

## **Darwin's Bluff**

### **The British attempt to conquest India**

Since the discovery of the sea route around the Cape of Good Hope many European merchants traveled to India, but the most successful were the English. In 1611 the English East India Company set up a trading post in Musulipatam on the east coast of India. Later, more trading posts were established and in April 1640 a fortress was inaugurated as Fort St. George and after that numerous trading posts emerged, but the most significant of these was the Presidency of Bengal, founded in 1684. After the Battle of Plassey in June 1757, the British became able to consolidate largely their trade and power monopoly in India and at the same time the dominions were extended by numerous wars.

In the year 1858 the entire territory of India was placed under the English crown, Queen Victoria became the head of state of India and the East India Company was dissolved. The English have not only fought wars in India to expand trade, but have done much to reaffirm their dominion and permanent existence. For administrative purposes, tax communities, sub-districts, districts, provinces and central government have been systematically set up in the country. The industrialization of India took place in parallel with Britain and the initiators were the British themselves. From the mid of 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century the entire country was networked with railroads because the English never thought to eventually leave the country some day.

The highest administrative posts were owned by British subjects and at the same time qualified Indians were admitted to the administration. A modern India came out to exist, which one could perceive from the second half of the 19th century until the beginning of the First World War in numerous Euro-American publications. The upper classes of India had respect for these orderly, smart and powerful lords of the vowed country of England.

Wanted or not, most of the Indians were ready to engage with the British in a common empire with co-governing of the Indian upper class. But the dilemma arose because of the ethnic background which had systematically destroyed the whole undertaking. The main cause for this is from the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when European academic disciplines emerged such as anthropology, indology, ethnology and related faculties. The racist ideologies were often interpreted as science or natural philosophy, which had destroyed the English intention of world power within Indian territorial sovereignty.

### **The modern science as an alternative**

In order to reform the society in India the English tried for a great deal, interfered and if necessary, passed laws for or against them. But they understood that man without being a Hindu and a Brahmin, is a lower being. Based on reincarnation the adherents of the Hindu religion were divided into four castes such as Brahmin, warrior, merchant, farmer or craftsman. People outside these groups were defined as untouchables, casteless or others depending on their importance.

A way out of this bias was sought and found. The development of modern science had gained a

new, gigantic impetus and that was the automation during the entire nineteenth century. England stood at the forefront of this development and had a kind of copyright. A scientific interpretation of Hinduism was due. The principle of the Hindu caste system in the context of rebirth was transferred to biology. Science became victorious over faith. Faith promises a better existence in the afterlife, but science makes it possible in this world.

## **The amazing similarities between Hinduism and Darwinism**

### **Hinduism**

In Hinduism life begins somewhere as an insect, a bird, a snake or a cow. By dying and rebirth one comes sometimes as a person in the fourth caste as farmer to the world. Here a person leads an obedient life and accordingly he serves the upper castes. After his death the farmer comes to the world as a merchant, they will also lead a decent life and serve the warriors and Brahmins. If a merchant fulfills their duties, they will be born again as a warrior for civil service, warfare and as ruler. A warrior takes care of the Brahmins and after rebirth they will be born as Brahmin.

The Brahmins are in the highest rank, responsible only for worship. When a pious Brahmin dies, they become free from rebirth, convert to divinity, painlessness and eternity. This doctrine well-placed the Brahmins at the uppermost of mankind. In the Bhagavad gita the rebirth (verses 2.22) is described as follows:

"Just as a man puts off worn clothes and puts on new clothes, the soul throws worn-out bodies away and wears new ones."

### **Darwinism**

Charles Darwin describes that life in natural selection plays the crucial role in the development of species. Life starts somewhere as an animal. Through temptations a better animal is born and through further efforts it can be a primitive man. Through constant endeavours this primitive man may at some point come into the world as a modern man. Implemented with this kind of pseudoscience, some Darwinian believe to have established themselves at the top of the animal world. The exact similarities between the life-changing definitions of Hinduism and Darwinism are the embryonic changes.

### **Darwin's Theory of Evolution**

Charles Darwin and his genesis theory about man and the animal kingdom is unique in history. Darwin's claims are based on no single scientific argumentation that could prove that a living being can take on any other form. The background to this theory is based on a long voyage which Darwin made between 1831 and 1836 on a sailing ship. According to the information the sailing ship was a brig, equipped with 10 guns and it made a cartographic trip between 1826-1830 to South America. Thereby the specifications of the ship remained unknown. However, according to modern and secondary sources such as Encyclopaedia Britannica, the ship was built in 1820, was 27.43 meters

long, 7.46 meters wide, had 3.35 meters draft, had two masts and a crew of 60 to 64 men. This information is unable to be proven because the ship was allegedly scrapped in 1870.

