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WHY I PUBLISHED A NEW ORIGIN, BY RAY COMFORT

WHEN I DISCOVERED THAT THE FAMOUS "ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES" WAS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN, I DECIDED TO PUBLISH IT MYSELF AND WRITE AN INTRODUCTION AND GIVE AWAY COPIES OF THE BOOK TO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, IN HONOR OF THE BOOK'S 150TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

(NEO: THAT IS A LIE. A CREATIONIST WHO HATES DARWIN WOULD NEVER PUBLISH A BOOK TO "HONOR" HIS MOST HATED ENEMY. SO RIGHT OFF THE BAT, YOU REPRESENT YOUR FAITH, BY DEMONSTRATING THE IMPORTANCE TO CHRISTIANS ... OF HONESTY).

BUT WHEN KIRK CAMERON (MY TV COHOST ON "THE WAY OF THE MASTER") AND I PRODUCED A SHORT VIDEO CLIP EXPLAINING WHAT I WANTED TO DO AND POSTED IT ONLINE, WE KICKED A HORNET'S NEST. A BIG ONE.

WHY ARE MANY ATHEISTS SO ANGRY?

(NEO: LET A SKEPTIC PUBLISH A BIBLE WITH A "SPECIAL" INTRODUCTION LIKE YOU DID - AND THEN, EVEN YOU MIGHT UNDERSTAND).

WHY ARE THEY TALKING ABOUT BOOK BURNINGS, THREATENING TO RESIST THE GIVEAWAY AND RIP OUT THE INTRODUCTION, ETC.? WHY WAS RICHARDDAWKINS.NET ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO COLLECT COPIES AND RIP OUT THE INTRODUCTION? PROFESSOR DAWKINS HIMSELF SAID THAT EVEN THOUGH "A LOT OF PEOPLE SEEM TO BE VERY WORRIED ABOUT THIS," HE WASN'T AT ALL WORRIED. WHY DID HE THEN TELL TORONTO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS TO TEAR OUT THE INTRODUCTION? THERE HAVE BEEN MORE THAN 140 DIFFERENT EDITIONS OF "ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES," MANY WITH SPECIAL INTRODUCTIONS, SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL WITH THIS ONE? IF I AM (AS PROFESSOR DAWKINS SAYS) "AN IGNORANT FOOL," WHY ARE SO MANY FEELING THREATENED BY WHAT I'VE WRITTEN? SURELY, THE INTRODUCTION WILL BE IGNORANCE AND FOOLISHNESS, AND SIMPLY CONFIRM THE STUDENTS' PRESUPPOSITIONS THAT INTELLIGENT DESIGN ISN'T WORTHY OF EVEN A FIRST LOOK.

(NEO: BELIEVE IT OR NOT - I AGREE WITH YOU ON THIS ONE!

YOU ARE CORRECT, IN THAT, ONLY THE SCIENTIFICALLY IGNORANT WILL READ YOUR INTRODUCTION WITHOUT BUSTING INTO LAUGHTER. WE DON'T NEED ZOMBIES - YOU CAN KEEP THEM).

THERE'S A REASON THAT THEY ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED.

THE INTRODUCTION QUOTES CHARLES DARWIN SAYING THAT BLACKS ARE CLOSER TO GORILLAS THAN WHITES AND THAT NATURAL SELECTION HAS LEFT MEN MORE INTELLIGENT THAN WOMEN.

(NEO: ONCE AGAIN, THE CHRISTIAN GOD, IF THERE IS ONE, HAS TO BE ROLLING OVER ON HIS CLOUD AFTER HEARING THOSE LIES. WHAT IS KIND OF STUNNING IS THAT YOU CAN CLAIM SOMETHING THAT IS SO EASILY DISPROVEN. WHY DO YOU DO THAT? BECAUSE YOU KNOW YOUR 'FLOCK' WELL. THEY NEVER READ THEIR BIBLES, SO YOU KNOW THEY WILL NEVER TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO LOOK UP AND VERIFY WHAT YOU CLAIM DARWIN SAID. SO YOU KNOW YOU CAN TELL THEM ANYTHING YOU WANT TO).

