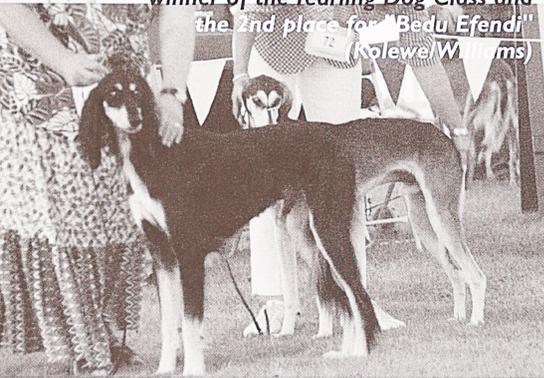


The Exhibition in Loseley Park – much harmony and atmosphere near by the ring

**"Nefisa Jeevun" (Macro), the winner of the Yearling Dog Class and the 2nd place for "Bedu Efendi" (Kolewa Williams)**

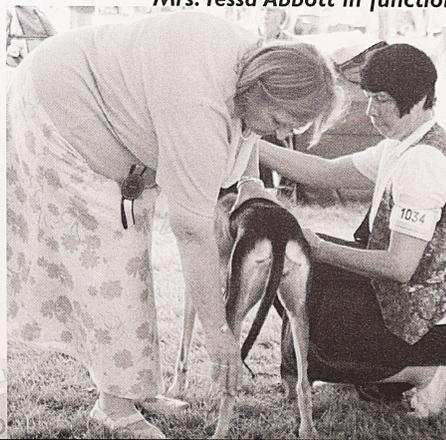


with the placement awards of some colourful rosettes and several nice prizes (there are far more classes at English shows than in Germany).

An eventful and wonderful day with a lot of passion for Salukis came to an end during sun set. The organizers were tired, but could also be happy about their successful planning. I also was pleased that I had plenty of opportunities to practise my English that day.

The following day was Richmond Championship Show held at the same place in the park. I have never seen such a big outdoor dog show. The first day was the judging of the Hound and Toy Group. The generosity to almost all areas certainly impressed me! I immediately took the direction to the Saluki ring. These Salukis were the reason why I had travelled to England, but I would have liked to visit the other rings, too. However there was no time. I sat with my camera next to the judge's table to watch closely. The judge was Mrs. Tessa Abbott. She is the daughter of Hope Waters, the famous breeder of the Burydown Kennel. I sat in the shade of the tent, because the sun slammed down mercilessly from the sky with all its last energy of an Indian Summer. The notice prohibiting dogs from being left in the car came to mind and I could understand very well now the reason for this.

**Mrs. Tessa Abbott in function**



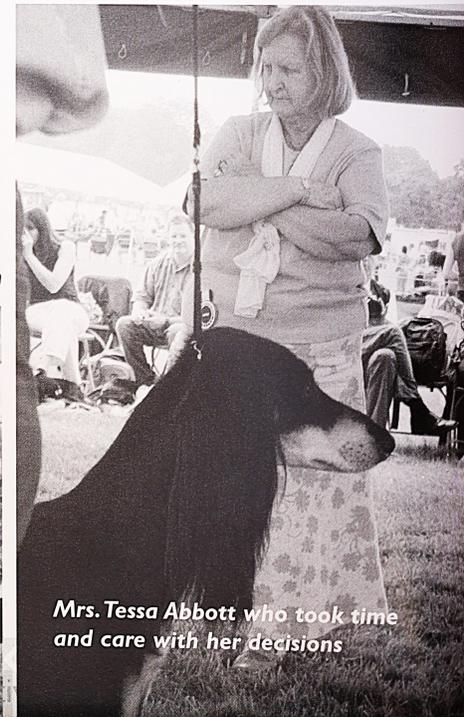
Mrs. Abbott did not only take in the general appearance of a Saluki, she also checked carefully from the side, front and back how the dog moved. She also felt how the knee joint stands to the body.

Now and then she corrected the standing of a dog. She radiated calmness and nothing or nobody could disturb her; she worked with a great deal of concentration and competence. She had perhaps her own style and of course her own taste, but this is to be granted every judge. In my opinion this lady is a judge who did not pursue politics in her decisions, neither did she make her final decision fast nor easy. which I found impressive. If approximately 8-12 Salukis came into the ring, I had enough time to find my favourite, and I was very pleased when it won. This made me sympathetic towards the judge so I found her decisions fair.

Eventually there was a double victory for the Al Caliph Kennel the bitch Al Caliph's Zofeyah and her litter brother Al Caliph's Zobeyni. Both Salukis were awarded the CC, and the bitch was awarded BOB.

Once again there were many uniformly beautiful Salukis on show. As some exhibitors presented their dogs in several classes (this only costs a little more money) the judge worked until late in the afternoon and got no break.

In the evening there was a Gala Dinner at 'Tithe Barn' in Loseley



**Mrs. Tessa Abbott who took time and care with her decisions**

friends. All in all, everyone worked together and the result could be really seen! I noted that England is still a shining example in the dog-scene. And in any case is always worth a trip!

"The Saluki", the official magazine of the club, provided the visitors and exhibitors an excellent lunch. This generosity was welcomed gladly by the visitors because England's gasoline, lodging and meals are quite expensive.

I was pleased to see some familiar faces again. I welcomed an acquaintance from the South of France as well as a breeder-couple from Germany who were exhibiting their English bred Saluki. My acquaintance from France exhibited a bitch of her own breeding that is now resident in England and was awarded first place in the Post Graduate Bitch Class with Vayra Habiba Al Firdous. The dog of my German friends qualified for Crufts with a second placement and was also the best dog for "Smooth Grizzle".

The dog CC was Mrs R Clarke's Nefisa Baaz of Rhazias (Open Dog Class) and the bitch CC went to Dr and Mrs Hudson's Glenoak Izadi (Open Bitch Class) with Best in Show being awarded to the dog.

As it is usual at the Saluki or Gazelle Hound Club there were presentations

Festival of the Saluki 2007



# A First Time Visitors Viewpoint from **Australia** by **Graham Rabin**

Not till I was sitting on the plane did I realise I was off to England to participate in the very first World Symposium on Salukis. This event, which had been in the planning for the past four years was about to happen. I think many of us that were to attend the Festival had an idea as to what was going to happen but the Festival more than satisfied our expectations.

From the first moment I walked into the Show venue I was greeted with such warmth and friendliness as if I had known them for many years and this was only the first day. There were breeders from so many countries, I'm sure to miss some, but to give you a few, Sweden, Finland, Germany, USA, Canada, Japan, France, New Zealand, Malaysia plus of course UK and Australia. From then on we were all just a happy group of people with one interest in common – to learn as

much as we could about our beautiful Breed.

For me I was in Saluki heaven, I had not seen so many Salukis in the one place ever. Can you imagine 13–14 dogs in one class? We are lucky if we get 13 dogs to a show. In fact the show had entries of at least 110 and these numbers continued throughout the Festival.

The 1st event took place at Birmingham, with an opening Championship Show in conjunction with the local show. I arrived at the venue and was directed where to park by one of several attendants in a huge paddock. By the time I had walked to the entrance and let in by other attendants checking breeders entries, and, told the Saluki venue was way up the other end I had walked over half a kilometre and I knew this was not just some local show. On arrival I was given a folder with information on all the

events, we were treated to coffee all day and sandwiches at lunch time and then it was off to Cambridge in preparation for the Symposium.

Jesus College is one of many colleges grouped together in Cambridge and has a wealth of history; it was a wonderful setting for the event. As I walked into the building on the centuries old worn corridors and stairs I was transported into this history place of learning. So with this magic surrounding us, we settled down to learn all that we could about Salukis.

