

**UNESCO Kalinga Prize Winner – 1988**  
**Björn Olof Lennartson Kurtén**  
**(Björn Kurtén)**



**One of the Most Distinguished Vertebrate Paleontologists  
in the World,  
One of the World's Leading Scholars of Ice Age Fauna  
&  
Great Science Popularizer of Finland**

**[Born: Vassa, Finland, 1924 ;      Died : December 28, 1988]**

**“ None of the dead can rise up and answer our questions. But from all that they have left behind, their imperishable or slowly dissolving gear, we may perhaps hear voices, 'which are now only able to whisper, when everything else has become silent ...”**

*...Björn Kurtén*

## Björn Kurtén - A Brief Profile

Björn Olof Lennartson Kurtén (1924 – 1988) was a distinguished vertebrate paleontologist. He belonged to the Finland- Swedish minority in Finland. He was also the author of an acclaimed series of books about modern man's encounter with Neanderthals, such as *Dance of the Tiger* (1978, 1980). When asked what genre these works belonged in, Kurtén coined the term *paleofiction* to describe his oeuvre. This genre was popularized by Jean M. Auel in her *Earth's Children* series of books.

In the 1980s, Kurtén also hosted a 6-part TV series about the ice age, co-produced by several Scandinavian TV channels.

### Partial bibliography

- *Istiden* (The Ice Age) (Forum, 1969)
- *Den svarta tigern* (1978) (Dance of the Tiger, 1980)
- *Mammutens råhare* (1982) (Singletusk)
- *De skuldlösa mördarna* (1987) (The Innocent Assassins, Columbia University Press, 1991)
- *The Cave Bear Story : Life and Death of a Vanished Animal* (Columbia University Press, NY, 1976)
- *The Age of Mammals* (Columbia University Press, NY, 1973)

### External Links

- Authors' Calendar – Björn Olof Lennartson Kurtén (1924-1988) (<http://www.kirjasto.sci.fi/bkurten.htm>)

### Source :

"[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bj%C3%B6rn\\_Kurt%C3%A9n](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bj%C3%B6rn_Kurt%C3%A9n)"

## Björn Olof Lennartson Kurtén (1924-1988) Biographical Profile

### Kurten, Bjorn

<b>Sex</b>	:	Male
<b>National Origin</b>	:	Finland
<b>Ethnic Origin</b>	:	Swedish
<b>Era</b>	:	Late 20 <sup>th</sup> Century
<b>Born</b>	:	1924
<b>Died</b>	:	1988
<b>Awards</b>	:	Finnish State Literary Prizes (1969, 1981, 1982), Swedish Writers' Award New York Academy of Sciences Children's Science Honor Book Award

Finnish writer, professor of paleontology at the University Helsinki, who gained international fame as a writer with his popular science fiction books of ancient men, *DEN SVARTA TIGERN* (1978, *Dance of the Tiger*) and *MAMMUTENS RÅDARE* (1982, *Singletusk*). Along with George Gaylord Simpson in America, Björn Kurtén was the founding father of an important scientific movement that united Darwinian theory with empirical studies of fossil vertebrates. He was also a leading student of fossil bears – and by chance his first name Björn means “bear” in his native Swedish.

**“Kurtén has managed to insinuate into his story – in a way so subtle and natural that we can scarcely recognize he is teaching as well as novelizing – every fact and theory that I know (and several, undoubtedly, that I don’t) about Neandertals, Cro-Magnons, human evolution during the Ice Age, glacial geology, and ecology and behavior of the great Ice Age mammals, including mammoths and saber – toothed tigers.”**  
(*Stephen Jay Gould in his introduction to Dance of the Tiger*)

Björn Kurtén was born in Vaasa as the son of Lennart Kurtén, a bank director, and Hjördis (Ståhlberg) Kurtén. While in school he started to write adventure stories. His first book, *DET NYA JAKTPLANET*, appeared in 1941. It was followed by *SPÅRET FRÅN ULTIMA ESPERANZA* (1945). In 1943 Kurtén entered the University of Helsinki, where he studied geology and zoology. He was editor of *Studentbladet* and during the next decades he wrote a number of popularized essays about paleontology for *Hufvudstadsbladet* and *Vasabladet*.

In 1950 Kurtén married Ruth Margareta Nordman; they had four children. Before finishing his studies in Helsinki, Kurtén studied paleontology in Sweden at the University of Uppsala under Birger Bohlin and received his Ph.D in 1954. Kurtén first major scientific publication, *THE CHINESE HIPPARION FAUNA*, appeared in 1952. Especially Georg Gaylord Simpson’s (1902-1984) *Tempo and Mode in Evolution* (1944) influenced his early works.

From 1955 to 1972 Kurtén was lecturer at the University of Helsinki. He was also a researcher at the University of Florida, a visiting professor at the University of Harvard (1971-71) and a professor at

the University of Helsinki from 1972 to 1988. In Spain and Tunisia Kurtén participated in scientific excavations. He died in Helsinki on December 28, 1988. Kurtén received several awards for his popular scientific works, including Unesco's Kalinga Award . Earlier it had been given among others to George Gamow, Fred Hoyle, Julian Huxley, Konrad Lorenz, Margaret Mead and Bertrand Russell.

Among Kurtén major scientific publications are his dissertation, ON THE VARIATION AND POPULATION DYNAMICS OF FOSSIL AND RECENT MAMMAL POPULATIONS (1953), PLEISTOCENE MAMMALS OF EUROPE (1968), published in the same year in Sweden, Great Britain, Germany, Italy, France and Holland, and PLEISTOCENE MAMMALS OF NORTH AMERICA (1980). INTE FRÅN APORNA (1971) was also translated into several languages. In 1988 appeared ON EVOLUTION AND FOSSIL MAMMALS, a collection of earlier studies.

**“ I suspect that our view of men who live in close contact with nature is colored by the romantic image of the taciturn Red Indian, the epitome of the Noble Savage. In contrast, my experience of the men of forests and lakes is that they are loquacious to a degree, with a great fund of small talk; they carry their hearts on their sleeves: Aloofness is a simply a mask put on before a stranger. A large vocabulary is characteristic of the so-called primitive languages of today, and probably has been so for millenniums. To find a really primitive language I suspect you would have to journey back in time to the beginning of the Ice Age.”** (from *Dance of The Tiger*)

In the 1970s Kurtén returned to fiction with *Dance of the Tiger*, set in the era of 35 000 years ago in Scandinavia, during a thaw in the great Ice Age. It depicted story of Tiger, the chief of a Cro-Magnon tribe, and his wife, Morsinko, a Neanderthal woman. Neanderthals are white-skinned, Cro-Magnons dark;

Cro-Magnon children and adults have smooth brows and small faces; the characteristic features of childhood act as “innate releasing mechanisms” for feelings of affection – a theory familiar from Konrad Lorenz's writings. “To the Whites, the Blacks were godlike, tall and eloquent, with a speech as varied and flexible as that of the birds. And there was something else. No White could look at the clear brow of a Black without feeling a mysterious tenderness, such as a child might evoke in the heart of his parents.” Kurtén offered the explanation that the Neanderthals disappeared because they fell fatally in love with their black and beautiful Cro-Magnon neighbours, and brought them home to engage in sterile matches. The Cro-Magnon people, who were more aggressive and practiced slavery and violence, conquered the peace loving Neanderthal society, based on matriarchal system. Also the nobel writer William Golding has examined in *The Inheritors* the vanishing of the Neanderthal – Golding saw them children of nature who are destroyed by the brutal invaders.

*Singletusk*, his next novel, continued the story of the family. Kurtén's picture of the prehistoric society is realistic without exaggerating the violent aspects of life. He focused on the development, everyday life, and dreams and fears of the ancient people. Both works were mostly based on scientific theories – Kurtén supposition that Neanderthals and ancestors of modern Homo Sapiens occupied same areas in the same time in Europe have been confirmed by fossil evidence.

