

## Behemoth or bust: an expedition into Cameroon inves- tigating reports of a Sauropod dino- saur

Dave Woetzel

For many years, researchers and explorers have discussed the possibility that there are extant dinosaurs in equatorial Africa. In November 2000 a reconnaissance trip was undertaken to evaluate reports of a creature in the southeast of Cameroon that matched the *Mokele-mbembe* descriptions that have come from the Congo. Purported eyewitnesses were interviewed and some interesting details about the mysterious creature were recorded. Sufficiently credible evidence was gathered in the three-week trip to warrant a full-scale expedition scheduled for 2001. The informants' descriptions of this creature appear to be quite similar to those of the Biblical 'behemoth'.

### Background

In the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, French Catholic missionaries began working with the native African tribes occupying the area that today comprises Gabon, Cameroon, and the People's Republic of the Congo. The first written record of the mysterious creature called *Mokele-mbembe* ('one who stops the flow of rivers') appears in a book written in 1776 by the French priest Abbé Liévain Bonaventure Proyard, describing the natural history of the Congo Basin of Africa. While passing through the forest, he observed tracks of an animal 'which was not seen but which must have been monstrous: the marks of the claws were noted on the ground, and these formed a print about three feet in circumference'.<sup>1</sup> This report is sandwiched between factually accurate accounts of the African lion and elephant.

Carl Hagenbeck, director of the Hamburg Zoo, who has been acclaimed as one of the greatest animal collectors of all time, in his book *Beasts and Men*, published in 1909, wrote:

'... on the walls of certain caverns in Central Africa there are to be found actual drawings of this

strange creature. From what I have heard of the animal, it seems to me that it can only be some kind of dinosaur, seemingly akin to the brontosaurus. As the stories come from so many different sources, and all tend to substantiate each other, I am almost convinced that some such reptile must still be in existence.'<sup>2</sup>

A year after Hagenbeck's book was published Captain Freiherr von Stein zu Lausnitz was sent by the German Government to explore the Cameroons and West Africa. Von Stein wrote of an animal called in the local tongue *mokele-mbembe*, said to inhabit the areas near the Ubangi, Sanga and Ikelemba Rivers. Von Stein's description (translated by Willy Ley) is as follows:

'The animal is said to be of a brownish-gray color with a smooth skin, its size approximately that of an elephant; at least that of a hippopotamus. It is said to have a long and very flexible neck and only one tooth but a very long one; *some say it is a horn*. A few spoke about a long muscular tail like that of an alligator. ... The creature is said to live in the caves that have been washed out by the river in the clay of its shores at sharp bends. It is said to climb the shore even at daytime in search of food; its diet is said to be entirely vegetable. This feature disagrees with a possible explanation as a myth. The preferred plant was shown to me, it is a kind of liana with large white blossoms, with a milky sap and apple-like fruits. At the Ssombo River I was shown a path said to have been made by this animal in order to get at its food. The path was fresh and there were plants of the described type near by.'<sup>3</sup>

In 1927, Englishman Alfred Aloysius Smith published the book *Trader Horn*, a memoir of his time in Gabon. While plying the Ogooue River in Gabon, Smith heard stories about an enormous dragon-like river beast called *Jago-nini*. Later, while travelling in Cameroon, he visited lakes from which populations of manatees had been wiped out by the *N'yamala*, a huge animal that had left three-clawed frying pan-sized footprints in the mud at the lakeside.

'Aye, and behind the Cameroons there's things living we know nothing about. I could 'a' made books about many things. The Jago-Nini they say is still in the swamps and rivers. Giant diver it means. Comes out of the water and devours people. Old men'll tell you what their grandfathers saw, but they still believe it's there. Same as the Amali [N'yamala] I've always taken it to be. I've seen the Amali's footprint. About the size of a good frying pan in circumference and three claws instead o' five.'<sup>4</sup>

The Scottish explorer Ivan Sanderson and American naturalist Gerald Russel were travelling through northern Cameroon in 1932 when they came to Mamfe Pool on the Mainyu River. The cliff-like riverbanks at this location had many caves, some partially filled with river water. The

travellers reported a loud disturbance, as of fighting beasts, followed by the back of something larger than a hippopotamus breaking the surface, and immediately submerging afterwards. Upstream near the confluence of the Cross River they came upon ‘vast hippo-like tracks: although there were no hippopotami in the area’. Sanderson was informed that this creature, called ‘*Embulu-em’bembe*’, drove the hippos away.<sup>5</sup>

