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Written by Renet aka Valhyr Table of content Topics covered What do we know of ancient symbols? The truth is that we know very little as there is no written sources for most of these symbols. Symbols from different tribes can mean different tribes can mean different tribes can mean different tribes.
we can draw one thing in many ways and it was true also back then. In this article I will cover the most common interpretations and widely agreed upon meanings for these symbols but I also think it's important to keep in mind that no one person can claim to know what these meant to people back then. If someone claims to know or have some inside
information on ancient symbols then I highly suggest disregarding their take on these cause it's likely they have an agenda. Hopefully this article will help you draw inspiration and ideas from the people in the past though, be it for your artwork, writing, tattoos or whatever you enjoy doing! Circle Meaning: Sun, Sprout, Moon and Eternity Time period:
- Description: Used almost everywhere to symbolize the sun but sometimes the moon as well, with the sun being more decorated and moon being an empty circle or a half circle to symbolize the sun but sometimes the moon cycle. If the circle is added to a pole it could symbolize a human or a leaf/sprout as with the tree of life that Ill explain further down, Later on in sigils
and galdrastafir a ring around the symbol would mean to contain the powers of that symbol - this is probably from Solomons sigils where a circle around would contain the demon inside the sigil that is being summoned. Dots (Cupmarks) Meaning: Landmarks, sacrificial area, population, the atom of any artwork as all begins with a dot Time period: -
Description: Use is unknown but in tapestry its a substitute for lines. In petroglyph art its speculated that it couldve been a measurement of some sorts for a distance between two objects, perhaps a grove and a village but its uncertain. Its also plausible that stones were carved with sacred symbols and the dots were then used as a place to crush
seeds or herbs in to empower them similar to how wheat and coffee powder are made. The dot is usually a supplementary symbol, meaning to them. For example the dots on the letters and or the letters and or the letters and or the same is with symbols. If a dotted line is between two petroglyph warriors then it
probably means a border. Dots could also be from constellations, as back then people would stare at the sky and draw symbols between the different stars and perhaps draw or carve them the next day on rocks. Spiral Meaning: Creation, fertility, growth Time period: - Description: Its seen on burial sites and is associated with journey and perhaps the
underworld or a journey into a new existence. The spiral is also associated with the magic of the Vikings (I use this word to turn up in search engines forgive me) called Seidr (seir). Seen on the trispiral and thus indicating what part of the
year it is with equinoxes and solstices aligning with the spiral being marked. Spirals have been connected with sunrise and the moon phases as well but they are dominantly very positive symbols. Vertical Line Meaning: Connection Time period: - Description: Supporting the earth and the heavens, the road between the the ground and the skies. With
the top part being connected to the sky with the polestar. On tapestries or between two different symbols it would mean the division of the two, subtracting the meanings and leaving only the unique parts of each symbol. Horizontal Line Meanings and leaving only the unique parts of each symbol. Horizontal Line Meanings and leaving only the unique parts of each symbol.
come across is that it symbolizes the meaning of the horizon something very far and unreachable thus having great power and mystery to it. In tapestry it could be just as a stylization element but there are survived meanings for this in Estonia and Finland, they are that a line above a symbol would increase its power and when its under it multiplies
the symbols meaning and if the sign is between two symbols it joins their powers. Triangle Meaning: A lot but mainly - Fire, Growth, Rebirth and Fertility, Sign of the gods Time period: - Description: A triangle meaning and if the sign is between two symbols it joins their powers. Triangle Meaning: A lot but mainly - Fire, Growth, Rebirth and Fertility, Sign of the gods Time period: - Description: A triangle meaning and if the sign is between two symbols it joins their powers. Triangle meaning: A lot but mainly - Fire, Growth, Rebirth and Fertility, Sign of the gods Time period: - Description: A triangle meaning and if the sign is between two symbols it joins their powers.
moon. A triangle could mean royalty or heritage with two tips being the king and queen, mother and father and the single pointing upwards was
pointing at them. A triangle pointing downwards would instead mean earth spirits and earth itself as well as humans and villages. Row of Triangles Meaning: Water, Mountains, Transfering Energy, Motion Time period: - Description: Mostly based on tapestries and artwork, its most prominent meaning is water. It could also be just a decorative
element or symbolize a forest with the triangles being the tip of the trees but this depends on which symbols surround the symbol. Column of Triangles Meaning: Lightning, Sunray Time period: - Description: This also ties into the Swastika with that symbol being for thunder and the thunder god Thor. A column of triangles would depict lightning or a
ray of sun and would later evolve to be the swil rune which represents sun. Cross or X Meaning: Protection, sunshine, on land it would mean connection to the underworld Time period: - Description: The cross has its origins probably in the sun most specifically the rays of sun. Crosses are most commonly associated with protection and the force of
good and empowering positive outcomes. The protection against especially evil beings like werewolves, the undead(a combination of vampire and diagonal cross we get one with 8 tips which would mean protection against all directions and against everything really. Crossroads
themselves would be associated with the connection to the underworld and usually in these places sacrifices were made to speak to the spirits. Square Meaning: Connection, Meeting place, Household Time period: - Description: A square could mean a plethora of things. Most common Ive seen are a meeting place or a center of a town or such as well
as a connecting place. It could also mark belonging of people like a way to group up elements inside it. Its always used as a complementary element rather than alone Rhomb or Diamond Meaning: Fertility, Womb, Crops Time period: - Description: Most common representation for it is fertility both for women and the earth. A rhomb with a circle in the
middle would mean a crop and when there are hooks on the end of the symbols meaning is kind of foggy and its origin as well, it
is widely used for decorative purposes - filling in an empty space. But the loop is endless thus its likely related to infinity as with similar symbols and with this symbol its also important to see what other symbols and with similar symbols and with this symbol its also important to see what other symbols and with similar symbols and symbols and
Swastika (Thundercross) Meaning: Sunwheel, Movement, Progression, Lightning, Fertility, Thors hammer Mjlnir in motion Time period: - Description: Probably the most butchered meaning and people still continue to butcher it today. Extremists on both sides have given this symbol a meaning that it no way deserves and its sadly banned in some
countries thus both sides decide to keep that negative symbolism with it and give that negative meaning even more power when we could as well move past that horrible time. One of the most sacred symbols of our folk, it symbolized a sunwheel in motion. It was associated with the lightning deities of different cultures like Thor, Taranis, Taara, Ukko,
Thunar and so on. Associated with the sun it was also a symbol tied in with fire, its said to help against evil, the moon or the sun, Odin, fertility Time period: - Description: Close relative to the swastika, this was to symbolise the moon and the three stages of our moon. It
could also represent the sun or the stead of the sun. Its believed the triskele wards off evil spirits. Triquetra Meaning: Dynamic energy, flow Time period: - Description: This symbol has its similarities with the Valknut and perhaps its often sharing the meaning. It is often used with other symbols rather than alone and added into rock carvings and
tapestries to fill spaces so its often used as a decorative element. Pentagram Meaning: Fire, life power Time period: - Description: To protect against fire and evil spirits, it was associated with the rowan berries since they have a pentagram at their tip. The rowan berries were spilled around the yard of a farmstead to protect against fire breaking out.
Octagram Meaning: Luck, Protect against mistakes, repair wrong doings, empower containing symbols Time period: - Description: Often the insides are decorated with other symbols in side the hexagram would then be set in motion and empowered. The symbols in side the hexagram would then be set in motion and empowered to the winter and especially Yule and its most likely
a representation of the Polestar and called the star of luck. Octothorpe (Hashtag) Meaning: A door to somewhere, home/farmstead, field fertility Time period: - Description: This symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks on a house or farmstead thus symbolises the cells of a well or a plan of wood planks of a well or a plan of wood planks of a well or a plan of wood planks of a well or a well or a well or a well or
as a complimentary piece rather than alone. The word thorpe meant field or farm in Old Norse so the todays word for it means eight fields. Ring, Orb, Sr Meaning: Universe, Sun, the whole, harmony Time period: - Description: Its universelly the symbol for the sun and the earth/nature, in some northern and eastern parts of europe its symbol is more
developed into harmony and meaning the whole in a sense that it emcompasses the existing. Some of these are very similar to the petroglyph solar wheel. Flower Meaning: Many meanings, it depends on the number of spikes it has Time period: - Description: Not much has remained from these but considering different artworks have a certain number
of spikes then we can say it meant something. Some verbally remained meanings are that 5 spikes meant to stay silent and fortune, 7 spikes meant to stay silent and to listen, 6 spikes meant to stay silent and fortune, 7 spikes meant to stay silent and fortune, 7 spikes meant to stay silent and to listen, 6 spikes meant to stay silent and fortune, 7 spikes meant to stay silent and to listen, 6 spikes meant to stay silent and something.