**For further reading:** ‘Björn Kurtén – a memorial volume’, ed. by Ann Forstén, Mikael Fortelius, Lars Werdelin, in *Annales Zoologici Fennici* (1991,); ‘Muinaisaikojen elävöittäjä Björn Kurtén’ by Anto Leikola in *Kansallisgalleria: Suuret suomalaiset*, ed. by Allan Tiitta et al. (1997); ‘Kurtén, Björn’ by Anto Leikola, in *Suomen kansallisbiografia* 5, ed. by Matti Klinge et al. (2005) –**Other prehistoric fantasies:** Johannes V. Jensen's *Den Lange Rejse* (1908-22); J.H. Rosny's *La guerre de feu* (1909); Edgar Rice Burrough's *The Eternal Lover* (1925); J. Leslie

---

Mitchell's *There Go Back* (1932); William Golding's *The Inheritors* (1955); note also such romantic works by Jean Untinen – Auel as *The Clan of the Cave Bear* (1980), *The Valley of Horses* (1982), *The Mammoth Hunters* (1985), *The Plains of Passage* (1990) – **See also:** L.S.B. Leakey

### **Selected works:**

- DET NYA JAKTPLANET, 1941 – Uusi hävitäjä
- DE TRE KORSEN, 1945 – Ultima Esperanza jälki
- DE TRE KORSEN, 1948 – Kolme ristiä
- THE CHINESE HIPPARION FAUNA, 1952
- ON THE VARIATION AND POPULATION DYNAMICS OF FOSSIL AND RECENT MAMMAL POPULATION, 1953
- SEX DIMORPHISM AND SIZE TRENDS IN THE CAVE BEAR, *URSUS SPELAEUS* ROSENMÜLLER AND HEINBROTH, 1955
- LIFE AND DEATH OF THE PLEISTOCENE CAVE BEAR, 1958
- CHRONOLOGY AND FAUNAL EVOLUTION OF THE EARLIER EUROPEAN GLACIATIONS, 1960
- URMÄNNISKOR OCH SABELTIGRAR, 1961 – Alkuihmisiä ja sapelitiikereitä
- MÄNNISKANS UTVECKLING, 1963-Ihmisen Kehitys
- ISTIDENS DJURV ÄRLD, 1964 - Jääkauden eläinmaailma
- THE CARNIVORA OF THE PALESTINE CAVES, 1965

### **Glossary on Kalinga Prize Laureates**

- PLEISTOCENE BEARS OF NORTH AMERICA, 1966-67
- PLEISTOCENE MAMMALS OF EUROPE, 1968
- DINOSAURIERNAS VÄRLD, 1968 – The Age of Dinosaur – Kirmuliskojen maailma
- ISTIDEN, 1969 – The Ice Age – Jääkausi
- DÄGGDJURENS TIDSÅLDER , 1971 – The Age of Mammals – Nisäkkäiden aikakausi
- INTE FRÅN APORNA, 1971 – Ei apinoista
- BJÖREN FRÅN DRAKHÅLAN, 1975 – Lohikäärme luolankarhu
- DEN SVARTA TIGERN, 1978 - Dance of the Tiger – Musta tiikeri
- HUR MAN FRYSER EN MAMMUT, 1980- Kuinka mammutti pakastetaan
- 63 FÖRSTENADE HJÄRTAN, 1980- 63 kivettyntä sydäntä
- PLEISTOCENE MAMMALS OF NORTH AMERICA, 1980 (with Elaine Anderson)
- MAMMUTENS RÅDARE, 1982- Singletusk – Mammutin suojelija
- VÅRA ÄLDSTA FÖRFÄDER, 1986 – Vanhimmat esi – isämme
- DE SKULDLÖSA MÖRDARNA, 1987 – Viattomat tappajat
- BEFORE THE INDIANS, 1988- Ennen intiaaneja
- ON EVOLUTION AND FOSSIL, MAMMALS 1988



## Book Review

# DANCE OF THE TIGER

## A NOVEL OF THE ICE AGE

*Dance of the Tiger* is a short novel, published in English in 1980, by palaeontologist Björn Kurtén that deals with the interaction between Neanderthals and Cro-Magnons. Set 35,000 years ago in Scandinavia, during a thaw in the great Ice Age, the novel follows a Cro-Magnon named Tiger as he tries to defeat Shelk, a tyrant and a hybrid (Neanderthal-Cro-Magnon), the man who killed his father. With his family and much of his tribe dead, Tiger meets, interacts, and allies himself with groups of Neanderthals. He eventually marries Morsinko, a Neanderthal woman. A sequel, *Singletusk*, published in 1982, continues the story of the family.

Neanderthals are depicted as white-skinned, while Cro-Magnons are dark. Cro-Magnon children and adults have smooth brows and small faces; the characteristic features of childhood act as “innate releasing mechanisms” for feelings of affection.

***To the Whites, the Blacks were godlike, tall and eloquent, with a speech as varied and flexible as that of the birds. And there was something else. No White could look at the clear brow of a Black without feeling a mysterious tenderness, such as a child might evoke in the heart of his parents. (Kurtén, p. 33, 5<sup>th</sup> printing, paperback)***

Kurtén postulates that this attraction led to intermarriage between the two people, which produced sterile offspring. He emphasizes the possibility of Neanderthal extinction through interbreeding rather than through violence. He also

presents social differences between the two groups, presenting the Cro-Magnon people as more aggressive, practicing slavery and choosing violence to solve social problems. The Neanderthal society, based on a matriarchal system, is drawn as peace loving with elaborate social rituals designed to resolve problems.

The novel is known for its plausibility and accuracy. Kurtén’s supposition that Neanderthals and ancestors of modern *Homo sapiens* occupied same areas in the same time in Europe has been confirmed by fossil evidence.

***Kurtén has managed to insinuate into his story-in a way so subtle and natural that we can scarcely recognize he is teaching as well as novelizing – every fact and theory that I know (and several, undoubtedly, that I don’t) about Neanderthals, Cro-Magnons, human evolution during the Ice Age, glacial geology, and ecology and behavior of the great Ice Age mammals, including mammoths and saber-toothed tigers. Stephen Jay Gould, introduction to Dance of the Tiger, 1980.***

Kurtén’s racial identification for both Neanderthals and the Cro-Magnons is plausible and stands in stark contrast to the corresponding representations in Jean M. Auel’s *Earth’s Children* series. Author William Golding also examined the issue of Neanderthal extinction in *The Inheritors*.

□

**Book Review**  
**DANCE OF THE TIGER**  
**A NOVEL OF THE ICE AGE**  
**Literature Annotations**

- Genre** : Novel (255 pp.)
- Keywords** : Catastrophe, Communication, Family Relationship, History of Science, Human Worth, Infertility, Narrative as Method, Power Relations, Scapegoating, Science, Survival.
- Summary** : This novel takes place during the Ice Age at a time when modern humans (Cro-Magnon) have immigrated into northern Europe and begun to interact with Neanderthal people, who have already been successful inhabitants of Europe for perhaps 100,000 years. Within a few thousand years of this fateful encounter which took place about 35,000 years ago, the Neanderthal people had completely died out.

We now believe on the basis of mitochondria DNA analysis that modern humans are unrelated to the Neanderthal—their gene pool simply disappeared. Why? The most obvious answer is that Homo sapiens killed them off, either directly by warfare, or indirectly by our greater success in competing for food and other resources. In this scenario modern humanity originated from a version of the Biblical story of Cain and Abel, of brother killing brother, except in the paleontological case the younger brother killed the elder. Bjorn Kurten, an eminent European paleontologist, used this novel to present his ingenious, and some what different, theory to explain what happened.

