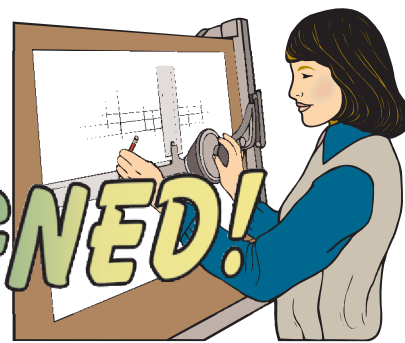


WELL DESIGNED!



The Emperor Penguin

One of the most remarkable birds is the Emperor Penguin which lives in the Antarctic, the coldest place on earth. Penguins are flightless birds, and although they are clumsy on land, they are amazing swimmers, using their wings as flippers. Emperors swim at 15 km/h (9 mph) or more, stay below water as long as 20 minutes, and have been known to dive to a depth of 565 m (1870 ft)! Their ears and eyes are specially designed for use underwater, and they have a special gland which removes the salt from sea-water.

One of the most amazing things about Emperors, though, is the way they breed. The female lays her single egg at the beginning of the harsh Antarctic winter. She then passes the egg to her mate, and heads back to the sea where she feeds on fish. The male keeps the egg on his feet, and covers it with a special flap of skin which has a rich supply of blood vessels—a kind of central heating system—that keep the egg at the right temperature. The penguins huddle in groups of up to 6000 for two months of total darkness, with temperatures plunging as low as -60 C. and blizzards accompanied by winds that can reach 200 km/h (125 mph). The penguins on the outside of the group keep pushing inwards, so that they all get a turn in the warmer centre.

During all this time, the male penguin has no food, yet when the chick finally hatches he produces a milky substance from his throat to give the chick its first vital feed. The female then

returns, finds her mate among the thousands of other birds, and takes over feeding the chick, while the male heads for the sea to get much-needed food. The reason they hatch their eggs in the winter is to ensure that the chicks are strong enough to survive the following winter.

Everything about Emperor penguins points to design by an intelligent Creator, not mindless evolution. How did that specially heated incubation flap evolve, — and in the male only? If penguins had to gradually adapt to such harsh conditions they would have been more likely to become extinct. And there is no evidence that they evolved from flying birds, as evolutionists claim — the oldest penguin fossils are 100% penguin!



A newly-hatched Emperor chick

Photo courtesy Wikipedia free online encyclopedia

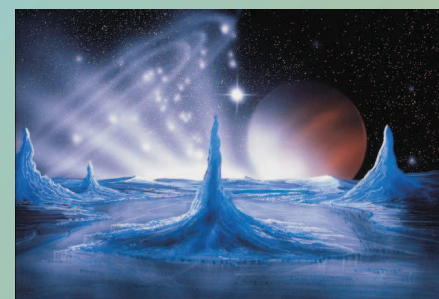
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The REAL SCIENCE paper!

ORIGINAL VIEW ORIGINAL

No. 49

ORIGIN OF LIFE MYSTERY



IN A "WARM LITTLE POND", THE DEEP OCEAN, IN OUTER SPACE, OR ON A FAR-OFF PLANET — JUST A FEW OF THE PLACES WHERE SOME SCIENTISTS HAVE SUGGESTED LIFE MAY HAVE BEGUN.

We can all tell the difference between a lifeless object like a pebble, and a living organism, such as a shellfish. But how did life begin? The Space.com website (26/12/2003) described the origin of life as No. 4 in the "Top Ten Space Mysteries". It said, "Have you ever had one of those dreams where you try to run from a monster and your legs go 'round and 'round but you don't get anywhere? The quest to understand the origin of life isn't much different." It



continued, "Most mainstream scientists, however, figure there's a good chance that life on Earth was cooked up in a soup of pre-biotic chemicals right here on the planet. The ingredients — water and organic chemicals — may well have come from space, but Earth likely acted as the incubator."

More inside.....



"...but if, and oh what a big if, we could conceive in some warm little pond with all sorts of ammonia and phosphoric salts, light, heat, electricity, etc. present, that a protein compound was chemically formed, ready to undergo still more complex changes."
—Charles Darwin.

What is life?

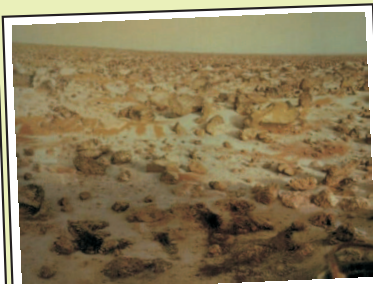
What is life? Earth is teeming with it, Mars is totally barren. So why is earth different, and how did life begin here? As we have seen, many different theories have been suggested, yet, to secular scientists, the mystery remains. In the *New York Times* (June 13th 2000). Nicholas Wade wrote, "Everything about the origin of life on earth is a mystery, and it seems the more that is known, the more acute the puzzles get." And to suggest that life came to earth from somewhere else doesn't explain how it began originally.



