

MAY'S MEDIA has been full of Auntie Ida, and you'll be flabbergasted at how easy it is (albeit expensive) to create a missing evolutionary relative, so welcome to Exposing Ida, and a few more of our supposedly evolutionary relatives. It's an issue totally devoted to evidence concerning man, and you will enjoy this as much as we have in preparing it. So again, welcome to Evidence News 5/09 with EDitorial COMment from John Mackay and the Creation Research Team around the world.

To view this week's Evidence News please click [www.creationresearch.net/enews/enews509-0905270man.pdf](http://www.creationresearch.net/enews/enews509-0905270man.pdf) (if the link doesn't work just copy and paste it into your web browser).

FOR THOSE WHO ARE NEW we now do our News email outs in PDF format for you to download. You DO need to have Adobe Reader which is freely available from [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)

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#### 1. REVEALING IDA – CREATING AN ANCESTOR

DISCOVERY: Found by private collectors in 1983 in Messel, Germany

PUBLICITY: Start of May orchestrated press leaks by David Attenborough et al.

UNVEILING: 19 May 2009 at American Museum of Natural History New York

CLAIMS: 47-million-year-old proof of evolution named "Darwinus masillae", nickname Ida,

PRESS immediately hailed specimen as a "missing link" and even the "eighth wonder of the world".

GOOGLE HOMEPAGE EVOLVES rapidly as image of Ida was put into logo.

IDA DEVOLVES: 21 May 2009 Chris Beard curator vertebrate paleontology Carnegie Museum of Natural History stated: "Ida forms basis for new genus and species of adapiform primate, Darwinus massillae. Adapiforms are branch of primate tree that leads to modern lemurs. Ida's skeleton is remarkably complete, putting her in a small, elite group of well-documented fossil primates that includes North American cousin, Notharctus. Uniquely - Ida's stomach contents and some of her soft anatomy are preserved. Ida lacked a "toothcomb" at the front of her lower jaw – which living lemurs use for grooming fur. Ida also lacked a "grooming claw" on her second toe, different from living lemurs. Ida's overall proportions and anatomy resemble that of a lemur."

CURRENT EXPERT CONCLUSION: Ida is not "missing link" between anthropoids and more primitive primates. Further study may reveal her to be a missing link between other species of Eocene adapiforms, but this hardly solidifies her status as the "eighth wonder of the world". (ref apeman, missing link, media)

MAY 27 2009 MASSIVE MEDIA APOLOGY as world's press reveals it is sorry for the hype that has misled the public and all blame should be placed on David Attenborough and his cronies.

ED.COM. (We created the last item out of nothing – so don't hold your breath waiting for the media retraction.)

2. IDA HYPE FAILS TO IMPRESS, according to articles in Live Science, ScienceNOW and Access Research Network, The Guardian and Wall Street Journal. The small primate fossil nicknamed Ida was launched into the public eye with a blaze of media hyperbole involving a Museum show presided over by Mayor Bloomberg of New York, a Google logo, a David Attenborough documentary, and a website named Revealing the Link. But the media "made monkeys of themselves" and many palaeontologists were not impressed with the extravagant claims, which include being called the "eighth wonder of the world", along with aggrandizing statements by the following:

Jorn Hurum, Norwegian fossil scientist, University of Oslo Natural History Museum: "This is the first link to all humans ... truly a fossil that links world heritage."

Philip Gingerich, of the Museum of Paleontology at the University of Michigan: "It's really a kind of Rosetta Stone," and "This is the first link in human evolution. A find like this is something for all humankind. It tells a part of our evolution that's been hidden so far... This is our Mona Lisa and it will be ... for the next 100 years."

Nancy Dubuc of the History Channel: "(Ida) promised to change everything that we thought we understood about the origins of human life."

David Attenborough: "This little creature is going to show us our connection with all the rest of the mammals. The link they would have said until now is missing ... it is no longer missing."

