Truly Natural Selection? - Paper III
The Myth of Random Chance Changes

But what about a sequence of chance happenings, and what is assumed in such a situation by the ***purely formal*** ideas of Probability?

Let us consider a given sequence of dice throws.

To get the first result of the first throw, will involve a probability of 1/6 – for 1 out of 6 possibilities.

Now, to add to that a second given result will, in the same way, incur another 1/6 chance.

So as a leading *given* pair, the probabilities must multiply up the chances, so 1/6 x 1/6 will give 1/36.

Carrying on with this reasoning for a required sequence of 10 dice throws, will produce an overall probability of 1/6 x 1/6 x 1/6 x 1/6 x 1/6 x 1/6 x 1/6 x 1/6 x 1/6 x 1/6 which gives a 1/60,466,176 chance for that sequence.

So, if every man, woman and child in the U.K. were to guess that sequence, the chances are that only ONE person would come up with the right result. Putting it another way, if one person made a guess at the sequence every year of his life, the chance at the end of this process of him having delivered, at some point, the correct sequence, would STILL be 1,000,000 to 1. [It makes you wonder why anybody plays the Lottery, doesn't it]

Now, of course, this sort of situation is that which is attempted to be ensured for all lotteries.

Great care is taken to ensure the perfect equality of the elements to be chosen, and in addition a totally equal chance in selection ensured by the most thorough mixing of the elements.

Such methods work in a totally artificial World of the pure equality of Elements, and of Chance.

But, it is true NOWHERE else in the Real World. Such set-ups have absolutely nothing to do with the real choices that have to be made by real people in the Real World, for a whole host of indisputable reasons.

First, we never have to choose from absolutely equal elements.

Why would we have to coose if they are indistinguishable? Any one could be chosen with the SAME effect.

Secondly, our methods of selection will never be totally, and equally random.

Once again, why should we bother to choose? If the elements are absolutely identical, why would be bother to go to such lengths to make the choice? Any will surely do!

The answers to such questions have nothing to do with real choices in a real World, but a great deal to do with some artificial outcome being posited on such a "lottery". Vast wealth, as an outcome, is artificially attached to encourage punters to risk ridiculous odds "in the hope" that, as "someone must be chosen", it just might be them!

So, all over the World organisations make fortunes out of people being encouraged to **pay** for the chance to "be the one".

Now, the theory associated with all of this (as used by lottery devisers and game manufacturers) is **never** appropriate where choices really matter in the Real World, but only in the artificial world of pure equality of chosen elements ensured by perfect mixing or shuffling.

When we are dealing with the chances of events happening in the Real World, we cannot use such a methodology. All the requirements for doing so are wholly absent, and, most important of all, the independence of the lottery from its environment is also impossible. Whereas the throw of the die does not modify the properties of the crap table, events in the real world they can, and do.

There, it is as if every throw of the die modifies the table in some way, so that after a large number of throws the table is unrecognisable..

It isn't even flat!

Indeed, it could be so changed that it would have formed a valley down the middle, and would therefore direct all throws in a similar way. All probability predictions can only be about perfect worlds.
Indeed, there is a name for that world of perfect and pure Forms.
It is sometimes called Ideality, but more commonly is is known as Mathematics!

Now, it is interesting that in very special cases, the conditions of Ideality CAN BE approached.
For 500 years of scientific endeavour has developed a system of investigation in which the whole situation is vastly and intricately controlled, to "nail down" almost everything as CONSTANT, and leave only a couple of the myriads of factors involved to be allowed to vary.
This technique, which is supposed to reveal hidden, essential relations, in fact produces a version of the fore-mentioned perfect World instead.
In certain cases the use of the probabilities of perfect randomness and equal elements is approached and the methodology of probability can produce useable results, BUT **only within the manufactured and maintained circumstances.**
And it also abandons any possibility of understanding, and replaces the real situation with a false, engineered alternative, which *does* behave in the probabilistic ways.
Modern Sub-Atomic Physics, has now abandoned all attempts *to explain*, and has replaced that approach with one based entirely on **probabilities**, AND, most importantly on the UNREAL probabilities that I have described above - the perfect chances in a perfect World

> NOTE: But, I am missing out a particular type of situation in the real world which surely does conform to the requirements outlined above for perfect conditions in which to apply pure probabilities.
> When there are so many contending events (as in a gas with multiple collisions of molecules) the "perfection" of *random chance* is indeed approached, and overall, cumulative features can be generated by such circumstances.What is happening is that the individual processes can be ignored, for it is their *combined* effect that delivers the predictable "law". Now as the Nobel Laureate Laughlin has demonstrated, many of our Laws are precisely **of this nature**. But notice that they arecul de sacs of a kind!
> The properties are generated by the overall effects: you cannot derive Pressure from the properties of a single molecule, but ONLY from billions of molecules acting as a whole. Similar behaviours with very similar Laws recur all over the place. In these circumstances the **Form** delivers ALL, exactly what the content is doingindividually is NOT as important as the combined overall effect. You cannot talk about the Pressure of an individual molecule, and the same things occur with Temperature and many others.
> It is important that these were also the very first laws to be found, and they laid down the generalassumption that these were the nature of ALL LAW that we would ever extract.

The most important failing in all such methods has to be the separation of the system from its context.
In other words, the assumption of an eternal, unchanging context, which does NOT change, and certainly will never change in response to chance events.

In reality, on the other hand, the true situation is always, when really addressed in full, HOLISTIC!
Everything affects everything else, and all events affect even their own *producing contexts*.

You cannot use the assumptions ofpure probability in the real world without thereby distorting it.

The arguments against Evolution are all based on pure mathematical probability, and individual probabilities are multiplied up, as I have shown above, to produce astronomical *chances-against*, and these "prove" that the current World could NOT occur by such chance mechanisms.

Surprisingly, in this they are QUITE CORRECT!

The World could not appear as it is now by such means. But, instead of addressing just exactly HOW the actual DID occur, they instead say that it must have been directed: it must have been the working out of a considered design. It MUST be the hand of God!

But, of course it is no such thing! BUT, neither is it the working through of random chance.

It IS the working through of Selection: implicit selection, not by chance, but by fitness to prevail in given conditions. Darwin and Wallace realised a version of this Selection in the Evolution of Life, which they called *Natural Selection*. But that is a sophistivated, developed version of a more basic Selection, that even directed non-living developments prior to the Origin of Life. Not only did, and do, living things develop, but so does Reality at large. The Universe is NOT an eternal, unchanging thing!
It has a history and a trajectory of development, so that even Life and its subsequent developments are PART of the same overall trajectory of Change.

(1,429 words)