No.15

20 Okt. 1868

My dear Ernst,

Thank you for your letter dated 8 Aug., and the very interesting article on the origin and genealogy of man. Thank you also for everything you have done regarding my essays (papers). I am anxious to see it, but I am even keener to see the promised copy of your lectures on the Natural History (Schopfungsgeschichte). As regards the classification of humans into races, it seems to me to be one of the most difficult questions (tastes) especially because of the constant mixing. To me it seems probable, that the Malayan race is a crossbreed, when Negroes and the Yellow race or .......[illegible]..... To me it always seemed ..... that original man has had a dark yet not necessarily a black skin, and that civilisation and climate have bleached him. In South Africa it is not unlikely that races can be distinguished from the Hottentots as a specific race. Their languages are totally different. As regards the place of origin or the cradle of humanity, it seems to me that ...... Africa has a greater claim than Asia.

Firstly, the most human-like apes (Gorilla, Chimpanzees) were found there. Secondly, while the Asiatic languages either belong to the sexual language stem (tree) or are connected joined to it through their suffix-methods, in S.A. moreover, the existing sexual language stem can also be found as well as languages of another language-tree, from which other traces have derived in Asia.

I mean .... embracing (extensive) prefix pronominal-Tree (Stamm) to which also the languages of the Negritos (Negrillos) (Papuas) and the Malays belong, the latter diverge very much from the original type because of the Blending situation - in the Punch-Almanak for 1869 there is a funny grammalogic (?) Picture, which according to Darwinian Principles illustrates the gradual development of Punch in photos of ancestors from 1666-1868. But should one not be able to illustrate the range of the ancestors of man with the aid of partly very ..... drawings. I would like to see one such page (drawing) and it would illustrate .... the ideas much better (it would make the ideas much more presentable).

translatus summany [p.7 concerns health of family]

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