

青藏高原舊石器的發現

邱中郎

(中國科學院古脊椎動物研究所)

1956年7月至8月間，中國科學院地質研究所趙宗溥先生等在青藏高原普查地質時，在西藏黑河，青海長江發源地托托河沿和霍霍西里以及黃河發源地以西、柴達木盆地以南的曠

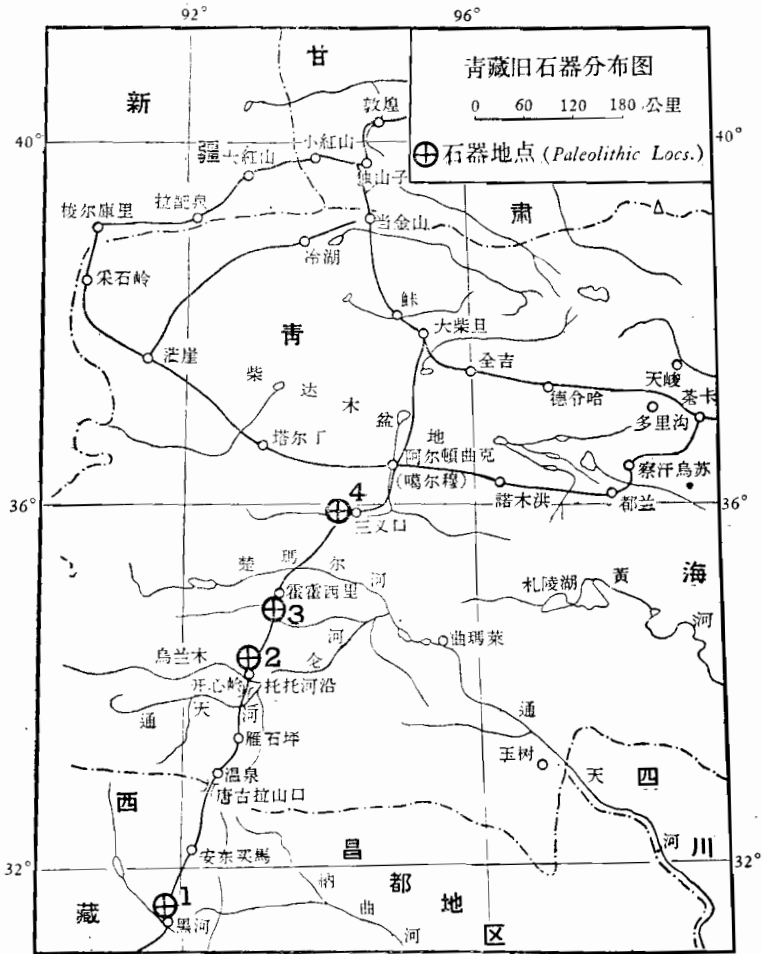


图 1.

爾穆(阿爾頓曲克)等地(圖 1)發現了十數件打擊石器。石器大多分佈在河谷兩岸階地的非原生層位的地表上。據趙宗溥先生稱:在採集時曾注意到磨光石器、陶片和其他新石器時代遺物,但沒有發現。

石器地點都是在海拔很高的高原上。除了噶爾穆稍低,僅有 3500 米外,其他三處都是在 4300 米以上。

黑 河 地 點

該地點在距黑河西約 2 公里的山谷的河岸上。共採到石器二件。其中的一件似有人工痕跡;另一件是長方形的石髓石核,長度為 15 毫米,按其打擊方法,應屬於細石器文化(圖 2)。

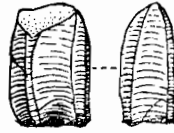


圖 2. 黑河的細石器文化: 石髓石核, $\times 1$ 。

托 托 河 沿 地 點

該地點在托托河沿(烏蘭木侖)之北約 10 公里紅色砂岩的河岸上。共採到標本三件。其中一件因包有石灰質外壳,原形難以辨別和第二件為廢品外,第三件是由黃色石髓制成的半圓形刮削器。它的體積很小,最大長度為 25 毫米,由單面修琢而成(圖 3)。

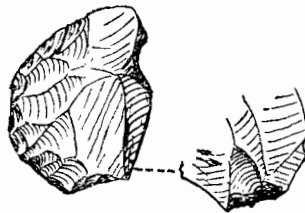


圖 3. 托托河沿的半圓形刮削器, $\times 1/1$ 。

霍 霍 西 里 地 點

該地點在距霍霍西里南約 20 公里之曲水河的河岸上。共採到有打制痕跡的石器 5 件,多半是用河光石制成的。茲分述如下:

礫石工具 礫石工具共 4 件,僅在礫石之一端向一面加工,其餘部分不加修整(圖 4-5)。另一件可能是石核,除去一大部分保留自然面外,其餘部分都具有打片的痕跡(圖 6)。