its speculated that the symbol derives from a now extinct plant called Silphium, it was used as a spice but also as a medicine and birth control. The symbol comes from the seed of the plant that was said to resemble the shape of the heart symbol and its recorded by many ancient texts. Due to the plant being extinct we can tell the ancestors liked it,
another possible meaning for this could be the breasts of a woman, the behind or like the Venus of Lespugue the breasts and the stomach section down to the legs and thus rather being associated with fertility and sexuality. The meaning of romantic love was probably given to this symbol around the 10th to 12th century. Apple Meaning: Fertility,
Sweet, Beauty, Youth Time period: - Description: A very ancient symbol, apples are associated with several gods afterwards and they serve the same meaning as youthfulness and beauty. Tree Meaning: Nature, calm, rest or a landmark Time period: - Description: This one again depends on the surrounding elements a lot, most of the time it was
decorative with perhaps meaning resting or to soothe the elements around it so it would not get too crowded. It was probably also used to mark where great hunting/gathering grounds are or something similar - these are very ancient and hard to tell for sure, we can only guess based on the elements around it. Tree of Life Meaning: To
connect worlds, mystery, fertility, the tree of life and all its meanings Time period: - Description: Very ancient symbol across all of europe. To the vikings it symbolized the connection between the nine worlds and was to them the combination of two algiz runes,
its also speculated that the algiz rune developed from this symbol as a lot of runes have come from earlier symbols. One variation of this symbol shares its visual with the Donderbezem that was very popular around the area of the Netherlands. Thunderbloom (Donderbezem) Meaning: Protect against lightning strikes and evil spirits Time period: -
Description: It symbolizes visually the end of a broom at the door to not let spirits in when leaving the house, this was practiced around a lot of places but the symbol is mostly from the previously mentioned places. Later on the symbol
evolved into a mill or a variation of the tree of life. It was associated with the god Thor and could be the ancestor of the hagalaz rune as well. Petroglyphs, Cave Paintings and Artwork Ship Meaning: War, Fertility, Death and the afterlife Time period: - Description: Most of the ships depicted are full of men so its safe to assume these were war ships
Some are depicted with what seem to be priests on them with slightly curved heads or robes. Our ancestors paid great respect to the ships, they were not just for travelling but living and breathing beasts to them. The ships would be carved or painted on burial sites as well since the journey in the afterlife would be taken on a ship or a cart. People
might be a tale our ancestors told each other or perhaps a myth of a deity. People were also painted kissing and showing emotions, spinning the sunwheel, riding on carts, dancing, performing sacrifices or rituals and doing all kinds of different activities. People depicted with bent knees or in dancing motion could also mean those that have passed the
ancestors as well as bent knees could mean giving birth as we sometimes see people with bent knees and something attached to their stomach Elk, Deer, Moose Meaning: Besides being the animal itself they could have meant a journey to afterlife Time period: - Description: On petroglyphs found in todays Finland we see petroglyphs of elks with their
antlers carrying people, this could be a similar ritual to the ships that would travel in the afterlife. Often elks are depicted together with humans, the reason is unknown but it could mean that elks were seen friendly and people coexisted with them and honored them, the human is almost always depicted exactly behind the elk. Some pictures show
people riding them and some have the humans strangely close to the behind on an elk, but lets not make any assumptions here perhaps there was not much room on the rock. Horse Meaning: Travel, Leadership, Mastery Time period: - Description: Horses were domesticated over 6000 years ago and the art travelled with the people to todays Europe,
with possibly a military takeover due to some traditions changing very suddenly from archaeological finds thus indicating that no merging of cultures happened but rather a sudden stop of traditions. The horse itself was like a sports car today only that we dont eat our cars. It symbolized wealth and mastery as well as supernatural meanings. In a lot of
the cultures the sun was carried across the sky on a horse or in a chariot that was pulled by a horse. There are ancient artifacts found where the wheels with a sun in its chariot - which presumably was a toy or a decorative, ceremonial item. The norse gods had horses and
one specifically famous is Odins horse and Lokis child called Sleipnir with 8 legs, this was possibly a reference to movement and especially fast movement. Boar Meaning: Protection, War, Strength, Priviledge or Royalty Time period: - Description: A somewhat forgotten animal which once was perhaps the most important and tied to war as we see a lot
of early depictions where warriors wear boar pelts or boars on their helmets. Boar meat was served at Valhall for the Einherjar along with mead every night, with the boar Shrmnir being slain and resurrected each day. What a way to live. The animal was also associated with the norse gods Frey and Freya who both are of the Vanir family who were
older gods and probably worshipped hundreds of years before Odin and others came along Bear Meaning: Fear, Respect Time period: - Description: The bear was perhaps the most feared of the bears in all of the cultures. Berserkers would wear bear
pelts likely and they were exiled from communities to live on the outskirts of towns in the forests nearby since they were deemed to dangerous to live within the society. Wolf Meaning: Destruction, Chaos, Loyalty but also Care and Nurture Time period: - Description: The wolf is a respected animal and fear often goes hand-in-hand with it thus it
depends on the depiction. Wolves are seen as taking care of people as well for example Romulus and Remus the founders of Rome drink the milk of a she-wolf and wolves move in packs most often, thus giving more meaning to the symbol of loyalty. Ulfhednars were a sort of similar being to Berserkers, with them wearing wolf pelts instead of bear
Ulfhednars were assigned to Odin while Berserkers were assigned to Thor. They were seen as an even fiercer force than the Berserkers though with not wearing shields or any protection Raven Muninn who were
representations of thought and memory. Ravens were omen bringers and often associated with fortune telling and signs of future, although any animal could be a Fylgija (animal manifestations of people basically) they were mostly associated as one. Solar Cross Meaning: The sun, Fertility Time period: - Description: The most common symbol, the
solar cross, sun wheel, spoked sun or how any way you wish to call it. Its a great symbol of our ancestors that symbolizes the sun and Id like to think that the four dots inside the sun are representations of the four season with a lot of festivals during
midsommer festivities there are wreaths made and burned in the shape and people would roll burning solar crosses down hills to symbolize the movement of a sun. Giants Meaning: War leaders, Heroes, Mythological beings Time period: - Description: Often we see larger depictions of humans on rock carvings, it could mean they are closer to the
viewer and on the foreground while others battle in the distance if we put it into a three dimensional view but they are very likely warlords and leaders with the size depicting their ranking and status in a community rather than their actual size. We often see them decorated highly with clear weapons and battling one another. Priest Meaning: Perhaps
a ritual, or cloaks just to protect against heavy rain or water from the waves Time period: - Description: They do seem to be rather related to rituals as they are often seen around altars thus we can attribute those on the ship to symbolize perhaps a journey through the afterlife? An offering of respected people by the community going to talk to some
ancestors from the underworld. The number 8 seems to be associated with them given that usually its 8 priests depicted in a line - considering 9 was a sacred number perhaps the ninth priest was a deity or the ninth being offered. Chariot Meaning: Movement, Sun, Respect Time period: - Description: The sun was carried in a chariot by horses in a lot
of cultures and the chariot was an incredible invention to our ancestors. It allowed greater movement so as the ship it was viewed as something very sacred and rather a living being a part of the people. The chariot is associated with a lot of deities and rituals, for example a ritual associated with Nerthus was to drive a wagon through the city to a
grove in a swamp. The god Freyr is often depicted in a chariot as well as other gods riding in chariots. The chariot or rather a cart also enabled the transportation of heavy objects and large quantities of objects to be transported with ease. It was also associated with the afterlife journey one would take. Weapons Meaning: The weapon itself, a cultures
preference Time period: - Description: From this we can learn what weapons were valued and which are sometimes decorated as solar crosses or other decorative elements added to them. From this we can see clearly which was
used for which activities and assume shield were decorated, with bows and spears mostly being for hunting animals. While axes and clubs seem to be for warfare and rituals, a club or a hammer could be associated with the earlier version of the god Thor with the rituals being that the sacrificial person or animal being beaten to death with a club
Viking, Norse, Celtic and Germanic Valknut Meaning: Fate, Sacrifice, Death, Ritual, Action and Reaction, Offering Time period: Around 500-700 AD, most prominent during the Viking age Description: The knot the fallen (those slain in battle), as with many of these symbols we dont know what it was called back in the day, so the name knot of the
fallen is given to it because of the context it appears in. But the symbol itself was most likely associated with Odin and sacrifices. My own interpretation is that it could mean movement or fire considering what the triangle could mean and fitting it to the surrounding image its often seen in. It could also be a state of mind or emotion, the symbol is
always a supplementary image added to fill space it seems. Its speculated it might be the Heart of Hrungnir whose head, heart and shield were made of stone with the heart said to have triangular shape, said to be three sided. Yggdrasil Meaning: The World Tree, Tree of Life, The Nine Worlds, Fertility Time period: Around 1040-1170 AD Description:
Seen on the verhogdal tapestries the symbol is likely to symbolize Yggdrasil with people and animals rushing by it. It is speculated that the tapestry is a representation of Ragnarkkr Triskelion of drinking horns Meaning: Knowledge, Wisdom, Learning, Law, Leadership, Artistic Inspiration Time period: Around 600-800 AD, seen on multiple stone
engravings Description: Its likely related to the mead of poetry that Odin drank for three days while seducing the frost jotnn Gunnl, he said to take a sip and then drank the horn in one sip. After three days he dipped while disguised as an eagle. A regular Tinder date if you ask me, thats the first netflix and chill recorded. The horns had names which
were rrir, Bon, and Sn and they contained the whole mead of poetry in them which was created from the slain Kvasirs blood mixed with honey. Its said that there was no question Kvasir could not answer. Some tie this symbol together with the so-called Valknut. It is found on the Snoldelev runestone, the Gotland G268 runestone and possibly the
Tngelgarda stone where a warrior on a horse who possibly is Odin is seen with the symbol decorated on his shield. Web of Wyrd Meaning: Fate, Past Present and Future, The Norns, Weaving, Runes Time period: Likely 1997, December 31st Description: The design features the web of fate, also called Skulds Net, The Matrix of Fate or Helrunar which
is from a book by the same name. The design can fit each rune into it and its origin is most likely from the Helrunar book written in 1997. Trollknot Meaning: To protect against magic and ward off evil spirits Time period: Around 1990 by the blacksmith Kari Erlands
this is a symbol thats often practiced by blacksmiths. He said it was based of a rune found at his grandparents house. The design itself is similar to the Odal rune and possibly derived from it considering the Othala rune was drawn on doors as well to protect and variations of it were created often to be then used as family symbols. The symbol itself
would be carved or crafted on top of a door to prevent trolls and evildoers from entering the premises. Milnir Meaning: Thunder, Strength, Luck, Fruitful Wedding Time period: Unknown, prominent during the premises. Milnir Meaning: Thunder, Strength, Luck, Fruitful Wedding Time period: Unknown, prominent during the premises.
