

EVOLUTION, AND ITS BEARING ON RELIGIONS

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649403233

Evolution, and its bearing on religions by A. J. Dadson

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

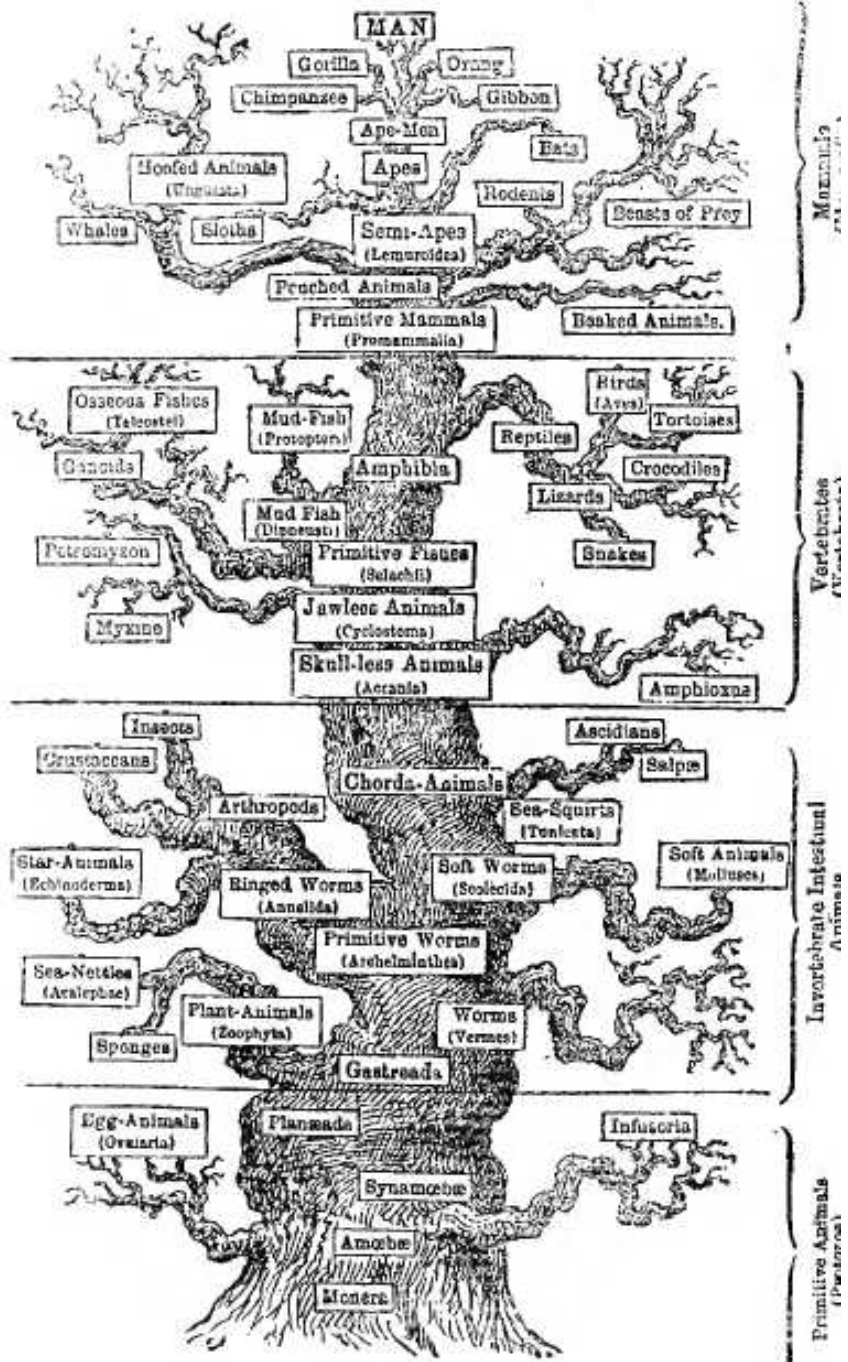
www.triestepublishing.com

A. J. DADSON

**EVOLUTION, AND
ITS BEARING ON
RELIGIONS**

EVOLUTION, AND ITS BEARING ON RELIGIONS

HAECKEL'S PEDIGREE OF MAN.



EVOLUTION, AND ITS
BEARING ON RELIGIONS

BY
A. J. DADSON

WITH FIVE PLATES

NEW YORK
E. P. DUTTON & CO.

1901

PRINTED BY
COWAN & CO. LTD.
PERTH

CONTENTS

CHAP.	PAGE
I. ANCIENT EVOLUTIONARY THOUGHT - - -	9
II. INORGANIC FORMATION - - -	17
III. ORGANIC FORMATION - - -	24
IV. PALÆONTOLOGY - - -	51
V. EMBRYOLOGY - - -	72
VI. RUDIMENTARY ORGANS - - -	83
VII. DARWIN'S LAW - - -	86
VIII. THE SOUL - - -	100
IX. EVOLUTION OF RELIGIOUS IDEAS - - -	115
X. JESUS - - -	139
XI. PRE-CHRISTIAN CIVILISATION - - -	147
XII. DECADENCE OF ROME - - -	173
XIII. FROM THE RISE OF CHRISTIANITY TO CONSTANTINE	181
XIV. CONSTANTINE THE GREAT - - -	197
XV. FROM CONSTANTINE TO THE CRUSADES - -	209
XVI. CRUSADES TO REFORMATION - - -	228
XVII. MODERN CHRISTIANITY - - -	238

PREFACE

UNDER the title, "EVOLUTION AND RELIGION," part of this book was published in 1893. The chapters on Evolution have been revised, to the extent necessitated by fresh discovery and the increased knowledge of recent years. The remainder has been treated in a somewhat different manner, and almost entirely rewritten; so that the present volume, "Evolution, and its Bearing on Religions," is substantially a new book.

The subject of Evolution has been before the world for over two thousand years; but it is only within the last half century that its great and far-reaching consequences have been appreciated. The genius and labours of Darwin shed a great light upon the mind, and created a revolution in thought upon some of the most momentous and serious subjects. It is true that long before his time the theory of gradual development had been accepted by the thinking few; but it was owing to his discoveries that it received wide public recognition, and became incorporated in the body of organised knowledge. Other thinkers had divined the truth that the organic, like the inorganic, has arisen from the operation of an all-embracing mechanical law. It was reserved for Darwin to prove it, by discovering the natural law under the operation of which the living world in all its forms has arisen.

The powerful interests involved in the ultimate consequences of such views becoming accepted by the public, raised a violent storm of opposition which had an educational effect contrary to that intended and hoped for by the opponents of Evolution. It was seen that the truth of the theory was making progress among all classes; and in the hope of saving the great interests from complete wreck, Darwin was appealed to, and