

© Wim van Binsbergen (2007) Mythological continuities between Ancient Egypt, the world of the Bible, Graeco-Roman Antiquity, selected other Old World literate civilisations, and sub-Saharan Africa

NC as attested on cosmogonic myths from sub-Saharan Africa in historical times	CITI	Ancient Egypt	Bible	Graeco-Roman Antiquity	selected other (only literate civilisations of the Old World, outside sub-Saharan Africa – for the point is to argue continuity between the mythologies of these civilisations, and sub-Saharan Africa)
1. The Separation of Heaven and Earth)	()	Nut and Geb separated by Shu	Genesis 1	Chaos [Kronos...]	Indra separated heaven and earth (Willis 1994:78) Panku 盘古, Chinese primal god, still venerated in S China by minorities Miao, Yoa and Li; from egg > open > heaven and earth, > Panku kept on growing, from his body parts all parts of the visible world were formed – (Willis 1994: 90) ; (especially belonging to SE minorities in China –this is a LATE myth, allegedly (Cotterell 1989: 147) Marduk, by cutting Tiamat in two, separates heaven and earth (Cotterell 1989: 126)
2. The Re-Connection between Heaven and Earth after Separation	VI	Horus and Set (Ladder); <i>imiu</i> portable shrine whose pole represents the celestial pole and whose leopard skin, the circumpolar stars; Stricker ([<i>Birth of Horus</i>]): it is the Supreme Being that causes pregnancy; the pharaoh as god; Geb's penis; the celestial cow; meteorite is sacred to phallic Min	Tower of Babel; Jacob's Ladder; ascend to heaven of Elija, of Jesus; Stricker, see under Ancient Egypt the king as God's anointed; Jesus as son of God; rainbow as sign of covenant; the devil as God's attorney (Hob; Jesus temptation in the desert)	Stricker, see under Ancient Egypt; Prometheus' theft of fire; Iris; Hephaestus; Heraclès' apotheosis; Heraclès with his club and lion's skin evocation of the celestial pole and the sun, and in general of the ubiquitous Luwe figure <i>sidēros</i> = (meteorite) iron Heraclès, and numerous others, as mortal children of Zeus and other gods Kronos separating Ouranos and Gaia so that her children can escape from her womb – Kronos pushes up the sky = Shu (Cotterell 1989: 151)	Indo-Iranian world, and Germanic Antiquity: Stricker, see under Ancient Egypt Heimdall is guardian of the Bifrost rainbow bridge that connects Asgard (the gods' dwelling) with the world of mortals (Nordic) after death one has to pass across a bridge between Earth and Heaven, and one is met by one's spiritual alter-ego (Iran)
3. What is in Heaven? Supreme Being; Lightning/Rain as Demiurge; and the Rainbow (Serpent)/Sun as Adversary	()	see my extensive discussion of trinites, mainly in the IE realm, with Dumézilian tripartite implications	Sem-Ham-Japhet (but this turns out not to be a genuine trinity, nor one to be interpreted in terms of this NC	see my extensive discussion of trinites, mainly in the IE realm, with Dumézilian tripartite implications Zeus wields lightning, thunderbolt, thunder 'sinews' Medeia as divine trickster Hephaestus/ Vulcan (fire-wielding blacksmith thrown from heaven); by their names Cyclopes are exponents of lightning (Arges= Bright; Brontes = Thunder: Stereopes = Lightning maker?), and they are the children of Ouranos (Heaven, ≈ Rainbow, Sun) and Gaia (Earth)	see my extensive discussion of trinites, mainly in the IE realm, with Dumézilian tripartite implications: thunder god causes flood from which Fu Xi 伏羲 and Nu 女娲 are the survivors (China) Odin wields lightning; Thor thunder (Nordic)
4. The Lightning Bird (and the World Egg)	I	Ptah; the Great Cackler lays the Cosmic Egg, out of which comes the Lotus, containing Thoht Thoht hatched the cosmic egg, from which four primal pairs emerged in the shape of frogs	Gen 1: 2 (God as bird over the Waters); dove at Jesus' baptism (Matt 3: 16f)	Zeus' Eagle; Leda as Swan from which Helen, Clytemnestra and the Dioscouri – Zeus as Swan; this egg implied to be the World Egg Orphic world egg, Phanes	Odin's Raven (Nordic) World Egg (Iran) World Egg (Japan) Vinata, mother of Aruna (Dawn), lays two eggs, Aruna comes from the broken egg hence only one side to his body (S. Asia) Luonnotar, daughter of Creation god, mated with bird and laid cosmic egg (Finland) N.B.: not all mythical birds are lightning birds; many (specially white aquatic ones) are associated with the First God, others with day/sun versus night Panku 盘古 from World Egg (S. China); Panku, Chinese primal god, still venerated in S China by minorities Miao, Yoa and Li; from egg > open > heaven and earth, > Pengu kept on growing, from his body parts all parts of the visible world were formed – EGG, SEPARATION (Willis 1994: 90) Finnish mythology: Luonnotar, daughter of the creation god, mated with bird, produced egg: from this egg: heaven, earth, sun, moon (Cotterell 1989: 217) Mot, lord of death, born from primal egg produced by Air and Chaos (Syro-Palestine); Mot (Canaan) lord of death, born from original egg from Air and Chaos; Ball is invited by Mot, dies in the underworld; Anat brings him back, killing Mot; ogre motif (Cotterell 1989: 223)

