



The African Telatelist

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Number 200 not out!

200 (two hundred) is the natural number following 199 and preceding 201. Interesting facts about the number 200 include the following:

The number appears in the Padovan sequence, preceded by 86, 114, 151 (it is the sum of the first two of these).

The sum of Euler's totient function $\phi(x)$ over the first twenty-five integers is 200.

200 is the smallest base 10 unprimeable number - it cannot be turned into a prime number by changing just one of its digits to any other digit. It is also a Harshad number.

Two hundred is also:

- A common ISO-standard film speed for photographic films. However, 200 speed films are being phased out in consumer films in favor of faster films.
- A denomination of the euro note. The 200 euro note was designed by Robert Kalina.
- The size of one side of the main square in Kraków, Poland (200 m x 200 m).
- 200 MeV is the temperature of quark-gluon plasma phase transition.
- An HTTP status code indicating a successful connection.
- The sum of dollars given in the classical Monopoly game to a player passing Go.
- A cholesterol level of 200 and below is considered "Desirable level corresponding to lower risk for heart disease"
- The number of NASCAR Cup Series races won by Richard Petty.
- A year.
- A vehicle that has reached 200 mph.
- The North West 200, a motorcycle race held in Northern Ireland.

How can one conceive of a one-party system in a country that has over 200 varieties of cheese?
Charles de Gaulle

A quarter of the world's wealth is controlled by just 200 companies.

Two hundred miles a day was the average daily distance covered by the Pony Express, the United States' first east-west mail service.

Each dandelion flower head produces 200 seeds.

Two hundred Japanese executives die on the golf course each year.

In Greek mythology, Typhon the Titan, "father of all monsters" had 200 fire-flashing eyes, two for each of his 100 heads.

Jean-Antoine Nollet (1700-1770), the Abbot of the Grand Convent of the Carthusians in Paris, was also the first professor of physics at the University of Paris. His particular scientific obsession was electricity and he was able to combine his two professions in a huge experiment by arranging 200 monks into a circle, each of them linked by a metal bar. He then ran an electric current through the circle. The monks' near-simultaneous reaction demonstrated the high speed at which electricity moved.

The Roman Emperor in 200AD was Septimius Severus, the first Roman emperor to have been born in Africa. Although he was of Phoenician rather than black African descent, he was reported as having dark skin, and never lost his African accent. He died in York, 11 years later.

Born in the same year was the Greek mathematician Diophantus of Alexandria. A pioneer of algebra, he was the first to formulate the apparently insoluble proposition that became known as Fermat's Last Theorem, after the French mathematician Pierre de Fermat noticed it in 1637.

Elsewhere in the world, the Japanese sent a huge fleet to invade Korea, who immediately capitulated, and the "classical" period of Mayan civilisation began in Central America.

In 1991, to celebrate the bicentenary of Mozart's death in 1791, Triumph International, Japan's second-largest lingerie company, made a musical bra with blinking lights which played 20 seconds of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star.

Although their intentions were commendable, the company had made a common error in attributing the piece to Mozart. Although he had composed variations on the tune, the lyrics were written by London-based sisters Jane and Ann Taylor and the melody was originally a French folk tune.

In one of the more striking passages in the Old Testament we are told that David bought his wife with a dowry of 200 Philistine foreskins. His prospective father-in-law Saul gave him the challenge, fully expecting David would be killed by the owners of the said foreskins.

The King James version of the story says: "And Saul said, Thus shall ye say to David, The king desireth not any dowry, but an hundred foreskins of the Philistines, to be avenged of the king's enemies."

David and his men went out and killed 200 Philistines. He presented their foreskins to the king, who duly gave him his daughter Michal in marriage (1 Samuel 18:26) – though he later divorced the couple and married Michal off to someone else.

Private hospitals make millions of dollars every year selling excised foreskins to bioresearch laboratories and pharmaceutical companies.

