

EVOLUTION OF WHALES: PAKISTAN STORY

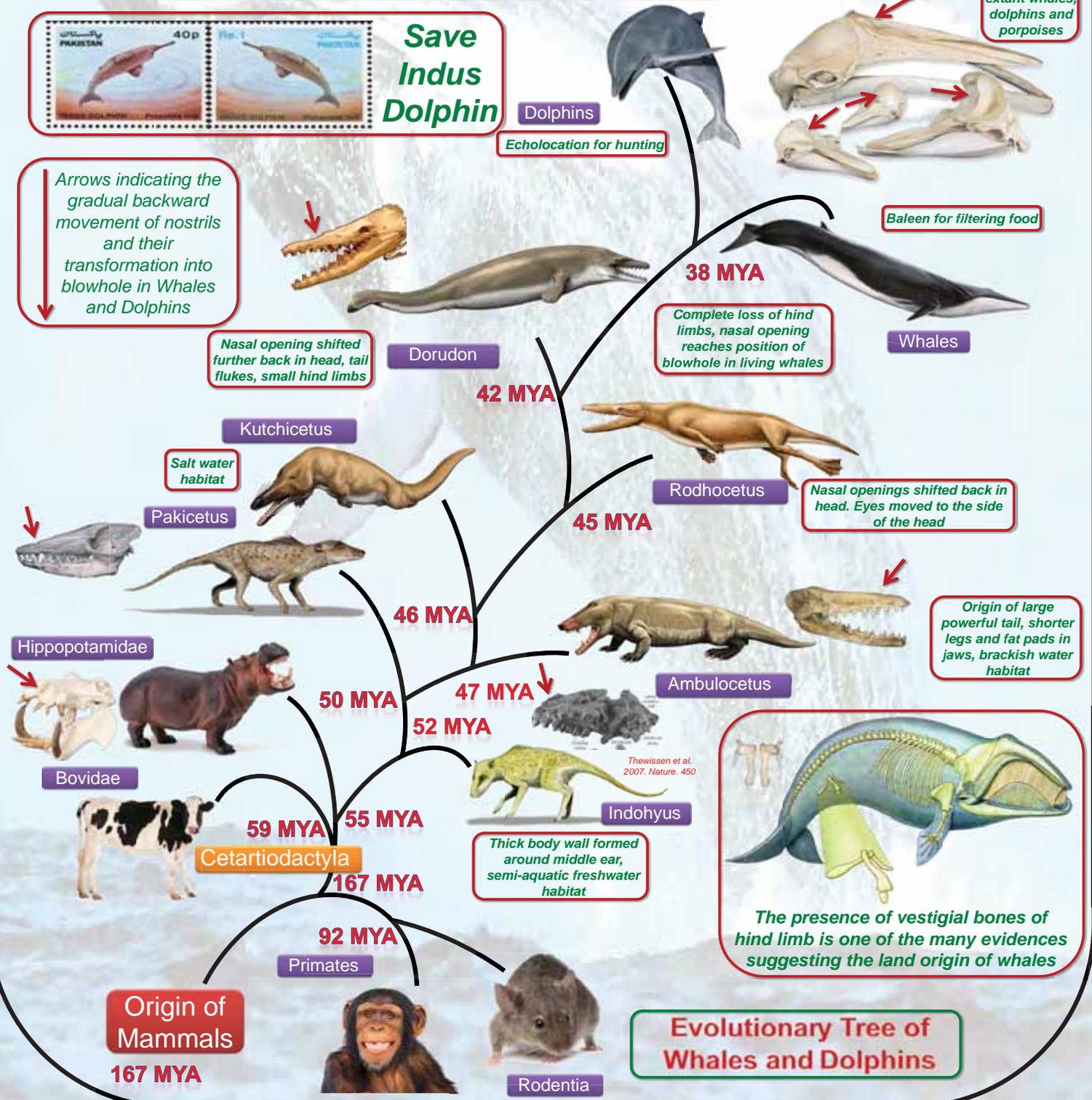
Despite similarities in morphology and habitat with fishes, whales and dolphins are indeed **Mammals**. More interestingly, recent molecular phylogenetic data revealed that whales actually shared a common ancestry with the even-toed ungulates such as cow. It is not more than 55 MYA that common ancestor of whales and cattle moved from land to aquatic habitat. Palaeontologist has unearthed the **Evidences** of this gradual transition. Of these important are found in different regions of **Pakistan**



Position of Blowholes in extant whales, dolphins and porpoises

Save Indus Dolphin

Arrows indicating the gradual backward movement of nostrils and their transformation into blowhole in Whales and Dolphins



¹AYESHA MAQBOOL AND ²MUSHTAQ HUSSAIN
¹UNIVERSITY OF KARACHI
²DOW UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES,
 KARACHI-PAKISTAN