

Donald N. Yates and Teresa A. Yates

yates.donald@gmail.com

6 IZTACANS AND OGHUZIANS

Wise and crafty in counsel, Chief Mighty Wolf could fight every foe; Strong
Stone he struck down.

—Walam Olum IV.42-43

After describing the European and Mediterranean peoples who crossed the Atlantic, or White Sea, to North America, Rafinesque continues with the multitudes who came from the West—what we might term Asiatics. These are the Iztacans—Itzas, Itsates, Natchez, Mayas, Colhuas, Snake Tribes, Siouan, Utes—and Oghuzians, who are the same as Algonquian Indians, including the Lenapes or Delawares, of Turkic origin and related to the Iroquoian. Again, the perspective is from Kentucky and the survey focuses on tribes of the Eastern U.S. As before, Rafinesque draws on Indic histories, Chinese annals, Maya books and Toltec chronicles, harmonizing his sources with the epic migrations of the Algonquian Indians chronicled in the Walam Olum.¹⁴³

Because Rafinesque's main subject is Kentucky, he mentions developments south of the border only in passing. Both archeology and anthropology suggest Kentucky and Tennessee formed the most densely populated part of North America, the region most notable for a diverse

¹⁴³ Constantine Samuel Rafinesque, *Ancient History, or Annals of Kentucky: with a Survey of the Ancient Monuments of North America, and a Tabular View of the Principal Languages and Primitive Nations of the Whole Earth* (Frankfort: Printed for the Author, 1824). Internet Archive: <https://archive.org/details/ancienthistoryor00rafirich/page/n8/mode/2up>.

mixture and overlay of tribes.¹⁴⁴ The site of Nashville was long taken as the center of Native Eastern North America because of its many mounds and was known as the City of the Dead. The ancient Cherokee, as we will see, lived in these Ohio Valley states before settling in the Appalachians. As Rafinesque states, they came from the West. The Walam Olum knows the Cherokee as the Stony Tribe, so called because of their metal armor.

First, however, we would like to append an account by Eugène Viollet-le-Duc, a writer of the same era and intellectual milieu as Rafinesque:

Based on an examination of material monuments... the whole [North American] continent was peopled with wild tribes of yellow blood from Asia via the north-west at a very remote period. About 1000 B.C., the Culhuas [Snakes], a mixed race of black and white blood appeared from the east and introduced agriculture and a slight degree of civilization. Soon after the Culhuas [Snake or Boat Tribes], the Nahuas [Uto-Aztecs] appeared, a white race coming from the north of Europe via the Mississippi Valley, Florida, and West Indies, in successive migrations. Palenque was built by the yellow races under a strong influence of the Culhuas and a very slight Nahua influence; the cities of Yucatan were built when the Nahuas had conquered their rivals and the influence of the white race had become predominant; Mitla [Zapoteca ruin on the Pacific Coast of Oaxaca] owes its origin to a still most recent period, and was built by a migrating tribe in which the yellow blood seems to have predominated.¹⁴⁵

We see from these remarks that Viollet-le-Duc, like Rafinesque, allotted a major role to colonists from the east (Europe and Africa). He regarded the Aztecs as primarily white, migrating into the American Southwest and Northern Mexico from the Mississippi Valley, Florida and Caribbean. They had previously come from northern Europe, he says. He also believes the Colhuas (Snakes) who civilized the Asiatic tribes in the Western Hemisphere were part white, part black, which suits the appearances of the natives who greeted mapmakers in the 17th century (chapter 2). Finally, he distinguishes between Asiatics who first crossed the Bering Strait and later "yellow races" who helped found the Zapotecas and Mayas. All in all, it is a very sophisticated picture of the peopling of the Americas.

¹⁴⁴ Haywood, the father of Tennessee history, once remarked that "it would be an endless labour to give a particular description of all the mounds in Tennessee," and another early authority thought that there was a far greater number of Indian graves within a thirty mile radius of Nashville than whites buried inside Middle Tennessee's urban center (Crutchfield, p. 20).

¹⁴⁵ Hubert H. Bancroft, *The Native Races of the Pacific States of North America*, vol. V: *Primitive History* (New York: Appleton, 1876), p. 232 n. 93.

To underline Viollet-le-Duc's point about the settler tribes from the Eastern Continents of Eurasia and Africa being part white and part black, it is only right to mention the Book of Jubilees. This ancient Jewish work of world chronology was omitted from the Catholic Bible but survived in Ethiopia in Amharic. According to some commentaries, a party of Gaelic-speaking Japhethites (who were of lighter complexion) and Canaanite-speaking Hamites (who were dark skinned) made an expedition to the New World. Apparently they never returned, but many believe they left multi-alphabet inscriptions on Turkey Mountain near Tulsa. This much-studied petroglyph site lies exactly on the 36th parallel, a line of latitude that played a similar role in navigation in the ancient Mediterranean world as that of the Equator today. On a prominent cliff-face is pecked the Punic word *Pa-Ya-A* in an Iberian alphabet and above it the Celtic word *G-W-N* in Ogam script. Both words signify the same in their respective languages: "White" or "whites." In the interpretation of some scholars, the inscription served as the boundary marker between the white nations of Japheth to the north and the darker nations of Ham to the South. Barry Fell dated the writing by its letter-forms to about 500 BCE.¹⁴⁶

We might take 500 BCE as an important turning point in ancient America. "Till then," writes Rafinesque, "all the inhabitants of America had come from the east. But now a great invasion took place from the west or from Asia. Perhaps these Asiatic nations had crossed the ocean before the Pelegian or Ogygian catastrophe. They are traced to the northwest coast of America and gradually came in contact with the Atalans and Cutans on the Missouri and in Anahuac. I shall call them Iztacan, from their ancestor Iztac ("Strong").