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5. The Mantis	II	one of the Ancient Egyptian shaman's familiars	locusts in Exod.; John and Jesus in the desert	messenger of the Muses	
6. Rescue from the Ogre	V	The Primal Waters Nut daily swallows and gives birth to the sun Re ^o determined to destroy humankind, but Isis intervenes Set locked Isis inside the weaving room in order to weave a shroud for Osiris, but she escapes Osiris lured into a coffin or coffin by Set; the vessel from which things are released (cf. Osiris) is related to ogre theme – but this vessel often turns out to be the earth	‘The wild and empty earth (Gen 1:2) Noah's Ark (Gen. 8); the vessel from which things are released (cf. Ark) is related to ogre theme – but this vessel often turns out to be the earth Jesus' descent into hell; Jesus (cf. Mary) as redeemer (Christian tradition)	1) ogre motif in the narrower sense: Apollo (cf. Artemis, Lēto) kills Python Herakles kills Kyklos Herakles kills Antaios father eats child: Kronos swallows his children of Gaia [or Rhea] Zeus / Athena (Zeus swallows pregnant Metis) Zeus / Dionysus (Zeus swallows pregnant Semele) mortals serving their children as meal to the gods – Thyestes, Sisyphus, etc 2) ogre motif in the derived sense: Chaos Ouranos' incessant mating with Gaia locks their children inside her womb, until Kronos separates them violently Zeus in Diktæan cave Hades Aeolus' bag of winds The forbidden box: Pandora Erichthonios and the daughter of Cecrops Adonis delivered from a tree = wooden encasement : his mother Myrthe had become a tree Arsinoo was shut up in a chest by her brothers after those slew Alkmaeon Odysseus, Heracles, Orpheus, descend into the underworld Helen was hidden in a cave by Proteus, while he sends her substitute to Troy! Selene (Moon) put her mortal lover Endymion to sleep in a cave Daedalus and Icarus escape from Minos' captivity [still to be integrated with the above:] descent into underworld by Odysseus and Heracles Helen was hidden in a cave [cave is also underworld motif] by Proteus, while he sends her substitute to Troy! [we may take the sea god Proteus as a trickster minor variant of Prometheus] all Ouranos' children were imprisoned in Gaia's belly (non-being, but also: subterranean origin; this is an old theme, also in Kabylia (Cotterell 1989: 117 cf. 109) ; also Kronos swallows his children at birth, in his turn – Endymion, eternal sleep in a cave (Cotterell 1989: 198) Zeus in Diktæan cave Athena born from Zeus' head; Dionysus born from Zeus' thigh	1) ogre motif in the narrower sense: --- 2) ogre motif in the derived sense: Inanna's descent into underworld (Sumer) Anat's descent into underworld (Syro-Palestine) Zuryan (time as Great Devourer); Mithras(s) emerged from rock with knife and torch (Iran; Roman Mithraism) escape boats build by Mesopotamian Flood heroes (Zusardra, Atrahasis, Utanapishtim (Sumer, Baby/onia) Mot (Canaan) lord of death, born from original egg from Air and Chaos; Baal is invited by Mot, dies in the underworld; Anat brings him back, killing Mot (Syro-Palestine) St Patrick gets rid of a snake by enticing it into a box and drowning it (Ireland) Ginnungegap chaos; Loki and his wife Sigun locked in a cave until Ragnarok Bluebeard (W. Europe) Maruts, born from shattered embryo, meant to remain in Didi's womb for a 100 years and become stronger than Indra; giant snake Vrtra (cf. Rainbow) swallowed Indra, but was gagged by the gods so that Indra (wielding the thunderbolt!) could jump out (S. Asia) Ogress mate of Avalokiteshvara (Tibet) Thunder god Lei Gong 雷公 locked in cage by the father of Fu Xi 伏羲 and Nu Wa 女媧; the children release him, receive a tooth from which an enormous gourd grows, father builds an iron boat in anticipation of the flood, but crashes, whereas the children survive in a the gourd (S.E. China) Sun goddess Amaterasu 天照 does not want to come out of the cave (inverted ogre rescue motif, Japan) [still to be integrated with the above:] descent into underworld by Inanna / Anat Loki locked up in a cave [cave is also underworld motif] (Cotterell 1989: 121) Mithras cult, killing of the bull in the cave Loki and his faithful wife Sigun were themselves locked in a cave until Ragnarok (Cotterell 1989: 239)
7. From the Mouth	VII	the world created by Re ^o 's or Amun's spitting or weeping			

