



“Why does a Zebra have black and white stripes?” – No it’s not a joke, but you will get a great laugh out of the latest evolutionist answer? And you will love it, as we help you once more to expose the fallacies of evolutionary logic, or lack thereof.

Also to encourage more of you to join the tens of thousands who visit our QnA website *Ask John Mackay*, we are giving you the latest question concerning Australian Aboriginal people, produced in full below, along with some more recent questions on creation and the Creator. You will find our Ask site an incredible source of helpful information. Enjoy this Evidence News 05/14 as you join John Mackay and the Creation Research Team around the globe.

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1. **MISSED THE CREATION EVENT?** You can now view individual lectures. Click [here](#) and choose from the list shown on the page. The following lectures are available:

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2. ZEBRA RIDDLE SOLVED claim scientists, according to reports in ABC News in Science, Science Shots and ScienceDaily 1 April 2014 and *Nature Communications* doi:10.1038/ncomms4535 1 April 2014. Ever since Darwin and Wallace speculated on the origins of zebra stripes there have been many theories about why zebras are striped, with suggestions ranging from camouflage to temperature regulation to social signalling. A group of scientists led by Tim Caro of the University of California at Davis claim they have come up with the best answer – protection from biting flies. Several years ago scientists in Hungary carried out some experiments with horseflies on different coloured and patterned models. They found that the flies were attracted to evenly dark surfaces, but not black and white



striped surfaces. The Hungarian scientists concluded that zebras had evolved stripes to minimise their attractiveness to biting horseflies. Caro's team have followed up this finding by comparing the geographic range of zebras with the regions that have the best conditions for breeding horseflies and tsetse flies. They found the range for the most distinctively striped zebras overlapped significantly with the areas that had the best conditions for breeding horseflies. The researchers suggested that because zebras have short hair they are particularly easy for horseflies to bite, and therefore zebras have evolved their stripes to deter biting flies. They concluded their report: "A solution to the riddle of zebra stripes, discussed by Wallace and Darwin, is at hand."

Links: [ABC](#), [ScienceDaily](#), [Science Shots](#)

ED. COM. Yes, this report really was published on 1st April. But notice what they actually found – an overlap between places that are good for breeding horseflies and places where highly striped zebras actually live. That is all! They did not directly map the presence of flies – only places that would be good for flies to breed. So the leap of faith required to go from overlapping geographic ranges to explaining the origin of zebra stripes is so large perhaps you could be forgiven for asking if this report was an April Fool's story. However, since it was published in *Nature Communications* – an online journal from the prestigious Nature Publishing Group, we will take it seriously. There is no doubt that being bitten by horseflies is a bad thing, and if being striped deters flies then 'stripeyness' should help zebras survive in a place where there are flies. However since horseflies and tsetse flies bite other animals and also bite people, yet there are no striped people and few other striped animals, something is wrong with the explanation.

We wrote about the original Hungarian study in 2012 and asked the question: "How does being attacked by flies change the genes that control colour patterning in an animal's skin?" (See "Zebra stripes confuse flies" Evidence News 16 February 2012 [here](#).) This new study does not answer that question either, and therefore does not provide "a solution to the riddle of zebra stripes" any more than the previous study.

The fatal flaw with this study is the lack of insider information suffered by evolutionists, so here it is. Since all creatures started out vegetarian, horseflies did not bite zebras to obtain protein in the beginning. They got all they needed from the high quality plants God had made. (See Genesis 1:26 – 31) (Ref. natural selection, pigmentation, equids, evolution)

3. DID A GOOD GOD MAKE BAD BUGS? DVD available from Creation Research [webshop](#). Watch on YouTube [here](#).

4. ABORIGINAL ROCK ART and a young earth:



QUESTION: How can you claim a young earth when Australian aboriginal rock art is around 40,000 years old?

ANSWER by Steve Cardno who studied art at Griffith University's *Queensland College of Art* and has a keen interest in understanding history and art from a Biblical perspective. He is Australia's longest serving creation artist having worked with Ken Ham and John Mackay since the 1970's.