figure wearing a hammer in petroglyphs Description: The hammer of Thor that was crafted to him by the dwarves Brokkr and Eitri, the hammer is said to change its size with it fitting in the hand or in the pocket or as jewelry. The wedding of
Vikings would involve an imitation of Mjlnir with it being placed in the brides lap, sometimes this couldve been an axe as well. This would then ensure a fruitful marriage with the blessing of Thor, considering it was placed in the lap it couldve also blessed the family with a lot of sons. The Mjlnir was worn during the Viking age as a necklace and was
often made of bronze. Gungnir Meaning: Precision, Striking, Sacrifice Time period: Unknown, the same as with Mjlnir, the Gungnir has probably been a part of Odin from the days of Woden/Wodanaz as have the Ravens and Wolves. Description: Odins spear, it would not miss its mark and often Odin would sacrifice people on his spear. Sacrificing
someone by hanging them or piercing them with a spear was the way to offer that person to the god Odin, the words Nu gef ek pik Odni would be said before impalement. Gungnir was also made into jewelry and then worn to gain the blessing of Odin. Huginn and Muninn Meaning: Thought and Memory, Sanity, Aging, Surveillance Time period:
Description: The ravens of the god Odin with Huginn meaning thought and Muninn meaning memory. Odin fears that one day they will not return anymore, this is probably a reference to sanity. As in the older days elders were not as cold as it seems, they
cared for one another and those that fell ill or were badly injured were taken care of, we can say this by looking the way bones have healed over time meaning that the person had time to heal. But this could hint at Odin being afraid of falling old or with the wisdom he acquires he ends up suffocating himself with all this information and going that the person had time to heal. But this could hint at Odin being afraid of falling old or with the wisdom he acquires he ends up suffocating himself with all this information and going the way bones have healed over time meaning that the person had time to heal.
completely insane. Huginn and Muninn fly around midgard and bring back news to Odin of what the humans are up to. They are often depicted above the head, coming from the shoulders. Thats it for now! I'm working on this article right now and in the coming month or so I'll have at least 2 times the symbols here with
archaeological finds. If you don't want to miss this then sign up to the news letter to be notified! But until then all the best and don't stop looking for wisdom! DON'T MISS OUT! Sign up to get the latest news on discounts, freebies, articles and releases! Also Heimdallr has replaced the Gjallahorn with an email service, so we'll notify you through this then sign up to get the latest news on discounts, freebies, articles and releases! Also Heimdallr has replaced the Gjallahorn with an email service, so we'll notify you through this then sign up to get the latest news on discounts, freebies, articles and releases!
when Ragnarok starts The title for the worlds oldest dated cave art is currently held by an unassuming red disk, at least 41,000 years old, painted on a wall inside a rock formation in El Castillo, Spain. Its the size of a teacups saucer, says paleoarchaeologist Genevieve von Petzinger (TED Talk: Why are these 32 symbols found in ancient caves all over
Europe?). Its this very innocuous little thing. For centuries, the focus of paleoanthropology (and the popular imagination) has been the representational art that our ancestors left behind in caves: eye-catching drawings of deer, horse, bison and human figures. But when she was a senior in college, von Petzinger, a TED Fellow and a researcher at the
University of Victoria in Canada, was drawn to the often-overlooked abstract signs: the disks, triangles, dots, circles and lines. There was something about them that I found much more interesting than the animals and the people, she says. Those are nice too, but it seemed like there were some patterns going on there, and yet there was not even
enough information to even delve into it. Five years ago, von Petzinger set out to document and systematically catalogue the geometric signs found at the nearly 370 known rock art sites across the continent. From
there, she identified gaps in the inventories at many sites and by exploring the rarely documented sites with her husband, photographer/filmmaker Dillon von Petzinger, to capture the images she made discoveries that hold tantalizing implications about the origin of art and the evolution of human cognition. The Las Chimeneas cave in northern Spain.
Pictured here is a Spanish tectiform sign (left), a local version of the tectiform (meaning roof-shaped) sign. The Spanish tectiform is indigenous to northern Spain, and its been hypothesized to be a representation of a Paleolithic dwelling or a boat or to be a more abstract interpretation of a local clan or tribal sign. Though they made cave art, early
humans werent exactly cavemen. Homo sapiens modern humans, anatomically identical to us today first appeared 200,000 years ago in Africa. Early humans probably did not live in caves, more likely in the entrances to caves were almost like their backyard, von Petzinger says. And while we mainly know them by their art on cave walls, early
Homo sapiens likely decorated their entire surroundings. Caves are probably a fraction of what used to be decorated, she says. Cave art remains because it was protected from the elements offering paleoanthropologists a unique and well-preserved look at the work of our ancestors. How can we know the age of a cave drawing? Von Petzinger studies
art made 10,000 to 40,000 years ago, in the Upper Paleolithic period of the Ice Age. (The last Ice Age spanned from roughly 110,000 years ago, in the Upper Paleolithic period are carbon-14 dating can determine the age of decaying
organic matter, such as bones and charcoal-based paint, thats up to 40,000 years old. It works by measuring the ratio of radioactive carbon-12, which remains constant even after organic matter dies. Uranium-series dating is a more recent addition to the dating tool kit, and it can find dates that go even further back.
Uranium dating works in caves that contain calcite, a mineral thats often found in stalactites and other features of living, growing caves. Calcite contains uranium, which decays over time which means that if theres
calcite on a cave wall over a cave painting, that uranium decay can be measured to set the minimum age of a piece of cave art, or the date at which the calcite first covered it. Uranium detay can be measured to set the minimum age of a piece of painting new discoveries are coming from, von Petzinger says, because its opened up a whole world of engravings and types of painting.
we couldnt date before. Up a side passage off the main pathway in the El Castillo cave in Spain, you will find a single panel consisting of a penniform (named after the Latin word for feather) sign in black, surrounded by five bell-shaped signs in red. The ledge framing the bottom of this tableaux gives it an almost altar-like appearance. How to find the
common signs that bridged dozens of caves and 30,000 years of human habitation. Over seven months in 2013 and 2014, von Petzinger and her husband visited and documented 52 cave sites in Spain, Portugal, France and Italy. She selected sites where researchers had noted geometric signs but hadnt recorded details. After her fieldwork was
complete, she analyzed all the signs shed catalogued. And what she saw made the hair on the back of her neck stand up: across 30,000 years and the entire continuity? That really small number tells you that they must have been meaningful to the
people who were using them, because they were replicating them, she says. A Spanish tectiform sign, dots and a horse found in La Paseiga, Spain, a richly decorated cave site featuring engravings, animal drawings and over 100 geometric images. Given La Paseiga, Spain, a richly decorated cave site featuring engravings, animal drawings and over 100 geometric images.
cave over hundreds of years. These discoveries have overturned the conventional timeline of humans and art. Paleoanthropologists had long believed that art was invented during a creative explosion 40,000 years ago in Europe the first Homo sapiens are thought to have migrated there from Africa during an Ice Age warm spell roughly 45,000 years
ago. But von Petzingers research challenges this conventional wisdom. I realized that two-thirds of the signs were already in use when humans arrived in Europe, she says, suggesting the symbols are a continuation of an existing tradition rather than the start of something new. This radically moves back the plausible timeline for when humanity began
creating and using symbols. Some of these signs could potentially be part of a larger system that they brought with them as they spread across the world. The 32 signs that von Petzinger has catalogued in Ice Age cave art across Europe. They account for the vast majority of non-
figurative imagery found across the continent during this 30,000-year time span, suggesting that they were used with purpose and were meaningful to their creators. Each of the 32 signs has their own distinct pattern of use. Courtesy Genevieve von Petzinger. Could a handmark mean I was here? Once considered ornamental and of secondary interest.
geometric signs outnumber representational images in caves by at least two to one. The 32 signs documented by von Petzinger include dots, asterisks, spirals and negative hands. Negative hands image of a handprint, are one of the oldest signs to appear in caves, and they were most popular during the earlier part of the Ice Age
(between 22,000 and 40,000 years ago). They may have been a signal that a particular person had been at a site or a symbolic representation of a person or a group of people, von Petzinger says. They may even have been some sort of early sign language. The penniform, named after the Latin term meaning feather or plume-shaped, was a later
artistic invention, first appearing between 28,000 and 30,000 years ago, and might have been used to depict weaponry or trees and plants. Tectiforms, named from the Latin word for roof-shaped, appear solely between 13,000 and 17,000 years ago and are only found at nine cave sites, indicating it was probably a localized invention and perhaps even
a clan sign or marker of a specific groups identity. A chamber with Spanish tectiforms made with red ochre, found in El Castillo. The tectiform signs are large many of them are two to three feet in length. The large groupings of red dots in the form of rows or circular patterns seem to appear most often in northern Spain. Ice Age artists adored the color
red. Von Petzinger has observed remarkable efforts by early humans to control the colors of their creations, and they exhibited a strong preference for red ochre up to these very specific temperature ranges, which causes a chemical change and
makes it a really vibrant red, she says. Were almost seeing them engineering with fire. AncestralHomo species started using ochre over 250,000 years ago, likely for practical and the mundane may have been their starting point, but over time, you start to
see them making decisions based more on what they liked as opposed to what was the easiest or the most practical solution, von Petzinger says. This evidence of color preference could also be an indication of the early human brain developing complex, symbolic cognitive processes. Were Neanderthals artists, too? Another question that von Petzinger
hopes to answer someday is whether Neanderthals the original inhabitants of Europe, who lived there until going extinct roughly 30,000 years ago were also making graphic marks. Traditionally, all Ice Age art has been attributed by scientists to our human ancestors. However, a recently identified crosshatch engraving from a cave in Gibraltar
appears to have been made by Neanderthals, raising the intriguing possibility that this closely related species overlapped in Europe for at least 10,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 years, it may be that some of the signs dating 30,000 yea
dimension to the study of Ice Age art, von Petzinger says. The La Pasiega Inscription a remarkable series of signs strung together is a rarity in Ice Age art. While this isnt writing as we know it today, it is possibly a very early attempt at creating a more complex message using multiple signs. Linked symbols might be the precursor of more complicated
communication. Its tempting to look for an alphabet or glossary in von Petzingers signs, but it wasnt until 5,000 years ago that humans started to develop sophisticated systems for graphic communication. However, the 32 signs do seem to have communicative properties, and von Petzinger suggests we can possibly trace the origins of our first writing
systems back to these ancient symbols. Take northern Spains La Pasiega Inscription, which dates back roughly 16,000 years and features a number of signs strung together. While a series like this was highly unusual, the La Pasiega Inscription just might be a very early attempt to create a more complex message, she explains. Humans were starting
to experiment in ways that may have helped lead to sentences and to the creation of writing later. A negative hand, one of the oldest types of imagery in the world, found in El Castillo. Negative hand, one of the oldest types of imagery in the world, found in El Castillo. Negative hand, one of the oldest types of imagery in the world, found in El Castillo. Negative hand, one of the oldest types of imagery in the world, found in El Castillo.
