



Nomadic culture

as a social and cultural phenomenon

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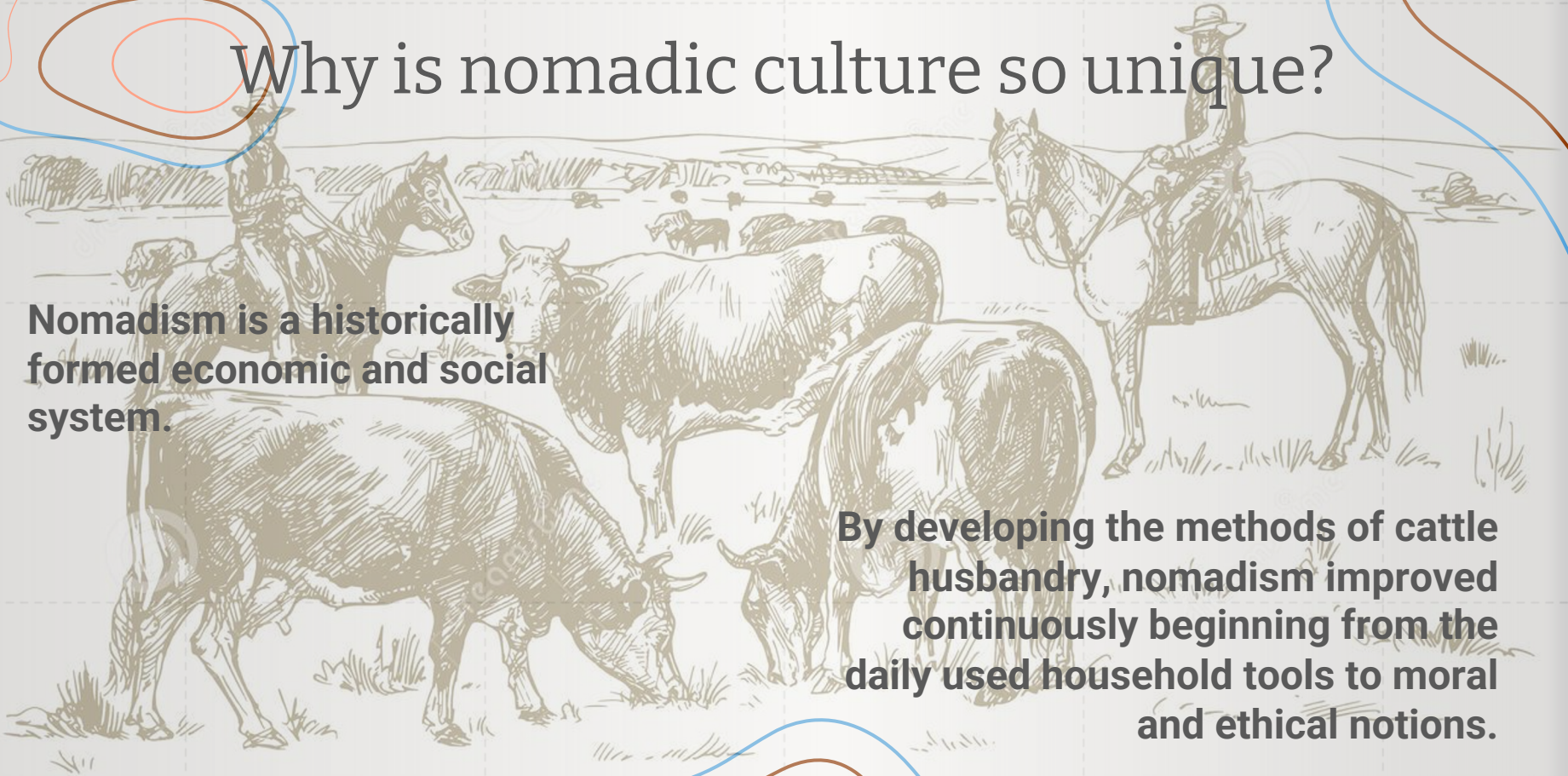
For thousands of years, nations and peoples who lived to the east of the Great Wall and to the west to the Mediterranean Sea in the vast steppes of Eurasian led a nomadic life which was caused by the need to adapt to the natural environment.

