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# Sacred mountains in the Upper Paleolithic

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## Résumé

Animistic and shamanistic peoples worldwide have traditions of regarding high mountains as being spiritual and the observances of them in songs and myths are widely recorded in the anthropological record. We find these traditions carried directly and metaphorically into ancient religions and literature. High mountains may have also been considered sacred in prehistory given their global spiritual observances to the present time. Early recordings of these sacred high mountain observances may be found in the Upper Paleolithic Cave of El Castillo in Cantabria, Spain and in Gorham's Cave, Gibraltar. Panels in these caves store human fabricated images that closely resemble geological features on two high mountains in the greater Iberian region.

**Mots-Clés:** Upper Paleolithic, Cave Art, Shamanism, Animism

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