

Neandertals becoming more modern with time

Michael J. Oard

Many people and some scientists still consider Neandertals the last ‘missing link’ before man. Neandertals were first discovered in 1856 in the Neander Valley of Germany. They lived during the Ice Age, mostly in caves. Neandertal Man is often depicted as a brutish caveman. Numerous facial and skeletal reconstructions showed him half ape and half man. But since the first discovery, over 500 skeletons have been found. These reveal the true nature of Neandertal Man and the bias of evolutionists.

Fossil discoveries showing Neandertals a people group that left Babel

The depictions of Neandertal Man have completely changed in the past 50 years. Although once thought to have a brain about 10% larger than modern man, a better analysis shows that Neandertals had only a slightly larger brain than modern man,¹ which is three times the brain volume of an ape. This should have been powerful evidence that Neandertals were humans like us.

Neandertals buried their dead with flowers, a distinctly human trait.^{2,3} Sometimes Neandertals were found buried with modern humans.⁴ It is likely they built boats based on remains from Mediterranean Sea islands.^{5,6} Neandertal Man likely crossed the Gibraltar Strait. All of these discoveries or deductions indicate early people, including Neandertals, and even *Homo erectus*,⁷ built boats and could navigate the seas. And had much more

intelligence than evolutionists have given them credit for.

At one time, paleoanthropologists believed Neandertals were physiologically incapable of complex speech.⁸ A Neandertal hyoid bone was discovered in Israel in 1989 that was very similar to that of modern humans. The hyoid bone, from the region of the throat, is not connected to any other bones. It is very important for controlled speech. However, this did not satisfy many skeptics that Neandertals could speak like modern man. Based on newer technology, the internal structure and micro-biomechanical features of the hyoid bone were analyzed.⁹ The results were consistent with Neandertals having complex speech, the same as modern humans. However, some skeptics were still not satisfied. They declared that just because Neandertals had all the features needed for complex speech, it does not prove that they talked like us. And besides, it was only one sample. From the new research, the old adage can be applied: “If it quacks like a duck, and looks like a duck, then it must be a duck.”

Moreover, human hyoid bones have also been found with other Ice Age people groups.⁹ For instance, *Homo heidelbergensis*, the supposed ancestor of Neandertals, had two human hyoid bones found at Sima de los Huesos in the Sierra de Atapuerca, Spain.¹⁰ These cave fossils were at one time thought to be Neandertal, giving good indication that they were no different than Neandertals. However, they are now considered *Homo heidelbergensis*,¹¹ likely because they date the fossils to half a million years—too old for Neandertals.

Neandertal Man is also believed to have lived in the foothills of the western Ural Mountains just south of the Arctic Circle.^{12,13} Apparently, they were smart enough to survive in what uniformitarian scientists assume was a very cold environment during the Ice Age.¹⁴

Neandertal Man had the controlled use of fire.^{15,16} The evidence for this consists of 165 stones and stone artefacts, and several hundred animal-bone fragments found in a Spanish cave that display signs of heating up to 400–600°C, consistent with fire. Since the evidence was found about 8 m (26 ft) inside the cave, the researchers thought it unlikely that the signs of controlled fire were caused by sparks from a wildfire.

Scientists have also discovered the remains of an annular construction found 336 m (1,100 ft) within another cave in south-west France attributed to Neandertals.¹⁷ They discovered a regular geometry of broken stalagmite circles with several traces of fire. This is the first evidence scientists found displaying Neandertal’s construction ability and revealing a complex social network and evidence of communicating for a given end, to build a home within the cave.¹⁸ Thus, “humans from this period had already mastered the underground environment which can