IT ALSO HAS QUOTES FROM ADOLF HITLER'S MEIN KAMPF SHOWING HITLER'S UNDENIABLE LINKS TO EVOLUTION.

(NEO: APPARENTLY YOU MISSED ALL THE QUOTES IN MEIN KAMPF SHOWING HITLER'S UNDENIABLE LINKS TO CHRISTIANITY).

OF COURSE, HITLER ALSO USED CHRISTIANITY TO FURTHER HIS POLITICAL AGENDA, BUT MY POINT IS THAT NAZI GERMANY WAS THE NATURAL OUTCOME OF WHAT DARWIN CALLED "ONE GENERAL LAW."

(NEO: THAT IS WHAT IS CALLED QUICKLY DISMISSING AN EMBARRASSING FACT AND HURRIDLY DISTRACTING THE AUDIENCE TO OTHER RED HERRINGS).

DARWIN SAID THE LAW OF NATURAL SELECTION IS "LET THE STRONGEST LIVE AND THE WEAKEST DIE" (CHAPTER SEVEN, "INSTINCT"). ADOLF HITLER PUT THE THEORY OF DARWINISM INTO PRACTICE.

(NEO: HITLER DIDN'T HAVE TO PUT THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION INTO PRACTICE - IT IS ALREADY THE WAY THE WORLD OPERATES - FROM THE TINIEST MICROORGANISM TO THE MIGHTIEST BEAST; AND THAT INCLUDES HUMANS).

THE INTRODUCTION ALSO DEFINES AN ATHEIST AS SOMEONE WHO BELIEVES THAT NOTHING CREATED EVERYTHING—WHICH IS A SCIENTIFIC IMPOSSIBILITY.

(NEO: EVEN A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COULD RECOGNIZE THE OBVIOUS STRAW MAN ARGUMENT HERE. SCIENCE DOES NOT MAKE THAT CLAIM. ONLY RELIGIOUS PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT EVERYTHING WAS CREATED OUT OF NOTHING - PROVIDED YOU ADD IN AN INVISIBLE MAGICIAN.

ALSO, AN ATHEIST IS SOMEONE WHO DOES NOT BELIEVE IN GOD. THEIR SCIENTIFIC BELIEFS HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH RELIGION. YOU HAVE REDEFINED THE WORD TO MEAN WHAT YOU NEED IT TO MEAN. SO THAT, LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE YOU HAVE SAID, IS ALSO INCORRECT).

PROFESSOR DAWKINS BELIEVES THAT NOTHING CREATED EVERYTHING, AND HIS BELIEF IS A BIG INTELLECTUAL EMBARRASSMENT TO HIS FOLLOWERS.

(NEO: DAWKINS DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT. IT IS YOU WHO BELIEVE THAT A FLOATING VAPOR CREATED EVERYTHING OUT OF NOTHING. AND IF YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT INTELLECTUAL EMBARRASSMENTS TO FOLLOWERS, YOU SHOULD CHECK OUT THE WAY MILLIONS OF CHRISTIANS LOOK AT YOU).

NOW, ANYONE CAN GET THEIR OWN COPY OF THE BOOK ON AMAZON.COM AND READ THE INTRODUCTION, BUT DON'T BE FOOLED BY THE COMMENTS. NO DOUBT THEY WILL BE HIJACKED BY ATHEISTS. WHEN MY BOOK YOU CAN LEAD AN ATHEIST TO EVIDENCE BUT YOU CAN'T MAKE HIM THINK, BUMPED RICHARD DAWKINS'S "THE GOD DELUSION" ON AMAZON.COM IN THE ATHEIST CATEGORY, HUNDREDS OF ANGRY ATHEISTS LEFT SCATHING COMMENTS ON AMAZON.COM AND GAVE MY BOOK THE LOWEST RATING.

