

Contents

<i>List of Illustrations</i>	xi
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xxv
<i>Foreword</i>	xxvii

Introduction: The Development of Modern Matriarchal Studies and Its Relevance for the History of Cultures	1
A Clarification of the Concept	1
The Definition and Its Logic	4
Modern Matriarchal Studies and Its Relevance for History of Cultures	9
1 The New Ideology of “Eternal War.” Critical Reflections on Early History	15
Preliminary Remarks on the Concept of History	15
The Discourse of “Eternal War” among Theoreticians	17
The Discourse of “Eternal War” among Archaeologists	21
The Discourse about “Peaceful Societies”	30
2 Palaeolithic in West Asia, the Mediterranean, and Europe: The Development of Mother-Centered Societies	35

	Origins from Africa and the Adventures of Peopling the World	35
	Palaeolithic Economy: More than just Hunting	39
	Palaeolithic Social Order: More than just the Horde	49
	Palaeolithic Culture and Religion: More than just “Hunting Magic”	58
	Middle Palaeolithic: Religious Thoughts of the Neanderthal People	58
	Upper Palaeolithic: Cave Art and Portable Art	63
	The Theme of “Women”	65
	The Theme of “Animals”	72
	Abstract Signs and the Calendar	79
3	Neolithic in West Asia: The Invention of Agriculture and the Origin of Matriarchal Societies	89
	Mesolithic: The Great Thaw	89
	Neolithic Economy in West Asia: Revolutionary Inventions	91
	Pre-Neolithic Epoch: The First Settlements	91
	Lower Pre-Pottery Neolithic: The First Temples and Grain Fields	95
	Upper Pre-Pottery Neolithic: Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, and Mysterious Walls	99
	Late Neolithic Epoch: Pottery, Copper, and New Crafts	102
	Neolithic Social Order in West Asia: New Complexity	105
	Complex Societies: Elites or Equality?	105
	The Evolution of Matrilineality	112
	Neolithic Culture and Religion in West Asia: Early Religious Wealth	125
	Symbolism of Life and Death	125
	The Polarity of Female and Male	131
	Female and Male Ancestors	137
	Goddesses: Yes or No?	144
4	Neolithic in the Mediterranean and Europe: The Development of Matriarchal Societies	157
	Encounters between Mesolithic and Neolithic Peoples	158
	Neolithic Economy in Europe: Unity of Economy and Culture	163
	Southeast Europe: The First European High Culture	163
	Central Europe: Longhouses and Giant Circles	169

South Europe: Temples and “fairy houses”	179
Atlantic and Continental West Europe: Megaliths in All Forms	185
North Europe: Longhouses for the Dead	200
Neolithic Social Order in Europe: Patrilocal Nuclear Families or Matriarchal Clans?	202
The Hunt for “elites and hierarchy,” “trade and property”	202
In Search of the “nuclear family” and “father line”	206
Evidence for the Mother Line	210
Egalitarian Burial Culture	214
Neolithic Culture and Religion in Europe: Primordial Mothers and Goddesses	219
The Symbolism of Tombs, Temples and Megaliths	219
The Sacred Landscape	226
Domestic Ancestress Worship	232
The Issue of Goddesses	234
Primordial Mothers, Earth, Moon and Sun	234
Figurines and the Triple Goddess	238
5 Bronze Age in the Eurasian Steppe: The Origins of Early Patriarchal Societies and Female Resistance	247
5.1. Societies of the Eurasian Steppe: The Rise of Nomadism and Early Domination	
Neolithic Cultures in the Steppe	248
New Economy: Herds and Horses	252
Always on the Move: Wagons and Tents	261
Social Order: Domination over Women	269
Worldview and Religion: Ideology of Purity and “God the Father”	274
5.2 The Situation in Asia Minor and the Amazon Question	
Critical Preliminary Remarks	281
The History of the Amazons	284
First Emigration: From Lemnos to the Thermodon River	288
Second Emigration: From the Thermodon to the Caucasus and to the Scythians	297

6	Bronze Age and Iron Age in West Asia: The Rise of State and Empire	309
	Bronze Age Economy and Politics in West Asia: Organization of the Precious Water	310
	New Spaces: The First Settlement of the Mesopotamian Plains	310
	Crowding into “paradise”: The Formation of City States	316
	The Power of Weapons: Regional States and the First Empire	322
	Centralization Pushed to the Extreme: The Path to “World Empire”	327
	Bronze Age Social Order and Religion in West Asia: From Thea-Cracy to the Abolition of the Goddess	332
	Late Matriarchal Thea-Cracy	332
	Breaking with Matriarchal Religion	337
	Class Society and the Diminishing Status of Women	341
	The Fate of the Goddesses	348
	In the Land of Canaan: Trading Cities, “democracy” and the One-God Religion	351
7	Bronze Age and Iron Age in South Europe: Late Matriarchal Societies and Increasing Patriarchalization	359
	The Waves of Patriarchalization from the Şteppes	359
	Limited Destruction, Far-Reaching Consequences and Constantly Improved Weapons	360
	The Indo-Europeanization of Europe and the Glaring Facts of DNA Analyses	365
	Late Matriarchal Societies and Patriarchalization in South Europe	373
	The Minoan Culture of Crete: Sailors and Priestesses	374
	Social Order in Crete: Consensus Politics and Matriarchal Clans	388
	Mycenae and Sparta: War as the Measure of Everything	398
	Athens and Ionia: Maritime Trade, Money, and the Ambivalent Situation of Women	406
	The Etruscans: Joy of Life in This World and the Otherworld	411
	Rhaetians, Sardinians, Basques: Forgotten Peoples to This Day	421

8	Bronze Age and Iron Age in Europe North of the Alps:	
	Matriarchal Elements in Patriarchal Surroundings	439
	Precarious Domination in the Bronze Age	440
	The Celtic Peoples and the Question of Matriarchy	445
	The Iron Age Empires of the Celts	445
	Matriarchal Picts and Patriarchal Celts: The Problematic	
	Position of Women	450
	Celtic Gods and Goddesses: A Split Religion	456
	The Germanic Peoples and the Question of Matriarchy	460
	The Migration Routes of the Germanic Peoples	460
	On the Social Order of the Germanic Peoples: Brave Women	
	But without Rights	466
	Matriarchal “Nerthus culture” and Germanic Gods	470
	A Concluding Critique of Concepts	478
	<i>Bibliography</i>	481
	<i>Index</i>	505