The term "missing link" was bandied about numerous times and a book entitled "The Link" accompanies the TV documentary. However, even the scientists who studied it are not claiming it as a direct ancestor of humans. Jens Franzen of the Senckenberg Research Institute in Frankfurt commented that it is "a representative of an ancestor group that gave rise to higher primates," who helped analyze the fossil. However, he stopped short of calling the animal "She's not our great-great-great-grandmother, but our great-great-great-aunt." Chris Beard, a curator of vertebrate palaeontology at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh commented to Live Science: "It's not a missing link, it's not even a terribly close relative to monkeys, apes and humans, which is the point they're trying to make." He also said: "This fossil has been hailed as the eighth wonder of the world. Frankly I've got 10 more in my basement. In some ways the most amazing and startling result of all of this is that we've now set a new standard in how to promote a new fossil, and I have mixed feelings about that."

Access Research Network:

[http://www.arn.org/blogs/index.php/2/2009/05/20/ida\\_the\\_holy\\_grail\\_of\\_evolutionary\\_specu\\_1](http://www.arn.org/blogs/index.php/2/2009/05/20/ida_the_holy_grail_of_evolutionary_specu_1)

Live Science: <http://www.livescience.com/animals/090520-fossil-reactions.html>

Guardian: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/science/2009/may/19/ida-fossil-primate-media-us>

Wall Street Journal: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124274731478535053.html>

Revealing the Link: <http://revealingthelink.com/>

ED. COM. All the extravagant claims about this fossil remind us of the old joke: "Be sure brain is engaged before shooting mouth off". Even without fanciful comparisons with the Rosetta Stone and the Mona Lisa, any connection between this fossil and human beings is purely in the minds of evolutionists, who already believe by faith that people used to be small tree dwelling quadrupeds. The overplayed evolutionary story about this fossil has distracted people from its real value as a particularly well preserved and complete animal fossil that reveals a unique mixture of non-unique characteristics. This is what you would expect if it was a separate created kind, as Genesis says. (Ref. propaganda, publicity, anthropology)

3. "47 MILLION YEAR OLD HUMAN ANCESTOR" FOUND, claims a press release from Natural History Museum, University of Oslo, also reported BBC News and PLoS ONE, 19 May 2009. Palaeontologists have found "the most complete fossil primate ever found" in the Messel Shale Pit, near Darmstadt, Germany. The creature has been given the scientific name "Darwinius masillae", nicknamed Ida, and belongs to a group of extinct primates known as adapids. These are similar to lemurs, but do not have a toothcomb or a grooming claw – two distinctive features of lemurs. The fossil is 95% complete and has traces of soft tissue and stomach contents. In their article in the journal PLoS ONE the researchers describe the animals as "a weaned and independent-feeding female that died in her first year of life, and might have attained a body weight of 650–900 g (about 2lb) had she lived to adulthood. She was an

agile, nail-bearing, generalized arboreal quadruped living above the floor of the Messel rain forest.” The stomach contents indicate it ate berries and plants. The wrist shows signs of a healing fracture and the creature is believed to have died when “she was overcome by carbon dioxide gas whilst from drinking from the Messel lake: the still waters of the lake were often covered by a low lying blanket of the gas as a result of the volcanic forces that formed the lake and which were still active. Hampered by her broken wrist, Ida slipped into unconsciousness, was washed into the lake, and sunk to the bottom, where unique conditions preserved her for 47 million years.” The animal had grasping hands with nails, rather than claws, forward facing eyes and a talus (a foot bone) that looks “almost anthropoid”. With these mix of features the fossil is claimed to be a direct link in the evolution of humans from early primates. However, not all scientists are so impressed. The BBC reported: “Independent experts are keen to see the new fossil but somewhat sceptical of any claim that it could be ‘a missing link’. Dr Henry Gee, a senior editor at the journal Nature, said the term itself was misleading and that the scientific community would need to evaluate its significance. ‘It’s extremely nice to have a new find and it will be well-studied,’ he said. But he added that it was not likely to be in the same league as major discoveries such as ‘Flores man’ or feathered dinosaurs.” The BBC article goes on to say: “Dr Chris Beard, curator of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History and author of The Hunt for the Dawn Monkey, said he was ‘awestruck’ by the publicity machine surrounding the new fossil. He argued that it could damage the popularisation of science if the creature was not all that it was hyped up to be.”

