

Re: new book on the spread of IE

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- *From:* Christopher Ingham <christopheringham@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 9 Feb 2008 08:09:14 -0800 (PST)
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On Feb 9, 8:05 am, "Peter T. Daniels" <gramma...@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Feb 9, 3:10 am, Franz Gnaedinger <f...@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

On Feb 8, 2:12 pm, "Peter T. Daniels" <gramma...@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

You've read the book already???? Then please summarize Anthony's "claim to solve the riddle."

I haven't seen the book yet, but will read it when it arrives in our library. For the time being I am happy with the result of Anthony's work, and the praising words of Mallory (which I well read). Anthony's opinion, solidified in field work, goes along with my model of language evolvement in Eurasia. First was the Ice Age language spoken by Homo sapiens sapiens all over Eurasia, but with the main center in the refuge of the Franco-Cantabrian space, where we find the amazing cave art. Language mirrors life, and life is changed by technology. Revolutionary changes arrived with the end of the Ice Age, with early agriculture at the base of the Karacadag near Göbekli Tepe in southeast Anatolia 10,000 years ago, and with the mining and melting of copper in the Jordan valley and in Anatolia at the same time. This must have led to a new level of language I'd like to call Japhetic, reviving an obsolete term and using it more generally. The next revolution occurred with the casting of bronze, about 6,000 years ago. Anatolia is rich in copper, while tin is found in Central Asia, so we may well assume that the first bronze was cast somewhere in the Eurasian

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steppes, between Anatolia and Central Asia. Bronze allowed to make bridles, bridles allowed to tame horses, and the rest is well known. The new life forms following this revolution resulted in the language called Indo-European.

The problem, in my opinion, is the lacking time depth of Proto-Indo-European, and the hapless term proto. We don't consider English Proto-Martian, and we don't call primates proto-humans.

Maybe that's because primates didn't evolve out of humans (or vice versa).

Yet humans and primates do descend from a common stock of proto-primates.

Christopher Ingham

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