is a suggestive proportion since $2/3$ of the Nile’s length ($0.4^\circ\text{N}-30^\circ\text{N}$) is very close to 19.5 (about 19.7 degrees).

Hence, through Gilgamesh we manage to unite fire, Prometheus, the confluence of the rivers, the flood, and 19.5° . This tells us that we are on the right track.

Before moving on to the next step, it is helpful to introduce a couple of more data points to further substantiate the connection made between Sirius, 19.5° , and the Great Bend’s peak, as this is a critical issue that lays the foundation for many further revelations.

First, Figure 2.4 shows an ancient Egyptian depiction of the ‘House of Sokar’ in the ‘Fifth Division of the Duat’, which is intimately linked with Rostau-Giza. It shows a pyramidal structure that may well represent the Great Pyramid. But it can just as easily be a stylized depiction of the Great Bend.

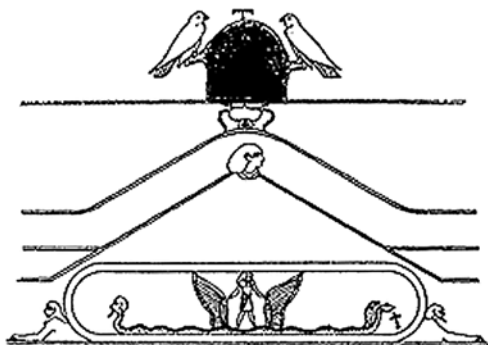


Figure 2.4 An ancient Egyptian depiction of the 'House of Sokar' in the Duat. (Picture courtesy of Andrew Collins.)

This interpretation is plausible especially because we've seen how the Giza pyramids and the Nile Bend seem to interact in various ways. And there is also the fact that 'Sokar' is a form of Osiris who in turn is closely associated with the 'Winding Waterway' (i.e. the Great Bend).

If this is a valid view, then it may be inferred that the *Sirian* apex of the Bend (19.5°N .) is to be associated with a female head, seen at the *apex* of the pyramidal mound in the illustration. And sure enough, we find that the head actually belongs to Isis, the goddess signified by none other than *Sirius*!³⁴

The symbolism is enhanced by the bell-shaped object and the two birds depicted at the top of the 'mound'. These birds were a standard symbol for the stretching of meridians and parallels (i.e. the grid lines of the earth); and the bell-shaped object (*omphalos*) is said to signify the center/'navel' of the earth.³⁵ In other words, the basic idea conveyed here is geodesy, the science dealing with the measurement of the earth. Correspondingly the resident of the pyramidal mound, Sokar, is considered the god of *orientation*. The emerging theme here is then obviously relatable to the hidden message of the Nile.

As for the second data point, it concerns the fact that Sirius, 19.5° , and fire may be nicely integrated through Sirius' very close relationship with the triangular form.

Sirius, first of all, was denoted by a triangular hieroglyphic sign.³⁶ And the Egyptian words *septu* and *septch* – presumably variants of Sirius' Egyptian name, spelt *Septit*, *Sept*, etc. – meant 'triangle'.³⁷ We then find that a triangle is not only traditionally considered a symbol of *fire*,³⁸ it is also closely related to 19.5° , an angle geometrically derived from the simplest of the Platonic solids called the tetrahedron, comprised of four equilateral triangles.

As pointed out by Martian-anomaly researchers, if a tetrahedron is put inside a circumscribing sphere and one of the apexes touches the sphere's north or south pole, the other three apexes will touch the sphere's surface at latitude 19.5° . This is the latitude of the Great Bend's *Sirian* apex.

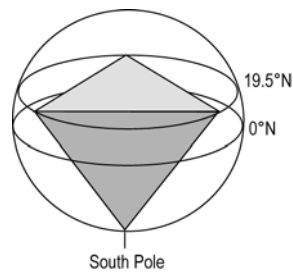


Figure 2.5 A circumscribed tetrahedron pinpoints latitude 19.5° N/S.

All this leaves little doubt as to the validity of our decoding of the Great Bend.

19.5°: A Signal From Mars

At this point, it seems as if 19.5° is exclusively a 'Sirian angle'. But this is not really so. The esoteric significance of 19.5° was actually first brought to mankind's attention through another celestial body much closer to Earth – the Red Planet.