BBC: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/8057465.stm>

Oslo University: [http://www.revealingthelink.com/more-about-ida/resources/press\\_release.pdf](http://www.revealingthelink.com/more-about-ida/resources/press_release.pdf)

PLoS ONE: <http://www.plosone.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pone.0005723>

ED. COM. Henry Gee is correct. The term “missing link” is misleading, especially as this creature has been found. The fossil most resembles a group of animals called prosimians, which includes lemurs, tarsiers, bush babies, galagos and aye ayes. Grasping hands, nails and forward facing eyes are all general primate features, seen in prosimians, monkeys and apes, so there is nothing new or specifically human about them. This is a particularly splendid fossil because it is so well preserved, but the animal’s healing fracture, sudden death, and the extinction of adapids, all remind us the world is going downhill. Evidence of degeneration of world is further reinforced by the description of the fossil as a rainforest animal. Germany is no longer a rainforest. In all aspects, this fossil is better evidence for Biblical history of the world, than for evolution. (Ref. mammals, anthropology, primates)

4. BRAIN DRAIN The textbooks don’t tell you, the teachers usually don’t know, and the general public thinks the opposite is true, so don’t miss the real evidence that man’s brain space is actually decreasing. See [http://www.evidencweb.net/photo\\_search\\_results.php?p\\_SERIES=Brain%20Drain](http://www.evidencweb.net/photo_search_results.php?p_SERIES=Brain%20Drain)

5. NEANDERTHAL MAN’S FAVOURITE HYMN was....? and if you said “Rock of Ages”, you were wrong. Since Neanderthal Man’s discovery in Germany, people have associated the skeleton with the theory of evolution. A little bit of history should put some light on this. In the late 1600’s, German poet Joachim Neander would wander in a little valley outside of Dusseldorf to write poetry. This little retreat became so much associated with Joachim’s name that in the end it was called Mr Neander’s Valley – in old German, Neander Thal. So when in 1856 a skull was found in one of the valleys caves, what better name than Neanderthal Man. It was originally portrayed as a half ape, half human, but right from the start, Berlin University Professor Virchow said this was a deformed human who had suffered childhood rickets and old age arthritis – an analysis which would eventually be proved embarrassingly correct by staff at the Natural History Museum in London, who would confirm that he indeed was a human being who had been suffering from at least Vitamin D deficiency. Later research hints that he probably also suffered from sexually transmitted diseases. There was also evidence right from the start, Neanderthal man had more brain space than a modern human. Oh, and Neanderthal Man’s favourite hymn? Of course, we mean the original Joachim Neander, whose most famous piece of poetry still appears in Christian hymnbooks around the world – “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation”. See [http://www.evidencweb.net/photo\\_search\\_results.php?p\\_SERIES=Brain%20Drain](http://www.evidencweb.net/photo_search_results.php?p_SERIES=Brain%20Drain)

GET YOUR COPY of Bones of Contention by Marvin Lubenow which is one of the best books on Human fossils we have come across with a creation perspective. NOW AVAILABLE via our web shop – click <http://www.creationresearch.net/secure/store/product.php?productid=16266&cat=3&page=1>