The story is told from the perspective of Tiger, a young black (Cro-Magnon) man whose foster father is killed in a raid by men from another band of blacks. Later, he devotes his life to searching for his foster father's killer. In the process he travels widely and encounters a band of whites (Neanderthal), a primitive form of humanity known to Tiger's folk as "trolls." The trolls have a high-pitched, bird-like language that Tiger is eventually able to learn, even though it is virtually impossible for whites (trolls) to learn the black language, because they are unable to articulate the broad range of vowel sounds it includes.

The whites are also different in that their bands are equalitarian, with women playing major leadership roles while black tribes are strictly hierarchical and patriarchal. Tiger travels with the white band and mates with Veyde, one of its prominent members. However, one day the band is decimated by a marauding black tribe led by Shelk, a seemingly invincible warrior.

In the story's climax Tiger carries out a scheme to infiltrate the "bad" tribe and kill Shelk, who was, in fact his foster father's murderer. We learn, however, that Tiger's real father was a white (Neanderthal) who mated with a black woman, but was later

sent away from the band. Tiger, Shelk, and other children of white black unions seem god-like in that they are stronger and more attractive and creative than “normal” people of either group. At the story’s end, Tiger then lives happily ever after with his white mate Veyde, but-and this is an important clue-they have no children.

**Commentary** : Kurten is a good storyteller who creates his version of Paleolithic culture with care and plausibility. Many aspects of the story are shocking at first, because they fly in the face of our stereotypes. First, there is the almost self-evident fact-although I’ll bet it never occurred to you-that Neanderthals, who lived in northern Europe, where almost certainly white skinned, while the Cro-Magnon newcomers were probably dark skinned (blacks).

Second, there is the anatomical difference in the angle of the larynx that makes Neanderthal language high pitched and bird-like with only two vowels. Thus, while blacks can learn white language, the reverse is not true. Third, there is the gentle, storytelling, earth-loving Neanderthal culture-to which perhaps the myth the Earth Mother Goddess can be traced-contrasted with the more aggressive and patriarchal, but also more artistic and innovative, black (Cro-Magnon) culture.

Kurten’s ingenious theory about why the Neanderthal vanished involves six steps: (1) Cro-Magnon-Neanderthal mating occurred; (2) the children of these couples had many advantages, including a lower infant mortality rate than that of Neanderthal children and other survival benefits, such as high intelligence healthy constitution, and creativity; (3) these advantages benefited social groups and eventually became evident, especially to Neanderthal women, who thus produced more healthy offspring; (4) however, such hybrid children were always sterile; (5) over the generations a greater and greater percentage of children in Neanderthal bands were hybrids, while this did not happen in Cro-Magnon bands; and (6) all of this occurred against a backdrop that included more versatile hunting, greater skills and other survival advantages for the Cro-Magnon. Thus, the Neanderthal gradually faded away.

**Publisher** : University of California (Berkeley)

**Edition** : 1993

**Miscellaneous** : Introduction by Stephen Jay Gould. First published: 1980

**Annotated by** : Coulehan, Jack

**Date of Entry** : 5/12/03

**Last Modified** : 11/30/06



Dance of the Tiger: A Novel of the Ice Age  
Björn Kurtén  
University of California Press 1995

---

A book review by Danny Yee © 1996 <http://dannyreviews.com/>

---

I have previously read two novels about contact between Cro-Magnon and Neandertal man: Jean Auel's *Clan of the Cave Bear* and William Golding's *The Inheritors*. Björn Kurtén's *Dance of the Tiger* may not be as well known (I stumbled over it by chance in a publisher's catalogue), but it deserves to be. If it lacks the psychological depth of Golding's novel, it is just as engaging, and it is far more tautly written than Auel's potboiler. From the opening mammoth hunt the excitement is maintained almost without a pause for breath, with short descriptive passages heightening rather than diminishing the suspense.

*Dance of the Tiger* is also far better informed scientifically than either of the other novels, Kurtén was a professor of palaeontology at the University of Helsinki (Stephen Jay Gould calls him "Europe's finest evolutionary paleontologist") and Gould's introduction and an author's note at the end provide some hint of how careful his attention to detail was (though it is never overt or intrusive). While much of his reconstruction is obviously very conjectural, it observes the anthropological niceties and never stretches suspension of disbelief; my one major qualm was with an engineering implausibility (which I won't explain, since it is used to resolve the plot). *Dance of the Tiger* won't sell hundreds of thousands of copies or be prescribed as a text in English courses, but that's not a measure of its quality – if palaeoanthropological fiction appeals to you at all then you won't want to miss Kurtén's offering.

1 January 1996

□

## **Björn Kurtén**

### **Dance of the Tiger**

### **1980 (1978)**

*from the dustjacket :*

A breakthrough in historical fiction, *Dance of the Tiger* plunges us into life 35,000 years ago, when two completely different species of human beings existed.

This is the story of Tiger, son of the Chief of a peaceful village of Homo sapiens hunters, and his passion to avenge his people. The only survivor of a savage attack against this tribe, Tiger roams the landscapes of Ice Age Europe, hunting mammoth and saber-tooth tiger, struggling for survival in a world of constant danger, always searching for Shelk, the brutal warrior who killed his father.

Completely alone and badly wounded, Tiger is rescued by Neandertal clan – the alien creatures he had heard about but never seen. On the clan's island, far in the north, Tiger learns the Neandertal language, falls in love with Veyde, their proud and beautiful leader, and discovers the deeply human side of a people he had despised as barbaric.

Tiger finally faces Shelk in a dramatic confrontation which calls up all the cunning of the animal for whom he was named. And in a totally ingenious twist, we discover what may be the solution to prehistory's most puzzling mystery: the disappearance of the Neandertals from the face of the earth.

**back flap :**

One of the world's leading scholars of Ice Age fauna, Björn Kurtén fuses extraordinary knowledge and imagination in this vivid evocation of our deepest past. Drawing on the most recent anthropological revelations, he combines human drama with scientific theory too clever to reveal.

Björn Kurtén was born in Finland in 1924. A professor at the University of Helsinki and one of Europe's leading paleontologists, he has worked extensively in Europe, Africa, and North America. Professor Kurtén has published several novels in Swedish and numerous books in English on mammals and the ice ages, among them *The Cave Bear Story*, *Not From the Apes*, and *The Ice Age*. He is a fellow of the Explorers Club and has held a lectureship in zoology at Harvard University.

Jacket illustration and design by Wendell Minor

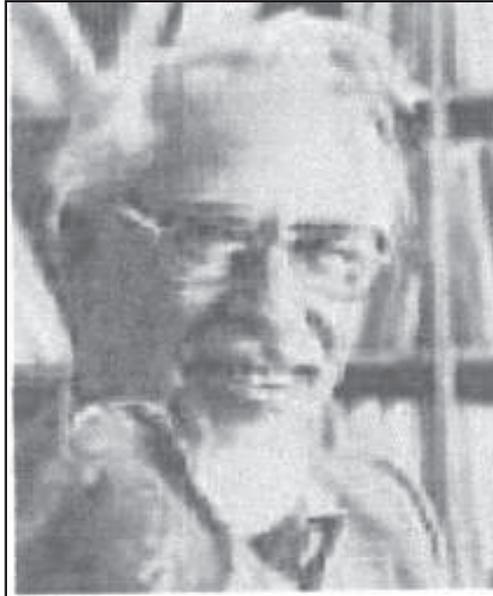
---

Source : <http://www.trussel.com/Prehist/tiger.htm>

---

□

## Powell's Books - Dance of the Tiger by Björn Kurtén



### Synopses & Reviews

#### **Publisher Comments:**

Bjorn Kurtén's compelling novel gives the reader a detailed picture of life 35,000 years ago in Western Europe. One of the world's leading scholars of Ice Age fauna, Kurtén fuses extraordinary knowledge and imagination in this vivid evocation of our deepest past. This novel illuminates the lives of the humans who left us magnificent paintings in the caves of France and Spain.

