

Sunday, March 25, 2007

Search



[Home](#)

[News](#)

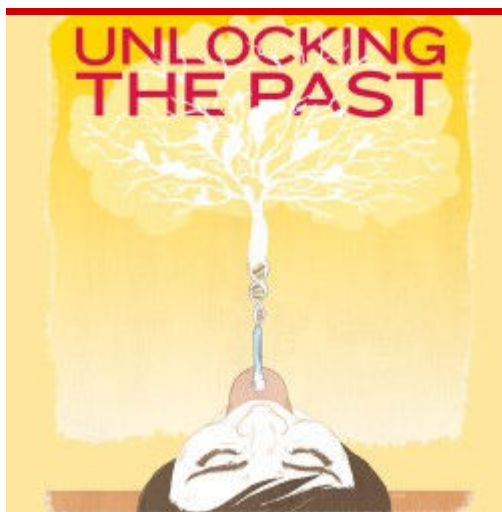
[Life](#)

[Sport](#)

[Photos](#)

[My Xpress](#)

[news](#) | [uae](#) | [national](#)



© XPRESS/Ador T Bustamante

A mouth swab will trace your roots back 150,000 years.

Published: March 25, 2007

Ancestry: Unlocking The Past Ancestry: Unlocking The Past

Mubashra Siddiqui

1 comment>

Going back in time to meet your family has never been easier.

With the services offered by one company in the UAE, you can now trace your roots back almost 150,000 years and all you need is a mouth swab.

Eastern Biotech and Life Sciences, a part of Dubiotech, offers the DNA Ancestry and Family Origin Test which claims to track the route your ancestors took when they left Africa – scientifically considered the birthplace of humankind.

“ **I always knew we have Arabic and Persian blood and the ancestry test confirmed this. But I also found out we have an Indian connection** ”
Emirati man who took the DNA test

The premise behind the testing is that the human population shares ancestors and when they began migrating to different parts of the world from Africa, mutations occurred in their DNA.

Dr Sanjida Ahmad, director of research for Eastern Biotech explained: “For instance, when people moved away from Africa to Europe or North America, their skin underwent some changes to adapt to the various environmental factors like colder weather.

“It became lighter to allow more sunlight to enter. This is an example of a mutation.”

Ahmad explained the testing process, “From a simple mouth swab, our testing labs are able to analyse your DNA and reveal how your own family history fits into the global family tree that unites the human race.

“It traces your genetic line back to the beginnings of humanity and follows your ancestors’ progress over tens of thousands of years as the human race gradually peopled our planet.

“We are actually going back to the first females. Through fossilised remains we are

