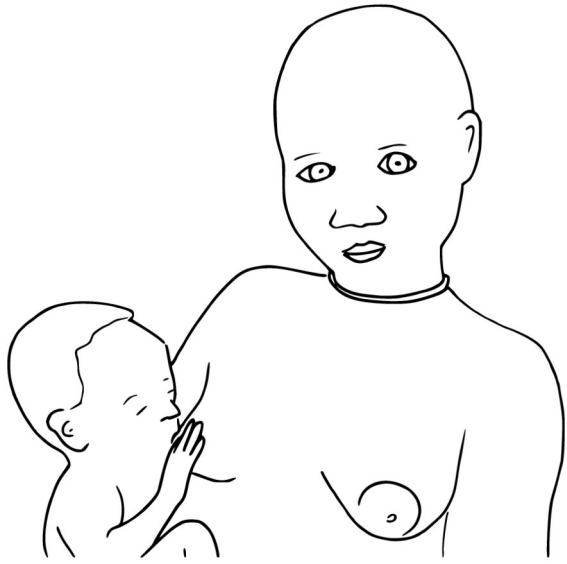


Fig.101 Illustration showing a native woman with her child. Living a life as hunter-gatherer is a way to ensure that the population does not overgrow and the resources the natural surrounding provides are always abundant for this society to conduct an affluent type of living. This is quite the contrary from our society which experience unchecked growth with its consequences.

Sustainability Among the Natives of Lower Asia

Natives keep limb bones "painted with red paint and white clay" in the roof of the hut. Hand and foot bones and pieces of ribs and vertebrae are "made into strings" by the "female relatives of the deceased" and are worn "as cures for and preventives of illness". Each native makes sure "to possess one or two". The bones of animals such as wild pigs, turtles and dugongs are "treated in exactly the same way" and ornaments made of them are "commonly worn". Natives go as far as "to encase every skull in basket-work". They also use a glass bottle as a "quartz pebble" knocking off a flake and then another till the operation "whether shaving or scarifying" is completed (Radcliffe-Brown 1922). Also natives recycle the fragments of shipwrecks such as "the nuts and bolts that washed up on their shores" and which they hammer "into arrowheads". Beside they have a shaman who reminds them "to make sure enough honey and cicada grubs" remains for the spirits to eat (Mukerjee 2003). Also they always carry with them a shell to prepare "their arrows", sharpen their "cane knives" but also as a spoon and a scraper to separate "the pulp from the fibre" to manufacture "strings and cords". Other shells are used as "drinking vessels", "adze blades" and "arrow-heads". Bamboo is deployed to make their harpoons' shafts and as "water-holders, and receptacles for cooked food" (Man 1883).