 leaving an outline. What can art tell us about the evolution of human cognition? Art is a really interesting window into the mind, von Petzinger says, Its this very abstract, cognitively complex thing to do. If early humans were creating signs with specific meanings during the Ice Age, it would mark a huge step forward in when we developed complex
writing systems. After all, our ability to communicate graphically is one of the things that sets us apart from the rest of the animal kingdom. Once you can store information outside of an individual, think about what the potential is to be able to pass that information onto larger groups of people and to preserve important information, von Petzinger
says. I think those very first little steps actually helped put us on this incredible path that weve ended up on. She is currently working to broaden her database to include sites in the Balkans and Caucasus, before expanding further east into Eurasia. And shes planning an expedition in spring 2018 to go to the coast of Spain and search for submerged
caves that just might have intact Ice Age art, a collaboration with underwater robot entrepreneur and fellow TED Fellow David Lang (TED Talk: My underwater robot). For more information about von Petzingers work, read her 2016 book The First Signs: Unlocking the Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols. All photos courtesy of Dillon von Petzingers work, read her 2016 book The First Signs: Unlocking the Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols. All photos courtesy of Dillon von Petzingers work, read her 2016 book The First Signs: Unlocking the Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols. All photos courtesy of Dillon von Petzingers work, read her 2016 book The First Signs: Unlocking the Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols. All photos courtesy of Dillon von Petzingers work, read her 2016 book The First Signs: Unlocking the Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols. All photos courtesy of Dillon von Petzingers work, read her 2016 book The First Signs: Unlocking the Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols. All photos courtesy of Dillon von Petzingers work, read her 2016 book The First Signs: Unlocking the Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols. All photos courtesy of Dillon von Petzingers work, read her 2016 book The First Signs: Unlocking the Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols. All photos courtesy of Dillon von Petzingers work and the Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols. All photos courtesy of Dillon von Petzingers work and the Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols. All photos courtesy of Dillon von Petzingers work and the Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols. All photos courtesy of Dillon von Petzingers work and the Mysteries of Dillon von Petzingers work and the Worlds Oldest Symbols. All photos courtesy of Dillon von Petzingers work and the Mysteries of Dillon von Petzingers work and Dillon von Petz
Pratik Patil, an IT engineering graduate turned passionate writer, is known for his meticulous research and engaging storytelling led him to explore the worlds oldest records across topics like people, sports, politics, food, nature, religion, and the arts. A
curious mind with a knack for uncovering hidden stories, Pratik enjoys visiting historical sites, reading biographies, and watching documentaries on ancient civilizations. He has a deep love for traditional Indian cuisine, especially home-cooked Maharashtrian dishes, and often experiments with old recipes. When hes not writing, he enjoys sketching
playing chess, and listening to retro music. His ability to blend thorough research with engaging narratives makes history come alive, making it both informative and captivating for readers. Newslifestyletrending10 oldest symbols known to humansFollow Us On Social MediaPhoto by Tomas Martinez on UnsplashSymbols are more than just pictures
theyre humanitys first attempts to communicate complex ideas, beliefs, and stories. The oldest symbols known to man are not just ancient marks; they reveal the mental leaps our ancestors made to represent their world. Heres a look at eight of the oldest symbols that have shaped human history. 8. The AnkhLocation: Egypt | Age: 3,200+ yearsPhoto
   Toni Reed on UnsplashThe Ankh, Egypts iconic symbol of lite, is one of the oldest symbol of lite, is one of the oldest symbols known to man. Often seen in the hands of gods, it represented life and immortality, making it a powerful emblem in Egyptian culture.7. Cuneiform TabletsLocation: Uruk | Age: 5.000+ years Pratik Patil, an IT engineering graduate turned passionate writer. is
known for his meticulous research and engaging storytelling at Oldest.org. Despite his technical background, his love for history, culture, and storytelling led him to explore the worlds oldest records across topics like people, sports, politics, food, nature, religion, and the arts. A curious mind with a knack for uncovering hidden stories, Pratik enjoys
visiting historical sites, reading biographies, and watching documentaries on ancient civilizations. He has a deep love for traditional Indian cuisine, especially home-cooked Maharashtrian dishes, and often experiments with old recipes. When hes not writing, he enjoys sketching, playing chess, and listening to retro music. His ability to blend thorough
research with engaging narratives makes history come alive, making it both informative and captivating for readers. Updated On:April 04, 2024 by Raghda Elsabbagh Exploring the ancient marks left by our ancestors reveals a world steeped in mystery and ingenuity. These primal etchings, often found on the walls of caves or on fragments of bone and
stone, are the worlds oldest known symbols. They are a testament to the early human ability to communicate and record experiences. As we examine these powerful remnants of the past, were uncovering the lines and shapes that have propelled humanity
forward. Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols Our quest to understand these ancestral signs takes us across the globe, from the depths of European caves to the far reaches of Asia and Africa, highlighting a shared language of symbolism that transcended geographical boundaries. The study of these symbols is multifaceted; it involves the rigorous
application of archaeological techniques and analyses while also considering the cultural significance of these shared meanings is a challenge that has captured the imaginations of researchers like Genevieve von Petzinger, who pioneered a systematic study of
these ancient marks. Table of Contents As we explore the origins of human communication, we find the roots of symbolism deeply embedded in ancient cave art. From intricate patterns to figurative representations, these relics offer a glimpse into the cognitive leap that early humans made in Africa during the Ice Age. The term oldest symbols refers
to the archaic markings that early humans created, some of which can be traced back over 40,000 years. These are not merely random scratches; they constitute the earliest form of graphic communication. A set of 32 symbols repeatedly appears across a wide geographic span, signifying a shared symbolic language used by Ice Age communities. This
discovery reveals an unprecedented level of creativity and symbolic meaning that was once thought to be beyond the capacity for symbolic expression was not confined to a single region but was a widespread feature among early humans across Africa and beyond. These expressions, found in
the depths of caves or on the surfaces of ancient tools, span a timeline that predates the arrival of modern humans in Europe. The art forms range from simple geometric designs to more complex depictions, indicating a cognitive sophistication that formed the bedrock of our cultural evolution. These symbols attest to the fact that early humans
possessed not only recognition of the natural world around them but also an impulse to imbue it with symbolic meaning of prehistoric communication. Her dedication to uncovering the meaning behind ancient symbols has provided invaluable insights into the cognitive
abilities of early humans. Von Petzinger, a Canadian archaeologist, embarked on a quest to decode the 32 signs that recur in Ice Age rock art across Europe. She meticulously catalogued these signs, creating a comprehensive database that enabled her to analyse patterns and establish connections. With a hypothesis that these signs could be the
earliest forms of graphical communication among humans, von Petzingers analysis directs our attention to a prehistoric system of symbolic expression. Drawing from her extensive research, von Petzingers analysis directs our attention to a prehistoric system of symbols. This book sheds light on the significance of the 32
signs from Ice Age archaeological sites, offering hypotheses about their potential meanings and functions. Additionally, von Petzinger has shared her intriguing findings with a wider audience through her TED Talk, propelling public interest and academic dialogue on early symbolic systems. Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols In our exploration
of the worlds oldest symbols, we trace their geographic spread, noting particularly dense clusters of Ice Age art in Europe and remarkable expressions of early symbolism found across a wider global landscape. Europe stands as a venerable gallery of prehistoric creativity, with an astonishing variety of symbols adorning its ancient walls. The Balkans
region, for instance, is a significant repository of early art, as it presents some of the earliest known depictions canvas of human experience from millennia past. Ice age cave art, displaying a commonality in symbols despite vast distances between sites, suggests a shared cognitive framework or communication system amongst our ancestors. In
Spain, intricate etchings and paintings of animals like the Bison and Deer point to a symbolic discovery of ancient symbols is not confined to a single continent. Glimpses of similar markings appear in disparate regions beyond, indicating a complex
