

南山經圖



The Di Jun People were the Ancestors of the Xia Dynasty

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***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. Historians agree that the Great Yu, an offspring of the Di Jun People, was the founder of the Xia Dynasty (about 2070-1600BCE), the first dynasty in China to be described in many ancient historical chronicles.**



Huang Di



Yan Di



Di Jun



Zhuan Xu



Shao Hao



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

31,000 words

Eighteen Sections

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

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.

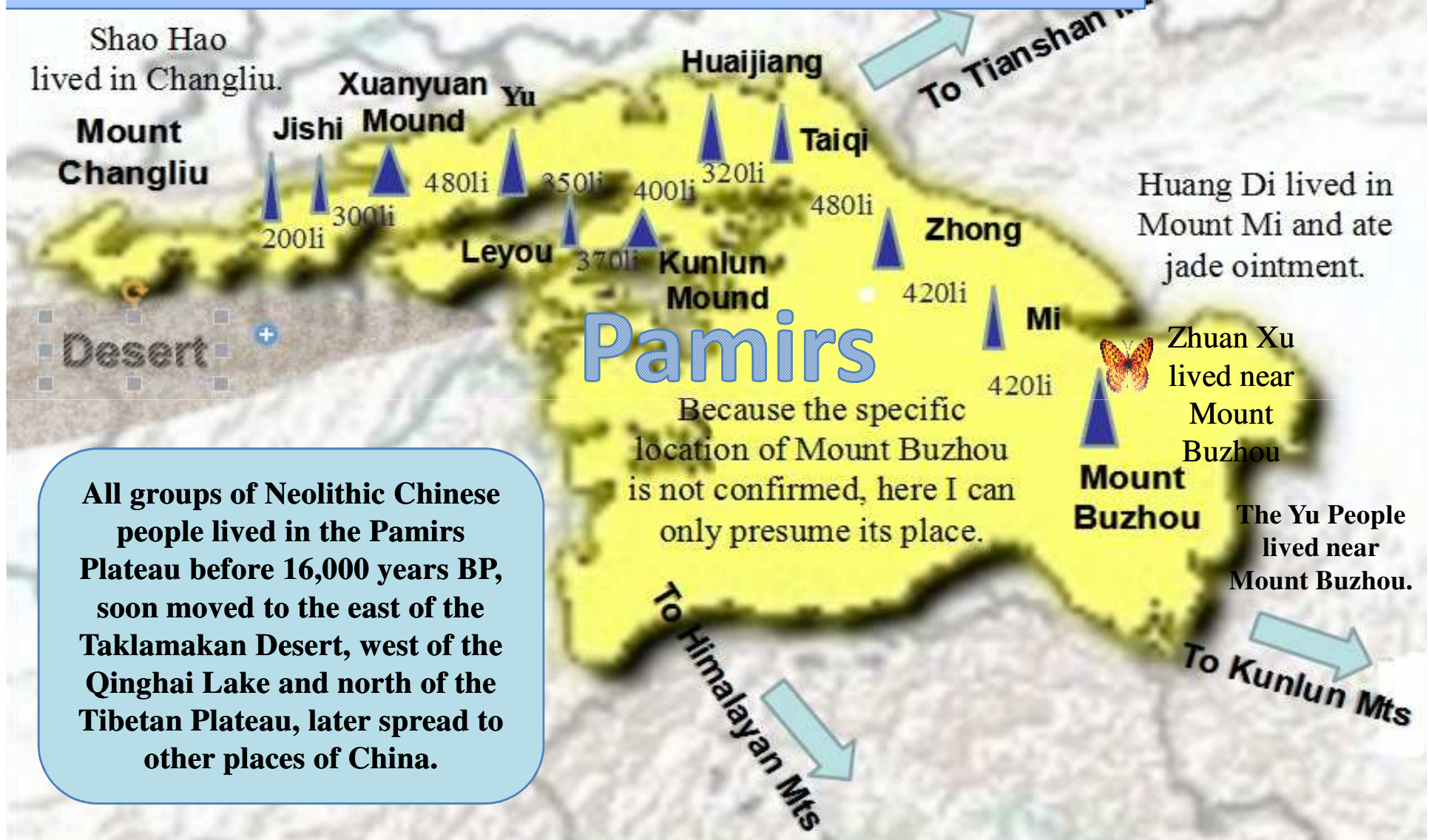
The Great Wilderness refers to the Tibetan Plateau.