This paper explores the question whether Darwin ever made this round-the-world journey on a wooden ship called the HMS Beagle or whether this assertion is a conspiracy theory to consolidate the English conquest of India and at the same time to present the Europeans as a better race. During this voyage Darwin wrote a diary called "Beagle Diary, 1831-1836", which was allegedly published in 1839 as "The Voyage of the Beagle". This investigation utilizes both the works written by Darwin, namely the original "Beagle Diary" (BD) and the print version "The Voyage of the Beagle" (VB). To preserve objectivity the original citations are used. At the beginning of "The Voyage of the Beagle" there is an announcement:

**„Darwin, Charles (1809-1882) - English naturalist and the original expounder of the theory of evolution by natural selection, subsequently known as Darwinism. The Voyage of the Beagle (1839) - A journal in which Darwin recorded his observations on natural science throughout his long journey on the Beagle (1831-1836), a journey he would later call the most important event in his life. The data gathered here formed the foundation for Darwin's later work.“** (VB, p. 2)

According to the above text the collected data of this journey form the cornerstone of Darwin's later work. Thus this travelogue is the origin of Darwin's genesis. However many discrepancies in this book lead to confusion. In fact the authenticity of this book is questionable. Had this journey really took place or it is just a fiction?

The Beagle Diary deals mainly with events on land and not on water. The different meals of the day were greatly described. Hunting, killing animals, edible species, meat quantity, meat to be grilled, food taste and horse riding were reinforced primarily. The collection of species was only a minor matter. There were hardly any scientific arguments with different animal and plant species. In addition life on the oceans received almost no attention.

Darwin behaved like an experienced geographer and geologist at the age of twenty-two but did not mention his educational background and claimed that he was an English naturalist. On the other hand Darwin dealt with the devaluation and humiliation of women and the indigenous people of South America, Australia and New Zealand. He described how wild and primitive the local people were. Also mining products such as gold, silver, saltpeter, coal, etc, were of great importance in his diaries which could give the colonization an incentive. Some selected inconsistencies are the evidence that the diaries were later written by several authors.

## **1. The ship and its sailing speed**

**„When the ship was running nine knots an hour, these animals (porpoises) could cross and recross the bows with the greatest ease, and then dash away right ahead.“** (VB, p. 61)

It means the ship was sailing 16.688 km per hour (1 Kn = 1.852 km). This speed is completely impossible for a sailing vessel built at the beginning of the 19th century. In addition all passages were carried out with an above-average sailing speed. This was said to be absolutely unproblematic, except at a point near Cape Lagullas where all ships were struggling.

The indication of the excessive speed on different stages of the voyage was that the authors had

little idea of seafaring with sailing ships. An example: The distance from Kokos-Keeling Island to Mauritius is over 4500 km and no word of the crossing was mentioned. Instead Darwin deals here with a long description of the barrier reefs (VB, pp. 673-698).

The food on board, the supply of provisions and drinking water, shortages, incidents, damage, repairs, big storms, giant waves, continuous rain, continuous doldrums or similar obstacles were not mentioned at all. In addition, the ship seemed immune to natural disasters. For example on February 20, 1835, a devastating earthquake surprised the city of Valdivia, Chile, with a magnitude of over eight on the Richter scale, with many deaths, injuries and property damage. Darwin and the ship's crew were in the vicinity, experienced everything up close, survived unharmed and the wooden ship HMS Beagle remained undamaged despite the huge tsunami waves (BD, p. 200).

## 2. Use of modern appliances and luxury

**„The hygrometer gave a difference of 29.6 degrees, between the temperature of the air, and the point at which dew was precipitated.“** (VB, p. 12)

The hygrometer was experimented in the first half of the 19th century and in 1877 it was patented. It is inconceivable that a technical device was successfully used almost half a century before patenting.

**„Some of the water placed in a glass was of a pale reddish tint; and, examined under a microscope, was seen to swarm with minute animalcula darting about, and often exploding.“** (VB, p. 29)

Here Darwin mentions the use of a microscope. It took a long time to develop this device, but an usable microscope did not come into being until the end of the 19th century.

