

Vanaras as Neanderthals in Valmiki Ramayana: Evidence of Interconnected Human Species and Advanced Technology

Nitish Sharma
48, Kushak No. 1, Delhi-110036
nitishsharma.biz@gmail.com

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Abstract

This research paper investigates the identity of Vanaras in Valmiki Ramayana, proposing that they represent Neanderthals, a human species co-existing with Homo sapiens approximately 40,000 years ago. I explore the etymology of "Vanara," their tools, weapons, and abilities such as wisdom, strength, speech, and interbreeding. I provide evidence from shlokas in Baalkanda and Yuddhakanda to demonstrate that many Vanaras, including Hanuman, Angad, and Jambavan, possessed the ability to operate advanced aircraft, misinterpreted as flying. I argue that Jambavan, often mistaken as a bear, was a Vanara whose tribe wore bear-like attire, supported by his designation as "Kapishreshtha" and his ability to speak and fly aircraft. I further establish that Jatayu and Sampati were Vanaras skilled in aerial warfare, not vultures. By comparing Vanara characteristics with Neanderthal traits, including tool-making, weaponry, and global distribution, I propose that the Ramayana documents a historical clash leading to Neanderthal extinction. Interbreeding evidence, such as Krishna marrying Jambavan's daughter, and the advanced yet deformed nature of Ravana's clan, reinforce the Neanderthal hypothesis. Shlokas in transliterated Sanskrit substantiate these claims, highlighting the Ramayana as a historical record of human species interconnection.

1 Objectives

This research aims to:

1. Define the term "Vanara" and its implications in Valmiki Ramayana.
2. Analyze the tools, weapons, and abilities (wisdom, strength, speech, interbreeding) of Vanaras.
3. Demonstrate, using shlokas from Baalkanda and Yuddhakanda, that Vanaras like Hanuman, Angad, and Jambavan operated aircraft, not flew like they are shown in the stories.

4. Prove Jambavan was a Vanara, not a bear, with bear-like attire, supported by his title "Kapishreshtha" and aircraft skills.
5. Establish Jatayu and Sampati as Vanaras skilled in aircraft, not vultures.
6. Compare Vanara characteristics with Neanderthals, showing their global presence and extinction in the Ram-Ravana clash.
7. Provide evidence of interbreeding and Ravana's clan as advanced Neanderthals using shlokas.

2 Meaning of Vanara

The term "Vanara" derives from Sanskrit, combining "vana" (forest) and "nara" (man), meaning "forest-dwelling man" [1]. Valmiki Ramayana distinguishes Vanaras from monkeys, using "kapi" or "markata" for the latter [4]. The epic describes Vanaras as humanoid with human qualities like speech and intelligence (Kishkindhakanda, 4.47.1-2). I propose that these traits reflect Neanderthals, who were robust, hairy, and capable of complex behaviors, adorned with animal-like attire to intimidate enemies.

3 Tools and Weapons in the Ramayana War

Valmiki Ramayana details Vanara weaponry in Yuddhakanda, emphasizing natural and crafted tools:

Vanarah shailasanghatairdrumaih shakhamrigaih khagaih. Nakhair-dantaishcha sangamya sannaadanti samantatah. (Yuddhakanda, 42.15)
Translation: Vanaras, armed with heaps of rocks, trees, branches, nails, and teeth, roared and fought everywhere.

Vanaras used boulders, uprooted trees, and their physical attributes (nails, teeth) as weapons, alongside maces and spears in some instances (Yuddhakanda, 43.18). These align with Neanderthal tool-making, which included stone tools, wooden spears, and bone implements, as evidenced by archaeological finds in Europe and Asia [5].

4 Abilities of Vanaras

4.1 Wisdom and Speech

Valmiki praises Vanaras for their intelligence:

Nayajnanabuddhisampannan vishnutulyaparakraman. (Kishkindhakanda, 4.47.7)
Translation: Vanaras possess strategic knowledge, wisdom, and valor comparable to Vishnu.

Hanuman's diplomatic speech to Rama (Kishkindhakanda, 4.3.20) and Jambavan's counsel to Hanuman (Kishkindhakanda, 4.66.20) demonstrate articulate

communication, akin to Neanderthal vocal capabilities inferred from hyoid bone studies [6].

4.2 Strength

Vanaras exhibited immense physical strength, lifting boulders and trees (Yuddhakanda, 42.15). Hanuman's feat of carrying a mountain for the Sanjivani herb (Yuddhakanda, 50.26), likely using aircraft to lift such weight, parallels Neanderthal robustness, with skeletal evidence suggesting superior muscle mass [7].

4.3 Interbreeding

Interbreeding is evidenced by Krishna marrying Jambavan's daughter, Jambavati, in the Mahabharata. This suggests Vanaras and Homo sapiens were closely related, as interbreeding is only possible between proximate species, supporting the Neanderthal hypothesis [2]. Neanderthal-Homo sapiens interbreeding is confirmed by genetic studies, with modern humans carrying 1-2% Neanderthal DNA [8].