"The wars which happened in consequence of the Iztacan invasions [from about 50 CE in the Ohio Valley—?], had the effect to annihilate some nations and scatter many others, while several were subdued and incorporated with their conquerors. Kentucky was conquered by the Olmecs, the Hausiotos [White or Northern Utes] and Taenzas [Taensa, Tensaw], three Iztacan nations. After the successive rule of these nations on the Ohio, the Siberian nations or Oghuzian tribes began to appear and wage war on the Iztacans and the Atalans, which they drove away to the south. The last remains of the former Atalans and Cutans, which can be traced to have escaped these conflicts and were still existing towards 1500, were the following:—The Wocons [Woccon and Waccamaw] in Carolina, the Homoloas [cf.

¹⁴⁶ See Gloria Farley, *In Plain Sight: Old World Records in Ancient America* (Golden: Gloria Farley Publications, 2007), pp. 47-51. Some people believe this inscription was the bilingual autograph of an explorer named Gwyn.

Homosassa], Malicas,¹⁴⁷ Apalachians and others in Georgia and Florida, the Conoys of Virginia, the Nanticokes of Maryland, the Catawbias of Carolina, the Cowetas and Calusas of Alabama, the Tunicas of Louisiana, the Corans, Coroas or Escoros [Cora of Western Mexico] of the Missouri, Arkansas, Carolina, California and Mexico, besides many nations of Anahuac.

"Before the Christian era a casual intercourse was kept up between the two continents. The Phoenicians and Gadesians [ancient people of Cadiz] traded to America: this continent was known to the maritime nations of West Europe and Northwest Africa. The Numidians went there 2000 years ago, as well as the Celts; they frequented Paraguay and Haiti principally. The Etruscans, a powerful nation of Italy, who settled there from the Rhaetian Alps about three thousand years ago, went to America and wanted to send colonies there, but were prevented by the Carthagenians. This intercourse gradually declined, owing to the numerous shipwrecks and warlike habits of the Caribs, Iztacans and Oghuzians [Algonquians], till the knowledge of America became almost lost or clouded in fables and legends.

"During the decline of the Atalans, some fled to Anahuac [Central Mexico] and South America, where they founded new empires or civilized many nations, such as the Cholulans [Toltecs in Cholula]¹⁴⁸ of Anahuac, and the Muysas [in Colombia], Puruays [Peruvian Indians], Collaos [pre-Incan Indians of Ecuador], Tiahuanacos [in Bolivia] and Quechua of South America, who ascribe their ancient civilization to white and bearded strangers."

In a twist, Rafinesque's statement here may mean that South American matches reported in Creek Indians point to the prior provenance of such tribes in the Southeast. The shared ancestry is with Creek descendants, not Creek antecedents.

"Thus the ancient arts and sciences of North America were transferred to the South. In the greatest splendor of the Atalans and Cutans, they had built above one thousand towns on the waters of the Ohio, of which nearly two hundred were in Kentucky, and the remains of above one hundred are seen to this day. The population must have been as great as the actual one, and Kentucky must have had half a million of inhabitants at least. The monuments of these early nations are easily distinguished from the subsequent Iztacan monuments by a greater antiquity, their circular, elliptical

¹⁴⁷ On De Bry's map, this was an Indian village located inland from the mouth of the St. Johns River in 1564. Malachi, if related, was an important Creek chief from about 1730.

¹⁴⁸ Cholula was an international metropolis in the Valley of Mexico, with the largest old pyramid in the world. It was associated with Quetzalcoatl. The term Toltec in Mexican chronicles refers to Old World people in general, or foreigners, not to any one people or period.

and conical shapes.”Rafinesque then describes the five periods of Asiatic dominance in Eastern North America.

1st Period. —To the Invasion of Kentucky.

“Soon after the formation of the great Asiatic empires of Iran, Ayodhia, Vitora, China, &c. another was founded near the Caspian sea, on the mountains of Caf or Caucasus and Vipula or Bactria [Aghanistan], which was successively called Aztula (strong land), Aztlan, Tula, Tollan, Turan [Tarim] &c. The first monarch of it was Iztac-mixcoatl (strong head snake). He had six sons, who became the heads of as many nations; they were:

Xelhua or Colhua, the father of the Colhuans [Acolhuans], &c.
 Tenoch or Tenuch, ancestor of the Tenuchs [Tenochas, Tenochtitlan], &c.
 Olmecatl or Ulmecatl, ancestor of the Olmecans [Olmec], &c.
 Xicalancatl or Xicalhan, of the Zicalans [Xicallans, Xicalanca in Vera Cruz, Tabasco], &c.
 Mixtecatl or Miztecatl, of the Tecas [Mixtecs], &c.
 Otomitl, ancestor of the Otomis [Utes, earlier Mexican tribe north of Aztecs, also Otoe, a Siouan tribe in Wisconsin], &c.

“From these have sprung all the Iztacan nations, scattered all over North America and part of South America.

“Many other empires having begun to rise in the vicinity of Aztlan, such as those of Bali [Balochistan], Scythia, Thibet, Oghuz, the Iztacan were driven eastwards, north of China; but some fragments of the nation are still found in the Caucasus, &c. such as the Abians or Abassans, Alticezecs, Cushazibs, Chunsags, Modjors, &c.

“The six Iztacan nations being still pressed upon by their neighbours the Oghuzians [Turks], Moguls [Mongols], &c. gradually retreated or sent colonies to Japan,¹⁴⁹ and the islands of the Pacific ocean; having discovered America at the peninsula of Alasca [Alaska, a Chinese word], during their navigations, the bulk of the nation came over and spread from Alasca to Anahuac, establishing many states in the west of America, such as Tula [Toltec], Amaquemeca, Tehuajo, Nabajoa [Navajo], Teopantla, Huehue [Hohokam], and many others.

“After crossing the mountains, they discovered and followed the Missouri and Arkanzas rivers, reaching thus the Mississippi and Kentucky.

¹⁴⁹ It is true that Japanese DNA has a large component of Turkic. If you have American Indian ancestry you can easily get autosomal matches to Central Asia as well as Japan and Korea on a DNA test.

