

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO THE DINOSAURS?

Jonathan Gray

© Copyright 2003

<http://www.archaeologyanswers.com>

WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO THE DINOSAURS?

In the forest areas near Sadiya, in northern Assam, two tea planters were hunting – quite ready, they thought, for anything. They were in for a substantial shock.

The sun was setting. A warm orange glow was spreading its magic over the reeds.

Suddenly, both men were startled. The noises were loud. They were hearing the sounds of a ponderous animal wallowing in the swamp. As they crept toward it, they were amazed to see a reptilian head raise itself on an endless neck above the reeds. The men fired, both of them. Apparently that was useless. The animal simply turned and heaved its vast bulk away to the centre of the swamp, where it could not be followed.

Was this one of the Buru, of which the tribespeople often spoke?

NOT SO VICIOUS

Long ago, extraordinary creatures roamed about freely on our planet. Today we call them dinosaurs.

Remains were found in South America of a dinosaur that had been as long as 150 feet (46 metres). This “earth shaker” may have weighed as much as 100 tons. By comparison, a modern large bull elephant weighs about 7 tons.

A brontosaurus could drink with ease from the gutter of a two-storied house. And the flying pterandon, 20 feet long, when in the air would look as big as an elephant in flight.

A single dinosaur would probably have eaten up to 400 tons of food a day.

Of course there were also small varieties of dinosaur that were no larger than chickens.

Much new information concerning dinosaurs is coming to light. So much is new that a lot of what you have read or heard about dinosaurs in the past is probably incorrect.

There is no scientific evidence that any dinosaur was as vicious as we have been led to believe. The bones, teeth and stomach contents of fossil dinosaurs tell us that most of them were harmless plant-eaters. We have little evidence to indicate that any of the dinosaurs definitely ate meat. Much more research is needed.

The Tyrannosaurus rex is often pictured as a savage killer. However, its sharp teeth and claws may well have been used to tear up tough plants and fruits. Many sharp-toothed animals living today are plant-eaters which rarely, if ever, eat flesh.

NOT DUMB AND CLUMSY

In 1976, paleontologist Adrian Desmond offered new evidence to suggest that dinosaurs were not slow, clumsy creatures, but swift and graceful and far from stupid. They were highly intelligent, warm-blooded creatures who were marvels of agility and grace. (Adrian Desmond, *The Hot-Blooded Dinosaur: A Revolution in Paleontology*. 1976)

They were far superior to our surviving reptiles, the komodo dragon and crocodile. It is claimed that the Tyrannosaurus could run as fast as a galloping horse or a charging tiger!

This much is certain: dinosaurs could not have just evolved by mindless chance. As more and more fossils of these astonishing creatures are discovered – some as long as 40 metres (130 feet) – one is amazed at their wonderful design. The Brachiosaurus, as tall as a four story building, had a neck which was built just like the jib of a crane! Its design shows an intelligent plan.

NOT MILLIONS OF YEARS AGO

One thing that is basic to the evolution theory is this: that the dinosaur evolved and then became extinct millions of years before there were any people on earth. It is very strongly held that no man ever saw a dinosaur.

Fossils not millions of years old

But what do the fossil remains of dinosaurs show us? Does it really take millions, or even thousands, of years for something to become fossilised?

Well, how about this? Did you know that chicken bones and wood have been found to fossilise in just 5 to 10 years? A large dinosaur bone might take hundreds of years to completely fossilise. All that is required is the right minerals, quick burial and the right amount of water.

In fact, many dinosaur bones are composed of less than 50 percent rock; the rest is original bone. In some dinosaur bones, proteins and amino acids can still be found. This is clear evidence of burial within the last few thousand years. (See our book *Suddenly One Afternoon*, Chapters 14 and 15.)

ALL THEORIES INADEQUATE

At least 55 different theories have been put forth as to why the dinosaurs disappeared. One by one, they have fallen.