In 1937, *Discovery* ran an article by Captain William Hichens, entitled ‘African Mystery Beasts’. In a section on ‘Colossal Lizards’ it reported:

‘Other accounts speak of a gigantic lizard, with a neck like a giraffe, legs like an elephant’s, a small snake-like head and a tail thirty feet long. Several white hunters have asserted that they have tracked what must be such beasts, and the Smithsonian Institution, some years ago sent an expedition to locate this animal, but the project, unfortunately, met with disaster and never arrived in the field of search.’<sup>6</sup>

Subsequently, little was heard of African dinosaurs until 1976, when crocodile expert James Powell, who was working along the Ogooue & N’Gounie Rivers in Gabon, heard stories about the animal called *N’yamala*, which matched those of *Trader Horn’s Jago-nini*. Powell later conveyed the information to Dr Roy P. Mackal, a biologist at the University of Chicago. Mackal was fascinated by the accounts and agreed with Powell that an expedition should be mounted.

The 1980 and 1981 expeditions by Mackal catapulted the search in the Congo to international attention through many published reports:

‘In the swampy jungles of western Africa, reports persist of an elephant-sized creature with smooth, brownish-gray skin, a long, flexible neck, a very long tail as powerful as a crocodile’s, and three-clawed feet the size of frying pans. Over the past three centuries, native Pygmies and Western explorers have told how the animals feed on the nutlike fruit of a riverbank plant and keep to the deep pools and subsurface caves of waters in this largely unexplored region. After a recent expedition there, two American researchers conclude that these stories refer to a real animal, not a myth. Fantastic as it seems, Roy Mackal and James Powell believe that this creature, called ‘Mokele-mbembe’ by the natives, may actually be a dinosaur, perhaps one resembling brontosaurus, which is thought to have died out 70 million years ago.’<sup>7</sup>

The forbidding Likouala swamp region, located in the northern part of the Congo, is about the size of the state of Arkansas. Mackal’s rigorous investigation through this area resulted in the accumulation of numerous details about the *Mokele-mbembe* creature.

‘Despite the dozens of hypotheses of dinosaur extinction the fact remains that the crocodylians in the swamp survived. That being the case, why not

also the Mokele-mbembe? It, too, is semi-aquatic, differing behaviourally from the crocodile only in that it is an herbivore. We gathered more than thirty detailed descriptions of the Mokele-mbembe and these fit the configuration of a small sauropod so well that I find it impossible not to accept the identification, at least tentatively. Each of the reports was a first-hand, eyewitness account by informants from widely differing ethnic, cultural, religious, and geographical backgrounds. ... The animal is said to range in length from 5 to 10 metres (15 to 30 feet), much of which it owes to the long head-neck and tail. Colour varies somewhat, being grey to brown, with reddish-brown predominating. ... Footprints were described as rounded, about 30 centimetres (1 foot) in diameter—something like those made by an elephant. When observed in the sand, claw marks were also present.’<sup>8</sup>

Not only did Mackal bring back further details of the *Mokele-mbembe*, he brought to light another mysterious animal known to the pygmy peoples: the horned *Emela-ntouka* (‘killer of elephants’). Mackal contemplated whether the *Emela-ntouka* could be an extant Ceratopsian dinosaur. But the absence of a frill in the descriptions he received caused difficulty with that identification. French zoologist Bernard Heuvelmans discusses similar reports from Africa under the category of ‘water elephant’ and ‘forest rhinoceros’.<sup>9</sup>

In May 1983, Marcellin Agnagna, a Congolese zoologist from the *Parc Zoologie* in Brazzaville, and member of the 1981 Mackal expedition, led a small safari to Lake Tele. On May 1, during his five-day stay at the lake, Agnagna and his guides from the village of Boha claimed to have observed in the lake a strange animal with a wide back, a long neck (about 2 m), and a small head:

