

The Evolution Theory – Is it a Castle on Quicksand?

An update

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Abstract: Evolution theory was examined with respect to the rules we follow on observation, testing of hypothesis and formation of a theory. The observation of spontaneous generation of life reported by Aristotle was the foundation for proposing the evolution theory. Since the spontaneous generation of life is now considered a debunked theory, the evolution theory also stands as a theory with no strong foundation. Therefore the alternate option is to accept that there is a creator behind the creation of universe and life.

Index Terms: Spontaneous generation of life, Creator, Evolution, debunked theory.

“Science (from Latin *scientia*, meaning knowledge) is a systematic enterprise that builds and organizes knowledge in the form of testable explanations and predictions about the universe” [1]. It involves repeated observations. If accepted scientific explanations cannot answer an observation, then it leads to making a hypothesis. They test the hypothesis. If enough evidence supports the hypothesis then it moves to the next step known as a theory and becomes accepted as a valid explanation of a phenomenon [2]. The observations and facts do not change with time but hypothesis and theory may change depending on the interpretations we make [2]. “Theories may improve or change when they gather more information so that the accuracy of prediction becomes greater over time”[2]. The following depicts an example.

About 50 years ago the science textbooks used to explain the theory of flight based on Bernoulli's principle [3]. The air flowing over the curved upper surface of the wing moves faster than the air flowing underneath the wing and causes low pressure on the upper surfaces of the wing. Thus differences in velocities of air flowing on upper and lower surfaces of the wing create differential air pressure that results in the lift force. This was a plausible theory, and they included it in the science textbooks [3].

During war times fighter plane do various manoeuvre to overcome the enemy's warplanes and often the pilots fly the plane upside down [4]. When plane fly upside down the curved surface face the ground. Still, the plane stays in the air and fly. Bernoulli's principle could not explain this observation and demanded further explanations. Then "Coanda effect"[5] came to the rescue. The air flowing over upper and lower surfaces of a wing meets at trailing edge and gets deflected downward. The downward flow of air creates an equal and opposite reaction on the wing following Newton's third law of motion. This way, it produces the lift. [3, 6]. Thus the theory of flight underwent modification with the time.

The scientific theories have undergone modifications with the time. Many theories changed and perfected with time. But science has a history of superseded theories. “A superseded, or obsolete scientific theory is a scientific theory that the mainstream scientific community once accepted, but now considers an inadequate or incomplete description of reality, or false” [7]. Superseded theories existed in many branches of science[7].

For example, they never allowed the trains to run above 30 kmph. They thought if people travel above 30 kmph, then the wind pressure on the chest will cause suffocation. They knew a horse can run 30 – 40 kmph and the horse rider confronted no breathing at that speed. This was the logic for limiting the train speed to

30 kmph. Sometimes a man used to run in front of the train to regulate its speed [8]. Today we know that they based the regulation on a false theory.

Many misconceptions existed in science in the last century. An example is “Rain follows the plow”. People believed permanent human settlement caused increased rainfall in a place. So authorities encouraged the people to settle in arid zones. But they learned their mistake from their own experience and they debunked the theory [9]. The world ice theory and many theories - alchemy, California island, geocentricity, the “four humours”, vitalism, maternal impression, phlogiston and spontaneous generation of life existed and debunked them in the later years [9]. Lack of good scientific methods in the past centuries could be the reason for making such mistaken theories. But, many theories we considered in 1990 is no longer accepted now [10]. An example is peptic ulcers. Peptic ulcers became more common in the 20th century and medical doctors associated the disease with increased gastric secretion caused by the stress of modern life. The medical fraternity had considered excessive acid production in the stomach caused peptic ulcers. So, the doctors advised patients to take antacids and avoid stress in life. But, in the 1980s Barry Marshall, an Australian clinical researcher discovered that H. pylori bacterium caused the disease, and this discovery led him to win a Nobel Prize in 2005 [10].

The above discussion on theories shows that “science is not infallible” [11].

Against such a backdrop, the evolution theory, a theory that explains the origin of life on earth is presented here.

We understand beyond any doubts that every man-made thing has a creator and nothing comes into existence by itself. We accept this without seeing the person who created it and same logic is true for nature too. The question we confront is “where is the Creator?”

X-rays and electromagnetic waves are invisible to human eyes but they exist in nature. A Creator invisible to human eyes does not mean the non-existence of Creator. We base our scientific endeavour only on our five senses because we considered man has only five senses [12]. The present study shows the man has over 20 senses in the body [13,]. The man may have lost the sensory perception for Creator due to certain reasons as the vestigial organs in some organisms..

They made the theory of evolution of life-based on the spontaneous generation of life observed by Aristotle [14]. Aristotle observed rats among heaps of clothes with human sweat and maggots in food grains [14]. This observation made him propose the spontaneous generation of life which formed the foundation of evolution theory. However, the theory survived about 2000 years. But Louis Pasteur proved that the observations reported by Aristotle were wrong [14]. Thus the spontaneous generation of life theory became a debunked theory [9].

As explained earlier when an existing logic or scientific principles cannot explain an observation, leads to making a hypothesis. It is then tested. Since there was no observation of spontaneous generation of life, it did not call for the demand for a hypothesis or theory. So we have to accept the logic we discussed above - a Creator behind the creation [15], at least till we see the spontaneous generation of life and matter.

Science considered man as bipartite with mind and body. But, recent research has opined that man is tripartite with spirit, mind and body, to explain the intuition in man [16, 17]. They accept intuition in science [16]. A recent publication opines that the Creator guided the progress of man [17].

Given the evidence narrated above, this paper opines that an invisible Creator does not mean the non-

existence of the Creator behind the creation of Universe and life. They based the evolution theory of life on a debunked theory - the spontaneous generation of life. Since the observation that formed the foundation of evolution theory was wrong the theory built on it was like a castle built on quicksand. Therefore we conclude there is a Creator behind the creation of universe and life. This also warrants due acknowledgement of the Creator in our publications wherever the word 'nature' is mentioned [18].

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