

方案。随着时间的推移，河水不断上涨，堤坝承受的压力也越来越大。最终，堤坝不堪重负，轰然崩溃，瞬间释放出了一股比原始洪水更具毁灭性的滔天巨浪。

鲧的失败带来了灾难性的后果。无数鲜活的生命在这场突如其来的灾难中消逝，原本温馨的家园被彻底摧毁，人们的生计也化为泡影。土地沦为一片荒芜的废墟，人们对领袖的信任也受到了前所未有的严重动摇。

灾难过后，事实无情地证明，鲧所采取的方法是错误的。他过于专注于短期的解决方案，缺乏长远的眼光和前瞻性，这最终导致了更大的痛苦和损失。鲧的失败给我们留下了深刻的教训：真正的领导力不仅需要具备强大的力量和坚定的决心，更需要拥有卓越的智慧，以及对长期可持续解决方案的坚定承诺。

禅让的曙光：从神权到人权

在尧的统治时期，他完成了一系列令人惊叹的伟大壮举。他派遣远征队对大地进行丈量，远征队的足迹甚至远达南北两极。他对地球地理的探索细致入微，所收集的数据精准无误，涵盖了每一座山川的走向、气候与季节的变化规律、洋流的流动模式、矿产资源的分布情况等各个方面。利用这些全面而详尽的信息，他精心制定了历法与时间测量系统，为地球物理学的发展奠定了坚实的基础。

在尧之前，神祇们很少关心人类的生存环境，对人类的苦难往往视而不见。而尧却将全部的精力都专注于推动人类社会的发展与进步。为了让人类成为地球真正的主宰，成为地球名副其实的守护者，而非神祇的附庸，他毅然决然地打破了传统观念的束缚，决定不将王位传给神裔后代，而是从普通百姓中选拔了一位名叫舜的男子。舜不仅拥有卓越的才干，更具备令人钦佩的高尚道德品质。

这一具有开创性的举措，标志着人类开始走上崛起之路，也为后来儒家思想的诞生埋下了种子。从某种程度上来说，尧这种“还政于民”的伟大愿景，对秦始皇也产生了一定的影响，但由于历史的长河悠悠流淌，后世对上古世界的了解已经变得十分有限。



然而，尧深知领袖的角色并非仅仅体现在个人的英雄主义上。他明白，人民的福祉取决于一位公正且能力出众的继任者。经过深思熟虑和慎重考虑，他最终选择了舜作为自己的继承人。尧主动将王位禅让给了舜，这并非出于被迫无奈，而是因为他坚信这是对人民最为有利的选择。

舜：逆境中的圣贤

舜出生于一个贫寒的家庭，然而他却笼罩在盲父的残酷对待与继母的阴谋算计之下。他的同父异母弟弟象被父母过度宠爱，养成了骄纵任性的性格，常常暗中策划阴谋，企图夺取舜应有的地位。尽管如此，舜却从未动摇过自己的孝心，即便面对家人的恶意与伤害，他依然以善良和宽容之心对待他们。

舜的才华并没有因为家庭的困境而被埋没。尧，这位一心寻求贤能继承人的公正君主，听闻了舜的高尚品德后，决定对他进行考验。尧交给舜各种各样的任务，从耕种田地到审理复杂的案件，任务的难度层层递进。舜在每一项任务中都表现得极为出色，他天生的领导才能与悲天悯人的情怀在完成这些任务的过程中熠熠生辉。

但对舜品格的真正考验，来自于他遭遇的个人悲剧。他的父母与继母竟然合谋想要杀害他，甚至将他困在燃烧的仓库之中，企图置他于死地。然而，奇迹般地，舜毫发无损地逃脱了这场灾难。他的高尚品德在面对死亡威胁时，仿佛有一种神奇的力量保护着他。他并没有因此而寻求报复，而是选择了宽容与原谅，充分展现了仁爱和谐的精神。



尧被舜坚定不移的道德品质和卓越的才能深深打动，最终决定将王位禅让给他。舜起初并不愿意接受这一重任，他宁愿默默地服务人民，也不愿成为高高在上的统治者。经过尧多次耐心的劝说，他终于被尧的诚意所打动，同意登基称帝。

在舜的统治时期，土地呈现出一片繁荣昌盛的景象。他凭借着

卓越智慧和公正的裁决来治理国家，任命了一批贤能的臣子，推行了一系列有益的政策。他的善良与高尚品德赢得了所有人的忠诚与尊重，他作为道德与智慧典范的伟大遗产，穿越了漫长的时空，流传至今，经久不衰。

大禹（Great Yu）誓要彻底征服洪水，为此，他从中国腹地一路跋涉，直抵昆仑山脉。在那里，他立下宏愿：将追随河流的足迹，直至它们在深海中寻得归宿。作为治水多年却未竟全功的鲧（Gun）之子，大禹从父亲的失败中汲取教训，实施了一套独一无二的治水方略。他不再单纯堵截，而是疏通河道，将洪水安全地引向大海。

他的队伍穿越了险象环生的地带，每一步都充满了危险与未知。他们横渡荒漠，攀登崇山，涉过沼泽，在此过程中测绘河流的走向，参透水流的奥秘。

一路向西，他们的足迹踏入了中亚。那里的部落与文明从未见过如此浩大的工程。大禹毫不保留地分享他的知识与技艺，教导当地人如何挖掘沟渠、修筑堤坝、引导水流。这些人将技术带回故乡，使其在中亚、波斯乃至遥远的西方生根发芽，广泛传播。

岁月流转，大禹的功绩随着一条条被疏通的河流与挖掘的沟渠而累积。这门水利技艺在亚述时代达到了新的巅峰——他们完善了地下排水与引流技术，令治水艺术臻于化境。在古代波斯，人们挖掘了超过两万公里的地下暗渠，这正是对这一古老技艺精细化的明证。