Earth: a watery world

Many scientists base their theories on their commitment to *naturalism* — the view that only natural explanations can be considered when researching such issues. Even though the spontaneous generation of life has been shown to be impossible, they insist that it must have happened sometime, somewhere! But hundreds of Christian scientists — like the founders of our modern scientific disciplines — have no problem with believing that life on earth is the product of divine creation. True science doesn't rule out any possibility, but simply considers the evidence.

Christian scientists, like most people, also believe there is more to life than just our physical existence. They believe in a spiritual realm, and that human beings have a soul which lives on after the body dies. The Bible tells us that in the beginning God created the first man. He "breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being." (*Genesis 2: 7*). Because of their rebellion against God, humans were cut off from the life of God. But through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, God offers forgiveness and new life. Jesus said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." (*John 10: 10*).



Mars: a barren world

Have a smile

Did you hear about the cat that swallowed a ball of wool?
She had mittens.

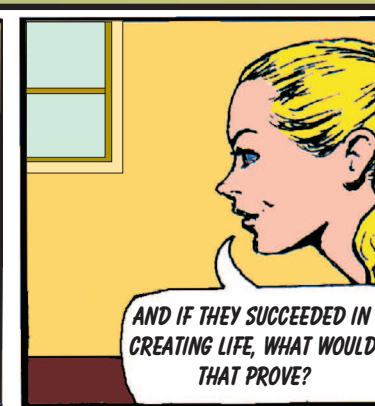
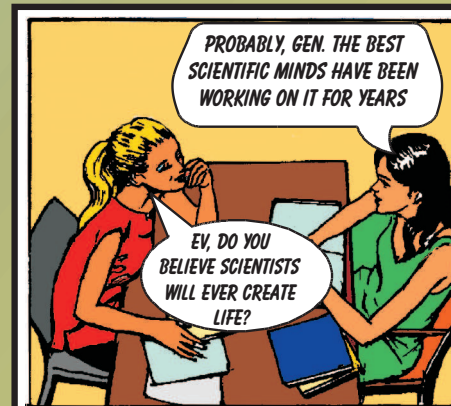
What do you call a cat who joined the Red Cross?
A first-aid kit.

Why did the banana go out with the prune?
Because it couldn't get a date.

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GEN & EV



Michael Higgins 2005

The Myth of SPONTANEOUS GENERATION

The ancient Greeks believed in **Vitalism** — the theory that living things exist because they have been filled with special forces called *ethers*, which bring nonliving things to life. This idea remained dominant for nearly 2000 years. During the Dark Ages in Europe, the idea of spontaneous generation was born. People believed that frogs and worms arose from mud.



Johannes Baptista van Helmont (left), a physician and alchemist who lived from 1579–1644, believed that if wheat and old rags were placed in a jar which was then incubated in a

warm, dark place, mice would be produced! It was widely believed that maggots came from rotting meat, but in 1668 Italian scientist Francesco Redi (right) demonstrated that if the meat is covered to prevent flies laying eggs on it, no maggots will appear.



OF MICE AND MAGGOTS

The idea that mice could arise from old rags and wheat seems laughable now, but once upon a time people actually believed it. Of course, if you left some rags and wheat lying around, mice might well “appear”, but they would have come from somewhere else.



The idea that maggots came from rotting meat was easily proved wrong: all you need to do is cover the meat to stop flies laying their eggs on it, then there will be no maggots!



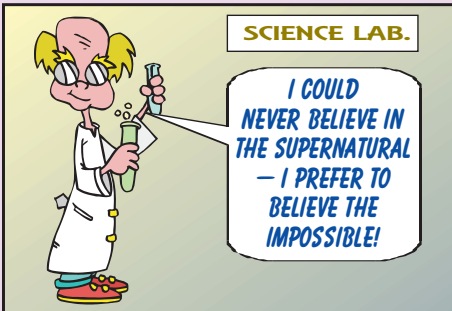
Believing the impossible....

Because water is essential to life, evolutionary scientists have long believed that life began in the sea, and that the primitive oceans contained a rich organic mixture — sometimes called “primeval soup”. One theory is that flashes of lightning acted on gases in the atmosphere, forming amino acids, which are the building blocks of life,



These then fell into the sea where they developed into the first living cells, and evolution got going. Yet no one can explain the origin of this “primeval soup”, and there isn’t a shred of evidence it ever existed.

The theory that life can arise by chance if conditions are right is the driving force behind the search for extra-terrestrial life. This is a false belief, since true science shows life cannot come from non-life. In the 19th century famous experiments by Professor Louis Pasteur proved that life cannot develop in a sterile mixture. Yet evolutionists still believe that life did arise from non-living matter at sometime in the past. This is usually because they refuse to accept that an intelligent Creator was involved. This seems clear from the following statement by Nobel Prize-winner Dr George Wald: “I do not want to believe in God.



