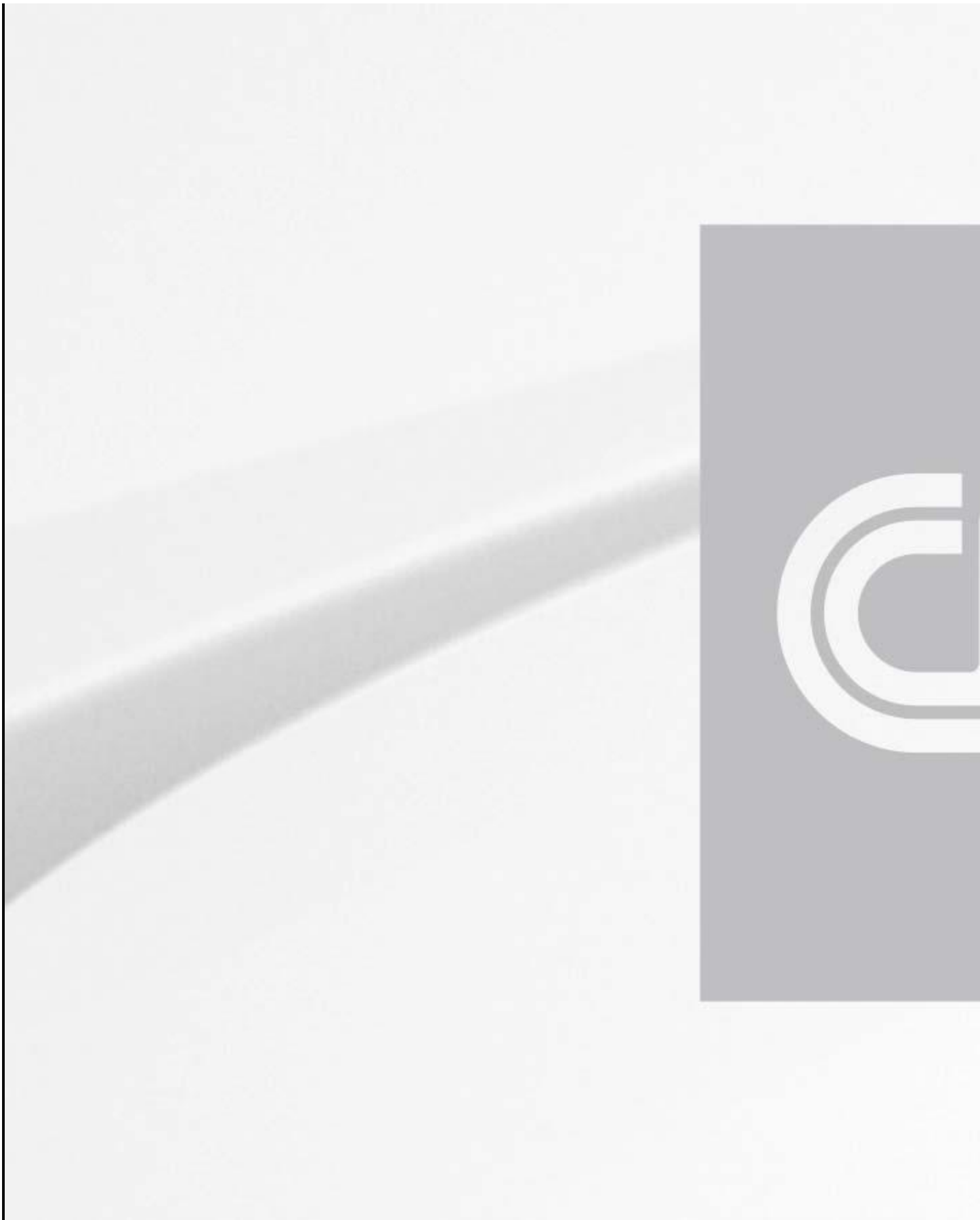


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'Missing link' in human history confirmed after long debate

By Rob Picheta, CNN

Updated 8:02 PM ET, Sat January 19, 2019



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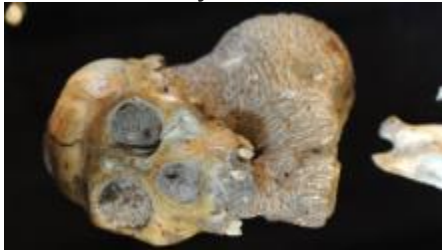
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(CNN)Early humans were still swinging from trees two million years ago, scientists have said, after confirming a set of contentious fossils represents a "missing link" in humanity's family tree.

The fossils of *Australopithecus sediba* have fueled scientific debate since they were found at the Malapa Fossil Site in South Africa 10 years ago.

And now researchers have established that they are closely linked to the *Homo* genus, representing a bridging species between early humans and their predecessors, proving that early humans were still swinging from trees 2 million years ago.



The 'Underground Astronauts' in search of new human species

The Malapa site, South Africa's "Cradle of Humankind," was famously discovered by accident by nine-year-old Matthew Berger as he chased after his dog.