(NEO: MAYBE IT IS SIMPLY THE CASE THAT ... YOUR BOOK SUCKED).

SO, IS THIS BOOK GOING TO BE A BACKWARD STEP FOR SCIENCE, AS SOME HAVE MAINTAINED? OF COURSE NOT. SCIENCE IS A WONDERFUL DISCIPLINE, TO WHICH WE ARE DEEPLY INDEBTED.

(NEO: IF YOU REALLY BELIEVED THAT, YOU WOULDN'T BE DEVOTING YOUR EXISTENCE TO ITS DESTRUCTION).

IT WILL, HOWEVER, BE A BACKWARD STEP FOR THE PSEUDO SCIENCE OF DARWINIAN EVOLUTION, OF WHICH THERE IS NO EMPIRICAL PROOF.

(NEO: BUT YOUR BELIEFS ABOUT WALKING ON WATER, VIRGIN BIRTH, RESURRECTION OF A CORPSE, AND A GLOBAL FLOOD - ALL THAT IS NOT PSEUDOSCIENCE? EXACTLY WHICH FIELD OF SCIENCE SUPPORTS ANY ONE OF THOSE BELIEFS?

AS FOR EMPIRICAL PROOF: WITHOUT IT, ANY SCIENTIFIC THEORY WILL BE REJECTED. THEREFORE, EVOLUTION, BEING AN ACCEPTED SCIENTIFIC THEORY, MUST BE "BASED" ON SUFFICIENT EMPIRICAL PROOF.

YOUR ACCUSATION IS FALSE).

THERE ARE NO SPECIES-TO-SPECIES TRANSITIONAL FORMS IN THE FOSSIL RECORD. NONE.

(NEO: YOU CAN'T SEE WHAT YOU REFUSE TO ADMIT).

I DEAL WITH HUNDREDS OF ATHEISTS EVERY DAY THROUGH MY BLOG,

(NEO: IT'S TOO BAD THAT THE FEAR OF ETERNAL TORTURE PREVENTS YOU FROM EVER BEING CAPABLE OF LEARNING FROM THEM. THEY HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE TO FREE YOU FROM THE ENSLAVEMENT OF YOUR MIND TO AN INVISIBLE GHOST. BUT THEY CANNOT COMPETE WITH THE THREAT OF ETERNAL TORMENT).

SO I CAN PREDICT THE RESPONSE: "OF COURSE THERE ARE FOSSILS! THERE ARE MILLIONS OF FOSSILS, YOU UNSCIENTIFIC IDIOT!!"

(NEO: THAT WAS WRONG - THEY NEVER SHOULD HAVE CALLED YOU "UNSCIENTIFIC").

THEY ARE RIGHT.

(NEO: YOU MEAN YOU ARE AN UNSCIENTIFIC IDIOT?).

THERE ARE MILLIONS OF FOSSILS, BUT THEY ARE THE FOSSILS OF GOD'S CREATION AND HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH EVOLUTION.

(NEO: THEN WHY DID GOD SORT THEM NEATLY BY COMPLEXITY? WHY DO ONLY MICROORGANISMS APPEAR FOR BILLIONS OF YEARS? THEN WHY DID GOT PUT EVERY SINGLE DINOSAUR FOSSIL DEEP IN THE EARTH AND ALL THE MODERN ANIMALS ON TOP OF THEM?).

AGAIN, THERE ARE NO SPECIES-TO-SPECIES TRANSITIONAL FORMS IN THE FOSSIL RECORD.

(NEO: REPEATING A LIE DOES NOT MAKE IT TRUE - IT JUST MEANS YOU LIED TWICE).

THAT'S WHAT IS CALLED "THE MISSING LINK." IT WAS MISSING IN DARWIN'S DAY, AND IT'S STILL MISSING TODAY.

(NEO: IT WILL ALWAYS BE MISSING BECAUSE THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A "MISSING LINK").

