It is common knowledge that man’s ability to communicate sets him apart from other creatures. Only recently, however, has it been discovered that man has been using palindromes throughout the aeons. A paleontologist has interpreted one of the oldest cave murals ever found to be saying OG, GO.

Civilization is replete with significant palindromic ejaculations. In chronological order, here are some of the noteworthy palindromic utterances.

MADAM, IN EDEN I’M ADAM Genesis 2: the first introduction
LIVE NOT ON EVIL, MADAM, LIVE NOT ON EVIL Genesis 3: the Almighty’s injunction to Eve
CAIN, A MONOMANIAC? Genesis 5: attributed to Adam on discovering that Cain slew Abel
HA! ON! ON! O, NOAH! Genesis 7: attributed to Noah’s amorous wife, Joan of Arc
HARASS SELFLESS SARAH? Genesis 21: attributed to Abraham when he evicts Hagar and Ishmael
EGAD, NO BONDAGE! Exodus 12: attributed to an anonymous Israelite upon learning about the emancipation of the slaves
O RENEGE, NERO! 68 A.D.: attributed to an anonymous aide to C. Claudius Nero, who set fire to Rome to see “what Troy looked like when it was in flames” and who fiddled as he watched
WAS IT A RAT I SAW? 1284: attributed to the Pied Piper of Hamelin
BACON SEES NO CAB 1624: attributed to William Shakespeare
ABLE WAS I ERE I SAW ELBA 1821: attributed to marooned Napoleon
X RAMSES? ORDER RED ROSES, MARX! 1848: attributed to Friedrich Engels
NO IN UNEVEN UNION! 1861: attributed to Jefferson Davis
ARE WE NOT DRAWN ONWARD, WE FREER FEW, DRAWN ONWARD TO NEW ERA AGED? 1865: attributed to Claude Monet speaking to Edouard Degas
IN A REGAL AGE RAN I 1868: attributed to Benjamin Disraeli
ARE WE NOT DRAWN ONWARD, WE JEWS, DRAWN ONWARD TO NEW ERA? 1900: attributed to Theodore Herzl, the father of Zionism
BOSSY AL SLAYS S.O.B. 1933: attributed to Elliot Ness, referring to a gangland slaying ordered by Al Capone
LIVE ON TIME; EMIT NO EVIL 1966: attributed to Henry Luce
DRAT! SADAT A DASTARD 1979: attributed to a distrustful Ariel Sharon during the Camp David negotiations
TO LAST, CARTER RETRACTS A LOT 1980: attributed to Gerald Ford in his presidential debate with Jimmy Carter

NO EVIL SHAHS LIVE ON 1981: attributed to Ayatollah Khoumeini

I MAIM FOE OF MIAMI 1982: attributed to an unnamed Miami Dolphins linebacker

DOC, NOTE I DISSENT. A FAST NEVER PREVENTS A FATNESS. I DIET ON COD 1983: attributed to a recalcitrant Tip O'Neill speaking to his personal physician

SOD, NO CON; SAHARA HAS NO CONDOS 1984: attributed to an anonymous Britisher explaining to his friend that he has been swindled on a land deal

P.M., ROB A LABOR M.P. 1985: attributed to an anonymous aide to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher

TEN ANIMALS I SLAM IN A NET 1986: attributed to John McEnroe

ROY, AM I MAYOR? 1987: attributed to a befuddled Ed Koch talking to his boyhood idol, Roy Rogers

"NOT NEW YORK," ROY WENT ON 1987: an equally-befuddled Roy Rogers' retort


EGAD! A RED LOSES OLDER ADAGE 1988: attributed to Ronald Reagan in reference to Gorbachev's reforms

OPRAH YODELLED "OY, HARPO"? NO! OPRAH YODELLED "OY, HARPOON"! 1989: the foregoing exchange took place between Phil Donahue and Geraldo Rivera

NAG ROMEO, JOE MORGAN 1989: attributed to an unnamed player for the Boston Red Sox (the person referred to as "Romeo" is believed to be Wade Boggs)

DID I STEP ON DOG POOP? GOD, NO PETS; I DID! 1989: attributed to Vice-President Quayle while walking on the White House lawn

POOR DAN IS IN A DROOP 1989: attributed to Mrs. Quayle after the above episode

DRAT! SADDAM A MAD DASTARD 1990: attributed to the Emir of Kuwait, Sheik Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah

RATS! AID EMBARGO? GRAB MEDIA STAR! 1989: attributed to Saddam Hussein

Note that civilization has made a full circle back to the shores of the Tigris and Euphrates!