The Speakers, if you are interested were:

**Gertrude W Hinsch PhD.** She is Professor Emeritus of the Dept Biology, Cell, Molecular and Microbiology Division at the University of South Florida.

**Mr Brian Duggan.** (Kyzyl Kum ) Saluki Owner for 30 years, President of Greater San Francisco for many years, and current Saluki Columnist of the American Kennel Club Gazette.

**Mrs Carole FTipler.** A Saluki breeder since 1972 and holds the (Al Yaman) affix whose bloodlines are behind many successful breeders. She is also a world travelled Judge.

**Mrs Ute Lennartz.** She is a chemical Engineer, and acquired her first Saluki in 1976. She co owns (Mata Salamata) kennels and is Judge, both local and overseas.

**Mrs Leslie Brabyn.** Of (Timaru) Salukis has been involved with the breed for 40 years and has bred 37 Saluki Champions. Leslie has served on the boards of the Saluki Club of



*Birmingham championship show, limit dog class*

America, the American Saluki Association and the Saluki Club of Greater San Francisco and is a International judge.

**Mrs Zola Rawson.**  
(Mumtaz) Zola was given her first Saluki in 1961 in Baghdad She has a long history with the breed and has been Judging since 1976 including Crufts.

At around 6.30 we returned from our trip to Jesus College in time for our Candle Lit Dinner, which was beautifully prepared in one of the upstairs dining rooms.

The following morning we packed up again and travelled to Clay Cross, Derbyshire to the Northern Saluki Club Show, where we once again were warmly welcomed. The interesting part of this show was that it was being held indoors at a sports facility and they



were using one of the basket ball courts.

The club had laid down long rubber runners in a square plus one diagonally towards the judge and it all worked very well. Although it was very bright unfortunately the lighting gave the pictures a red glow. At all the shows there were stalls loaded with Saluki products to buy and this venue was no

exception. Some of the products were exquisite, and many of us came home with great items and lighter pockets.

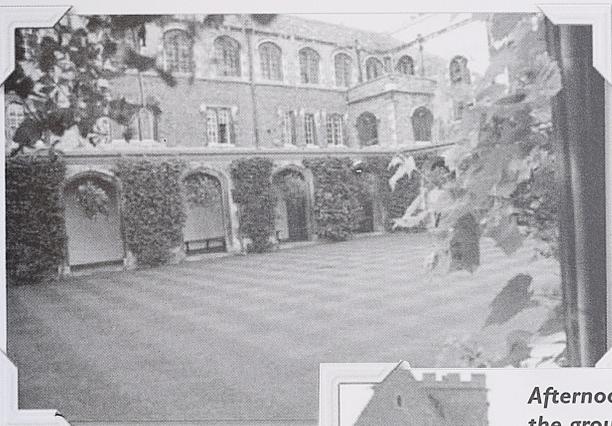
At the end of the show we travelled to Bakewell in Derbyshire in readiness for the Northern Symposium the next day. This was held at a place called Hassop Hall which dates back several hundred years and is mentioned in the Domesday Book. The symposium was held in a beautifully decorated room that used to be a chapel.

Speakers at the Northern Symposium the were:

**Sir Terence Clarke**, who spoke on the origins of the Eastern 'Saluqi' and its situation today.

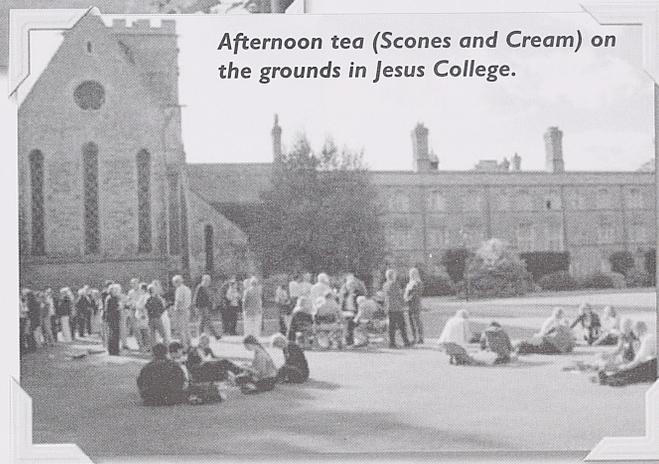
**Clair Chrissolor**  
Coursing Greats of the UK and conformation and attitude.

It was a wonderful day with a sumptuous lunch which we had on our laps in a lovely internal courtyard.

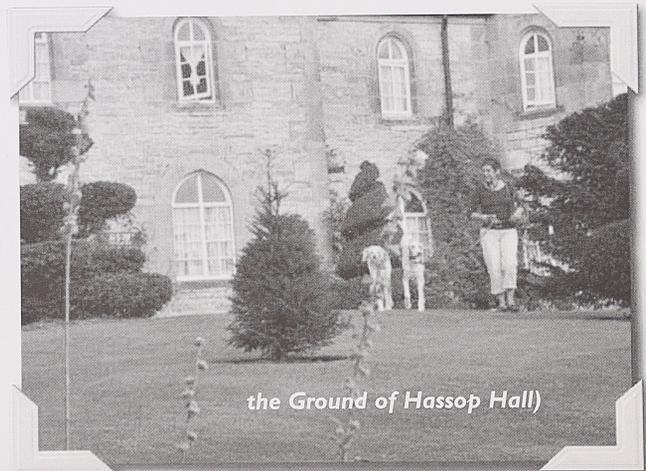


By 4.45 it was time to get ready to go down to the waterway for the punt ride at 5.00pm and we were so lucky the weather was excellent, I even got sunburnt at that time of the day.

We all piled into punts which carried 10 people each and were treated to wonderful commentary about each feature by a young student working his way through college.



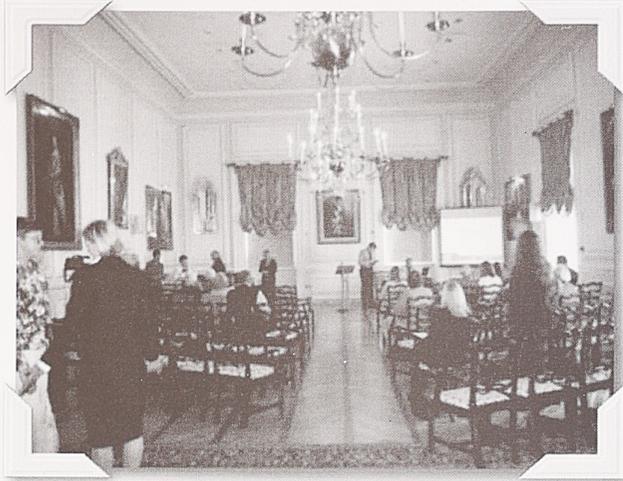
*Afternoon tea (Scones and Cream) on the grounds in Jesus College.*



*the Ground of Hassop Hall)*

Festival of the Saluki 2007

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**Ingrid Romanowski BSc PMP** The various interpretations of the Saluki Breed Type.

**Carole Tipler** Demise of structure & conformation in other ancient breeds plus examples of ancient and modern day Salukis and applying the standard.

Once again we were treated to a fabulous lunch and by the end of the day most of us were richer and wiser in the ways of the Saluki, thanks to some excellent speakers.

Bakewell, where we stayed, is a quaint English town or should I say hamlet and on the Tuesday morning we had time to take in some of the little shops and places. After this we travelled 3 1/2 hours down to Cookham Common to one of the "Open Houses" on the day.

We arrived at Helen & Michael Williams place and were greeted with the most charming thatched roof cottage set on 2 1/2 acres. Completely set up for Salukis.

After a lovely lunch, hours of discussion with our charming host we finally left about 8.30 in the evening.