‘The animal was located at about 300 metres from the edge of the lake, and we were able to adv[a]nce about 60 metres in the shallow water, placing us at a distance of about 240 metres from the animal, which had become aware of our presence and was looking around as if to determine the source of the noise. Dinkoumbou [Boha villager] continued to shout with fear. The f[r]ontal part of the animal was brown, while the back part of the neck appeared black and shone in the sunlight. The animal partly submerged, and remained visible for 20 minutes with only the neck and head above the water. It then submerged completely, ... no further sightings of the animal took place. It can be said with certainty that the animal we saw was *Mokele-mbembe*, that it was quite alive, and, furthermore, that it is known to many inhabitants of the Likouala region.’<sup>10</sup>

Various interesting, if inconclusive, reports have emerged over recent decades. In 1981 Herman Regusters led a team into Lake Tele and returned with droppings, footprint casts and a recording of a sound unlike any

animal known to the Congo Basin area. They also claimed to have seen some large creature moving through the brush and swimming in the lake. Later, Regusters estimated it was 30–35 feet long. Since 1980, nearly 20 such expeditions have searched the region of the Likouala swamp in the Congo. The Scottish explorer William Gibbons made two trips to the Congo trying to ascertain the exact nature of the mysterious creature, one in 1985–86 and another in 1992. Although he explored the prominent rivers, including the Sanga, and made it as far as Lake Tele, Gibbons never obtained hard evidence of an extant dinosaur.

Although Smith, Sanderson and others happened upon information similar to Mackal's descriptions of the *Mokele-mbembe* from the Congo, it is important to note that no expedition has travelled to Cameroon specifically to search for this dinosaur-like creature since the focus in recent times has been on the Congo. Indeed few exploratory reports at all have come from Cameroon.

Expeditions searching for the alleged dinosaur of equatorial Africa have been halted for the last several years due to political unrest in the Congo. Then in 1999 William Gibbons of Canada became aware of reports coming out of Cameroon through missionaries working with the Baka pygmies in the southeastern portion of the country. The civil situation in Cameroon being far more stable, Gibbons and I determined to commence an exploratory trip to the region. A great deal of effort went into securing a reliable translator and guide. Books to be used for interviewing informants were carefully prepared. After procuring and carefully packing items like an inflatable boat, portable sonar, miscellaneous survival gear, medical supplies, and both video and still photography equipment, the reconnaissance trip began.

### Travelling to the target area

On 3 November 2000, we flew to the Republic of Cameroon and then proceeded to travel for two days along rutted dirt roads before arriving at the remote Baka pygmy settlement of Welele, where the team interviewed three eye-witnesses and hired pygmy guides for the trek into the interior. Here we learnt that the animal commonly known as *Mokele-mbembe* from the Congo was called *Li'kela-bembe* in the Baka language. The similarity in the words certainly suggests a common origin.

### Slogging, floating and interviewing



*The author (left) and William Gibbons meeting at the home of the pygmy chief.*

After spending the first of many nights under canvas, our team of eight began trekking through the rainforest towards the Boumba River. By noon, Timbo, the leader of the pygmy guides, pointed to an area on the west bank of the Boumba where he had observed a *Li'kela-bembe* a few years prior. The river there was fast flowing but tranquil, with no encampments along the banks or river traffic whatsoever. The water level was still high from the rainy season and the river was flanked on both sides by dense forest growth forming a wall of vegetation. It was decided that the pygmies would travel on foot alongside the river, while Gibbons and I floated downstream, quietly observing the surrounding flora and fauna. Shanga, a Baka youth from a nearby village, paddled downstream in a large dugout canoe containing the expedition's supplies. A number of observations were made of small reptiles, birds, and fleeing monkeys but no *Li'kela-bembe*! Camp was made a short distance off the river next to a large jungle tree (about 180 cm in diameter) just as darkness was falling.

The following morning the team continued floating down the Boumba until reaching a Baka cocoa plantation where further interviews were conducted. The plantation owner was very helpful in providing information regarding the mystery animals. While he did not recognize the majority of the extinct animals and dinosaurs in the illustrations, he did pick out a sauropod dinosaur as being representative of the *Li'kela-bembe*. Interestingly, both the illustration of a *Tricerotops* and the artist's impression of the *Emela-ntouka* from Mackal's book were identified as the same animal: the *Ngoubou*. Other informants described the *Ngoubou* as having a frill around its neck and sporting from one to four horns on its nose and head!