即便在中国遥远的西部——新疆地区，大禹的遗泽依然深植于此。卡拉库尔运河系统便是地下水利工程的宏伟奇迹，它绵延五千多公里，灌溉了广袤的农田，将荒芜的沙漠化为了肥沃的绿洲。

随着故事的展开，它成为人类韧性与智慧的象征。大禹的传说不仅是一个个人试图驯服自然的壮举，更是合作、知识共享与坚持不懈之力量的见证。通过他的努力，在毁灭中挣扎的民族找到了希望，而这项发源于一地的技艺，最终成为全球水利管理的基石。

Chapter 19 Borfu and Buri

In the frostbitten reaches of ancient China, hidden within the embrace of perpetual winter, lay the enigmatic realm of Youzhou(幽州). This land, whispered about in hushed tones by the icy gales, was akin to the mythical Ginnungagap of Nordic lore—a primordial expanse as ancient as creation itself.



Within the sparse narratives of Chinese mythology, one saga stood prominently: the fierce rivalry between Gonskon(共工, Gonggong, the water god) and Zhuangxu(颛顼, the descendant of the sun god).

Zhuangxu, wielding unmatched dominion over both cosmos and earth, far surpassed Gonskon in power. Consumed by envy and wrath, Gonskon unleashed cataclysmic floods upon the world, seeking to usurp Zhuangxu's throne. Yet, his furious tides were no match for the brilliance of Zhuangxu's flame, leading to Gonskon's ultimate defeat.

Though defeated, Gonskon remained unyielding and withdrew to the desolate wastelands of Youzhou. There, Buzhou Mountain—a bleak and barren peak—loomed, serving as a stark connection between the earth and the heavens. Unlike the majestic Kunlun, this was a lonely sentinel at the edge of the world, a gateway between different realms, perhaps even today's north pole.

With a roar that echoed through the realms, Gonskon called upon his serpent kin, launching a devastating onslaught upon Buzhou Mountain. Their fury was unrelenting, battering the peak until, with a thunderous collapse, the mountain fractured. This cataclysm severed the sacred bond between earth and the cosmos, plunging the world into upheaval. The earth itself tilted on its axis, unleashing tidal waves and torrents that scoured the land towards the east. As chaos reigned, both divine and mortal beings scrambled to find their place in this newly disordered world.

In this time of dire need, Zhuangxu ascended, resolute to mend the fractured cosmos. With a decisive act, he severed the ties that bound earth to the heavens, forever altering the pathway between gods and mortals. This extreme measure brought a slow but inevitable restoration of balance. The calamity that ensued was remembered as “Jueditianong”(绝地天通), the Sundering of Heaven and Earth, marking a new epoch in which gods and mortals walked separate paths.

Eons passed, and the specter of Gonskon still haunted the earthly realm, stirring unrest among the living. It was Emperor Yao(尧帝), a ruler of unparalleled wisdom and compassion, who decreed the final fate of the rebellious deity. He exiled Gonskon to the barren wastes of Youzhou, stripping him of his influence over the living. Thus, Gonskon was doomed to wander the eternal frost, his cries of fury a mere echo in

the vast silence, a deity forsaken in a realm of desolation.

This tale of divine conflict and consequence was eternally etched into history by the *Records of the Grand Historian: Biographies of the Five Emperors*, documenting Gonskon's exile as a testament to the gods' tumultuous legacy: "Gonskon was banished to the shadowy realm of Youzhou, there to become the deity of the northern tribes." It was a saga that commenced with rivalry and upheaval, only to conclude in isolation and the echoing silence of oblivion.

The war between Gongsun and Zhuangxu eventually evolved into a legendary tale in Chinese mythology, known as "Kuafu Chasing the Sun".(夸父追日) But the reasons behind Gonskon's transformation and relentless pursuit were more complex than they seemed.



Gonskon, the water god, marshaled all his might to manipulate

the waters of rivers and oceans in his battle against Zhuangxu. Yet, Zhuangxu—a descendant of the formidable Sun God—crafted a cunning strategy. Leveraging his heat powers, he systematically depleted Gonskon's energy, gradually wearing him down until he was utterly spent. Ultimately, Gonskon collapsed in the icy northern wilderness, his body petrified in the tundra. Thus, this narrative unveils the genuine tale of Kuafu's pursuit of the sun, during which he drained all the rivers dry, until exhaustion overcame him and he met his demise.

Yet, even in death, Gonskon's remains underwent a mysterious transformation. Deep within the icy mountains, his body began to grow and change, as if something new was stirring within him.

Meanwhile, in a Nordic land, a strange sight unfolded. A primordial cow named Audumla licked the salt from the ice, revealing a hidden image: a giant named Buri. This story was later passed down by the Nordic people, unknown to the Chinese at the time.

However, the Chinese eventually became familiar with Buri through his descendant Borr, known to them as “博”(Bo). Borr's father, Borfu, was also recognised in Chinese mythology as “夸父”(Kuafù) or “举父”(Jufu). Thus, the giant Borfu mentioned in Chinese legends was actually the exact figure as Borr from Nordic mythology.

In these Nordic tales, Borr formed a powerful alliance with the giantess Bestla. Together, they gave birth to three brothers: Odin, Vili, and Vé. These brothers played a crucial role in the slaying of the mighty giant Ymir. While the exact contributions of Buri beyond his offspring are unclear, his lineage was instrumental in shaping the Norse understanding of the universe. Buri's existence marked a significant transition from chaos to order, signifying the beginning of a divine lineage that would eventually include some of the most prominent figures in Norse mythology.

It is remarkable that despite their distinct cultural and historical backgrounds, Chinese and Nordic myths share similar themes and characters. The blending of these myths in our retelling highlights the interconnectedness of global mythologies and the rich tapestry of human storytelling.

