

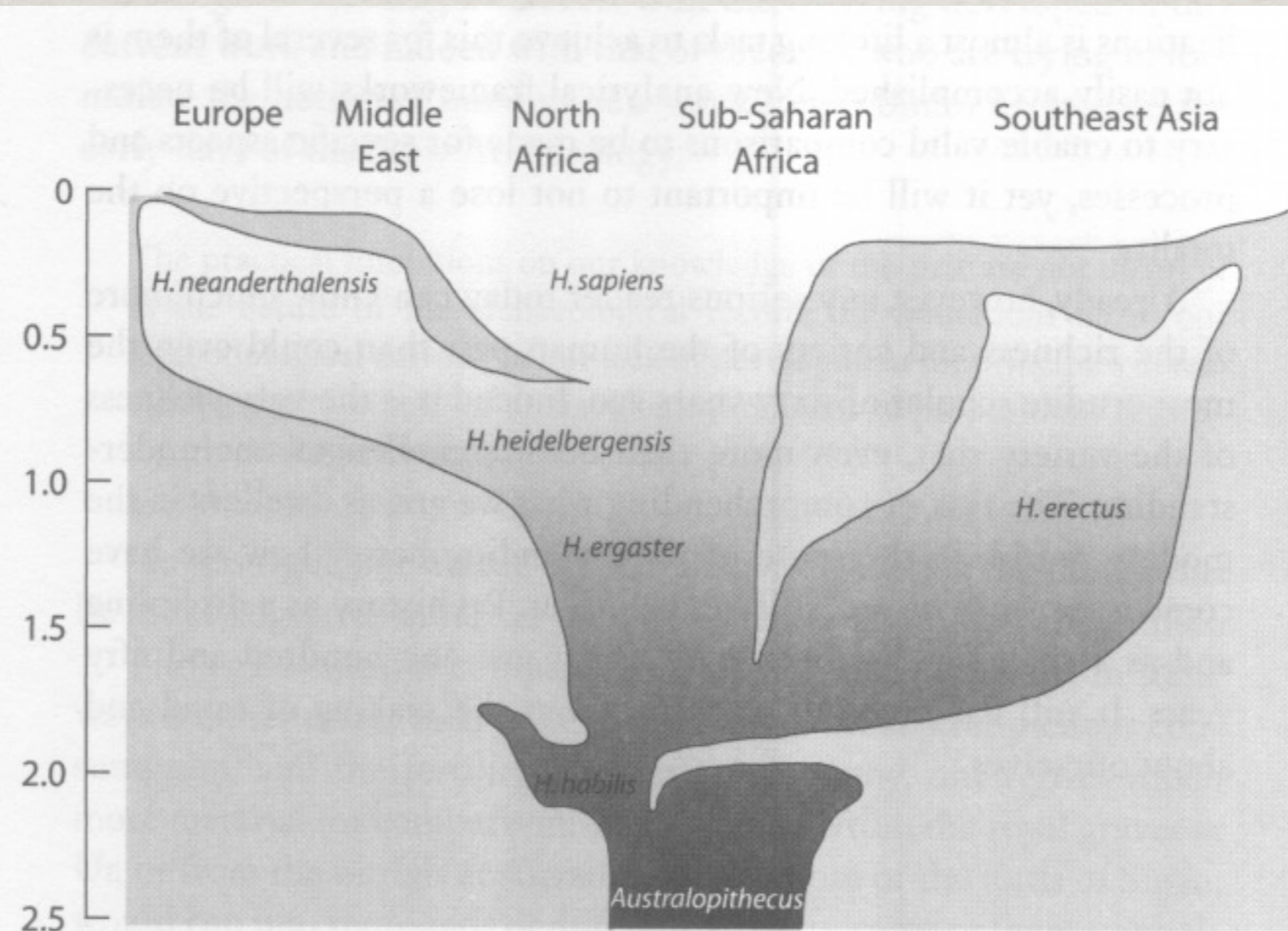
PART A
GENESIS OF THE
TIERED COSMOS

RALPH ABRAHAM
ESALEN WORKSHOP
MIND, BODY, SPIRIT, CHAOS
SAT AM, 4 DEC 2010
(WITH BRUCE LIPTON)