The Northwest Sea refers to the Qinghai Lake.

after 8,000 years BP Patriarchal Clan Society

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.

All Groups of Neolithic Chinese People Used to Live in the Pamirs.



All groups of Neolithic Chinese people lived in the Pamirs Plateau before 16,000 years BP, soon moved to the east of the Taklamakan Desert, west of the Qinghai Lake and north of the Tibetan Plateau, later spread to other places of China.

The Famous Legendary Stories of the Di Jun People

西山經填水圖



Chinese legend tells that the Great Yu, who dedicated to serve the people and brought rivers under control, founded the Xia Dynasty (2070-1600BCE). Chinese archaeologists generally identify Erlitou (1900-1500BCE), Yanshi of Henan Province, as the site of the Xia Dynasty. *Sanhaijing* records the Yu People fought with the Gong Gong People in the Guo Mountain near Mount Buzhou during about 16,000-14,000 years BP, while the Great Yu, whose time was about 4,500 years BP, lived in the Qing Yao Mountain in the south of the Yellow River near its big bend, which was near today's Tongguan in the boundary of Shaanxi and Henan provinces. Clearly, the Yu People spread out from the west of the Qinghai Lake to the middle and lower reach of the Yellow River and founded the Xia.

Da Yu (the Great Yu) brought rivers under control.



King Yao, Shun and Yu abdicated and handed over the crown to the worthy and the capable.

Chinese legend tells that King Yao, Shun and Yu abdicated and handed over the crown to the worthy and the capable. Modern historian Gu Jie-gang (1893-1980) said, "The story of Yao, Shun and Yu was an imaginary Utopia. It appeared during the Warring States Period (770-256BCE), when scholars suffered a lot during the wars and difficult situations."

Sanhaijing reveals the historical truths that first Di Jun's group, then Yao's group, then Shun's group, one by one, used to be the mightiest horde and gain the leading position of all surrounding groups of the Di Jun's offspring as early as about 16,000-14,000 years BP. However, the Yu People, who moved to the middle reach of the Yellow River, grew to the mightiest horde and gained the leading position during about 4,500 years BP, much later than King Yao and Shun.



Shanhaijing's Records of the Di Jun People

King Di Jun, King Yao, King Shun, Shu Jun were buried in the Yueshan Mt in the west of the Qinghai Lake and east of the Chishui River.

Many of the Di Jun's offspring lived in the west of the Qinghai Lake, such as: Hou Ji, Tai Xi and their sons - Shu Jun.

Many of the Di Jun's offspring lived in the west of the Shandong Peninsula, such as: Zhong Rong, Si You, Yan Long, Si Tu, Si Nü, Di Hong and their sons - Bai Min, Hei Chi and Shu Hai.