According to R. Allendy, "it [200] is the duality in the creature, duality of tendencies, magnetic polarities, poles of homology, sexuality, but not duality of constitution: soul-body, as claims Descartes with the official Church".

Two hundred soldiers, seventy horsemen and two hundred men-at-arms escorted Paul for his transfer to Caesarea. (Act 23:23).

For the oblation, the holocaust and the sacrifice of communion, an ewe was taken on a herd of 200 of the prairies of Israel. (Ezk 45:15).

The 200 great shields of beaten gold that made Solomon. (1 Kings 10:16).

The 200 pomegranates round one capital in the palace of Solomon. (1 Kings 7:20).

The weight of the hair of Absalom was 200 shekels, king's weight. (2 Sam 14:26).

According to the Book of Enoch, 200 wire of gods decided to take as marries the girls of the men. And these women gave birth to what became a day the race of giants whose speaks the Bible. The history tells thereafter that these monstrous alliances between the angels and the girls of men were cursed by God and that these giants turned later against the men so as to enslave them.

The number 200 is used 34 times in the Bible.

The number 200, according to Bullinger's study of biblical literature, signifies 'insufficiency'.

The word 200 (*ducenti*) has a double meaning in Latin: "two hundred" and/or "to the leading man" (dative case of '*ducens*', *leading*).

200 liters of water are needed to produce 1 glass of milk (200 ml)!

Bicentennial is a period of 200 years.

Should a batsman in cricket score 200, it is called a double century, but it only counts a one century for statistical purposes.

Some historical events for 2000:

Jan 1st - Gisbourne, New Zealand, population 32,754 is first city in the world to welcome in the new millennium.

Jan 4th - After 2 months, Catherine Hartley and Fiona Thornewill, reach the South Pole, the same day as Sir Edmund Hillary 48 years before

Jan 13th - Microsoft chairman Bill Gates steps aside as chief executive and promotes company president Steve Ballmer to the position.

Jan 14th - A United Nations tribunal sentences five Bosnian Croats to up to 25 years for the 1993 killing of over 100 Muslims in a Bosnian village.

Jan 30th - Off the coast of Ivory Coast, Kenya Airways Flight 431 crashes into the Atlantic Ocean, killing 169.

Jan 31st - Alaska Airlines flight 261 MD-83, experiencing horizontal stabilizer problems, crashes in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Point Mugu, California, killing all 88 persons aboard.

Jan 31st - Family GP Dr Harold Shipman is jailed for life for murdering 15 of his patients, making him Britain's most prolific convicted serial killer.

Feb 13th - The last original "Peanuts" comic strip appears in newspapers one day after Charles M. Schulz dies.

Mar 1st - The Constitution of Finland is rewritten.

Mar 2nd - Former Chilean dictator General Augusto Pinochet heads home after being told the UK would not extradite him on torture charges.

Mar 10th - The NASDAQ Composite stock market index peaks at 5132.52, signaling the beginning of the end of the dot-com boom.

Mar 17th - The 800+ deaths of members of the Ugandan cult Movement for the Restoration of the Ten Commandments of God is considered to be a mass murder and suicide orchestrated by leaders of the cult.

Apr 9th – 64th Golf Masters Championship: Vijay Singh wins, shooting a 278.

May 2nd - Her Royal Highness Princess Margriet of the Netherlands unveils the Man With Two

Hats monument in Apeldoorn and the other in Ottawa on May 11, 2000, symbolically linking both Netherlands and Canada for their assistance throughout World War II.

May 2nd - President Bill Clinton announces that accurate GPS access would no longer be restricted to the United States military.

May 13th - In Enschede, the Netherlands, a fireworks factory explodes, killing 22 people, wounding 950, and resulting in approximately €450 million in damage.

May 24th - Israeli troops withdraw from southern Lebanon after 22 years of occupation.