The next day it was off to London to the Art Exhibition and what a day. The art Exhibition was housed in the Kennel Club's own building right in the heart of London and was exquisitely presented in a most professional manner. The pictures, sculptures etc were just wonderful. As you walked in on large table was the sculpture of a Saluki in full flight, you might say well I've seen one of those, except this one was getting towards a metre long! But then we discovered the Library in which there were books and boxes and boxes of photos and memorabilia of all the early Saluki blood lines and history Wow! It was an effort to tear one's self away. I am told that in a couple of years they will all

be converted to disc and put on line for anyone to access over the internet.

Thursday saw us travelling south to Losely Park just outside of Guilford for the Saluki or Gazelle Hound Club Show. The Club had secured the main ring which was set up for the Richmond Show the following day and this made it a great venue for showing.

However, the most spectacular part of the Show was the Parade of the Salukis, which started at the top of the hill and slowly came into view. It consisted of a horse draped in beautiful colours with an 'Arab' walking along side,

behind which was the banner of the Saluki Festival and then the Salukis. It was a beautiful day for the Festival and we were very lucky with the weather as it stayed fine for the whole Festival.

The day was a great success. The judge for dogs was Ken Allan who awarded best dog to Reena Clarke's Ch Nefisa Baaz of Rhazia and the judge for bitches was Bo Bengtson who awarded best bitch to John & Lisa Hudson's Glenoak Izadi.

The following day it was back to the same place although this time in a different area. I thought there were a lot of Salukis but nothing could Compare



with the vast number of exhibitors of all breeds in all the areas. I spoke to one of the Saluki organisers about numbers and was told they would get about 13,000 exhibits for the three days.

That evening at the same venue on the top of the hill stands Losely House which has in its grounds a Tithe Barn fully restored and a wonderful setting for the Gala Dinner.



*Pictured below Dr Has Ismail from Malaysia and Pip & John Buswell from UK*



Unfortunately all good things must come to an end and so it was with The Saluki Festival 2007. It was a wonderful event where I'm sure everybody learnt something. I know I did and not only that, we all have new international friends to converse with about our Salukis.

On a more serious note some of the Salukis at the meet were rescue Salukis like the beautiful little

white girl second from the left, she is happy now but – had been left on a tip and the damage to her side meant that no hair would ever grow there again.

It would be remiss of me if I didn't make note of the ladies who I know worked very hard for a long time to make this event happen. Many thanks go to **Marie Bryce-Smith** and **Helen Williams** for a job very well done.

The meal was sumptuous and an enjoyable night was had by all. The two auctions of which one was silent, were a great part of the evening. The money raised was for the much needed Saluki Welfare Fund.

Although, Dinner was the last of the formal meeting it was off to Newbury on the Saturday and the Saluki Coursing at Falkners Farm. Well what can I say; Salukis in action are poetry in motion, doing exactly what they were naturally bred for. There was a great BBQ lunch after which there were some fun events like "Best Head" etc and then more coursing.



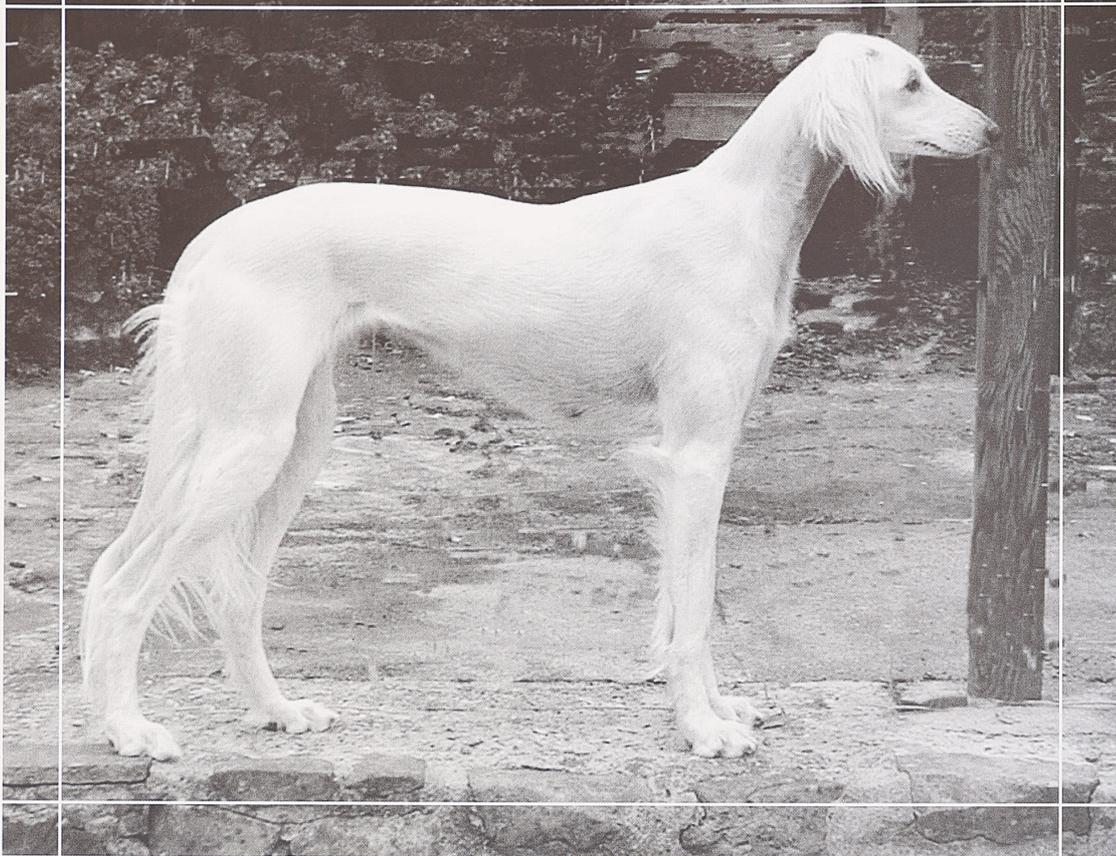
For me it's was a privilege to be part of the 2007 Festival and bring you this revue of events.

**Graham Rabin**



# Al Caliphs Noushafarin of Greatplains

Ch Al Caliphs Zobeyni JW x Al Caliphs Zanubiya



*Celebrating  
35 years in  
Salukis*

*See  
you in  
2008*

*bred by Debbie Copperthwaite*

**Sue Rabey-Wilkinson**  
[sue@greatplains.fsworld.co.uk](mailto:sue@greatplains.fsworld.co.uk)

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## **HADI EL BASHER**

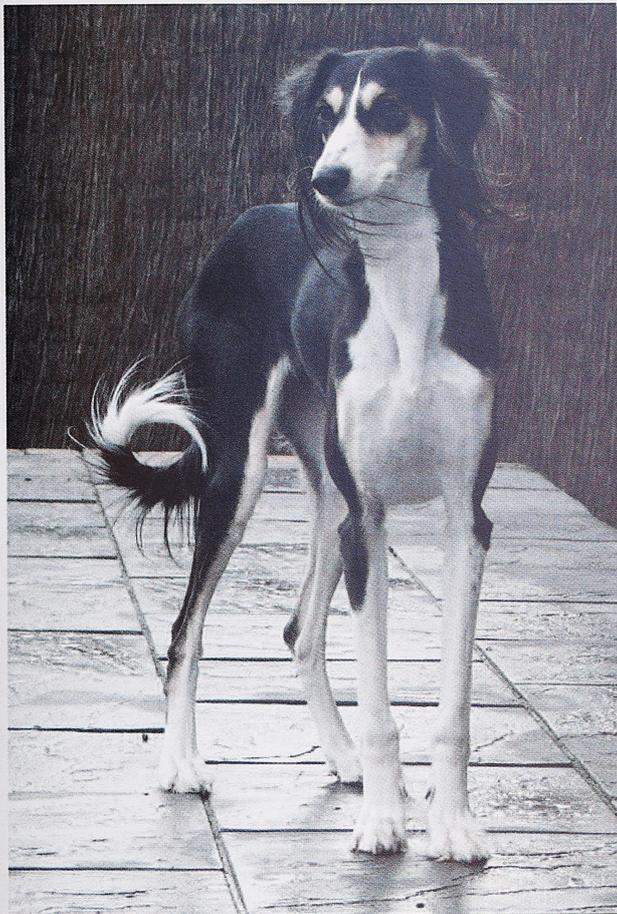


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Sire: Derumowgli Hadi El Basher



