

This piece of writing is dedicated to tall those males who have lost their first moustache in the walk of life.

Moustaches are a part of growing up, at the tender age of about thirteen over our lips and under our chin the first signs of hair growth becomes visible. Yeah, puberty is here, after all no matter how our mental growth may come to a halt for some scientific reason but the physical growth is usually active in one way or the other. Most

MOUSTACHE OR NO MOUSTACHE

THAT IS THE QUESTION.

By Lordi

Fathers advise their sons to keep the moustache for the next three or four years, however they forget to give reason behind the cause.

I was totally impressed by the foam since childhood, the white thing they put before applying the razor. Gillette advertisements were one of my favorites. Daddy always put the foam on my face and in no time I looked something like Santa Clause, he gave me his shaving machine, but of course without razor blades. I enjoyed practicing with the machine with no blades from the age of twelve. When my moustache first appeared it gave me a 'macho man' impression in my case 'macho boy' impression, it was the same with most of my other friends, we were men at last.

From the ages of thirteen to sixteen, I kept my first moustache. It was tough though, most of my friends had already started shaving from the age of fourteen. No longer did they want to look like men but like young boys. Beside that most of

But the sequencing of 120 million bases of the fruit fly genome, *Drosophila melanogaster*, proved those skeptics wrong. Humans share 60% of the 13,600 fruit fly genes.

So whose data is better? The HGP argue that because they have repeated the sequencing four or five times for their draft, as opposed to Celera's three, their data has fewer inaccuracies. However, Dr Venter counters that the HGP could have an accurate sequence, but that they do not know where exactly on the chromosome each sequence is positioned.

However, the data being produced by either of the two sequencing efforts is not as comprehensive or reliable as is often suggested. The first drafts will consist of 90% of the human genome to an accuracy of 99.9%. That is an error rate of 0.1% which, theoretically, could obliterate the entire diversity of the human race. The actual DNA used by the HGP came from 12 anonymous volunteers - Celera used six volunteers.

Such numbers of volunteers may seem too small to be representative of humanity, but the difference in DNA between everyone on Earth is just 0.1%. One difference in a thousand separates a Chinese peasant from a US president. Differences of just 1.5% of the genome account for the creation of a chimpanzee rather than a human.

The groups believe a high level of precision can be achieved by repeating their work four or five times. But the "gold standard" of reliability set by the Human Genome Project, 99.99%, will require tenfold duplication - another two or three years work.

Even after all this, there are bigger problems. Sequencing the human genome doesn't mean that scientists will understand it all. "Imagine that you have the entire works of Shakespeare in front of you, with no spaces and no grammar, and you don't know English," explains Betsey Dyer, a genetics researcher and biology professor at Wheaton College in Norton, Mass. That's what the complete sequence will look like. It could take decades to crack it.

However on the other side, all the rows, all the ethical problems and all the money spent in pursuing the human code for life will have been well worth it if it fulfills even some of its medical promise.

The potential prizes certainly glitter.

Genetic screening

the girls liked clean shaved guys, I, however, encountered a one line long lecture from my father that stated that I am prohibited from even thinking of shaving at that age. The moustache on me had both positive and negative results.

For starters the moustache made me look three to four years older than I actually was. This prevented the high school seniors, the bullies, from picking on me. The neighbourhood suddenly started respecting me. The presence of the moustache made

clearly based on making friends with the opposite gender and not relationships. The friendly attitude helps to improve personality, character and sense of humor but for all that you must have confidence. The significance of moustache was that, no matter how I looked it was clear to me who my friends were.

On the 26th of January 2000, it was the last day of my examinations, it was time for the three and a half year guest to make its way down the basin sink. It was tragic though, we were like friends...hmm...let us skip this part of the emotional scene, after all making friends with a moustache does not sound sane. Everybody in the house could not stop laughing when the curtain concealing my upper lip was raised, I guess neither could I, I did look kind of funny without my moustache. My father himself shaved off my moustache and now it was time for the after shave. Ouch! It was burning, actually it felt as if someone was ironing my face at 100 degrees centigrade. I suppose that too was a part of growing up in the walk of life.

Now it was time for the verdict, most strangers told me that I looked okay, but their verdict never counts. The opinion of family and friends were really the ones that mattered to me. My friends like my family members burst into utter laughter, they laughed so hard that they had tears in their eyes, after a few days had passed they admitted that I did look better without the moustache. I am of course thankful to the All Mighty for making me what I am, for making me the way I look. Even today as I sit back and think of the years gone by, I realize that I miss my moustache. However, no matter how many times we shave it off, it will always be back.



me look like a villain, one may think that what's so good in looking bad? Well the fact is that looking like a bad guy keeps the bad guys away, there it kept me out of trouble.

