

Short Biography : Charles Robert Darwin

Charles Robert Darwin was a great British biologist and naturalist born on 12 February 1809 in Shrewsbury, Shropshire. He was known best for his deep knowledge of the process of natural selection. Darwin laid down the foundation of the theory of evolution and explained how Mankind evolved from lower life forms.

Although his research and publications initially were unaccepted by many and led to controversies. The scientific community later acknowledged his theory of natural selection and evolution. Charles commenced his five-year voyage around the world on the HMS Beagle in 1831. Meanwhile, he collected plenty of specimens, including birds, plants, fossils, and his findings headed him to articulate many theories.

In 1836 when Darwin successfully returned to England, he began to pen down his findings in the *Journal of Researches* which was later revised into the *Zoology of the Voyage of the Beagle*. Darwin's view of natural history was tremendously effected by this journey and in 1859, he published his monumental book, *On the Origin of Species*. This book indirectly contradicted the concept of divine creation and aggravated outrage from some members of the Church of England.

Darwin's another publication "The Descent of Man, and Selection in Relation to Sex" in 1871 ignited even a greater argument as it proposed that humans were descended from apes. The book swiftly became a bestseller despite facing allegations of blasphemy. His extensive experimentation and research enabled him to thoroughly explore the fundamentals of botany, geology and zoology.

The scientific community recognized his theory of evolution by natural selection as the best evidence-based elucidations for the complexity and diversity of life on earth, suggested the concept of survival of the fittest.

Darwin died on 19 April 1882 in London at his family home was buried at Westminster Abbey. Although he faced extreme repulsion, his firm persuasion in the scientific explanation that best fit the provided evidence remained invincible.