

Going Back To Your Roots In Africa!

I read this in a Blog by a Jewish guy and found it fascinating, not for any political or religious reason, but for the information DNA can seemingly provide about a person and their roots.

As you will see, in this case the DNA result was remarkably accurate.

National Geographic are carrying out a Genographic project, which, collects DNA samples from people around the world in an attempt to isolate those parts of DNA which can then be used to track a person's history and ancestry through the world.

Put more simply, it is possible to trace not only our bodily make-up through our genes, but also who we are and where we came from.

A volunteer, who had a known family history going back many generations, took part in this test with a view to publishing the results. Good or bad.

Participants are given a tester kit with which they take a swab of their cheek and send off the sample for analysis.

The participant remains 100% anonymous. The sample could be from

results would corroborate his family history and Jewish lineage.

Was he really a person descended from the Israelites of biblical times or someone whose family, somewhere over the centuries, picked up a religion and stuck with it.

In Judaism your lineage is tracked through the mother's side, so that was the side which was tested.

The subject's grandmother, on his mother's side, always told the same story of her ancestors as it had been passed down the years in her family.

The story was that while her family most recently lived near Prague in Czechoslovakia, the family history was very varied.

Before arriving in central Europe, part



it stops.

So the family "roots", according to family folklore, was quite specific and detailed.

Does DNA Testing Confirm This Story?

When the DNA results were received, the grandmother's version of the family history became a reality.

DNA confirmed the story and the route the family travelled over hundreds of years.

All Humans Originated In East Africa.

Left is the map that shows the mother's family's journey, based on the DNA analysis.

The red line is the family DNA's history.

The foundation of these studies, based on DNA examples collected and other tests and considerations, is that all people originated somewhere in eastern Africa at the beginning of human existence.

The various races developed as people migrated around the world and developed different characteristics due to food, location and climate.

So everyone's map will start where the L1 line is.

From there, things spread out based on the individual's ancestors' migration.

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a Manchester United supporter or other wild animal for all the testers know. It's a totally blind study.

The only other thing the testers ask is whether you want the test done on your mother's side or your father's. The test is either/or, you can test either the Y chromosome or the X, but not both.

In the sample test case we're following, the male subject's mother was Jewish, and he was interested to know if the DNA

of her family had lived for many centuries in Rhodes, from where they moved for some years to Spain, eventually being forced out in the late 1400s as a result of the inquisition.

There is some historical support for this, as there was a Jewish community on Rhodes from as far back as around 300 BC.

Prior to Rhodes, the family could trace itself back to the land of Israel and there

Famous "Expert" Predictions Or "Why didn't I keep my big mouth shut?"

- "Nobody will ever need more than 640k RAM!" ... Bill Gates, 1981
- "Everything that can be invented has been invented." ...Charles H. Duell, Office of Patents, 1899.
- "There will never be a bigger plane built." ...A Boeing engineer, after the first flight of the 247, a twin engine plane that carried ten people.
- "Ours has been the first, and doubtless to be the last, to visit this profitless locality." ... Lt. Joseph Ives after visiting the Grand Canyon in 1861.
- "There is not the slightest indication that nuclear energy will ever be obtainable. It would mean that the atom would have to be shattered at will." ... Albert Einstein, 1932.
- "We don't like their sound. Groups of guitars are on the way out." ...Decca executive, 1962, after turning down the Beatles.
- "It will be years...not in my time...before a woman will become Prime Minister." ...Margaret Thatcher, 1974.
- "With over 50 foreign cars already on sale here, the Japanese auto industry isn't likely to carve out a big slice of the US market." ...Business Week, August 2, 1968.
- "Computers may weigh no more than 1.5 tons." ...Popular Mechanics, 1949.
- "There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home." ...Ken Olson, president of Digital Equipment Corp. 1977.

Fishing The Gene Pool

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- At its most basic, if you are a pure race African tribesman, your DNA should show the L1 line.
- As the ancestors wandered around, a touch of L2 and pinch of L3 entered the equation.
- Assuming you are a pure race African tribesman, that's about all it will show.
- If you're Asian, you will start with L1 and then your line wanders from Africa over into Asia.
- If you are of mixed races, you'd have multiple lines crisscrossing the map.

The map could be compared to the map of the London Underground, where each stop or changing point signifies a naughty night or dirty weekend for one of your ancestors. See, Granny and Granddad did it too!

Back to the test subject we're following, and this DNA is on the N line, the N1B subtype in particular and is quite pure.

It primarily shows that the grandmother's story seems to be based on facts.

While the N1 line branched off several times, some up through the Syria/Iraq and around the Black Sea into Europe, some east into Iran, one of the lines, N1B goes from the land of Israel into Turkey/Greece.

This confirms the grandmother's family spending a lot of time on Rhodes after leaving the biblical land of Israel.

Then the line stops.

This shows that after the family arrived in Rhodes, they stayed in very small communities with others of the same background and had no outside influence.

They kept to themselves and there was no interbreeding with anyone outside their own close family group.

No sowing wild oats for this lot, at least as far as the women were concerned!

There's no trace of Christian, Muslim or other Jewish sects in this bloodline.