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<p>8. The Stones</p> <p>(a) as symbolic of Earth</p> <p>NB: if the transcendence implied in (b) wears off, everything under (b) may also in practice be subsumed under (a)</p> <p>throughout sub-Saharan Africa there are places, usually marked by unusual rock formations, that are considered the site of cosmogony in the sense that there the original animals and people emerged from the Earth</p> <p>earth shrines invoke this cosmogony</p> <p>(b) celestial, as symbolic of the Re-connection of Heaven and Earth</p> <p>cosmogonic sites where animals, people, implements, seeds etc. are claimed to have falling down from heaven</p> <p>thunderstones and rainstones, also in the form of (double) axes, also in West and East Africa, associated with creator god Nyam(b)ye or thunder god Shango; stone altars; mills and grinding stones as evocations of the celestial revolution and the celestial axis; divination tablets and other apparatus for cleromantic divination with implicit connotations of rainstones; mankala boardgame counters reminiscent of grains or raindrops; cf. bored stones, especially in Southern Africa, which (although later venerated) likewise were implements (digging-stick weights) ; stone knives of circumcission explicitly singled out (e.g. Kuba cosmogonic myth) as thrown from heaven; stone heaps feature as shrines for the demiurge, from Namibia (Heitsi Eibib) to West Africa (Sigui)</p>	<p>(a) as symbolic of Earth</p> <p>NB: if the transcendence implied in (b) wears off, everything under (b) may also in practice be subsumed under (a)</p> <p>Moses (cf. Indra) liberates water from the rock (cf. Vritra) stoning as standard execution form</p> <p>(b) celestial, as symbolic of the Re-connection of Heaven and Earth</p> <p>Bethel as place of incubation and worship (Jacob's dream) other instances of <i>bethyls</i></p> <p>altars made of earth and later especially stone, both for the cult of Yahweh and for the cults of Ba'al, Ashtaré, etc.</p> <p>mills and grinding stones as evocations of the celestial revolution and the celestial axis</p> <p>the stone knife of circumcission sacred boundary stones</p>	<p>(a) as symbolic of Earth</p> <p>NB: if the transcendence implied in (b) wears off, everything under (b) may also in practice be subsumed under (a)</p> <p>Queen Omphale (Earth) owner of Herakles (celestial pole, demiurge) as slave; she also owned a dragonstones which made her omniscient (just like Gaia/Gē is the major divinatory power in the Ancient Aegean)</p> <p>Sisyphus vainly rolling his stone upward in punishment as a reminder that he betrayed (b) and is enslaved to (a)</p> <p>oracular gods as transformations of the original source of all knowledge, Earth</p> <p>Black Stone, aniconic for Aphrodite of Paphos, as Great Mother Earth</p> <p>Rhea, Gaia, giving birth to (children disguised as swaddled) stones</p> <p>Medusa's stony eye for divination</p> <p>Persus turns Atlas into stone: the mountain range of that name</p> <p>Lapiths as stone people, representing the Land in absolute distinction from ('violent battle with') the Primal Waters = Centaurs (cf. their horselike connotations, cf. Poseidon)</p> <p>(b) celestial, as symbolic of the Re-connection of Heaven and Earth</p> <p>Sisyphus vainly rolling his stone upward in punishment as a reminder that he betrayed (b) and is enslaved to (a)</p> <p>Uranos' and Kronos' children replaced by stones</p> <p>Kadmos sowing stones</p> <p>Deucalion and Pyrrha sowing stones (in imitation of the demiurge's descent to earth)</p> <p>the transregional parallels suggest that when Hermes is venerated in stones by the roadside this is not primarily a variant of the Earth cult, but an evocation of the demiurge the double axe</p> <p>altars made of earth and later especially stone as demiurges</p> <p>oracular gods (Herakles, Dionysus, Hermes, Athena, Apollo)</p> <p>Black Stone, aniconic for Aphrodite of Paphos, as demiurge (divine seed fertilising the sea)</p> <p>Kadmos killed Drakon with a stone</p> <p>Apollo covers Telphusa's source with a shower of stones raimaking by rattling pebbles or meteoric stones in gourd or chest</p> <p>Delphi omphalos claimed to be thrown to earth from