As Edwin H. Colbert says:

“The great extinction that wiped out all of the dinosaurs, large and small, in all parts of the world, and at the same time... was an event that has defied all attempts at a satisfactory explanation.” (Edwin H. Colbert, *The Age of Reptiles*. London: W.W. Norton and Company, Ltd.:1966, p.191)

One commentator summed it up perfectly:

“All theories on the dinosaurs’ extinction are now extinct.” (*The Weekend Australian*, August 27-28, 1983, p.11. *The Times*, London, August 25, 1983)

U.C. Berkeley physicist, Luis Alvarez says:

“The problem is not what killed the dinosaurs but what killed almost all the life at the time.” (*Time*, June 5, 1985)

The great dinosaur graveyards found in various parts of the world demand some form of catastrophic action. To those who do not believe in the Great Flood, it is a continuing mystery why the dinosaurs suddenly died.

TAKEN ABOARD THE ARK

Since Noah took on board the Ark at least one set of every air-breathing land animal, (*Gen.6:19-20; 7:15-16*) dinosaurs must have been included. The Ark certainly had enough space. (See *Suddenly One Afternoon*, Chapter 13) But it would have been unnecessary to take old, full-sized 80 ton dinosaurs. All he needed was a pair of small youngsters of each basic type.

AFTER THE FLOOD

Dinosaurs certainly survived for some centuries after the Flood. However, in an impoverished new world, there were no longer the great forests and nutritional plant life to sustain them, as before.

Many other large animals also became extinct in the harshness of the new environment.

MAN AND DINOSAUR

The traditions of ancient peoples all over the earth tell us of huge, reptilian creatures strikingly like the dinosaurs. The term “dinosaur” was not invented until 1841. The ancients called them “dragons” or “monsters”.

A few hundred years after the Flood it was written in the book of Job that the greatest creature on earth was a monster with a strong tail like the thick, tall trunk of the cedar tree. The name given it was “behemoth”. (*Job 40:15-17*) Such a tail disqualifies the elephant or the hippopotamus, but does fit the dinosaur.

Legends

The more ancient stories are more matter-of-fact in quality, while the more recent ones tend to be more fanciful – which would be expected if the dinosaur was now becoming a rarity.

* An old science book, *Historia Animalium*, says that “dragons” lived in Europe as late as the sixteenth century. But the animals were said to be extremely rare and relatively small by then.

* In 900 A.D., an Irish writer reported meeting a huge animal with thick legs, strong claws and “iron” spikes on its back. Was this a Stegosaurus?

* The French city of Neriis changed its name after a “dragon” with long, sharp horns on its head was killed there. It was probably a Triceratops.

* Some old Chinese history books even tell of a family that kept “dragons” and raised their babies. It is said that in those days Chinese kings used “dragons” to pull royal chariots on special occasions.

* Such creatures were battled by Gilgamesh of Babylon (this one was eating forest growth); King Morvidus of Wales about 336 B.C. (who was killed by it); King Peredur of Wales (who slew it at a place called Llyn Llion); Beowulf of Scandinavia about 495-583 A.D. (who killed two, but lost his life at 88 in the process of killing another); Siegfried of the ancient Teutons; Tristan, King Arthur and Sir Lancelot of Britain, and, of course, the famous St. George (c. 300 A.D.). Early records of the fight between St. George and the dragon are much more sober and believable than the popular accounts written later in children’s books on fables. There may be some basis of truth in the story.

* Fraser of Glenvackie is credited with having killed the last known “dragon” in Scotland. The date, according to historical records, is about 1520.

* On May 13, 1572, a farmer in northern Italy killed a dinosaur-like creature. It was examined and described by Italian scientist Ulysses Aldrovandas.

There is something striking about these “dragon” or “monster” reports and legends:

1. They exist virtually worldwide.
2. There are many items of similarity between the creatures slain and known dinosaur fossils.

Many ancient armies used the dragon ensign. It was often the chief among royal ensigns in war.

Drawings

Archaeologists occasionally find ancient drawings of animals that look very much like dinosaurs.