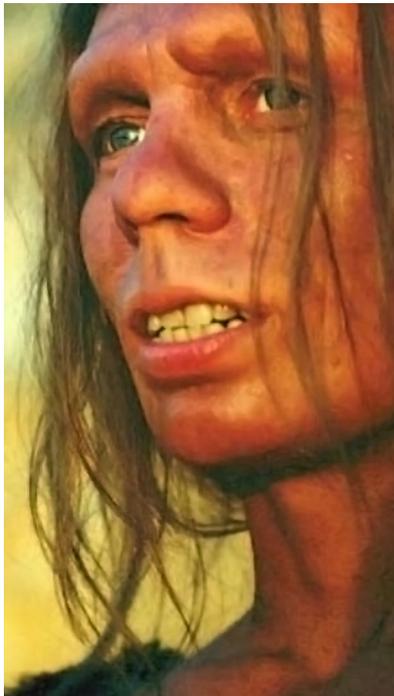


Figure 1. Reconstruction of a Neandertal woman

be considered a major step in human modernity.”¹⁹ However, these scientists are speaking from the point of view of evolution. Neandertals did not need a major step toward humanity; they were already fully human. The authors also conclude:

“Until now no evidence has been found for regular Neanderthal incursions into caves, except for a possible case of footprints, and Neanderthal constructions inside caves, at least at a distance that is no longer exposed to daylight, were totally unknown.”²⁰

The cave findings support other human abilities of Neandertals including painting sophisticated images on cave walls,²¹ jewelry making,^{22,23} and painting perforated marine shells for body jewelry.²⁴ Neandertals probably made bone flutes, and so could also make music.^{25–27} It had been controversial whether Neandertal Man painted on cave walls, but new evidence indicates that they did indeed produce cave art. They did it before ‘modern’ people supposedly entered the area. The researchers even suggest that Neandertal Man may have taught the skill to modern man. Art is also a human characteristic.^{28,29}

Neandertal Man was a sophisticated hunter and ate a diversity of food, including mushrooms.^{30,31} They not only ate meat but also ate vegetables, fish, and birds, and hunted small, fast game such as rabbits. They even cooked their food.³² The Neandertals used string, suggesting a high level of sophistication.³⁰ Hardy *et al.* also noted that much is missed in archeology because of biases in what the researchers believe and therefore look for. Moreover, the new results challenge the idea that innovation came late with the Neandertals and was passed on by modern man.

The recent discovery that a slight majority of Neandertals had mild to severe swimmer’s ear, same as some modern humans, suggests that they dove for aquatic food.³³ Swimmer’s

ear is a bony growth in the ear caused by frequent diving, likely for fish or bottom animals. This find could point to a level of adaptability and flexibility in Neandertals. No fishbones had been found associated with Neandertals, but a new report by Zilhão *et al.* from caves along the coast of Portugal discovered that Neandertals ate a wide variety of marine organisms, such as marine invertebrates, fish, marine birds and mammals, tortoises, and waterfowl.³⁴ Generally, their diet was terrestrial. Most of the Neandertal fossils analyzed lived far inland, although they are associated with rivers and lakes. Swimmer’s ear can also be caused by living in a damp, windy environment, which would have typified the Ice Age climate that followed the Genesis Flood.³³

In summary, archaeology now confirms that Neandertal Man had numerous abilities that are attributed to modern man. The evidence is inescapable that Neandertal Man was just a people group, who left Babel, and settled in Europe and western Asia (figure 1). Ingrained ideas die hard, but the number of evolutionists who still consider Neandertal Man primitive are dwindling. Hopefully, it will soon be zero.

Neandertals intermarried and were absorbed into modern man

Secular scientists have two theories on why Neandertal Man disappeared. One is that he interbred with and was absorbed within modern man. The second is that Neandertals went extinct, possibly killed by other humans or even from climate change. Climate change seems unreasonable, since Neandertal Man survived during the Ice Age. The first possibility is now supported by genetics that shows Neandertal Man was absorbed into modern man through reproduction.³⁵ We know this from the DNA of Europeans and Asians today, which contains about 1 to 4% Neandertal

DNA.³⁶ Some people from that region still show Neandertal-like skull features. Even Africans have Neandertal DNA, as well as all other people of the world.³⁷ We all have Neandertal DNA.

Neandertal Man was a ‘caveman’,³⁸ but he was very intelligent. They were not half ape and half human as the culture tries to portray them. Cavemen are simply people who live in caves. Some people live in caves today, and have electricity and TVs! The insides of Neandertal caves were laid out like houses. They had covered dwellings within the cave, based on post holes found in the cave sediments. It is likely their ‘houses’ were covered with animal skins providing warmth and privacy.³⁹

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