network of symbolic expression shared among early human communities. This widespread distribution underlines the significance and perhaps the necessity of symbols as a means for communication and cultural continuity across ancient humankind. Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols in exploring the oldest symbols, our examination is rooted in
the precise techniques and advanced technologies that archaeologists employ at rock art to identify recurring patterns. Through detailed fieldwork, archaeologists can determine these symbols cultural significance and chronology. By cataloguing variations in designs, we
ascertain the development of symbolic language over time. Our approach utilises cutting-edge technology to explore inaccessible areas, like employing an underwater robot for submerged sites. Advanced tools, such as 3D modelling and digital imaging, enable us to analyse rock art without impacting the site, preserving these ancient markings for
future generations. Unraveling the Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols: Deciphering Ancient Signs In the grand narrative of our species, the leap in cognitive capabilities is deeply intertwined with the advent of graphic communication. This section looks closely at how humans developed the intellectual prowess necessary to create graphic
symbols and the progression from these early signs to complex writing systems. Human brains evolved remarkably, enabling us to perceive, interpret, and convey complex concepts. Our ancestors, Homo sapiens, exhibited a significant increase in brain size and complexity, especially in regions responsible for language and thought. This neural
expansion facilitated a proficiency for abstract thinking a prerequisite for the creation of geometric signs and, by extension, graphic communication. The transition from utilising simple signs to the development of full-fledged writing systems marks a pivotal chapter in our history. Geometric signs provided a foundation, illustrating the capability of our
ancestors to imbue static figures with meaning. Over millennia, these representations became more sophisticated, contributing to the history of language and culminating in the written language systems that shaped civilisations. In this exploration, we unveil the significance of depictions and symbolic items crafted by early humans, offering insights
into their lives and values. Ice Age art is renowned for its animal depictions, with species such as mammoths often captured in striking detail. We find that these creatures were not only vital to the survival of Ice Age people but also held a deeper, perhaps spiritual significance. For instance, the use of ochre suggests a ritualistic aspect, possibly
indicating a clan sign or a form of early storytelling through personal narrative. Moving beyond mere survival, Ice Age artists crafted objects imbued with meaning. Take, for example, a mysterious necklace, each bead potentially signifying an event or a rite of passage. Such artefacts offer us a glimpse into the social structure and cultural importance
of adornment, where jewellery might serve as a symbol of ones status or role within the clan. The rich tapestry of human history is interwoven with symbols that transcend time and geography. Our understanding of these marks provides a window into the cultures of our ancestors and the shared elements that define human communication. Symbols
have served as a foundational tool for communication since time immemorial. Early human societies used symbols to convey complex ideas and messages. These symbols, ranging from simple geometric patterns to intricate representations of the world around them, allowed communities to record their experiences and share knowledge. Trading signs
often facilitated the exchange of goods by representing commodities, values, or even terms of trade, streamlining interactions between disparate groups. The exchange of signs and symbols, snippets of culture intertwine,
creating a mosaic that we can study to understand past relationships between different societies. The presence of similar geometric symbols found across various archaeological sites suggests a significant pattern of cultural exchange, demonstrating how interconnected our ancestors were through the medium of shared symbols and ideas. Symbolism
in the Modern Context Unraveling the Mysteries of the Worlds Oldest Symbols: Deciphering Ancient Signs As we explore the world of symbols, we find that their use and significance have undergone a dramatic evolution from ancient times to the present day. Contemporary symbolism reflects the modern minds creativity and is a testament to the
ever-changing forms of graphic communication and expression. Ancient symbols often held sacred or mystical meanings, while todays symbols can be more diverse, blending the traditional with the innovative. Creativity in modern symbol use is evident in everything from corporate logos to emoticons, which convey complex ideas and emotions swiftly
and effectively. For example, an ancient symbol like the swastika, which originated thousands of years ago and was used as a sign of auspiciousness in Hinduism, and Jainism, has had its meaning altered in the modern context due to its appropriation by the Nazi party. On the other hand, the peace sign, developed in the 1950s for the
British nuclear disarmament movement, has become a universally recognised symbol of peace. This juxtaposition illustrates the evolving nature of symbols as carriers of meaning across different ages. Today, symbols permeate art and language, often imbued with multiple layers of meaning. In graphic communication, a simple hashtag can trend
globally, uniting conversations across social media platforms. This form of expression enables rapid signification and fosters a shared language among internet users. Meanwhile, contemporary visual art often utilises symbols in a manner that critiques
social norms and provokes thought amongst a wide audience. In the realm of signs and symbols, we see a constant reinterpretation in accordance with the demands of modern communication. Our world is saturated with symbolic imagery that shapes our understanding and interaction with various mediums. From the icons on our devices to the
wayfinding systems in global cities, symbols organise information and navigate our environment, reflecting the intricate relationship between form and meaning that underscores our experience of the world today. As we uncover the tapestry of our prehistoric past, understanding the symbols left by early humans becomes increasingly vital in decoding
our evolutionary ancestry. The field of paleosymbolic research is burgeoning, with new methodologies and interdisciplinary approaches paving the way for groundbreaking discoveries. The crux of current paleosymbolic research hinges on a thorough examination of geometric images and their relation to the development of abstract thought among
early humans. Paleoanthropologists are now leveraging state-of-the-art technology, such as advanced dating methods and digital imaging, to revisit and reanalyse artefacts and cave sites with unprecedented precision. Were witnessing archaeologists forging new hypotheses about the cognitive abilities of our ancestors. For instance, findings that
suggest the continuity and evolution of certain signs and symbols across vast geographies and time periods are reshaping our understanding of our deep past. By
translating the technical jargon into accessible language, we ensure that these profound insights reach a broader audience. Encouraging Public Engagement with Prehistory We believe that instilling an appreciation for our ancient history plays a pivotal role in the future of paleosymbolic study. Fostering community intrigue and support for research
efforts in paleoanthropology can be achieved through various channels, such as: Exhibitions and Interactive Experiences: By curating engaging displays and harnessing virtual reality, museums can transport visitors back in time, offering a glimpse into the world of our ancestors and their symbolic expressions. Educational Outreach: Expanding
resources for schools, including lesson plans and workshops focused on prehistoric symbols, ensures that future generations grasp the significance of these early forms of communication. Our commitment to making this niche field more accessible to the public is essential, as it not only enlightens us about our shared history but also underscores the
importance of preserving these invaluable insights for posterity. In our investigation into prehistoric art, weve observed the persistent human drive to communicate and express. Our research into these ancient enigmas reveals a consistent quest for expression through symbols, which speaks volumes about our ancestors cognitive capabilities and
wisdom. The geometric shapes, lines, and patterns discovered in caves around the world are more than mere decorations; they are a form of language, an early attempt at communication. As we decipher these symbols, were not just unlocking the mysteries of our past; were also gaining insights into the very foundations of language and symbolic
thinking. Our understanding of the well-being of ancient communities is linked to their use of symbols. These served not only as a means of recording information but also as a vehicle for sharing experiences and wisdom. The
dedicated study and interpretation, we inch closer to comprehending the full extent of these symbols meanings. The art of the Ice Age, one of humanitys earliest known forms of visual communication, illuminates a profound chapter in the story of our species a tale of intellect and emotion etched on the walls of time. In this section, we address some of
the most common queries about how the worlds oldest symbols are interpreted, their impact on modern understanding, and the techniques used to uncover their meanings. The earliest symbols are interpreted, their impact on modern understanding, and the techniques used to uncover their meanings.