石片工具 這件石器的一面,保留有自然磨蝕面,但四周都有向一面打制的修整痕跡,邊緣呈彎曲形(圖 7)。

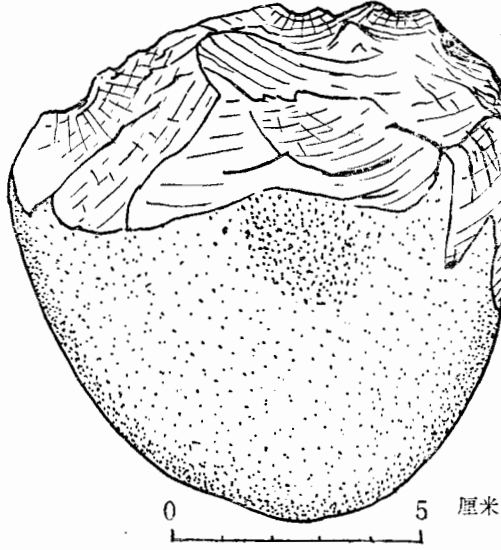


圖 4. 霍霍西里的舊石器:礫石工具, $\times 2/3$ 。

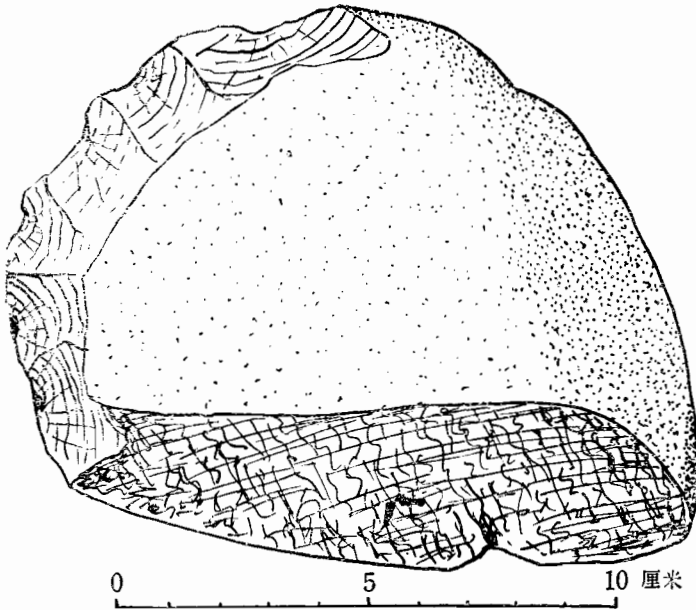


圖 5. 霍霍西里的舊石器:礫石工具, $\times 2/3$ 。

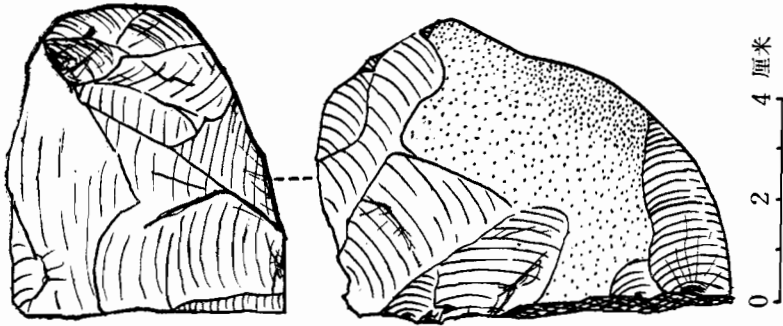


圖 6. 霍霍西里的舊石器: 石核工具, $\times 2/3$ 。

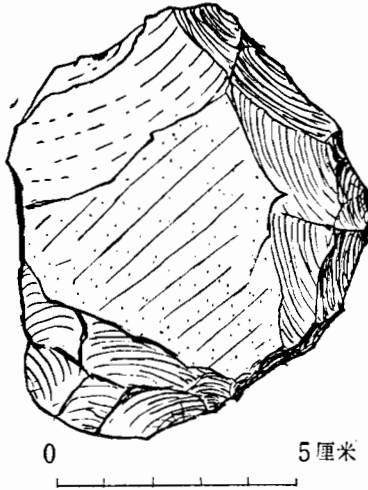


圖 7. 霍霍西里的舊石器: 石片工具, $\times 2/3$ 。

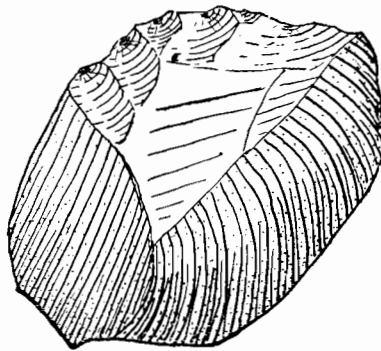


圖 8. 三叉口的石英岩石器, $\times 1/1$ 。

三 叉 口 地 點

該地點距噶爾穆西南約98公里，石器發現在砂質灰岩的平台上，僅有石英岩石器一件。石器的一端有一面加工的痕跡，刃邊呈鋸齒形(圖8)。

小 · 結

1. 綜合以上所述，青藏高原的石器除了黑河、托托河沿是屬於細石器文化，時代可能為新石器時代外，其他各地點的石器，按其打制方法和表面的石銹看，可能為舊石器時代的產物。但因為材料欠缺，石器不典型，所以不能肯定它的時代和文化性質。

