The vast dry inner land ranging from Sahara to Mongolia through Middle East and Central Asia has played critically important roles for human history from the Neolithic revolution to the Middle Ages. This “Afro-Eurasian Inner Dry Land” was the historical heartland of the human movements and of material flows, exemplified by the “Four Great Ancient Civilizations” and great empires. Earlier studies have pointed out that the irrigation system could afford huge number of population of City-States which had risen in this dry land area. But this study focuses on the pastoral culture and insists its importance in forming civilization.

Domestic animals are not only food resources but also goods for exchange and accumulation of wealth. Moreover, animal's skin and hair can be processed to expensive craft products. Big domestic animals such as camel or dromedary, horses and asses could be utilized as economical and politico-military means, which were necessary both to long distant trades and to wide range political domination. Without these animals, the intra-national trade network would not have developed in this area.

In the modern era that started from the Age of Geographical Discovery, the world had been reorganized by developing oceanic routes radiating from Europe. On the other hand, in the Afro-Eurasian Inner Dry Land, the trade net has declined and even been extinguished because this area were outside the reach of the oceanic routes. Now this area is recognized as the poorest part of the world.

This study aims to understand the history of mankind totally by considering Afro-Eurasian Inner Dry Land Civilization as one unit of pastoral culture complex, and by analyzing the man-domestic animal relation-ship multilaterally and in the full detail.

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