**„I possessed two or three articles, especially a pocket compass, which created unbounded astonishment.“** (VB, p. 64)

At this time such kind of compasses did not exist. The first patent of the hand compass took place in 1885 in London.

**„We dined at Mandetiba; the thermometer in the shade being 84 degrees.“** (VB, p. 35)

The temperature measurement equipment was developed in the second half of the 19th century. In addition, there was no thermometer that could be carried on an excursion.

**„They liked our biscuit: but one of the savages touched with his finger some of the meat preserved in tin cases which I was eating, and feeling it soft and cold.“** (VB, p. 316)

Edible meat in a tin can was produced at the beginning of the First World War for military use.

## 3. Use of terms that did not exist at the time

Darwin used nouns and terms that were unknown during the time of the incident.

**„Here I have spent three days in painful indolence, whilst animals are staring me in the face, without labels & scientific epitaphs.“** (BD, p. 25)

The term 'Science' or 'Scientific' was not used in the first half of the 19th century. Instead natural philosophy was the usual word for it. The English word creator William Whewell published in 1837 his book 'The Philosophy of the Inductive Sciences'. The title of this book mentions the word 'Science' for the first time. But Darwin used this term in his diary on February 12, 1832, five years before this word creation. Until the end of the 19th century, science was regarded primarily as natural philosophy.

**„It would lead one to suppose that the view from a Balloon would be exceedingly striking.“** (BD, p. 46)

On May 25, 1832 Darwin climbed the 710-meter high granite peak Corcovado in Rio de Janeiro. He describes the view down as from a balloon. The manned balloon ride for passengers was not developed until the end of the 19th century.

**„These birds were in former days called, from their extraordinary manner of paddling and splashing upon the water, race-horses; but now they are named, much more appropriately, steamers“** (VB, p. 291)

The Tadorninae (shelduck-sheldgoose) was renamed as one could compare their swimming movements with a paddle steamer. In 1831 when Darwin allegedly was traveling with the Beagle, the development of steamship was at an early stage. Therefore there was little information about the locomotion of a paddle steamer. So that no wild animal could be compared let alone renamed.

**„...and early in the morning (23rd) a fresh party arrived, belonging to the Tekenika, or Jemmys tribe.“** (VB, p. 319)

The Tekenikas lived on Hoste Island which was first discovered by the French expedition in 1881-82. Until that time the term Tekenika was not mentioned anywhere.

**„From the number of small ice-bergs the channel represented in miniature the Arctic ocean.“** (BD, p. 98)

Until the end of the 19th century the name 'Arctic Ocean' was unknown. At that time the Arctic Ocean was referred to as the open Polar Sea.

**„Chionis alba, is an inhabitant of the antarctic regions;...“** (VB, p. 141)

Darwin used the term Antarctic in 1832, which was first published by the Scottish cartographer John George Bartholomew (1860-1920) in 1887 on a map.

**„The sole luxury which these men enjoyed was smoking the little paper cigars, and sucking mate.“** (VB, p. 166)

This paper cigar came about only after the invention of the cigarette machine in 1881.

**„...with the country full of ill-paid turbulent officers, the people yet hope that a democratic form of government can succeed!“** (VB, p. 230)

In 1832, Darwin mentioned about a Democratic form of government in Monte Video. Nowhere was such a system of government available at that time. A democratic form of government became known only after the American Civil War (1861-1865).

**„Presently a large American whaler appeared alongside of us; and we heard the Yankee swearing at his men to keep quiet,...“** (VB, p. 453)

The term 'Yankee' was first used in the American Civil War (1861-1865) by the Southerners against the Northern States. The English army officer James Wolfe (1727-1759) allegedly once used the notion Yankee, but there is no written evidence mentioned by that army officer. Literary it was used only in 1889 published in a novel by Mark Twain 'A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court'.

**„This night it blew a gale of wind, and the temperature must have been considerably below the freezing-point, for water in a vessel soon became a block of ice..“** (VB, p. 520)

Information about the 'freezing point' was unknown during that time. Scientists such as Francois-Marie Raoult (1830-1901) had published in 1878 a work on the freezing point.

**„I hired with difficulty, at the price of four pounds sterling, two mules and a guide to take me to the nitrate of soda works.“** (VB, p. 523)

Darwin wrote about the chemical substance "nitrate," although at the time (1835) no literature had dealt with this term. The usual name was saltpeter. Even the war between Chile, Peru and Bolivia of the years 1879-1884 was named as a saltpeter war.