symbolic representations of the natural world. Interpretations suggest they played key roles in storytelling and ritual practices. Ancient symbols give us invaluable insights into prehistoric life, indicating that early humans had not only the ability to create complex thoughts but also to convey them meaningfully. They reveal aspects of early cultural
beliefs and social structures. The earliest known symbols have been attributed to the Neanderthals or Homo sapiens of the Ice Age, with prominent archaeology, anthropology, linguistics, and even digital technology to decipher
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these ancient symbols. Contextual analysis is crucial, considering the symbols locations, associated artefacts, and dating techniques to hypothesise their significance. Yes, the evolution of writing systems can be traced back to these primordial figures that laid the groundwork for abstract thought and symbolic representation. The transition from proto-

writing to systematic writing is evident in ancient civilisations like Sumer and Egypt. Many of the worlds ancient symbols, such as the cross, the swastika, and the crescent, have been adapted or maintained their significance within modern religious iconography. These symbols often retain their original connotations of power and spirituality. In ancient times, the concept of religion was widely different from what is considered religious beliefs in a secular society. Instead, religion was fully integrated into the lives of the commoners, gentry, nobility, and even the kings, not just the priests. As such, you will find innumerable ancient symbols, which appeared in scriptures, and sarcophagi across history, irrespective of class. Here are the top 23 most important ancient symbols that have held significant relevance in ancient religion, mythology, and culture. The Egyptian Ankh, also called the Key of Life. Devanath via Pixabay The Ankh is one of the earliest, most prominent and important part of ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs. Also called the Key of Life, the Ankh means life and symbolizes the male and female reproductive organs. The loop represents the womb and the cross represents the phallus and their union forms life. In other texts, the Ankh is also considered to be the symbol of water and air, which are basic life-giving elements. Due to this, many water vessels were molded into the shape of the Ankh. Ancient Egyptian artwork also depicted gods giving the Ankh symbols to pharaohs, which further cemented the divinity of pharaohs as a giver of life to the whole of Egypt. The Ankh was also placed in sarcophagi as it was considered a symbol of resurrection and a conduit of life energy that stems from the universe. Hence, it was also used as an amulet to ward against death, evil, degeneration, and decay. A silver coin depicting the owl of Athena was first issued in 479BC in Athena, the Greek goddess of wisdom and strategic warfare. Although scholars have been unable to find a concrete association between Athena and the owl, some believe that the owls ability to see in the dark represents knowledge and enlightenment, which are Athenas characteristics. Regardless of how the association was formed, the owl is considered throughout history as a symbol of wisdom, knowledge, perceptiveness, and clear-sightedness. It is also because of this ancient symbol that owls in general are considered to be wise birds. In Buddhism, the Mandala, meaning circle, is a geometric pattern that represents the universe and wisdom. The mandala is believed to represent the divine powers at work in the universe. The outer circle of fire symbolizes wisdom while the ring of eight charnel grounds serves as a reminder of death and the transience of life. Hence, it represents an enlightened mind. In other texts, the ring of charnel grounds depicts the dangerous nature of human life. In the center is Mandala Palace, which is believed to be the home of the Buddhas and deities. Ravens are probably the most famous birds in Norse mythology. Image courtesy: pigsels.com Today, the raven is considered to be a carrion bird that scavenges the body of dead humans and animals. In ancient religions, though, this bird holds a loftier position. The raven is believed to be the herald of cosmic secrets that can reveal omens and foretell the future. It is also a symbol of powerful wisdom, mental acuity and high energy. Ravens are probably the most famous in Norse mythology as the companion birds of the All-father, Odin. The chief Norse God had two ravens named Huginn and Muninn meaning memory and thought respectively which would fly all over Midgard (Earth) and bring news of everything they see and hear. In Native American culture, the raven was a magical bird and holy men invoked it to get the gift of foresight and perceptiveness. The Navajo, Zuni, and Hopi tribes regard the bird as a bringer of light and creation because of the belief that the raven created the Earth by dropping stones in the sea and making islands, and bringing sunlight to humans. In Greek and Roman cultures, the raven is a solar animal associated with the sun, light, and wisdom and their respective gods, Apollo and Athena. Mjolnir is the hammer of Thor, the god of thunder and lightning. Mjolnir is one of the best known historical symbols and is considered to be the most powerful weapon in existence that is capable of crushing mountains. When Thor would throw the hammer, it would always return to him like a boomerang. Aside from being a formidable weapon, the Mjolnir was also a ceremonial item and was used in hallowing rituals to ensure the Viking communitys well-being and for blessing weddings, birth, and funerals. Amulets molded in the shape of Mjolnir were worn for healing and safety. Hence, Mjolnir not just depicted destructive powers but also symbol with roots in ancient Europe. It dates back to Paleolithic times and the first sighting of the symbol was from a 13,000 BC cave wall in France. In Wiccan religion, the horned god represents the masculine polarity of the universe and the opposing force to the Triple Goddess. He is also believed to be associated with the wilderness, wealth, hunt, and virility. Some scholars also claim that the Horned God carried the souls of the dead to the underworld. The concept of the Horned God is also seen in Greek myth, in which Osiris was considered the horned god of fertility, rebirth, and the underworld. The Scarab is an ancient Egyptian symbol depicted in the form of dung beetles and was considered to be the personification of the early morning sun and rebirth, the god Khepri. In ancient Egypt, hundreds of memorial scarabs were created to immortalize Amenhotep IIIs deeds, including the ball hunt scarabs were worn as amulets to provide protection from the dangers of the mortal world and the afterlife. Later, scarabs were placed on a mummys heart so that it could convince Maat, the goddess of truth, who judged a persons soul that the person was innocent and trustworthy and should move to the afterlife. Scarabs were also created with wings, which symbolized rebirth. A deception of the Egyptian god of mummification and afterlife, Anubis, holding a Was scepter.mohamed Hassan via Pixabay Anubis is the god of the dead, afterlife, and the patron god of the helpless and lost souls. In many ancient Egyptian depictions, Anubis is represented as a man with the head of a jackal. Jackals were found in graveyards, which may be why the ancient Egyptians portrayed him as such. Anubis was also represented as the protector of Osiris, the god of the underworld, and guarded his body after death, oversaw the mummification and assisted Osiris in judging people in the afterlife. He was also invoked for getting vengeance by enforcing curses on others as well as for protection against curses. In many Egyptian hieroglyphs, Anubis is seen holding a sceptre, a tall staff with a stylized animal head on the top and a forked bottom. This sceptre symbolized dominion and power and is often found in sarcophagi, as well. The dove symbol was first seen in depictions of the Early Bronze age and has been widely associated with peace around the world. In ancient Mesopotamian culture, the dove was considered to be the physical incarnation of Inanna-Ishtar, the goddess of sexuality, love, and war. In Greek myth, the goddess of love and beauty, Aphrodite, was also associated with doves. The dove is also mentioned in Christianity. According to Slavic folklore, the dove transferred the soul of the dead to the underworld. The Triple Moon is a symbol on a ceremonial Pagan cup. Amber Avalona via Pixabay The Triple Moon is a symbol of the Moon Goddess, which is the opposite divine force to the Horned God. This ancient symbol is believed to represent the three stages of womanhood: maiden, mother, and crone. In ancient Celtic lore, the Triple Moon represented the three Fates or the Wyrd sisters, who controlled birth, life, and death. In Greek mythology, the Triple Moon symbol has been associated with Diana, the goddess of the moon and hunt. The pentagram is a regular five-pointed star, which was first seen in depictions from 3000 BC Mesopotamia. In Babylonian times, the five points in the star were meant to represent the planets Jupiter, Mercury, Mars, Saturn, and Venus. In ancient Greek culture, the pentagram represented the golden ratio, which symbolized perfection. Hence, the symbol was considered to be a powerful protection against the forces of evil. Hebrews also used the symbol to depict Truth and the five books of the Pentateuch. In Christianity, the five points represented by Christianity, the five points referred to the pentagram as the Godhead. The Triquetra, also known as the Trinity knot, was adopted by Christianity, the five points referred to the pentagram as the Godhead. The Triquetra, also known as the Trinity knot, was adopted by Christianity, the five points referred to the pentagram as the Godhead. The Triquetra, also known as the Trinity knot, was adopted by Christianity, the five points referred to the pentagram as the Godhead. The Triquetra, also known as the Trinity knot, was adopted by Christianity knot, was adopted by Chr is made up of three intersecting pointed ovals. The symbol was used by Celts and dates back to as early as 500 BC when it was used to symbolize the Triple Goddess. It is also used to symbol was later adopted by Christians in Ireland to represent the Holy Trinity. In Greek myth, the Caduceus was the staff of Hermes, the winged messenger god. The symbol is represented by two snakes intertwined on a tall staff. In some versions, the staff also has wings, further associating it with Hermes. The Roman equivalent of Hermes is Mercury and it too is symbolized by the Caduceus. Mercury is also the god of travel, eloquence, communication, divination, commerce, thievery, and the guide of souls to the underworld. Hence, the Caduceus symbolizes everything that Mercury stood for. In the medical field. The real symbol of medical science is the rod of Asclepius, who was the deity of healing and medicine. The symbol is different from Caduceus in that it only has one snake entwined on a rod and the staff has no wings. In Chinese philosophy, the Yin and Yang symbol consists of a circle bisected by an S-shaped line into a dark and light segment, each containing the seed of the opposing force. In Taoism, the outer circle represents the source of all existence. The black half is the Yang qi, which is the positive masculine energy, while the white half is the Yang qi, which is the source of all existence in the universe. The small seed inside the Yin and Yang indicates the two forces are never independent of each other and can transform into each other. For example, birth comes to death; death gives way to rebirth, just as the night gives way to the day. The fleur de lis is a symbol in the form of a stylized lily and is found in many Catholic emblems, particularly in France, but also in other European countries like the United Kingdom and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The symbol was used to represent light, life, and perfection as well as the French royalty. In French legend, when Clovis, the Merovingian king of Franks converted to Christianity, an angel bestowed a golden lily to him, which symbolized his purification. However, the fleur de lis has been used since ancient times and was often depicted in Scythian as well as Mesopotamian cultures. The symbol is also depicted in 10th century coins and seals. The Eye of Horus is associated with the Egyptian sky god, Horus. Image courtesy: ID 42734969 Christianm | Dreamstime.com One of the most famous and beautiful symbols in Egyptian mythology is the Eye of Horus, which is depicted as a stylized eye with a long tear drop and another long line which ends in a curlicue. The symbol is associated with the god Horus, the most beloved and popular god of Ennead, who represented many things, including the sky, healing, regeneration, sacrifice, protection and wholeness. Because of its many positive qualities, the Eye of Horus was often carved into jewellery and amulets to ensure the protection and continued health of the wearer and