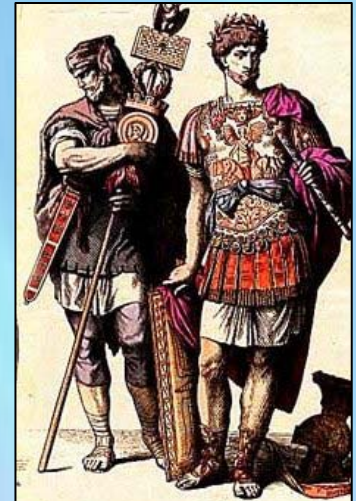


# Was Warfare a Creative Force in Early Social Evolution?

## *A Public Debate\**

*2-4 p.m., February 8, 2012  
Shiloh Room, University Center*



In the last 10,000 years, human societies have evolved from highly egalitarian bands of a few dozen people to huge societies of today with great economic and social divisions, thousands of professions, and elaborate governing structures. How this transition occurred is one of the greatest puzzles in science. To throw some light on this fascinating topic, NIMBioS will host a debate, focusing on the role of warfare in explaining the transition from simple to complex societies.

**Thesis:** Warfare has transformed us from living in villages to living in huge states, building cities and civilizations, and ultimately making our lives more peaceful.

**Antithesis:** Warfare is an unfortunate side-effect of the evolution of social complexity, but it was other evolutionary mechanisms that resulted in highly complex human societies.

**For the thesis:** Peter Turchin (University of Connecticut), Jeremy Sabloff (Santa Fe Institute)

**For the antithesis:** Sander Van Der Leeuw (Arizona State University), Tim Kohler (Washington State University)

### **Moderators**

Laura Fortunato (Santa Fe Institute), Sergey Gavrilets (NIMBioS)

\*A **Darwin Day Event** at the University of Tennessee Presented by NIMBioS



For more information, about the National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis (NIMBioS), visit [www.nimbios.org](http://www.nimbios.org)

For more information about Darwin Day, visit [eeb.bio.utk.edu/Darwin](http://eeb.bio.utk.edu/Darwin)