After a day at the plantation, the group pressed on into the forest, eager to explore more of the target area and interview

other informants. Due to the high water level, a good deal of time was spent slogging through swamps, often waist deep. Areas too deep to wade through were crossed using leaking piogs (African dugout canoes) or the inflatable dinghy. Foot rot, skin irritations, insect bites and prickly vegetation made progress slow and extremely difficult. After twelve hours of grueling hacking through dense jungle the team eventually made camp alongside some rapids on the Boumba River.

The objective was to reach the remote Lophonji River, yet another place where a pygmy fisherman had observed *Li'kela-bembe*. By carefully plotting their course on a map, extensively videotaping details, and carefully noting all the places where the *Li'kela-bembe* and other mystery animals had been encountered, Gibbons and I were becoming optimistic of making some sort of breakthrough. The following morning, however, progress toward the Lophonji River was frustrated by a river that was impassable with the inflatable. Although the trip through untouched African forest was beautiful and mysterious, the constant wading through deep mud and stinking swamps was becoming laborious and draining. In the end, time constraints forced the expedition to abandon its search and begin the final trek out to the village of Mambele. En route, a pygmy bridge across a small, fast flowing river collapsed, sending Gibbons down into the water along with his camcorder. But we explorers eventually reached Mambele late in the afternoon, filthy and tired.

The following day, after a refreshing bath in a small river, we pressed on to the town of Moloundou, at the border of Cameroon and the Congo. Moloundou sits on the confluence of the Boumba and Ngoko Rivers. A *Li'kela-bembe* had been observed just nine months previously by a local sentinel while guarding the river ferry. The sighting occurred just outside town as the creature swam downstream toward Moloundou. However, it suddenly stopped mid-stream, and started swimming back up the Ngoko. The sentinel was quite sure that the animal had noticed him watching it, prompting it to flee. It is worth noting that the description, made by this Cameroonian villager (Bantu heritage), was identical to those of the Baka forest people. Reaching the end of the road, the expedition retraced its steps, conducting an additional interview on the way back to Bertoua. After spending nearly three weeks in Cameroon, we flew home on 19 November 2000. Most of the expedition photos may be viewed in the virtual auditorium at [www.genesispark.org](http://www.genesispark.org)

### The *Li'kela-bembe*

We were informed that we were the first outside explorers to actually penetrate the forest and swamps along the Boumba and Lophonji Rivers. The Baka who were interviewed proved completely familiar with all wildlife of the rainforest and swamps. Informants consistently picked out a sauropod dinosaur as being representative of the *Li'kela-bembe*. Although these people do not regard it as unusual, they do fear the *Li'kela-bembe* because of its ferocity in attacking hippos, elephants, and even crocodiles. The animal is said



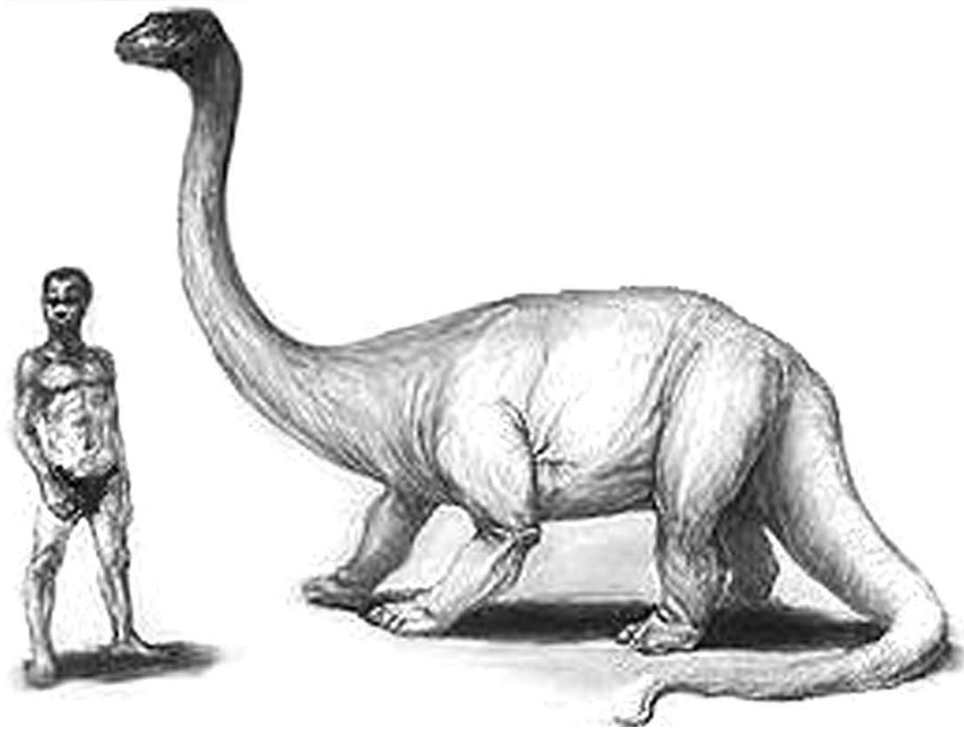
The location of a reported *Li'kela-bembe* sighting on the border with the Congo.

