

Letters

WHO WROTE GENESIS?

Dear Editor,

I read with interest Dr Taylor's research on the anaphoric colophons of Genesis.¹ Readers may be interested to know that Christian apologist Francis Schaeffer was familiar with Wiseman's work, and though not completely convinced of its certainty, still observed that:

'. . . inspiration would be in the choice of the material used. It would be parallel to Hezekiah's men copying out the proverbs of Solomon (Proverbs 25:1).²

The internal evidence strongly suggests that Adam wrote Genesis 2:5-5:2 himself. It is extremely unlikely that Moses would have edited the colophon in Genesis 5:1, *'This is the book of the generations of Adam . . .'* (**New American Standard Bible**). This is the first occurrence of the word *'book'* in the Bible, and the Hebrew word translated as book is *'cepher'*. This word, according to the definition in **the Theological Word Book of the Old Testament**, exclusively refers to some type of written record. Interestingly, the only record of the Cainite line is in Adam's book; after his death the account moves quickly through the godly line to Noah. Apparently, only a few excerpts of these antediluvian records were included in Genesis and none of the colophons incorporated until Noah's in Genesis 6:8. Adam, as well as being the first zoologist, farmer and many other firsts, was also the world's first historian and writer.

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REFERENCES

1. Taylor, C. V., 1994. Who wrote Genesis? **CEN Tech. J.**, 8(2):204-211.
2. Schaeffer, F. A., 1972. **Genesis in Space and Time**, Inter-Varsity Press, Downers Grove, Illinois, p. 128.

ORIGIN OF LANGUAGES

Dear Editor,

For some years I have been waiting for an article in your journal on the origin of languages. My hope was raised when Elizabeth East wrote on the genetic tree, with a reference to the origin of languages.¹ As an amateur prehistorian (specialising in Europe) I often have to deal with the evolutionist theories of language origin. To my dismay I see that some creationists simply take these evolutionist notions on board and speak of the Indo-European language as if it is factual. We should remember that the evolutionist theory has little or nothing in common with the statements of Genesis chapter 10.

Although I am not a specialist in this field, I have developed a model of languages in Europe for my own use. Archaeological data, myths, legends, and place name studies seem to indicate that Gomer with his three sons, and Meshech, Magog and Tubal were the original settlers of Northern and Eastern Europe. This makes seven languages. Tiras and Javan with his four boys seemed to have settled Southern Europe. Now, prehistory is notorious for its jumble of conflicting theories. By the nature of things it is difficult, and often impossible, to find 'good' evidence. My little working theory probably has some major defects.

A major obstacle to good science is the isolation in which so many of its practitioners work. Ideally, a study in the origin of languages should consider related fields. But this is not all, the present theories on the prehistory of Europe are dependent on evolutionary doctrines. Dating is a real trouble here. Dr Osgood, in an article in your journal, did some brilliant work re-dating the Middle East cultures.^{2,3} This sort of work has to be done with prehistoric European cultures too. This work should be combined with a thorough re-interpretation of the available material. The outcome would be a different, and

hopefully more truthful, prehistory than we have at present. If I may hazard a guess, we could find that the Stone Age in Europe (excluding the kitchen middens which stretch far into the Bronze Age) did not last more than one generation. I see these people as the pioneers, who trek in front of the main body of population. It would not be prudent to allocate one language (Indo-European) to these groups of pioneers. Their tongue would rather conform to that of their kin in the main body of the multi-lingual Danubian-bandceramic culture. It has been noted by archaeologists that, when this Danubian culture of the first agrarians settled in middle Europe, this culture lost its coherence and divided into four related yet distinct cultures. Gomer and his three boys? This first settlement of the tribes did not leave any apparent linguistic trace in the area concerned. Soon the four cultures part way and each takes a section of Northern Europe. There still is little or no linguistic trace from these cultures, despite claims of Indo-European origin of certain place names.

Within a century or two there seemed to be a major upheaval in Europe, which resulted in the migration of three nations of Eastern Europe. These three, the battle-axe, the corded ware, and the globular amphora, overran Germany and Scandinavia, and eventually settled throughout Northern Europe. The situation at that time was that *'seven languages'* were spoken in Northern Europe.

Apart from archaeological evidence of the abovementioned theory-guesswork, there is a legend by Snorri Sturluson, in the *Heimskringla*, concerning the first war in Europe (the Asir and Vanir). This evidence, if correctly associated with the archaeological time, suggests a melting together of the disparate peoples of Early Bronze Europe. One can only guess what language and blood mixing took place over time. There still was another period of movement in the