OUTLINE

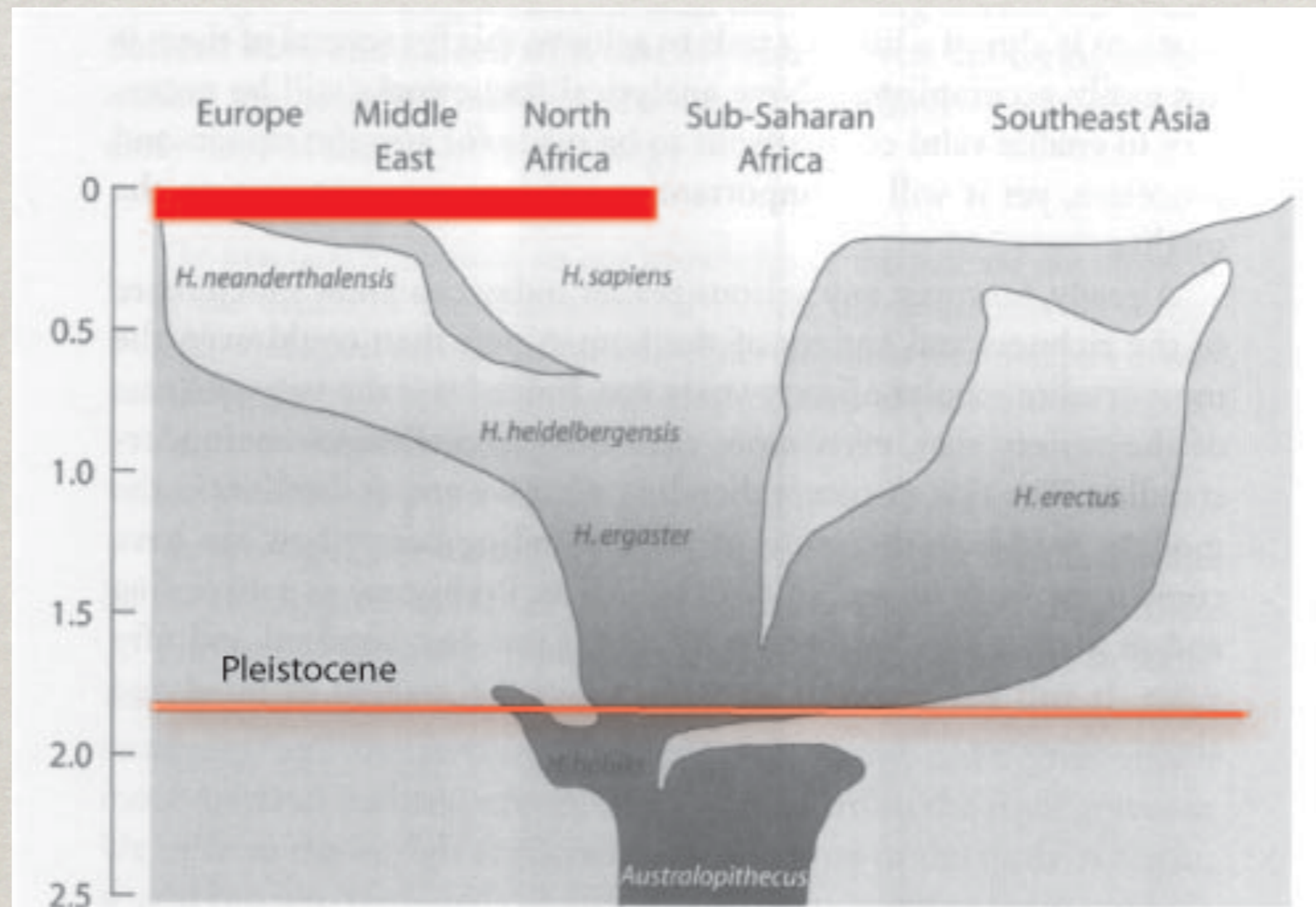
- ✻ 1. Paleolithic overview, MP/UP Transition
- ✻ 2. Upper Paleolithic: Western Europe, Sapiens
- ✻ 3. Neolithic: Near East
- ✻ 4. Ancient History: Egypt, Sumer, India, Greece
- ✻ 5. The Mind/Body Problem