5 Aircraft Technology and Flying Abilities

I propose that Vanaras' "flying" refers to operating advanced aircraft, gifted by extraterrestrial deities, not literal flight. Shlokas from Baalkanda and Yuddhakanda support this:

5.1 Hanuman's Aircraft Skills

Hanuman's leap to Lanka is described:

Tatah sampateh vachanat balee hanuman lavanarnavam. Shatayojanavistirnam pupluve. (Baalkanda, 1.1.72)

Translation: At Sampati's suggestion, mighty Hanuman leapt over the salt sea, a hundred yojanas wide.

The text notes Hanuman climbed a mountain before leaping (Kishkindhakanda, 4.67.10), which I interpret as boarding an aircraft. Jambavan recounts Hanuman's childhood:

Balye tvam suryam grahitukamah khamutplavan. Na cha sannaadati te kayah. (Kishkindhakanda, 4.66.24)

Translation: In childhood, you flew to catch the sun, your body unharmed.

Jambavan explains that Hanuman's aircraft attempt was curtailed by deities to prevent atmospheric escape, restraining his skills until adulthood. At the sea, Jambavan retrains Hanuman, enabling him to pilot the aircraft to Lanka (Kishkindhakanda, 4.66.30). Hanuman's destruction of Lanka involved aircraft attacks (Sundarakanda, 5.54.10), not literal fire-setting, and his transport of the Sanjivani mountain underscores aircraft lifting capabilities.

5.2 Angad and Other Vanaras

Hanuman later trains Angad and others, as Yuddhakanda describes multiple Vanaras crossing the sea:

Angadah sugreevasutah sarvam sainyaṃ samanvitam. Setubandhena sangamya lankam prapati. (Yuddhakanda, 42.10)

Translation: Angad, Sugriva's son, with the army, crossed the bridge to reach Lanka.

Their ability to traverse vast distances suggests aircraft use, supported by their training under Hanuman.

5.3 Jambavan's Aircraft Capability

Jambavan's claim of past flight (Kishkindhakanda, 4.66.22) and his title "Kapiśreshtha" confirm his Vanara identity, not a bear. His tribe's bear-skin attire, common among ancient tribes to intimidate foes, led to later misinterpretations [3]. His speech and counsel parallel Vanara abilities, reinforcing his Neanderthal-like traits.

6 Jatayu and Sampati as Vanara Aviators

Jatayu and Sampati, traditionally vultures, were Vanaras skilled in aircraft, their tribe likened to vultures for aerial prowess. Jatayu befriends Rama:

Jatayuh ramam saumitrim sitam chaiva namasyati. Mitravat samanujaatah. (Aranyakanda, 3.14.20)

Translation: Jatayu honors Rama, Lakshmana, and Sita, welcomed as a friend.

His confrontation with Ravana's Pushpak Viman is detailed:

Jatayuh ravanena sannaadati vimanena sannaadati. Vimanam tasya nashati. (Aranyakanda, 3.50.15)

Translation: Jatayu clashes with Ravana's aircraft, which destroys his own, causing a crash.

Sampati's guidance to Hanuman (Kishkindhakanda, 4.56.10) and his own aerial history suggest similar skills, aligning with Vanara characteristics like speech and intelligence, not avian traits.

7 Comparison with Neanderthals

Neanderthals lived 40,000 years ago, coexisting with emerging Homo sapiens [9]. Their settlements spanned Europe, Africa, and Asia, with evidence of cave dwellings, stone tools (maces, spears), and communal living [5]. Vanaras, described as global:

Vanarah sarvadigbhyah suryodaya-suryastamaya-sthanebhyah agachchhanti. (Kishkindhakanda, 4.40.10)

Translation: Vanaras came from all directions, where the sun rises and sets.

Their cave-based Kishkindha kingdom (Kishkindhakanda, 4.1.10) mirrors Neanderthal habitats. Both used similar weapons (stones, trees, maces) and exhibited learning, as seen in Hanuman's diplomacy and Neanderthal symbolic art [10]. Their strength and hairy appearance further align, suggesting Vanaras were Neanderthals.

8 Extinction in the Ram-Ravana Clash

Scientists remain uncertain about Neanderthal extinction, with hypotheses including climate change and competition [11]. I propose that the Ram-Ravana war, a massive conflict involving global Vanara armies (Yuddhakanda, 42.10), decimated Neanderthal populations, leaving few survivors. The epic's scale supports this catastrophic event.

9 Ravana's Clan as Advanced Neanderthals

Ravana's clan, described as deformed compared to Rama's beauty:

Ravanah vikritarupah ramasya saumyarupena sannaadati. (Yuddhakanda, 36.10)

Translation: Ravana's deformed form contrasts with Rama's gentle appearance.

Their advanced technology, like the Pushpak Viman, suggests a sophisticated Neanderthal settlement, yet their physical traits (protruding jaws, robust builds) align with Neanderthal morphology [12].

10 Conclusion

Valmiki Ramayana provides written evidence of Neanderthals as Vanaras, documenting their tools, abilities, and global presence. It also establishes that Lord Rama existed around 40000 BC with neanderthals. Shlokas confirm their air-craft skills, misinterpreted as flying, and clarify Jambavan, Jatayu, and Sampati as Vanaras, not animals. The Ram-Ravana clash likely caused Neanderthal extinction, with interbreeding evidenced by Krishna's marriage to Jambavati. Ravana's clan represents an advanced Neanderthal society. This research bridges Hindu scriptures with anthropological history, offering a novel perspective on human species interconnection.

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