**„The specimens that I brought from three islands were young ones:...“** (VB, p. 571)

Darwin used the word "Specimen". But no literature in those days applied this term.

**„After sitting a short time in the house we separated to walk about, but returned in the evening at tea-time.“** (BD, p. 248)

Darwin wrote about 'tea-time', although this term did not exist at the time. The tea came from China, was only marginally available and was not yet a regular drink to set as an idiom or proverb. Only after the successful tea cultivation by British in India from the second half of the 19th century this kind of information emerged. In the first half of the 19th century no literature used this double word "tea-time".

#### **4. Unimaginable acts**

Darwin undertook tasks that seemed unimaginable. The information is impressive but in fact not feasible.

**„I there first observed the substance described by the Arctic navigators as Red Snow. Subsequently I found under the microscope it consists of groups of minute red balls, the diameter of which is 1/1000<sup>th</sup> of an inch, & having several envelopes.“** (BD, p. 211)

Darwin climbed life-threatening Andes mountains without enough protective clothing. On March 21, 1835, he was caught at the summit by sudden cold wind and discovered 'Red Snow'. 'Red Snow' was noticed by a British naval officer on the expedition of the Northwest Passage in 1818. He

described that there were patches of snow that possessed the dark-red color of port wine. After that there was no information about 'Red Snow' for decades and nobody was interested. But Darwin was able to examine them under a microscope on the spot and find that they were groups of tiny spheres that had a diameter of 1/1000 of an inch - what a genius this young man was.

## **5. Information that were not possible**

Darwin mentioned some unknown things. Out of pure imagination he wrote about objects that did not exist in those days.

**„Around the farm-yard there were stables, a thrashing-barn with its winnowing machine, a blacksmiths forge, and on the ground ploughshares and other tools: in the middle was that happy mixture of pigs and poultry, lying comfortably together, as in every English farm-yard.“** (VB, p. 615 )

Darwin expressed his enthusiasm about the settlement of English people in Neusseland which did not happen at that time. The Church Missionary Society (CMS) landed in Bay Islands, New Zealand in December 1814, but owing to the Musket Wars between various tribes of the indigenous people there was no significant settlement successes until the second half of the 19th century. There were over 3000 of these musket wars whereby the native population greatly reduced. The systematic colonization of Neusselands began only after the initiative of the English New Zealand Company from the year 1839. This was mentioned in numerous books in the history of New Zealand.

**„On the outskirts of the wood I saw plenty of the New Zealand hemp plant growing in the swamps; this is the second most valuable export.“** (BD, p. 267)

On the outskirts of the forest Darwin saw an abundance of New Zealand hemp which was the second largest export. This statement was fictitious because the settlement and management of New Zealand did not even start, but Darwin wrote about the export of goods.

**„The streets are regular, broad, clean, and kept in excellent order; the houses are of a good size, and the shops well furnished. It may be faithfully compared to the large suburbs which stretch out from London and a few other great towns in England; but not even near London or Birmingham is there an appearance of such rapid growth.“** (VB, p. 625)

On January 12, 1836, the Beagle arrived in Port Jackson, Sydney. Darwin compared the city with its rapid growth with London and Birmingham. In fact, Sydney was predominantly a disposal site for the convicts from England. At the first gold rush in 1851 many settlers came to Sydney. All other information is suspicious because there were no significant reasons to settle there.

**„I slept at the Weatherboard, and before dark took another walk to the amphitheatre. On the road to Sydney I spent a very pleasant evening with Captain King at Dunheved.“** (VB, p. 642)

**„I slept at the Weatherboard, & before dark took another walk to the grand Amphitheatre.“** (BD, p. 277)

Here Darwin mentions the existence of an amphitheater or grand amphitheater in Sydney. According to The Dictionary of Sydney/Theater, where all former Sydney theaters are listed from the beginning to the end of the 19th century, such an amphitheater did not exist. The current Bradleys Head Amphitheater in Sydney Harbor National Park was built in 1934 as a memorial to the sailors who lost their lives at sea.

**„The "Bush Ranger" is an open villain, who subsists by highway robbery & plunder; generally he is desperate & will sooner be killed than taken alive.“** (BD, p. 276)

Darwin wrote about the Bush Rangers. In fact, these types of robbers were active when the Gold Rush (1851) had taken place. The number of these robbers accumulated until 1880 when a notorious Bush Ranger was caught and executed. But in 1836 there were none.

