

SUPSI

Review of Wikipedia Articles

The review is meant to facilitate further improvement of Wikipedia articles. Suggestions about the quality of a Wikipedia articles can be found at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Featured_article_criteria.

Please send your review in pdf and .doc format to Erica Litrenta: erica.litrenta@supsi.ch and Marta Pucciarelli: pucciarelli.marta@gmail.com

Name of the reviewer	Andrew B. Smith
Affiliation	Dept. Of Archaeology, Univ. Of Cape Town
Title of the article	Khoikhoi

1. Quality of the Summary

Is the summary of the article a complete, thorough, and concise introduction to the topic? How do you think the summary could be improved? Which meaningful data are missing? Is there something that you find too much detailed for a general overview of the topic?

The article is somewhat dated. There is also a discrepancy in the dates offered.

New archaeological evidence tells us that the earliest sheep herders (formative Khoe society) entered southern Africa in the last centuries BC. Genetic evidence indicates that they arrived from East Africa (ref. 1), entering southern Africa through the northern Kalahari (Botswana, Namibia, southern Angola), and archaeological evidence shows that they moved southwards with their sheep down the Atlantic coast reaching the Cape about 2000 years ago (ref. 2). About 1000 years ago they obtained large herds of cattle, which they had when the first colonists set up their refreshment station at the Cape in 1652.

Early History

The Khoekhoe, originally part of a pastoral culture and language group called Khoe-Kwadi in the northern Kalahari, with connections to the Sandawe, a hunting group of East Africa (ref. 3). Khoekhoe subgroups included Nama in the west, !Ora (Koranna) along the Gariep (Orange) River, and !Uri-//ae (Goringhaicona) at the Cape.

Advancing Bantu in the 3rd century AD down the east side of South Africa (the summer rainfall area) incorporated the Khoe and San into their culture. On the west side, the winter rainfall area, the Khoe lived independently until the arrival of the Dutch in the 17th century.

There was some intermarriage between the Khoe and local San hunters (ref. 4) with the Khoe taking San wives. Some hunters of the northern Kalahari adopted the Khoe language, but at the Cape hunters lived alongside the Khoe, and may even have been hired by them to act as guards over the Khoe herds.

Further Reading

Boonzaier, E. et al. *The Cape Herders: A History of the Khoikhoi of Southern Africa*. Cape Town: David Philip/ Ohio University Press.

2. Structure and style of the article

Wikipedia Primary School: Providing on Wikipedia the information necessary to complete the cycle of primary education in the languages used by the different education systems. Document updated 29 January 2015.

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Is the article properly presenting the topic for a general public? Does the article provide a complete and easy-to-navigate structure? Which paragraph would you add, unify or split into different parts? Please provide a list of suggestions. Is the article well written and understandable at a high school level?

For primary school learners the structure/style is adequate.

3. Content

Is the article comprehensive of major facts related to the topic? Is the article adequately placing the subject in context? What does it miss? Please provide a list of topics you think should be included in the article (suggestions must be related to bibliography). Do you find that some arguments are not meaningful or representative of the topic for a general public. What should be deleted? Please explain why.

See above

4. International and local dimension

Is the article neutral (it presents general and acknowledged views fairly and without bias)? Is the article representative of the international dimension and consolidated research about the topic? If applicable, does the article feature examples from all over the world (no localisms)? Please draft a list of what is missing with related references.

Yes, the article is neutral

5. References (essential to allow the articles to be improved)

Is the list of publications comprehensive and updated? Does it list the fundamental monographs and papers? Please provide primary/generic and secondary/original resources which need to be included and suggest the list of publications which should be removed.

1. Henn, et al. 2008. Y-chromosomal evidence of a pastoralist migration through Tanzania to southern Africa. Proc. National Academy of Sciences 105: 10693.

2. Pleurdeau, D. et al. 2012. "Of sheep and men": earliest direct evidence of caprine domestication in southern Africa at leopard Cave (Erongo, Namibia). PLoS ONE 7:e40340.

3. Güldemann, T. 2008. A linguist's view: Khoe-Kwadi speakers as the earliest food-producers of southern Africa. Southern African Humanities 20 (1): 91-132.

4. Barbieri, C. et al. 2014. Unraveling the complex maternal history of the southern African Khoisan populations. American J. of Physical Anthropology 153: 435-448.

Remove references 1 & 2.