1. PALEOLITHIC OVERVIEW



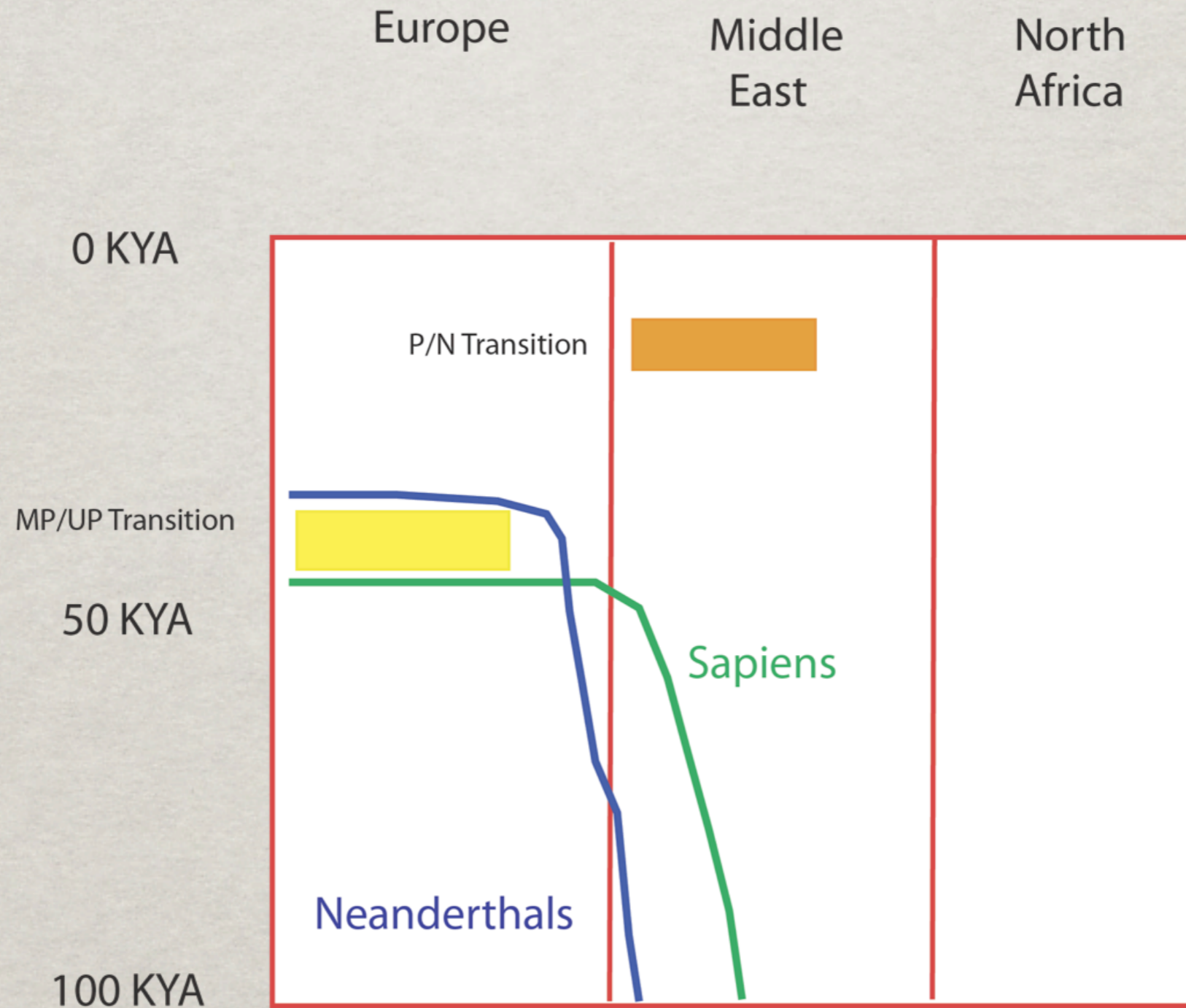
The development of our species, *Homo sapiens*, during the speciation phase, from our earlier hominid ancestors. The time scale on the left is in millions of years before the present.

