Today’s Outline

- Cont. Hunter-Gatherer Societies-
  - Ohlone People
  - !Kung San
  - Papua, New Guinea Highlands
  - Gwich’in
- Agricultural Societies
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

- Slash/burn, shifting cultivation, subsistence
- Metal plow
- Increased use, birth rate, & material goods increase
- More destruction of habitats
Agricultural Societies: Generalities

- Different patterns in different parts of the world (i.e., of domestication of plants and animals)
- As societies became more complex, we begin to see class divisions, occupational specialization, differences in gender roles, social and economic inequities
Agricultural Societies:

Generalities

- Some societies used only a few varieties of crops, others utilized many.
- Study archeological, ethnobotanical, historic, biological/life science (chemistry, archeobotany—study seeds, pollen, starch).
- Wild Plants: balanced diet, providing emergency foods, satisfying cultural preferences, medicine, fuel, fodder.
Cont.- Agricultural Societies: What can we learn?

• Crops, wild plants, livestock—all part of agricultural and social system
• Non-industrial agriculture characteristics: great stability of plant species chosen to be cultivated, whether for human consumption, to feed animals, or for production of material goods
• Settlements, communication routes all integral parts of agricultural activity
Agricultural Societies:

What can we learn?

• Where are best soils, water resources? Terrain require terraces or drainage ditches?
• Agricultural landscapes—one of most important arenas of social organization and interaction
• Deeply embedded in soils, hilltops are memories, knowledge, associations of generations of inhabitants and farmers
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

- Began with the development of agriculture simultaneously in ~ six parts of the world
- Founder species: main plants and animals first domesticated in Middle East (then to other Mediterranean areas)
- Plants: wheat, oat, pea, lentil, vetch, Evergreen pea, flax
- Animals: dog, pig, goat, sheep, cow
Early agriculture in:
- Mesopotamia (Tigris, Euphrates Rivers)—Part of present day Iraq and Syria
- Egypt (Nile River)
- Wheat in both areas
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

- **Mexico**- horitculture
  9,000ya—squash; 7,000ya—maize, beans, peppers, gourds

- **South America (Peru?)**-
  7,000ya—cultivation of gourds, squash, lima beans, beans

- **Ancient Maya**- diversified and intensive agriculture (terracing, raised fields bordered by canals)

Mayan areas: Present day Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Honduras
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

- **Africa** - Millet, sorghum ~ 5,000ya. Then yam, oil palm.
  - Nubia, Ethiopia, Aksum.
- **Europe** - Greece ~9500ya
- **SE Asia** - Wheat, barley, ~ 9,000ya.
  - China - Yellow River Valley
  - South China - rice ~ 8,000ya
  - India, Pakistan - 4,500ya
EGS. OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

- **Amazon** - Bolivia, Brazil
- Fruits, nuts, ice cream bean
- Last 30 years, found that way we viewed tropical forests has changed
- 1/3 Amazon = savanna
- Round mounds (to get away from floods) linked by straight lines (do not see often in nature—”causeways”= runways for water between them, raised field)
- Underneath forests, see ~ 80 square areas
- 6,000ya pictographs/petroglyphs
EGS. OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

- Present-Day Rwanda - the most densely populated country in Africa
  - Eg. Ruhengeri
  - Clear cut terraces
  - Mountain gorilla habitat nearby
EGS. OF HERDER SOCIETY

- Present-Day Tanzania in East Africa
  - Maasai People
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES

- “Farmers and farming over the world”
Further Research

- Do further research and write one page in your journal on one of the following: 1) Amazon-Bolivia, Brazil, 2) Present-Day Rwanda, 3) Present-Day Tanzania- Maasai People, 4) [http://museum.agropolis.fr/english/default.htm](http://museum.agropolis.fr/english/default.htm) (“Farmers and farming over the world”)