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Suhaim (UK)  
Suhayb (UK)  
Sinan (Qatar)

Sahibihah (Sweden)  
Shamsa (UK)  
Suhaimah (Qatar)

My sincerest thanks to Daniela and Henk Van der Lichte for allowing me to use one of their beautiful stud dogs

Karen Fisher  
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## BEDU welcomes Caspians Thalia to Bedu



Bedu Manon and her cousin  
Thalia by Ch Kasaque Jimna

Liz Stephen

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Championship Show 2007

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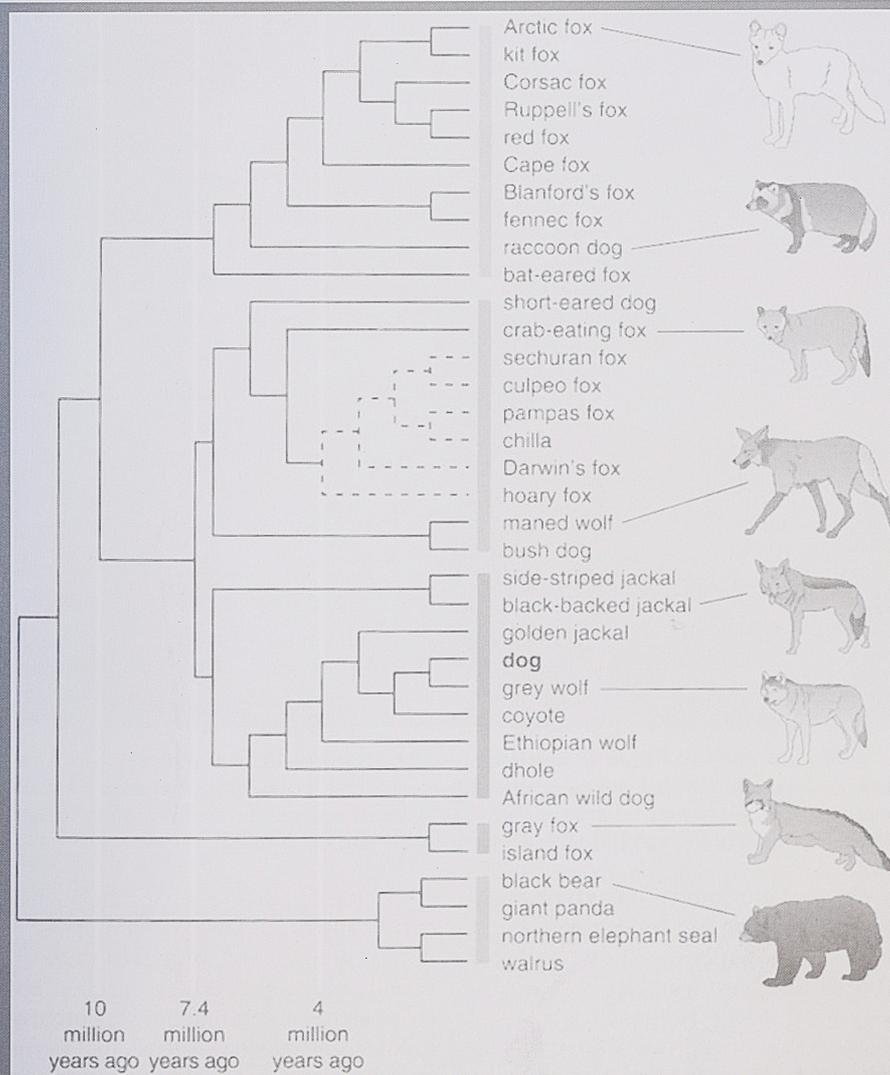
# Saluki/Tazi – Ancient Breed. How Old is Ancient?

## Was its origin by Evolution or Domestication?

by Gertrude W. Hinsch, Ph.D. ©

Forty or fifty years ago, newcomers to the saluki/tazi breed learned that the sighthound called the saluki by the Arabs in the Middle East was the same hound called the tazi in those countries along the Silk Roads in which the language was Farsi. The English also called this hound a Persian greyhound. Today owners of salukis think that they are probably different from the tazi.

Most are familiar with members of the breed being called El Hor, Al-Hurr as associated with the nomadic tribes of the Middle East. The earliest of the imports entered into the registries in Europe and then the United States generally came from areas within the British protectorates. The same hounds within the French protectorates ultimately became known as the sloughi. Much of what has become the legend of the breed can be traced to ancient art and legend. Though oral histories and ancient art give us some idea of more recent history of the breed, we will here devote our attention to the early origin of canines and specifically the saluki/tazi.



The earliest history of carnivores can be traced to fossils some 40-60 million years ago. The earliest history is in deed "written in stone" (Olsen, 1985). In time the carnivores divided into two major groups- the Canoidea (dogs) and Feloidea (cats). The early cats were found primarily in Asia while the earliest of canids occupied North America. Many types of canids arose over the years which are only found now in the fossil record. About 7 million years ago some canids crossed over a land bridge into Asia. Until recently, the morphologic features recognized in the fossil record found in various layers of the earth's surface served for dating as well as to establish relationships between different species. Generally the most important differences revolved around the cranium and jaw structures with associated dentition. From paleontological and archaeological studies it is believed that wolf-like canids separated from foxes and raccoon dogs about 5-10 million years ago (Tsuda et al. 1997) see fig.1. More recently,

Fig.1: Canid phylogeny (Istrander, 2007)

molecular DNA studies have shown the relationships between members of the various canine groups. Different colors have been used to indicate the molecular divergence which occurred. When the molecular timing of divergence is compared to the findings in the

fossil records the ranges fit within the same time frame.

Historically, wolves have been considered the possible origin of the different breeds (fig.2). Each of the subspecies of wolf (*Canis lupus*) is represented in the inner circle with the next ring representing

several breeds believed to derive from each subspecies. The outermost ring shows the breeds in turn believed to have arisen from those breeds. Additionally, it was believed that interbreeding of subspecies where their ranges overlapped may have given rise to some breeds as well.