Another intriguing parallel between Chinese and Nordic mythology lies in the figure of Ymir, whose name bears an uncanny resemblance to Yiming(噫 鸣). In Chinese mythology, Yiming's mother is Houtu(后 土), the goddess of land and mountains, and his grandfather is Gongsun. Yiming also has a brother named Xin(信), who is said to have fathered Borfu(Buri), Borr's father.

Shifting our focus to Nordic mythology, Ymir and Buri emerge as distinct giants within its pantheon. Ymir came into being when the icy realm of Nifelheim collided with the fiery Muspelheim. This narrative echoes the clash between Gongsun and Zhuanxu in Chinese mythology. Thus, one could postulate that Yiming(Ymir) sprang from the Gonskon lineage.

Continuing with the Nordic tale, Ymir gave birth to a lineage of giants, among them his son, Buri. However, in Chinese mythology, Borfu(Buri) is not a direct descendant of Yimir but rather the son of Yimir's brother, making him Yimir's nephew. Nonetheless, this familial connection resonates with the extended family dynamics found in both mythologies.

Unfortunately, Chinese records offer scant information about Yiming, revealing only that he had twelve sons, symbolic of the twelve months of the year, and that his mother, Houtu, presided over the land and mountains as a goddess.

第十九章 夸父（Borfu）与布里（Buri）

在古中国那片被严霜无情侵蚀的极北之地，幽都宛如一颗神秘而幽冷的明珠，隐匿于永恒寒冬的怀抱之中。这片土地在凛冽寒风的低语中，被代代传颂，恰似北欧神话里自创世之初便存在的原始虚空——金伦加鸿沟（Ginnungagap），散发着神秘而古老的气息。

在中国神话那略显稀疏却璀璨的叙事长河中，有一段传奇如耀眼星辰般格外醒目。那便是暴烈的水神共工与天帝颛顼（身为太阳神后裔）之间那不死不休的宿敌之争。颛顼，这位掌控着宇宙与大地无上权柄的天帝，其力量如巍峨高山，远超共工。然而，被嫉妒与狂怒蒙蔽双眼的共工，如同失控的洪流，向世间释放了灭世的洪水，妄图篡夺颛顼那至高无上的宝座。可他的狂暴潮汐，终究难以抵挡颛顼神火那璀璨光辉，最终共工惨败，如折翼之鸟，跌入失败的深渊。

虽遭败绩，共工却如顽石般不屈服。他狼狈地退缩至幽都那荒凉破败的废墟之中。在那里，一座阴郁贫瘠的孤峰——不周山，赫然耸立。它曾是连接大地与天空的唯一通道，与巍峨壮丽的昆仑截然不同。不周山宛如世界边缘孤独的哨兵，是不同界域间的神秘门户，甚至有传说称它可能就是如今北极的所在。

伴随着一声震彻诸界的咆哮，共工如愤怒的战神，召唤了他的蛇族同类。他们如汹涌的黑色浪潮，对不周山发起了毁灭性的冲击。那愤怒如无休无止的狂风，疯狂地撞击着山峰。终于，在雷鸣般的崩塌声中，山体断裂，如巨兽轰然倒下。这场灾难，如同斩断了大地与宇宙之间的神圣纽带，令世界陷入剧烈的动荡之中。大地地轴倾斜，仿佛被一只无形的大手肆意拨弄，引发了海啸与洪流，如咆哮的猛兽，向着东方席卷而去。在混沌的统治下，神与人都在这个慌乱的世界中慌乱地寻找自己的位置。



在这绝望的黑暗时刻，颛顼如闪耀的星辰般挺身而出。他决心修补这破碎不堪的宇宙，毅然采取了决绝的行动。他彻底斩断了天地之间的联系，如同斩断了连接过去与未来的桥梁，永远改变了神人相通的路径。这一极端措施，虽带来缓慢却必然的平衡恢复。这场灾难被后世铭记为“绝地天通”，它如一道无形的界限，标志着神与人从此殊途，开启了一个全新的纪元。

亿万年如白驹过隙般匆匆过去，共工的幽灵却仍在人间徘徊，搅动着生者的不安。最终，尧帝以其无与伦比的智慧与慈悲，如公正的法官般宣判了这位叛逆神祇的终局。他将共工流放至幽都那荒芜之地，剥夺了他对生灵的影响力。于是，共工定在永恒的霜冻中流浪，他愤怒的呐喊，如今只剩下广阔寂静中的微弱回声，成为荒凉界域中被遗弃的神，孤独地承受着命运的惩罚。

这段神圣冲突与因果的故事，被《史记·五帝本纪》永远铭刻在历史的长河中，将共工的流放记录为诸神动荡遗产的见证：“共工被流放至幽都的阴影界域，在那里成为北方部落的神祇。”这是一个始于敌对与动荡，终于孤立与遗忘的传奇，如一首悲壮的史诗，在岁月的长河中回荡。

共工与颛顼的战争，最终演变成了中国神话中著名的传说——“夸父逐日”。但共工化身夸父、不懈追逐背后的原因，远比表面看起来要复杂得多，如隐藏在深海中的神秘宝藏，等待着我们去探寻。



水神共工在与颛顼的战斗中，倾尽全力操控江河湖海之水，如一位掌控水之魔法的强大巫师。然而，作为强大的太阳神后裔的颛顼，制定了狡猾的策略。他巧妙地利用热能，系统地耗尽了共工的能量，如抽丝剥茧般逐渐将其磨损至精疲力竭。最终，共工倒在了冰冷的北方荒野，他的身躯在冻土中石化，如一座永恒的雕像，诉说着曾经的辉煌与失败。因此，这个叙事揭开了夸父逐日的真实面纱：他在追逐中喝干了所有河流，如贪婪的巨兽，直到疲惫将他击