to be intolerant of other large creatures that might share the river and demands total control over large stretches of river. One villager described how a *Li'kela-bembe* coming out of the water in search of food had inadvertently destroyed his canoe. Although he admitted that he did not actually observe the creature, the huge clawed tracks left behind convinced him of its identity. The elusive animals are described as being nearly as big as elephants (about 10 m), with the head and neck stretching to a height of about 5 m. The head is small, resembling the large African snakes, while the tail is described as being long and very flexible. Since fossil sauropod dinosaurs like the *Apatasaurus* once grew three times as big, this animal fits the pattern of modern creatures being smaller, and arguably less fit, than their fossil counterparts.

Just as many cultures revere the snake, the Baka fear and respect the *Li'kela-bembe*, claiming that it has an 'evil spirit' because of its ferocity. It is said to inhabit several rivers in southern Cameroon that border Gabon, the Congo, and the Central African Republic. These include the Boumba, Ngoko, Lophonji, Dja, Padama, and Sanga Rivers. According to indigenous fishermen and hunters, the Ngoko River (a tributary of the Sanga River) is the best place to find the *Li'kela-bembe*.

### The *Ngoubou*

The *Ngoubou* creature is described as a powerful, horned quadruped that grazes in the savannahs, makes large beds for itself, and kills elephants. The *Emela-ntouka* (killer of



*Li'kela-bembe as described by the pygmies (after Mackal).<sup>5</sup>*

elephants) described by Dr Roy Mackal after his journey into the Congo appears to be the same animal. However, in Cameroon the *Ngoubou* was readily identified with the picture of the *Triceratops*. Several eye-witnesses from different villages described the animal's bony neck frill, beaked mouth, and the heavy tail. It is said to inhabit savannah areas to the west of the Boumba River and is also known in the Sanga region near the Central African Republic. The female of the species is said to differ slightly with respect to the neck frill. All of the informants' accounts concur that the animal is dangerous and that elephants give it a wide berth. An elderly Baka couple living in Dimako claimed to have observed a *Ngoubou* near the Ngoko River some years ago. These creatures had been seen only rarely, perhaps even now being extinct.

#### Assessing the credibility of the informants

It appears quite reasonable that the heavily forested region of southern Cameroon, with its remote swamps and sparsely inhabited river systems, could be home to some animals unknown to science. Given the Baka pygmies' intimate knowledge of the region, one is left with a positive impression that these extraordinary people are a valuable and accurate source of information. While they respect and fear creatures like the *Li'kela-bembe* and *Ngoubou*, they do not regard them as being any stranger than the elephant or the gorilla. Since this was the first time that they have been interviewed by outsiders regarding these mysterious animals, they were not biased towards picking out illustra-

tions of extinct animals because of contact with some past experience with titillating explorers.