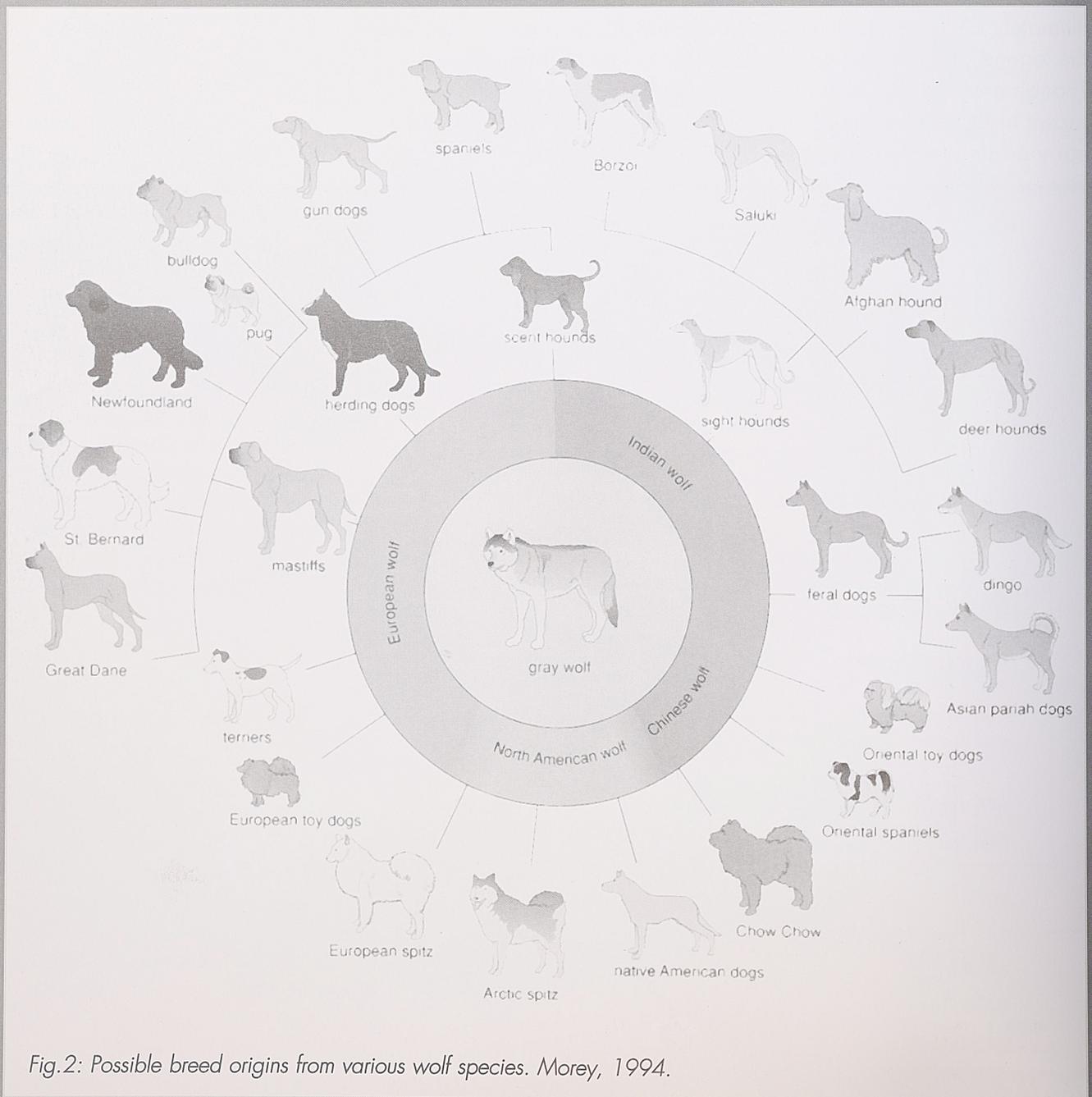


Fig.2: Possible breed origins from various wolf species. Morey, 1994.

In the following years, as molecular genetics began making headway, newer ideas of the origin of canine breeds emerged. Villa et al. (1997) using the mitochondrial DNA from 140 dogs and 162 wolves as well as samples from coyotes and three types of jackals suggested that the wolf was indeed the progenitor of the domestic dog. They further suggested the possibility of at least four bitch origins based on maternal mtDNA. Thus four phylogenetic clades were established. Villa, et al. (1997) calculated that the divergence of DNA between wolf and dog occurred 100,000-135,000 years ago (BP).

Using mtDNA from hundreds of dogs, Savolainen et al (2002) estimated a more conservative time of 15-40,000 years BP. It is believed that the first canines arose from at least five female lines from the Asian gray wolf. The choice of the Asian gray wolf subspecies as the origin is based in part on the similarity between some jaw structures not seen in other subspecies but seen in both this subspecies and the dog. Morphologists separate dogs and wolves using changes in skull shape, the presences of a stop, shape of the brain case and spacing of the dentitions along the jaws. Prior to about 10,000 yrs BP, it has been difficult to distinguish between wolf and dog conclusively.

Early in the 21st. century, the decision was made to sequence the entire canine genome to provide information about the many different breeds and ultimately as a means of comparing the canine and the human genome in hopes of providing research data of

hereditary diseases and cancer and to study and create cures for such.

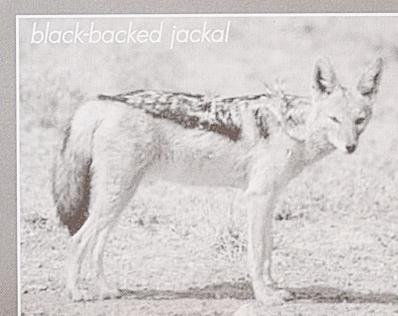
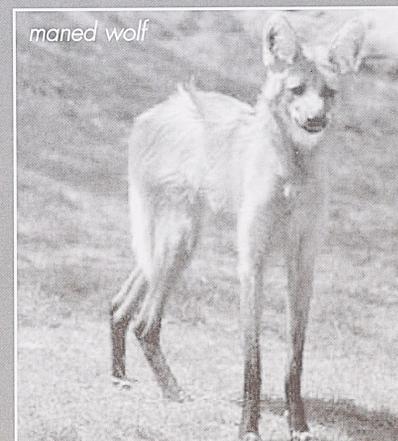
Parker et al. (2004) confirmed the gray wolf as the origin of the domestic dog using samples from 89 breeds of dogs registered with the American Kennel Club. The study placed the dogs in 4 groups - ancient, herding, hunting and guard dogs- based on their mt DNA. Additional breeds have been added to the groups since that time (Parker, 2007).

The results of the studies of the canine DNA has produced information which correlates with the fossil records as to the timing of the splits between canids and felids.

Additionally the divergence into the different breeds of canids as determined by fossil records and molecular studies correlates quite well. When we consider more recent divergence of the wolf and dog we encounter some problems based on timing, oral histories and studies from the early and middle 20th century. Just exactly where does that leave us when we consider the origin of dogs and then that of the saluki/tazi.

In fig.3 overleaf, we have the breeds broken down into four different groups based on patterns of the variation in the many alleles. The four groups created were ancient/Asian, herding, modern/hunting and mastiff.

If one looks at the bars associated with the ancient/Asian group, you see that most of the bars are a yellow/green color. These are considered to be the oldest breeds.