#### **Review:**

"A vivid account of the life of our ancestors that brings alive the richness of our prehistoric heritage. All too often the informed imagination of prehistorians is kept from the general public. 'Dance of the Tiger' is an exciting departure."

*\* Richard Leakey*

## BOOK REVIEW

### How to Deep Freeze a Mammoth

by

### Björn Kurtén

**“ I find it a pleasure to read Bjorn Kurten, a world authority on Ice Age mammals, ranging widely through the earth sciences in the series of essays. It seems likely that we will have to clone DNA to get slices of edible deep-frozen mammoth tissue, but Kurten has dined on an extinct bison. Man is greater than a star, but a bacterium is also greater than a star – after all, bacteria evolved into man. The immense Mediterranean Flood is a million years too old for the Flood legend, leaving the ten-thousand-year-old melting of ice sheets as the source of aboriginal fireside tales of an endless invasion by the sea. In a cliff of basalt in Washington state is a mold of a twenty-million-year-old rhino, into which one can walk to become a modern-day Jonah (if you would settle for a rhino, and enter from the other end). It is Stephen Jay Gould vs. Teilhard in the Piltdown fraud. And you can forget the simpleminded ancient theory that Cro-Magnon cave art was magic for good hunting-it was for instruction and enjoyment.””**

**- Uri Lanham, Professor of Natural History and Curator in the Museum, University of Colorado**

How does bison meat taste after being frozen for 30,000 years? Were Ice Age cave painters trying to create “art” or just record history? How did ancient oil spills occur, before there were oil companies to create them? Those are just some of the questions renowned paleontologist Bjorn Kurten answers in this collection of lighthearted essays on fossils, ancient life, and related topics. Written for the general reader, these lively pieces range from a look

at how scientific theories are created to some new view: of old myths. Among the topics Kurten examines are the history of the Mediterranean Sea, the origin of birds, the theory of plate tectonics (continental drift), and the discovery of Piltdown Man, the “missing link” fossil forgery that fooled scientists for more than 40 years.

And, true to its title, the book offers humorous “recipe” for freezing a mammoth that is tundra-tested, if not totally foolproof. “You may have to expend a few hundred mammoths before everything works out,” the reader is cautioned, “But there are plenty of them.” (Although the author hasn’t tasted the fruits of his mammoth recipe, he did feast on some ancient bison meat that dated from 30,000 years ago. Kurten described the taste as “agreeable.”)

Throughout these essays Kurten brings the prehistoric world alive with enthusiasm and humor, emphasizing that paleontology is the study of those that lived long ago instead of those who are long dead. As he says, “Isn’t it more fun to see a dinosaur as something that used to live, rather than as the monstrous heap of bones which it happens to be at present?”

#### About the Author

Bjorn Kurten is known around the world for his research and his writing, both fiction and nonfiction. A Professor of Paleontology at the University—Helsinki since 1955, he is the author of six books which have been translated into more than half a dozen languages. His books available in English include *The Age of Mammals*, *The Cave Bear Story*, and the forthcoming *On Evolution and Fossil Mammals*, all published by Columbia University Press.

□

## On Evolution and Fossil Mammals Björn Kurtén

The research of Björn Kurtén, one of the most distinguished vertebrate paleontologists in the world, has yielded many milestones in paleontology over the years. His innovative articles on evolution, paleoecology, biogeography, and fossil mammals are still eagerly sought by students despite the fact that many of them are out of print or otherwise difficult to obtain. *On Evolution and Fossil Mammals* assembles Kurtén's seminal papers in one volume, not only making them available once again but at the same time presenting a number of concepts and methodological innovations as they were first conceived. In some cases, Kurtén follows later development of these ideas. The articles, most of which focus on evolutionary problems at the population and species level, include a number of "firsts" in paleontology: the first application of Life Table treatment on mortality and survival of fossil mammals, the first study of allometry in mammalian dentitions, the first study of selection by different survival in fossil mammals, and the first application of the half life Concerning to animals.

### About the Author

Björn Kurtén is Professor of Paleontology at the University of Helsinki. His previous books include *The Age of Mammals*, *The Cave Bear Story*, and the recent *How to Deep Freeze a Mammoth*, all published by Columbia University Press.



## BOOK REVIEW

### BEFORE THE INDIANS

by

**Björn Kurtén**

<b>Category</b>	:	Evolution Science
<b>ISBN</b>	:	0231065833
<b>Published</b>	:	Columbia University Press
<b>Pages</b>	:	158
<b>Binding</b>	:	Paperback
<b>Dimensions</b>	:	63.00 L x 52.50 W x 1.50 H
<b>Weight</b>	:	6.90 lbs

We do not know for sure when the first men appeared in America. What we do know is that vigorous people called Paleoindians flourished here at the end of the Ice Age, in the last millennia before the great transition of 10,000 years ago when the great ice sheets that had covered the northern part of the continent were finally vanishing. The Paleoindians are regarded as the ancestors of today's Indians.

## THE ENCOUNTER

The Finn Björn Kurtén (1924-1989), teacher of paleontology near the university of Helsinki from 1972 to 1988, has been, with to Geoge G. Simpson, the founding father of the scientific movement that he traced in numerous give paleontological consisting confirmations to the evolutionary theory of Darwin. In its studies Kurtén has always shown a great attention to the aspects paleoecologi and this aspect of its search has concurred to it to reconstruct with great precision the flora and the fauna of the past and their mutual interactions. Its more meaningful scientific works are: *Variation and dynamics of the populations of fossil and recent mammals* (1953), *the mammals of the Pleistocene in Europe* (1968) *the mammals of the Pleistocene in North America* (1980), *Evolution and fossils of mammals* (1988). In the 1988 it came attributed to the Unesco Kalinga Prize, conferred prize to it to the scientists who have distinguished themselves for spreading works: in this field, its production has been numerous: *The age of dinosauri* (1976), *the age of Mammals* (1972), *History of the Bear of cavern* and (1976), *murders innocent* (1991), *our antichi ancestors* (1993).

Kurtén has been moderate also with two beautiful novels acclimatizes to you in lands of the North of 30000 years ago. It we danced of the tiger and single Zanna [the]

### Weft and comment

The two volumes constitute one risen of saga familiar worthy of the best Nordic tradition; they narrate the daily life in Scandinavia of the south wrapped from the ice, of a clan of Black, than autodefiniscono Men, the Cro-Magnon, and of a group of Neandertaliani white men. These last ones collect

a Black young person the wounded, Tiger, and they cure it with affection and dedication, ;seeing in he and its similar personages similar to of i, for their elegant aspect, while Tiger, in its turn, slowly remains fascinated from their dolcezza, i masked kind ways from an aspect in feracious appearance. From the encounter of the two populations the strong ones are born Tawny, intelligent, agile and, but it marks to you from an unfortunate destiny; some of they will try deprived of hope a how much turned vain that it will carry alone mournings.

The two books are in the first place novels from the fascinating weft, but great part of their fascination is closely legacy to the ability to the author to completely describe with effectiveness a world scomparso and in giving back new life to the mammoth, to the tiger from the sabre teeth, to the giant elk and all the innumerevoli inhabitants animals and vegetables of the forests and steppes of the Paleolitico. Black and the Troll is sweet or violet, loving faithfuls or volubili, try scorciatoie for the happiness or they are folded to the sacrifice for the others, have cure of the small and the old ones or brutally kill for stupidity or ingordigia, they fear of or if of it they make pranks, they try the power or the small happiness tied to the daily paper. Those men, insomma, although many more dependent from the natural events, we are, for better or for worse, their needs and their desires are ours.