6. CAVEMAN CHEMISTRY STUNS SCIENTISTS, according to an article in The Star, 21 May 2009, p9. Researchers at Wits University have discovered traces of an extremely strong adhesive on stone tools found in Sibudu cave, on the KwaZulu-Natal North Coast, South Africa. The tools were spear or arrow heads glued to wooden shafts and are dated as being 70,000 years old. The researchers analysed the glue and tried to make some themselves, but “were stunned” by the difficulty of getting it right. The glue is made from a mix of red ochre, acacia gum sand and animal fat and is strong as modern superglue. However, to make it successfully involved getting the mix right, controlling the temperature and drying it under the right conditions. Archaeologist Lyn Wadley commented, “I thought I was stupid, I just couldn’t get it right.” The ancient people who made the tools had to be “competent chemists, alchemists and pyrotechnologists.” Wadley explained: “The glue-maker needs to pay careful attention to the condition of ingredients before and during the procedure and must be able to switch attention between aspects of the methodology without losing track of the long-term goal. This shows that they were multitasking at some level, and demonstrates the use of complex cognitive abilities.” The researchers eventually made the glue and put together some replica stone tools, which they used to chop wood. Their experience gave them “new respect for these prehistoric people”.

The Star:

[http://www.int.iol.co.za/index.php?art\\_id=vn20090521055312218C651677&set\\_id=1&click\\_id=588&sf=](http://www.int.iol.co.za/index.php?art_id=vn20090521055312218C651677&set_id=1&click_id=588&sf=)

ED. COM. Here is another instance of evolutionary theory being a poor predictor of scientific findings. Evolutionary theory says apes moved out of trees and turned into people who moved into caves and used stone tools because they weren’t yet smart enough to build houses or use metal tools. The Bible tells us human being started out highly intelligent farmers and city builders (Genesis 1- 6), but after they had defied God at the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11) they were scattered in small groups. Their previously high technology became splintered and some were now on the way to the stone-age, but because they were still smart they made the best they could with resources available. The fact that it took a group of university trained scientists to copy stone-age glue, proves making stone tools held together with superglue was a creatively clever thing to do – and is one more evidence that man alone is made in the image of the Creator God. (Ref. anthropology, design, chemistry)

7. JOHN CALVIN ON THE AGE OF THE EARTH: “Albeit the duration of the world, now declining to its ultimate end, has not yet attained six thousand years. God’s work was completed not in a moment but in six days.” Calvin: Institutes of the Christian Religion 1 (Louisville, KY: The Westminster Press, 1960), p. 160-161, 182 J.T. McNeil, editor) (ref theology, Bible, Genesis 1)

8. NUTCRACKER TEETH CHALLENGE EVOLUTIONARY ADAPTATION, according to an article in EurekaAlert, 29 April 2008 and PLoS ONE 30 April 2008. “Nutcracker Man” is the nickname given to “Paranthropus boisei,” an extinct ape-like creature, believed to be a relative of human ancestors. The nickname came from its huge robust jaw, extensive area of jaw muscle attachment on the cranium and “the biggest, flattest cheek teeth and the thickest enamel of any known hominin.” These findings led scientists to believe the creature lived on a diet of tough foods such as nuts, seeds, roots and tubers. Peter Ungar, an anthropologist at J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences, and colleagues have examined the patterns of wear and tear on teeth of “P. Boisei” specimens and found a pattern more consistent with a diet of soft fruit. According to EurekaAlert, “This finding suggests that structure alone is not enough to predict dietary preferences and that evolutionary adaptation for eating may have been based on scarcity rather than on an animal’s regular diet.” This apparent paradox between an animal’s teeth and jaws and its diet has been also found in fish and fits with observations that animals will even avoid eating foods they appear adapted for. Ungar explained: “If you give a gorilla a choice of eating a sugary fruit or a leaf, it will take the fruit every time. But if you look at a gorilla’s skull, its sharp teeth are adapted to consuming tough leaves. They don’t eat the leaves unless they have to.” Ungar also commented that the Nutcracker Man study “challenges the fundamental assumptions of why such specializations occur in nature. It shows that animals can develop an extreme degree of specialization without the specialized object becoming a preferred resource.”