This is not as strange as it sounds. For instance, Mars happens to be intertwined with ancient Egypt in curious ways:

- The Egyptian capital Cairo, situated adjacent to Giza, derives its name from *Al Qahira* denoting Mars. (More literally it means ‘the victorious’.)
- The ancient Egyptians called Mars ‘Horus of the Horizon’ (*Horakhti*), which was the very same name given to the Great Sphinx. Mars was also called ‘Horus the Red’ (*Hor Dshr*), and for a long time the Sphinx was painted red.³⁹
- Just as the Great Sphinx is the hybrid of man and a lion, in ancient Hindu myths Mars is *Nr-Simha*, the ‘Man-Lion’.
- The term ‘pyramid’ derives from the Greek term *pyr* meaning ‘fire’, as in Mars the ‘fire planet’. (Mars is often referred to as *pyroeis* in Greek.)

As for the angle 19.5°, it resides at the heart of the geometric ‘message’ claimed to have been found on the deceptively barren Martian surface.

Indeed, the first sign of the ‘Martian message’ emerged through certain structures that were not only *pyramidal* but also *tetrahedral*.

These apparent pyramids were captured on camera in 1972 by NASA’s *Mariner 9*, the first spacecraft to enter Mars orbit in history. As it flew over a region called *Elysium Quadrangle*, the probe just happened to detect this ‘tip of the iceberg’ – as they would turn out to be – quietly sitting there.

While no serious scientific investigation was launched, it was certainly anomalous enough for celebrated scientist Carl Sagan to comment that these ‘beckoning pyramids’, as he called them, did ‘warrant...a careful look’.⁴⁰

Following this little prelude came Cydonia.

‘Oh my God, look at this!’, exclaimed Tobias Owen of JPL (Jet Propulsion Laboratory) as he came across a photograph labeled 35A72, sent from Mars by *Viking 1* in 1976. What he saw was the now infamous ‘Face on Mars’ situated in a region called Cydonia.

It was a rock formation resembling a huge human face silently staring up into space.

While seemingly a silly notion, there was at least some symbolic coherence here, as noted by Richard Hoagland, in that the Egyptian name given to the 'Martian god' Horus was *Heru*, which could also mean 'face'.⁴¹

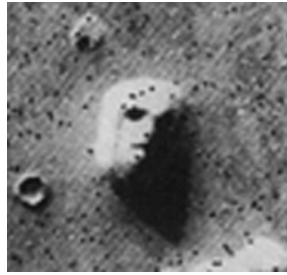


Figure 2.6 The first picture of the 'Face on Mars' (35A72) taken by the *Viking* spacecraft in 1976.

Not surprisingly, this curious Martian anomaly was quickly dismissed as a trick of light by NASA scientists. And there the matter rested for a while.

Then came Vincent DiPietro, a NASA computer scientist, who discovered another photograph (70A13) in 1979 that showed the same object still looking like a face. But more importantly, DiPietro along with Gregory Molenaar found another peculiar feature in the vicinity of the 'Face'. This was a gigantic and seemingly five-sided pyramidal structure, nicknamed the 'D&M Pyramid' (after DiPietro and Molenaar).

Unlike the 'Face', this pyramid proved to be more effective in determining the involvement of intelligence, thanks to its geometric nature. And shocking was what the subsequent analysis revealed: the inferred design of the D&M Pyramid seemed to express Pythagorean mathematics and geometry!⁴²

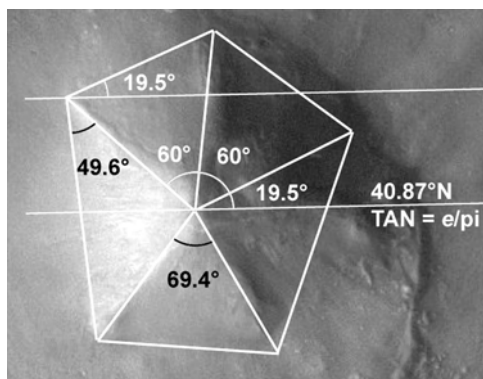


Figure 2.7 Geometric analysis of the ‘D&M Pyramid’ model.

