

Re: Homo came from Asia?

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.anthropology.paleo/2008-11/msg00032.html>

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 - *Date:* Sat, 01 Nov 2008 10:58:54 +0200
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<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2004/10/041001092127.htm>
Southern exodus. A trail of stone tools and fossil bones suggests that early humans left Africa 1.8 million years ago. Some headed north to Dmanisi, Georgia; others may have taken a southern route into China and Java, Indonesia. Ann Gibbons 7.10.08 ScienceNOW
<http://sciencenow.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/2008/1007/3?etoc>
Over a million years ago, a band of early humans left their stone tools and two front teeth near a stream in southwest China. For decades, the precise age of the fossils has remained a mystery, leaving open a central question in paleontology: How quickly did our human ancestors reach China after leaving Africa? Now, thanks to advanced dating techniques, scientists may finally have the answer. ...
Now, a team of Chinese and American researchers has redated the Yuanmou Basin site using a paleomagnetic technique that relies on rock samples to determine the direction of Earth's magnetic field when the rocks were formed. Although the original hillside where the fossils were found has been excavated, the discoverers recorded the layer of sediment where they uncovered the teeth and tools. The new team traced that sediment layer—or time horizon—throughout the basin, collecting 318 rock samples from it. In an article in press in the Journal of Human Evolution, the researchers report that the fossils came from a layer of rock just above a

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magnetic
landmark known as the Olduvai–Matuyama reversal
boundary, which is at least
1.77 million years old. This makes the fossil site slightly
younger, about
1.7 million years old.

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6WJS-4GFCSW2-1&_user=10&_rdoc=1&_fmt=&_orig=search&_sort=d&view=c&_acct=C000050221&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=10&md5=94f6e698d4f77c3db6d3a23fc9b1ebd4 or

<http://tinyurl.com/crf6m>

JHE 49:230–240

First occurrence of early Homo in the Nachukui Formation (West Turkana, Kenya) at 2.3–2.4 Myr ... In 2002 a new PA site (LA1 alpha), 100 m S of the LA1 archaeological site, produced a first right lower molar of a juvenile hominid (KNM–WT 42718). The rel.small size of the crown, its marked MD elongation & BL reduction, the rel.position of the cusps, the lack of a C6 & the mild expression of a protostylid, reinforced by metrical analyses, demonstrate the distinctiveness of this tooth compared with A.afarensis, anamensis, africanus & Par.boisei, and its similarity to early Homo. The LA1 alpha site lies 2.2 m above the Ekalalei Tuff which is slightly younger than Tuff F dated to 2.34 ± 0.04 Ma. This juvenile specimen represents the oldest occurrence of the genus Homo in WT ...

Thanks, Travsky, sensible answer, better than your usual idiocies.
But this has been discussed here already:

me:

1) Some retroviral data suggest that our
ancestors after the H/P split c
5 Ma lived outside Africa for some time (at
least between 4 & 3 Ma,
say CT Yohn cs 2005 PLoS Biol.3:1–11).

Hanenburg:

If you've read that paper then you know that's not the only
explanation for the absence of PTERV1 in humans.

title: Lineage–Specific Expansions of retroviral insertions within the
Genomes of African Great Apes but Not Humans and Orangutans
... Comparison of human and other primate genomes provides evidence for a
retroviral infection that bombarded the genomes of chimpanzee and gorilla

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between 3 and 4 Ma ...

– you have 0 indications our ancestors were in Africa then

Except for the fossil bipedal hominids from that period on that continent?

still confusing vertical & bipedal...

sigh

again

– all living hominids (HPG) had more bipedal (wading/hanging) ancestors

– all living apes (incl.gibbons) had vertical ancestors (Moroto lumbar vertebra 19 Ma)

afarensis had curved phalanges (branch-hanging), found in swamp forests, their diet included AHV, large airsacs, bipedal features, vertical posture, thick enamel etc., resemble gorillas, but smaller & less KWing, their dentition & locomotion suggests they spent more time in forest swamps feeding on AHV than lowland gorillas, fruits, waterside plants & presumably hard-shelled invertebrates google "Shabel durophage"

= example of how Afr.ape ancestors lived

= parttime bipedal & +-always vertical (in swamp & in branches)

– you have 0 indications they were no in Asia then

Except for the lack of fossil bipedal hominids from that period on that continent?

– fossil record = fragmentary (esp.coasts)

– bipedal hominids in Africa might be closer related to P or G than to H

– still confusing ancestors (retroviral data) & fossils (no ancestors)

only fools believe far-fetched explanations first

Indeed.

good you admit

Anyway, between 3 and 2 Ma derived Homo-like morphology appears in

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Africa.

in your fantasy, my boy: no very long legs, no ext.nose, no very large brain

Those are not the exclusive criteria by which we judge a specimen to be Homo, See Strait & Grine (2004) "Inferring hominoid and early hominid phylogeny using craniodental characters: the role of fossil taxa", JHE 47: 399–452.

those are

the criteria traditionally used to discern Homo ("bipedality", dentition etc.) or primitive for hominids

http://users.ugent.be/~mvaneech/Fil/Verhaegen_Human_Evolution

2) No *fossil* data contradict this: the first undoubted Homo fossils (ext.nose, CC > 600 cc, very long legs etc.) are found in Dmanisi & probably Mojokerto c 1.8 Ma.

As Kimbel et al. argue the Hadar maxilla clearly belongs in the Homo clade on the basis of the following derived characters:

- Reduced subnasal prognathism (index of .63 outside apith range).
- Clivus strongly angled to the nasal platform with distinct crista
- spinalis and elevation of the anterior nasal cavity floor.
- Relatively broad palate (shape index >60% and outside apith range).
- Anterior division of maxillary sinus.
- narrow M1.
- rhomboidal M2
- P3 with vertical lingual face, elevated mesial marginal ridge, buccal face basal symmetry, straight buccal enamel line, and lack of strong mesial buccal groove; and P4 with vertical lingual and buccal faces and hint of distolingual crown abbreviation.
- Thin molar enamel.

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they say it was no robust apith, but that doesn't imply, my little boy, that it was close to us

Kimbel et al. explicitly state: "The Hadar maxilla A.L.666-1 clearly belongs in the Homo clade". That means it is closer to us than to any australopithecine s.l.

- they think apelike = primitive
- if you start from the wrong preassumptions, you can prove what you want
- that a feature is closer to H than to P or G, doesn't mean it's H: in some instances P & G are more primitive, in others H is
- that is was unlike apiths doesn't mean it belongs to H

a *little* bit of logic please

IOW, I don't care where Homo originated,
but Africa is not certain.
That's all.

So far Africa holds the best cards.

in your fantasy, yes

Fantasy has nothing to do with it. It's a matter of comparative morphology, stratigraphy, and secure radiometric dating. All within the domain of science.

- if you start from the wrong preassumptions (eg, "bipedality" means human), your "science" is fantasy
- if you don't use all the evidence (eg, Yohn cs above, comparative biology...), your "science" is a bunch of prejudices

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