

Education



Impact

<http://www.allofliferedeemed.co.uk/jones.htm>

Animal Variation: Does It Prove Evolution?

© Dr Arthur Jones, September 2019

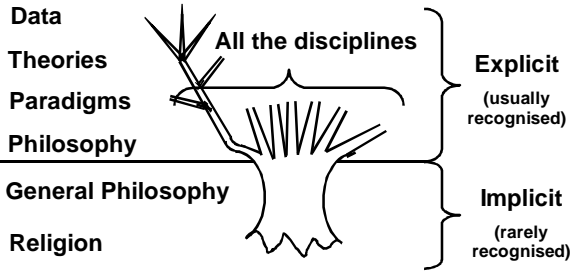


**With Special
Reference to the
Cichlid Fish**

2. Science and Faith

2.1 Evolution is also Religion

The Bush of Knowledge



© Richard Russell & Arthur Jones

The religion (*aka* 'faith' or 'worldview') behind the 'evolution' of secular science is:

Atheism

Remember that someone's religion is not what they might claim it is, or even what they might think it is!!

Someone's religion is ***Atheism***

if they live and act:

- *as if* there is no God
- *as if* faith is irrelevant to everyday life

- *as if* Godless and faithless life is really normal!

What feels normal to you?
Naturalism or Biblical Theism?

2.2. The General Philosophy of Evolution

Two philosophical views are crucial to the secular understanding of 'evolution':

- Naturalism
- Evolutionism

Naturalism

The most common *philosophical* view of thinking atheists

Naturalism (*aka* Materialism)

The view that everything can be explained solely in terms of physical matter and energy.

"evolution is understood to be the result of an unguided, unplanned process of random variation and natural selection."

38 Nobel Laureates, 09/09/2005

2.3. Evolutionism

The *religious* root of evolution



Everything that has ever existed is part of a great *continuity* in space and time

This is said to account for the rational unity and order that the universe displays.

Amoeba to Man
hydrogen to humans
dust to stars
particles to people
goo to you via the zoo

2.4. Faith is Foundational

Richard Lewontin
(evolutionary geneticist, Harvard)



“It is not that the methods and institutions of science somehow compel us to accept a material explanation for the phenomenal world ...

Richard Lewontin

... but, on the contrary, that we are forced by our *a priori* adherence to material causes to create an apparatus of investigation and a set of concepts that produce material explanations ...

Richard Lewontin

... no matter how counterintuitive, no matter how mystifying to the uninitiated. Moreover, that materialism is absolute, for we cannot allow a divine foot in the door."

(*New York Review of Books*, 9 January 1997, page 31)

Life in 2.5. Doctoral Research



3. Two Foundational Laws of Biology

- The Law of Biogenesis
- The Law of Heredity

1. The Law of Biogenesis:




Living things arise only from
other living things

2. The Law of Heredity:



Living things arise only from other
living things *of the same kind*




Bacteria

“Throughout 150 years of the science of bacteriology, there is no evidence that one species of bacteria has changed into another”

Prof Alan Linton, Bacteriologist, Bristol
(*THES*, 20 April 2001, page 29)

These two laws are the most rigorously tested and confirmed in the whole of biology

No exceptions have ever been found







4. Variation

4.1. Evolution is More than Variation

Evolution is the Theory that there are No Limits to Variation


Amoeba to Man
hydrogen to humans
dust to stars
particles to people
goo to you via the zoo

4.2. Variation and the Law of Heredity


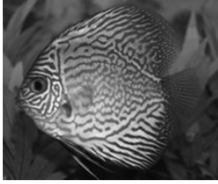

Variation

- All living organisms belong to distinct natural kinds
- Variation and hybridisation occur only within these kinds



Variation

- Existing evidence shows that variation is limited and relatively trivial
- Every experimental attempt to push past the Kind limits has failed






5. The Cichlid Fishes

5.1. Studying a Created Kind

5.2 How Many Species?

- Some 32,000 living fish species.
- Cichlids – >2000 species, 200 genera (3rd largest vertebrate family after cyprinids & gobies).
- are perch-like, ray-finned fish.
- claimed to show ‘evolution in action.’

