

# The Roots of Mission Patches in Society and Their Art and Science

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## DESCRIPTION

A small-bodied mammal entered the arboreal habitat by crawling or clawing its way there more than 65 million years ago. This relatively modest animal served as the ancestor of the primate line that includes humans, prosimians, monkeys, and apes today. Naturally, all modern primates are the product of millions of years of natural selection working on the anatomy of the basic mammal to make primates ever more adapted to trees and, later, for some species of primates, to open-country savannah as the earth grew colder and the rainforests started to disappear. Understanding primate evolution is essential if we are to comprehend the beginnings of human society and how primates evolved due to selection forces that resulted in their unique anatomy and neuroanatomy. Particularly, the Behavioural tendencies and social structure patterns in apes are pretty unusual.

The sociological version of this theory states that although humans developed similarly to other animals, once their brains were large enough to support the creation and use of culture, including language and other symbol systems, it became necessary to understand human behavior and social structure in terms other than biological ones. Affiliation, solidarity, power, and other basic needs may be ingrained in human nature, but these needs are so strongly influenced by culture and social structure that the focus should instead be

placed on sociocultural rather than biological underpinnings for human behavior and social organization. Through socialization people learn how to act, and social structure greatly influences how they act. This sort of "social constructivist" paradigm permeates sociology and has come to be seen as a widespread deterrent to, if not the open denial of, any theory or investigation into the biology of human behavior. This paradigm is reasonable, to be sure, but it is simply too severe. Humans Despite the magnificent, if not dangerous, cultural systems and social organizations that our large brains enable us to create, these do not negate the impact of biology on human behavior and social organization, either today or in the distant past. Humans are animals that evolved similarly to all other animals.

However, there is no need to go too far and claim that biology is the primary factor in explaining the culture and social structure and, as a result, that this is the only factor that can be utilized to explain them. This was a mistake that early sociobiologists once made. However, we do need to be aware of the fact that human biology, as an evolved primate, not only influences the long-term survival of culture and social organization, as the Standard Social Science Model claims, but also makes human culture and social structure conceivable. This conclusion is not particularly new or extreme because most of the revered early sociologists made similar claims that some sorts of sociocultural structures are more than others, more in tune with human biology.

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