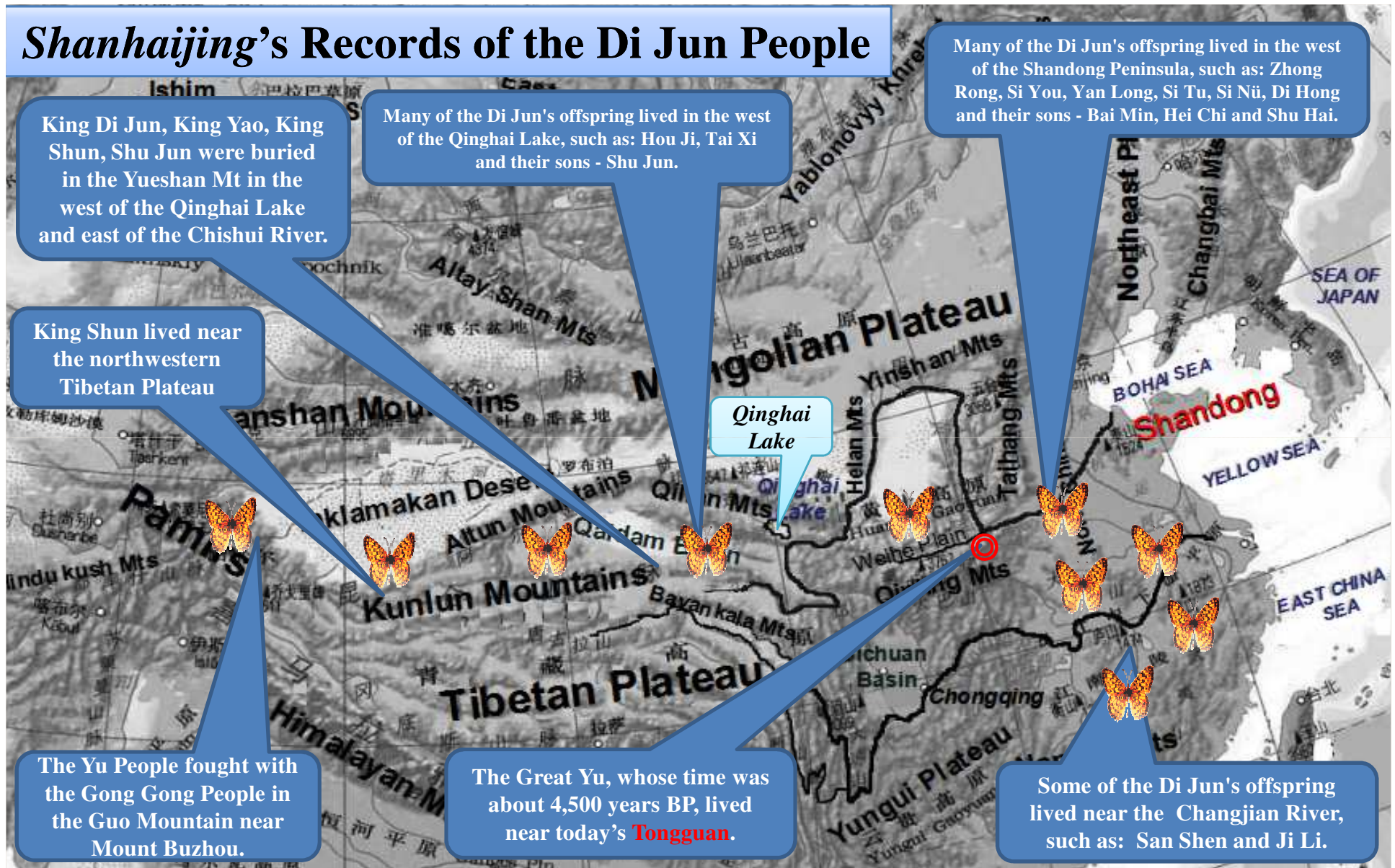
King Shun lived near the northwestern Tibetan Plateau

Qinghai Lake

The Yu People fought with the Gong Gong People in the Guo Mountain near Mount Buzhou.

The Great Yu, whose time was about 4,500 years BP, lived near today's **Tongguan**.

Some of the Di Jun's offspring lived near the Changjian River, such as: San Shen and Ji Li.



The Movements of the Di Jun People

The Di Jun People spread out from the Pamirs to the west of the Qinghai Lake, then to the Weihe Plain and the lower reach of the Yellow River, soon to the south as early as 16,000-14,000 years BP.

The Di Jun People lived in the west of the Shao Hao's territories, which were near the coastline.

