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Review

Der Sintflut-Impakt The Flood impact

by Edith KRISTAN-TOLLMANN und Alexander TOLLMANN*)

Mitt. österr. geol. Ges. 84 (1991) S. 1-63 Abb., 1 Tab., Wien, Juni 1992
(siehe auch: «**Und die Sintflut gab es doch**» 560 S., 146 Abb., 8 Tab.;
Droemer-Knaur, München)

This paper studies the reasons and the stages of the most immense human disaster: the Flood. It was produced by a major Comet impact that took place at the beginning of the Holocene. Over centuries more than 80000 books and papers published in 72 languages have tried to reveal and explain the seemingly inexplicable. A new approach of geological evidence being studied before the background of oral traditions that reflect natural catastrophes yields explanations hitherto sought in vain.

Concerning the timing of the Flood event we could determine the exact date of the impact: It was three o'clock in the morning MET at the beginning of the autumn (23 September) of the northern hemisphere, by new moon, about 9545 before present \pm only a few years. This timing was made possible by the evaluation of all data contained in traditions common to all men often checking the events in diametral localities both in the northern and southern hemisphere, and also by a series of data deriving from the determination of the age of different effects of this impact, fixed by exact geological methods.

The impactor responsible for the Flood was a large comet with a diameter of some kilometers and not an asteroid. Because such a comet consists of approximately 80% of waterice with an average specific gravity of $0,6 \text{ g/cm}^3$, it can break to pieces passing in perihelion close to the sun. This happened to the Flood comet which broke into seven large and a lot of little fragments. Several eyewitnesses of this impact reported on, a large comet with a huge tail and with seven fiery heads on top. This comet approached from eastsoutheast to the southern hemisphere. All of these seven individual main impacts occurred in the ocean. Only little fragments struck the continents, the best studied among them came to the ground in Austria (Köfels).

The targets of the large bursts were the following: The ocean southeast of Australia (probably the Tasman Sea), the Southern Chinese Sea, the western part of the central Indian Ocean, the northern Atlantic, the middle Atlantic south of the Azores (the island of Atlantis), the eastern region of the Pacific in front of Middle America (Guatemala), and probably the southern Pacific west of Tierra del Fuego.

The localisation of these sites was made possible: 1. by the correlated strewn-fields of tektites of analogous age at the neighbouring continents northwest of the impacts;

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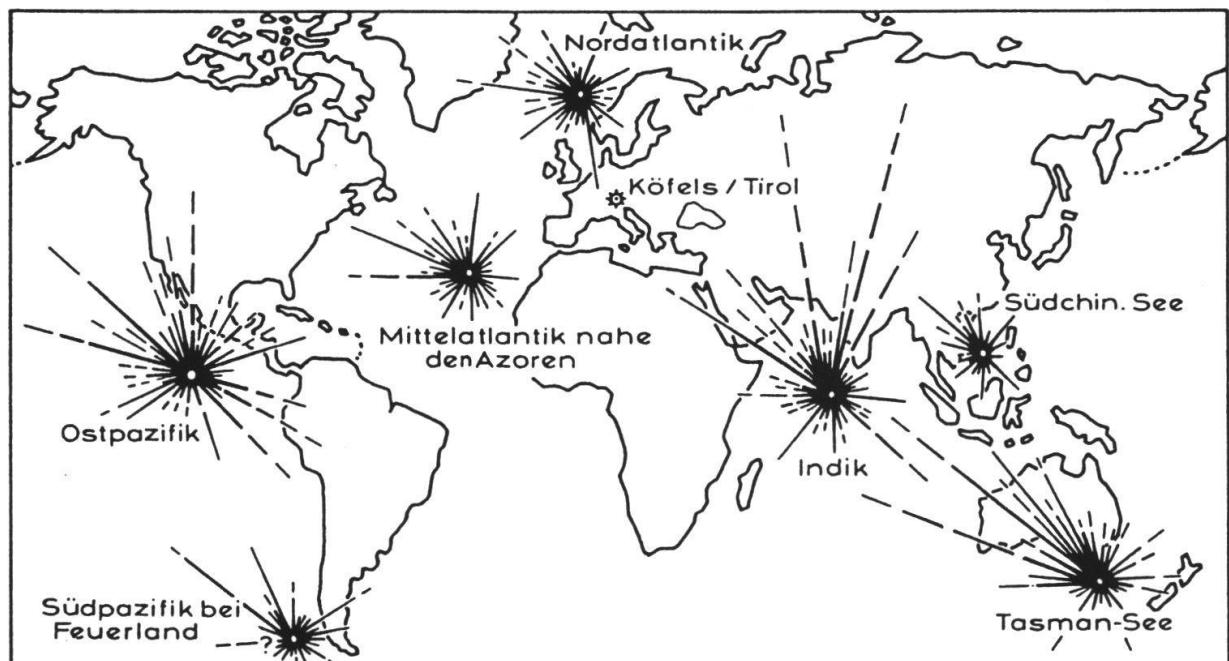
Univ. Prof. Dr. Alexander TOLLMANN, Institut für Geologie der Universität Wien, Universitätstrasse 7, A-1010 Wien.