倒，迎来死亡。

然而，即便在死亡中，共工的遗骸也经历了神秘的转化。在深山冰层深处，他的身体开始生长变化，仿佛有什么新的东西正在体内苏醒，如一颗沉睡的种子，在黑暗中孕育着新的生命。

与此同时，在北欧那片神秘而广袤的土地上，奇异的一幕如梦幻般展开了。一头名为奥杜姆拉（Audumla）的原始母牛，如一位勤劳的开拓者，舔舐着冰中的盐粒。随着它的舔舐，一个隐藏的身影逐渐显露出来：一位名叫布里（Buri）的巨人。这个故事后来由北欧人流传开来，如同风中的种子，飘向远方。而当时的中国人对此一无所知，仿佛两个世界被无形的屏障所隔开。

然而，命运的车轮悄然转动，中国人最终通过布里的后裔博尔（Borr）——即中文中的“博（Bo）”——认识了布里（Buri）。而博尔（Borr）的父亲伯夫（Borfu），在中国神话中也被识别为“夸父（Kuafù）”或“举父（Jufu）”。因此，中国传说中提到的巨人伯夫（Borfu），实际上与北欧神话中的布里（Buri）是同一人物，如同一把钥匙，打开了两个神话世界之间的神秘之门。

在这些北欧传说中，博尔（Borr）与女巨人贝斯特拉（Bestla）结成了强大的联盟，如两位并肩作战的勇士。他们生下了三兄弟：奥丁（Odin）、维利（Vili）和威（Vé）。这三兄弟在斩杀强大的巨人尤弥尔（Ymir）的过程中扮演了关键角色。虽然布里（Buri）除了后裔之外的具体贡献尚不清楚，但他的血统在塑造北欧人对宇宙的理解中起到了重要作用。布里（Buri）的存在标志着从混乱到秩序的重大转变，象征着一个神圣血统的开始，这个谱系最终孕育了北欧神话中一些最杰出的人物，如璀璨星辰般闪耀在北欧神话的天空中。

令人惊叹的是，尽管中北欧神话有着截然不同的文化与历史背景，它们却如同两条交织的河流，共享着相似的主题与人物。在我们的复述中，这些神话的融合突显了全球神话的相互关联性以及人类叙事的丰富画卷，如一幅绚丽多彩的织锦，展现着人类文化的博

大精深。

中北欧神话之间另一个有趣相似之处在于尤弥尔（Ymir），他的名字与中国的噫鸣（Yiming）有着不可思议的相似之处。在中国神话中，噫鸣（Yiming）的母亲是后土（Houtu）——大地与山川的女神，而他的祖父正是共工。噫鸣（Yiming）还有一个名叫信（Xin）的兄弟，据说他是伯夫（Buri/Borr 的父亲）的生父，如同一棵家族大树的复杂枝干，错综复杂却又紧密相连。

将目光转向北欧神话，尤弥尔（Ymir）与布里（Buri）作为独特的巨人出现在其万神殿中。尤弥尔（Ymir）诞生于冰之国尼福尔海姆与火之国穆斯佩尔海姆的碰撞，如宇宙诞生时的巨大爆炸，充满了神秘与力量。这个叙事呼应了中国神话中共工与颛顼的冲突。因此，我们可以推测噫鸣（Yiming）源自共工的血脉，如同一条无形的血脉纽带，将两个神话世界紧密相连。

继续北欧的故事，尤弥尔（Ymir）繁衍出一支巨人后裔，其中包括他的儿子布里（Buri）。然而，在中国神话中，伯夫（Bori）并非尤弥尔（Ymir）的直系后代，而是尤弥尔（Ymir）兄弟的儿子，即尤弥尔（Ymir）的侄子。尽管如此，这种家族联系与两种神话中大家庭关系动态产生了共鸣，如悠扬的乐章，在两个神话世界中回荡。

遗憾的是，中国典籍中关于噫鸣（Yiming）的记载稀少，仅透露他有十二个儿子（象征一年十二个月），且其母亲后土为女神掌管着大地与山川，如一位守护大地的温柔母亲，默默地庇佑着世间万物。这些神秘而古老的神话，如同璀璨的星辰，在人类文化的天空中闪耀着永恒的光芒，等待着我们去不断探索与发现。

Chapter 20 Our New Beautiful World

After the Great Yu tamed the floods, harmony was restored. With their abilities and wisdom, humans triumphed over Earth's natural disasters and grasped a way of survival.

This is the Era of Man Dominance.

这是我们的家。

Уш үлэр унхуу т:

Энэ бол бидний гэр

यह हमारा घर है ।

تسام هنا خ اجنى

اذه وه ان طو

Burası bizim evimiz

Bul bizdii ūi

여기가 우리 집이야

Ini adalah rumah kami.

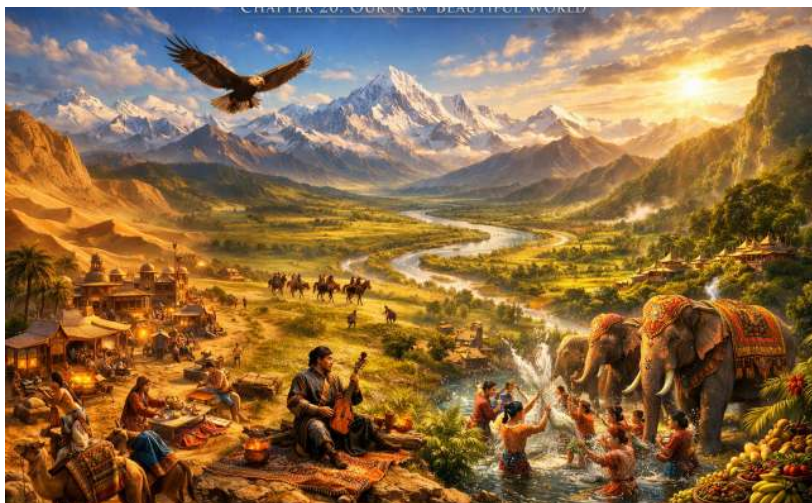
ဒီဟာကျွန်ုပ်တို့၏အိမ်ဖြစ်သည်

Đây là nhà của chúng tôi

མཛེན.

