Uintah Basin Basketmaker II Anthropomorphic Style: Antecedent and Ancestral to Classic Vernal Fremont Style Rock Art

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Cub Creek Sites:
Burnt House Village (42UN118)
  - EBM/Early Fremont farmer-foragers
  - two sherds, trade ware (~AD 69)

Cockleburr Wash (near Jensen)
  - EBM II site

Steinacker Gap (42UN2004)
  - EBM II strategies + BM corn (Maiz de ocho)
    (~AD 250)

Wholeplace Village, Wagon Run, Dam Site
  - Fremont Dent maize + material
  - Culture (cal. AD 610-650)
LEGEND OF UINTAH BASIN ROCK ART SITES:

1. Cub Creek
2. Cockleburr Wash
3. McKee Springs
4. Rainbow Park
5. Ashley-Dry Fork Creeks
6. McConkie Ranch
Ever since J. P. Harrington (1910) proposed that the Kiowa language is related to the Tanoan languages of New Mexico, anthropologists have puzzled over the connection.

How could a language that is spoken by an equestrian, bison-hunting tribe of the Southern Plains share common ancestry with so many Pueblo languages?
The Kiowa Odyssey

1. **How** is Kiowa related to other Tanoan languages? **Where** was the Proto-Kiowa Tanoan (PKT) speech community homeland?

2. **Where** was the Kiowa-Tanoan (KT) speech community homeland?

3. **When** did the KT speakers split from PKT speakers?

4. **What** do the archaeological record and rock art iconography suggest about connections between Eastern BM II, Eastern Fremont, and Northwest Plains peoples?
Proto-Kiowa-Tanoan: Proof of the Language Family

- Sound correspondences in consonants and vowels.
- Morphophonemic alternations.
- Noun class and inverse-number marking system.
## Cultural inventory of Kiowa-Tanoan subgroups

### Proto-Kiowa-Tanoan (pre-A.D. 450)
- *tu* ‘house’
- *t³ tô ‘dwell’
- *ṭit³ ‘ladder’
- *p⁹i ‘sleeping mat’
- *si ‘stone point’
- *cÔ ‘hammer’
- *k³ ‘skin, hide’
- *b ‘bag’
- *c¡ ‘sinew’
- *to ‘shoe, moccasin’
- *p³ u ‘snare’
- *p¢ ‘to sound’
- *tup- ‘flute, whistle’
- *sa ‘tobacco’
- *p³e ‘to smoke’
- *p³ ‘to lay down’
- *d ‘ceremony, dance’

### Proto-Tanoan (A.D. 450-725)
- *suo ‘arrow’
- *tuk³² ‘pithouse’
- *t’ê ‘(coiled) basket’
- *búlu ‘pottery (bowl), round’
- *t ‘bow’
- *k³ia ‘axe’
- *pÄ ‘thread’
- *p¡d- ‘sew’
- *p³ ‘road, trail’
- *’æ ‘metate’
- *t’a ‘to grind’
- *kæ ‘to plant’
- *k³ ‘(flour)corn’
- *k³ ‘kernel’
- *tã ‘bean’
- *nãpa ‘field’
- *delu ‘turkey’

### Proto-Tiwa-Tewa (A.D. 725-920)
- *k’ô-ti ‘rooftop’
- *sÄ-bulu ‘cooking pot’
- *p’o-bulu ‘olla’
- *k’ulu ‘dipper’
- *kÏn ‘cradleboard’
- *cia ‘knife’
- *k³ ‘bean’
- *nâpa ‘field’
- *delu ‘turkey’

### Proto-Tiwa (A.D. 980-1100)
- *cial ‘gourd rattle’
- *‡owo ‘viga’
- *nã-k³ ‘adobe’
- *kwiai-p‘³ ‘raceroad’
- *cud- ‘shirt’
- *cilîmyu ‘turquoise’
- *t’ok³ ‘cotton’
- *pisólo ‘blanket’
- *p’okú ‘tortilla’
- *toli ‘macaw’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kiowa</th>
<th>Towa</th>
<th>Tewa</th>
<th>Northern Tiwa</th>
<th>Southern Tiwa</th>
</tr>
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Proto-Tanoan terms for objects/agric. Reflect BM III culture, post-AD 450.
1. Terms for turtle reconstruct only to Proto-Tiwa.

