



Aussie Dinosaur rocks give us one for the birds, while a shock DNA find is made about North American Indians as fossil Apes definitely get a new head, while John Mackay and Phil Mott survive the UK storm last weekend and Diane Eager and Chris get new radio programs done. (Phew). It's another great Evidence News 21/13 with EDitorial COMment from the Creation Research Team worldwide.

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1. NEW QUESTION: “Genesis doesn’t explicitly state there was no animal death before the Fall. Why do you insist on it?” [Answer](#) by Diane Eager.

2. AUSSIE BIRDS WITH DINOS 'A CERT MATE!' as oldest footprints found, according to report in ScienceDaily 28 October 2013. Anthony Martin, a palaeontologist at Emory University in Atlanta, and three Australian colleagues have found two fossil bird footprints in Cretaceous sandstone in Dinosaur Cove, Victoria, Australia. The only previous evidence of birds in Cretaceous rocks of Victoria is a fossilised furcula (wishbone). Anthony Martin is a specialist in trace fossils, and recognised a long drag mark associated with one of the prints as being made by a bird landing. He explained: “I immediately knew what it was – a flight landing track – because I’ve seen many similar tracks made by egrets and herons on the sandy beaches of Georgia”. According to Martin the footprint “has a beautiful skid mark from the back toe dragging in the sand, likely caused as the

bird was flapping its wings and coming in for a soft landing”. The scientists estimate they were made by a bird the size of a great egret or a small heron. The rocks are dated 105 million years old, making them the oldest fossil bird prints found in Australia. According to Martin: “These tracks are evidence that we had sizeable flying birds living alongside other kinds of dinosaurs on these polar river floodplains about 105 million years ago”. Fossil landing tracks are rare and Martin claims they could add to our understanding of the evolution of flight.

Link: [ScienceDaily](#)

ED. COM. Actually the prints of actual birds may tell you where they landed once and that they could already fly, but they will do nothing to help anyone understand the evolution of flight from non-flying creatures. Despite Martin’s politically correct reference to “other dinosaurs”, these footprints and the fossil furcula are proof that fully formed birds already existed when these rocks and fossils were laid down. If they were made by a heron or egret then they are evidence that herons or egrets have multiplied ‘after their kind’ ever since they landed in this place. Furthermore, as anyone who has observed footprints on sandy beaches knows, landing tracks from flying birds would be quickly obliterated unless they were buried immediately after they were made, and or the sandy material is already setting due to the natural cement in it. These footprints serve as another reminder that fossils are not formed slowly and gradually over millions of years. (Ref. aves, trace fossils, ornithology)

3. MOST COMPLETE HOMININ SKULL EVER FOUND, according to ScienceDaily and ScienceShots 17 October 2013, and *Science* vol. 342 pp297-298 DOI: 10.1126/science.342.6156.297. Palaeontologists have found a “remarkably complete ancient hominin skull” in Dmanisi, Georgia (the country near Russia, not the US state). The skull is dated as 1.8 million years old and has been classified as *Homo erectus*, believed to be a species of early humans who left Africa and evolved into modern man. The skull has “strikingly primitive features” with a low forehead, a brain capacity 546 cc, and a large face with the jaws projecting forward, and has large, very worn teeth. As described in a News and Analysis article in *Science*: “When the researchers attached the lower jaw to the new cranium, designated Skull 5, the lower face bones jutted out more like an *Australopithecus*”. According to Yoel Rak of Tel Aviv University in Israel, one of the researchers, “This is, in essence, a very primitive face”.

The skull was found at a site containing other bones, including bones of carnivores including saber-toothed cats and an extinct giant cheetah, and four similar, but incomplete skulls. The new skull makes a total of five skulls from the same site, so the researchers were able to carry out a statistical analysis of the variation in their features. Christoph Zollikofer, anthropologist at the University of Zurich summed up their conclusions: “Firstly, the Dmanisi individuals all belong to a population of a single early Homo species. Secondly, the five Dmanisi individuals are conspicuously different from each other, but not more different than any five modern human individuals, or five chimpanzee individuals from a given population”. The researchers also suggest that many “homo” fossils that have been classified as separate species such as *Homo ergaster*, *Homo habilis*, *Homo rudolfensis* and *Homo erectus*, are all the same species. Zollikofer explained: “Most of these fossils represent single fragmentary finds from multiple points in space and geological time of at least 500,000 years. This ultimately makes it difficult to recognize variation among species in the African fossils as opposed to variation within species”. Marcia Ponce de León, another anthropologist at the University of Zurich summed up the problem: “At present there are as many subdivisions between species as there are researchers examining this problem”.

Links: [ScienceDaily](#), [ScienceShots](#)

ED. COM. Because this skull is complete, and not broken into fragments, we can make good comparisons between its features and those of living human beings. The Dmanisi skull certainly has a small brain space. At 546 cc it is close to the average for a modern gorilla (about 500cc but can be up to 700 cc) and little above the estimated value for an *Australopithecus* of 450 cc. It is also less than half the modern human average of 1,350 cc. (The normal human range varies from around 1,000 cc to over 1,800 cc.)