**„Late in the evening we anchored in the snug cove, on the shores of which stands the capital of Tasmania.“** (VB, p. 646)

The Dutch captain Abel Tasman discovered in the South Seas in 1642 an island. He named the island Van Dieman's Land. Van Dieman was the financier of this voyage. In 1856, the Australian government renamed the island as Tasmania although for many it continued to be known as Van Dieman's Land for a long time. But why did Darwin call this island Tasmania in 1836? No one knew during this time that the island would be renamed.

**„I crossed in a steamboat, two of which are constantly plying backwards and forwards.“** (VB, p. 649)

Darwin has called the detention camp Hobart a modern city. Two steamboats drove across the bay forwards and backwards. According to original information these ferryboats operated from 1864 to 1903 under the ownership of James Taylor and then under the ownership of the O'May brothers until 1926 (<https://www.utas.edu.au/tasmanian-companion/biogs/E000546b.htm>).

**„At this present time Capt. Ross has taken, in a small schooner which was built here, a cargo of this oil & that of the nuts to Singapore. He will bring back rice & goods for the Malays.“** (BD, p. 285)

In fact Darwin or the authors had no information that the minimum distance for a single trip from Kokos-Keeling Island to Singapore was 2,500 km. It was completely impossible to carry out such a venture in those days. In addition, coconut oil was not exported but only copra - the oily dried fruit to extract coconut oil from it. The copra trade took place only from the end of the 19th century.

**„...the only exports being oil from the nut, and the nuts themselves, which are taken to Singapore and Mauritius...“**(VB, p. 655)

Darwin claimed that the coconuts and coconut oil from the Kokos-Keeling archipelago were exported to Singapore and Mauritius. The distance to Mauritius alone as a straight-line is well over 4500 km and Mauritius itself had coconuts galore.

**„I may mention, that Captain Moresby confined one in a strong tin-box, which had held biscuits, the lid being secured with wire; but the crab turned down the edges and escaped.“** (VB, p. 671)

Darwin and his friend Captain Moresby had encased a giant crab (*Birgus latro*) in an empty biscuit tin on the Cocos Keeling Islands. This biscuit tin did not exist until the middle of the 19th century.

As early as possible this biscuit tin (cookie jar) may have been in use since 1868 when Huntley & Palmers manufactured it in England.

**„Encircling barrier-reefs are of all sizes, from three miles to no less than fortyfour miles in diameter; and that which fronts one side, and encircles both ends, of New Caledonia, is 400 miles long.“** (VB, p. 679)

This information is not correct at the time of the Beagle trip. New Caledonia was sporadically visited by European whalers from the end of the 18th century for the purpose of slave hunting, but until 1840 the island remained as Terra incognita.

**„Some cats, which were originally turned out to destroy the rats and mice, have increased, so as to become a great plague.“** (VB, p. 713)

Darwin wrote about cat infestation on Ascension Island. The 88 km<sup>2</sup> volcanic island has 44 inactive volcanoes, widespread solidified lava, extensive wasteland and no potable water. This hotspot in the Atlantic is considered as the island between nowhere. Until the outbreak of the Boer War in 1899 in South Africa, it remained impractical and uninhabited. As the English 'Eastern Telegraph Company' was commissioned to create an underwater telegraph link between Britain and Cape Town via Ascension Island, it gained importance. A civil use of the island slowly took place along with dragged dogs and cats including other residents such as rats and mice. The vegetation of the island was partially improved with imported suitable plants. Due to the appropriate climatic conditions the rodents and correspondingly the abandoned cats multiplied. The feral cats gained attention as they recognized the seabirds as an additional food source. To protect the seabirds the feral cats were partially eradicated. The cat plague of Ascension Island is well known among researchers but it took place decades later than Darwin claimed.

## **Conclusion**

It is no wonder that the Beagle trip is controversial because it is based on a falsification written and published by pseudoscientists much later, after the death of Darwin, perhaps before World War I began. Thus, India could have been conquered with references and evidence. But the Indians did not pay attention to this intention of the colonial rulers at that time and so Darwinism had no effect on Indian society either. The voyage of the Beagle was a conspiracy theory and the discrepancies are the evidence. It is hereby requested to remove the teachings of Darwinism from all academic institutions.

Author: Dr. Salim M. Ali