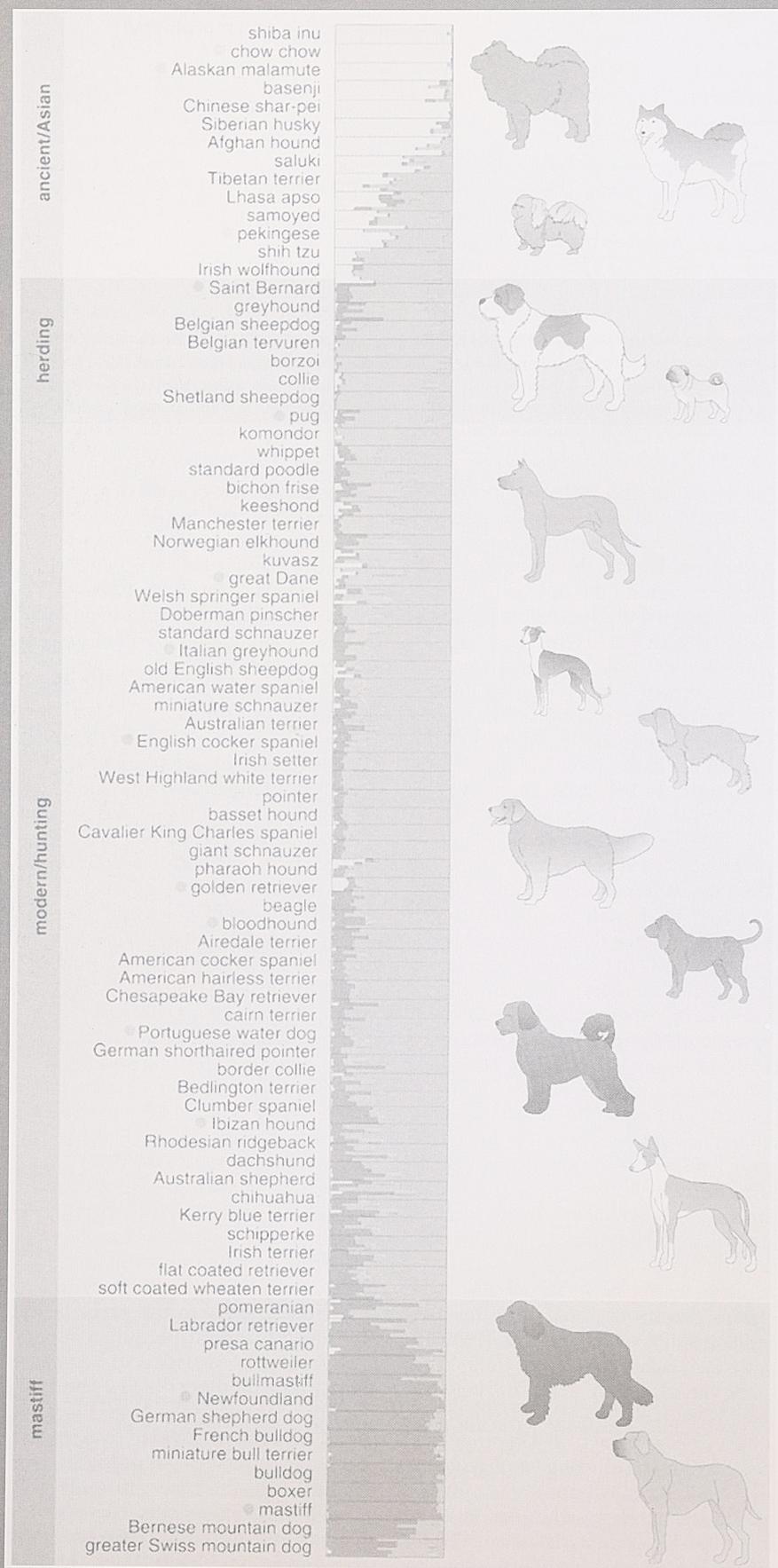


Fig. 3 Groups created on the basis of shared mtDNA

In general they share little of the orange alleles seen so prominently in the modern/hunting dogs. One might suggest that the ancient continue to share some of the same alleles seen in the wolf whereas most of the other breeds have lost most of them.

In their paper in 2004, Parker, et al. suggested that the majority of the breeds other than the ancient breeds are of much more recent origin.

It should be obvious to most, that the afghan and saluki are listed separately in the ancient/Asian column.

The canid species have been divided into four phylogenetic groups. The group which includes the golden jackal, dog, gray wolf and coyote are believed to be the most recently evolved. The golden jackal separated, then the coyote branched off and finally the separation between wolf and dog occurred. Many early studies have suggested the possibility of jackal or coyote origins of the dog but the mtDNA studies indicate their earlier branching thus leaving the single branching into wolf and dog. The spacing of the branching of the nodes is not proportional.

With this clad (fig. 5) we see the division creating two different species of canids. Savolainen (2002) believes that this occurred sometime between 30,000-40,000 years BP. There are several things which must occur for the creation of a new species. It must differ in some way(s) from the original species. Generally the continuance of a new species involves physical separation between the old and the newly forming species. What might be a

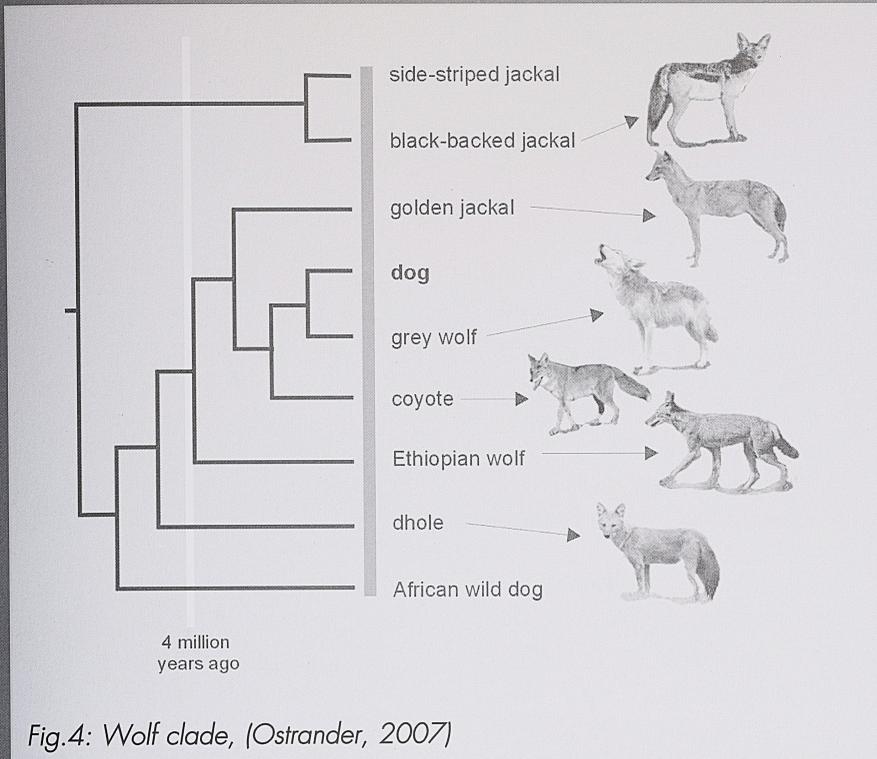


Fig.4: Wolf clade, (Ostrander, 2007)

factor(s) in the creation of the dog? A logical genetic difference would be a change in body size. For years this was something hard to consider but in light of the findings of Sutter et al. (2007), we know that a mutation in a single allele of a regulatory gene IGF1 results in a reduction in body size. The first dogs were probably smaller than wolves, had curled tails, pricked ears and a coat very much like the wolf. The reduction in body size would allow the early dogs to fit into a different ecological niche from that occupied by the wolf. Size reduction and the "curled" tails would have served to visually distinguish dog from wolf at distances. Today many salukis take defensive poses when seeing a canid with hanging tail and prick ears like the German shepherd dog while being very attentive when seeing the curled tail held on high. They are very conscious of the saluki breed. Initially there might have been some interbreeding between wolves and early dogs but

ultimately their physical isolation would have led to reproductive isolation as well allowing the creation of a new species.

That dogs might have risen from several wolf subspecies found in different parts of the world has been suggested over the years.

However, using the mtDNA from hundreds of dogs and wolves, Savolainen (2002) suggested that it was the Asian gray wolf which gave rise to the domestic dog in western Asia (possibly in the Tien Shan mountains) about 30-40,000 years BP.

Parker, et al. (2004) when working upon the canine genome found they could divide the dogs into 4 groups based on their DNA. These groups were- ancient, herding, hunting and guard dogs. We will consider here the first of these clades- ancient dogs.