Jun 12th - Sandro Rosa do Nascimento takes hostages while robbing Bus #174 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; the highly-publicized standoff becomes a media circus and ends with the death of do Nascimento and a hostage.

Jun 13th - Italy pardons Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turkish gunman who tried to kill Pope John Paul II in 1981.

Jun 13th - President Kim Dae Jung of South Korea meets Kim Jong-il, leader of North Korea, for the beginning of the first ever inter-Korea summit, in the northern capital of Pyongyang.

Jun 16th - Israel complies with UN Security Council Resolution 425 after 22 years, which calls on Israel to completely withdraw from Lebanon. Israel withdraws from all of Lebanon, except the disputed Sheba Farms.

Jun 21st - Section 28 (outlawing the 'promotion' of homosexuality in the United Kingdom) is repealed in Scotland with a 99 to 17 vote.

Jun 23rd - The bulk ore carrier MV Treasure sinks off the western coast of South Africa, soiling more than 19 000 penguins; this resulted in the world's largest ever rescue of birds from an oiling event.

Jun 29th - Eminem's mother goes to court claiming defamation of character in a \$10 million civil suit, after taking exception to the line "My mother smokes more dope than I do" from her son's single 'My Name Is'.

Jul 1st - The Oresund Bridge, connecting Sweden and Denmark, opens for traffic.

Jul 9th - the 107th Wimbledon Women's Tennis: Venus Williams beats L Davenport (6-3 7-6).

Jul 9th - 114th Wimbledon Men's Tennis: Pete Sampras beats P Rafter (6-7 7-6 6-4 6-2) winning his 13th Grand Slam tennis title.

Jul 9th - Police fired tear gas at fans during a World Cup qualifying soccer game between

Zimbabwe and South Africa, setting off a stampede that killed twelve people in Harare, Zimbabwe.

Jul 10th - A leaking southern Nigerian petroleum pipeline explodes, killing about 250 villagers scavenging gasoline.

Jul 20th - The leaders of Salt Lake City's bid to win the 2002 Winter Olympics are indicted by a federal grand jury for bribery, fraud, and racketeering.

Jul 20th - In Zimbabwe, Parliament opens its new session and seats opposition members for the first time in a decade.

Jul 20th - Terrorist Carlos the Jackal sues France in the European Court of Human Rights for allegedly torturing him.

Jul 23rd - 129th British Golf Open: Tiger Woods shoots a 269 at Royal Lytham.

Jul 25th - Air France Flight 4590, a Concorde supersonic passenger jet, F-BTSC, crashes just after takeoff from Paris killing all 109 aboard and 4 on the ground.

Aug 8th - Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley is raised to the surface after 136 years on the ocean floor.

Aug 9th - South African President Thabo Mbeki unveils the Women's Monument commemorating the role of women in the anti-apartheid struggle.

Aug 12th - The Oscar class submarine K-141 Kursk of the Russian Navy explodes and sinks in the Barents Sea during a military exercise.

Aug 21st - Tiger Woods wins golf's PGA Championship to become the first golfer since Ben Hogan in 1953 to win 3 majors in a calendar year. He ties the to-par record for the PGA (-18) with Bob May, and wins in a playoff.

Aug 23rd - A Gulf Air Airbus A320 crashes into the Persian Gulf near Manama, Bahrain, killing 143.

Aug 23rd - Nicaragua becomes a member of the Berne Convention copyright treaty. This essentially deprecated the Buenos Aires Convention treaty, because as of this date, all members of the BA Convention were also signatories to Berne.

Aug 24th - Argon fluorohydride, the first Argon compound ever known, is discovered at the University of Helsinki by Finnish scientists.

Aug 27th - 540-metre (1 772 ft) tall Ostankino Tower in Moscow catches fire, three people are killed.

Sep 11th - Activists protest against the World Economic Forum meeting in Melbourne, Australia.

Sep 12th - Holland passes law allowing same-gender marriage, adoption and divorce.