2nd Period. —To the Foundation of the Natchez

“The Olmecas or Hulmees were the first Iztacans who ventured to come to Kentucky, where they did not make a permanent settlement. They came in contact with the Talegans, and not being able to subdue them, they left the country, invaded Tennessee, &c. The Winginas and Westoes of Carolina, as well as the Yamasees of Georgia, may be remains of these Olmecas [Ocmulgees]; but the bulk of the nation went to Anahuac with the Xicallans, having made an alliance with them. The Xicallans were another Iztacan nation who had come down the Arkansas; meeting on the Mississippi with powerful Atalans, such as the Corans, Talegans, &c. they joined the Olmecas in a confederacy against them.

“After partly settling in Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia and Florida; they were both compelled to go to Anahuac, which they reached from the northeast, and where they became powerful in time.

“The Otomis [compare Oto Sioux “lechers”] were the most barbarous of the Iztacans, being hunters rather than cultivators. They had spread gradually from the Missouri to Anahuac in the rear of the Xicallans under the names of Mazahuas or Mahas [Omaha], Huashashas or Ozages [Osage], Capahas [Quapaw] or Arkansas [Arkansas], Otos or Huatoctas [Lakota], Minowas or Missouri or Ayowas, Dareotas [Dakota] or Nadowessis [Nakota], Hautanis or Mandans. They began to make war on the Talegans of Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky, and the Otos [Utes] appear to have become the Sciotos of Ohio, the Huasiotes of East Kentucky, and the Utinas of Florida.

“The Colhuas and Tenochas came the last on the Arkansas and settled the kingdoms of Tollan, Tula, Huehue [Old Red City, probably Rhoda/Tucson],¹⁵⁰ and Copatta [Quapaw] in that region. The Atalans and Iztacans were successively at war or in peace, but the Iztacans prevailed at last in West Kentucky, when all the Iztacans east of the Mississippi formed a confederacy against the Atalans. This was the beginning of the Natchez dominion.

“During these struggles, many peaceful Atalans left the country and went to Anahuac, Haiti, Ohohualco [Huazacualco, Vera Cruz region on Gulf of Mexico] and South America, where they became legislators and rulers.”¹⁵¹

3rd Period. —To the Oghuzian Invasion.

“The Natchez empire, or confederacy of Iztacan nations, extended from the Ohio to Florida, and from the Alleghenies to the Mississippi; west of it

¹⁵⁰ “Huehue Tlapallan, meaning ‘Old Red Land,’ was evidently identical with the city of Rhoda and Red City to the South of the Hopis [Palitkwapi].” Donald N. Yates, *The Merchant Adventurer Kings of Rhoda: The Lost World of the Tucson Artifacts* (Longmont: Panther’s Lodge, 2018), p. 27.

¹⁵¹ I.e., they went *back* to the Caribbean, Mesoamerica and South America.

were the kingdoms of Capaha, Pacaha and Coppatta (perhaps only one), also Iztacan. This confederacy consisted of five hundred towns, and many tribes, such as the Natchez, Taensas, Chitimachas, Movila [Mobile], Yasoos [Yazoo Indians] or Hiazus [Mexican people related to Toltecs], and many more. East of them were the Apalachian and Catawba confederacies, and north the Talegans who had retreated on the north side of the Ohio.

“The nations forming this empire or league, were civilized and cultivators; they became polished by their intercourse with the Atalans, and borrowed many customs from them. — They worshipped the sun and fire; but did not build circular temples, erecting instead pyramids and high altars, generally of a square or angular form. Each tribe had a king, each town a governor; but the Natchez kings who were called Suns, had the supremacy over all. Agriculture and trade were well attended to. Many contentions and revolutions happened; but the Oghuzian invasion was the most fatal.

“The Siberian nations, which had spread over the north of Asia at the dissolution of the Oghuzian empire, having come to America across the Behring Strait, sought milder climates by traveling south, and coming in contact with the civilized but less warlike nations of anterior origin, began to wage war over them, and drive them gradually further south, towards Florida and Anahuac.”

The second wave of Asiatic invaders from the west was composed of the Oghuzians, or Algonquians, or Lenape, or Delaware Indians. In his revised chronology of 1840, Rafinesque says they first crossed the Bering Strait about 1600 BCE, migrated en masse to the south and lived for many centuries in Shinaki, or Firland, a staging ground believed to be along the Snake River in the Pacific Northwest. They then proceeded across the Rocky Mountains and Great Plains. About 1 CE (possibly earlier) they invaded the other side of the Mississippi River with their new allies the Iroquois and Cherokee. At this stage, pre-existing Asiatic tribes (Iztacan) tribes extended from the Ohio Valley to Florida.

The Algonquians are believed to have originated in Russia in the area around Lake Baikal.¹⁵² Their annals specifically say they crossed the Bering Strait in hide boats, ten thousand strong, named the new continent Turtle Island after the large sea-tortoises they saw on the Alaska shore, and followed an eagle who led them through the pinelands. The eagle became their emblem, later the symbol of the United States. Almost universally, Algonquians are remembered as warlike invaders from Asia. Since they were the main type of natives encountered by English settlers their migration story

¹⁵² See David McCutchen, *The Red Record/ The Wallam Olum: The Oldest Native North American History* (Garden City Park: Avery, 1993). C. F. Voegelin, *Walalam Olum, or Red Score: The Migration Legend of the Lenni Lenape or Delaware Indians* (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1954).

was assumed to be the same as that for all other Indians. Shortly before the Common Era, they allied themselves with the Iroquois (Menguys) and Cherokee, crossed the Mississippi and fought a bloody battle at the falls of the Ohio against the Taligewi. From that time on, Kentucky was called by its new name, which meant "dark and bloody ground."