bring them wisdom and prosperity. The Eye of Horus is also unique as it is made of six different pieces, each of which represents a different sense of men: the sight, smell, hearing, taste, touch, and thought. Each section also corresponds to a fraction value: , , 1/8, 1/16, 1/32, and 1/64, which when added together do not make 1 whole but 63/64. According to ancient Egyptians, the remaining 1/64 fraction represents magic or indicates nothing in the world is perfect. The Tree of Life is a symbol of eternal life, energy, and renewal. In ancient Celtic culture as they took care of all life. The trees were an important part of the Celtic culture as they took care of all life. The trees were an important part of the Spirits and the supernatural world. In fact, the oak tree was particularly sacred and was known as daur which means door. This indicates that the Celts believed the oak tree was a portal to the realm of the world. The Tree of Life was also considered to be the center of the world. The Tree of Life was also associated with strength, longevity, rebirth, and wisdom and the Celts believed that if they cut down their enemies sacred trees, they would be rendered powerless. The Ouroboros is one of the most ancient and mystical symbols that appeared in ancient Egypt as early as 1600 BC. The symbol shows a snake eating its own tail, which represents the transmigration of souls or the cyclic nature of life, death, and rebirth as well as the beginning and the end of time. The Ouroboros sign also represents fertility as the snakes mouth is the womb-like symbol and the tale is a phallic symbol and tale is a phallic symb existence and is similar to the Yin and Yang philosophy of ancient China. The Phoenix is a bird of fire that carries a lot of significance in both the ancient Egyptian and Greek cultures. Eartha Cranston via pixy.org / CCO The phoenix, also known as the Bennu symbol, is a bird that carries a lot of significance in both the ancient Egyptian and Greek cultures. cultures. Its name originates from the word Weben which means to shine or rise. This is in accordance with its ability to die in a show of combustion and then be reborn from the word Weben which means to shine or rise. This is in accordance with its ability to die in a show of combustion and then be reborn from the word Weben which means to shine or rise. This is in accordance with its ability to die in a show of combustion and then be reborn from the word Weben which means to shine or rise. This is in accordance with its ability to die in a show of combustion and then be reborn from the word Weben which means to shine or rise. This is in accordance with its ability to die in a show of combustion and then be reborn from the word Weben which means to shine or rise. This is in accordance with its ability to die in a show of combustion and then be reborn from the word Weben which means to shine or rise. what colours it bears. In Greek culture, the bird was venerated as a deity at Heliopolis where it is believed to signal the beginning of time and it was also associated with the planet Venus. The dragon is a symbol of imperial authority, power, and glory. Image courtesy: pikrepo.com Dragons are depicted as large and fearsome serpentine creatures, with or without wings. In Chinese culture, the dragon remained at the top of the hierarchy of animals and is considered to be a symbol of imperial authority, power, glory, and strength. These mythical creatures are also associated with water and are believed to control rains, hurricanes, and floods as well as protect rivers, springs, and wells. Dragons are also depicted in other Asian cultures, including the Japanese, Korean, and Vietnamese. Most of these countries consider dragons to be the symbol of prosperity, supremacy, longevity, fertility, life, growth, and regeneration. They are also guardians of treasure. A stone relief of the Star of David, also known as the Shield of David, laso known as the Shield of David, laso known as the Star of David, also known as the Star of David, laso known as the Shield of David, laso known as the Sh as a motif in synagogues as far as 3rd and 4th centuries and was carved into Jewish tombstones from the 3rd century CE. Aside from its Jewish associations, however, this symbol has a more mystical meaning. Some scholars think that the six points of the star mark Gods dominion over all the directions in the universe: north south, east, west, up, and down. Other scholars believe the two equilateral triangles that point in different directions show the relationship between God and man or the duality of human nature. Many people believe that the Eye of Providence or the All-Seeing Eye is a symbol of divine providence and omniscience. The ancient symbol is used in Christianity to represent the Holy Trinity and the symbol represents the God watching over his subjects and offering them benevolent guidance. Aside from Christianity, the Eye of the World and Caodaism, in which the eye is believed to be the image of God. It is also a very important symbol in freemasonry. The lotus flower is a symbol of creation and Buddhist religion. It plays a significant role in a story about the creation of the universe, which originated in Heliopolis. The story goes that before the creation of the universe, there was nothing but endless stagnant water, which gave rise to a mythical being called Nun. A lotus flower emerged from Nun, along with the first dry land. From the open petals of the flower emerged the sun god Atum or Ra to give birth to the day. It is in that flower that the sun god returned to every night. As such, the lotus flower is a symbol of creation and rebirth. In Buddhism, the lotus flower represents the pure spirit of man, which should aim for worldly detachments. These are just a few symbols that we might have missed? Let us know in the comments below. References //books.google.com.pk/books?id=s4AP30k4IFwC&q=Minervas%20owl%20wisdom&f=false Header image courtesy: Ri Butov via Pixabay Paul Kennedy takes a trip back in time to the Ice Age with renowned Canadian archaeologist Genevieve von Petzinger. That's where they discuss the possible meaning behind the strange geometric shapes that appear along with cave art from the Paleolithic Period, and her struggle to crack the code on the first form of graphic communication. \*\*This episode originally aired September 15, 2016. Genevieve von Petzinger. describes some of the 32 geometric signs she has discovered, within and without Europe Two hundred thousand years ago, modern humans appeared on the African landscape for the first time. They had our brains. But the real question is: when did they become us? The more time I spent studying this ancient chapter of our history, the more fascinated I became with the art and the minds that had created it. Without a doubt, the art is magnificent, but that's not why I study it." The Ice Age artists who entered this muddy little cave appear to have only left behind two red dots to mark their visit (though it may be that there was originally more art which has since disappeared). (Dillon von Petzinger) Genevievevon Petzinger is a world-renowned expert on prehistoric art. What's she's discovered has shaken up her entire field. Most researchers of Ice Age art focus on paintings of mammoths or bison, from famous sites like Lascaux or Chauvet. But Genevieve von Petzinger has devoted her professional life to something else: the lines, hand prints, and dots that have -- until now -- been given scarce attention. "I am standing on the Camino winds its way along the coast, passing through medieval villages on its way west.... We are here to explore a cave in the hillside behind us that is supposed to contain Ice Age paintings. We walk along in single file, our boots making sucking sounds in the mud. The sounds echo off the walls, and I notice that the ceiling is starting to get low again. . . We scour the wall for the engravings and other mysterious red signs, using all the tricks at our disposal, but we were able to find the two red dots." Those red dots, and other marks -- like intersecting lines or asterisks -- may not be as sexy as paintings of wooly mammoths, or ancient bison. But these geometric designs may actually hold the key to understanding our prehistoric ancestors -- and maybe, ourselves. "Art presents us with a window into the minds of these people that other types of artifacts just can't provide. It offers us glimpses into their world, their culture, and their belief systems; intriguing hints about their level of sophistication in thinking in the abstract and manipulating symbols; and insights into how far along they may have been in the development of graphic communication. While all the art has this potential, the geometric imagery in particular seems to indicate a high degree of mastery of many of these uniquely human traits. This category of geometric signs is my passion." Abstract meander or possible depiction of two converging rivers? Ribeira de Piscos, Portugal. This engraving from the Ca Valley is found on an open-air stone block on a hillside overlooking the Piscos River near its point of confluence with the Ca River. (Dillon von Petzinger) The St. Germain-la-Rivire teeth France. These nine teeth are part of a collection of forty-eight deer teeth decorated with geometric signs. Found in a 16,000 year-old burial in France, these artifacts are thought to have originally been part of a necklace included as grave goods. (D. von Petzinger, courtesy of the Musee Nationale de Prehistoire, les Eyzies-de-Tayac, France.) The thirty-two signs depicted in this typology are the main abstract shapes created by early humans living in Europe during the Ice Age (10,000 to 40,000 years ago). There are distinct patterns across space and time for each of the signs, suggesting that they were part of a system - possibly one of the oldest systems of graphic communication in the world. (Genevieve von Petzinger) Probable Male Hand. Recent studies of the hands at sites like El Castillo have shown that many of the hands were probably those of women based on the index and ring finger being about the same length, while with males, the ring finger is usually longer. (Dillon von Petzinger) Web Extra | WatchGenevievevonPetzinger's Ted Talk: Why are these 32 symbols found in ancient caves all over Europe? Related Websites: Pratik Patil, an IT engineering graduate turned passionate writer, is known for his meticulous research and engaging storytelling at Oldest.org. Despite his technical background, his love for history, culture, and storytelling led him to explore the worlds oldest records across topics like people, sports, politics, food, nature, religion, and the arts. A curious mind with a knack for uncovering hidden stories, Pratik enjoys visiting historical sites, reading biographies, and watching documentaries on ancient civilizations. He has a deep love for traditional Indian cuisine, especially home-cooked Maharashtrian dishes, and often experiments with old recipes. When hes not writing, he enjoys sketching, playing chess, and listening to retro music. His ability to blend thorough research with engaging narratives makes history come alive, making it both informative and captivating for readers. There are four symbols that stand out as the oldest symbols of man. These symbols have been with man from the very beginning. They were NOT venerated orworshiped as a religious iconic symbol, but had a significant meaning to many. The 1st was the Omega Sign, which originated in Sumeria. The second was the Swastika, which originated in Sumeria and the Indus River valley. The fourth was the sign of the Crescent Moon and the star of Venus which appeared in Babylon. The Omega The Sumerian Omega symbol first appeared as a symbol for a medical device, because its use in cutting theumbilicalcord of a newborn child. This soon translated into a symbol for the meaning of life, or new life. An ancient God of Sumeria, also took the Omega as a symbol for the meaning of life, or new life. An ancient God of Sumeria, also took the Omega as a symbol for the meaning of life, or new life. An ancient God of Sumeria, also took the Omega as a symbol for the meaning of life, or new life. life is then completed, as it was of the symbol of the birth opening. The Sumerian Omega Symbol was often illustrated with curving lines, as in the illustration above, but latter this changed to the straight lines in the Greek Omega. This Omega symbol was often illustrated with curving lines, as in the illustration above, but latter this changed to the straight lines in the Greek Omega. This Omega symbol was often illustrated with curving lines, as in the illustrated with lines with actions of these chariots. Seen below in this Sumerian relief, are cables running from the chariot of the gods ending in an Omega, which the ancients were able to extend life, or give life with the use of the Omega symbol? The wavy lines extending from the chariot to the omega also represented water in sumerian reliefs. This water, that after being transformed after exiting the chariot, that is part of this extension of life. This understanding would be that the Anunnaki were able to