WHEN BELIEVERS IN EVOLUTION PROTEST THAT THERE ARE LINKS BETWEEN "KINDS," A CLOSE LOOK AT THEIR EVIDENCE REVEALS SMALL BUMPS ON WHALE BONES (PROVING IT ONCE HAD LEGS), OR EXPERIMENTS WITH BACTERIA, OR CONJECTURE THAT MODERN TURKEYS WERE ONCE DINOSAURS. SURE.

(NEO: THAT'S YOUR ANSWER? "SURE?" THAT'S ALL YOU CAN RESPOND WITH?).

THE PROBLEM WHEN ARGUING WITH THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN ATHEISTIC EVOLUTION

(NEO: ATHEISM HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH EVOLUTION - THEY ARE 2 COMPLETELY SEPARATE TOPICS).

IS THAT THEY MOVE GOAL POSTS BY REDEFINING ATHEISM OR EVOLUTION OR THE WORD SPECIES.

(NEO: YOU HAVE BEEN CAUGHT SO MANY TIMES "MOVING THE GOALPOSTS" AND "REDEFINING WORDS" THAT YOU NOW THROW THOSE TERMS BACK AT SKEPTICS WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING WHAT THEY MEAN.

REDEFINING ATHEISM COULD NOT POSSIBLY BE "MOVING THE GOALPOSTS" BECAUSE, AS I JUST POINTED OUT, THE 2 ARE NOT LOGICALLY CONNECTED. ATHEISM HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH EVOLUTION.

SCIENTISTS HAVE NOT REDEFINED THE WORD "SPECIES" - IT IS YOU BOZOS WHO KEEP TRYING TO REDEFINE THE BIBLICAL WORD "KINDS" TO MEAN WHAT YOU NEED IT TO MEAN).

FROM DARWIN TO DAWKINS, THEY SPEAK THE LANGUAGE OF SPECULATION, CONTINUALLY USING WORDS LIKE PROBABLY, MAYBE, PERHAPS, AND COULD'VE.

(NEO: AND THEREIN LIES THE MAIN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SCIENCE AND RELIGION. SCIENCE NEVER ASSERTS ABSOLUTE CERTAINTY - WHILE RELIGION WOULDN'T BE RELIGION WITHOUT IT).

AND DARWINISM IS AS NEBULOUS AS A PUFFY CLOUD ON A HOT WINDY DAY, FOREVER MOVING, CHANGING, AND EXPANDING—BECAUSE ITS BOUNDS ARE LIMITED ONLY BY THE FERTILE HUMAN IMAGINATION.

(NEO: IT SOUNDS MORE LIKE YOU ARE DESCRIBING YOUR BIBLE).

WHEN WE GIVE AWAY "ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES" TO UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, I WANT EVERY ONE OF THEM TO MAKE SURE THEY DON'T STOP AT THE INTRODUCTION. I WANT THEM TO THOROUGHLY READ "ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES."

(NEO: ARE YOU EVEN CAPABLE OF OPENING YOUR MOUTH FOR AIR, WITHOUT LYING? WHO COULD POSSIBLY BELIEVE THAT?).

WHEN I READ THE BOOK, I WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH THE BRILLIANCE OF CHARLES DARWIN.

(NEO: LET'S SEE A SHOW OF HANDS - HOW MANY BELIEVED THAT ONE?)

IF HE WAS ALIVE TODAY, I AM SURE THAT HE WOULD QUICKLY RISE TO THE TOP OF DISNEY'S IMAGINEERS OR EARN BIG BUCKS AS A HOLLYWOOD SCREENWRITER FOR SCIENCE-FICTION MOVIES.

(NEO: I DOUBT THAT. IF DARWIN WERE ALIVE TODAY HE WOULD BE 200 YEARS OLD AND LIKELY UNABLE TO HOLD ANY KIND OF JOB - EXCEPT MAYBE IN THE CLERGY).