heaven</p> <p>Palladion at Troy, Artemis at Ephesos, Cone of Elagabalus in Emesa, Pessinu 'Nedde of Cybele', were meteorites the cult of stone phalli</p>	<p>(a) as symbolic of Earth</p> <p>NB: if the transcendence implied in (b) wears off, everything under (b) may also in practice be subsumed under (a)</p> <p>Vritra as stone mountains confining water cows, S Asia</p> <p>Urshanabi's (= Utanpishim's boatsman) stone images destroyed by the demiurge Gilgamesh</p> <p>(b) celestial, as symbolic of the Re-connection of Heaven and Earth</p> <p>lingam cult S Asia</p> <p>throughout the Old World (and part of the New World) cleromancy, although often in a context reminiscent of (a), yet in its aleatory throwing imitates the fall of the demiurge from heaven</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> pyramids (Ancient Egypt), stupas (S and E Asia) other similar building (Meso America) the underlying model of the world mountain, in the above, as in the symbolism of Meru (S Asia, E Africa), c.f. Borobudur (SE Asia) <p>stone heaps as evocation of the demiurge (throughout the Old World, from Tibet to Namibia (Heitsi Eibib shrines), N. Africa (<i>mzara</i>))</p> <p>Bronze Age megaliths (menhirs, cairns, alignments, stone circles – e.g. sacred to the Barley mother –) in Atlantic Europe and Africa, as well as in the circum-Indian Ocean transregion</p> <p><i>bethyl</i> in the Levant and the Maghreb</p> <p>stelae</p> <p>thunderstones and rainstones, also in the form of (double) axes and of prehistoric stone axes; also of bored stones, especially in Southern Africa, which (although later venerated) likewise were implements (digging-stick weights)</p> <p>altars made of earth and later especially stone, semi-ubiquitous</p> <p>mills and grinding stones as evocations of the celestial revolution and the celestial axis</p> <p>stone veneration, semi-ubiquitous</p> <p>veneration of meteorites (the Black Stone in the Holy Ka'aba, among others), W Asia</p> <p>Indra as thunderbolt, killing Vritra (S Asia)</p> <p>L-app divination by <i>seide</i> stones, N. Scandinavia; their thunderstones stone child, Kumarbi epic, Hurrians (W Asia), cf. Kronos</p> <p>Thor's stone hammer</p> <p>meteorites venerated and ritually buried throughout N America (including Greenland); as in Tibet, India, Mongolia and Australia.</p> <p>Lévi-Strauss (1988) misses the demurgical dimension and links jealousy, meteors, and excrement, throughout the mythologies of both Americas</p> <p>Manitou stones, N America</p> <p>sacred stones in Japan</p> <p>sacred boundary stones West Asia</p> <p>aniconic worship especially of Shiva, S Asia</p> <p>stone heap as burial form in N Africa</p> <p>sacred stones in the N African and W Asian landscape</p>	<p>(a) as symbolic of Earth</p> <p>NB: if the transcendence implied in (b) wears off, everything under (a) may also in practice be subsumed under (a)</p> <p>omphalos (but see b)</p> <p>Queen Omphale (Earth) owner of Herakles (celestial pole, demiurge) as slave; she also owned a dragonstones which made her omniscient (just like Gaia/Gē is the major divinatory power in the Ancient Aegean)</p> <p>Sisyphus vainly rolling his stone upward in punishment as a reminder that he betrayed (b) and is enslaved to (a)</p> <p>oracular gods as transformations of the original source of all knowledge, Earth</p> <p>Black Stone, aniconic for Aphrodite of Paphos, as Great Mother Earth</p> <p>Rhea, Gaia, giving birth to (children disguised as swaddled) stones</p> <p>Medusa's stony eye for divination</p> <p>Persus turns Atlas into stone: the mountain range of that name</p> <p>Lapiths as stone people, representing the Land in absolute distinction from ('violent battle with') the Primal Waters = Centaurs (cf. their horselike connotations, cf. 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The Moon</p> <p>I</p> <p>Thoth</p> <p>Japhet</p>	<p>Semele mother of Dionysus</p> <p>Pasiphae wife of Minos (may rather be a solar goddess)</p> <p>Japetus (by its name, this is a fast moving luminary; sun and moon move almost equally vast across the visible sky due to the earth's diurnal rotation, but the moon moves 12x faster (monthly, not annual, rotation) across the zodiac – so probably</p>