The Baka interviewed were not told the purpose of the questioning in advance, nor were they guided in any way. They were merely asked to provide identification of animals that they knew. Black and white pictures were presented, starting with animals that they would certainly know, like the crocodile. Then a series of creatures that they were not expected to know was presented. Bipedal carnivores such as the *T. rex*, quadrupeds like the *Dimetrodon*, and flying creatures such as the *Pterodactyl* were not recognized by our informants. Other animals such as the American brown bear and the African hyena also were unknown to them. However, the sauropod dinosaurs and the *Triceratops* drew excited responses from witnesses at multiple Baka encampments. It is believed that such positive results, all discreetly videotaped, merit further investigation.

Some might conclude that the identification of other mysterious creatures in addition to sauropods strengthens the conclusion that all of them are merely legendary. But the similarity of Cameroon descriptions to those given by natives in the Congo and elsewhere would seem to be evidence to the contrary. Moreover, certain mysterious creatures described elsewhere in equatorial Africa (such as the pterodactyl-like *Kongomato*) were not known to the pygmies of Cameroon, making it unlikely that the same legends were merely circulated in both regions.

### The dragon's tail

The description of the behemoth found in Job has been alternately ascribed to a hippo or an elephant by various Bible commentators. But a dinosaur seems to fit best.

‘Now behold behemoth, which I made along with you; he eats grass like an ox; see, now, his strength is in his loins, and his force is in the muscles of his belly. He hangs his tail like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are knit together. His bones are like tubes of bronze; his bones are like bars of iron. He is the first of the ways of God’ (Job 40:15–19).

Not only is the dinosaur, as the largest land creature known to have roamed the earth, a good candidate for the ‘chief’ or ‘first of the ways of God’, but the distinguishing language ‘tail like a cedar’ would appear to rule out the hippo or elephant. Indeed, the long tail is also one of the distinguishing features of the *Li'kela-bembe*.

The most common description of the animal was ‘a snake with legs’. Considering the size of some snakes in Cameroon, it is an apt description for a partially submerged dinosaurian.

When asked how the *Li'kela-bembe*, by all accounts a small-mouthed herbivore, succeeds in fighting a hippo, elephant or crocodile, the Baka explain that it simultaneously lashes with its tail while darting at its opponent with its snake-like head. It becomes fascinating, as one considers the tail as an offensive weapon, to review the description of Satan as a dragon:

‘And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth’ (Rev. 12:3–4).

Those not predisposed to believe dinosaurs became extinct millions of years before man evolved, find it likely that the dragons of old were dinosaurs. Indeed, it would be strange for the creature in John's Revelation to be positively identified as a ‘dragon’ if it was not recognizable as a known animal when other unidentified creatures are merely called a ‘beast’ (see Rev. 3:1). Described as a serpent (Rev. 12:9) and a lion (1 Peter 5:8), it would be appropriate to liken the dragon of Revelation 12:3–4 to a ferocious dinosaur. The Dragon's offensive weapon, the tail, succeeded in drawing one third of the angelic host in his rebellion.

### The Mesozoic Era

The so-called Mesozoic era is also known as the ‘Age of Reptiles’. In various places around the world there is a marked separation of reptile fossils from mammal remains that evolutionists have used to their advantage. The alleged K/T boundary represents the supposed time of massive extinctions that ended the ‘Age of Reptiles’ and permitted the ‘evolution of mammals’ to exploit the abdicated biological niches. Creationists have countered that the segregation

can be explained via natural habitats, differential mobility, and hydrodynamic sorting during the time of the Flood. However, these mechanisms are not entirely satisfactory in explaining widespread separation of fossils. For example, it is difficult to explain why a forest monkey or a hippo that today lives in the swamps of Cameroon would not be buried alongside a crocodile or *Mokele-mbembe*.

Some creationists believe that major geologic periods represent distinct ecological zones spreading out from the initial Creation around Eden.<sup>11</sup> A couple of interesting details gleaned from this expedition lend credence to the idea of distinct ecosystems existing on the pre-Flood earth.

First, it is uncanny to see the similarity in habitat described by Job and that observed in Cameroon to be the home of the *Li'kela-bembe*.

‘He lies under the lotus, in the hiding place of the reed and the marsh. The lotus trees cover him with their shadow; the willows of the brook surround him. Behold, though a flood presses, he does not run away; he feels safe even if Jordan swells up to his mouth’ (Job 40:21–23).