Here is how Rafinesque recounts these movements and their consequences:

4th Period. —To the expulsion of the Natchez from Kentucky

"At the Oghuzian invasion, the Taencas [Taensas, Tensaws], a Natchez tribe, occupied West Kentucky, the Huasiotos [White or Northern Sioux] were in East Kentucky, and some Talegans still held the banks of the Ohio, &c.

"The Cherokees or Zulocans, an Atalan nation dwelling west of the Mississippi, being driven by the Oghuzians, came to Kentucky and Tennessee, and settled at last after many wars in the mountains of Carolina, where they became a nation of hunting mountaineers, and gradually destroyed the Hausiota [Iztacan, literally Northern Ute] nation of the Cumberland mountains.

"The Shawanees, an Oghuzian [Algonquian] tribe, came then in contact with the Natchez and expelled them from Kentucky, which they occupied for a long time.

"The Talegans north of the Ohio, were partly destroyed or driven south, through Kentucky, to join the Apalachian, or down the Mississippi towards Louisiana and Mexico."

Stages of Cherokee History

Here occurs the first mention of the Cherokee. They are called Zulocans, or Zolucans, by Rafinesque, also Choloki, evidently approximations of Tsalagi. In the *Walam Olum* they are referred to as the Stony Tribes.

In the chapter of her book *In Plain Sight* titled, "They Claimed the Land," Gloria Farley describes a boundary marker she discovered that relates to the Cherokee as they existed on the Great Plains.¹⁵³ The inscribed stone was pulled out of farmland by curious eleven-year-old Brent Gorman of Warner, Oklahoma, in 1971. It was identified by Barry Fell as a Libyan boundary stone in the Numidian alphabet.¹⁵⁴ His translation of its script, which resembles that of the Sun Clan tablet of the Hopi, was: Land Belonging to Rata. A discussion of the Warner Stone was published in his book *America B.C.* and

¹⁵³ See McCutchen, pp. 195-98.

¹⁵⁴ Fell broke the story of the settlement of the Pacific by ancient Greeks and related peoples in a series of articles contributed to *Epigraphic Society Occasional Publications* from 1974 onward and presented the accumulated evidence in his book, *Saga America* (New York: Times Books, 1980) esp. 238, 262.

its Numidian writing system and interpretation were confirmed by visits to Harvard from surprised scholars at the Universities of Tripoli and Benghazi in Libya. Rata was identified as the second in command after Maui in a major ocean-going expedition and colonization event under Egyptian pharaoh Ptolemy Euergetes III, called the Benefactor (ruled 246-221 BCE). We wrote about this inception of the Cherokee in our *Old World Roots of the Cherokee*.¹⁵⁵ The stone is now in the permanent collection of the Kerr Museum in Poteau, Oklahoma.

Although neither the writing system nor language of the Warner Stone was Cherokee, it may have been more than coincidence that it was found near Cherokee and Creek cemeteries on the boundary between the two nations' lands. Soon after Rata staked his claim, the so-called Stony Tribes were thinly scattered on the Great Plains. In the rock art record and pictogram writings of the Algonquian, Sioux and other Indians they are represented by the symbol consisting of a head with five feathers. In the *Walam Olum*, the Lenape from West meet the Stony Tribe in Book IV, verse 43, as they are making their way on the Great Plains, just before they cross the Mississippi. The Stonys are presumably still Greek- and Egyptian-speaking as a tribe. They did not relexify until adopting the Iroquoian language of their allies, the Mohawks and Hurons. We will look at a monument of Cherokee history in a Mediterranean script and the Greek language in chapter 11 ("The Invention of the Cherokee People").

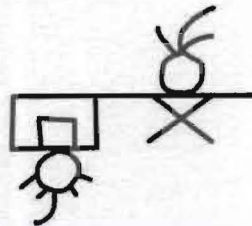
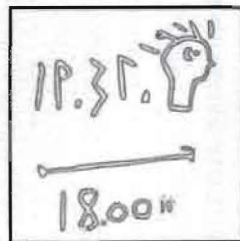


Brent Gorman and Warner Stone in 1972. Photograph used by permission from Gloria Farley Publications.

¹⁵⁵ Donald N. Yates, *Old World Roots of the Cherokee* (Jefferson: McFarland, 2012), pp. 28-31.

The Cherokee preserve a distinctive tradition that one of their culture heroes was Stone-Clad (*tchaskin*). This figure bequeathed a firm foundation to the Seven Clans. The word seems to come from the Greek warrior-type named Thrax, or Thracian. Stone-Clad spoke the "old language" (Greek or Pelasgian/Pelagian), had metal armor and magical arts. His long spear was super-sharp and deadly. He introduced music, based on the Egyptian water-drum, North African flute and rattles. Only he could sing the old stories and songs (*tikano*, from Greek *tynchano*, "to come to pass, history"). We have analyzed Cherokee music as being composed in Old World anhemitonic scales.¹⁵⁶

The Cherokees remember this stage of their history as a time when they lived in peace in a land named Elohi Mona (Western Home). Mona is, literally, Greek for "way-station, temporary dwelling place." In order to patch up relations with the Iroquois, the Cherokees adopt their language, though the original Greek speech survives in certain titles and ceremonial terms, for instance *tilibi* "brave, warrior," from *telei* "those in authority," or *Koranu/Kolanu* "war chief, great warrior, Raven," from *karanos* "a chief." Informants as late as around 1820 repeatedly referred to the "old language," which they say survived in chants, religious formulae and songs.¹⁵⁷



Runestone from West Arkansas with Stony Tribe Indian in profile and Elder Futhark inscription reading I-W-S-L. Photograph from p. 240 of In Plain Sight used by permission from Gloria Farley Publications.

Walam Olum depicts the Lenape sachem Mighty Wolf, represented by the standard symbol with three feathers, one extending longer and pointed to the east, fighting and striking down a foe named Strong Stone (that is, Metal Armor). Strong Stone is shown to be the Stonys' chief by one long feather, now pointed to the west. The town over which he ruled is represented by two overturned rectangles.

