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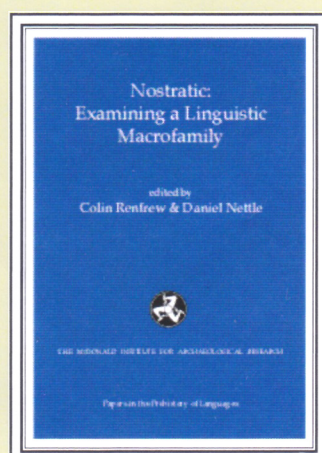
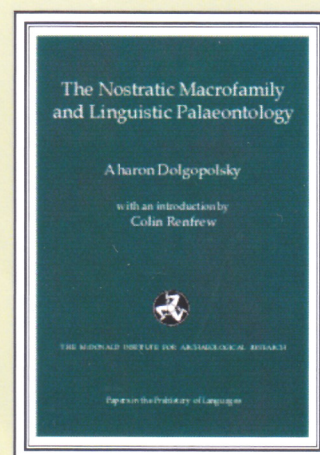


Papers in the Prehistory of Languages

The Nostratic Macrofamily and Linguistic Palaeontology By Aharon Dolgopolsky

Nostratic is a hypothetical macrofamily of languages which includes Indo-European, Hamito-Semitic (Semitic, Egyptian, Berber, Cushitic, Omotic, Chadic), Kartvelian (Georgian and related languages), Uralic (Finno-Uralic, Samoyedic, Yukagir), Altaic (Turkic, Mongolic, Tungusic, Korean, Japanese), and Dravidian (in India). The hypothesis is based on more than 2000 common roots and affixes, in which regular sound correspondences are observed. In the present book, Aharon Dolgopolsky uses the ancient Nostratic roots in order to obtain information about the speakers of Proto-Nostratic, their habitat, their culture and economy, their kinship system, and their environment. He attempts to determine whether their culture belonged to the Neolithic period or to an earlier epoch.

xxii+116 pp., 4 ill.; ISBN 0-9519420-7-7 paperback; ISSN 1461-331x; £20/US\$36



Nostratic: Examining a Linguistic Macrofamily Edited by Colin Renfrew and Daniel Nettle

A group of international scholars discuss the issues arising from the well-known claim that a linguistic macrofamily can be identified which includes not only the Indo-European and Afroasiatic language families but also the Kartvelian, Uralic, Altaic and Dravidian families. This claim has been firmly contested by many leading linguists on methodological grounds which are fully considered here. The Nostratic case put forward by one of its leading exponents, Aharon Dolgopolsky, was evaluated critically by linguists specializing in the language families concerned. The general argument for and against linguistic macrofamilies and long-range comparisons were considered from a range of standpoints. The volume will be of interest to historical linguists concerned to examine the claims made for macrofamilies in general and the Nostratic family in particular, as well as to prehistoric archaeologists and molecular geneticists seeking deeper insights into issues underlying the consideration of the prehistory of languages.

xviii+419 pp., 16 ill.; ISBN 1-902937-00-7 paperback; ISSN 1461-331x; £30/US\$54

America Past, America Present: Genes and Languages in the Americas and Beyond Edited by Colin Renfrew

Aspects of the prehistory of the Americas currently remain little understood, with suggested dates for the first human colonization varying widely between 40,000 and 14,000 years ago. In this volume molecular geneticists and historical linguists debate the evidence for the first peopling of the Americas, and for the subsequent emergence of the remarkable genetic and linguistic diversity still seen among Native Americans to this day. The arguments against the controversial 'three waves of migration' proposal made by the distinguished linguist Joseph Greenberg are scrutinized.

Special attention is given to the theme of 'population-specific polymorphism', that is to say the presence in significant frequencies in individual tribes, language groups or other population units of particular genetic features which serve to distinguish them from other populations. For comparative purposes a case study of long-term continuity among Jewish priests in Israel using Y-chromosome analysis is examined.

x+175 pp., 12 ill.; ISBN 1-902937-01-5 paperback; ISSN 1461-331x; £30/US\$50