<p>NC as attested on cosmogonic myths from sub-Saharan Africa in historical times</p>	<p>CITI</p>	<p>Ancient Egypt</p> <p>Geb, as the Great Cackler the first land emerging from the primal Waters; the vessel from which things are released (cf. Osiris) is related to ogre theme – but that vessel is often implied to be Earth</p>	<p>Bible</p> <p>snake and earth themes at expulsion from Paradise; Cain obtains sanctuary by dedication to the Earth the vessel from which things are released (cf. Ark is related to ogre theme – but that vessel is often implied to be Earth</p>	<p>the moon is meant)</p> <p>Graeco-Roman Antiquity</p> <p>Etruscan/Roman <i>mundus</i>; Kadmos' sowing stones; Geryon; Hades; cleansing of the murderer (Pelops, Heracles, Orestes, etc.); descent into Hades (Odysseus, Aeneas) Pandora is made by Hephaistos from earth at the request of Zeus (Willis 1994: 131) Gaia: mother and mate of Ouranos – from the earth; this is also the NC of Virgin Mother and her Son, but according to my own, different reading this mother is rather Heaven and the son Earth (incidentally, Pontus, Sea, no longer appears here as merging with Ouranos, Heaven) Gaia cannot produce her children because Ouranos keep on mating with her, same theme in Oceania (Willis 1994:42); all Ouranos' children were imprisoned in Gaia's belly (non-being, but also: subterranean origin; this is an old theme, also in Kabylia (Cotterell 1989: 117 cf. 109) Pandora is made by Hephaistos from earth at the request of Zeus (Willis 1994:131) Poseidon x Gaia > Antaios [Libya : must rest on the earth and then is invincible Poseidon x Gaia > Charybdis (by Sicilia) descent into the underworld by Odysseus and Heracles Geryon. [underworld god] the Iberian pastoralist, already in Greece myths as 10th work of Heracles (Cotterell 1989: 101) Cecrops, Cranaus, Erichthonios: all from Gaia, and all associated with Athena – she is also an Earth goddess (Cotterell 1989: 193)</p>	<p>selected other (only literate civilisations of the Old World, outside sub-Saharan Africa – for the point is to argue continuity between the mythologies of these civilisations, and sub-Saharan Africa)</p> <p>Inanna's descent (Sumer) NüWa 女媧 created humans from mud (China) Tibet and Mongolia: the first human was made from clay out of the world sea; (Willis 1994 : 108) SE Asia: creator god makes first humans from earth (cf. Bible), and breathes life into them (Willis 1994: 22) Kabylia: subterranean origin (Cotterell 1989: 117 cf. 109); descent into the underworld by Inanna / Anat /</p>
<p>11. The Primal Waters and the Flood</p>	<p>IV</p>	<p>the primal Waters; fogs in Heliopolitan cosmology Neith mistress of the primal Waters The Ennead, + Ptah, must pay tribute to the Sea, Astarte takes it to the Sea, but Sea wants her, she is the woman of Seth, and Seth comes to do battle with the Sea [seems relevant for Sea Peoples but also for Oppenheimer's idea of a maritime intrusion from SE Asia] (Willis 1994: 51) Bata, Anubis' brother, flees after a Potifar-like incident, to Syria, where the Ennead has a wife for him made by Chnum . This wife is almost violated by Sea. Bata has emasculated himself and has hidden his heart in a pine tree. Etc. Bata</p>	<p>Ha Eloim as god(s) of the Waters (Gen. 1) Noah and the Flood, Gen 7 Leviathan Jacob wrestling with, and being blessed by, a divine being when crossing the Jabbok</p>	<p>Chaos; Poseidon as white horse representing the Sea, but once the Primal Waters (= sky, sea and underworld, and source of creation); Hydra Deukalion and Pyrrha; male and female divinities of the sea, and of streams and rivers Zeus sends Flood in order to restrain Phaeton son of Helios; swayed out of orbit, the fierce sun created the Libyan desert – the alleged birthplace of Athena organising the Waters in Boeotia Argonaunts Cassiopeia was the wife of the king Kepheus of Ethiopia. She boasted that she was more beautiful than the Nereids, daughters of the sea god Nereus. Poseidon [who apparently is to be identified with Nereus] then sends a Flood and a sea monster, to whom Andromeda is to be sacrificed. Perseus defeats the monsters. (Willis 1994 : 156) the struggle against the Waters (Flood), also in Boeotia (Cotterell 1989: 69) flood: Zeus sends flood in order to restrain Phaeton son of Helios; the Libyan desert emerged then (Cotterell 1989: 231); Pallas, daughter of the sea god Triton, is associated with</p>	<p>classical China: Nü Wa 女媧 and Fu Xi 伏羲, although later associated with Moon and Sun, head a dynasty of mythical emperors that domesticated the Waters; cf their eel-like extremities, and Nü Wa's (popular-etymological?) association with frog; Tiamat, Babylonia; Utnapishtim (Babylonia) Gun 鯀 tamed the Waters in the shape of a horse (China); the battle against the Waters (Flood), also in China (Cotterell 1989: 69) Baal vs. Yam (Syro-Palestine) Oannes, culture half man half fish; Enki, water god, half man half fish (Sumer) Lakshmi arose from ocean froth at the churning of the sea [here the sea is again more like water above and below] ; or born from lotus (S. Asia) Tibet and Mongolia: the first human was made from clay out of the world sea; (Willis 1994 : 108) flood in German myth: killing of the giant Ymir, caused a flood of blood, from his body parts the world was made [cf. Tiamat etc.] (Cotterell 1989: 71) Thor fishes with giant Hymir for world snake; cf. 297: Mauri (Maori, New Zealand) pulls the land out of the sea [in West Asian / European tradition, land is often made from body parts of defeated sea monster] (Willis 1994 : 199):</p>

