The Earliest Dragon Worship in Ancient China Came from the Huang Di People

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Many people claimed that Huang Di was the ancestor of all Chinese people and some Chinese people proudly call themselves “descendants of the Dragon.” Are these truth or false? We will find out from Shanhaijing’s records and modern archaeological discoveries.
Shanghaijing, or *The Classic of Mountains and Seas*, is regarded as the first geography and history book in China.

31,000 words
Eighteen sections
Four Original Books

- **Classic of the Five Hidden Mountains**
  written in the Great Yu’s Time (before 2200BCE)
- **Four Classic of Regions Beyond the Seas**
  written during the Xia Dynasty (2070-1600BCE)
- **Four Classic of the Great Wilderness**
  written during the Shang Dynasty (1600-1046BCE)
- **Five Classic of Regions Within the Seas**
  written during the Zhou Dynasty (1046-256BCE)
In *Shanhaijing*

The River refers to the Yellow River.
The Jiang refers to the Chang-jiang River.
The Mobile Desert refers to the Taklamakan Desert.
The Great Wilderness refers to the Tibetan Plateau.
The Northwest Sea refers to the Qinghai Lake.

*Shanhaijing* records many ancient groups of people (or tribes), who first lived in the Pamirs Plateau, soon moved to an area in the west of the Northwest Sea, north of the Great Wilderness and east of the Mobile Desert, later spread to other places of Asia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ancient Groups of People Recorded in <em>Shanhaijing</em></th>
<th>after 8,000 years BP</th>
<th>Patriarchal Clan Society</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shao Hao</td>
<td>was called White King for having white skin colour, suggesting he had a clear Caucasian racial characteristic - white skin. His offspring worshipped bird totems.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zhuan Xu</td>
<td>had Mongoloid racial characteristic. His offspring mainly worshipped animal totems.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Di Jun</td>
<td>had Mongoloid racial characteristic. His offspring mainly worshipped animal totems.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Huang Di</td>
<td>was called Yellow King for having yellow skin colour, suggesting he had a clear Mongoloid racial characteristic - yellow skin. His offspring mainly worshipped dragon or snake totems.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yan Di</td>
<td>had Mongoloid racial characteristic. His offspring mainly worshipped animal totems.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Huang Di's offspring spread to north of the Altun, Qilian and Yinshan Mountains. They lived a nomadic lifestyle and did not contribute to the development of the Yellow River Valley Cultural System, which was the root of Chinese Civilization.

Some of Huang Di's offspring moved to the Da Xing'an Ling Mountains and its eastern area, turning their lifestyle from nomadic to agriculture.

*Shanhaijing* records Huang Di lived in the Pamirs Plateau, later his offspring moved to the west of the Qinghai Lake and east of the Taklamakan Desert. After wars with Zhuan Xu's and Di Jun's offspring, they moved to the north of the Chishui River.
Shanhaijing's records reveal dragon worship came from Huang Di's offspring.

- **Huangdi’s offspring moved to the north of the Chishui River.**
- **Fire Dragon was the god in Mount Zhangwei (highly possible in today's Tianshan Mountains) in the north of the Chishui.**
- **Some of Huang Di's offspring moved to the Da Xing'an Ling Mountains and its east.**
- **Most people in the northern areas, who were Huang Di's offspring, worshipped dragon or snake totems.**
Dragon Shape Discoveries Suggest Dragon Worship of Huang Di's Offspring.

Archaeological discoveries

- Xinglongwa and Hongshan in the southeastern Da Xing’an Ling were Huang Di offspring's inhabitation areas. The dragon shape stone pile and jade dragons were found in Xinglongwa (6200-5400BCE) Culture and Hongshan (4000-3000BCE) Culture.

- Helan Mountains were Huang Di offspring's inhabitation areas. The snake rock painting was founded in Mount Helan Rock Paintings.

The dragon shape stone pile and jade dragons suggest the earliest dragon worship came from Huang Di's offspring.

The snake rock painting suggests the earliest snake worship came from Huang Di's Offspring.
Shanhaijing reveals Shao Hao, Di Jun, Zhuan Xu, Huang Di and Yan Di were different groups of Neolithic people. They all came from the west of the Pamirs Plateau, spread out over China and built many different Neolithic cultures. It was the Zhou Dynasty, who falsely claimed that Di Jun, Zhuan Xu and Shao Hao were descendants of Huang Di and Yan Di. The claim of Huang Di being the ancestor of all Chinese people and Chinese people being “descendants of the Dragon are totally false.

Archaeological discoveries reveal that Huang Di’s offspring did not contribute to the development of the Yellow River Valley Culture, while Dong-Yi Culture, which was built by Shao Hao’s offspring, having the leading role in making the Yellow River Valley Culture the root of Chinese civilization.
Thank You!

Have a Nice Day!