UPPER PALEOLITHIC (RED)



The development of our species, *Homo sapiens*, during the speciation phase, from our earlier hominid ancestors. The time scale on the left is in millions of years before the present.

UP, ENLARGED



LATE NEANDERTHALS



Shanidar Cave
Zagros Mountains, Iraq
80-60 KYA



Nandy
50 year-old male

2. UP, EUROPE, SAPIENS

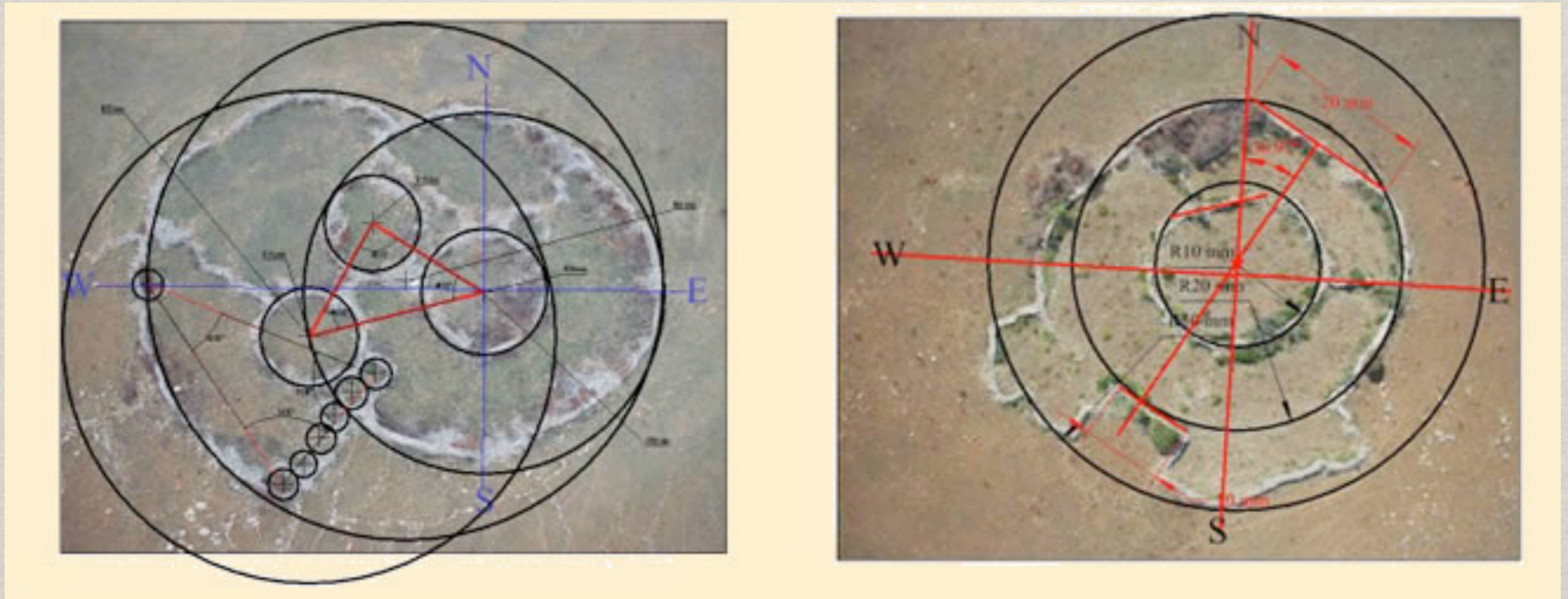
- ✿ Shamanism, So Africa, 200 KYA
- ✿ First art, Blombos, So Africa, 77 KYA
- ✿ First art in Europe, statuettes, 40 KYA
- ✿ First cave art, Chauvet, Europe, 33 KYA
- ✿ Lascaux, Europe, 17 KYA
- ✿ Theory, Clottes & Lewis-Williams