Kurtén – and for who this is taken care of Natural Sciences is the more interesting part of the two books it uses its acquaintances in order to recreate a history that, although confirmed from evidences it does not experience them, turns out credible on the scientific plan. To the ends of possible uses

didactic in two novels they are present contained and arguments of certain relief.

- Advanced E' an extraordinary reconstruction of the men of the Paleolitico, that it can usefully be put to I compare with tests of scientific spreading on the argument and that can incuriosire the reader much to push it to deepen acquaintances on our origins. In two novels the neandertaliani White men are described like very adapt you to the cold climate of the countries of the north, since they live they give along time in Europe and have been subject to the natural selection that has rewarded the individuals of clear complexion, with large boneses and very vascolarizzate; they have the powerful physicist, strong arched sopraciliari, wide face, movements discs of a valve and measured; in spite of their language the particular conformation of the structures is sgraziato, because of deputies to the phonation, is kind and accommodates them: they carry names of plants – Bay, Silver birch, Centaurea, Angelic to indicate their way to maintain itself in contact with the spirits of the vegetables: they live in small mostly sedentary groups and introduce a social organization matriarcale due also to a negligible sexual dimorfismo. To they time, the Cro-Magnon, lands you to the North recently, but coming from from the sunny regions of the South, instead they are described black, high, agile, from the aggraziati features of the face; "... they have a language as well as varied and flexible how much the song of the birds: ; they live in small associations to patriarcale organization (in they the sexual dimorfismo is marked); the men procurano the game, manufacture instruments for the hunting and the peach, trade in selci, pellicce and ivory with the near groups, with which anniversaries are met during great gatherings: they carve stones and the wood, producing objects of exquisite invoice for rituali scopes or pure appeal to aesthetic; their women abrade the skins, cuciono indumenta, cook and conserve the animals capacities to the encampment; they have names of animals capacities to the encampment; they have names of animals Tiger, Oriolo, Martora-, try to comprise the wish of the Guardiani through the signs that these send through the wind, the fog, the flight of the birds; they know the existence of the Troll and they fear them.
- The evolutionary meant one of the neotenia is cleared and is emphasized its importance for asserting itself of the cures ancestral celebrations in the mammals and (in the novel) for the sexual choices operated from the white men.
- The genetic meant one of vigor of the hybrids is brought to light: the Tawny ones, been born from the wedding of the white men with the Black ones are strong, agile, intelligent and survive to the infantile diseases that decimate the other children are of the tribe of the White men who of that one of the Black ones.
- It is cleared like the sexual dimorfismo, enunciated in Black, the little marked one in the White men, can be one of the reasons of the various organization of animals (or men) that they live in society
- The crossing between the two populations is used in order to speak about sterility of the hybrids. In this context a hypothesis intriguing, even if not suffragata is advanced from the facts, approximately the extinction of the Neandertaliani :
  - In the encampments of the Neandertaliani the neandertaliane women prefer to conceive Black sons with, than risvegliano the their feelings of tenderness, but from the wedding the sterile ones are born Tawny, intelligent, vigorous, nevertheless and therefore "died living"

---

## Glossary on Kalinga Prize Laureates

- In the encampments of Black the union between black women and Neandertalians it is not tolerated and however Black alters they are not felt attracted from the White men.
- They exemplify behavioural, present modules to you in all the social animals, actions to reassure with – specific, from which deepening in etologia can come down: “Therefore terrible they were the eyes of the White men, that it had become for them a sign of deference for a moment to pass to the hands on the ace, hiding the luccichio of pupille and truce the threat of the sopracciglia”:
- Unforgettable battles are recreated, like that one between the mammoths and the tiger:
- Introduced E’ one extraordinary reconstruction of geology of lands of the North, tightened in the vice of the ice:
- Events are introduced, like a first bankrupt attempt of domesticazione of animals similar to the caribù, or the use of berries in order to produce alcoholic drinks, that they are credible and sure they happened, with similar mechanisms, even if in age much successive one.
- E’ finally represented in skillful way the tension of the artist who tries to fix in the wood or on one cliff the images of animals

Kurtén proposes one completely new elaboration of our evolutionary history.

The sgraziati men of Neandertal, than in the imaginary collective remain associate to you to beastly and stupid shapes, they were in perfectly human truths: they had an ability to enviable control on the territory, cured their old small and (what of the rest testified from fossil rests of old seriously disables to you); they were therefore similar to our directed ancestors, the Cro-Magnon. These last ones, than in two novels have the faces with the first characteristic features of the modern man, they were undoubtedly in a position to constructing more sophisticated instruments and they were opened to the art, leaving us the enigmatic ones to us it frescoes that in many you leave of the old continent gives testimony to us of their civilization, but do not appear best, the most intelligent, most skillful or most ferocious ones, as many have assumed; they are simply the survivors in the eternal game of the possible ones that not necessarily it rewards the most adapted in absolute.

The two stories teach to us also as the man from always has feared the various one, for skin, habits or religious creed and as only its acquaintance can placare the diffidenza and bring to light the likenesses. Under this aspect, the Finn Björn Kurtén, aim poet who made of profession the paleontologist, while he traced an unforgettable reconstruction of our roots, gave us one history on which continuing to reflect.

□



## *Björn Kurtén Club*

### **What is the Björn Kurtén Club ?**

The Björn Kurtén Club was founded originally by Mikael Fortelius on 1997. The original intention and activities back then were very similar to the present form and functions of the Club. In the beginning members included mainly PhD-students and focus was on free discussions and dialogue. The main goal was to promote the togetherness among palaeontologists and to discuss various matters related to palaeontology. Special lectures by visiting scientists were part of the program from the beginning. Among visitors who have given a presentation in the Björn Kurtén Club are Sir Nicholas Shackleton, Adrian Lister, Friedrich Steiningger and Christine Janis.

The Club activities were on the low side in the beginning of the new millennium. The kick-start for the new active club was during the autumn of 2002, when Pirkko Ukkonen and Jussi Eronen convened the active researchers and students to discuss about the current state of palaeontology. The group decided to reincarnate the Björn Kurtén Club and enlarge the activities to include everybody interested about palaeontology. This was also visible in the activities during 2002-2004. The activities were many and diverse, and special importance was put on making the club more accessible for young students.

Since 2006 the club has again reformed itself. Nowadays we have regular meetings with presentations, and the meetings are also a platform for informal supervision of M.Sc and PhD students, where it is possible to get advice, guidance and peer-support. The focus is on regular meetings, but from time to time we organize short excursions. The

Björn Kurtén Club also offers a platform and forum for special lectures of visiting scientists.

The best way to keep up with club activities is to join the Kurtén – club mailing list. This can be done by sending message subscribe Kurten-klubi [your.email@address](mailto:your.email@address) to majordomo(at) helsinki.fi.

The fundamental purpose of the club has remained the same and will be preserved. We aspire to act as a connective link for all people interested in paleontology. Our activities should be educational but at the same time they should be fun! We also try to include as many aspects of science as possible to achieve this aim to the fullest. Because some of the members are foreigners, the main language of the club is English. Most of the active members are university students or researchers, but we are an open society. **Everybody interested is welcome!**

---

- Jussi Eronen

---

### **Who was Björn Kurtén ?**

Björn Kurtén (1924-1988) was Finnish citizen, renowned at home and abroad from his novels and his palaeontological work. He was award-winning both as a writer and as a scientist, and held a personal professorship in palaeontology at the University of Helsinki from 1972 until 1988.

He became internationally known in the 1950's by applying the new quantitative methods to fossil material. These methods were based on population ecology of "Modern Synthesis" in biology. A good example of his novel approach to fossil material is

---

---

## Glossary on Kalinga Prize Laureates

the title his PhD thesis: “On the variation and population dynamics of fossil and recent mammal populations” (Acta Zoologica Fennica 76). Kurtén’s own research focused mainly on carnivorous mammals, especially on bears, and later also on hyenas.