Therefore I choose to believe in that which I know is scientifically impossible, spontaneous generation leading to evolution.”¹

Scientists have long dreamed of being able to create life in the laboratory. But suppose they did eventually succeed? Would that prove that a Creator was not needed in the beginning? Absolutely not! It would actually prove that intelligence was necessary to create life!

Professor Louis Pasteur (1822-1895) said, “The more I study nature, the more I stand amazed at the work of the Creator.” He also wrote, “To bring about spontaneous generation would be to create life. My experiments show that this is impossible.”



1. *Frontiers of Modern Biology on Theories of Origin of Life*, (New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1972), p. 187.

IN THE NEWS

Evolution in reverse?

A FAMILY from Turkey was in the news recently. The Ulas family had 16 children, and five of the grown-up children walked around on all fours. Some scientists — who believe that our ancestors were quadruped apes — suggested that this was an example of “evolution going backwards.” Professor Osman Demirhan, of Cukurova University in Turkey, who is doing genetic tests on the siblings, hoped they might “shed light on the genetic story of what helped humans to move from crawling to walking.” It was even suggested they were a “missing link” between modern humans and apes — a terrible insult to people who are clearly 100% human.

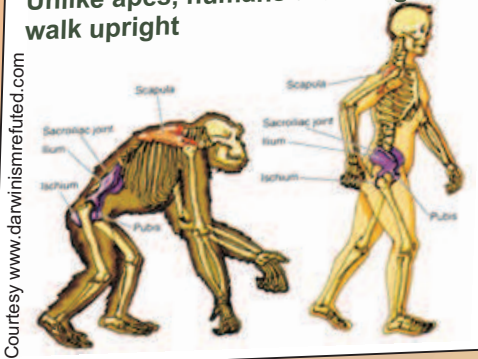


A special BBC TV documentary on March 24th. reported how some British scientists investigated this family, and discovered that the five people concerned were mentally retarded, and that this had prevented them from learning to walk in the way that normal people do. However, no one had ever thought of seeing whether they could use walking aids. When these were provided all of them soon learned to walk upright!



The theory that modern humans evolved from quadruped ancestors is full of problems. There are no fossils of an intermediate stage, and walking in a half-upright position would be such a strain that any creature attempting it would soon give up! The differences between the skeletons of apes and humans are considerable. Apes are designed to walk on all fours, and humans to walk upright. Some apes walk bipedally for short periods, but knuckle-walking is the norm. They can move very fast in this way, and using their hand-like feet can swing from branch to branch through the forest. If our ancestors had really “come down from the trees” they would have been at a disadvantage.

Unlike apes, humans are designed to walk upright



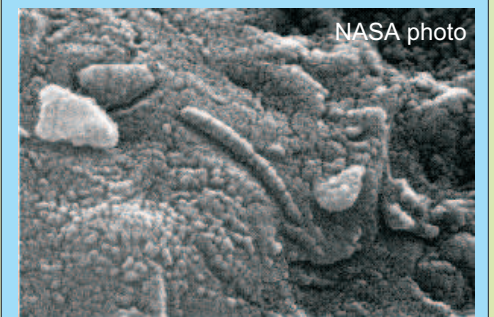
Meanwhile the Ulas family, far from being evolutionary throw-backs, are learning to walk like other humans beings — all they needed was a little help.



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LIFE FROM OUTER SPACE?

Because they can’t explain how life began on earth, some scientists have suggested that life may have come from outer space. About 25 years ago, two British astronomers, Fred Hoyle and Chandra Wickramasinghe, proposed that comets might have carried “spores” from a distant star system — a theory called *Panspermia*. They suggested that the tail of a comet might have brushed the Earth, depositing “frozen micro-organisms” which led to the evolution of everything that lives on earth today.



IN 1996, a piece of rock (above), discovered in Antarctica, was in the news. Scientists claimed it came from Mars, and contained micro-fossils, suggesting there had once been life there. However, tests have shown that the markings are not organic after all, much to the disappointment of many believers in E.T. life.

Nobel prize-winner Dr Francis Crick went further, and proposed an idea called *Directed Panspermia*. In his 1982 book *Life Itself*, he wrote: “We shall postulate that on some distant planet, some four billion years or so ago, there had evolved a form of higher creature who, like ourselves, had discovered science and technology, developing them far beyond anything we have accomplished.” Dr Crick suggested that they may have sent a spaceship containing bacteria to earth. “Life started here when these organisms were dropped into the primitive ocean and began to multiply.”* Others have suggested that “extra-terrestrials” may have visited earth and “seeded it” with life, after which evolution took over, and we are the result. *Bacteria could never evolve into more complex life-forms anyway, since they only have the genetic information to produce other similar organisms.

