

Diaspora



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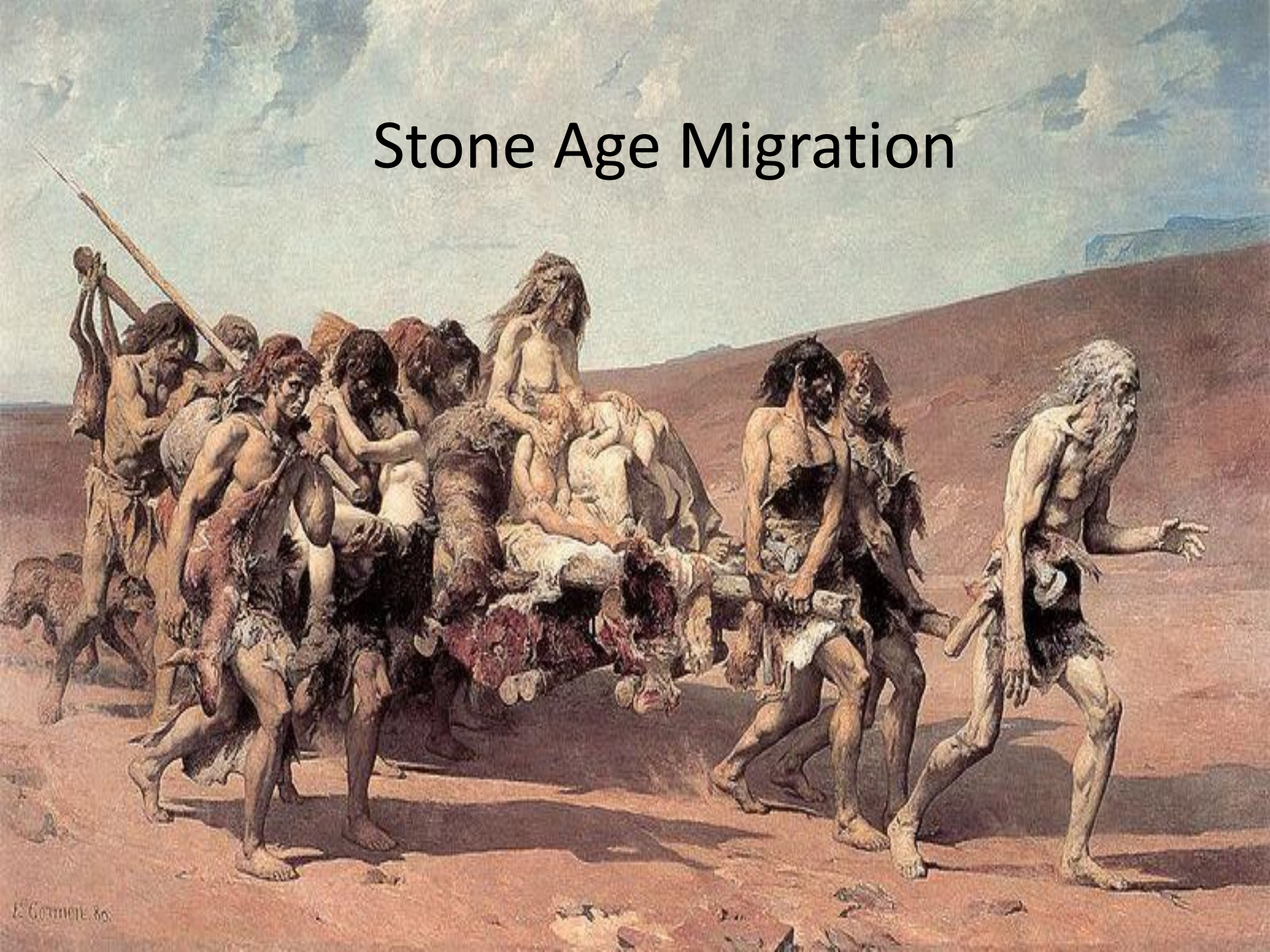
Origin

- **di·as·po·ra**
- [dahy-as-per-uh, dee-]
- ***Origin:***
1875–80; < **Greek** diasporá a **dispersion**.
- Synonyms: dispersion, dissemination (spreading something, especially information), migration, displacement, scattering.