...

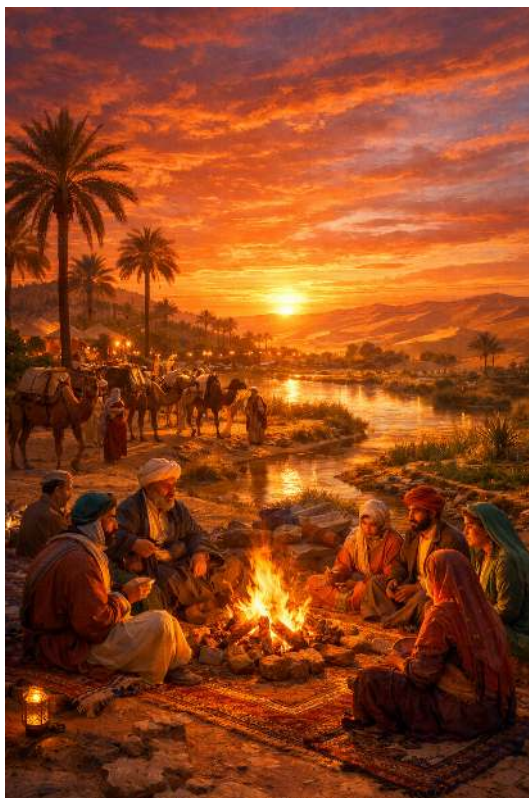
In Asia, the Himalayas stood tall and eternal, representing the incredible power of nature and the insurmountable boundary. The Kunlun Mountains were shrouded in mystery and ancient legends, beckoning endless explorations. The Tianshan Mountains embodied harmony and balance, serving as the meeting point of Eastern and Western cultures. The Qinling Mountains, the dragon's backbone of China, symbolised the unyielding national spirit. The Yellow River, the mother river of the Chinese nation, flowed through the vicissitudes of history. The Yangtze River, the longest in Asia, pulsated with the vitality and spirit of constant change.



In the heart of Asia's northern expanse, majestic grasslands stretch beyond the horizon, a testament to Tengri's boundless embrace. Here, horses, cattle, and sheep wander with an unbridled spirit under skies of the purest azure, a canvas of celestial wonder. The nomadic souls that tread this sacred earth carry within them an intense blaze of passion and fervor, their hearts beating in unison with the wild rhythm of freedom and an unquenchable thirst for justice. These wanderers of the endless steppes, from the icy realms of Siberia to the ancient crossroads of Indo-Europe, and across the vast Mongolian Plateau, live as legends reborn. They are the fearless hunters, their prowess whispered in the wind, their legacy etched in the very soil they roam. With a profound reverence, they heed the Shaman's ancient words, seeking purification for their souls and healing for their bodies, while the haunting melody of the Morin Khuur, the sacred horsehead fiddle, keeps the shadows at bay, guarding against the unseen. For these noble spirits, life itself is a divine gift from Tengri, cherished and revered. The Burgud, the mighty eagle, soars as both guardian and hunter, a symbol of their indomitable will. Nourished by the earth's bounty, the fresh milk of their herds fuels their strength and vitality, forging warriors in the image of the cunning wolves they both admire and emulate. They are the undisputed masters of their domain, taming the wild beasts and bending the grasslands

to their will, a people untamed, free as the wind that sweeps across Tengri's vast domain.

In the radiant heart of the Near East, fire and light dance in the sacred spaces of the people's lives, revered as divine symbols of purity and enlightenment. Here, amid the endless expanse of desert, oasis and lush bostan gardens emerge as verdant miracles, treasures in a land where rain whispers its secrets only sparingly. Water, the essence of life, flows like liquid gold, precious beyond measure, cradled in the palms of a civilization that has mastered the art of survival and reverence. Their culinary traditions, a ballet of flavor and ceremony, reflect a deep-seated veneration for the circle of life, with every meal prepared with meticulous care and consumed with a grace that honors the soul of the world. They see the divine in the eyes of every creature, holding all life as sacred as their own breath, a testament to their profound connection to the earth and its myriad inhabitants. As the relentless sun journeys across the sky, men immerse themselves in the labor of the day, their sweat mingling with the dust of the earth, while women weave the fabric of the home into a sanctuary of warmth and belonging. And when twilight paints the sky in hues of fire, they gather under the moon's serene gaze, their hearts open to the whisperings of the spirit, in a communion that transcends the mundane. Purity and cleanliness are their guiding stars, pathways to health and a reflection of the soul's inner light. In a world that races towards tomorrow, they walk a path of wisdom and patience, understanding that true progress is the journey of a soul through time, not the hurried steps toward an unseen precipice. As master merchants, they traverse the ancient Silk Road, not just as traders of goods, but as harbingers of culture, weaving threads of connection across continents. The desert, with its unforgiving sun and shifting sands, has tempered them into beings of resilience and grace, a people as elegant and enduring as the land itself. In their benevolence, their art, and their enduring strength, they mirror the sublime beauty of the desert, a community where the spirit of generosity and elegance flourishes, undimmed by the hardships of their world.



