Social Inequality before Farming?

Multidisciplinary approaches to the investigation of egalitarian and non-egalitarian social relationships in prehistoric hunter-gatherer societies

Cambridge, 21-23 January 2018

McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research
Downing Street, CB2 3ER Cambridge, United Kingdom

organised by Luc Moreau

This conference is funded by the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research

This conference is part of the PALMOBI Project
https://www.lucmoreau.org/conference/
Sunday 21st January

16.30-17.00  Registration (Entrance lobby of the McDonald Institute)
17.00-17.10  Conference Opening
              Luc Moreau (McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge, UK)
17.10-18.00  Social Inequality and Hunter-Gatherer Mobility: What’s the link? (Keynote 1)
              Robert L. Kelly (University of Wyoming, USA)
18.00-19.30  Wine reception

Monday 22nd January

08.00-08.30  Registration
08.30-08.40  Welcome
              Cyprian Broodbank (McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge, UK)
08.40-08.50  Introduction
              Luc Moreau (McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge, UK)

Session 1: Inequality in the European Upper Palaeolithic record?

08.50-09.40  Did secret societies create inequalities in the Upper Palaeolithic? (Keynote 2)
              Brian D. Hayden (Simon Fraser University & University of British Columbia, Canada)
09.40-10.05  Cumulative processes versus adaptations in human prehistory
              Robert H. Layton (University of Durham, UK)
10.05-10.30  Responses of Upper Palaeolithic (UP) humans to spatio-temporal variations in resources: inequality, storage and mobility
              William Davies (University of Southampton, UK)
10.30-11.00  Tea/Coffee (Entrance lobby of the McDonald Institute)
11.00-11.25  Food, firewood and the accumulation of surplus in the European Upper Palaeolithic
              Alexander Pryor (University of Exeter, UK)
11.25-11.50  Could incipient dogs have enhanced differential access to resources among Upper Palaeolithic hunter-gatherers in Europe?
              Mietje Germonpré (Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Belgium)
Session 2: Potentials & limitations of rock art studies to unveil forms of socio-political organisation in prehistoric foragers

11.50-12.15  
Same but different: Equality and inequality in group depictions in the rock art of the Eastern Saharan last hunter-gatherers
Emmanuelle Honoré (McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge)

12.15-12.40  
Was there an inequality of artists in Palaeolithic Europe?
Paul B. Pettitt (University of Durham, UK)

12.40-13.10  
Discussion round

13.15-14.15  
Lunch (Entrance lobby of the McDonald Institute)

Session 3: Complex hunter-gatherers, resource intensification, and social inequality in the Holocene

14.15-15.05  
Reciprocity and asymmetry in social networks: dependency and hierarchy in North Pacific comparative perspective  
(Keynote 3)
Ben Fitzhugh (University of Washington, Seattle, USA)

15.05-15.30  
TBC
Preston Miracle (University of Cambridge, UK)

15.30-15.55  
Unequal in death and in life? Linking burial rites with individual life histories
Rick Schulting (University of Oxford, UK)

15.55-16.25  
Tea/Coffee

16.25-16.50  
Achieving equality: egalitarian strategies and the shape of long-term history
John Robb (University of Cambridge, UK)

16.50-17.15  
The farming - inequality nexus
Amy Bogaard (University of Oxford, UK)

17.15-18.00  
Discussion round

19.00  
Conference Dinner (Meeting point: St John’s College Bar, St Johns St., Cambridge CB2 1TP)
Tuesday 23rd January

Session 4: Computational modelling approaches of social inequality

8.30-8.55 Are we there yet? Modelling the origins of social inequality
Enrico R. Crema (McDonald Institute, University of Cambridge, UK)

8.55-9.20 A comparative perspective on the origins of social inequality
Matt Grove (University of Liverpool, UK)

9.20-9.45 Burials and complex foragers towards the European Last Glacial Maximum? Testing ecological factors
Cornelis Drost (University College London, UK), Andrea Manica & Luc Moreau (University of Cambridge, UK)

9.45-10.15 Discussion round

10.15-10.45 Tea/Coffee

Session 5: Egalitarianism & social inequality in extant hunter-gatherer societies

10.45-11.35 What do we mean by social inequality and could it have existed prior to farming? (Keynote 4)
Paul Roscoe (University of Maine, USA)

11.35-12.00 Learning egalitarianism: a cross-cultural review of forager children
Rachel Reckin, Shiena Lew-Levy, Kate Ellis-Davies (University of Cambridge, UK), Noa Lavi (University of Haifa, Israel)

12.00-12.25 Sex equality and division of labour in simple hunter-gatherer: a window into the origins of hunter-gatherer social structure
Andrea Migliano (University College London, UK)

12.25-12.50 The impact of equality in residential decision making on group composition, cooperation and cultural exchange
Mark Dyble (University of Cambridge, UK)

12.50-13.15 Relevant Factors when examining Equality and Inequality among Contemporary Hunter-Gatherers
James Woodburn (London School of Economics and Political Science, UK)

13.15-14.15 Lunch
**Session 6: Social inequality, interpersonal violence & warfare in prehistoric and extant hunter-gatherer societies**

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<td>14.15-15.05</td>
<td>Social Complexity, Inequality, and War before Farming: Congruence of Comparative Forager and Archaeological Data (Keynote 5)</td>
<td>Douglas P. Fry (University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA)</td>
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<td>15.05-15.30</td>
<td>Equality &amp; access to the means of coercion: an understudied approach</td>
<td>Duncan Stibbard Hawkes (University of Durham, UK)</td>
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<td>15.30-15.55</td>
<td>The ecology of prehistoric inter-group conflict in African hunter-gatherers</td>
<td>Marta Mirazon Lahr (University of Cambridge, UK)</td>
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