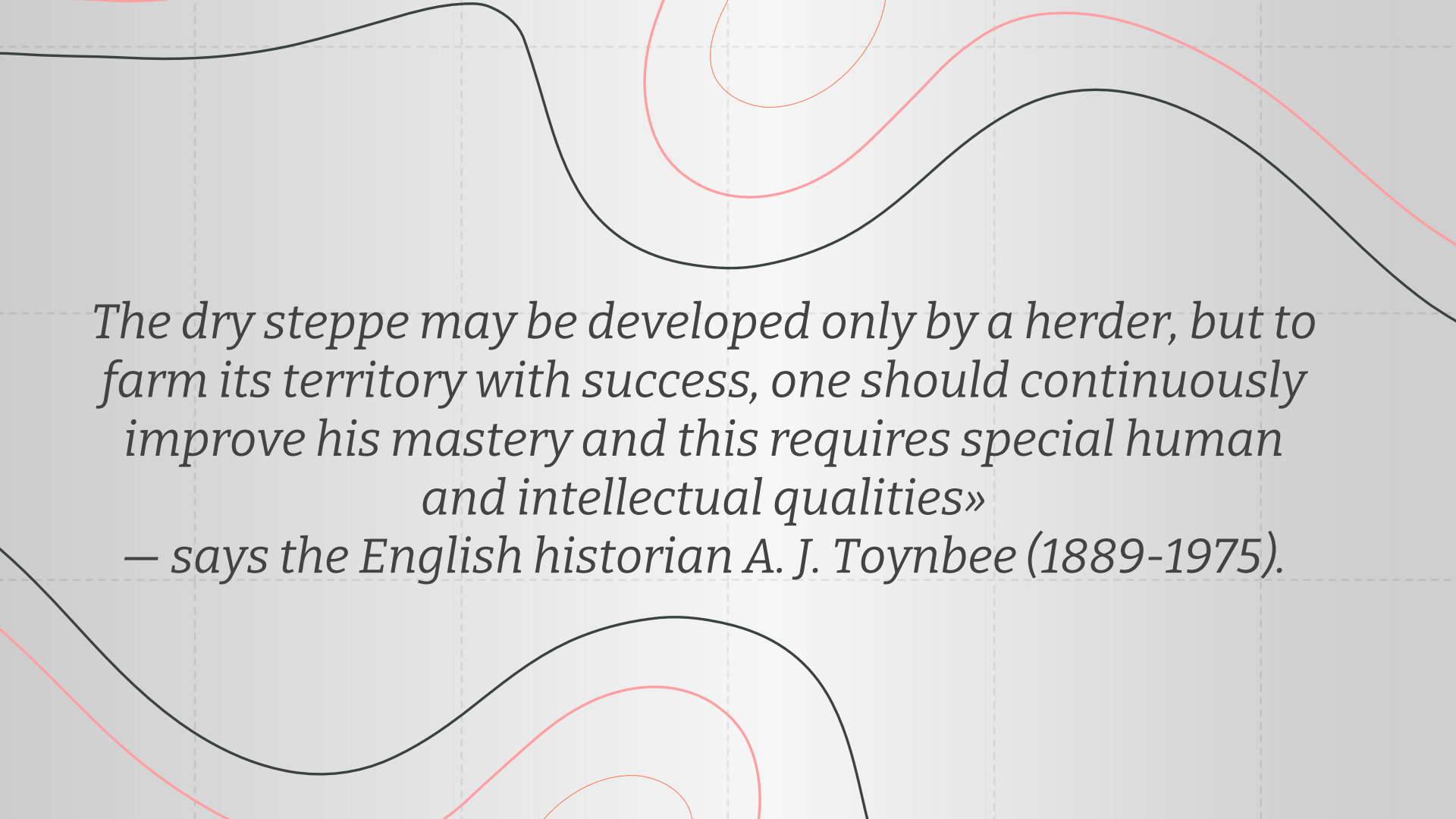


Why is nomadic culture so unique?

