

## Redirection

**Source:** <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.anthropology.paleo/2004-11/0408.html>

---

**From:** Jim McGinn ([jimmcginn\\_at\\_yahoo.com](mailto:jimmcginn_at_yahoo.com))

**Date:** 11/06/04

Date: 5 Nov 2004 21:13:52 -0800

algis@RiverApes.com (Algis Kuliukas)

- > *'Some' hominids did swim and*
- > *'some' hominids did drown. Are you finally accepting*
- > *that, because it's pretty much all the AAH is arguing for?*

Amazing.

- > *Now come on, Su, put all those years of scientific*
- > *experience behind you and think a little. If 'some'*
- > *hominids swam more than others what effect do you*
- > *think it might have had on their evolution?*

Sometimes the inanity overwhelms.

<big snip>

- > *If the ST is a myth,*
- > *what \*is\* the ecological niche in E Africa you*
- > *envisage made us so very different from chimps*
- > *and gorillas?*

I can't tell if you're talking about a habitat or niche here. Nor do I get the sense that you know the difference.

- > *- 'slightly more open*
- > *habitats than chimps but not quite sufficiently open*
- > *as to be labelled savannah', I suppose. How did such*
- > *a miniscule (if not non-existent) shift in habitat*
- > *make us so very different?*

The shift in habitat that first created the hominid niche happened about 8.1 mya, at the boundary between the middle Miocene and the late Miocene. The evidence indicates a shift to monsoon climate/environment at certain regions of the planet, including east Africa. The fossil evidence indicates

the extinction of forest–adapted species and the emergence of large, migratory grazing–browsing species and social predators. And this is just to scratch the surface of the differences that appeared in the late Miocene monsoon forest habitat in which hominids first emerged. What brought you to the sweeping conclusion that these differences are miniscule?

- > *b) That humans really \*did\* evolve in more open patches of African woodland. In which case why are you so weary of the use of the word 'savannah'?*
- > *It's a pretty vague term, why avoid it's use?*

Like conmen trading cons.

Algis, you would have us assume vagueness as a scientific virtue?

- > *If so, how*
- > *come the great tenet of EM's work is so misguided?*

Morgan used it as a strawman. This is so obvious I