Much debate surrounds the dating of aboriginal rock art - even within evolutionist circles. Some is easy to date as for example in the Wessell Islands of Northern Australia. An upcoming expedition scheduled for 2014 by the Australian Geographic Society hopes to more fully investigate their earlier discovery of Aboriginal rock art which apparently shows images of the first European visitors and their ships. Not only this but five 1000 year-old coins (originally discovered there by RAAF soldiers in 1944 during WW2) from the medieval African sultanate of Kilwa were also discovered there. Europeans were actively exploring the southern hemisphere from the 1600s on, this would suggest a maximum age for this clearly identifiable art of a few hundred years at most. At the time of writing, preliminary reports state that the find, heralded as '*spectacular*' by one researcher, is as yet '*undated*'. One wonders how old the rock art's age might have been guessed at by evolutionary academics had it not been for the presence of clearly 'modern' elements.¹

For other less dateable art, one problem should be obvious: How can 'primitive' art look so good and colourful after 40,000 years of exposure when even more modern art needs retouching within a century or two? Some have suggested it was tribal practice to regularly touch up the paintings in order to keep the images visible. We have personal experience of this in the Three Brothers Region cave paintings of Northern NSW. But then one must ask; '*Was this process maintained consistently, unbroken for up to 40,000 years as tribes died out moved on etc?*' Seems incredible. For that reason alone, many doubt the antiquity of such art. Modern paint companies have spent enormous amounts of money on high-level chemical research to formulate paints that will last through multiple seasons of intense outdoor weather extremes of heat and cold. Most home-owners know it is difficult to get house paint inside or out to last more than 10 years without deteriorating significantly. If aborigines used only simple combinations of natural elements which resulted in paint that lasted outdoors (and indoors) for even a hundred years, then paint companies would be clamouring after the secret. Paint formulas with such longevity would be nearly priceless. But even after years of the best applied scientific research we have no such paint formulas - and still we are asked to believe that 'primitive' rock art has survived in the midst of the most hostile Aussie climatic conditions for 40,000 years!

Is there a Biblical perspective on dating Aboriginal rock art?

Yes - and it's simple:

The Bible is clear in Acts 17:26: God the creator '*made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth...*'. All ancient and present day civilizations arose after Noah's Flood and after the Babel event (Genesis 11) when mankind spread out across the earth about 4,500 years ago. Some people groups carried with them great technical knowledge and built empires - as evidenced by the ancient Egyptians and South American Incas. Others, such as the Australian Aborigines, carried on a more nomadic lifestyle, building no cities and having no farms or animal herds. Their art-forms were relatively low-tech when compared to the levels of sophistication in art and architecture that was achieved by cultures such as those in Egypt, the Middle-East, and the Southern Americas. Australian Aborigines have never been 'primitives' *ascending* some imaginary evolutionary tree, but rather *descending* from an earlier high-tech mid-eastern culture. They *descended* originally from the Ark-building Noah and from there via the city-builders at Babel who had immense engineering knowledge, thence down through India and, finally, to Australia. Over this time and more so after they arrived in Australia, they lost whatever high-level engineering, building, and technical knowledge they once had. The presence of many types of stone tools shaped in the same way as European Metal tools found in the region where NSW aborigines state their ancestral 3 brothers first landed, are a dead giveaway.

To understand this process more clearly, imagine a ship being wrecked on an unknown island. It remains undiscovered for centuries. The people survive and live on, and form various groups which separate out across the island. Due to geographical boundaries, the various groups have either much, or little, or even no contact between each other. Some of the people aboard were originally doctors, civil engineers, writers, cooks, musicians, and farmers. The groups, for example, that had people who were experienced in building things flourished and were able to pass on that knowledge to descendants. Their 'culture' manifested itself with such things as sophisticated buildings and monuments. Others knew how to farm the land and develop crops and animal herds. Some of these even interacted with each other, sharing experience and knowledge which benefited both groups. Other groups began with no one among them with previous experience in building or farming. If they became totally isolated and cut-off from any outside interaction, they survived as hunter gathers, which left them no time for anything but surviving, no time for art except in its basic form, no technology except to eat and keep warm. So they became less and less sophisticated as time and generations passed. Enter so called 'primitive man'.