EurekaAlert: [http://www.eurekaalert.org/pub\\_releases/2008-04/plos-nfc042808.php](http://www.eurekaalert.org/pub_releases/2008-04/plos-nfc042808.php)

PLoS ONE: <http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0002044>

ED. COM. It seems the evolutionists are finally admitting to what we have been saying about teeth for many years, i.e. an animal’s teeth and jaws indicate how it eats, rather than what it eats. Sharp teeth are for ripping, flat teeth for chewing, but what it rips or what it chews are what it chooses. It also takes more

than just strong teeth and jaws to eat tough nuts and tubers. The animal's digestive system has to be able to cope with them as well. It is not possible to study an extinct animal's digestive processes, but we may be audacious enough to suggest that *P. Bosei* became extinct because it could no longer find enough soft fruits to eat as the environment got tougher after Noah's flood. (Ref. diet, hominids, apes)

9. PUTTING A FOOT IN A HOBBIT MOUTH reported in BBC News, American Museum of Natural History and ScienceDaily, 6 May 2009, and Nature 7 May 2009.... Ever since the bones now nicknamed "the Hobbits" were found in a cave on the island of Flores, anthropologists have argued about whether they were dwarf human beings with pathologically small brains (a disease named microcephaly) or they were a different species of human. A group of scientists have now studied the feet of one of the specimens and concluded the feet "were primitive but not pathological" and are so different from human feet they must belong to a different species. William Harcourt-Smith, a Research Scientist in the Division of Palaeontology at the American Museum of Natural History, who was involved in the study, explained: "Their feet have a combination of human-like and more primitive early hominin traits, some of which are more akin to those in Lucy." Lucy is the most famous of a group of extinct creatures named "Australopithecines", or "southern apes". The Hobbit foot is long in proportion to overall leg length, has long curved small toes and lacks an arch. Harcourt-Smith commented: "Arches are the hallmark of a modern human foot. It also has long curved small toes. This is another strong piece of the evidence that the 'hobbit' was not like us." The first metatarsal – the foot bone that supports the big toe, was relatively small, but researchers claim it was aligned with the other bones like a human big toe. In response to the "diseased human vs different human" debate, researchers compared the hobbit foot to "those of typical modern humans and pathological modern specimens such as pituitary dwarfs." The feet were not like any of the human feet, but were more like ape feet.

BBC: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8036396.stm>

AMNH: [http://www.amnh.org/science/papers/harcourt\\_hobbit.php](http://www.amnh.org/science/papers/harcourt_hobbit.php)

ScienceDaily: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/05/090506144307.htm>

ED. COM. The Nature report has several graphs comparing the size and proportions of the Hobbit foot to those of humans and chimpanzees and other apes. The Hobbit foot consistently fits into ape range. This should be no surprise as its brain size and limb ratio of lengths fits the chimp range as well. It seems from head to foot this creature was an ape. (For further comments on the Hobbit see item below) (Ref. anthropology, hominids, *Homo floresiensis*)

10. HOBBITS GALORE – more great info on Hobbits – see [www.creationresearch.net](http://www.creationresearch.net) click SEARCH then EVIDENCE SEARCH then enter HOBBIT.

