

sci.anthropology.paleo: Re: Sweating is a dryland, not an aquatic adaptation in humans.

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Philip Deitiker wrote:

> "jae@ucdavis.edu" <jae@ucdavis.edu> says in
> *news:1105758055.341346.113630@z14g2000cwz.googlegroups.com:*

[..]

> *Animals migrate to where they can survive in competition with other
> animals. Humans live in the namib. very few other animals can live in*

> *the Namib, most of the animals that live in the namib have specific
> adaptations for living in the namib.*

How long have humans lived in the namib, Phil? About as long as people have lived in the tundra regions of norther Europe, no doubt.

> *Humans are one of the very few species of animals that can live and
> cross the sahara. The only other animals that can do this have
> specific desert adaptations.*

Ditto for the polar regions.

> *Humans live in the australian outback most of which is desert. Most
> of the few species of animals that live in the outback have specific
> desert adaptations.*

Sure some humans can, if forced to, cling onto survival by the skin of their teeth, in such places – but it's a distortion of the mind to pretend that it's some kind of norm. The vast majority of aboriginal australians lived exactly where the European settlers chose to live, in wet, relatively lush lowlands by the coasts, water holes and rivers.

> *Ego humans have adaptations for surviving in places where other non-
> desert animals cannot survive.*

> *What adaptations to the namib desert do humans have.
> 1. They sweat, in a dry highland climate with hot daily temperature*

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- > *sweating is a very effective way of keeping a heat producing brain*
- > *cool.*
- > *2. They also have little hair which increased air flow around the*
- > *skin which increases the efficacy of sweating.*
- > *Therefore hairlessness and sweating are desert adaptations. Do the*
- > *!kung wear cloths. The !kung are one of the few peo*