Sævit hyems, Hominum pars interit, altera montes
Occupat, oppletur sed locus omnis aquus.

Die Wasserkatastrophe ergreift die Welt.
Die Menschen samt dem Vieh erschafft.

Die Schrecken der Sintflutkatastrophe in einer barocken Ausgabe von Ovids «Metamorphosen» (Buch 1, Vers 1). - S. MONATH in Nürnberg.



Die Einschlagsgebiete der sieben Hauptfragmente des Sintflut-Kometen und der größte Festlandtreffer bei Köfels in Österreich aufgrund der Gesamtheit der geologischen und mythologischen Indizien. Die im ersten Moment verblüffend weite, noch über eine Hemisphäre hinausreichende Streu wird bei Berücksichtigung der Erdrotation verständlich, da größere zeitliche Verzögerungen zwischen den Einzeleinschlägen auftraten. Darauf weisen auch Mythen der Alten Welt (z. B. Perser) und der Indianer (ihr pazifischer Haupteinschlag) hin. - Original: E. & A. Tollmann 1992.

2. by eyewitness reports that describe a brownish red «bloody» rainfall on land, rivers and oceans in impact surroundings caused by the fall-out of impact generated concentrated nitric acid, saturated with nitric oxides; 3. by the direct accounts of the inhabitants of the adjoining mainlands, describing the appearance and location of the impact with its fiery plume.

All effects of the comparable End-Cretaceous impact, today well known in all its successive steps by the painstaking research of the earth scientists, could be spotted with its breathtaking details in countless traditions, most of them handed down in oral manner for nine and a half thousand years, e. g.:

The impact triggered global earthquake of an unimaginable magnitude which deformed large landscapes totally, swallowed up islands in the sea, raised or broke down major mountain chains, moved the earth crust like a storm-swept sea, crashed the rocks, flung up the trees into the air, shot fountains of ground water into the sky — all of it reported by eyewitnesses.

The pulse of the explosions which whirled trees, rocks and men across the air. This event is even reported in a drawing.

The triggered volcanism, namely in the western Cordilleras of the two Americas.

The global inferno of the wildfire which arrived at 1800 °C crashing the rocks, drying up huge streams like the Euphrates, reducing the natural soil to cinders to spread from many centers with horrible speed. Reports on those aspects come from the inhabitants of all continents, but chiefly from the Indians of America.

The front of the Flood wave was so gigantic that it could still overflow mountain chains like the North American cordillera. It raced over long distances far into the interior of the continents. At many places, e. g. along the Pacific side of America, it came in several stages deriving from different impact centers and accompanied by tsunamis triggered off by the impacts. In wide areas this Flood wave consisted of boiling water and arrived when the darkness of the impact night had already set in.

This long night caused by a darkening brought about by the dust clouds raised by seven serial impact explosions lasted for about one week and was followed by a long twilight.

This impact night gave rise to a severe impact winter which befell the areas in high geographical latitudes like Scandinavia, Siberia and Canada, but also Tierra del Fuego and highlands and mountainous regions. From the nordic myth Edda we learn that Scandinavia's permanent frost, their «fimbulvetr», lasted for three years without interruption, and the aborigines of Tierra del Fuego report about a ten-months' winter that set in just at the beginning of spring, when the migrant «Laxuwa» birds returned. Analogous traditions inform that in the highlands of Iran the excessive winters after this catastrophe lasted also ten month and the «summer» interval was extremely short.

The immense torrential downpour was produced by a multiplied ocean impact and also by the mass of water imported by the comet itself. In vast area the «drops» of the rain had the size of an oxen head or of an Indian tent («Wigwam»). The hailstones came up to one quintal (50 kg) in weight and produced bad gashes with those who were hit. The torrential rainfall also contained various ingredients like mud, soot and resin. Round the gloibe it frequently dropped boiling hot from the sky.

Pollution of the environment caused by the after-effects of the impact can also be realized in many details occurring in oral tradition. There are e. g. the descriptions of a bloody rainfall after the Flood catastrophe in some areas around the world, now recognized as the impact surroundings. We have already mentioned that this brownish red colour was owing to the fallout of the immense masses of concentrated nitric acid which cauterized the skins of beast and men. In Africa and southeastern Asia an

excessive rise of monstrosities in newborns was recorded. It occurred in the form of half-bodies — named «Simpang-Impang» — with only one eye, one ear, one arm and one leg. Impacts produce many mutagenic factors: pyrotoxins from the wildfires, nitrous acid, an abundance of ultraviolet radiation caused by the rapid destruction of the ozon layer and an exaggerated radioactivity resulting from the abrupt increase of radiocarbon that could be traced in the dendrochronologically dated wood of oak trees..

The measuring of paleotemperatures demonstrates that the greenhouse effect resulted from a change in the set-up of the atmospheric gas after the impact and lasted for about 4000 years.