Kurtén was also, and perhaps foremost, a writer; he wrote his first novel in his late teens, and during his life produced vast amount of scientific publications and literature. He wrote both in English and in Swedish, and his writings have been translated at least to fifteen different languages. His most well-known works are *Pleistocene Mammals of Europe*, *The Age of Mammals*, *The Ice Age*, *The Cave Bear Story and Pleistocene Mammals of North America* (monographs), *Not from the Apes*, *How to*

*Deep-Freeze a Mammoth and Innocent Killers* (collected essays), and novels *Dance of the Tiger and Singletusk*

Kurtén said that he chose palaeontology after the second World War because he did not want to do anything “useful”, and later he referred to the beauty of fossils as an inspiration to work. About working in a country almost devoid of fossils he commented that only those who must travel to see fossils will understand the whole picture.

The Björn Kurtén – Club bears his name as a reminder that it is possible to practice world-class palaeontology even in Finland.

---

Mikael Fortelius

---



## Marina Kurtén, MA, Translator

[ Daughter of Björn Kurtén ]

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE  
UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI

---

### Contact information



- Mail address  
University of Helsinki  
Department of Computer Science  
PO Box 68  
FIN-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland
- Street address: Gustaf Hällströmin katu 2b, room D241
- E-mail address: [marina.Kurten@cs.Helsinki.FI](mailto:marina.Kurten@cs.Helsinki.FI)
- Phone : +358 9 191 51388
- Fax: +358 9 191 51120
- Mobile: +358 50 380 9451

---

### Responsibilities

- **Translation and language consultation (English, Swedish)**

If you need my assistance with translation or language checking, please read the recommendations for handing in jobs to me. That page also contains a list of some common errors and other observations.

---

### Absences

- 4-31 July On holiday
- 1-14 August On leave

---

### Research Interests

Though, at the moment, I'm working at the Helsinki University Computer Science Department, I'm a Master of Arts, and I majored in English philology. My research interests lie in so-called 'new literatures in English,' which includes immigrant literature, literature from the peripheries of the former British empire, and literature by indigenous peoples. I wrote my Master's thesis on Hanif Kureishi's novels *The Buddha of Suburbia* and *The Black Album* with Mark A Reid's Postnegritude theory as starting point. I am a postgraduate PhD student at the Helsinki University Department of English, and a member of the research group *Cross-cultural Contracts: Diaspora Writing in English*. It is headed by Mari Peepre, Professor in Postcolonial Studies at Royal Roads University, Canada, and Professor Mark Shackleton at the Helsinki University English Department

During autumn 2001, I was working on my PhD thesis with the help of a grant from the Swedish Culture Foundation.

---

---

## Glossary on Kalinga Prize Laureates

In addition to my day-job, I also do some freelance translation; from Finnish to Swedish, from Finnish to English, and from Swedish to English to Swedish (whew!). I recently translated a short story by the Finlandia Prize winner, Johanna Sinisalo, from Finnish (Lentävä hollantilainen) into Swedish (Den flygande holländaren). It was published in the sci-fi magazine Enhörningen (the Unicorn) in Summer 2003. Recently, I completed another translation for the same magazine, a horror story by Boris Hurttä called Perilliset (Arvtagarna in my translation). It will be published in Summer 2004.

---

### Personal

---

#### Björn Kurtén

---

Links to some pages about my father:

- Short bio and select bibliography (in English, though not very good English)
- A review of his novel Dance of the Tiger
- Columbia University Press presenting On Evolution and Fossil Mammals and How to Deep-Freeze a Mammoth and more under Paleontology
- A list of Unesco Kalinga Prize winners
- Current news: the Spanish language edition of Dance of the Tiger (La danza del tigre) has been published in Spain by PLOT Ediciones in Spring 2001. They are also interested in adapting the novel to film. The translation of the follow-up, Singletusk, into Spanish is under way.

### Interests

---

- Literature (surprise, surprise!); everything goes, as long as it gives food for thought or a sense of experiencing something new
- Theatre (Shakespeare as well as Stoppard, not to forget Beckett or Brecht)
- Cats. I have two of them, barnyard cats or moggies; Frank, the gorgeous black and white (tuxedo) ex-tomcat who is the kindest cat alive, except at five in the morning when he wants his breakfast, and Nikko, the tiny girl, also black and white, who is a virtual wolf in lamb's clothing (she once showed a pitbullterrier where he could stuff it). See some pics of Frank, Nikki, various other cats I know, and a friendly elk.
- Please see Flippy's Cat Page if you want to read some anecdotes I've written about my and other people's cats.
- Music too, but I'm not listing everything I like, let's just say it's a wide range from classical to contemporary.
- Semiotics – I've taken several university courses in it, and each lecturer gives a new definition of it, so I'm intrigued, especially since most of them agree it's about creating meaning
- The Great Outdoors. First and foremost at our summer cottage on an island in Hitis, in the archipelago of SW Finland.

### Home

---

Tilanhoitajankaari (Förvaltarbågen) 4 A 14  
FIN-00710 Helsinki (Helsingfors), Finland  
Phone +358 9 222 5064



## Björn Kurtén

### Amazon.com: Books Search Results:

1. **Dance of the Tiger : A Novel of the Ice Age** by Bjorn Kurten (Paperback-September 1, 1995) Avg. Customer Rating : Other Editions : Hardcover  
List Price : \$18.95  
Buy new : \$18.95  
Used & new from \$3.98
2. **Before the Indians** by Bjorn Kurten, et al (Paperback – April 15, 1996)  
Avg. Customer Rating: Other Editions : Hardcover  
List Price :\$28.50  
Buy new : \$28.50
3. **Singletusk** by Bjorn Kurten  
Other Editions : Hardcover  
Used & new from \$1.79
4. **Pleistocene Mammals of North America** by Bjorn Kurten, Elaine Anderson (Hardcover – October 15, 1980)  
Avg. Customer Rating:  
List Price : \$136.50  
Buy new : \$136.50
5. **The Cave Bear Story** by Bjorn Kurten (Paperback – April 15, 1995)  
Other Editions : Hardcover  
List Price : \$19.00  
Buy new : \$19.00
6. **How to Deep Freeze a Mammoth** by Bjorn Kurten (Hardcover-April 15, 1986)  
List Price : \$36.00  
Buy new : \$36.00  
Used & new from \$1.96
7. **Dance of the tiger : A novel of the Ice Age** by Björn Kurté (Paperback – 1987)  
Used & new from \$7.99
8. **Den svarta tigern** by Björn Kurté  
Used & news from \$29.98
9. **The Age of Dinosaurs**, by Bjorn. KurtEn  
Used & new from \$0.75
10. **Not From the Apes** by Bjorn Kurten (Paperback-October 15, 1984) Other Editions: Paper back  
List Price : \$25.00  
Buy new : \$25.00  
Used & new from \$2.90
11. **The Age of Dinosaurs.** By Bjorn. KurtEn  
Used & new from \$0.75
12. **The Ice Age** by Björn Kurtén  
Other Editions : Hardcover  
Used & new from \$190.13
13. **Not from the Apes: A History of Man's Origin and Evolution** by Bjorn Kurten (Hardcover – June 1, 1982) Avg. Customer Rating :  
List Price : \$24.00  
Buy new : \$24.00  
Used & new from \$2.15
14. **On Evolution and Fossil Mammals** by Bjorn Kurten (Hardcover – April 15, 1988)  
List Price : \$86.00  
Buy new : \$86.00  
Used & new from \$36.95
15. **Our Earliest Ancestors** by Bjorn Kurten, et al (Hardcover – October 15, 1993)  
List Price : \$35.50  
Buy new : \$35.50  
Used & new from \$1.40
16. **The Innocent Assassins** by Bjorn Kurten, Viking Nystrom (Hardcover – April 15, 1991)

