

# The Origin

## Myths and Upheavals



The Divine monkey mated with the mountain ogress to produce the first Tibetans



The Tethys Sea was lifted up to become the Roof of the World

What is a Nation?

The Romans called 'natio', a race or a human group with a common 'birth'. Today, the dictionary says that it is "a body of people who share a real or imagined common history, culture, language or ethnic origin, who typically inhabit a particular country or territory".

This is the case for Tibet.

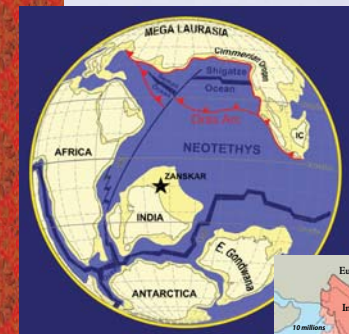


A supine ogress is said to have tamed Tibet's soil by lying on her back to make it habitable

Tibetans have an 'imagined common history', they descend from a male monkey, an incarnation of Avalokitesvara who married a mountain ogress. Their six offspring were the first Tibetans. The inhabitants of the Tibetan plateau are said to have the characteristics of both their ancestors. Except for the divine origin in the Tibetan legend, the modern Theory of Evolution is not too different.

As the supercontinent Gondwanaland broke up 100 million years ago, India separated from Africa. The Indian plate moved north and one day collided with the Asian plate. In the process the Tethys Sea was elevated to 5000 m. The Tibetan plateau was born.

A Tibetan legend speaks of a Tibet covered by a giant lake which dried up. The remaining lakes were prophesized to progressively shrink and give space to humans to live and practice their religion.



The Indian continent collided with Asia



The Roof of the World emerged millions years ago



The most awesome mountains of the planet