11. DO DWARF HIPPOS EXPLAIN HOBBITS? ask scientists, according to reports in BBC News, ABC (Australia) News in Science, ScienceDaily and Nature news 6 May 2009. Scientists at the Natural History Museum, London, UK have studied skulls of an extinct Madagascan hippopotamus they say could explain the small size of "*Homo floresiensis*" otherwise known as "the Hobbit". Hobbits were about one metre (3ft) tall and had a brain of just over 400 cubic centimetres, about a third the size of a human brain. The researchers claim the small size of the Hobbit could be caused by "insular dwarfism" – the tendency for animals to shrink in size after they are isolated on islands and have to cope with scarce resources. Eleanor Weston, a Natural History Museum palaeontologist, explained: "The discovery of a small fossil human from the island of Flores with normal facial proportions but a brain the size of chimpanzee has baffled scientists. It could be that its skull is that of a dwarfed mammal living on an island. Looking at pygmy hippos in Madagascar, which possess exceptionally small brains for their size, suggests that the 'hobbit' was a dwarf resulting from its *H. erectus* ancestors being isolated on the island in the past." Other scientists are not so convinced. Robert Martin — a biological anthropology curator at the Field Museum in Chicago, told Nature News "I think that claim goes too far, based as it is on a single case relying on indirect evidence." Maciej Henneberg of the University of Adelaide claims it is not appropriate to compare semi-aquatic herbivorous hippos with land dwelling omnivorous hominins. Other researchers claim that a creature with such a small brain could not make the stone tools that were also found in the cave with the bones. Henneberg is part of the group that claims the Hobbit is a pygmy human and has a small brain due to a disease called microcephaly. He commented: "To my mind a gross disorder is a simpler explanation." He is also sceptical of the study of the foot that indicate Hobbits were very different from humans. He said that foot bones were found scattered in Liang Bua cave along with bones from other individuals, therefore scientists can't be sure that they come from the same

individual. However, Mike Morwood of the University of Wollongong, who was involved in the foot study, insists the bones were put together properly and the foot is definitely different to a human foot, being very long with no arch. He said: "The feet are almost the same length, as a proportion of the leg, as bonobos" and suggests further analysis of hand bones may reveal the hobbit was "more arboreal" than modern humans. According to ScienceDaily: "a number of recent analyses of the skull, face, and wrist have found many unusually primitive features among the "hobbits" that are more similar to chimpanzees and Australopithecus, suggesting that the Flores inhabitants represent a remnant population of early hominins."

ABC: <http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2009/05/07/2562494.htm?site=science&topic=ancient>

BBC: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8036396.stm>

ScienceDaily: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/05/090507185535.htm>

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/05/090506144307.htm>

ED. COM. The research referred to above is the latest in a series of studies of "H. floresiensis" and every one of them has shown the bones to be more like ape bones than human bones. At the risk of sounding repetitive, to date H. floresiensis has been found to have an ape-like chin, wrist, shoulder, body and limb proportions, and ape-sized brain. We said this would happen when the bones were first found, even when other creation groups were going along with the diseased human dwarf theory. Hobbits are clearly ape bones, and it is about time both evolutionists and creationists admitted this. If they had been found in Africa or in rocks with an older evolutionary age they would have been classified as some kind of ape, but there is no scientific kudos, or evolutionary story in finding another extinct ape. (Ref. anthropology, hominids, primates)

12. FOSSIL HUMAN FOOTPRINTS FOUND, according to reports in BBC News, ScienceNOW 26 Feb 2009 and Science vol. 323. p 1197, 27 February 2009. An international group of scientists has analysed a series of fossilised footprints found in Ileret, Kenya. They were found in two sedimentary layers dated at 1.51 to 1.53 million years ago. There were two sets of prints, one five metres deeper than the other, separated by sand, silt, and volcanic ash. The team dated the surrounding sediment by comparing it with well-known radioisotope-dated samples from the region, and concluded the two layers of prints were made at least 10,000 years apart. The prints had "a modern shape, with the big toe parallel to the other toes and a pronounced arch." According to the BBC the prints belong to someone with the "height, weight, and walking style of modern humans" with evidence of "a heavy landing on the heel with weight transferred along the outer edge of the foot, progressing to the ball of the foot and lifting off with the toes." The footprints have been classified as belonging to "Homo erectus" and the researchers concluded: "The Ileret prints show that by 1.5 Ma, hominins had evolved an essentially modern human foot function and style of bipedal locomotion."