Centuries later, one might find groups likened to the Aborigines whose ancestry was the same as the others, but who had lost all the technical knowledge their group originally once had. They are not less intelligent than the others who have built cities or have developed more advanced social orders. However, they have had no one within their surviving group with the advanced knowledge of building or art (for example) to pass on to the coming generations. One might conclude that the less sophisticated group *never* had the knowledge and were always 'primitive'. Another researcher might suggest that all these peoples came from only one group who all originally possessed this knowledge and lost it. The presence of boomerangs in King Tut's tomb in Egypt is evidence consistent with this proposal.

But since God the Creator was there, you have an eyewitness perspective that Aborigines could not have been in Australia for more than around 3000 years maximum. A more realistic figure, particularly based on how few there were in Australia when Europeans arrived, is closer to perhaps 1-2000 years. Which also means much of the Aboriginal rock art visible today is probably around several hundred years old with some which has been retouched regularly up to as much as 1-2000 years old.

Archaeologist Ben Gunn, a founding member of the Australian Rock Art Research Association, was documenting the *Niwarla Gabarnmung* site in southwest Arnhem Land in Australia's Northern Territory. It is a region that has thousands of aboriginal rock art sites.

He commented on one fascinating piece of rock art which shows what appears to be two flightless birds - one clearly an emu and the other something larger. *'The animal wasn't an emu'* he said, *'it looked like the megafauna bird Genyornis, with thick, huge toes and short legs.'* He went on to say *'Either the painting is 40,000 years old, which is when science thinks Genyornis disappeared, or alternatively, Genyornis lived a lot longer than science has been able to establish.'*^{2,3}

The alternative Biblical view is that the vast time periods proposed by evolutionary historians don't exist and that these large birds were seen and illustrated by Aborigines probably very much within the last 1000 years.

Evolutionary ideas gave rise to a form of racism, which in its earlier days, taught that people groups such as the Aborigines were less advanced than Europeans on the evolutionary time-scale - and somehow closer to man's less intelligent allegedly ape-like ancestors. As a result Aborigines were considered as primitive savages like others of the world's 'indigenous peoples' - and some were rounded up, captured, and studied for research.

Today, political correctness rather than the clear implications of evolutionists' beliefs has caused many to distance themselves from their inherently racist evolutionary philosophy. The Bible has always maintained that mankind is one **kind** - so we are all related via Adam and via Noah regardless of our immediate ancestry or skin colour. Therefore like all human beings, Aboriginal people have equal dignity and value with every other human being simply because they are descended from the first man who was made in the image of his Creator and not because of any alleged racial longevity. And the Bible has also maintained the politically incorrect position that man's problem - regardless of whether you are black white, or brindle - is a problem called sin, inherited from the first man Adam. Therefore each of us has a real eternal need for the only Saviour Jesus Christ, rather than any temporary political solution.

References

1. Amy Middleton, AAP, August 02, 2013
2. GrrlScientist, May 31, 2010 <<http://scienceblogs.com/grrlscientist/2010/05/31/australian-aboriginal-rock-art/>>
3. Leigh Dayton, Alex Hall, May 31, 2010, The Australian <<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/archive/in-depth/oldest-rock-painting-shows-megafauna/story-e6frgd9f-1225873706954>>

4. CARBON 14? Some evolutionists point to Carbon 14 dating of rock art as confirming evidence for Aboriginal's alleged 40,000 plus years of being in Australia. See the question:

Carbon 14 dating proves things are too old for Genesis to be true. What's your argument against it? Answer [here](#)

5. THE ORIGIN OF THE RACES DVD available from Creation Research [webshop](#). View preview [here](#).

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7. SUPPOSED PROOFS OF EVOLUTION: See the following questions on our Ask site:

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Bacteria Evolution: Lenski's E coli experiment. Has it shown bacteria can evolve new information? Answer [here](#).

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