Perhaps around 1200, the Iroquois split off and settled in the Finger Lake District of present-day Upper New York state. In Cherokee legends, this stage was remembered as The Land of Sorrow, where they had to say goodbye to family members and friends. About a century later, the Lenape

¹⁵⁶ Ibid, p. 85.

¹⁵⁷ *Payne-Butrick Papers*, pp. 210-11.

divided off. Some had preceded them but now the main body continued eastward across the mountains to the shores of the Atlantic, which they reached after eighty years in 1396, as shown by the dating of a famous wampum belt.



Stony Tribe chief in ceremonial gear, appearing very much like a Greek hoplite, with stallion's crest helmet, from Thruston Tablet.



Two other Greek-hoplite style crests, a fifth century Attic vase and Mississippian Era Southeastern Indian shell gorget from Georgia (about 1200?). Drawings by Christopher C. Vigil.

5th Period. —To the present time

"The Natchez confederacy declined gradually, becoming divided into several independent nations, such as the Taenas, Chitimachas [in Louisiana], Alabamas [Alibamu], Coosas [Creek], Cahuitas or Cowetas, Winginas, &c. spread from Louisiana to Carolina, which however did not wage war together, but were often united against the Cherokees, Catawbans and Oghuzian nations.

"When the Toltecas of Mexico drove away the Xicallans,¹⁵⁸ the bulk of that nation came to the Mississippi, and settled on both sides of it, above the Natchez; many nations have sprung from that stock, all intimately connected

¹⁵⁸ This event seems to correspond to the political defection and migrations recounted in Choctaw legends. It can perhaps be set about 400-600 CE.

in language and manners, such as the Chicasas [Chickasaw], Choctaws, Yazoo or Tapousas, Muscolgees [Muskogee], Cofachis, &c. spreading north and east of the Natchez, they formed a bulwark between them and the northern invaders; the Chicasas [Chickasaws] extended their conquests to the banks of the Ohio in Kentucky.

The great Otomi [Lakota] nations, extending from the Missouri to Anahuac, divided into numerous tribes, such as the Osages or Washashas, Missouris, Ottos [Oto], Mazahuas, or Omahuas [Omaha], Capahas [Quapaw] or Arkansas, Mandans, &c.: the Osages, Missouri and Arkansas, penetrate as far as West Kentucky, the banks of the Wabash, &c.

A succession of wars and contentions take place between the numerous nations of various stocks scattered in North America, by which they are weakened and prevented from improving their civilization, or uniting against the encroachments of the Europeans.

"The Spanish, French, and English, after the discovery of America by Columbus, settle in North America, and in three hundred years occupy all the land from Canada to Mexico, except a few small spots, acquiring possession of it by various means, conquests, cessions or purchases."

Thus far, Rafinesque has created a panorama of Indian history centered on Kentucky in the Eastern U.S. He describes a millennia-long clash between antagonistic cultures, an Atlantic civilization and a less settled one emanating from Central Asia and Siberia. The old became new. Many tribes mixed and changed their composition over the centuries. Similar transformations overtook the Germanic hordes during the *Völkerwanderungen* when they migrated into the Roman Empire and established Visigothic, Ostrogothic, and Frankish kingdoms in southern Europe. Tribal identity went through a sea-change.

1st Period of Lenapes. —From the Invasion of North America by the Oghuzians to the Defeat of the Talegans

Rafinesque continues with the epic story of the Algonquians, as told in the Walam Olum: "Something like a chronological order can be now introduced. The records of the Mexicans, the traditions of many Oghuzian nations [i.e., Walam Olum], and the annals of the Europeans, afford sufficient materials for a complete history; but I must be very brief.

"Nearly two thousand years ago, great revolutions happened in the north of Asia; the Oghuzian empire was severed, and a swarm of barbarous nations emigrating from Tataria and Siberia, spread desolation from Europe to America. In Europe they nearly destroyed the powerful Roman empire, and in North America they subverted many civilized states.

"Several of those Oghuzian nations, driven by necessity or their foes to the northeast corner of Asia, came in sight of America, and crossing Bering Strait on the ice, at various times, they reached North America. Two of them,

the Lenap [Delaware] and Menguy [Iroquoian tribes], seeking milder climates, spread themselves towards the south; while another, the Karitit [Eskimo], which came after them, spread on the sea shores from Alaska to Greenland, and some others settled on the north-west coast of America [Haida, Tlingit et al].

"The Lenaps [Lenni Lenape, or Delaware Indians] after settling some time on the Oregon and Multnomah rivers, crossed the Oregon mountains, and following the Missouri, fighting their way through the Ottomies [Sioux], &c. they reached the Mississippi, nearly at the same time with the Menguys, who had come north of the Missouri. They found the powerful Talegans in possession of Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky, who opposed their progress and cut off the first party that ventured to cross the Mississippi. A long war ensued, in which the two Oghuzian nations joined in a confederacy against the Talegans, and succeeded after a long struggle to drive them away to the south.

2nd Period. — From the Defeat of the Talegans to the Dispersion of the Lenaps

"When the Lenaps had defeated the Talegans, they had to contend with the Natchez of West Kentucky, the Huasitos [Northern Sioux] of East Kentucky, the Sciotos [Siouan] of Ohio, besides many remaining branches of the Atalans, Cutans [Eastern Mediterranean and Near Eastern origin], &c. scattered in North America, which they vanquished, destroyed or drove away, occupying all the country from the Missouri to the Allegheny mountains; while the Menguys settled north of them on the lakes.

"The Lenaps were hunters, but lived in towns, and became partly civilized by the prisoners and slaves that they made. — They began to cultivate corn, beans, squashes, tobacco, &c. Their hunters having ventured across the Allegheny mountains, discovered a fine country, not occupied by any nations, in Maryland and Pennsylvania. Many were induced to remove to that country, where they should be more distant from their southern foes.