NASA, however, simply could not be bothered to look into the growing mystery.

Understandably frustrated, DiPiero and Molenaar resolved to write *Unusual Mars Surface Features* – which would catch the attention of Richard Hoagland, a science writer and former space program consultant. (He presently heads ‘The Enterprise Mission’, a group devoted to investigating space anomalies as well as anything remotely related).

Doing some investigation of his own, Hoagland found other anomalous objects in Cydonia, such as what he nicknamed the ‘City’, ‘Fort’, ‘Cliff’, and ‘Tholus’.

Increasingly fascinated by those ‘Monuments of Mars’ and driven by pure curiosity, he went on to establish the Independent Mars Investigation (IMI) funded by SRI International, a renowned think tank in California involved with cutting-edge science and technology. This eventually evolved into the ‘Mars Mission’ and then into ‘The Enterprise Mission’. Among the members were DiPiero, Molenaar, anthropologist Randolpho Pozos, plasma physicist John Brandenburg, SRI scientists Lambert Dolphin and Bill Beatty, image-processing expert Mark Carlotto, and cartographer Erol Torun.

These independent researchers then managed to accumulate ample evidence to strongly support the structures’ artificiality – the most com-

elling being the geometric attributes of the D&M Pyramid model found by Torun:

What Torun discovered was a mathematically rich figure whose geometry contains the mathematical bases for the hexagon, the pentagon, and the classic proportions of the Golden Ratio... Twenty of the model's internal angles, angle ratios, and trigonometric functions redundantly express three square root values, $\sqrt{2}$, $\sqrt{3}$, $\sqrt{5}$, and two mathematical constants, π (the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter) and e (the base of the natural logarithms) with a mean error of one-half of one percent... Except for $\sqrt{2}$ and $\sqrt{3}$, the constants do not appear alone, but in seven different mathematical combinations... The most redundant values discovered were e/π , $e/\sqrt{5}$, and $\sqrt{3}$. These values are repeated four times each in at least two different modes of measurement.⁴³

The investigators additionally revealed that the geometry of the D&M Pyramid seemed to emphasize key *tetrahedral* angles such as 19.5° and 60° .⁴⁴ In particular, the 'tetrahedral constant' 19.5° was found encoded everywhere in the region of Cydonia.⁴⁵ There was, for example, a set of sixteen little 'mounds' in the 'City' area examined by Horace W. Crater, a physicist and pattern-analysis expert at the Tennessee Space Institute.

Crater was astounded to discover that the mounds were definitely not randomly placed features. Many of the angles made by the mounds, he had to conclude, were decidedly *tetrahedral* and functions of 19.5° .⁴⁶

Tetrahedral geometry, therefore, had firmly emerged as the 'message of Cydonia'. And on this point, Hoagland states in *The Monuments of Mars*:

The key... now unmistakably centers on the geometric and geodetic properties of an inscribed tetrahedron... surrounded by a sphere, communicated so redundantly through the interlocking geometry, angles, mathematical constants, and their associated trigonometric functions discovered so redundantly across Cydonia.⁴⁷

If these findings are accurate, it would amount to one of the biggest revelations in history – the first sign of intelligence outside of our own planet. And yet, today the general public is largely oblivious to this development. Most people’s knowledge on this does not go beyond the mere existence of ‘the face-like thing on Mars’, as they are utterly unaware of all the remarkable geometric data.

Why is this? Why is the explosive matter of Cydonia being ignored? Is it because the findings are invalid conclusions conjured up by a bunch of crackpots?

Not so, according to Stanley McDaniel, professor emeritus and former chairman of the philosophy department at Sonoma State University, a man most suited for evaluating this kind of issue for he is specifically trained in reasoning – man’s only true friend in finding truth.