BLOMBOS, 77 KYA



Small piece of ochre

ADAM'S CALENDAR, 75 KYA



MAP OF FRANCE



LASCAUX, 17 KYA



LEWIS-WILLIAMS THEORY THE MIND IN THE CAVE

- ✿ Shamanism, three levels
(sub, ordinary, and super reality)
- ✿ Cave wall as a membrane (sub/ordinary)
- ✿ Cave rituals with chant, music, dance,
and psychedelics for changing levels

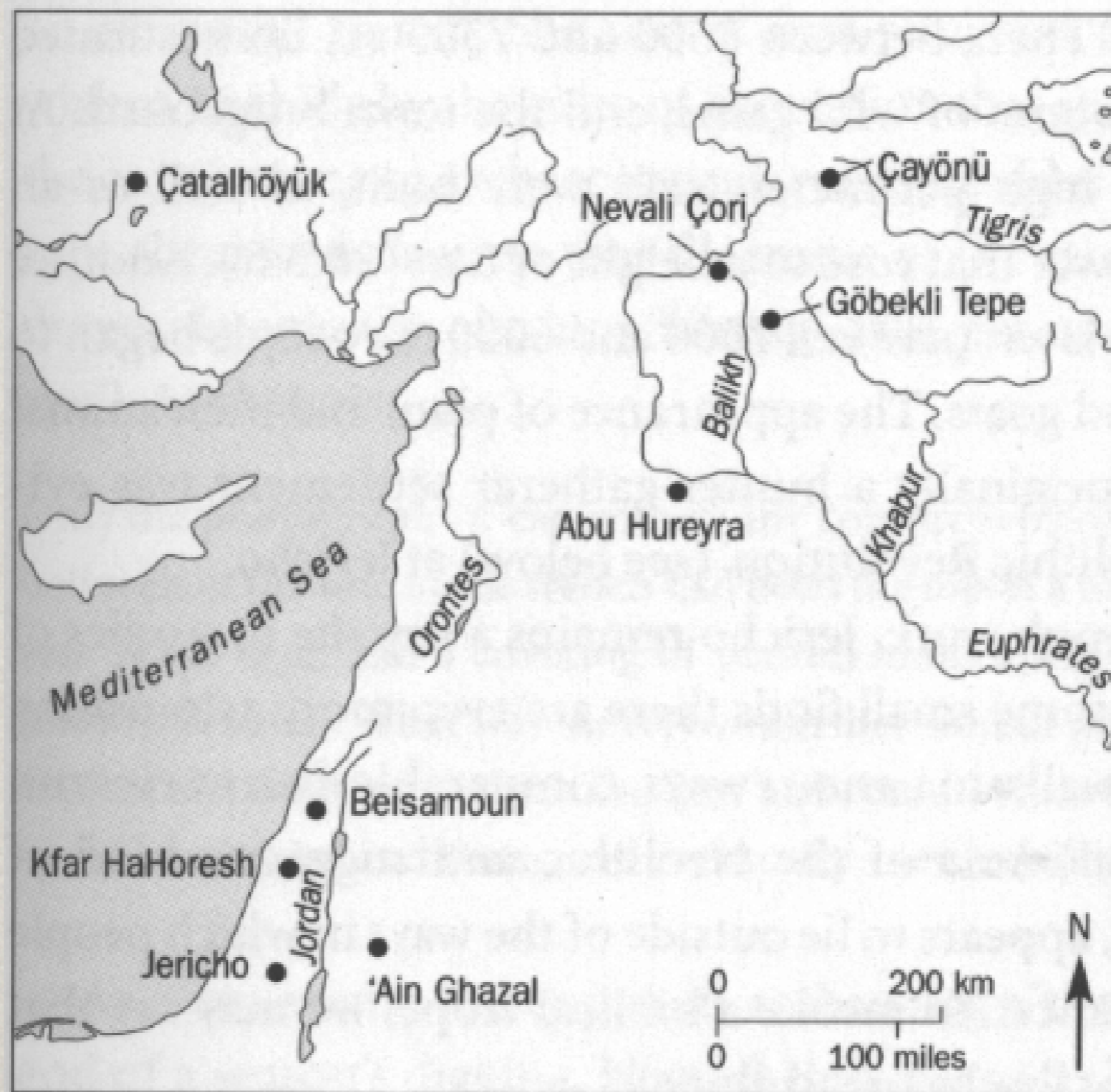
THE MEMBRANE



3. NEOLITHIC, NEAR EAST

- ✻ Jericho, 12 KYA = 10,000 BCE
Canaanite settlement
- ✻ Gobeckli Tepe, 11.5 KYA
Oldest ceremonial center, before settlement
- ✻ Catal Huyuk, 9.5 KYA
Ceremonial center, then settlement
then agriculture, pottery, etc

NEOLITHIC MAP



CATAL HUYUK

- ✻ Shamanic ceremonial center
- ✻ Imitation of a cave complex, crawl holes
- ✻ Animals coming through the walls
- ✻ Tiered cosmos
- ✻ Wall paintings, carpets, advanced fiber arts
- ✻ Sculptures

THE MEMBRANE



WALL PAINTING, 9 KYA



4. ANCIENT HISTORY

EGYPT, SUMER, INDIA, GREECE

- ✿ Egypt, 10,000 - 600 BCE
- ✿ Sumer, 5300 - 2400 BCE
- ✿ India, 2000 BCE - 1000 CE
- ✿ Greece, 600 BCE - 500 CE

EGYPT

- ✻ Celestial and Terrestrial planes
- ✻ Ba (soul) and Ka (body)
- ✻ Lower animal and vegetal realms
- ✻ Pyramids, 2630 - 1814 BCE