"A settlement was made east of the mountains, and the great Lenapian nation became thus divided into many distant tribes, independent of each other; but connected by a similarity of language, religion, manners, and acknowledged origin.

"The principal of these tribes, which thus became independent nations, were the Chinus [Chinook] on the Oregon, the Anilcos and Quiguas on the Missouri, the Utawas [Ottowa] and Miamis north of the Ohio, the Shawanees or Massawomees in Kentucky, the Mohigans and Abnakis in New England, the Sankikans in New Jersey, the Unamis and Minsis [Munsee] in Pennsylvania, the Powhatans in Virginia, the Nanticoes in Maryland, the Chipeways [Chippewa, Anishnabe, Ojibway] and Clistenos [Sauk or Fox?] on the upper Mississippi, &c.

"A similar division took place in the Menguys, and the independent nations sprung from them, were the Hurons or Wyandots near lake Huron, the Eries or Erigas on Lake Erie in Ohio, the Tuscororas in Kentucky, the Senekas [Seneca], Mohawks [Iroquois], Cayugas, Oneidas on the St. Lawrence, &c. That portion of the nation which remained west of the Mississippi, became mixt [sic] with some Otomian tribes, and formed the great Darcota nation, since divided into many tribes, such as the Sioux, Assiniboils [Assiniboine], Tinton [Teton Sioux], Yanctons [Yankton Sioux], &c.

3d Period. — From the Dispersion of the Lenape to the Shawnee Confederacy

"The Oghuzian nations had united for a long while against their southern enemies; but many Menguy tribes became jealous of the Lenaps when they saw them possessed of the best lands and growing very powerful. Dissentions occurred between the various tribes east and west of the mountains. The Senecas and Mohawks begin to quarrel with the Mohigans and Lenaps. They endeavour to excite wars between them and the Cherokees.¹⁵⁹ Several wars occur between the Lenaps and many Menguys, in which the Wyandots [Hurons] and Erigas [Erie, or Neutral Indians] take no part.

"Meanwhile the Shawnees of Kentucky have many quarrels and wars with their neighbors; they drive away the Tuscaroras to Carolina, and some Erigas to Florida. They wage war by turns with the Natchez, Tapoussas [Opelousas], Cherokees, and Apalachians to the south, with the Catawbias, Wocons and Westos to the east, the Capahas [Quapaws], Osages, &c. to the west. Not satisfied with the possession of Kentucky, they extend their conquests and settlements as far as lake Ontario to the north, in Carolina and Georgia to the south. The Cumberland river became the centre of their settlements. They were hostile to all their neighbours except those of Lenapian origin, and being in contact with many more than any other branch, were considered as the bulwark of that nation.

"In order to resist their numerous enemies, they formed a general confederacy extending from the Lakes to Florida, which soon became formidable even to their former allies, under the name of Massawomees or Wassawomees. The branches of this great alliance were known by the names of Sakis [Sauk] and Kicapoots [Kickapoos] in the west, Uchees and Chowans [Chowanac] in the east, Satanas in the north, Savanas in the south, &c.

¹⁵⁹ A legend tells how the Iroquois attempted to provoke a war between the Delaware and them by killing a Cherokee baby and leaving a Lenape tomahawk in its crib, but the Cherokee saw through this and did not take the bait.

4th Period. —From the Shawnee Confederacy to the Utawa Supremacy, towards 1400, including three hundred years

“The Utawas [Ottawa] were a branch of the Lenaps, settled north of the Lakes, and holding supremacy over the Northern Lenaps; being driven south of the lakes, by their wars with the Menguys, they assumed a superiority over the Miamis of Ohio, whom they defeated in battle; but they had more difficulty in their contentions with the powerful Shawnees. A long war was the result; the Utawas conquered part of central Kentucky, and compelled at last the Shawnees to acknowledge them as superiors and entitled to hold the great council fire in the west, as the Lenaps did in the east.

“During this struggle many revolutions had occurred around Kentucky. The Conoys had become powerful in the Kenhaway [Kanawa] valley, and the Illinois on the Wabash. The Shawnees enter into an alliance with them. The Chickasaws begin to grow powerful in the south-west, and wage war with the Shawnees, &c.

“The supremacy of the Utawas was acknowledged gradually by all the Lenapians west of the mountains, and the chief of that tribe was considered as the greatest chief.¹⁶⁰ They settled in many parts of lake Huron and Michigan, on the Mississippi, and left Kentucky to the Shawnees.

5th Period. —From the Utawa Supremacy, towards 1400, to the Invasion of Soto, towards 1540, including about 140 years

“Towards the discovery of America by Columbus in 1492, the situation of the nations residing in Kentucky or the immediate neighbourhood was nearly as follows:

“The Massawomees or Shawnees had possession of the greatest part of Kentucky, the Cumberland valley in Tennessee, nearly all the banks of the Ohio, and they had settlements or colonies in Illinois, Georgia, Carolina, Tennessee, &c. They had nearly one hundred towns, many of which were very populous.

“The Chickasaws claimed by conquest the west of Tennessee and Kentucky, and resided southerly of the Ohio.

“West of the Mississippi near Kentucky, the most powerful nations were the Capahas [Quapaw], Osages, Anileos [Fox], Quiquas [Kickapoo], &c.; the two last of Lenapian origin, and extending east as far as the Wabash.

“In Ohio were the Miamis, Erigas, Tongorias, &c.

“In Virginia, the Conoys, Monacans, Chugees or Ichias [Uchees], &c.

“On the St. Lawrence, five tribes of Menguys—the Senecas, Mohawks, Oneidas, Cayugas and Onondagos, had united into a league [Iroquoian Confederacy], which soon became formidable (under the name of Iroqueuse [sic] or Five Nations,) to all the Oghuzian nations.

¹⁶⁰ Later, Pontiac, an Ottawa, united the same tribes.

"On the Atlantic shores the Lenapian tribes had divided into numerous nations, often at war with each other for supremacy or dominion.