If you accept the family view of their history, then this appears to indicate that from before 1400 till the present, they were pure Jews, and if the story of the family being in Spain is true, there was no mixing with the Spanish

- "This telephone has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication." ...Western Union memo, 1876.
- "No imaginable commercial value. Who would pay for a message sent to nobody in particular?" ...David Sarnoff's associates in response to his urging investment in the radio in the 1920's.
- "Who wants to hear actors talk?" ...H.M. Warner, Warner Brothers, 1927.
- "I'm just glad it'll be Clark Gable who's falling on his face and not Gary Cooper." ...Gary Cooper, after turning down the lead role in *Gone With The Wind*.
- "We don't need you. You haven't got through college yet." ...Hewlett Packard excuse to Steve Jobs, who founded Apple Computers instead.
- "I think there's a world market for about five computers." ...Thomas J. Watson, chairman of the board of IBM.
- "The bomb will never go off. I speak as an expert in explosives." ...Admiral William Leahy, U.S. Atomic Bomb Project.
- "Airplanes are interesting toys, but they are of no military value whatsoever." ...Marechal Ferdinand Fock, Professor of Strategy, Ecole Superieure de Guerre.
- "Stocks have reached a permanently high plateau." ...Irving Fisher, Professor of Economics, Yale University, 1929.
- "No matter what happens, the U.S. Navy is not going to be caught napping." ...U.S. Secretary of Navy, December 4, 1941.
- "While theoretically and technically television may be feasible, commercially and financially it is an impossibility." ...Lee DeForest, inventor.
- "Radio has no future. Heavier-than-air flying machines are impossible. X-rays will prove to be a hoax." ...Lord Kelvin English scientist, 1899.

population.

The report of the results then went into details of the specific sub-tree, the N1B route the family followed.

"Your DNA results identify you as belonging to a specific branch of the human family tree called haplogroup N1. Haplogroup N1 contains the following subgroups: N1, N1a, N1b, N1c.*

The map shows the direction that your maternal ancestors took as they set out from their original homeland in East Africa.

While humans did travel many different paths during a journey that took tens of thousands of years, the lines above represent the dominant trends in this migration.

Over time, the descendants of your ancestors spread throughout the Near East; your haplogroup constitutes one of the four founding Ashkenazi Jewish lineages.

But before we can take you back in time and tell their stories, we must first understand how modern science makes this analysis possible."

Remembering this sample was anonymous and could have been sent in by a baboon, it actually told the participant that he was a Jew. In fact it went deeper and said he is an Ashkenazi Jew, which is a particular sect in Judaism.

The report then said that his line had run in this sequence, L1/L0 L2 L3, then a new tribe formed N and his family moved away from that tribe to N1

"Your genetic lineage places you in one of the subgroups of N, known as N1.

In addition to a wide geographic distribution similar to that of N, your haplogroup is significant because its members constitute one of the four major Ashkenazi Jewish founder lineages.

"Around half of all Ashkenazi Jews trace their lineage back to one of four women, and your haplogroup N1 represents one of those lineages. N1 is seldom found in populations of non-Ashkenazi Jews. While it is virtually absent in Europeans, it appears at frequencies of roughly three percent or higher in those from the Levant, Arabia, and Egypt. This indicates a strong genetic role in the Ashkenazi founder event, which likely occurred in the Near East.

Today, haplogroup N1 is the second most common in Ashkenazi Jews and today is shared by around 800,000 people."

This means they were able to isolate the tested person to a group of 800,000 people, which ain't bad considering there are around 6.7 billion of us around at the moment.

Statistics The Art Of Hiding Your Guesses.

There was this statistics student who, when driving his car, would always accelerate hard before coming to any junction, whizz straight over it, then slow down again once he'd got over it.

One day, he had a passenger, who was understandably unnerved by his driving style, and asked him why he went so fast over junctions.

The statistics student replied, "Well, statistically speaking, you are far more likely to have an accident at a junction, so I just make sure that I spend less time there."

Just try explaining the value of statistical probabilities to the widow of the man who drowned crossing a stream with an average depth of four feet.

Statistics in brief;

There are three kinds of lies: lies, damned lies, and statistics

Figures won't lie, but liars can figure.

There are no facts, only interpretations.

Statistics is the art of never having to say you're wrong. Torture the data long enough and it will confess to anything.

A statistician is a person who draws a mathematically precise line from an unwarranted assumption to a foregone conclusion.

A statistician can have his head in an oven and his feet in ice, and he will say that on the average he feels fine.

It's like the tale of the roadside merchant who was asked to explain how he could sell chicken sandwiches so cheap.

"Well," he explained, "I have to put some horse-meat in too. But I mix them 50:50. One horse, one chicken."

Statistics are like a bikini. What they reveal is suggestive, but what they conceal is vital.

Q: What is the difference between a Ph.D. in statistics and a large pizza?

A: A large pizza can feed a family of four...

Stop Press - New York (CNN).

At John F. Kennedy International Airport today, a Caucasian male (later discovered to be a high school mathematics teacher) was arrested trying to board a flight while in possession of a compass, a protractor and a graphical calculator.

According to law enforcement officials, he is believed to have ties to the Al-Gebra network. He will be charged with carrying weapons of math instruction.