How do the ancient dogs differ from the other three groups? The charts depicting the microsatellites (refer to fig.3) demonstrate that the ancient breeds of dogs share some of these with the wolf. These same microsatellites are missing from the hunting, guarding and herding breeds. This implies that the earliest dogs retained some of the same satellites as the wolf or that they interbred with wolves. If the latter situation is correct then we should sometimes see evidence of some of

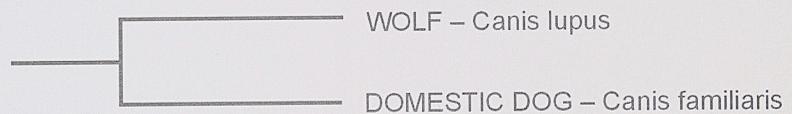


Fig.5: Divergence of wolf and domestic dog.

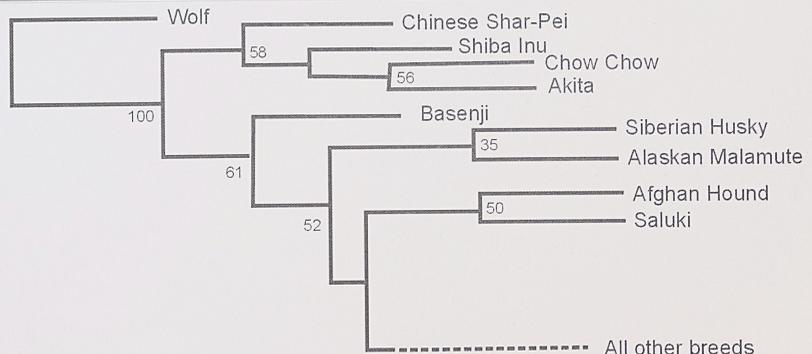


Fig.6: Clade of ancient dogs from Parker, et al. 2004.



Fig 7 Map showing the areas into which the ancient breeds would have migrated in western China (grey).

Considering an origin in western Asia, one can visualize migration pathways to the north and east. The oriental dogs would have migrated east in China and then outward from there to Pacific areas and North America. The Arctic dogs would have migrated in a northerly direction, limited in part by the glaciers which covered the northern cap until at least 20,000 yrs BP. The sighthounds would probably have migrated over the steppes into the wide range of countries of origin as we know them.

these in the other groups as well considering that from time to time their ancestors might also have interbred with wolves. These ancient breeds of dogs retain some of the feral qualities of the wolf-one breeding season per year, howling, etc.

Evidence suggests that ancient dogs arose at different times. The first to form were the Asian breeds- Shar-Pei, The Shiba Inu, Chow Chow, Shih-Tzu, Pekingese, Tibetan terrier, Lhasa Apso and Akita. Then the second group to form was the African – basenji. Somewhat later the third group including the Arctic breeds – Siberian husky, Alaskan Malamute and Samoyed and finally the last group the sighthounds- afghan hound and saluki developed. The first of the ancient breeds were all prick eared while the afghan and saluki had pendulant ears. The other three groups, herding, hunting and guarding are believed to include breeds recognized today which probably originated within the last three-four hundred years.

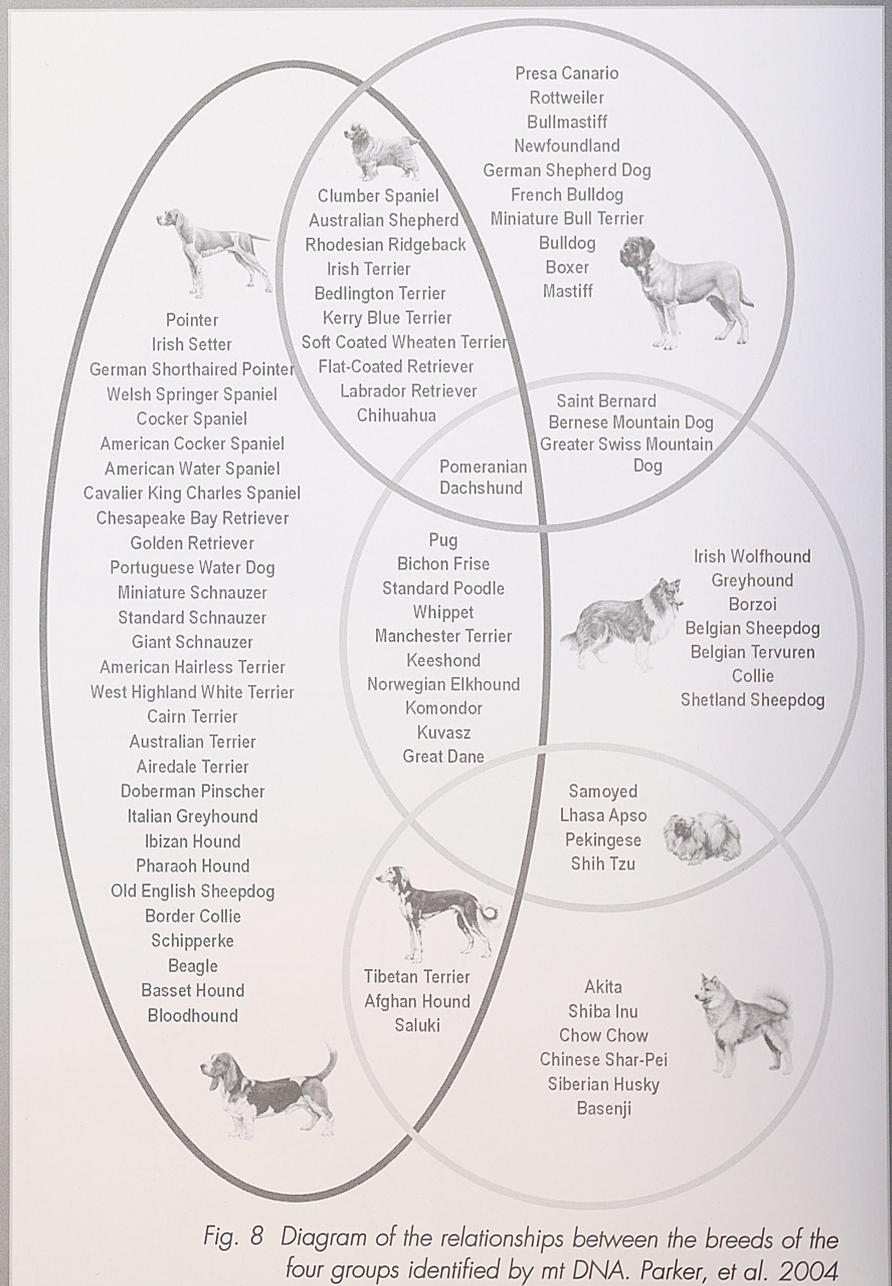


Fig. 8 Diagram of the relationships between the breeds of the four groups identified by mt DNA. Parker, et al. 2004

Parker, et al. (2004) created the diagram (fig.8) to show the interrelationships between the various groups they found. The ancient dogs are those included in the lightest circle. The other three circles include the herding, hunting and guard dogs. Where the circles overlap, the dogs in the breeds included in the overlapping areas share more mtDNA with dogs in the other group.

I would suggest that the dogs classified as being ancient might be those breeds which developed naturally in the years following the separation from wolves. We do not know if these were the only ones to develop originally nor if not, how many others may have been which did not survive. The early dogs would have survived if they did indeed fill a different ecologic niche(s). As the different ancient breeds arose, they too would fill slightly different niches. I might also suggest that these breeds form during those years between 40,000 and 15,000 by natural means and it is from them that man created/fostered other breeds.

We know that genetic changes did indeed occur in the creation of the domestic dog. Even today we have evidence that dogs who return to the wild— become feral do not revert to the wolf condition but are recognizable as dogs.

