

Polynesians have Native American blood

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Ancient crosses between Polynesians and Amerindians have been highlighted by genetics. A DNA study done on Polynesian islands and in America has just demonstrated the existence of this mixture.

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Polynesian or American?

Although separated by vast ocean areas, the Polynesian and Amerindian peoples mixed in the 1200s and left irrefutable proof of this encounter in the DNA of current populations.

The team that published these results in the journal Nature on Wednesday July 8 analyzed the complete genomes of 354 people living in 17 Polynesian islands as well as 453 other Native American genomes from 15 groups on the Pacific coast.

The Kon-Tiki was partly right

A study which supports the theory that Thor Heyerdahl wanted to demonstrate in 1947. This Norwegian anthropologist had embarked on a raft, the famous Kon-Tiki, from Peru. He wanted to prove that the Polynesian people came from South America. At the end of a journey of 7000 km and 101 days at sea he had been able to reach the Tuamotus. Even if since genetic analyzes have demonstrated the Asian origin of Polynesian populations, this new study shows that mixtures with Amerindians also existed.



Kon-Tiki · © Wikipedia

Crossings that took place before the arrival of Europeans

This is an old question. How many km were able to travel the indigenous peoples of the Pacific? If we know that the great migrations that colonized the Pacific islands originated in Asia, it appears that groups were able to reach South America. Unless it was the Amerindians who came to the Pacific.

The presence of sweet potato in Polynesia before the European arrival was already a sign that relations existed between Amerindians and Polynesians. DNA came to confirm it

Thierry Belmont's explanations:

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