

The Asian path to the Americas (From the Silk Road to the Kelp Highway)

By Don Smithana ©2017

The ancient worlds of civilizations were guided and nurtured by that great Nuclear Furnace in the sky---the unique star we call the Sun. One can only wonder at the thoughts of early man as he wandered Eastward toward the "Rising Sun". >From Asia, we can see no less of a fascination with this almost sacred celestial body worshipped by early religions. Empires were formed which were termed "belonging to the Heavens"---(Tenno). In the Americas we see such empires as Tenotihilan in Mexico and Tennessee *Note 1

The large continents of the Americas also appeared as men made voyages beyond the horizon only to see again the rising sun. What modern day features could lure these intrepid ocean people from their Middle East civilizations? The Silk Road has been explored as a more recent way to move Eastward, discovering the marvels of Asian products and people.

Once established on those Eastern shores their language history shows their curiosity and needs of food and shelter coaxed them further. The islands of Japan provided a cornucopia of fish and animals providing these elements for sustenance. Judging by the early language of the northern Pacific, it was the marine animal, the sea lion, that provided for them.

THE KELP HIGHWAY

Inline image

While most ancient civilizations found the oceans as a convenient source of food, study of language finds that there was one important prey the oceans provided. More important than the whale, was the marine animal the sea-lion. It was a unique animal differing from the seal with having legs which appeared as appendages from its belly. It was equipped to live on the shore.

How was it so important to the ancient path to the Americas? While it lived and mated on the shore, it found plentiful food among the kelp plants that thrived in the salt water. And early people also followed these marine jungles.

From Honshu of Japan to Ecuador the Kelp Highway provided sustenance to the Ocean travelers. The fish found protection in this marine jungle and in turn, the sea lion found sustenance from the fish and protection from killer whales. The sea lion, proliferating along the shore, provided necessities for the early explorers. In America, these native people were known as the ocean society ---the *CHUMASH (Chi-Umi-Sha)* prominent along the California coast.

The highway was well known and this famous sea lion and its legs, *ashi*, provided the destination names of *Ashi* (Japan), Alaska and *Athabasca* as well as the natives calling themselves "Aztec" (*Ashi-tek*; we are from Japan). The islands were *Ashi-Hara-No-Kuni* as the ancient name for Japanese islands. (*Country of animal with legs on the belly*).

EXAMPLES: And *AleyEska* (*AriAshiKa*) is now Alaska. *AssaBaAshiKa* (*AssaBaShiKaA*) became Athabasca, the Place to Search for Sea Lion. *Ashi-tek* (*Aztec*) identified the people of Mexico as being "From Ashi, islands of Japan."

We can see by analyzing and reconstructing early vocabulary that there was ample reason and temptation to move into the continents of the New World. I believe this can be done with language much as the archaeologist collects potshards for their studies. The Kelp Highway provided a practical and convenient way to explore these new empires. The food and pelts of these prolific animals provided for the welfare of a seafaring people, the Chumash. If the expeditions took a generation, it is obvious that an advanced society might only bring with them the essentials. They carried with them only the skills that they needed. The urgent skills of survival seemed to dictate a "back to nature" mentality. It should not be equated to an apparent "stone age" existence.

The adventurous people brought to the Americas an admixture of three prominent maritime languages but very little writing. Their vocabulary shows a strong relation to Chinese, Phoenician and Japanese. The author, in separate papers, has provided the modern interpretation of over 150 native words pointing back to this ocean-going heritage. It was a colorful language pervading much of the continents. Their penetrating adventure can be traced from the Middle East---and from Malibu to Manhattan----and the Amazon. After more than 500 years, we must finally understand.

Note 1: The Empire of the People of the Sun *Tenno-chi-Hi-La-n*
The Western Empire (viewed from Atlantic.) *Tenno-Sei*

Contact: don1209@att.net San Diego