* In Zimbabwe, the Amazon valley and Arizona, dinosaur pictographs have been found on cave or canyon walls, rock outcrops and boulders. In Bolivia they appear on ancient ceramic pottery. In Ecuador they have been found on stone plaques.

* In Ica, Peru, genuine ancient stone engravings clearly show man and dinosaur as cosy neighbours. Human beings are portrayed hunting or struggling with monsters resembling triceratops, stegosaurus and pterodactyls. Others show people as having domesticated animals that appear to be dinosaurs; they are using them for warfare and transportation.

Dr Javiera Cabrera's museum at Ica contains about 11,000 of these rounded stones weighing from 5 pounds (2½ kilograms) to boulders of 800 pounds (c.400 kilograms). Samples of these stones were sent to Spain by the Spanish explorers in 1562. That they are not of recent origin is evidenced by the oxidation produced by ageing which covers the incisions of the drawings.

* Ancient Cocle pottery designs in Panama represent a flying lizard that looks like the extinct pterodactyl. Prehistoric animals are painted along with recognisable animals, according to American archaeologist A. Hyatt Verrill. (A. Hyatt Verill, *Old Civilisations of the New World*. New York: New Home Library, 1943)

* In Mexico, in July, 1945, near Acambaro in the state of Guanajuato, a chance discovery of pottery fragments was made by one Waldemar Julsind. In all, 300,000 fragments were unearthed. These included ancient ceramic models of people and animals which resemble dinosaur-like reptiles. Some of the giant saurians are shown with women in non-hunting non-violent situations, perhaps as pets or domestic animals. The humans wear laced sandals, shields and chain mail.

In this instance, some disrepute was attached to the discovery, because it was found that after the publicity local inhabitants set about salting prospective digs with home-made clay dinosaurs of their own.

Though few archaeologists or anthropologists have bothered to examine the ancient specimens, they are automatically dismissed as outrageous fakes. There should have been no artisan of ancient Mexico with the faintest idea that dinosaurs had even existed, let alone what they looked like.

* In 1924, on a wall of the Havasupai Canyon in the Grand Canyon area of Arizona, the Doheny expedition discovered a carving of a tyrannosaurus

rex, standing upright, supported by his massive tail, ready to use his powerful jaws and fangs on a prospective victim.

This petroglyph high up on the canyon wall is so old that the iron slowly seeping from the rock has formed a protective coating.

In the same canyon another carving, likewise coated in iron patina, shows a man either attacking or defending himself against a mammoth.

* At Big Sandy River, Oregon, a rock carving can be identified as a stegosaurus. The drawing was made by scratching red sandstone with a flint. It shows evidence of great age.

Now here is the big question: If the existence of the artists was not contemporaneous with that of the dinosaurs, then how could “primitive” man have drawn beasts which he had never seen?

Remains found together

In my book *The Corpse Came Back*, I reveal the startling discovery in the Paluxy River basin, near Glen Rose, Texas, that shows beyond doubt that man and dinosaur had lived together in the area.

One trail of these human footprints actually crossed the tracks of the dinosaurs.

Carbon-dating of this stratum gave readings of only a few thousand years.

Although I do not place too much faith in carbon dating (for reasons given in *Suddenly One Afternoon*), I mention these readings because carbon dating is regularly appealed to as evidence by those who hold the established view.

Adjacent to the tracks, on the same Cretaceous layer, there was a long black streak of a fallen tree branch which had been burned to charcoal prior to burial in the limey surface. About 7 feet long and 2 inches in diameter, it was embedded some 200 metres downstream from the human and dinosaur tracks. A section of this branch was extracted for carbon-14 analysis. R. Berger, a geophysicist at UCLA, later pronounced the branch to be 12,800 years old.

Thus, in this stratum we have evidence of dinosaurs contemporaneous with early man and dateable by a tree branch as being no more than 13,000

years ago! By its own criteria, it seems that the whole science of geochronology as conventionally practised is due for a complete overhaul.

Now naturally these exhibits will not be popular with some people. The majority of the scientific community has greeted them with deathly silence because of early indoctrination in evolution. It tries to ignore them for the sole reason that it cannot explain them.