2. Turtle bones are common in NRG sites.

3. There are ZERO turtle bones in MVR sites.
**Where** was the KT homeland?

KT has terms specific to SW Colorado uplands and no term for painted turtles (Rio Grande).

**When** did KT become isolated from other Tanoan dialects?

Proto-Tanoan terms that relate to *Basketmaker III* material culture are lexical innovations absent in KT and Kiowa vocabulary.

**Therefore,** it is reasonable to infer that some EBM people living in CO/UT border lands (Durango, CO to Moab, UT) probably spoke KT and (as shown below) their Eastern Fremont descendants would have spoken Kiowa.
Eastern Basketmaker—Eastern Fremont Connections

1. Fremont follows Eastern BMII chronologically.

2. Eastern BMII site distribution overlaps Fremont area.

3. Northward spread of cultigens, pottery, pit houses.

4. MtDNA.

5. Basketry.

6. EBM and Fremont rock art shows stylistic continuity.

From Adovasio et al., 2002
Similarities and differences between WBM and EBM rock art styles
Two Distinct Repertoires of Headdress Motifs

Archaic: BCA and GCL
EBM/E.Fremont

WBM/SJA
EBM II Style and Techniques

solid pecked, use of bas relief, trapezoidal body, wavy arms, fingers spread, stick legs, splayed feet, round head/faceless, headdresses-winged, horned, or none

Cockleburr Wash, Uintah Basin
Cub Creek in Dinosaur National Monument
Eastern Basketmaker II: Uintah Basin (Cub Creek, Cockleburr Wash)
EBM II Style figure + bear in bas relief
Cub Creek near Burnt House Village (AD 69)
Eastern Basketmaker III Style Rock Art
Rainbow Park, Uintah Basin

Split Mountain
Uintah Fremont Rock Art: Transitional Style

Classic Vernal Fremont Rock Art

ICONOGRAPHIC COMPLEX:
Shield-bearing warriors, Horned headdress, Bear power/impersonation Scalps on poles, Weeping eyes

[Note: Bison (superimposed)]
Classic Uintah Fremont Shield Bearers
Uintah Fremont Style Pictographs: Bear Impersonation

Ashley Creek, UT

Henry's Fort, WY
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attributes</th>
<th>UB BM II-III ¹</th>
<th>Early Fremont ²</th>
<th>Classic Vernal ³</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Solid-body</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X (rare)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outline body</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Trapezoidal shape</td>
<td>X (rare)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horn headdress</td>
<td>X (small)</td>
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<td>X (tall)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rake-wing headd.</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cap headdress</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thin arms</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wavy arms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fingers spread</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Splayed feet</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Feet/bear paw</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feet/talons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scalp on pole</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trophy head</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shield</td>
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<td>Bear mask</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weepy eyes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Necklace</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earrings</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hair bobs</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fringed apron</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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Areas: ¹ Dinosaur National Monument (Cub Creek, Rainbow Park); ² Cub Creek, McKee Springs, Vermillion Alcove/Canyon (CO), N. San Rafael (UT); Steinaker Gap, McConkie Ranch, Ashley-Dry Fork, Henry’s Fort, Minnie’s Gap (WY).
Declaration of Kiowa Identity?

^{14}C 996 to 1190 AD

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Declaration of Kiowa Identity?

\[ ^{14}C \text{ 996 to 1190 AD} \]
Eastern Fremont—Northwest Plains Connections

1. Northward shift in obsidian exchange after A.D. 1300.

Fremont-style baskets and Rock art found in WY.

Northward spread of pottery.

Southward spread of tipi rings.

Promontory Complex: Athapaskan contact in the 1200s (Kiowa-Apache?)

From Janetski, 2002.
Kiowa Warrior Ledger Art and Shield

Historic Period,
Smithsonian Kiowa Collection
Kiowa Identity

**Transformation** from farmers to equestrian bison hunters/warriors

**Iconographic continuity** across EBM II, Eastern Fremont, and Plains Biographic rock art and Kiowa Ledger art

*Bear ancestry/power, shields, scalps, weepy-eye

**Ethnohistory**

- Kiowa Women's Bear Warrior society
- Kiowa Men's Shield Medicine society
THANK YOU!