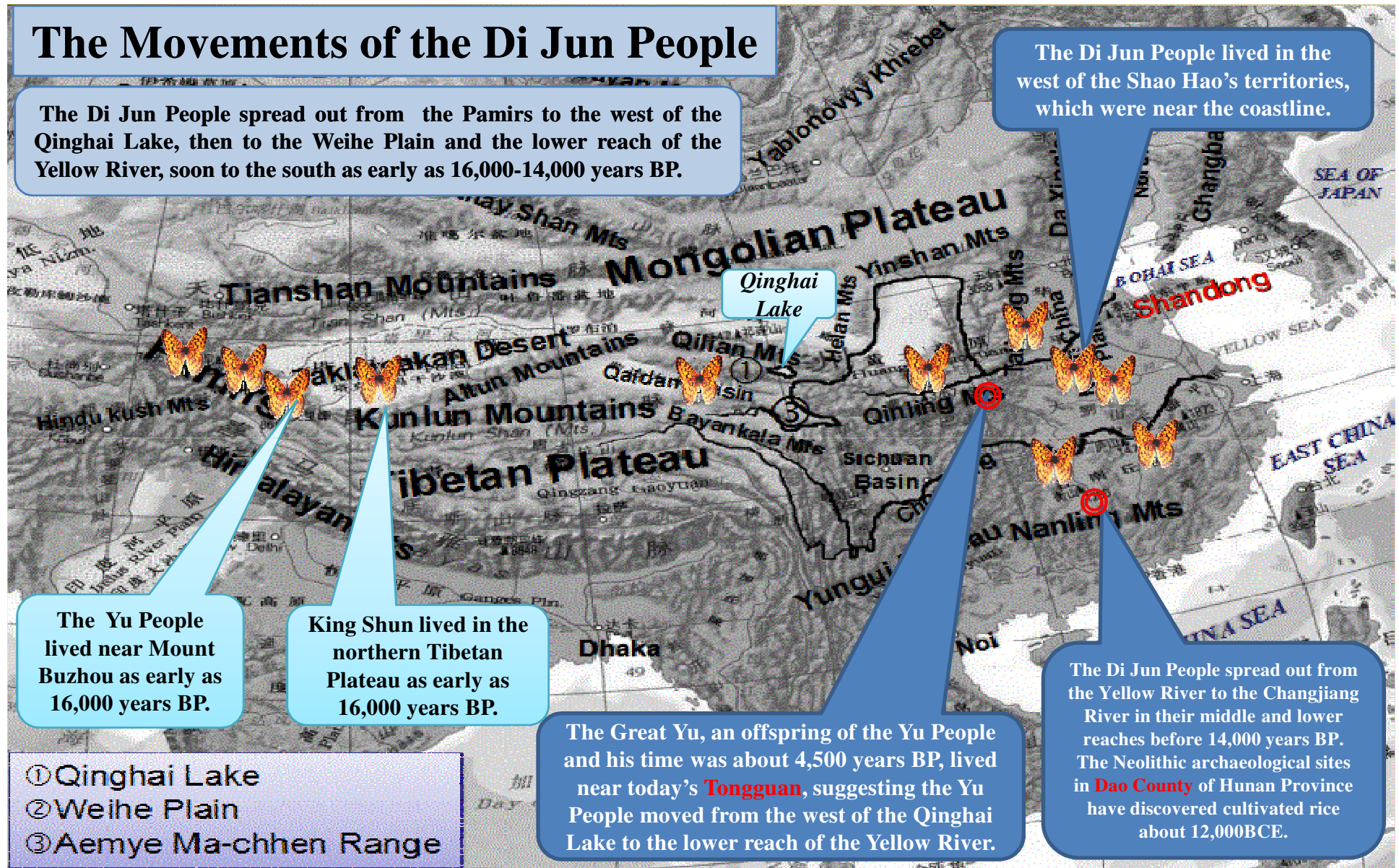
The Yu People lived near Mount Buzhou as early as 16,000 years BP.