In the lush realms of the Indus Valley and the vibrant heartlands of Southeast Asia, the earth pulses with the rhythm of ancient traditions, where communities till the soil with reverence, nurturing the land to yield a rich tapestry of vegetables, fruits, and grains. Here, elephants are not just animals; they are cherished members of the family, majestic beings embodying strength, wisdom, and the prosperity of the land. These societies are bound by a profound connection to the natural world, a bond that transcends the mere act of living, infusing their daily existence with passion and a deep sense of unity with nature. At the dawn of the lunar calendar, an enchanting ritual unfolds, a dance of renewal and blessings where holy water flows in abundance. With laughter and joy, they douse each other, each drop a symbol of fortune and purity, a belief held deep in their hearts that to be soaked is to be showered with an abundance of good luck and prosperity for the year to

come. Their world is a kaleidoscope of natural colors, where the bounty of the earth paints their food in hues as diverse as the rainbow. Rice, the staple of life, becomes a canvas for this celebration of colors, dyed with the essence of flowers and plants, a feast for the eyes as much as the soul. These people are the embodiment of kindness and commitment, where hearts once joined in love become inseparable, partners for life on a journey of mutual respect and affection. Wise and industrious, they draw inspiration from the whispers of nature, innovating and creating with a diligence that honors the rhythms of the earth. In their philosophy, following nature is to walk a path of balance and harmony, living in a way that respects the delicate dance of existence, never veering from the principles that sustain life itself. In their reverence for the natural world, their vibrant rituals, and their unyielding commitment to love and community, the people of the Indus Valley and Southeast Asia weave a story of harmony, prosperity, and vibrant tradition, a testament to the enduring relationship between humanity and the earth.

This is our home.

Αυτό είναι το σπίτι μας.

Das ist unser Zuhause.

C'est notre maison.

Questa è casa nostra

Dit is ons thuis.

Det här är vårt hem.

Tämä on kotimme.

Esta es nuestra casa.

Esta é a nossa casa.

Þetta er heimili okkar.

To nasz dom.

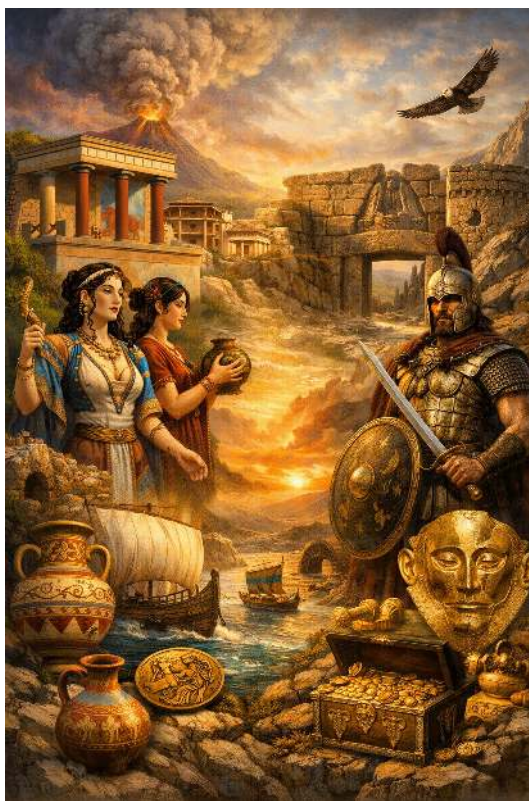
Это наш дом.

Ez az otthonunk.

...

In Europe, the Alps embodied the continent's natural beauty and romantic charm. The Carpathian Mountains represented the tenacity and protective spirit of Eastern Europe. The Pyrenees, while separating

Spain and France, also facilitated cultural exchange. The Danube flowed through multiple European countries, symbolising life's continuation and cooperation's prosperity. The Rhine, the cultural river of Europe, carried rich histories and cultures.



Nestled in the heart of the ancient Mediterranean, the Minoans of Crete and the Mycenaeans of mainland Greece sculpted civilizations of extraordinary distinction—Crete's Knossos pulsated with life, its palaces a canvas for the dynamic frescoes of bull-leaping, reflecting a society where women flourished under the aegis of a mother goddess, and pottery and seal stones were emblems of their artistic and social sophistication. Across the sea, Mycenae stood as a fortress of might and majesty, its Lion Gate a testament to Mycenaean strength, while its tombs whispered of untold wealth. Both civilizations, though distinct

in their essence—the Minoans with their artistic elegance and the Mycenaeans with their martial prowess—were united by their mastery of the sea, embarking on voyages that wove a tapestry of trade and cultural exchange across the Aegean. Time, however, would claim both; Crete was struck by calamity, and Mycenae fell to internal and external pressures. Yet, their legacies endure, their art, architecture, and mythologies a beacon of their once-glorious existences, inspiring awe and wonder in the modern world, a reminder of their irrevocable impact on history.

The Old Celts and the Germanic tribes emerge as distinct yet interconnected entities, deeply rooted in the Indo-European lineage that shaped the early civilization of the continent. The Celts, renowned for their formidable warrior ethos, excelled in the art of metalworking, crafting exquisite bronze and iron artifacts, intricate jewelry, and weapons, all reflecting the natural motifs of their culture. Their polytheistic society, which revered deities associated with war, fertility, and nature, was underpinned by strong values of honor, bravery, and communal bonds, celebrated through ritual combat and art adorned with spirals, triskeles, and sacred animals. In contrast, the Germanic tribes, nomadic and valiant, placed a premium on individual freedom and were renowned as skilled horsemen and warriors within a rigid social hierarchy. Their animistic worldview revered nature spirits and ancestors, giving rise to a mythology steeped in tales of heroism, depicted in art featuring geometric patterns, animal designs, and runic inscriptions of mystical significance. As these cultures converged and clashed with expanding powers like Rome, they forged a complex legacy of conflict and cultural exchange, mutually influencing and enriching each other. Despite their eventual assimilation into larger empires, the profound legacies of the Celts and Germanic tribes continue to resonate throughout Europe's modern cultural landscape, evident in folklore, music, art, and place names, embodying a heritage that remains vibrant and influential, a testament to Europe's dynamic and diverse ancestry and the enduring power of its ancient traditions.