									Minamoto no Yoritomo 源頼光 fights 'the Ground Spider' Tsuchigumo 土蜘蛛 goddess (Japan) Cowherd Niulang 牛郎 / Altair α-Aquila and Weaver Girl Zhinü (織女, / Vega α-Lyrae (classical China)
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16. Shamanism, Bones	III	the Pt official on the Ni-mr tablet	Beth-El, Gen.;						Odin as shamanic (Ancient Germanic) Indra as shamanic (S Asia) Gaiomart first human, dressed in leopard skin (Iran); Central in SE Asia is the idea of a layered cosmos, up to 5 to 7 layers [SHAMANISM] (Willis 1994:303) Mot (Canaan) lord of death, born from original egg from Air and Chaos; Ball is invited by Mot, dies in the underworld; Anat brings him back, killing Mot; ogre motif (Cotterell 1989: 223) – Orpheus and descent motif is in the first place shamanistic !
(17. Spottedness and the Leopard)	()	Egyptian gods take animal shapes all the time when attacking Osiris, Set changes into a leopard, but is cast down by Thoth by means of a magic spell	Jacob as crippled Jacob as trickster						Odin as trickster god; Loki as trickster god (Nordic) Gaiomart, first king or human, clad in leopard skins (Persian) Fu Xi culture hero/emperor depicted clad in leopard skins (China) divine family Shiva, Parvati and Ganesha depicted on leopard skin; Shiva wears leopard skin and belt; Indra changes into leopard during royal enthronement ritual (South Asia)
(18. Honey and Honey-Bear)	()	Neith and her temple at Sais royal titlature <i>nswt-ht</i> , bee, fly and midget may be interchangeable as symbols of heaven and hence as one of the Ancient Egyptian shaman's familiars honey possibly a metaphor of royal/divine incest	Deborah ('speaker, bee') as Judge; Samson and the lion						Telepinu epic, Hittites Ogma Cernait 'of the honeyed mouth' Irish equivalent of Arthur / Gvrydion (Ireland); soma (S. India) blood of god Kvasir mixed with honey to make the mead of poetry (Nordic)
19. The Cosmogonic Virgin and her Son/Lover	VI	Isis (cf. Plutarch, Proclus), Neith as virgins; <i>ka mute</i> ('bull of his mother'); Horus and Isis as lovers Osiris as dying and resurrected	virgin birth of Jesus, of Mary						Dumuzi (Tammuz) and Inanna, Sumer;
(20. Contradictory Messengers bring Death)	()	Thoth	'Jesus died so that we may live...'						Oedipus and locaeste; Athena, Artemis as virgins; Adonis; Attis; Erichthonios' birth: despite Hephaestus' cosmogonic fire, Athena has to remain a virgin; cf. Hephaestus' unsatisfactory marriage with Aphrodite – both women cosmogonic virgins, originally Iphigeneia and Achilleus Hermes; Iris
									'Let all heaven shed a tear so that Baldur can return from the dead' — Loki refuses; this is a form of 'contradictory messengers cause death' (Cotterell 1989: 70) (Nordic) during the Flood (when Vishnu in the Matsya avatar saved Manu, the Hindu Noah), Hayagriva took advantage of Brahma's sleep to steal the Vedic scriptures from his mouth, but Matsya saved them; cf. Kintu mate of Tiamat, ...' (Cotterell 1989: 220)