DINOSAURS LIVING TODAY?

It is difficult to say categorically that any animal is extinct. Several times geologists have been severely embarrassed, when, after having declared animals to be extinct, they have been discovered alive and well.

On the remote island of Komodo in Indonesia are about a thousand “prehistoric” monster lizards, the Komodo “dragons”. They were totally unknown to modern man until the year 1912! Scientists have been perplexed by this mystery: One of the “oldest” animals on earth is found on a geologically “young” island. How did it get there?

There is some evidence that a few dinosaurs and great marine reptiles could still be alive today, still teetering on the edge of extinction.

Plesiosaurs (deep water dinosaurs)

In 1977, Japanese fishing nets off New Zealand caught the decaying body of a large, strange reptile. Photographs, measurements and tissue samples suggested it was probably one of the great marine reptiles like the Plesiosaurus.

The Japanese government issued a stamp to commemorate this catch.

All over the world, ship captains have reported animals like this, as well as other types of unknown sea monsters. There have been hundreds of such accounts.

The *Melbourne Sun* of February 6, 1980 noted that more than forty people had claimed to have seen plesiosaurs off the Victorian coast over the previous twelve years.

Many reliable observers have sketched or described sea creatures which resemble ancient plesiosaurs or ichthyosaurs, dragon-like monsters

apparently still alive in the abyssal depths. Such reports, I should point out, often come from people whose integrity or soundness of mind would not otherwise be questioned.

In 1952, Fred Olsen was patrolling the Esperanza Inlet area for the Canadian Department of Fisheries. He recounts:

“The Canadian Fishing Company had a fish buying camp at Queens Cove, near the entrance to Esperanza inlet. The ‘camp’ was a 90 ft. scow with two decks, the lower contained the fish storage space and ice house, the upper the living quarters. Part of the upper deck was open, similar to a sun-deck.

“The scow was moored to pilings away from shore, and lived in by the manager, his wife and three children. One day, while working on the sun-deck, which was some 10 feet above the sea, the man spotted a moving object out of the corner of his eye... his first impression was that one of the black creosoted pilings had somehow worked loose and was falling over, alongside the camp, into the sea. Startled, he wheeled around, and the sight that met his eyes shocked him more than anything he had ever experienced in his adventurous life. On an eel-like neck, thicker than a piling, a head with enormous eyes, towering six feet above the sun-deck, was passing very slowly by the camp. Electrified into action, he tore through the doorway into the living quarters, and seized his 30-30 rifle, which he kept loaded at all times. By now the dreadful thing had reached the outside window of the living quarters, and his wife and daughter were gaping in horror....

“As the camp man dashed back to the sun-deck, he slammed the door behind him. Apparently startled, the creature turned its head towards the window and opened its mouth widely and mother and daughter were treated to the spectacle of a huge pink-lined mouth and frightful, shark-like teeth. The thing slid slowly out of view and the two rushed to the window... below, slightly underwater, was passing the enormous whale-sized body of the monster. Whale-like too, were the huge 12 foot wide flukes, slowly propelling the appalling creature through the water....

“Out on deck, the man... sighted on the back of the animal’s head, a mere 20 feet away... he hesitated; somewhere he had heard of the peanut sized brain of dinosaurs. This thing resembled a dinosaur... he knew that if he failed to paralyse or kill the thing with one shot, the titanic convulsions of the monster would probably smash the camp to pieces and bring destruction upon them all.

“He did not shoot. The animal submerged slowly, its great body visible underwater as it moved towards the head of the cove... A chill February breeze was blowing from the Pacific, but it was not the cold which made him shiver violently. His body was drenched with perspiration! The head of the cove was covered with ice about an inch thick. There was a slight splintering sound as the thing appeared again. It reared up about a dozen feet through and above the ice and turned its head in all directions... Then it sank again, to be seen no more.