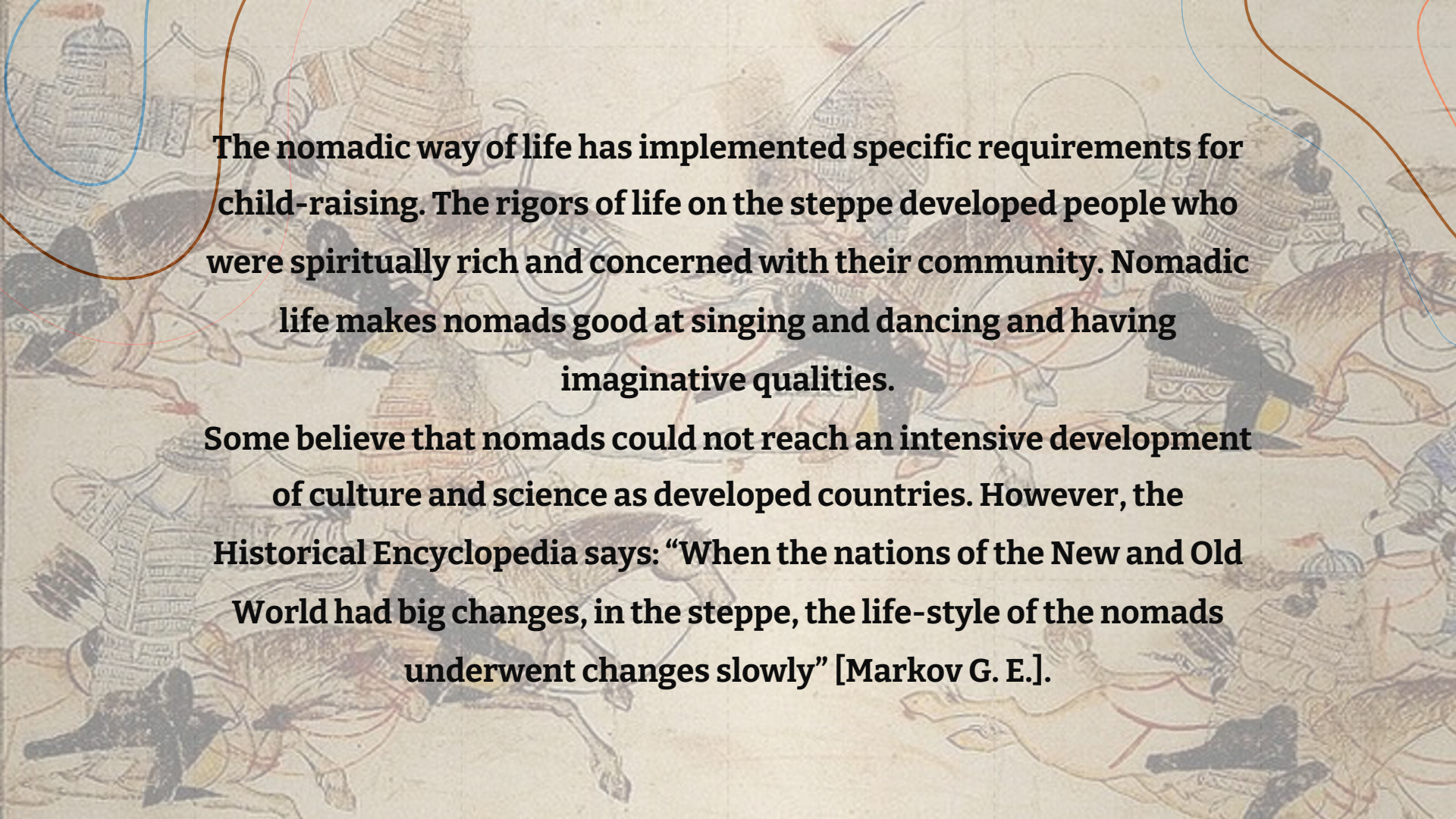
Nomadism is a historically formed economic and social system.

By developing the methods of cattle husbandry, nomadism improved continuously beginning from the daily used household tools to moral and ethical notions.





The dry steppe may be developed only by a herder, but to farm its territory with success, one should continuously improve his mastery and this requires special human and intellectual qualities»
— says the English historian A. J. Toynbee (1889-1975).

The background features a traditional illustration of nomadic life. It shows several figures on horseback, some wearing ornate, patterned clothing. There are tents with domes and other structures in the background. The scene is set in a landscape with some animals, possibly sheep or horses, grazing. The overall style is reminiscent of historical or ethnographic art.

The nomadic way of life has implemented specific requirements for child-raising. The rigors of life on the steppe developed people who were spiritually rich and concerned with their community. Nomadic life makes nomads good at singing and dancing and having imaginative qualities.

Some believe that nomads could not reach an intensive development of culture and science as developed countries. However, the Historical Encyclopedia says: “When the nations of the New and Old World had big changes, in the steppe, the life-style of the nomads underwent changes slowly” [Markov G. E.].

CONCLUSION

Nomadic mobility has also shaped nomadic life styles and living forms. Continuous cyclical wandering, usually in tribal or familial groupings, has helped to create spatial and cultural distance to settled communities.

Nomadic ways of life have been characterized by a great variety. One thinks instantly of the historical model of mounted pastoral nomadism. Highly, and instantly, mobile they were able to assert themselves in relation to state-oriented settled communities for many years. Pastoral nomads', at times, quite extensive wandering movements were often directed towards, and centered on, territories dominated by settled communities and often placed these under pressure.

The societal structures, habits and customs of nomads have remained persistent, even when they have actually given up their mobile lifestyle.

References

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