The Narrative Complexes were defined on the basis of a corpus of sub-Saharan cosmogonic myths attested in historical times. Therefore sub-Saharan Africa scores, inevitably, positively on all Narrative Complexes.

Narrative Complexes that have been argued to be derived from or implied in others ('not separately needed') have been put between parentheses.

NB: 1 Heaven is a concept that already pre-supposed the upward gave, which I believe to be associated with shamanism, from c. 20,000 BP onward

NB: 2 Could we subsume legchild (like Dionysus born from his father thigh, where he had been planted unborn after his mother Semele had been burnt to ashes under the sight of her majestic divine lover) under 'ogre'? Or does the legchild implicitly come from the earth? Incidentally, the earth and ogre have much in common

The concepts of NC (Narrative Complex) and CITI (Context of Intensified Transformation and Innovation) are explained in:

van Binsbergen, W.M.J., 2006, 'Mythological archaeology: Situating sub-Saharan cosmogonic myths within a long-range intercontinental comparative perspective', in: Osada, Toshiki, with the assistance of Hase, Noriko, eds., *Proceedings of the Pre-symposium of RIHN and 7th ESCA Harvard-Kyoto Roundtable*, Kyoto: Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN), pp. 319-349; also at: http://www.shikanda.net/ancient_models/kyoto%20as%20published%202006%20EDIT2.pdf

The following diagram summarises the overall theory:

Selected further references:

Stricker, B. H., 1963-1989, *De geboorte van Horus, I-V*, Leiden: Brill for Ex Oriente Lux.

Willis, Roy, 1994, ed., *Mythen van de mensheid*, Baarn: Anthos; Dutch tr. of *World mythology*, 1993, London / New York: Duncan Baird; German edition: 1994, *Bertelsmann Handbuch Mythologie: Ursprung und Verbreitung der Mythen der Welt. Motive, Figuren und Stoffe von der Arktis bis Australien*. Gütersloh, München: Bertelsmann Lexikon Verlag.
Cotterell, Arthur., 1989, *The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Myths and Legends*, London etc.: Guild.