

Bankrupt Theories of Evolution

By
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I write in response to an article by Prof Julian Kenny (Express, November 5) in which he referred to a letter by me (Express, July 9) which dealt with his criticism of those critical of the theory of evolution (Express, June 11). He described my article as a "good example of intellectual dishonesty" because I quoted the following from a textbook on evolution by Charlotte Avers: "The origin of life remains a deep mystery." (He actually misquoted Avers). He referred to this as a "cheap and dishonest trick", suggesting that I attempted to mislead the reader by selectively quoting the evolutionist Avers while not quoting other parts of the text which would in some way qualify the selected quotation.

This accusation by Prof Kenny is an entirely baseless one, as the inability of scientist to produce even the simplest life form is well known. The origin of life is indeed a deep mystery and the quotation from Avers is a fact that must be conceded by all evolutionists much to their dismay. The further quotations from Avers' book referred to by Prof Kenny do not change the rather dismal situation for the evolutionists.

I am actually surprised that Prof Kenny would base his gratuitous attack on the weakest aspect of evolutionary theory, the origin of life I suppose that when one is trying to defend the indefensible, one is likely to do and say foolish things.

Consider Prof Kenny's further attempt to defend evolution. He suggested that Darwin provided an explanation of the evolutionary mechanism-natural selection. However, it is well known that natural selection produces nothing in an organism that the genetic code did not already contain and so by itself cannot account for evolution. This is why Neo-Darwinism was introduced in which the evolutionary mechanism is natural selection in conjunction with gene mutation. The problem with this, though is that gene mutations (mistakes) are rare and when they do occur are mostly harmful. In the very unlikely event that a helpful mutation does occur, it would be wiped out before it could be combined with others. Thus, the Theory of Evolution is without a mechanism for its action and this alone disqualifies it as a plausible scientific theory.

On the matter of fossil record, Prof Kenny claimed the "existence of hundreds of transitional forms in the fossil record [such] that it is possible to reconstruct a general pattern or evolution". (Kevin Baldeosingh made a similar claim-Express, July 25).

In response to this, I quote from the late Stephen Gould, renowned paleontologist and evolutionary theorist from Harvard University, and strong believer in evolution, who conceded, "The

extreme rarity of transitional forms in the fossil record persists as the trade secret of paleontology. The evolutionary trees that adorn our textbooks have data only at the tips and nodes of their branches; the rest is inference, however reasonable, not the evidence of fossils. All paleontologists know that the fossil record contains precious little in the way of intermediate forms; transitions between major groups are characteristically abrupt.” (The Panda’s Thumb, pp 181, 189.) Gould in fact proposed the concept of punctuated equilibrium in which there are leaps rather than gradual changes in the evolutionary process, this in an attempt to account for these gaps. This is a clear refutation of Prof Kenny’s claim of hundreds of transitional forms.

Consider now the book *The Neck of the Giraffe* by Francis Hitching, in which the author attempts to give an objective evaluation of the theory of evolution. The first chapter of the book is entitled “The Missing Fossil”. Here the author states: “it takes a while to realise that the thousands of intermediates being referred to [by people like Kenny and Baldeosighn] have no obvious relevance to the origin of lions and jellyfish and things. Most of them are simply varieties of a particular kind of creature, artificially arranged in a certain order to demonstrate Darwinism at work; and then rearranged every time a new discovery casts doubt upon the arrangement.”

After four chapters in which the evidence is examined, Hitching summarized as follows: “In three critical areas where [the modern theory of evolution] can be tested, it has failed: The fossil record reveals a pattern of evolutionary leaps rather than

gradual change. Genes are [a] powerful stabilizing mechanism whose main function is to prevent new forms evolving. Random step-y-step mutations at the molecular level cannot explain the organised and growing complexity of life.”

He then concluded: “to put it at its mildest, one may question an evolutionary theory so beset by doubts among those who teach it. If Darwinism is truly the great unifying principle of biology, it encompasses extraordinarily large areas of ignorance. It fails to explain some of the most basic questions of all: how lifeless chemicals came alive, what rules of grammar lie behind the genetic code, how genes shape the form of living things.” It is in the face of such overwhelming arguments against evolution that the beleaguered evolutionist often resorts to deplorable methods to defend his theory.

Perhaps it is Prof Kenny who is being intellectually dishonest (or maybe he is just uninformed), since by linking criticism of evolution with religious practitioners in the way that he has done in both articles, he is encouraging the reader to believe that there is no informed scientific criticism of evolution. This is simply not the case. There are many qualified scientists who reject evolution in scientific grounds. In this regard, I recommend the recently published book *In Six Days. Why 50 Scientist Choose to Believe in Creation*, edited by John Ashton, in which cogent arguments refuting evolution are given by 50 professional scientists.

As a member of an internationally accredited engineering faculty involved in the publication of new scientific and technological ideas in the international scholarly literature, I am aware of the demanding levels of rigour required by the

scientific community if a new idea is to be given consideration. I am therefore of the view that if the Theory of Evolution were proposed for the first time today, it would never see the light of day. It is simply one of the most scientifically bankrupt theories ever devised by man.

It has prompted Oxford University Nobel Laureate Sir Ernest Chain to say: “These classical evolutionary theories are a gross over-simplification of an immensely complex and intricate mass oof facts, and it amazes me that they are swallowed so uncritically and readily, and for such a long time, by so many scientists without murmur of protest.” I too am amazed!



Dr. Stephan J.G. Gift was the winner of an AMOCO scholarship to study Electrical Engineering at the University of the West Indies (UWI). He graduated with a BSc First Class Honours and PhD degrees in Electrical Engineering. He was Head of Research and Development at TSTT where he directed the development of advanced electronic systems and was granted an international patent. He is currently Professor of Electrical Engineering and Pro Vice Chancellor for Graduate Studies & Research at UWI. He was formerly Head of the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at UWI where he taught and conducted research in electrical systems and engineering science. He has published over 80 papers in international journals and in a series of papers has challenged Albert Einstein’s theory of relativity. He is a Fellow and past president of the Association of Professional Engineers of Trinidad and Tobago and a senior member of the IEEE. He has received many awards including the Fenwick DeFour Award (Silver) for Engineering, the Prime Minister’s Special Award of Merit for Innovation in the Field of Electronics and the Friends of the Tobago Library Committee Individual of the Year Award for 2006 in recognition of outstanding contribution in the field of Science. In 2010 he was inducted into the Trinidad and Tobago Cadet Force Hall of Honour. He is a past president of the Rotary Club of St Augustine West and was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow by the club for contribution to Rotary in 2014.