AMONG OTHER THINGS, DARWIN NOTED THAT BLACK BEARS SWAM FOR HOURS WITH THEIR MOUTHS OPEN, CATCHING INSECTS IN THE WATER. HE BELIEVED THAT IF THEY KEPT THEIR MOUTHS OPEN ALL DAY, EVERY DAY (FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME), THAT THEY WOULD ACQUIRE "LARGER AND LARGER MOUTHS, UNTIL A CREATURE WAS PRODUCED AS MONSTROUS AS A WHALE" (CHAPTER SIX, "DIFFICULTIES ON THEORY").

(NEO: SCIENCE KNOWS HOW BEAR-LIKE CREATURES RETURNED TO THE SEAS AND EVOLVED INTO WHALES. WHATEVER DARWIN MAY HAVE HYPOTHESIZED IS UNIMPORTANT TO THE FACTS OF EVOLUTION AS WE UNDERSTAND THEM TODAY).

STUDENTS CAN READ DARWIN'S OWN EXPLANATION AS TO WHY THERE IS NO EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE FOR HIS THEORY—THAT ALL "INTERMEDIATE VARIETIES" HAVE DISAPPEARED—JUST LIKE THE MORMONS' GOLDEN PLATES THAT THE ANGEL MORONI SUPPOSEDLY GAVE TO JOSEPH SMITH.

(NEO: WELL, SCIENTISTS HAVE FOUND THEM - BY THE MILLIONS.

AND THAT WAS A SNIDE LITTLE JAB YOU THREW AT YOUR FELLOW CHRISTIANS WHO DARE TO DIFFER FROM YOUR OWN BELIEFS. TELL YOU WHAT, WHEN YOU PRODUCE THE TABLETS THAT THE YOUR GOD SUPPOSEDLY GAVE TO MOSES, I'LL MAKE SURE THE MORMONS SEND YOU THE GOLDEN PLATES).

THERE'S ONE BIG DIFFERENCE, THOUGH, BETWEEN THE GOLDEN PLATES AND THE INTERMEDIATE VARIETIES. THE MORMONS SAY THAT ONLY TWO GOLDEN PLATES ARE MISSING. DARWIN SAYS THAT MILLIONS OF FOSSILS (WHAT HE REFERRED TO AS "INNUMERABLE," IBID.) ARE MISSING. AFTER 150 YEARS OF DESPERATE SEARCHING, THE MISSING LINKS ARE STILL—MISSING.

(NEO: WHAT A COINCIDENCE! AFTER 2,000 YEARS OF DESPERATE SEARCHING BY BILLIONS OF CHRISTIANS - THE SAME THING IS TRUE OF YOUR "ARK." AT LEAST THE MORMONS CLAIM ONLY 2 ARE MISSING - YOU CAN'T EVEN COME UP WITH A RUDDER).

IN DARWIN'S BOOK, NOTHING IS AS GOD CREATED IT.

(NEO: HEY, YOU FOUND ANOTHER COINCIDENCE! IN YOUR BOOK, AFTER THE FALL, THE EXACT SAME THING IS TRUE ... OF GOD'S CREATION).

INSTEAD, ALL OF CREATION MIRACULOUSLY EVOLVED—FROM THE BEAR'S MOUTH TO THE GIRAFFE'S TAIL.

(NEO: YOU'RE GETTING CONFUSED AGAIN. MIRACLES ARE ONLY CLAIMED IN RELIGION - NEVER IN EVOLUTION).

FOR SOME REASON, IT HAS ALL REACHED THE POINT OF MATURITY DURING OUR LIFETIME AND (AFTER MILLIONS OF YEARS OF REDUNDANCY) NOW FUNCTIONS AS IT WAS INTENDED.

(NEO: HOW COULD YOU POSSIBLY KNOW THAT? WHAT EVIDENCE DO YOU HAVE THAT EVOLUTION HAS STOPPED? YOU HAVE FAR EXCEEDED YOUR STUPIDITY ALLOWANCE).