Wannan gidanmu ne.
Eyi ni ile wa.
Nke a bu ụlọ anyị.
Eyi ye yen fie.
Lii sunu kër la.
Galle ndee tamu.
Hii ni nyumba yetu.
ደሀ ቤታችን ነው።
Kan waa gurigeenna.
Kun mana keenya.
Oyo ezali ndako na biso.
Yai i nzo ya beto.
Eyi i nzo ietu.
Lona ngumuzi wethu.
Eli likhaya lethu.
Iyi ndiyo imba yedu.
Leli ikhaya lethu.
...



In Africa, the Atlas Mountains embodied the unyielding perseverance of the continent's northern region. Mount Kilimanjaro, the tallest peak in Africa, was challenged and conquered as a symbol of self-transcendence. The Nile River, the mother river of Africa, flowed with the wisdom of the ancestors and the fountain of life. The Congo River, Africa's largest by water volume, surged with the power of nature and the passion of life.

Beneath the unyielding radiance of the African sun, a vibrant community thrives, its lifeblood in perfect harmony with the nurturing embrace of the earth. This fertile land graciously bestows cassava, which the people transform into a sticky dough, a staple of their diet. Amidst the bustling energy of the kitchens, an array of soups simmers, blending with the aromatic smoke of charred fish and meat, an invitation to the senses. Their meals, a canvas of hues, from the bright yellow of plantains to the deep red of chili-coated yams, provide a feast that fuels them with enduring strength and vitality. Life here unfolds with a rhythm dictated by the sun, fostering moments of joy and tranquility within the day's endeavors. There's a palpable freedom that permeates the air, a testament to a culture that cherishes life's simple pleasures, seamlessly intertwined with the natural world. Ingeniously, they fashion tooth-cleaning sticks from trees, a practice that speaks to their deep-rooted connection with the environment, utilizing its resources with respect and gratitude. Their adeptness extends to their artisanship, where crocodile hides are skillfully repurposed into durable bags, a symbol of their profound tie to the wilderness that surrounds them. This community believes in the deep interconnectedness of all beings, viewing life as a complex tapestry, where every thread is essential to the whole, a belief that fosters a profound respect for the natural order. To mitigate the heat, they've created sanctuaries underground, cozy refuges that hint at a deep-seated wisdom and an instinctual understanding of the earth. Above ground, their treehouses offer protection from the wild, a blend of innovation and an innate drive for safety that showcases their resourcefulness. Here, the wilderness's untamed beauty is celebrated as a fundamental aspect of their existence, embodying a spirit of

resilience and survival. Yet, it's their passion for music and dance that truly captures the essence of their identity, with the drum serving as a pivotal conduit for their stories, a unifying beat that weaves together the individual and the collective in a dance of life that resonates with the soul of Africa.

**Ôma kîkinah
Díí nihighan át'é.
Lé uṅkíthipipi.
Inin tochan.
Kaymi wasinchik
Akaxa utasawa.
Ko'ápe ore róga.**

...

In North America, the Rocky Mountains beckoned adventurers and embodied the spirit of exploring the unknown and pursuing freedom. The Appalachian Mountains represent the history and tradition of the continent. The Great Dividing Range emphasised the importance of environmental protection as a vital ecological barrier. The Mississippi River flowed with inclusivity and diversity, symbolising the fusion of multiculturalism. The Yukon River surged with the wildness and free-spiritedness of the West. In South America, the Andes Mountains embodied the tenacity and unyielding spirit of the continent. The Amazon River, the largest in the world, flowed with the wildness of nature and the vitality of life. The Patagonian Andes represented the loneliness and resilience of its mountainous wilderness. The Paraná River surged with strength and hope, symbolising the future potential of the continent.

Deep in the Amazon's embrace, where the forest's green giants stretch skyward, a unique community thrives, woven from the rich traditions of Aztec, Mayan, Cree, Nahuatl, Navajo, Quechua, Lakota, Mapuche, and Guarani peoples. These vibrant cultures share its collective wisdom, from the Aztecs' agricultural innovations and the Mayans' celestial knowledge to the harmonious blend of Cree and Nahuatl languages, creating a symphony of human unity. Children's

laughter mingles with the wisdom of ages, learning of Navajo valor, Quechua elder insights, and the intricate cosmos of the Mayans, while twilight gatherings around the fire become a crucible for stories of ancient civilizations and the sacred songs of the Lakota and Aztec. In this communal heart of the Amazon, every story, melody, and tradition forms a living bridge between diverse peoples, their resilience and adaptability a testament to the enduring spirit of indigenous heritage. Amidst the whispered secrets of the jungle and the shared bounty of the land, this community stands as a vibrant declaration of unity in diversity, a beacon of hope and harmony for the world.



In this melting pot of cultures, music emerges as a distinct voice of unity and identity, a rich tapestry that resonates with the collective soul of the community. Infused with the diverse heritage of its people,

their music is a vibrant fusion that transcends language and tradition. The haunting melodies of the Lakota flute blend seamlessly with the rhythmic heartbeat of Aztec drums, creating a sound that pulses with the life force of the earth itself. This music, a celebration of existence, carries the stories of ancestors, the whispers of the forest, and the flow of rivers in its notes, drawing all who listen into a shared experience of connection and transcendence. Instruments crafted from the bounty of the Amazon—bamboo, wood, and hide—become the vessels for this auditory alchemy, bridging worlds and weaving the community closer with every beat and breath. In this chorus of unity, every note echoes the community's reverence for nature, their resilience against adversity, and their boundless hope for the future, making their music not just an expression of culture but a declaration of their indomitable spirit, echoing through the canopy and into the heart of the Amazon.