---

---

## Glossary on Kalinga Prize Laureates

List Price : \$25.50

Buy new : \$25.50

Used & new from \$3.70

17. **A history of coyote-like dogs (Canidae, Mammalia) (Acta zoologica Fennica)** by Björn Kurtén
18. **63 förstenade hjärtan** by Björn Kurtén
19. **A late- glacial find of Arctic fox (Alopex lagopus L.) from southwestern Finland (Societas Scientiarum Fennica. Commentationes biologicae)** by Björn Kurtén
20. **Pleistocene mammals of Europe** by Björn Kurtén
21. **Mammutens råhare: En roman om istiden** by Björn Kurtén
22. **The age of dinosaurs (World university library)** by Björn Kurtén
23. **Pleistocene mammals of Europe** by Björn Kurtén
24. **Time and hominid brain size (Commentationes biologicae)** by Björn Kurtén
25. **The Neogene wolverine Plesiogulo and the origin of Gulo (carnivora, mammalia) (Actazoologica Fennica)** by Björn Kurtén
26. **The genus Dinofelis (Carnivora, Mammalia) in the blanchet of North America (The Pearce-Sellards series, no. 19)**

### Best Book Buys

1. **Dance of the Tiger: A Novel of the Ice Age** by Björn Kurtén  
Paperback, University of California Press (January 1995)

List Price : \$18.95

2. **The Age of Mammals** by Bjorn Kurten  
Book, Columbia University Press (January 1972)
3. **On Evolution and Fossil Mammals** by Bjorn Kurten  
Hardcover, Columbia Univ Pr (January 1988)  
List Price : \$78.00
4. **Before the Indians** by Bjorn Kurten, Hubert Pepper (illustrator), Margaret Lambert Newman (illustrator)  
Paperback, Columbia Univ Pr (September 1996)  
List Price : \$25.50
5. **Our Earliest Ancestors** by Bjorn Kurten, Viking Nystrom (illustrator), Erik J. Froos (Translator)  
Hardcover, Columbia Univ Pr (September 1993)  
List Price : \$32.00
6. **Pleistocene Mammals of North America** by Bjorn Kurten, Elaine Anderson  
Hardcover, Columbia Univ Pr (August 1987)  
List Price : \$125.00
7. **How to Deep Freeze a Mammoth** by Bjorn Kurten  
Hardcover, Columbia Univ Pr (July 1986) List Price : \$32.50
8. **Not from the Apes** by Bjorn Kurten Book, Vintage Books (January 1972)
9. **Mammutens Radare : En Roman Om Istiden (Swedish)** by Bjorn Kurten Book, Alba (January 1984)
10. **Not from the Apes: A History of Man's Origin and Evolution** by Bjorn Kurten  
Hardcover, Ardent Media Ince (June 1982)  
List Price : \$24.00

---

---

## Glossary on Kalinga Prize Laureates

11. **Singletusk: A Novel of the Ice Age** by Bjorn Kurten  
Paperback, Chivers North Amer (June 1988)  
List Price : \$18.95
12. **The Innocent Assassins: Biological Essays on Life in the Present and Distant Past** by Bjorn Kurten, Viking Nystrom (illustrator)  
Hardcover , Columbia Univ Pr (April 1991)  
List Price : \$28.50
13. **The Ice Age** by Bjorn Kurten
14. **Vara aldsta Forfader (Swedish)** by Bjorn Kurten Book, Liber (January 1986)
15. **Bears and Bear-Dogs from the Vallesian of the Valles – Penedes Basin, Spain** by Miguel Crusafont Pairo, Bjorn Kurten  
Book, Societas pro Fauna et Flora Fennica (January 1976)
16. **Den Svarta Tigern (Swedish)** by Bjorn Kurten  
Book, Alba (January 1978)
17. **63 Forstenade Hjartan (Swedish)** by Bjorn Kurten  
Book, Alba (January 1980)
18. **The Cave Bear Story : Life and Death of a Vanished Animal** by Bjorn Kurten  
Paperback, Columbia Univ Pr (September 1995)  
List Price : \$17.00
2. **Cave Bear Story : Life and Death of a Vanished Animal**  
ISBN : 0231103611-Paperback – List Price : \$19.00  
Publisher Columbia Univ Pr – Published Date: 09/01/1995- Paperback  
Author : Bjorn Kurten
3. **Dance of the Tiger : A Novel of the Ice Age**  
ISBN : 0520202776 – Paperback – List Price :\$18.95  
Publisher : Univ of California Pr – Published Date: 09/01/1995 – Paperback  
Author : Bjorn Kurten
4. **How to Deep Freeze a Mammoth**  
ISBN : 0231059787 – Hardcover – List Price :\$36.00  
Publisher: Columbia Univ Pr – Published Date : 07/01/1986 – Hardcover  
Author : Bjorn Kurten
5. **Innocent Assassins: Biological Essays on Life in the Present and Distant Past**  
ISBN : 0231072767 – Hardcover – List Price :\$31.50  
Publisher : Columbia Univ Pr – Published Date: 04/01/1991-Hardcover  
Author : Bjorn Kurten  
Illustrator : Viking Nystrom
6. **Not from the Apes**  
ISBN : 0231058152 – Paperback – List Price :\$25.00  
Publisher : Columbia Univ Pr – Published Date: 07/01/1984 – Paper back  
Author: Bjorn Kurten
7. **Not from the Apes : A History of Man’s Origin of Evolution**  
ISBN : 0394471237 – Hardcover – List Price : \$24.00  
Publisher : Ardent Media Inc – Published Date : 06/01/1982 – Hardcover  
Author : Bjorn Kurten

### Bjorn Kurten

1. **Before the Indians**  
ISBN : 0231065833 – Paperback – List Price : \$28.50  
Publisher: Columbia Univ Pr – Published Date : 09/01/1996 – Paperback  
Author : Bjorn Kurten  
Illustrator : Hubert Pepper  
Illustrator : Margaret Lambert Newman

**8. On Evolution and Fossil Mammals**

ISBN : 0231058683 – Hardcover – List Price : \$86.00

Publisher : Columbia Univ Pr – Published Date : 01/01/1988 – Hardcover

Author: Bjorn Kurten

**9. Our Earliest Ancestors**

ISBN : 0231080611 – Hardcover – List Price : \$35.50

Publisher : Columbia Univ Pr- Published Date : 09/01/1993-Hardcover

Author : Bjorn Kurten

Illustrator : Viking Nystrom

Translator : Erik J. Froos

**10. Pleistocene Mammals of North America**

ISBN : 0231037333-Hardcover – List Price : \$136.50

Publisher : Columbia Univ Pr – Published Date : 08/01/1987 – Hardcover

Author : Bjorn Kurten

Author : Elaine Anderson

- 8776. **Kurten, B.** Observations on Allometry in Mammalian Dentitions; Its Interpretations and Evolutionary Significance. Helsingfors, 1954, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 85 : 1-13, 4 figures. Printed wraps, minor edge wear and bumping, text in very good uncut condition. Rarely seen, high quality, technical publication, in English. **\$15.00**

- 32486. **Kurten, B.** The Type Collection of *Ictitherium Robustum* (Gervais, ex Nordmann) and the Radiation of the Ictitheres. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1954, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 86 : 1-26, 14 figures. Printed wraps, uncut text, very good condition. In English. **\$10.00**

- 8800. **Kurten, B.** Article on Sex Dimorphism and Size Trends in the Cave Bear, *Ursus spelaeus* Rosenmuller and Heinroth plus two other articles. Helsingfors, 1955, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 88-90 : 1-48, 10 figures and 8 tables plus 103 other pages. Printed wraps, minor edge wear and bumping, text in very good condition. Rarely seen, high quality, technical publication, with Kurten article in English. **\$24.00**