MOVE OVER, J. R. R. TOLKIEN, ARTHUR C. CLARKE, AND J. K. ROWLING. THESE THREE COMBINED DON'T HOLD A CANDLE TO CHARLES DARWIN. MOST OF THEIR FANS KNOW THAT THEIR WRITINGS WERE FANTASY. DARWIN'S FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS DON'T.

(NEO: YOU BELIEVE IN UNICORNS AND TALKING SNAKES. YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU WILL LIVE FOREVER WITH AN INVISIBLE GHOST. ARE YOU REALLY IN A POSITION TO BE POKING FUN AT "FANTASIES" WHEN EVERY BELIEF YOU HOLD QUALIFIES AS ONE?).

INTERNET COMMENT FROM ONE OF THE 'FLOCK'

RAY COMFORT IS RIGHT, FOLKS. WELL DONE, RAY. DARWIN DID NOT PROVE EVOLUTION. NEITHER HAS DAWKINS. THE WHOLE THEORY IS A FABRICATION. FOLKS, IT COMES DOWN TO A PERSON'S LIFESTYLE. THERE IS NO SCIENTIFIC REASON TO REJECT THE BIBLE, BUT PEOPLE LOVE THEIR SIN. THEY DON'T LIKE, "THOUGH SHALL NOT..." SO THEY DELUDE THEMSELVES INTO BELIEVING GREAT GREAT GREAT GREAT GREAT GREAT GARANDPA WAS A ROCK. NEWSFLASH: YOU DIDN'T COME FROM A ROCK 4.6 BILLION YEARS AGO, FOLKS. CREATION IS PROOF OF A CREATOR. YOU'RE MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE, AND IT IS TIME TO GET RIGHT WITH HIM BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE AND YOU REALIZE THAT YOU'VE MADE A TERRIBLE MISTAKE -- ONE THAT YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CORRECT. YOU'LL SPEND AN ETERNITY IN HELL THINKING HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO BLIND. DON'T LET THAT HAPPEN TO YOU. THANK YOU.

(NEO: THAT PEOPLE, WHO THINK LIKE THIS, ACTUALLY EXIST IS SAD ENOUGH. THE FACT THAT THE MAJORITY OF AMERICA THINKS LIKE THIS - IS BEYOND SAD - IT'S TRAGIC).

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THE SCIENCE SEGMENT

STUDY SUGGESTS MIGHTY T. REX KILLED BY LOWLY PARASITE

THE FAMOUS DINOSAUR KNOWN AS SUE — THE LARGEST, MOST COMPLETE AND BEST PRESERVED T. REX SPECIMEN EVER FOUND — MIGHT HAVE BEEN KILLED BY A DISEASE THAT AFFLICTS BIRDS EVEN TODAY, SCIENTISTS NOW SUGGEST.

THE REMAINS OF SUE, A STAR ATTRACTION OF THE FIELD MUSEUM IN CHICAGO, POSSESS HOLES IN HER JAW THAT SOME BELIEVED WERE BATTLE SCARS, THE RESULT OF BLOODY COMBAT WITH ANOTHER DINOSAUR, POSSIBLY ANOTHER T. REX.

NOW RESEARCHERS SUGGEST THESE SCARS DID NOT RESULT FROM A CLASH OF TITANS, BUT RATHER FROM A LOWLY PARASITE. THE INFECTION IN SUE'S THROAT AND MOUTH MAY HAVE BEEN SO SEVERE THAT THE 42-FOOT-LONG, 7-TON DINOSAUR STARVED TO DEATH.

THE AILMENT THE SCIENTISTS PROPOSE FELLED SUE AND OTHER T. REXES IS TRICHOMONOSIS, ALSO KNOWN AS TRICHOMONIASIS. IN BIRDS, THE DISEASE IS CAUSED BY TRICHOMONAS GALLINAE, A SINGLE-CELLED PROTOZOAN. ALTHOUGH SOME BIRDS, SUCH AS PIGEONS, COMMONLY HOST THE PARASITE BUT SUFFER FEW ILL EFFECTS, IN BIRDS OF PREY SUCH AS FALCONS AND HAWKS, THE GERM CAUSES A PATTERN OF SERIOUS LESIONS IN THE LOWER BEAK THAT CLOSELY MATCHES THE HOLES IN THE JAWS OF SUE AND OCCURS IN THE SAME ANATOMICAL LOCATION.