“Recovering from the shock of the experience the witnesses rowed over to another camp-boat, but their story was met with incredulity. The camp men made a sketch of what they had seen and sent it to the Department of Fisheries biological station at Nanaimo – who replied that no such creature existed, and that he had probably seen a sea-cow... The weird story was ridiculed everywhere and in the end the family subsided into angry silence.” (Article by Fred Olsen in *The Daily Colonist*, April 16, 1967)

Many well documented accounts are in my files. Often the reptiles are described as having heads like those of alligators. Marine reptiles with heads like alligators are said to have existed along with the dinosaurs “millions” of years ago.

In lakes and rivers

Over the years there have been consistent reported sightings of plesiosaur-like monsters in lakes in:

- Sweden (Lake Storsjon)
- Scotland (several lakes, including Loch Ness, which has an underwater outlet to the sea.)
- Ireland (Loughs Fee, Bran, Much, Bray, Dub, Neagh, Cleevaun, Nacorra and Glendalaugh)
- Canada (Lakes Okanagan, Simcoe and Winnipegosis)
- U.S.A. (Lake Payett, Idaho)
- Eastern Siberia (Lakes Vorota, Khaiyr and Labyntyk)

On land

* In the 1800s, missionaries in Africa reported a trail of large three-clawed footprints unlike those of any known African animal.

* North Assam: The Apa Thani tribe in a remote upland valley of northern Assam had a strong tradition of a “buru” (monster) which existed in a large swamp nearby. It used to put its long neck up out of the water and make a hoarse, bellowing noise. Their ancestors drained the swamp and killed the burus. They still point out three burial sites where the last three burus were buried.

Some 200 miles southwest, another tribe describe the same animal as still in existence and frequently seen in a swamp valley called Rilo. This virtually unexplored mountain territory is claimed by both India and China.

* Malaysia: There are several reports from the Semelai people concerning a large lake in the remote centre of the Malay Peninsula. A part of the lake known as Tasek Bera is surrounded by tall reeds. Large animals are said to inhabit the lake. Their necks are described as tall as a palm tree and fully 6 feet thick. Sometimes the tail is seen, but the body always remains under water.

An officer of the Malay police reported an unnerving experience. One afternoon, when bathing, he looked back toward shore and noticed a massive “snake’s” head rising above a 15 foot clump of Russau palm. Its slate-coloured body was enormously thick. In panic, he raced for his boat, and as he rowed away, could see the monster watching him, unconcerned. (Stewart Wavell, *The Lost World of the East*. London: Souvenir Press, 1958)

* Natives of the Madre de Dios region in eastern Peru, a wild, unexplored region in the upper Amazon headwaters, describe a dinosaur-like creature which they claim inhabits swampy jungle land several days’ walk in from the river.

* Africa: Explorers and natives in a very remote jungle in the Congo repeatedly tell of sightings of a large dinosaur-like animal. (*Science Digest*, June, 1981. *Science Frontiers*, no.33) Occasional visitors over the last 200 years have all confirmed that the natives are absolutely honest in their reports of the “mokele-mbembe” which are huge, with small heads, long necks, and long, massive tails. They have been described as “half elephant and half dragon”.

About 40 years ago, some of the pigmies say, they speared one to death. All who ate it, died soon afterward. When shown pictures of various large animals, living and extinct, the natives have always verified the brontosaurus as closest in appearance to “mokele-mbembe”!

Extensive research has established the authenticity of many reports. For other reports there is almost total lack of supporting evidence. However, there is a hard core of evidence which one cannot honestly dismiss as misidentification, error or hoax.

The modern “plesiosaur” and “ichthyosaur” sightings are either in waterways connected to the sea or in lakes around the world that were once connected to the ocean. Retreating waters from the Great Flood left pockets of remote, but adequate, water tracts in which such animals were stranded.

In a few remote, undisturbed areas where vegetative luxuriance persists, it seems quite possible that dinosaurs still survive.

© Jonathan Gray 2003
info@archaeologyanswers.com

* * * * *

Did you enjoy this article? Please pass it on to a friend and give them our website address: <http://www.beforeus.com>