- 8804. **Kurten, B.** Life and Death of the Pleistocene Cave Bear plus two other articles. Helsingfors, 1958, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 94-96: 59, 8 figures and 17 tables, plus 65 pages of additional text. Printed wraps, minor edge wear and bumping, text in very good condition. Rarely seen, high quality, technical publication, with Kurten article in English. **\$30.00**

- 32491. **Osterholm, H.** The Significans of Distance Receptors in the Feeding Behavior of the Fox, *Vulpes vulpes* L.. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1964, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 106 : 1-31, 11 figures. Printed wraps, very good condition. In English. **\$9.00**

## Paleo Publications

### Acta Zoologica Fennica

- 8780. **Kurten, B.** On the Variation and Populations Dynamics of Fossil and Recent Mammal Populations. Helsingfors, 1953, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 76 : 1-122, 37 figures and 26 tables. Printed wraps, minor edge wear and bumping, text in very good uncut condition. Rarely seen, high quality, technical publication, in English. **\$30.00**
- 32488. **Acta Zoologica Fennica.** Contains articles on Lepidoptera of Newfoundland, Genus *Emberiza*, Allometry in Mammalian Dentitions by Bjorn Kurten, and *Ictitherium robustum* by Bjorn Kurten. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1954, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 82-86 : 1-80, 1-96, 1-110, 1-13, 1-26. Printed wraps, uncut text, very good condition. Bjorn Kurten articles in English. **\$35.00**

---

---

## Glossary on Kalinga Prize Laureates

- 32500. **Kurten, B.** The Evolution of the Polar Bear, *Ursus maritimus* Phipps. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1964, *Acta Zoologica Fennica*, 108: 1-30, 4 figures and 4 plates. Printed wraps, very good condition. In English. **\$20.00**
- 7884. **Kurten, B.** On the Evolution of the European Wild Cat, *Felis silvertris* Schreber. Helsingfors, 1965, *Acta Zoologica Fennica*, 111: 1:29, 9 figures, 4 tables, 3 plates. Printed wraps, minor edge wear and bumping, text in very good condition. Rarely seen, high quality, technical publication, in English **\$15.00**
- 32493. **Kurten, B.** The Carnivora of the Palestine Caves. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1965, *Acta Zoologica Fennica*, 107 : 1-74, 11 figures and 4 plates. Printed wraps, very good condition. In English. **\$30.00**
- 32545. **Higham, C.** Size Trends in Prehistoric European Domestic Fauna, and the Problem of Local Domestication. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1968, *Acta Zoologica Fennica*, 120 : 1-21, 6 figures. Printed wraps, very good condition. In English. **\$9.00**
- 7895. **Eriksen, B.G.** Rotifers from Two Tarns in Southern Finland, with a Description of a New Species, and a List of Rotifers Previously Found in Finland. Helsingfors, 1969, *Acta Zoologica Fennica*, 125 : 1-36, 13 figures. Printed wraps, minor edge wear and bumping, text in very good condition. Rarely seen, high quality, technical publication, in English. **\$15.00**
- 7897. **Anderson, E.** Quaternary Evolution of the Genus *Martes* (Carnivora, Mustelidae). Helsingfors, 1970, *Acta Zoologica Fennica*, 130 : 1-132, 51 figures and 31 tables. Printed wraps, very good condition. Rarely seen, high quality, technical publication, in English. **\$15.00**
- 7931. **Kurten, B.** The Neogene Wolverine *Plesiogulo* and the Origin of *Gulo* (Carnivora, Mammalia). Helsingfors, 1970, *Acta Zoologica Fennica*, 131 : 1-22, 8 figures. Printed wraps, minor edge wear and bumping, text in very good condition. Rarely seen, high quality, technical publications, in English. **\$15.00**
- 8809. **Forsten, A.M.** Variation in and Between Three Populations of *Meshippus bairdii* Leidy from the Big Badlands, South Dakota. Helsingfors, 1970, *Acta Zoologica Fennica*, 126 : 1-16, 1 figures and 5 tables. Printed wraps, minor edge wear and bumping, text in very good uncut condition. Rarely seen, high quality, technical publication, in English. **\$8.00**
- 32758. **Kurten, B.** A History of Coyote-Like Dogs (Canidae, Mammalia). Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1974, *Acta Zoologica Fennica*, 140 : 1-38, 8 figures and 7 tables. Printed wraps, very good condition. In English. **\$25.00**
- 7956. **Pairo, M.C. and Kurten, B.** Bears and Bear-Dogs from the Vallesian of the Valles-Penedes Basin, Spain. Helsingfors, 1976, *Acta Zoologica Fennica*, 144 : 1-29, 20 figures and 15 tables. Printed wraps, minor edge wear and bumping, text in very good condition. Rarely seen, high quality, technical publication, in English. **\$20.00**
- 32766. **Youngman, P.M.** Distribution and Systematics of the European Mink *Mustela lutreola* Linnaeus 1761. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1982, *Acta Zoologica Fennica*, 166 : 1-48, 27 figures and 25 tables. Printed wraps, very good condition. In English. **\$12.00**

---

## Glossary on Kalinga Prize Laureates

- 32846. **Acta Zoologica Fennica**. Proceedings of the Third International Theriological Congress, Helsinki 15-20 August 1982, I. Congress Report. Plenary Lectures. Final List of Participants. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1982, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 169 : 1-73. Printed wraps, very good condition. ; In English. **\$15.00**
- 32854. **Pullianen, E. et al.** Proceedings of the Third International Theriological Congress, Helsinki 15-20 August 1982, VI. Symposia on Lagomorphs, Beaver, Bear, Wolf and Mustelids. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1983, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 174 : 1-288. Printed wraps, very good condition. In English. **\$48.00**
- 32856. **Pullianen, E. et al.** Proceedings of the Third International Theriological Congress, Helsinki 15-20 August 1982, VII. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1983, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 175 : 1-187. Printed wraps, very good condition. In English. **\$35.00**
- 32850. **Erkinaro, E. et al.** Proceedings of the Third International Theriological Congress, Helsinki 15-20 August 1982, III. Structure and Function of Receptors. Control of Reproduction. Physiology. Ethology. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1984, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 171 : 1-311. Printed wraps, very good condition. In English. **\$50.00**
- 32852. **Jarvinen, O. et al.** Proceedings of the Third International Theriological Congress, Helsinki 15-20 August 1982, IV. Ecology. Management and Protection of Mammal Populations. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1984, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 172: 1-266. Printed wraps, very good condition. In English. **\$42.00**
- 7960. **Fortelius, M.** Ungulate Cheek Teeth: Development, Functional, and Evolutionary Interrelations. Helsingfors, 1985, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 180 : 1-76, 43 figures. Printed wraps, minor edge wear and bumping, text in very good condition. Rarely seen, high quality, technical publication, in english. **\$20.00**
- 32848. **Panelius, S. et al.** Proceedings of the Third International Congress, Helsinki 15-20 August 1982, II. Phylogeny and Speciation. Taxonomy and Zoography. Morphology. Museum Collections. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1985, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 17 : 1-245. Printed wraps, very good condition. In English. **\$40.00**
- 7965. **Forsten, A.M.** Chinese Fossil Horse of the Genus Equus. Helsingfors, 1986, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 181 : 1-40, 36 figures. Printed wraps, minor edge wear and bumping, text in very good condition. Rarely seen, high quality, technical publication, in english. **\$15.00**
- 32880. **Zakharov, V.M. and Graham, J.H.** Developmental Stability in Natural Populations. Societas Pro Fauna Et Flora Fennica, 1992, Acta Zoologica Fennica, 191 : 1-200. Printed wraps, very good condition. In English. **\$40.00**