"IT'S IRONIC TO THINK THAT AN ANIMAL AS MIGHTY AS 'SUE' PROBABLY DIED AS A RESULT OF A PARASITIC INFECTION. I'LL NEVER LOOK AT A FERAL PIGEON THE SAME WAY AGAIN," SAID RESEARCHER STEVEN SALISBURY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND IN AUSTRALIA.

THE RESEARCHERS INVESTIGATED THE JAWS OF SUE AND 60 OTHER TYRANNOSAUR SPECIMENS. NEARLY 15 PERCENT OF THEM POSSESSED LESIONS THAT HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN ATTRIBUTED TO BITE WOUNDS OR, POSSIBLY, A BACTERIAL INFECTION. THESE HOLES WERE ROUGHLY 0.2 TO MORE THAN 1 INCH WIDE (0.5 TO MORE THAN 2.5 CM), EXTENDING THROUGH ROUGHLY A HALF-INCH (1 CM) OF BONE.

THE SCARS OF COMBAT AMONG TYRANNOSAURS AND OTHER DINOSAURS ARE NOT UNCOMMON, BUT DIFFER NOTABLY FROM TRICHOMONOSIS LESIONS. THE HOLES THE PARASITE MAKES ARE OFTEN NEAT AND HAVE RELATIVELY SMOOTH EDGES, WHILE BITE MARKS ARE OFTEN MESSY, SCARRING AND PUNCTURING BONE.

TYRANNOSAURS ARE KNOWN TO HAVE FOUGHT AMONGST THEMSELVES AND SOMETIMES EVEN ATE ONE ANOTHER. THE PARASITE MAY HAVE BEEN PASSED THROUGH FACE-BITING OR CANNIBALISM.

"WE DON’T THINK IT IS A COINCIDENCE THAT A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF ADULT TYRANNOSAUR SPECIMENS SHOW BOTH FACE-BITING MARKS AND EVIDENCE OF A TRICHOMONOSIS-LIKE DISEASE," SALISBURY SAID. "PREVIOUS STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT UP TO 60 PERCENT OF TYRANNOSAUR SPECIMENS DISPLAY EVIDENCE OF FACE-BITING."

THERE IS NO KNOWN EVIDENCE OF TRICHOMONOSIS IN OTHER DINOSAURS.

"THIS LEADS US TO SUSPECT THAT TYRANNOSAURS MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE SOURCE OF THE DISEASE AND ITS TRANSMISSION IN ITS ENVIRONMENT," WOLFF EXPLAINED.

FOR THE DISEASE TO CAUSE SUCH LESIONS IN THE JAWS OF SUE AND OTHER TYRANNOSAURS, IT WOULD HAVE HAD TO BE AT AN ADVANCED STAGE.

THE PARASITE TYPICALLY CONCENTRATES IN THE BACK OF THE THROAT IN BIRDS OF PREY, WHERE IT LEADS TO MASSES OF DYING TISSUE.

"AS THE LESIONS GROW, THE ANIMAL HAS TROUBLE SWALLOWING FOOD AND MAY EVENTUALLY STARVE TO DEATH,” SALISBURY SAID.

THESE FINDINGS STRENGTHEN THE MANY CONNECTIONS THAT RESEARCH ALREADY SUGGESTS EXIST BETWEEN DINOSAURS AND BIRDS, WITH BIRDS INHERITING A SIMILAR OR EVEN THE SAME PARASITE FROM THEIR DISTANT ANCESTORS.