5.3. Food Fish Tilapias

St Peter's Fish

Cichla – Game Fish



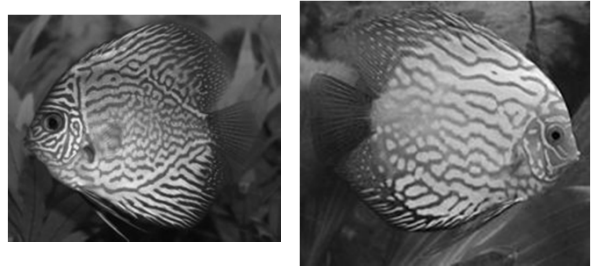
Pike Cichlid

5.4. Popular Fish

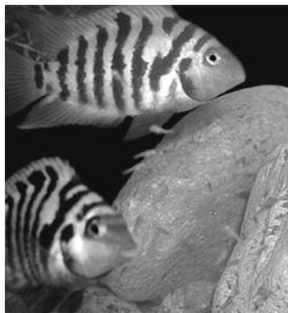
Angelfish



Discus




Convict





Oscar



Oscar



Jumping fish





Allah fish

5.5. Geographical Distribution

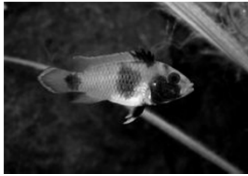


5.6. Freshwater?




Jewelfish (*Hemichromis*)

5.7. Size




Dwarf Cichlid








Pike Cichlid

5.8. Jaws & Diet



Jaws & Diet

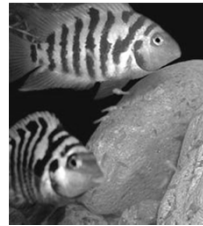
Diverse Cichlid Fishes of Lake Malawi	
	Genyochromis mento: eats fish scales and fins
	Caprichromis orthognathus: eats baby fish and eggs
	Trematocranus placodon: eats mollusks
	Rhamphochromis: eats small fish
	Melanochromis labrosus: eats insect larvae

5.9. Reproduction

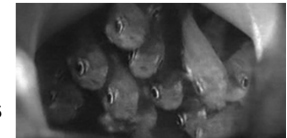
- Substratebrooding
- Mouthbrooding
- Substratebrooding of eggs + mouthbrooding of young

Reproduction

Substratebrooders



Mouthbrooders



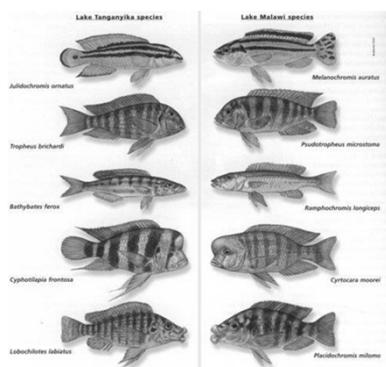
6. Cichlid Variation in the African Great Lakes



Evolution in Action?



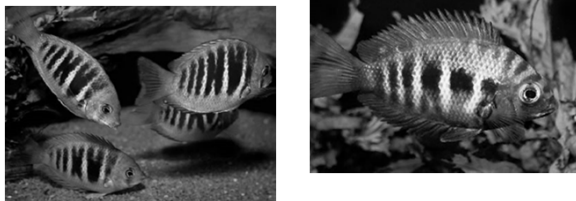
Evolution in action?



7. Are Cichlids a Natural, Created Kind?

7.1. There is No Blurring of Boundaries

Increasing experience confirms cichlid distinctiveness.



7.2. Patterns of Variation are Modular / Mosaic

Not genealogical!

Endless permutations of a small number of character states.



8. How Old are the Cichlids?

Speciation has been rapid in the African Great Lakes:

- Lake Victoria
- Lake Nabugabo
- Lake Malawi



Cichlid Fishes

Animal Variation

Does It Prove Evolution?



© Dr Arthur Jones, September 2019

Education



Impact

<http://www.allofliferedeemed.co.uk/jones.htm>