A part of growing is also about changing views on girls, which eventually comes about as soon as the moustache does. Hatred turns into admiration for the opposite gender. The moustache does not help much to create an impression on the girls, it usually reminds them of their grandfather and sometimes Daler Mehdi. It did not bother me much though as my intentions were

DECODING LIFE

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The first use many new gene discoveries are put to is creating diagnostic tests. For example, haemochromatosis is one of the most common inherited diseases and leads to high levels of iron in the blood. This can lead to organ failure and death by the age of 50. Previously, diagnosis was only possible by taking a tissue sample from the liver - a painful and risky procedure. Now, however, a drop of blood is enough for a genetic test and regular bloodletting and a careful diet can allow sufferers to live normally.

Many cancers and heart disease are almost certainly influenced by genetic factors, so forewarning patients of their susceptibilities would allow them to make informed lifestyle choices and help prevent future illness.

Tailor-made drugs

It is estimated that adverse reactions to prescribed medicines result in millions of people being hospitalized each year, many of them die. The difficulty is that every human being is unique. And so, while a particular medicine may be effective for some people, it could be seriously damaging to others. The new data about the human genome will begin to make identifying these groups possible. This would obviously save suffering but even if the drug is simply ineffective for a genetic group, considerable money can be saved.

Brand new drugs

Targets are what drug companies call the parts of biological molecules they attack with drugs to fight disease, and the human genome information looks like providing more targets than any shooting gallery.

Currently, the knowledge of human molecular biology is such that the targets are counted in hundreds but the genome promises thousands. This approach, disabling harmful molecules,

matches most closely the current research practices of the large pharmaceutical companies, and so this is the area that most excites them.

Gene therapy

Gene therapy, using the genes themselves as medicines, is in many ways the most obvious application of the human genome data. But it is also the most controversial, with a number of deaths linked to experimental treatments. The ideal focus for gene therapy is on single gene disorders, such as cystic fibrosis. Here one abnormal gene can be cut out and replaced by a healthy version, delivered by a tamed virus. But although over one million people in Britain suffer from inherited illnesses, individually the disorders are rather rare. This means the potential market for a company is small. At best, this would mean the treatment was expensive. At worst, it could mean the treatment was not developed at all.

Germline engineering

The most extreme suggested use for the human genome data is editing the DNA inheritance bequeathed from one generation to the next. Such a scenario involves identifying an abnormal gene and then correcting it in the cells, which are used to pass genetic information to offspring - eggs and sperm. No subsequent generation would then be afflicted by their ancestors' gene defect. However, such irreversible tampering with the code for life will only be allowed after major ethical reservations and safety concerns over possible unexpected results of the changes are addressed.

If these benefits can be reaped from all the study from genealogy, it would be amazing, and may change our entire concept of life. Diseases may become extinct and we may be able to change the way we look and behave. However, it should be remembered that study on genealogy has only been going on for just 50 years or so, and it still remains to be seen whether we can crack our own genetic code in the first place.

Sources: The Human Genome Project & BBCWorld.com.

LOOK FORWARD

by: the Well-wishers

Is Academic success important? I guess it sure is. It's important because it is needed for our living. So we've got to try our very best to be successful in it. Besides our living we've got to make our parents happy and proud of us, which also is the key to get what you want from them. So, the point is that we've got to be academically successful to live life, but for now the more appropriate need is to feel happy of your success and not to let down your parents. That's why we need to try our very best for it. And we do (from now I'm talking about the ones who do). But what happens if we are not successful or not that beaming good after trying so hard? Should we stay feeling doomed and a suppressing feeling all through our life? Come on it doesn't matter because we've tried our best. We don't need to be that beaming good.

It's unfair that even after trying our best we couldn't get what we wanted and it's not our fault. We've got to take what it is, as there's nothing to do. It's said that not getting what you deserve is sometimes the stroke of luck. It's true, so be patient, for the next time your luck will be sure to strike the other way. It wasn't your fault, so don't blame it on yourself and feel a twinge of inferiority complex. Forget what happened and look up for the next time. Enjoy life not letting a little bad luck worry you! Celebrate you! God always loves the one who looks forward to good days and prays hopefully. God helps the one who helps himself.

Besides I don't think academic success is the only thing what you need for living a good life. Remember Hitler? He was academically successful but he didn't gain people's love and did not live a good life. Your thoughts, behavior and general knowledge are as important. I know this guy who is very successful academically. But I don't think he's quite happy. Because he's not a square person. What I mean to say is he's a kind of nerd, but not that learned as them (am I giving the nerds a too high status?) and doesn't care what's going on the world, and left with no friends. So, don't you think you're much better and shouldn't you be happy? Besides what's over is over. Forget it because you're not to be blamed for it. Look forward to what you are doing next and try as hard as before.

Hope for the best but be prepared for the worst and I guarantee you'll get what you deserve.

To all of you, all the best wishes for a happy life.
BEST OF LUCK!!!
Dedicated to: FAHMID RAHMAN