"THE DISCOVERY GIVES US AN INSIGHT INTO THE DINOSAUR IMMUNE SYSTEM," WOLFF SAID. "THE RESPONSE OF TYRANNOSAURS TO THIS TRICHOMONOSIS-LIKE DISEASE IS ALMOST IDENTICAL TO THAT FOUND IN LIVING BIRDS. THESE SIMPLE HOLES IN TYRANNOSAUR JAWS GIVE US A DRAMATIC EXAMPLE OF AN AVIAN-LIKE DEFENSE SYSTEM IN ACTION."

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ABROAD

SAUDI COURT JAILS 'SEX BOAST' MAN

A SAUDI ARABIAN MAN WHO BOASTED ABOUT HIS SEX LIFE ON A TV TALK SHOW HAS BEEN JAILED FOR FIVE YEARS, HIS LAWYER SAYS.

MAZEN ABDUL JAWAD WAS ALSO SENTENCED TO 1,000 LASHES BY A SAUDI COURT ON CHARGES RELATING TO IMMORAL BEHAVIOUR. HIS LAWYER SAYS HE WILL APPEAL.

THE SAUDI OFFICES OF LBC, THE LEBANON-BASED ARABIC CHANNEL WHICH BROADCAST THE SHOW IN JULY, WERE SHUT LAST MONTH.

ON THE SHOW, FILMED IN HIS JEDDAH HOME, ABDUL JAWAD SPOKE ABOUT PICKING UP WOMEN AND DISPLAYED SEX TOYS ON CAMERA.

EXTRA-MARITAL SEX IS ILLEGAL IN SAUDI ARABIA, ONE OF THE MOST CONSERVATIVE SOCIETIES IN THE ARAB WORLD.

THE 32-YEAR-OLD FATHER-OF-FOUR'S INTERVIEW PROMPTED AROUND 200 COMPLAINTS FROM SAUDI VIEWERS AND CALLS FOR HIM TO BE PUNISHED.

ABDUL JAWAD LATER APOLOGISED, SAYING PRODUCERS AT THE TV STATION HAD TRICKED HIM INTO SOME OF HIS ACCOUNTS.

'SCAPEGOAT'

ABDUL JAWAD'S LAWYER, SULAIMAN JUMAIE, SAID THREE FRIENDS WHO APPEARED ON THE SHOW WITH HIS CLIENT HAD BEEN GIVEN TWO-YEAR TERMS.

MR JUMAIE SAID THE CONVICTION WAS WRONG BECAUSE THE MEN SHOULD HAVE BEEN TRIED IN A COURT THAT SPECIALISED IN MEDIA ISSUES, NOT CRIMINAL CASES.

"MY CLIENT HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE AS A SCAPEGOAT TO COVER UP THE REAL CULPRIT LBC," MR JUMAIE SAID IN A STATEMENT OBTAINED BY AFP NEWS AGENCY.

SAUDI ARABIA USES A STRICT ISLAMIC LAW CODE. PEOPLE WHO BREAK THE RULES FACE PUNISHMENT - LASHES OR IMPRISONMENT - FOR DRINKING OR NON-MARITAL SEX.

CORRESPONDENTS SAY THE RULES ARE FLOUTED BY LOCALS AS WELL AS EXPATRIATES, BUT ALMOST EVERYONE KEEPS QUIET ABOUT IT AND HOPES THEY WILL NOT BE FOUND OUT.

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FAMOUS QUOTES

LUIS BUNUEL (1900 –1983) 83 YEARS.

HE WAS A SPANISH-BORN FILMMAKER WHO ACQUIRED MEXICAN CITIZENSHIP AND WORKED IN MEXICO, FRANCE, AND ALSO IN HIS NATIVE SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES. HE IS CONSIDERED ONE OF SPAIN'S FINEST DIRECTORS, AND ALSO A SIGNIFICANT DIRECTOR IN THE HISTORY OF CINEMA.

"GOD AND COUNTRY ARE AN UNBEATABLE TEAM;

THEY BREAK ALL RECORDS FOR OPPRESSION AND BLOODSHED."