"Several other nations, besides the Atalans, Cutans, Iztacans, and Oghuzians, had reached various parts of America, before the modern Europeans, such as the Mayas or Malays,¹⁶¹ the Scandinavians, the Chinese, the Ainus, of Eastern Asia, the Nigritians or African negroes &c.; but as they did not settle in or near Kentucky, they do not fall under my present scope."

In these pages, Rafinesque follows the *Walam Olum* but relies on different Shawnee, Potawatomi, Cherokee, and Ottawa traditions, evidently blending his sources. He was the first historian to write about the rise and fall of Native American empires in a complete and coherent fashion. The tumultuous sweep of his narrative helps explain the fragmented, multiethnic nature of the tribes as Europeans encountered them in the Age of Discovery. His comprehensive survey includes all major Eastern tribes and most of the minor ones. Such a feat was not even to be attempted again until the decade after Rafinesque's death, by Schoolcraft,¹⁶² and it was not until the *Atlas of the North American Indian*¹⁶³ appeared a hundred and fifty years later that a comparable catalogue of tribes was assembled.

We can hypothesize that these Asiatic tribes were preceded by other Siberian, Mongolian and Turkic peoples, but we cannot assume all these Asiatics were restricted to mitochondrial lineages A through D.¹⁶⁴ Mal'ta

¹⁶¹ Rafinesque was one of the first scholars to recognize the large debt Classic Maya civilization owed to Cambodia and other cultures of Southeast Asia. Cf. Robert Heine-Geldern, "The Problem of Transpacific Influences in Mesoamerica," in *Archaeological Frontiers and External Connections*, ed. Gordon F. Ekholm and Gordon R. Willey (Austin: U of Texas P, 1966), pp. 277-95. Notably, both men were of Jewish extraction. Heine-Geldern (1885-1968) was a grandnephew of the German poet Heinrich Heine.

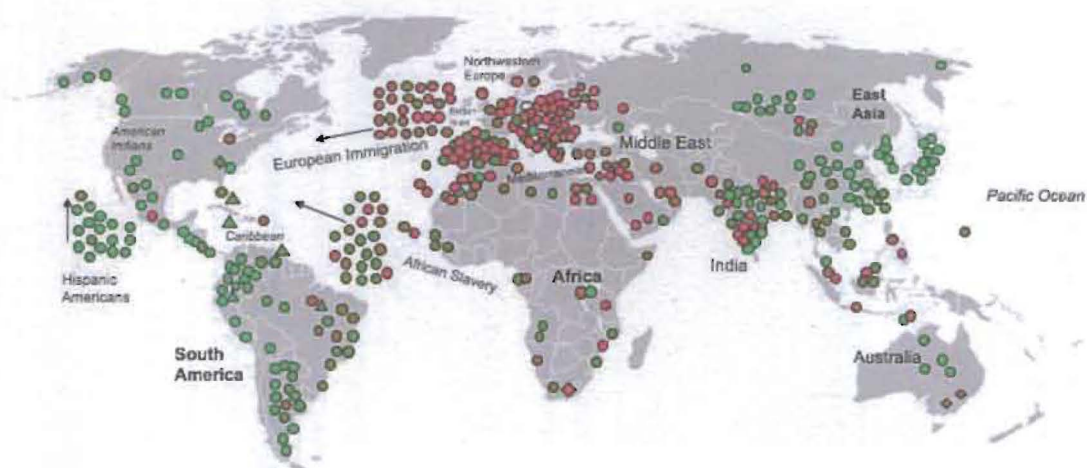
¹⁶² Henry Schoolcraft, *Historical and Statistical Information respecting the History, Condition, and Prospects of the Indian Tribes of the United States*, published by authority of the U.S. Congress, which appropriated nearly \$30,000 a volume for the purpose (6 vols., 1851-7). He had collected material for two additional volumes, but the government suddenly suspended publication of the work. Schoolcraft benefited extensively from his wife's writing and research, which he never fully acknowledged. She was Jane Johnston, the mixed-race daughter of a prominent Scotch-Irish fur trader and Ojibway mother, herself a daughter of Ojibway war chief Waubojeg.

¹⁶³ Karl Waldman, *Atlas of the North American Indian*, rev. ed. (New York: Checkmark, 2000).

¹⁶⁴ The Old World Turkic and New World Amerind peoples share mtDNA and Y chromosomal origins, but obviously that is not the end of the story; see Matthew C. Dulike et al, "Mitochondrial DNA and Y Chromosome Variation Provides Evidence for a Recent Common Ancestry between Native Americans and Indigenous Altaians," *American Journal of Human Genetics* 90/2 (2012), pp. 229-46.

Boy's haplogroup U could have been one of the non-ABCD American Indian lineages that crossed with these Asian tribes. And if the Iztacans came from the Caucasus area, they certainly brought a wide diversity of haplotypes. Rafinesque's timeframe seems shallower than most perspectives of the peopling of the Americas. The genetic story is almost always telescoped. The important historical watershed in his account is the broad distinction between Atlantic and Mediterranean peoples who build round fortresses like many of the Adena and Hopewell monuments on the Ohio and Asiatic tribes who favor pyramids and square temples like the plazas of the Creek Indians in the Southlands. Asiatic tribes seemed to settle in a more spread-out fashion and were more often nomadic while the Atlantic people concentrated themselves in towns. Such is the dicotomous nature of American Indian culture and genetics in North America.