## DOMESTICATION

Domestication as such implies that there is human control over the reproduction of the domesticated animal. Matznick (2002) lacking much of the molecular data now known rejected the hypothesis that humans created the dog by purposefully domesticating the wolf. But in general, most people still seem to gravitate to the capture by

early man of young wolf cubs as the route to become dogs. If we consider that the wolf, *Canis lupus*, and the domestic dog *Canis familiaris* became separate species thousands of years ago, we would have to modify that to the capture of dog puppies.

But just how did domestication occur? A recent article on the origin of cats suggested that it was the cats that chose domestication. The idea of a “two-way” interaction with mutual benefit to both human and dog has been used to explain how the human/canine bond became established. In general, it is believed that early domestication began with the dog scavenging the garbage piles of early man. When we see videos/movies about this they show dogs with humans up on huge city dumps. Neolithic man did not throw away large quantities of food which the dogs could eat. Recently, scientists have been studying coprology – the study of faecal materials. They have found that many mammals are incapable of digesting much of what they eat initially. Many of these animals routinely eat their own faecal materials deriving further nourishment from the undigested food. In ancient times, it is probable that the ancient dogs followed the hunters-gatherers “recycling” the human wastes. Today in the Himalayas, Sherpa guides allow feral dogs around to clean up their camp sites. Similarly in many primitive communities worldwide, the feral dogs remove the human wastes. If the ancient dogs served this function, it is not too great a step to envision them around a camp site, approaching the fire for its warmth (Dogs do not evade fires as do wolves). How do your salukis act in the presence of a fire in the fireplace?

How then did the early dog become domesticated? Did it occur when Neolithic man/woman took puppies from a den and raised them? Did the early dogs of the ancient breeds choose to become domesticated? We know little about domestication. The first example of domestication is believed to have occurred about 14,000 years BP with the finding of the burial of a Neolithic man and dog. Morey (2006) reported that domestication can be assumed when burials are found of human and dog proving that an association between them did exist. Human with dog burials have been found worldwide except in Antarctica. In the years following the earliest recognized burials of human and dog, different sized dogs were found suggesting the existence of breed differences though we cannot determine at this time what breed those dogs might have been.

What are some of the differences between the wolf and dog which allowed the domestication of the dog but not the wolf? Wolves today cannot read facial expressions or body posture of humans in the manner that dogs can. Wolves will go away from fire while dogs will gravitate towards it. What do your salukis do when they have a fire or heater near by?

Many papers, novels, etc. have described how early man took wolf pups from the den to domesticate them. We can I think begin to rewrite this history using dog puppies. Further, the wolves/dogs are generally described as scavengers who lived off the garbage of Neolithic man. Thus, in considering how domestication of *Canis familiaris* occurred we need to consider the environment, climate, human presence. One major event that occurred at about the time of origin of the dog was

world glaciation. Glaciers reached their major extent over the northern Polar Regions at about 20,000 BP. Most of China and southwest Asia were never covered by glaciation. Savolainen (2002) suggested western Asia at the point of origin of canines based on the abundance of the number of Asian or Oriental breeds found in his study. The further away from the point of origin the fewer breeds found.

As the glaciers began to recede, oak and other hardwood forests appeared over vast areas from Europe to the Fertile Crescent on to the Indus River (Logan, 2005). It was in these forests that early Neolithic man lived as hunters-gatherers. The oak trees served as a prime source of food as well as shelter. Large mammals appear to have been one of their main sources of food. Large quantities of garbage available for the early dogs would have been scarce since Neolithic humans used just about everything in their daily lives. In time as their numbers grew, people began to move down out of the mountain areas and into the grasslands where they began to farm. Areas of northern Africa, Egypt, etc. were vast grasslands up until about 6,000 yrs BP when drastic climate changes began to occur worldwide. As these changes occurred, the beginnings of civilization as we know it appeared. We know of the Fertile Crescent in association with these beginnings: Modern archeological findings suggest that there were several places extending as far east as the Indus River with civilization centers built at that time. The early humans who moved out onto the plains as farmers survived on the native grasses for years. The domestication of grains required

hundreds of years. Using modern technology, it has been possible to determine that those early farmers were not as healthy as the hunter/gatherers in the oak forest. The farmers did not have as sturdy bone formation, tended to be anaemic, etc. These early farmers lacked protein in their diets. Though the association between man and dog were found years earlier, it was around 6000 BP as the grasslands began to dry up that the human populations moved into larger cities. It is at that time we find evidence improved of life and of new associations involving dogs and falcons indicative of hunting of small game. Tablets from that time demonstrate hunters with their dogs already identifiable as salukis.

The early Neolithic farmers who lived in the vast grasslands would have been aware of small grazing animals. One can easily imagine how early man watching the ancient sighthounds running down a gazelle might have run the hounds off from their catch and taken the meat for themselves? Easier to tame the dog than to create it and teach it to hunt for you.

## **SALUKI—TAZI**

This ancient breed of dog can be found in countries of varied geographic range from parts of Russia, the Middle East, central Asia and northern Africa. Some would say that the slight differences in structure seen in individuals from place to place would constitute individual breeds though in biological terms, they might be called ecotypes. The West first became familiar with the breed from the Middle East in the English and French Protectorates. Vast

areas of countries of origin (COOs) existed in the USSR unknown for the most part until the Iron Curtain fell in 1989. When one sees paintings, pictures, stamps etc. of these dogs, the immediate response is "saluki".

In general, we thought of the saluki as originating in the Middle Eastern deserts in association with the nomads. As our knowledge expanded to include other COOs, a problem becomes apparent. One thing that has always been apparent when one sees these dogs in the different countries is that there is so much variation visible in groups of dogs as well in individual litters. Coat type ... smooth vs feathered and texture will vary in different areas. Size range varies depending on the major type of terrain over which the dogs were used to hunt. The more varied the landscape, the greater the range in size. Color varied widely. It is probable that early importers selected animals with the color they most liked. Oral histories tell us a great deal about recent history of the breed. Examples of art tell us as well that the breed existed thousands of years ago. What we do not know, is where the breed developed. As ancient breeds, to consider that the afghan and saluki developed in western China and then migrated westward through the areas that became the COOs seems more logical. How would such migrations have occurred? From earliest time, early humans and probably dogs followed the game trails of the prey which they sought. It is very likely that those same game trails are what ultimately created the trails of commerce which in more recent history became the Silk Roads.

Today in many countries of origin, the local people are referring to their oral histories and claiming to have created their own saluki/tazi. Many of the people today in these countries of origin are from tribes made up of fused tribes that survived the many wars and migrations over hundreds of years over this vast area. The concept that the nomadic tribes found in so many of the COOs would each have developed a dog – the saluki–

is hard to consider. It is more likely that they ultimately domesticated to some extent the native dog. We should be grateful that these early fanciers recognized the qualities of this great hunting dog and perpetuated its existence. As an ancient breed, saluki/tazi has indeed survived as an example of natural selection. ...only the fittest survived.

We live in exciting times. Just within the past decade we have learned

much about the molecular background of our hounds. Until just a few years ago, domestication of the dog- the first domesticated animals – was believed to have occurred just 10,000 yrs BP. It has now been pushed back to about 15,000 yrs BP. With all the advances in technology we can anticipate more findings that may eventually tell us more about early man, ancient dogs and the start of civilization.

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# CARYNA ZAZMA



*Sire: Ch Mabrooka Jayid Dam: Ch Caryna Hera JW*

Rudi has again been placed well this year with numerous BOBs at Open Shows, a Reserve Best in Show at Tyne Wear & Tees Hound Show, but our young man also gained 2CCs, Darlington under Mrs MacDonald and Driffield under Mr Spencer-Bolland. Many thanks to all the judges who have thought so highly of him.

Adored and owned by Linda & Des Stuart and Denise Garratt