The fact that the new skull has a small brain and lower face bones that “juttred out more like an *Australopithecus*” is further indication that it is also a dead Australopithecine (dead ape). It has other ape-like characteristics, including a lower jaw that protrudes in front of the upper jaw, and a dental arch that is more U shaped than the human parabola shape. Furthermore, it lacks the prominent nose bridge and chin that are distinctive features of a human skull. We also agree with the University of Zurich anthropologists comments about the problems with classifying “homo” fossils – the evidence is fragmentary and does not take into account natural variation within species. Most so-called “hominid” fossils consist of incomplete skulls and other bones, which are nearly always broken into many fragments. Therefore, we have no doubt that many have been reconstructed to look like something sufficiently different from other finds to be given a new name, for no better reason than to give those who found them the kudos of having found another “human ancestor” to prop up the theory of evolution. (Ref. anthropology, palaeontology)

4. EUROPEAN LINK TO AMERICAN INDIANS, according to an article in *Science* vol. 342, pp. 409-410 DOI: 10.1126/science.342.6157.409, 25 October 2013, Eske Willerslev of the University of Copenhagen and Kelly Graf of Texas A&M University have analysed DNA extracted from the skeleton of a boy found buried in Siberia. The skeleton, along with some buried artefacts, was found in the 1920's and is stored in the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia. It is dated as 24,000 years old. Researchers were able to obtain DNA from the upper arm bone, which they compared with DNA of living human populations. They found part of the genome matched that of the natives of North and South America. That was no surprise, since anthropologists believe the Americas were initially populated by people who migrated from Asia across the Bering Strait at a time when the sea level was lower and there was a land bridge (now named Beringia) connecting what are now Siberia and Alaska. However, the researchers were surprised to find the Y chromosome belonged to a genetic group called ‘Y haplogroup R’, and the mitochondrial DNA to ‘haplogroup U’. Today, those haplogroups are found almost exclusively in Europeans and people living in west Asia. (A haplogroup is a group of people who share a set of the same gene variations.)

It has been assumed that Native Americans were descended from people in eastern Asia, such as China and Japan, because DNA studies of living people show links between these groups. The researchers are sure the European genes are not from post-colonial racial mixing because nearly all Native Americans from North and South America were equally related to the Siberian boy, indicating “he represented very deep Native American roots”. Connie Mulligan, a geneticist of the University of Florida commented: "I'm still processing that Native Americans are one-third European. It's jaw-dropping." Another geneticist, Dennis O'Rourke of University of Utah said "this is going to stimulate a lot of discussion." According to *Science*: “The new findings are consistent with a report published in *Genetics* last year (and almost entirely ignored at the time) that used modern DNA to conclude that Native Americans have significant—and ancient—ties to Europeans.” (Comment in parenthesis in original) That study found some Northern European populations, including British, Scandinavians, French, along with some Eastern Europeans, shared genes with Native Americans. The *Science* article goes on to conclude: “Thus, both studies suggest a source

population in Asia whose genes made their way east all the way to the Americas, and west, all the way to Europe.”

ED. COM. These finds are not really “jaw dropping” if you choose to remember the Biblical history of the human race. Genesis tells us that after Noah’s flood the descendants of Noah’s sons gathered together at Babel in the region of Mesopotamia, which is in modern day Iraq, i.e. in west Asia. However, because of their rebellion against God the human population was split into subgroups, who then migrated away from this region, and were eventually scattered all over the world and became the ancestors of the present day racial and ethnic groups. Therefore, it is no surprise there are genetic links between the people of western Asia, Europe, Siberia and the Americas, because their ancestors all started out from western Asia, and, as the *Science* article suggests, some went east to Siberia and the Americas, and west to Europe. It is good to see *Science* catching up with God’s Word.

There is an additional data piece which is relevant. When this editor interviewed the Dakota Sioux in Saskatchewan many years ago, they were adamant they had come from across the sea towards the sunrise i.e. EAST, and therefore Europe and/or Mediterranean and not from the west i.e. ASIA, as the anthropologists kept telling them. (Ref. genetics, races, migration)

SEE THE DVDs containing our research: ‘Origin of the Races’ ([Preview](#)) and ‘Real Roots’ ([Preview](#)) are available from our [Webshop](#).

5. COMMON ANCESTOR FAILURE, according to ScienceDaily and PNAS October 21, 2013 DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1302653110. Anthropologists drawing up evolutionary trees have long sought the common ancestor for Neanderthals and modern humans, but so far none has been found. A group of American and Spanish researchers have now examined fossils of approximately 1,200 molars and premolars from 13 species of hominins, and then used “techniques of morphometric analysis and phylogenetic statistics to reconstruct the dental morphology of the last common ancestor of Neanderthals and modern humans”. They then compared their reconstruction with known hominin fossils, and the title of their paper says it all: “No known hominin species matches the expected dental morphology of the last common ancestor of Neanderthals and modern humans”. One of the researchers, David Polly of Department of Geological Sciences in the IU Bloomington College of Arts and Sciences, commented: “The study tells us that there are still new hominin finds waiting to be made”.

Link: [ScienceDaily](#)

ED. COM. This is a good example of how useless evolutionary theory is to science. Instead of looking for hypothetical common ancestors, scientists should be looking at the actual evidence that has been found. Numerous recent studies of Neanderthals have shown they are fully human. Therefore, the most recent common ancestors they have with modern humans would be the people who migrated into Europe following the judgement at the Tower of Babel. Their ultimate ancestor is the same as that of all humans – Adam, who was never a “hominin” or any other kind of creature. Genesis tells us God made Adam from the “dust of the ground”, i.e. from raw materials, and breathed into him the breath of life, so that he became a fully formed living human being made in the image of God. Any changes that have occurred in the human race since then, such as those seen in Neanderthal bones and teeth, are the result of degeneration of human genes and adaptation to living in the tough environment of the post-Flood and post-Babel world. (Ref. anthropology, migration, teeth)

6. FROM THE ARCHIVES: [Bird and Dino Footprints](#), [One Small Tribe Founded America](#), [Early Man becomes Early Ape](#), [Neanderthal Teeth](#).

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