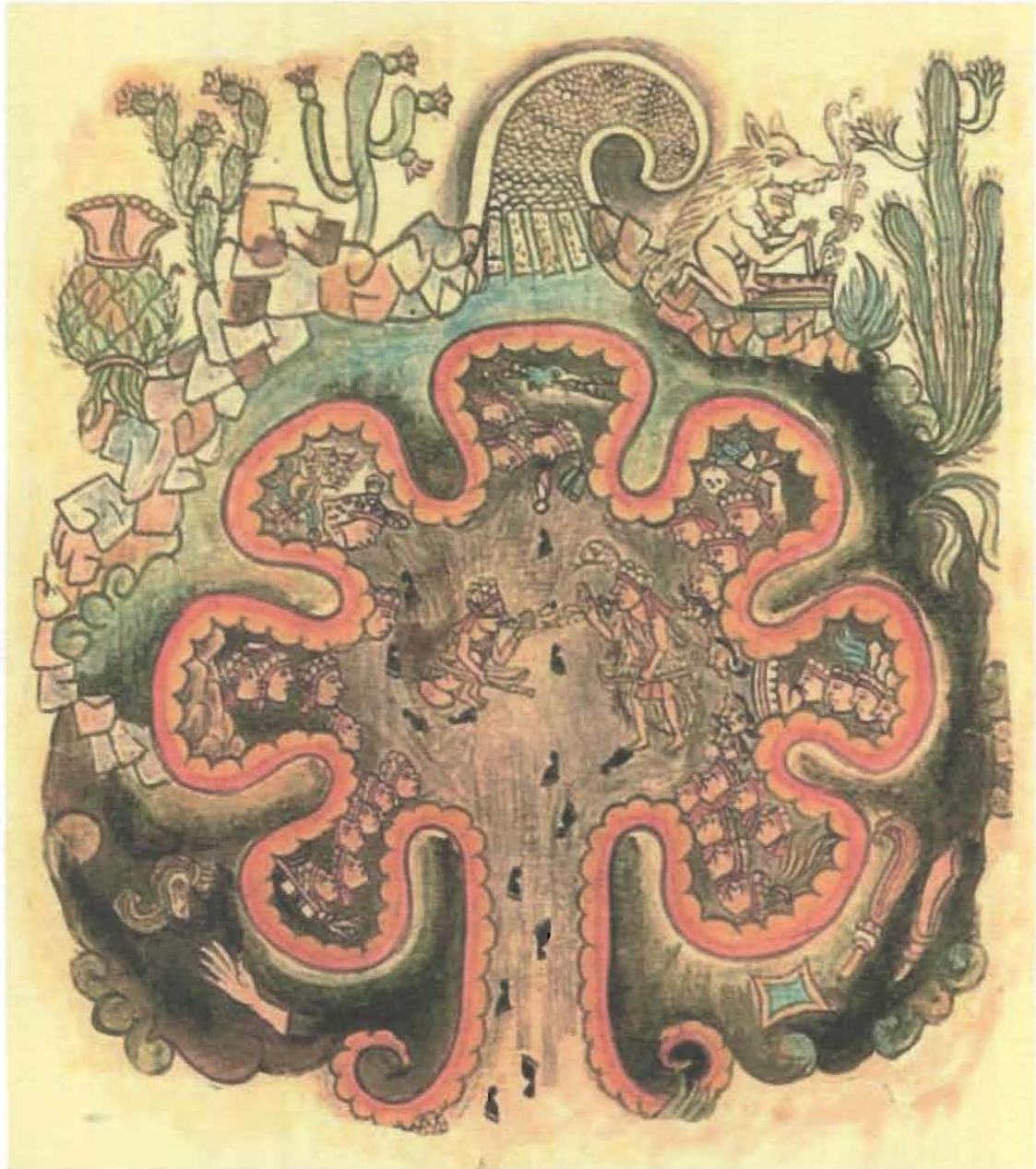
The Algonquian army's battle against the Snakes in the Pacific Northwest may have been undertaken against a predecessor Asiatic tribe whom they previously opposed in Siberia before crossing to America. At any rate, they encountered the earlier-arrived Sioux on the Great Plains, whom they defeated, as well as the Stony Tribes, with whom they allied, along with the Iroquois. It is at this juncture that we hear about the Cherokees. They are chronicled as the first civilized tribe the Algonquians encounter—the first who were not enemies on sight.



Distribution of the Aztlan Gene from the Rare Genes from History Test mirrors the conquest of the Old World by Asiatic tribes Rafinesque refers to as Iztacan and Oghuzian.

In the next chapter, we turn from the Asiatic invasions of Eastern tribes in North America to a Scandinavian and Irish backdrop that seems to have

supplemented previously planted Mediterranean and Atlantic origins. Following that, we look at post-1492 admixture and attempt to answer the question what Eurasian ancestry is ancient and what is recent in the Cherokees and other tribes of the Southern Highlands.



Chicomoztoc (Land of Seven Caves) is the name for the origin-place of the seven Indian nations we know today as Aztecs ("from Atzlan"), Mexicas, Tepanecs, Acolhuas and other Nahuatl-speaking peoples. The caves may be a memory of ships, as in Taino tradition. This implies the seven lineages derive from a common origin, something also suggested by the fact they all speak Uto-Aztecan languages. Shown is a page from the "Historia Tolteca Chichimeca," a painted codex written by people of Cuauhtinchan, or Chichimeca, ancestry in Mexico in 1550.

Populations Having High Frequency of the Aztlan Gene

Population	Percent
Mexico - Nayarit and Jalisco - Huichol (n = 30)	11.7%
Mexico- Huichols- Nayarit (n=65)	10.8%
Mexico- Huichols- Durango (n=57)	4.4%
Samoa (n = 95)	1.6%
Melungeon (n = 40)	1.3%
U.S. Cherokee Admixed (n = 92)	1.1%
Arizona - Hualapai and Yavapai Indians (n = 52)	1.0%
Native American - Saskatchewan (n = 105)	1.0%
Native American - Michigan (n = 29)	0.9%
Mexican - Hidalgo - Metztitlan (n = 180)	0.8%

Note that Huichols in West Mexico have the highest incidence. Nayarit and Jalisco were the proximate sources of the Aztec tribes who came from the northerly region of the American Southwest they called Atzlan (White Land) before they proceeded on their way to Central Mexico.