perpetuate life, or change into another life, that was illustrated by the use of an Omega like symbol, that was in some way directly linked or connected to these chariots, as in the Assyrian relief below depicts. Were these two men depicting the same man, though the one is much younger? Was this an effort to depict life could be extended and the Omega was a symbol of this extension. An interesting accountoccurred to these though the one is much younger? Was this an effort to depict life could be extended and the Omega was a symbol of this extension. An interesting accountoccurred in the city of Ur, just prior to it's downfall. Sargon's armies were moving south to surround Ur, after destroying many Sumerian cities, and butchering their inhabitants. The city streets. A famous physician in the city, whose clay tablets still exist today was one of such inhabitants, and had much to fear. His name was Lulu, and he was well documented in text as being respected as a doctor. Lu in Sumerian means man. For whatever reasons, no one is able to determine, if he was trained in being observant, and to analysis, so after years of watching their use, did he finally steal one of the Chariots and make his escape? The Swastika then disappears for a length of time before it reappears in the nation of the Hittitesin Asia Minor, then it again disappears until itreemergesin the city of Troy. In each case with the emergence of the Swastika, a national state of emergency is evident. The people was under question, hence we see the rise of the Swastika, and nationalism. The Swastika seems to represent national unity. All three of these nations were completely destroyed by their enemies. In fact their devastation was so complete, that for many years, thousands of years, these civilizations were thought to not even exist. On the isle of Crete, the city state of Knossos, also venerated the Swastika. This was the famous society that had the labyrinth, and the creature with the bulls head, and the national symbol of the double headed axe. This city also was abandoned and disappeared around 1300 BC with no apparent reason. Coins found at Knossos show a Swastika emblem, which was for them was a later symbol for the labyrinth, which they were to became famous for. Sumerian pottery dating back to 5000 BC shows the sign of the Swastika with a lot of national fervour its time to start packing. The Swastika with a lot of national fervour its time to start packing in Central Europe, which has many worried. Henrich Schliemann, became famous with his digging to find the ancient city of Troy. From his digging emerged the Swastika. From that moment some evil emerged from that ancient pit. This symbol went on to be the national symbol for the German Nazi party, which we are all tofamiliarwith., but like many points of history, not all is what itappears. Germany went from that point, to eventually being a nation in total ruin, very similar to the other nations that used the swastika, as their national emblem. The story of Troy who then takes Helen to Troy. Helen according to legend is considered the most beautiful woman in the world. This all makes for a great tale, and the premise of the tale, is why the tale has endured over the centuries. The real reason that these two mighty national groups fought, was not over a woman, but was over controlling the trade routes, from eastern Asia Minor and Asia itself, which all went through Troy. These ancient trade routes made Troy very wealthy. They were able to control the trade of goods entering the Aegean Sea, and from there to Greece. Great nations and men fight over money and power, not women. This was true of the battle between the Achaeans and the Trojans, which lasted for over 10 years. A simple story about a war over a trade route would not of made much of a story. The Swastika in the Indus Valleywas used in the markings of doorways (an eerie resemblance to Jewish doorways and the Torah) and the opening of account books, but it also stood for night and the Goddess Kali and magical practices. In Sumeria the Swastika also was associated with a God. Enki had a number of sons, but one son took the Swastika as his emblem. His name wasNazi Nazi`s name and meaning through context. The following is by context; The Sumerian text dialogue between Enki and Ninhursag is as follows. Ninhursag fixed Enki in her vulva Brother what hurts you My tave (tulla) hurts me I have caused Ninsutu to be born for you Brother what hurts you My throat (Zi) hurts me I have caused Ninsutu to be born for you The text speaks of 8 children born and each child was given a gift or a reward. Nazi is given to Nindara in marriage. Whether this marriage is real or figurative is unclear, but it may help in understanding the clear meaning of Nazi, one of Enkis sons. First Na is often a prefix in Sumerian to denote a male personage. Nin is often used to denote a female. As an example Ninlil, Ninki, Ningal are all females while, names for males start with Na. The text itself really determines the meaning for Nazi (Zi) which means throat or voice. So Nazi has a gift for voice, and using his consort who could easily be the same God as in the Indus valley, Kali, a full name meaning for Nazi can be understood. Nazi s name may really mean Voice of Darkness, Prince of Darkness, Prince of Darkness, or Prince of Darkness, Prince of Darkness, or Prin Ur, but later came to prominenceduring the time of Nabonidus the last King of Babylon. Nabonidus was the commander of the Babylonian army and was appointed as King from the religious clerics of Babylon. His first actions were to rebuild the temples of Sin throughout Babylons empire, which brought him in direct opposition to the religious leaders, who were the absolute followers of God Marduk. Throughout his reign and his Regent son because of this. The Bible reports in Daniel, that Nebuchadnezzar was the king of Babylon, but this is not the truth. Is this because Daniel doesnt know who the king of Babylon is or can this be seen as a slight against Nabonidus, for his rebuilding the temples of Sin, instead of following the worship of Dagan/Ya? Sins temple in Babylon meant, house of joy, and Sin was soon declared by Nabonidus as Sin Supreme and assumed the name Divine Crescent. In ancient Sumer the crescent moon was depicted with its cusps straight up, which is not seen in the Northern Hemisphere, but in latitude 30, the location of Babylon, the moon can be seen this way. Almost as a saucer with the edges pointing up. This depiction of the moon can be seen below. The Sumerian text records that Nabonidus had help to secure the throne of Babylon. The act of a Great God assisting man had not occurred in recent memory, as the text reads, This is the great miracle of Sin That has not happened to the land Since the days of old No man in memory had seen a great God with the use of a mighty weapon assisting in mans fate. Sin in Sumerian text assisted Nabonidus, to the throne, using the weapon of Anu, and for this, the temples of Sin were rebuilt. The other notable god in Babylon was Sins daughter, Inanna or her Akkadian name Ishtar. The great blue gate of Ishtar, from the ruins of Babylon was Sins daughter, Inanna or her Akkadian name Ishtar. The other notable god in Babylon was Sins daughter, Inanna or her Akkadian name Ishtar. The great blue gate of Ishtar, from the ruins of Babylon was Sins daughter, Inanna or her Akkadian name Ishtar. star. Venus is the second brightest object in the night sky behind the moon, so Ishtar was extremely ambitious and often used her famine ways to determine an outcome. Babylon was one of the very few city states that was NOT destroyed when an invading army captured it. With rare exception, after a city is captured by an invading army it is completely sacked, and burnt to the ground. This again is in contrast to the Bibles story. Nabonidus power came to an end, because the Royal families and the religious clerics of the city secretly made a treaty with Cyrus of Persia. The city was turned over to Cyrus, under the condition that their old religion would be restored. Babylon fell with not even a brick overturned, and the King of Babylon was sent to a distant land (Eastern Persia) to administer. Dagan/Ya wanted the Semitic people to worship him not his long standing adversary Enlil and his offspring, Sin and Ishtar. The same old battle fought over again. In our modern world of today the Crescent moon and the star of Venus can still be seen. Throughout the middle east these two symbols are still highly venerated. Just look at the flags throughout the region. The flag of Turkey is an example of the crescent moon and star as indicated on their coins. So who was Nabonidus? His mother is known of his father except the script text that list his father from important origins. His family lineage is not of the previous Kings of Babylon who were Chaldeans, who he overthrew to ascend the throne. The young King Labashi-Marduk was quickly displaced allowing Nabonidus to become King. Many accounts of his life mostly goes unaccounted for. One interest in his life seems to dominate his kingship and that is his interest in Babylons past and the regions many Gods. In his reign he decreed that all statues of the Gods of the Mesopotamia valleywould be moved to his capital of Babylon and he restored Sins many temples, including the temple at Harran, and the Ziggurat at UR. The Ziggurat of Ur, which was built anddedicated Sin, by the early Sumerians, was restored by King Nabonidus reads; finding little left, but the first stage, and nothing to guide him, as to themonumentsoriginal pearance. Nabonidus restored by King Nabonidus restored by King Nabonidus restored by King Nabonidus restored by King Nabonidus reads; finding little left, but the first stage, and nothing to guide him, as to themonumentsoriginal pearance. Nabonidus and who was his father? Again similar to Sargon, Nabonidus was the son of a Great God, but unlike Sargons father Dagan, Nabonidus was probably the last great Nefilim, and Sins seed was in conflict with Dagans seed. The Sons of Annu used this same method to control the rule of Mankind over and over again The use of the same M.O. same plot, same plo Nephilim The next question and by far the most intriguing: Is Nabonidus still alive? We know that the Nefilim live a very long time, so is it possible that he still live? Would he be a silent and unknown, almost arms length from the real seat of power? Hidden from the view of the public. So if he does exist then who would he be? The AnkhThe Egyptian ankh was a symbol of life, or eternal life, and has recently become the national symbol of modern day Egypt in their efforts to expand their tourist trade. The Ankh is also said to mean the Key of life, or the Key of the Nile, as it is often depicted by Egyptians Kings as if they are holding the Ankh as a key. Note the illustration below. The origins of the Ankh go back to the very beginning of Egypt, and how the design is implicated into the meaning of life is unknown. The general feature of the symbol does seem to reflect the image of Isis as seen below. Isis means throne which is often depicted as part of her headdress. The King of Egypt was also often shown in a relief beside her as a small child. That would indicate that she was a protector of the King, and his power. The Coptic Christians soon took the Ankh from another perspective, it looks very much like the ancient Shen, or the Omega symbols. They all have one underlying similarity. The representation of Life. Pratik Patil, an IT engineering graduate turned passionate writer, is known for his meticulous research and engaging storytelling at Oldest.org. Despite his technical background, his love for history, culture, and storytelling led him to explore the worlds oldest records across topics like people, sports, politics, food, nature, religion, and the arts. A curious mind with a knack for uncovering hidden stories, and often experiments with old recipes. When hes not writing, he enjoys sketching, playing chess, and listening to retro music. His ability to blend thorough research with engaging narratives makes history come alive, making it both informative and captivating for readers. Pratik Patil, an IT engineering graduate turned passionate writer, is known for his meticulous research and engaging storytelling at Oldest.org. Despite his technical background, his love for history, culture, and storytelling led him to explore the worlds oldest records across topics like people, sports, politics, food, nature, religion, and the arts. A curious mind with a knack for uncovering hidden stories, Pratik enjoys visiting historical sites, reading biographies, and watching documentaries on ancient civilizations. He has a deep love for traditional Indian cuisine, especially home-cooked Maharashtrian dishes, and listening to retro music. His ability to blend thorough research with engaging narratives makes history come alive, making it both informative and captivating for readers. Emerald Tablet of Thoth

Oldest symbol ever found. Oldest known symbols. Old ancient symbols. Oldest symbols. Oldest symbols in the world.

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