Prehistoric Scandinavian disruptions – are pots people?

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Biggest disruption – occurs at different times in The World

**Hunter-Gatherer**
- High mobility
- Foraging/collecting
- Small communities
- Social/seasonal gatherings
- Separated bands/communities
- Egalitarian

**Farmers**
- Low mobility
- Foraging/collecting/farming
- Larger communities
- Large scale gatherings /more often
- Closely linked communities
- Chiefdoms
How to communicate?

- People living apart
- Maybe not speaking the same language
- Shared ideas
- Shared symbolic meanings
- Shared commitment/collaboration

- Communication of ideas/visions framed in language
- Culture with symbolic storage
Symbolic storage and meaning

- Paleolithic (MSA/Mousterien) – burials: ochre, beads, ornaments, static technologies (Levallois)
- Aurignacien 35.000 BC - art in caves
- Late Paleolithic/Neolithic – building of monuments – Göbekli Tepe 9500-8800 BC
The monumental glue of the disruptions

- Building the monument upscales the symbolic representation
- Builds up the common symbolic storage
- Creating a history of belonging and identity
- Symbolic/territorial markers
- Increasing network relations attached to permanent structures
- Recognition of power structures/hierarchy within the communities
- Transmission of power/property
- Power symbols within the material culture (often male weapons)
The success behind the agrarian societies

- Closely linked communities
- More efficient supported
- Robust/resilient towards stress
- Flow of more ideas/new innovations spread faster
- Building storage/food supply

- Understanding new concepts – cognition
- Building a house
- Maintaining a house
- Understanding the concept of permanent residence
- Having neighbours
- Behave with neighbours/friends/enemies
- Food storages
- Co-operation and trust/mistrust
- Understanding/acceptance of power structures
The spread of farming

Idea – local adaptation

Migration and integration
Hunter-Gatherers in South Scandinavia
Farmers in Central Europe

5500-4000 BC

Efter: Sørensen 2014; Terberger 2006
Learning about agrarian practices is a social process of active participation.

Many told and untold levels of information exchange & a new vocabulary
Communication strategies

After: Sørensen 2014
Causing changes to whole societies and individuals
Changing the habitus, field & capital

After Lave & Wenger 1991
Implementing agrarian practices creates new communities of practice

Creating successfull agrarian societies is higher when farmers with competences could teach hunter-gatherers about agrarian practices.
The agrarian disruption in South Scandinavia

C-14 dates of domesticated animals and cereal grains

n=151
Settlement pattern..

Ertebølle 4500-4000 BC

Funnel Beaker Culture: Pointed butted axes 4000-3600 BC

- T-shaped antler axes
- Limhamn axes/adzes
- Oringe axes
- Pointed based Ertebølle vessel

Flint mine
- Important flint source
- Type 1
- Type 2
- Type 3
- Unknown type
Micro scale
Risø area, Zealand – from coast to inland
Første bonde & kriger
Skabere af nye landbrugssamfund
Migration om efteråret

Efter: Mathiassen 1959; Brinch Petersen 1974
Causewayed enclosures

Megalithic tombs

Earthen long barrows

Bog bodies

Mesolithic | Neolithic
mtDNA haplogroups

Jæger/samlere = U, H/V & N-haplogrupper

Bønder= J, K & T/X-haplogrupper

Europe, Paleolithic/Mesolithic sites - 30,000 to 4000 cal BC (Nr. of id. hp-groups 56)

Middle East/Anatolia, PPNB/Early Neolithic/Chalcolithic - 8700 to 4000 cal BC (Nr. of id. hp-groups 51)

C. Europe, Linearbandkeramik culture - 6000 to 4600 cal BC (Nr. of id. hp-groups 112)

C. Europe, Rössen, Schöningen, Michelsberg, Baalberg cultures - 4600 to 3500 cal BC (Nr. of id. hp-groups 101)

Saxtorp T2b (3950-3650 cal BC)
Immigration approx. 4000 cal BC towards the British Isles and South Scandinavia

After: Sheridan 2010; Jeunesse 2011
Push effekt
More intensive exploitation of the landscape/marked territories/signs of stress
New innovations=new possibilities (Plough = growing crops outside the loess)
Single Grave Culture – the pastoral disruption
Pollen analysis – Bent Odgaard – clearing of the forest from 2800 BC
Recreating the landscape towards a pastoral economy
Set of symbols and practices that were selectively incorporated into, and transformed by, local societies

Upending a ‘Totality’: Re-evaluating Corded Ware Variability in Late Neolithic Europe
M. Furholt 2014
Artefact number: AM0453
Collection: Århus museum
Museum: Skanderborg Museum
Provenance: Søbygaard, Aabæk?
Type: battleaxe
Material: Andesite
State: battleaxe

Artefact number: AM0590
Collection: Arrents Samling
Museum: Skanderborg Museum
Provenance: battleaxe
Type: battleaxe
Material: Andesite.
State: battleaxe

After: Mads Lou Bendtsen 2018
Fig: 0.0. Volcanic areas in Northern Europe are marked with red. Significant source areas of erratic rocks in den-
• Limited variation in the placement of goods (axes) in male burials
• Variation in the female burials (suggesting movement of woman)
• Why did they move? Stress situation in their homeland? New technological possibilities?
• Surplus of younger males seeking new horizons towards The North?
• DNA analysis difficult in Western Jutland – but possibilities in the passage graves

After: Bourgeois & Kroon 2017
Bell Beaker Culture – the maritime/metal disruption

Maritime beakers – wide spread symbol
Seagoing ships - sustaining closer networks

Slettabø - Norway

1.7 Maritime beakers from Portugal (on the left), Galicia (in the middle), and Brittany (on the right). Drawings and photo from Leisner & Leisner (1959), Salanova (2000a), Prieto Martinez & Salanova 2011
Dagger – new male symbol of power

After: Sarauw 2007; Sørensen 2014
Houses from Thy

Houses from Rogaland

Kvåle house I
Tjora house 10
Hundvåg house II

Kloster gård, house I
Ginnerup, house I
Tinggård, house XXI
Innovation for agrarian expansion

Radiocarbon dates of charred cereals from Late Neolithic sites in Ostfold, Vestfold and Rogaland

- Certain evidences of cultivation and husbandry practices
- Rare or uncertain evidences of cultivation and husbandry practices
Concluding remarks

- Paradigm shift – migration is back

- Disruptions are closely connected to a clear symbolic communication and narrative

- Monuments is the glue that binds the communities together

- Pots are people (at least sometimes)

- Need more "bottom up" studies rather than "top down"

- Chronology of new innovations (technologies, plants, weapons) should be tested from an archaeolinguistic perspective and combined with archeological and dna data

- Usage of phylogenetical studies – search for patterns