BBC: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/7913375.stm>

ED. COM. These footprints were clearly made by human feet, and if had been found in rock given a younger date they would have been classified as "Homo sapiens". They are only called "Homo erectus" because of the 1.5 Million year date, which is too old for H. sapiens in the evolutionary timetable. As such they are a good example of the old problem of circular reasoning for evolutionists – they use rocks to date fossils and then classify the fossils according to the already believed evolutionary timetable. Furthermore, a quick walk on the beach sand should convince anyone that footprints can only be preserved and fossilised if they are rapidly buried. If the 5 metres of sediment between the two sets of prints really was laid down over 100,000 years then it was deposited at a rate of 0.05 mm per year. That is smaller than the size of a grain of sand. It is far easier to believe the lower footprints were rapidly buried by sediment/ash up to 5 meters thick (one day's work for volcanic activity or floods) and then soon after, while that sediment was still consolidating, another person walked across it and then that layer was also rapidly buried and the rock layers then solidified. I guess you could say even if you accept the 1.5 million years we have now proved that feet have not evolved in all that time – a fact that really helps the creationist case. (Ref. anthropology, sedimentology, feet)

13. FOSSIL HUMAN HAIR FOUND, according to reports in Daily Telegraph 9 May 2009 and Live Science 11 May 2009. Palaeontologists have found forty human hairs fossilised within a coprolite (fossilised dung) found in a cave in South Africa. The coprolite is from a hyena and is dated as being between 257,000 and 195,000 years old. This makes the hairs the oldest preserved human hair ever found. Because of this age the researchers suggest "the hair may have belonged to an early human

species known as “Homo heidelbergensis”, which was living in Africa around 200,000 years ago, or could be from one of the first “Homo sapiens”, who are thought to have evolved around 195,000 years ago.” Hyenas are scavengers, so it is assumed that the hair became embedded in the dung when the hyena scavenged a dead human body.

Daily Telegraph: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/environment/archeology/5299352/200000-year-old-human-hair-found-in-dung.html>

Live Science: <http://www.livescience.com/animals/090511-human-hair.html>

ED. COM. These hairs are identical to human hairs, so on the basis of the observed facts rather than preconceived beliefs, there is no need to speculate they belonged to a different species. When you see it through Biblical glasses this gruesome find, indicating a person had died and was left to scavengers is a tragic reminder of the degeneration of the world since it was originally created. In the beginning there was no death and no scavenging. Humans and animals only ate plants. Death came into the world as punishment for man’s rebellion against his Creator. By the time of Noah the world had become overwhelmingly corrupt and animals were classified as clean and unclean – or vegetarian and scavengers. As scavengers, Hyenas are in the unclean class. It was only later than Noah that Carnivores commenced their activities. (Ref. corruption, anthropology, hominids)

14. SOPHISTICATED, FEARLESS NEANDERTHALS described in an article in AlphaGalileo and ScienceDaily 14 May 2009. Neanderthals are usually portrayed as brutish muscle men who were unable to compete with smarter modern men in the struggle for existence. Gerrit Dusseldorp of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research has analysed archaeological sites of Neanderthals and concluded they were highly intelligent, skilled hunters. He found that Neanderthals living in warmer, forested regions preferred solitary game, but those living in cold areas with sparser vegetation were successful in hunting herding animals, even though these can be hard to surprise and capture on open steppes. To do this they must have good communication and organisational skills. As a result they were able to hunt strong, difficult to capture game, such as rhinoceros and bison that gave high yields of meat, skins and fleeces. As summarised by AlphaGalileo “Dusseldorp established that just as for modern humans, the environment and the availability of food determined the choice of prey and the hunting method adopted. If the circumstances allowed it, Neanderthals lived in large groups and even the most attractive and difficult to catch prey were within their reach.”