An:



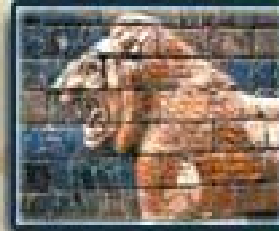
Stone Age Migration



- 1. the **scattering of the Jews** to countries outside of Palestine after the Babylonian captivity.
- 2. the body of Jews living in countries outside Israel.
- 3. any group **migration** or flight from a country or region.
- 4. any group that has been **dispersed** outside its traditional homeland, especially **involuntarily**, as Africans during the trans-Atlantic slave trade.

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The Captivity of Judah (586-516 B.C.)







History

- Diaspora first entered English in the late 19th century to describe the scattering of Jews after their captivity in Babylonia in the 5th century B.C.
- The term originates from the Greek diasporá, meaning “a dispersion or scattering,” found in Greek translations of the Hebrew Bible (Deuteronomy 25).
- The term can also refer generally to Jews living today outside of Israel.

Modern Diaspora

- Diaspora also has been applied to the similar experiences of other peoples who have been forced from their homelands; for example, to the trans-Atlantic passage of Africans under the slave trade of the 17th through 19th centuries, which has been called the African Diaspora.
More recently, we find a scattering of the meaning of diaspora, which can now be used to refer not only to a group of people, but also to some aspect of their culture.

India – Pakistan Partition





Vietnam people to the U.S





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Indian Diasporic Writers

Old generation :

- **Kamala Markandaya, Bharati Mukherjee, Anita Desai, Salman Rushdie, Vikram Seth, V.S. Naipaul, Nirad Chaudri, Amitav Ghosh, Ved Mehta and A.K. Ramanujan**
- Kamala Markandaya, Anita Desai, Salman Rushdie, Vikram Seth, Amitav Ghosh are Britain–based Indian writers.
- V.S. Naipaul has spent his life in West Indies and England. Santha Rama Rau and Bharati Mukherjee are living in the United States of America.
- Saros Cowasjee and Cyril Dabydeen are the writers residing in Canada.

Indian Diasporic Writers

Younger generation :

- **Tilottama Rajan, Uma Parameswaran, Ashis Gupta, Rohinton Mistry, M.G. Vassanji** are from Canada.
- **Pico Iyer and Gita Mehta** are from Britain.
- **Kiran Desai, Meena Alexander, Chitra Bannerjee Divakaruni, Jhumpa Lahiri and Shashi Tharoor** represent the American based Indian writers

Indian Diaspora

- Diasporic Indian literature has the worldwide context today.
- It has become a forum for expressing the emotional and psychic consequences of immigrant experience.
- The writers of Indian diaspora realistically portray this state of existence.
- Their writings are also called as 'expatriate writings' (temporarily or permanently residing in another country) or 'immigrant writings'.

Key Terms

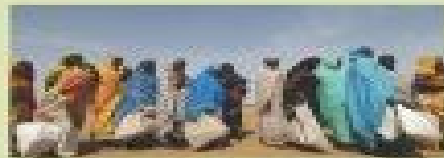
- **Immigrant** – refers to the location, a new land and physical movement.
- **Exile** – shows the sense of alienation due to forced or self or political exile.
- **Refugee** – refers to people taking shelter in another country for various political and socio-economic reasons.
- **Dislocation** – This term is used to express the movement from a known place to an unknown place. It also includes diverse experiences including invasion, settlement, slavery and imprisonment.

Theory

- While colonialism and post colonialism refer to the political and historical aspects of a country, the **theory of diaspora** is generally preoccupied with the question of **centrality, hybridity, ambience(atmosphere), transculturation of the people.**
- **“Diasporic writing is concerned with not only of a basic geographical distinction but also a whole sense of ‘interests’ ”**
(Edward Said)
- **Edward Said, Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak and Homi Bhabha** are the prominent theorists of diaspora.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

AN ATLAS OF MIGRATION



Russell King

Richard Black • Michael Collyer • Anthony Fielding • Ronald Skeldon