GIZA

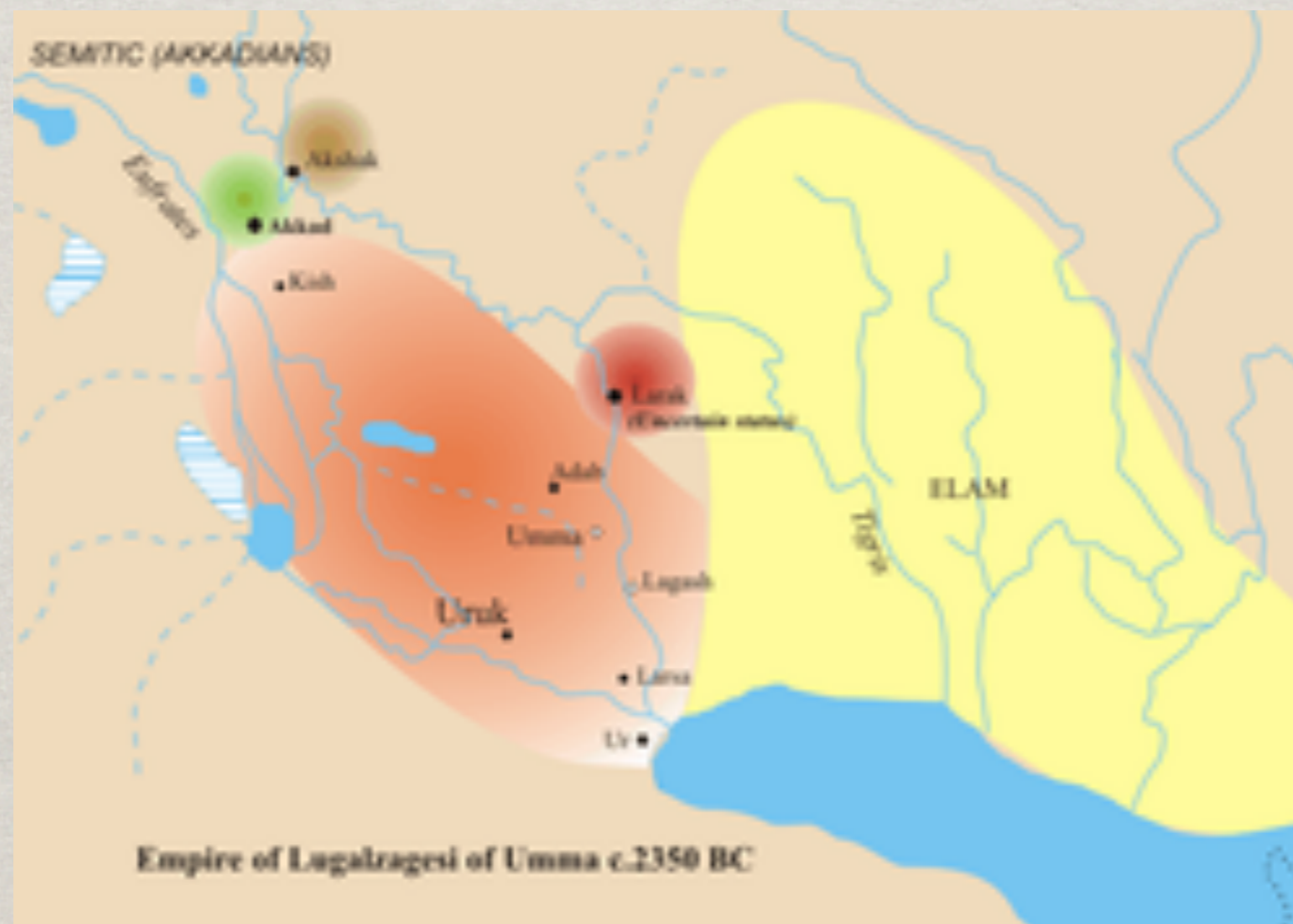


SUMER

(AKKADIA, BABYLONIA)

- ✻ City-states, ziggurats, from 3000 BCE
- ✻ Early agriculture, first writing, 2600 BCE
- ✻ Abacus, 60-base arithmetic, astronomy
- ✻ Cosmos: God-world,
Sea, Earth, and Underworld

MESOPOTAMIA



INDIA

- ✻ Vedas, first Indo-European text, 1700 BCE
- ✻ Creation myth with vibration metaphor
- ✻ Shamanism, higher states of consciousness
- ✻ Kashmiri Shaivism, 1000 CE

RG VEDA AREA



GREECE

- ✻ Pythagoras, 572 - 497 BCE
Ideas, souls, harmony
- ✻ Plato, 429 - 347 BCE
The one, ideas, soul, nature (the cave)
- ✻ Ficino, 1433 - 1499 CE
The one, ideas, soul, spirit, nature

ANCIENT GREECE



THE MIND/BODY PROBLEM

- ✿ From Egypt to Ficino, 1400 CE: no problem
- ✿ Descartes, 1596 - 1650 (dualism: 1641)
 - ✿ Mind = consciousness: nonphysical
 - ✿ Brain = intelligence: physical (body)
- ✿ How can an immaterial mind cause anything in a material body, and vice-versa? (The problem of interactionism).

REFERENCES

- ✻ *Demystifying the Akasha: Consciousness and the Quantum Vacuum* (Abraham and Roy, 2010)
- ✻ See the detailed bibliography at:
www.ralph-abraham.org/workshops/esalen2010

THE END