King Shun lived in the northern Tibetan Plateau as early as 16,000 years BP.

The Great Yu, an offspring of the Yu People and his time was about 4,500 years BP, lived near today's **Tongguan**, suggesting the Yu People moved from the west of the Qinghai Lake to the lower reach of the Yellow River.

The Di Jun People spread out from the Yellow River to the Changjiang River in their middle and lower reaches before 14,000 years BP. The Neolithic archaeological sites in **Dao County** of Hunan Province have discovered cultivated rice about 12,000BCE.

- ① Qinghai Lake
- ② Weihe Plain
- ③ Aemye Ma-chhen Range

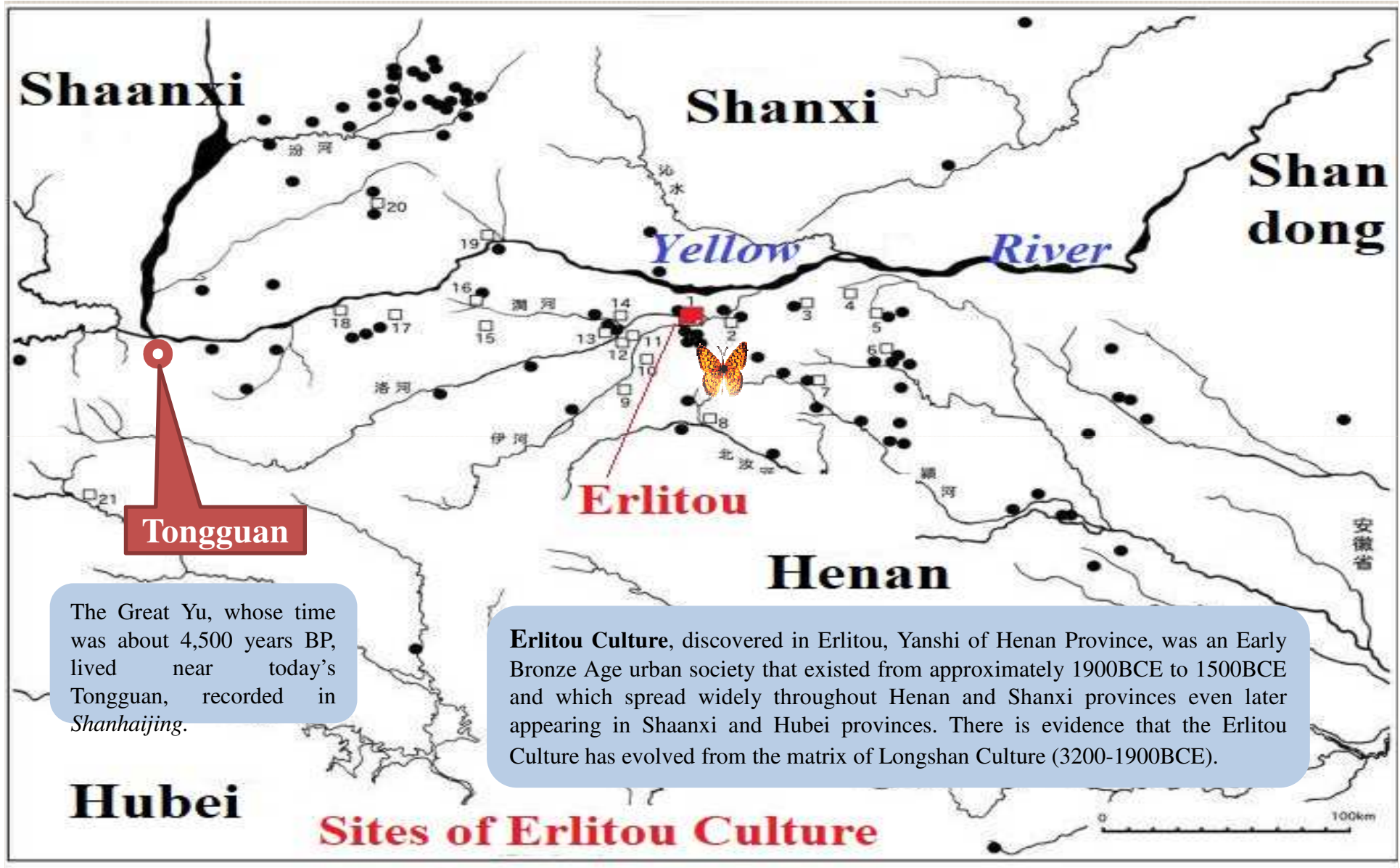


Neolithic Chinese Cultures



Dawenkou Dong Yi Culture (4100-2600BCE) spread out to the lower reach of the Changjiang River and even the southeastern China. **Longshan** Dong Yi Culture (3200-1900BCE) spread out to the inhabitation areas of Cishan-peiligang (6200-4600BCE) and Yangshao (5000-3000BCE) Di Qiang cultures and turned these regions into outposts of Dong Yi Culture.

Neolithic China had two main ancient cultural systems: the **Yellow River Valley Cultural System** and the **Chang-jiang River Valley Cultural System**. Starting from the lower reaches areas of the Yellow and Chang-jiang rivers, these cultures spread to surrounding areas. Most small regional cultures of ancient China had faded by the end of Neolithic Age, including the Chang-jiang River Valley Cultural System. However, the Yellow River Valley Culture became the mainstay of ancient Chinese civilization and developed to a much higher level.



The Great Yu, whose time was about 4,500 years BP, lived near today's Tongguan, recorded in *Shanhaijing*.

Erlitou Culture, discovered in Erlitou, Yanshi of Henan Province, was an Early Bronze Age urban society that existed from approximately 1900BCE to 1500BCE and which spread widely throughout Henan and Shanxi provinces even later appearing in Shaanxi and Hubei provinces. There is evidence that the Erlitou Culture has evolved from the matrix of Longshan Culture (3200-1900BCE).