Sep 15th - Opening ceremony of the XXVII Olympics in Sydney, Australia.

Sep 20th - The British MI6 Secret Intelligence Service building is attacked by a Russian-built Mark 22 anti-tank missile.

Sep 26th - Anti-globalization protests in Prague (some 20 000 protesters) turned violent during the IMF and World Bank summits.

Sep 26th - M/S Express Samina sinks off Paros in the Aegean sea killing 80 passengers.

Sep 28th - Al-Aqsa Intifada: Ariel Sharon visits the Temple Mount in Jerusalem.

Oct 1st - Juan Antonio Samaranch, the chairman of the IOC declares Sydney the "best Olympic Games ever".

Oct 1st - Closing ceremony of the XXVII Olympics in Sydney, Australia.

Oct 1st - United States wins the most medals (97), and the most gold medals (40) in Summer Olympics held in Sydney, Australia.

Oct 5th - Mass demonstrations in Belgrade lead to resignation of Serbian strongman Slobodan Milošević. These demonstrations are often called the Bulldozer Revolution.

Oct 7th - The last ever competitive soccer match at Wembley Stadium is a 1-0 defeat of England by Germany and the last goal was scored by Liverpool's Dietmar Hamann. The match was Tony Adams' 60th at Wembley setting the record for most appearances at the stadium.

Oct 11th - The 100th Space Shuttle mission (STS-92) is flown.

Oct 12th - The USS Cole is badly damaged in Aden, Yemen, by two suicide bombers, killing 17 crew members and wounding at least 39.

Oct 25th - A team led by Brigitte Senut and Martin Pickford discover *Orrorin tugenensis*, one of the earliest species on the human family tree that lived about 6 million years ago, in the Tugen Hills, Kenya.

Oct 26th - Laurent Gbagbo takes over as president of Côte d'Ivoire following a popular uprising against President Robert Guéï.

Oct 31st - A chartered Antonov An-26 explodes after takeoff in Northern Angola killing 50.

Oct 31st - A Singapore Airlines Boeing 747-400 operating as Flight 006 collides with construction equipment upon takeoff in Taipei, Taiwan killing 79 passengers and four crew members.

Nov 2nd - The first crew arrives at the International Space Station.

Nov 5th - Emperor Haile Selassie I is given an Imperial funeral by the Ethiopian Orthodox church.

Nov 7th - Controversial US presidential election that was later resolved in the Bush v Gore Supreme Court Case.

Nov 7th - The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration discovers one of the country's largest LSD labs inside a converted military missile silo in Wamego, Kansas.

Nov 7th - Hillary Clinton is elected to the United States Senate, becoming the first former First Lady to win public office in the United States, although actually she still was the First Lady.

Nov 11th - In Kaprun, Austria, 155 skiers and snowboarders die when a cable car catches fire in an alpine tunnel.

Nov 15th - A chartered Antonov AN-24 crashes after takeoff from Luanda, Angola killing more than 40 people.

Bill Clinton becomes the first U.S. President to visit Vietnam since the end of the Vietnam War.

Nov 17th - A catastrophic landslide in Log pod Mangartom, Slovenia, kills 7, and causes millions of SIT of damage. It is one of the worst catastrophes in Slovenia in the past 100 years.

Nov 17th - Alberto Fujimori is removed from office as president of Peru.

Dec 10th - 89th Davis Cup: Spain beats Australia in Barcelona (3-1).

Dec 13th - American Vice President Al Gore delivers his concession speech effectively ending his hopes of becoming the 43rd President of the United States.

Dec 28th - US retail giant Montgomery Ward announces it is going out of business after 128 years.

Dec 30th - Rizal Day Bombings: A series of bombs explode in various places in Metro Manila, Philippines within a span of a few hours, killing 22 and injuring about a hundred.

Finally, it is also the number of this ATA newsletter!!!!

Anton de Klerk.