AlphaGalileo: <http://www.alphagalileo.org/ViewItem.aspx?ItemId=57751&CultureCode=en>

ScienceDaily: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/05/090514084115.htm>

ED. COM. As Neanderthals had bigger brains than modern humans it is no surprise that they were sophisticated and fearless, with good communication and organisation skills. This is a yet another study that shows Neanderthals had all the faculties and abilities of “Homo sapiens” and there is no excuse for trying to classify Neanderthals into another species. The only reason for trying to separate them is to reinforce the idea that modern man is merely the survivor of the evolutionary struggle for existence and is not unique. However, the evidence of their decreasing brain size really does fit Genesis, which tells us that human beings were unique creations, separate from the animals and there is only one human family who are all descendents of the first man Adam. (Ref. anthropology, hunting, society)

15. FEMALE PREACHER CLAIMS ABORTION “A BLESSING”, according to an article in Daily Telegraph blogs, 2 April 2009. Katherine Hancock Ragsdale, the new Dean of the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, claims that “abortion is a blessing” and those who work in abortion clinics are doing “holy work”. In a recent sermon at Birmingham, Alabama she said: “when a woman becomes pregnant within a loving, supportive, respectful relationship; has every option open to her; decides she does not wish to bear a child; and has access to a safe, affordable abortion - there is not a tragedy in sight - only blessing.” She went on to say: “I want to thank all of you who protect this blessing - who do this work every day: the health care providers, doctors, nurses, technicians, receptionists, who put your lives on the line to care for others (you are heroes - in my eyes, you are saints); the escorts and the activists; the lobbyists and the clinic defenders; all of you. You're engaged in holy work.” Damian Thompson, who posted the article, commented: “Do not, please, make the mistake of assuming that she is an unrepresentative extremist: liberal Anglicans in America are among the most fervent supporters of abortion in the world, outstripping even atheists in their enthusiasm for this gruesome procedure.”

Daily Telegraph: <http://tinyurl.com/c39zxn>

ED. COM. This theologian has no understanding of the sanctity of human life, no fear of the real Creator God and therefore no wisdom. To destroy an unborn baby because its presence is an inconvenience to its mother is a human sacrifice to the god of self and an abomination in the face of the Creator Christ who made man in His own image. The fact that someone who believes taking an innocent human life is a blessing can get to a position of authority in a mainstream church denomination is an indictment of how corrupt the church can get when it ceases to fear the God of Creation. It seems the wolves don't even have to put on sheep's clothing to get into the church these days and is a reminder of God's remorse over a similar situation which had occurred in Isaiah's day where the Lord sadly reflected that "As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err..." Isaiah 3:12 (Ref. apostasy, feminism, humanity)

16. FOSSILS CHALLENGE HUMAN EVOLUTION THEORY, according to reports in BBC News Online, ABC (Australia) News in Science, and Nature, vol 448, p688, 9 Aug 2007. A team of palaeontologists, including members of the Leakey family, have found "two new cranial fossils" in the Koobi Fora Formation, east of Lake Turkana, Kenya. One specimen is part of an upper jawbone that has been classified as "Homo habilis" and is dated as being 1.44 million years old. The other specimen is a calvaria (braincase without the face) that has been classified as "Homo erectus" and is dated as being 1.55 million years old. "Homo habilis" was believed to have evolved into "Homo erectus", but the close dates for these specimens indicates that they both lived together. Maeve Leakey commented: "Their co-existence makes it unlikely that Homo erectus evolved from Homo habilis. The braincase volume is estimated as 691 cubic cm - considerably smaller than other "Homo erectus" skulls. This finding has led the scientists to suggest the "Homo erectus" was very sexually dimorphic", i.e. males and females being very different in size, similar to gorillas.

ABC article: <http://www.abc.net.au/science/news/stories/2007/2000472.htm?ancient>

BBC article: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/6937476.stm>

ED. COM. Did you note the small amount of real evidence found, (part of a jawbone and the back of a skull). This is reminder that most evolutionary stories about apes evolving into people are not based on whole skeletons, but broken pieces of bone repaired with lots of imagination. We will also be more emphatic than Maeve Leakey and say finding two species within the one rock layer definitely means that one did not evolve into the other. It is no surprise to us when creatures previously claimed to have lived at different times turn out merely to be dead at the same time in the same place. Genesis tells us that all land dwelling animals and man were made on the same day and therefore lived alongside one another until some died out. (Ref. hominids, anthropology, ape-men)

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