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Anthropology Article Summary

The article “Oldest Human DNA From Africa Illuminates Complex Migrations” by Kambiz Kamrani focuses on a study of ancient humans’ deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) composition. The study involved ancient DNA from two adults and four infants buried in Sub-Saharan sites for over 18000 years (Kamrani par. 2). The bodies had been naturally preserved, allowing the researchers to obtain DNA samples. It is the oldest human DNA study from Sub-Saharan Africa. The researchers performed genome analysis and compared it to 28 others that had been previously reported from across the continent (Kamrani par. 4). The results allowed the researchers to identify some of the possible origins of the individuals across the continent. As a result, the researchers would establish a migration pattern for the ancient human to establish how the modern societies were formed.

The results show that the ancestral population initially lived in isolated clusters before coming together. The study shows that the ancestral population was separate about 200,000 years ago, mixed about 50,000-80,000 years ago before diverging around 20,000 years ago (Kamrani par. 5). The groups did not exchange genes or materials after diverging because they lived in clusters and did not interact with other clusters. The article highlights that the study is in line with other scholarly works that show that ancient humans started mating among widespread groups long ago. The article concludes by foreshadowing a ghost human population unknown

from any fossils but has contributed to the ancestry of ancient eastern Africans. Thus, the article highlights how ancient humans interacted, which led to the formation of modern societies.

Work Cited

Kamrani, Kambiz. "Oldest Human DNA From Africa Illuminates Complex Migrations."

Anthropology, 2022, www.anthropology.net/p/oldest-human-dna-from-africa-illuminates.