The phenomenon of mass extinction brought about by a multitude of aggressive attacks against life is best illustrated by two events: 1. At the time the human race had almost become extinct, and chiefly in caves only a few had a chance to survive; 2. a great number of large mammal species of the ice-age disappeared, primarily mammoths, which vanished about 9600 ± 300 years ago.

It may be of some interest that the first book of Moses in the Old Testament describes very clearly the post-impact scenario, declaring it wrongly for the «Genesis». All steps after the Flood catastrophe are described in exact sequence there.

Tab. 1 Die Einstufung des Sintflut-Impaktes mit geologischen Methoden

| | Grundlage für Datierung | Methode | Jahre vor Chr. | Jahre vor heute (1990) |
|-----------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Stratigraph. Methoden | J. E. Johnson 1965 E. D. Gill 1970 R. O. Chalmers et al. 1976 | Jungaustralit (Campbellit)-Lagerung auf Ältest-Holozän in Südaustralien | | bald nach 10000 rund 10000 rund 10000 |
| | E. P. Izokh 1987 Ph. Cu Tien 1990 | Vietnam-Jungtekrite auf tiefster Flussterrasse | | rund 10000 rund 10000 |
| Exakte geologische Methoden | E. D. Gill/ H. Sueß 1955 | C14, korrig. Tektik in Holz | 7530 ± 200 | 9520 ± 200 |
| | C. U. Hammer et al. 1980 | Säure-Event im Grönlandeis, Jahresschichtg. | 7640 ± 170 | 9630 ± 170 |
| | I. Dubrovo 1990 | Yuribey-Mammut C14 (letztes Mammut) | 7610 ± 300 | 9600 ± 300 |
| | B. Kromer et al. 1990 B. Becker et al. 1991 | C14-Zacken dendrochronol. datiert | $7555 \pm$ wenige J. | $9545 \pm$ wenige J. |
| | H. Heuberger 1975 (Messung 1957) | C14, korrig. Köfelser Impakt | knapp vor 7450 ± 150 | knapp vor 9440 ± 150 |

In this paper we present furthermore the geological facts for the dating of the Flood event. The relevant proofs are: The age of the correlated tektites in southern Australia, on the floor of the Indian. Ocean, and in Vietnam; the date of the most excessive acid spike in the well dated ice sequences in Greenland; the last mammoth of Yuribey in Siberia; and the extreme production of radiocarbon casting over a very short time only to be dated by the dendrochronological method. The results of all these methods correlate very well in as much as they will overlap in a central part of the field marked out by a given error margin.

Furthermore, the paper points out that man was witness to at least 35 impacts on the continents, proved of small dimensions, and at least of about 85 such events in the ocean. The most catastrophic impact among them occurred some 700000 years ago and is documented by an excessive strewn-field of tektites (australites) which cover one tenth of the surface of the globe on the southern hemisphere principally. This disastrous event correlates with the extinction of *Australopithecus*, the oldest group of Hominines.

Furthermore, we want to mention that in many old traditions and religions exist accounts about the division of world history in so called «world years» which lasted about 10000-12000 years, terminated always by a world catastrophe with wildfire, flood and permanent winter. We see in these far spread traditions rests of a dim remembrance of former impacts within and at the end of the high glacial time.

The probability of an impact to occur in the lifetime of this generation is perhaps 1:6000 or rather higher owing to a general underestimation of the danger of comets.

The study of the Flood stories reveals also the enormous consequences of this deep and traumatic experience of men in a spiritual sense: Ancient philosophy, cosmology, astrology, all the great religions of the world, mythology, mysticism and their symbolism, the awareness of history, which began with the immense number of Flood traditions, the famous revelations — including especially those of St. John — they all are formed in a first place by this horrible event. The recent religions have not only been inspired, but directly formulated by it. From the moment man thought to directly feel the unimaginable fury of the demons or of the Lord and believed that god(s) languished for human flesh, sacrifice of life was introduced into religion, side by side with the Satan-Devil, Paradise (reminiscent of stages «before»), Hell and Purgatory (the global wildfire, the «sintbrand») etc.

Man has also developed symbols for the disaster he had witnessed: e. g. a symbol for the comet, the Cosmic Dragon and/or the Cosmic Serpent that is clearly connected with the impactor falling from the sky diving deep and resurfacing from the sea as «Leviathan» the fiery and poisonous explosion plume. Clearly related to the above are the Sphinx, the Basilisk, the Spirit from the Bottle in oriental tales, but also the idea of the Evil Seven (that has sprung from the seven fragments of the comet). After destruction resurrection came, however, it has been symbolized in the rainbow, in the bird of fortune, Phoenix from the flames (Egypt to China), to whom Garuda is related. This symbolism is infinitely selfreproducing, although no understanding remains of the underlying experiences of mankind.

This paper will only give first information on research conducted over a considerable number of years. The study and its results will soon be presented in «Ich habe die Sintflut erlebt» presently printing with Droemer Knaur's publishing house (Munich).

The book discusses the Flood in the light of hard and fast geological facts and in the light of the oral tradition of mankind, an equally revealing source, with the latter helping to bring out the far-reaching cultural implications of the physical event. Further discussion should try to include these more comprehensive materials.