2. 青藏高原的高度，按現在的情況來說，是不宜於原始人類生活的，但是在舊石器時代地理環境如何，是否因新構造運動而上昇了，也因為材料欠缺不能得出結論。

3. 總之，青藏高原打擊石器的發現，還是有史以來第一次的發現，因之意義特別重大，同時也為進一步研究青藏高原石器時代文化的分佈，提供了寶貴的綫索。

最後，筆者深切感謝趙宗溥先生將採集的標本贈交研究並提供野外資料，我的老師裴文中教授在報告寫作上給予指導，並為繪制石器插圖。

DISCOVERY OF PALEOLITHS ON THE TIBET-TSINGHAI PLATEAU

CHIU CHUNG-LANG

(Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology, Academia Sinica)

While making a geological reconnaissance on the Tibet Tsinghai Plateau, Mr. T. P. Chao of the Institute of Geology, Academia Sinica, discovered several sites bearing some flaked stone artifacts. According to Mr. Chao, all the stone artifacts were collected from the surface of the river-terrace, not *in situ* in the geological stratum. But no pot-herd, nor polished stone implement was found with them, though particular attention was paid by him to search for such Neolithic materials. Considering their characters and occurrence, it seems that they are undoubtedly Paleoliths.

Except the Paleolithic Locality Garmu, which is about 3500 m above the sea level, all the other three Localities are more than 4300 m in altitude (Fig. 1). It is highly interesting to find Paleoliths in such high altitude for the first time.

A short description of the Paleoliths is given in the following.

LOCALITY 1, NEAR HUIHO

This Locality is situated on the river bank about 2 km west of Huaiho, an important city in the north-east part of Tibet. From this Locality two pieces of stone artifacts (Fig. 2) were collected. One of them is a conic nucleus, typical for the Microlithic in-

dustry which is widely distributed in the northern part of China, north of The Great Wall. The age of the Chinese Microliths is known to be from Mesolithic to Neolithic.

LOCALITY 2, TOTOHO-YAN, OR BANK OF THE TOTO RIVER

Totoho-yan (bank of the Toto River) is a small settlement of Tibetians on the bank of the Oulan-Mulon River, a tributary of the Tungtienho or the source river of Yangtzekiang. The Paleolithic sites are located about 10 km north of this settlement. From this Locality 3 pieces of Paleoliths were found. One of them is a convex scraper made of yellow calcedony by chipping from one side (Fig. 3).

LOCALITY 3, HUOHUOSHILI

This Locality is found about 20 km south of Huohuoshili, another Tibetan settlement on the bank of the Chūshuai River, also a tributary of the Tungtienho.

From this Locality 5 pieces of Paleoliths were collected, most of them being made of rolled river-pebbles.

Pebble-tools-4 pieces, worked only at one end or one side of a flat pebble and the other parts remained unworked (Figs. 4 & 5). They might be used by the ancient man for chopping.

Another piece seemed to be a nucleus from which attempts to detach some flakes were unsuccessful. Of course being too bad in quality, this nucleus was not in use (Fig. 6). However, such a piece was also able to serve as a hammer stone, but no trace of hammering was left.

Flake-tool—Only on one part of one face of another piece, the original rolled surface is preserved and all its edges were trimmed. (Fig. 6). Its form looks like a discoid tool. (Fig. 7).

LOCALITY 4, SANCHIOKUO

This Locality is situated on a silicified limestone terrace, about 98 km south-west of Garimu, a town on the border of the Tsaidamu Basin and west of the source of the Yellow River. From this Locality one quartzite scraper (Fig. 8) was collected. The chipping of this tool was effected by one side secondary work and one denticulated working-edge was shaped out.

CONCLUSION

1. As described above, the flaked stone artifacts from the Tibet-Tsinghai Plateau, west of the source of both the Yangtzekiang and the Yellow River, are undoubtedly of Paleolithic age, with the exception of the Microlith from Huaiho (Loc. 1). Such a statement is chiefly supported by the technique of working and by the patination on the specimens. But for the scantiness of materials, the nature of the culture and the archaeological age are not possible to determine.

2. At the present day such places on the high Plateau where the Paleoliths were found, are difficult for human inhabitation on account of their high altitude. The question whether the makers of these Palaeoliths were a special human race adapted for such an inhabitation on high altitude or the Localities were uplifted after the Paleolithic epoch is for the present impossible to be settled.

3. On the whole, this is the first time to discover Paleoliths in such a high Plateau in western China and it opens the way for searching the fossil man in the vast territory of Tibet and Tsinghai.

Finally the writer is indebted to Mr. Chao for his gift of the specimen and to my teacher, Prof. W. C. Pei for his guidance and his kindness in making the sketch drawings of the stone artifacts.