

Re: When did human races split from one another?

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- *From:* "A." <atalanta.brilliant@xxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 30 Nov 2006 08:35:29 -0800
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chazwin wrote:

spiznet wrote:

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lauriecurtis@xxxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

Does anyone know any up to date estimates on when humans split into separate races? Obviously all humans started out as one race, so at what dates in history did the human population split into the major geographic races such as negroids, caucasoids, South East Asian & pacific islander, north east asian? What was the chronological sequence in which those major races split from one another and what were the dates?

Studies of mitochondrial DNA show when various human communities split from others. This cannot be used to justify "races" as it is basically a meaningless category and am surprised to see it still i existence in the 12st century.

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READ it back first!!!! I mean 21st century!!!

The 12th century I can believe. Even the 16th– 19th century, when sub-Saharan Africans were enslaved by "good Christian" slaveholders in America and elsewhere. This was justified by NOT JUST their "primitive" societies but also due to the idea that they were somehow "not human" and chattel, like women only moreso. When Darwin invented evolution, they ended up coming out of a very early split off the ape tree, not at all like "good Caucasians".

It is interesting to point out that racism was not just whites enslaving blacks. The barbary pirates terrorised many undefended coasts and took a million white people to North Africa (Algiers, Tunis and Tripoli also had thriving slave trade auctions), where they were worked to death unless they converted to Islam where they were offered slightly better jobs as palace slaves. You can read about it in Giles Milton's "White Gold" who recounts the story of John Pellow c. 1750.

Hi, Chaz,

Can you provide us with any evidence that such behavior was racist in conception? People dislike "outsiders" and "strangers" regardless of skin color or nose type or hair form. For example, throughout Europe the Gypsies are regarded as "black," and termed a different race, although in many places it's hard to find differences that most Americans could see as "race" between the racists and the Gypsies. Race is a socially constructed ideology – and simply enslaving people is not evidence of it.

Explicitly racist views (such as some specific views held by European heads of state, scholars, doctors, etc.) that informed slavery and genocide – particularly in the 18th and 19th century – need to be present in some way for me to think it's racist.

Pacific Northwest Indians enslaved people (routinely) who – from my point of view – looked precisely like them – but were considered enslavable for a variety of reasons. There were rules in many of these same tribes about the necessity of freeing/marrying slaves (as there were in many societies attempting to use slavery – Egypt tried it, the Old Testament mentions it), so that slavery was neither intergenerational nor was it based on anything like race.

So did the Barbary Pirates (and please point me to some good pictures of what THEY looked like) never use the white women sexually? There was no inter-marriage? The Pirates were much darker skinned (proof

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please)? The white people were much lighter skinned? (proof please – this was happening in the Mediterranean, and I don't see much difference in skin color between, say, Algeria, and Southern Spain).

Etc.

A.

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