The Xia Dynasty (about 2070-1600BCE)



西山雙嶺水圖



The Xia Dynasty was the first dynasty in China to be described in ancient historical chronicles, such as *Bamboo Annals*, *Classic of History* and *Records of the Grand Historian*. Historians agree that an offspring of the Di Jun People, the Great Yu, who lived near today's Tongguan recorded in *Shanhaijing*, founded the Xia. Chinese archaeologists generally identify Erlitou (1900-1500BCE), Yanshi of Henan Province, as the site of the Xia.

Hua Xia was the name of China before the Han Dynasty (202BCE-220CE). However, there were no written records of both nations before the Shang Dynasty (1600-1046BCE) and Zhou Dynasty (1046-256BCE). Due to the Shang and Zhou claiming they were offspring of the Di Jun People, ancient historical chronicles precluded the Hua and put the Xia as the first dynasty of ancient China when compiling ancient Chinese history.

Hua Xia

literal meaning

legend

archaeological evidence

“Hua” refers to The Nation of Hua (in the Shandong Peninsula).

“Hua” means Paulownia's blooms flourishing, flowery, illustrious, grand and even the integrity of sovereign.

The Hua People were the earliest group who promoted picking plants as food and planting grains.

Archaeologists have discovered some sites with an implied code of etiquette in Longshan Culture (3200-1900BCE), showing social stratification and formation of the nation, in the Shandong Peninsula, suggesting the Shao Hao People had developed the earliest nations in China.

“Xia” refers to The Nation of Xia.

“Xia” means a big land (nation) of ceremony and decorum.

The Xia People were the earliest group who promoted cultivating grains.

Archaeologists have discovered many bronze wares, which were made during about 1600-1046BCE, in the eastern Shandong Peninsula, suggesting there were ancient nations there

Archaeologists identify Erlitou (about 1900-1500BCE) as the site of the Xia Dynasty.

南山總圖



Thank You!
Have a Nice Day!



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