As McDaniel writes in *The McDaniel Report: On the Failure of Executive, Congressional, and Scientific Responsibility in Investigating Possible Evidence of Artificial Structures on the Surface of Mars and in Setting Mission Priorities for NASA’s Mars Exploration Program* (1993):

My initial approach was one of considerable skepticism... [But] over the course of the investigation my appreciation for what these researchers had done, and the underlying scientific integrity of their work, began to grow. I found that the occasional faults in their work were far outweighed by the solidity of the data and their responsiveness to the needs of what is, after all, the first study of its kind in history.⁴⁸

The data collected in the course of these investigations appears to be highly reliable. The most advanced techniques of image enhancement, photogrammetry and fractal analysis, confirmed by cross-checking and thoroughly documented, have been used. The investigators are acknowledged experts in their fields with strong academic and professional qualifications. In every test, the data has consistently tilted in the direction of artificial, rather than natural, origin. Moreover, the various tests

performed, including anthropometric and aesthetic evaluation, have been mutually cross-confirming.⁴⁹

As it was done by ‘an impeccable, unquestionably academic source’, *The McDaniel Report* represented ‘a major scientific and political breakthrough for the entire subject of Cydonia’.⁵⁰

So why, we must ask again, have the Martian findings not made the headlines all over the world, as they surely deserve?

We find that this is largely thanks to the strange reaction of the establishment – namely NASA – to Cydonia. On this, McDaniel writes:

As my study of the work done by the independent investigators and NASA’s response to their research continued, I became aware not only of the relatively high quality of the independent research, but also of glaring mistakes in the arguments used by NASA to reject this research. With each new NASA document I encountered, I became more and more appalled by the impossibly bad quality of the reasoning used. It grew more and more difficult to believe that educated scientists could engage in such faulty reasoning unless they were following some sort of hidden agenda aimed at suppressing the true nature of the data. Eventually my original naïve view – that all NASA scientists were sincerely interested in the truth – was utterly shattered...⁵¹

Seventeen years [as of 1993] of ridicule by NASA and a small handful of scientists whose field of expertise is severely limited has encouraged many people to ignore the data and dismiss the [issue] as a joke... Instead of carrying out legitimate scientific inquiry, NASA has regularly sent false and misleading statements regarding the landforms to members of Congress and their constituents. NASA has condoned efforts to unfairly ridicule and discredit independent researchers... despite the fact that the only real scientific study of the landforms indicates a clear possibility that they are artificial.⁵²

The issue concerning the ‘hidden agenda’ of NASA is ultimately too complex and obscure to delve into here. But suffice it to say that there are those behind the scenes who seem to know much more than the general public, academia, media, and even the government do, and they seem to wield an invisible but strong influence on our perception of ‘reality’. And for whatever reason, it appears that ‘they’ do not want the matter of extraterrestrial artifacts taken seriously.

While there are certainly many layers of reasons and agendas involved here, on a basic level anthropologist Randolph Pozos was probably on the mark when he stated:

The greatest difficulty posed by these curious landforms on Mars occurs... at the level of beliefs and fundamental values... In essence these landforms on Mars are intellectual landmines.⁵³

It is also quite feasible that the apparent suppression of the information has much to do with the ultimate meaning of the ‘message of Cydonia’, which, according to Richard Hoagland, concerns what he calls ‘hyperdimensional physics’.

This is a form of ‘hyperspace’ theory that basically adds extra dimensions to the normal four dimensions of space and time to explain physical phenomena. In the model promoted by Hoagland, stemming from the Cydonia research, tetrahedral geometry and angular momentum are viewed as the key to uniting the physical and ‘hyperdimensional’ realms.⁵⁴ And this unification, if achieved, would lead to the harnessing of an entirely new form of energy or force.

If valid and developed further, it has the potential to quickly and completely upset the societal structure and utterly undermine those in control of the world’s economy – as the new physics would easily translate to something akin to ‘free energy’, which in turn translates to dramatically decreased dependency on oil and other conventional energy sources.

While this is speculative stuff, it is interesting to note that the idea of the angle 19.5° having the function of a hyperdimensional ‘gateway’ does resonate well with the general notion of a ‘gateway’ carried by the

arch shape of the Great Bend, whose apex is at the tetrahedral latitude, $19.5^{\circ}N$.

At this stage, we don't really understand why or how Mars should be relevant to the Nile. But the emerging connection certainly helps us calibrate our perspective on the 'message of the Nile'. For instance, the numerical precision demonstrated by the 'monuments of Mars' hints at the level of precision we can expect from the Nile.

And precision is indeed the keyword for what is about to be revealed in the following chapters.

Ancient map of time revealing secret legacy/destiny of mankind.

The Time Rivers

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