It has been suspected for some time that the large sauropods might have spent much of their lives in the water. But the descriptions by natives specifically highlight the river systems as the home of the *Li'kela-bembe*. Indeed the trees, reeds, and other extensive vegetation often hide the elusive creature so that it is only briefly glimpsed, after which it retreats into the deep pools and quickly disappears.

Secondly, the ferocity of the *Li'kela-bembe* is noteworthy. Pygmies told how the creature is extremely shy about human contact, quickly retreating into the deep water when confronted. However, it fiercely protects its territory from competitors, particularly the hippos and elephants. Explorers have been told that the best way to locate a *Mokele-mbembe* was to identify a stretch of river rich in molombo fruit but containing no hippos. It is important to note that the hippo is the most ferocious of the scientifically documented animals in equatorial Africa. For example, they readily kill crocodiles when engaged in a fight. The Baka explained that where a *Li'kela-bembe* lives there will be no hippos, elephants, or crocodiles.

If dinosaurs, due to their enormous reproductive capacity as evidenced by the large number of fossilized eggs found in nests, were able to quickly proliferate and diversify to occupy most of the niches in the extensive swamp systems of the pre-Flood earth; and if they guarded ‘their turf’ with a ferocity like that ascribed to the *Li'kela-bembe*, it would be very difficult for hippos, elephants, or other competitors to invade the swamps. Indeed, the diversity of the dinosaurs (from the rooster-sized *Compsognathus* to the giant *Argentinosaurus*) would practically preclude mammal coexistence. Thus the latter would be forced to occupy the higher ground. During a flood, they would consistently be buried in an upper layer that had flooded only after the lowlands were inundated.

## Conclusion

An enormous scientific breakthrough could be gained from exploring this region further. The remarkable harmony between narratives of past explorations, information gathered on this expedition, and the paleontological and Biblical knowledge of dinosaur habitats gives credence to the idea of a dinosaur still living today.

Things were learnt on this trip that should be useful for future expeditions. While the weather in November (after the rainy season) made for relatively comfortable days, the high water level made travel extremely difficult. Dry season travel would bring a new set of obstacles, but it would also narrow the target area to the deepest rivers and swamp pools. The government ministers of the interior, rivers, tourism and national security must all be contacted to obtain all the necessary permissions and documents. It would also be helpful to hire an aircraft to carry expedition personnel and equipment from the capital city of Yaounde directly to Moloundou in the southeast, avoiding the lengthy journey by road. The best odds of finding the creature will be on the river. Accordingly, the plan should be to methodically ply the large rivers with a high-riding boat, utilizing sonar and underwater video equipment for a period of six to eight weeks.

A full-scale expedition sponsored in part by the BBC is currently being planned and I anticipate conducting another reconnaissance trip in February of 2002. As new information is forthcoming, it will be posted to the *Genesis Park* Web site. I truly hope that God's purpose in pointing Job to the ancient behemoth and leviathan is realized afresh today: 'None is so fierce that dare stir him up: who then is able to stand before me?' (Job 41:10). It would indeed be exciting to see dinosaurs restored to their proper place, declaring God's almighty creative power!

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**Dave Woetzel** of New Hampshire, USA, became involved in the origins debate while obtaining his B.Sc. in Physics/Engineering. After making 'Science and the Bible' presentations in a variety of forums around the United States he became particularly fascinated with the possibility of extant dinosaurs. His expeditions in pursuit of living dinosaurs aim to produce compelling evidence that will question Darwin, provide further evidence of a young Earth, and make opportunities to share the truth of Creation.

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## Record of unchanged life forms

Darwin's gradualism has recently been more directly questioned. In 1972, Gould and Niles Eldredge mounted an attack on Darwin's notion that the evolution of species represents the accumulation of small variations.... They marshaled evidence from the fossil record showing that it is the rule rather than the exception that life-forms remain unchanged for long periods of time, often millions of years. Gould and Eldredge called that state of affairs *stasis*. They say there are few signs in the fossil record of the gradual changes that would betoken, on Darwin's view, the successive adaptations of species to make them even better adjusted even to a stable environment.

John Maddox  
*What Remains to be Discovered*  
The Free Press,  
New York, p. 244–245, 1998.