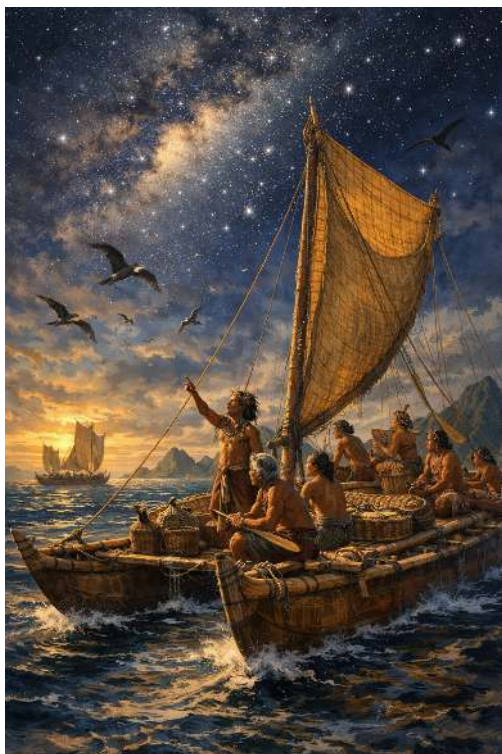
Translating “This is our home” into the languages of Oceania showcases the rich linguistic diversity of the region. Here are translations in some of the languages mentioned:

O lo matou fale lenei.
Ko homau fale eni.
Ko tō mātou kāinga tēnei.
O kō mākou hale kēia.
O tō mātou fare teie.
Ko te kāinga ō mātou enei.
Este i gima'-māmi.
Tiang a blimam.
In mweo imōm.
Iei imwach.
Met iei imwet.
Qo na noda vale.
Hemia hom blong yumi.
Disfala hem hom bilong iumi.
Dispela em haus bilong mipela.
Inai be iseda ruma.

...

In Oceania, the Great Dividing Range signifies the boundary of exploration and independence, embodying the spirit of adventure and discovery. The Murray River flows with resilience and endurance, reflecting the tenacious and determined Australian spirit. The Tasmanian Mountains are mysterious and unique, embodying this island continent's enigmatic and distinctive nature.

Before the world was mapped and divided, the ancient Oceanians mastered the boundless seas, navigating by the celestial lights, guided by the wind's caress and the avian dancers of the skies. Their realm wasn't confined by the notion of borders; instead, the ocean served as a grand conduit, linking islands as distinct and numerous as the stars above. These mariners, aboard their double-hulled canoes, embarked on voyages that were less conquests and more exchanges—rich tapestries of stories, knowledge, and commodities interwoven across the waters, pulsating with the collective lifeblood of a deeply connected region.



Their lives were a testament to the reverence they held for the natural world, seeing the earth not merely as terrain but as a revered ancestor, from its loftiest peaks to its most nurturing soils. This respect was mirrored in their sustainable existence, harmonious agriculture, and navigation, all resonant with the natural order. Music and storytelling permeated their existence, with tattoos mapping personal and collective histories, and their music—a blend of rhythm and melody—serving as a profound means of celebration, mourning, and invoking the divine. At the societal helm were the chiefs and elders, who, through wisdom and a deep connection to ancestral knowledge, maintained a balance between the spiritual and the corporeal. In this space, where every island was a gem adorning the ocean's vastness, the Oceanians wove a legacy of endurance, harmony, and interconnectedness, a narrative that stands as a testament to humanity's capacity to not only endure but thrive under the vast sky, rooted deeply in the earth, their music a lasting bond that united them with the essence of life itself.

Every mountain and river is not just a mere geographical feature; they embody divine beings and mythical creatures, each with unique stories and legends. These beings have shaped the natural world and inspired the birth and growth of numerous civilisations.

Humans have gathered around these majestic mountains and serene rivers, built communities, and flourished. They have drawn inspiration from the natural world, creating rich cultures and histories that have become the bedrock of their existence.

The development of these civilisations marks a significant milestone in human history. It is not just a new stage of development but a testament to the indomitable spirit of humanity. It celebrates our capacity to dream, innovate, and create something beautiful and meaningful out of the natural world around us.

As we look back at the history of these civilisations, we are reminded of their profound impact on our lives. They have shaped our values, beliefs, and ways of life, leaving an indelible mark on the fabric of human society. Let us cherish and celebrate the historical significance of these civilisations and the humanistic values they embody.

Let us build a Human Community of a Shared Future!

第二十章 我们崭新而美丽的世界

自大禹驯服洪水，天地重归和谐。人类凭借智慧与伟力，战胜了大自然的灾厄，掌握了生存的法则。

这，便是“人之纪元”。

这是我们的家。

Уш үйр үнүдүн է:

Энэ бол бидний гэр

यह हमारा घर है ।

تسَام ەنَاخ اِجَنىَا

اذه وه اننطو

Burası bizim evimiz

Bul bizdīn ūi

여기가 우리 집이야

Ini adalah rumah kami.

ဒီဟာကျွန်ုပ်တို့၏အိမ်ဖြစ်သည်

Đây là nhà của chúng tôi

ബീട്.

...

在亚洲，喜马拉雅山脉巍峨耸立、亘古永恒，象征着大自然不可思议的伟力与不可逾越的界限；昆仑山脉笼罩在神秘与古老的传说之中，召唤着人们去进行无尽的探索；天山山脉体现着和谐与平衡，是东西方文化的交汇点；秦岭作为中华的龙脉，象征着不屈的民族精神；黄河，中华民族的母亲河，在历史长河的沧桑变迁中奔腾不息；长江，亚洲第一长河，涌动着生生不息的活力与变革的精神。