

Dear ACS friends,

I just received the last issue of National Geographic that features an article worth reading: "The Birth of Religion". This text basically turns upside down our old way of constructing/conceiving the neolithic revolution that propelled humanity into its present day. The article summarizes the premises in this simple quote that precedes the article:

*"We used to think agriculture gave rise to cities and later to writing, art, and religion. Now the world's oldest temple suggests the urge to worship sparked civilization."*

Some of you may already know about Göbekli Tepe (the 11,600 year old temple in Turkey). After all, it's been under archeological excavation for 17 years. But then, many of you may not be aware of it (I was not). In any case, the images are stunning and the temple's existence (as well as the debatable speculations made in the article) put sacred space, spirituality and architecture/landscape architecture at the center of our evolution as species. The full article is available here:

<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2011/06/gobekli-tepe/mann-text>

Enjoy.

Thank you

Julio

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*"yield and overcome, bend and be straight"*