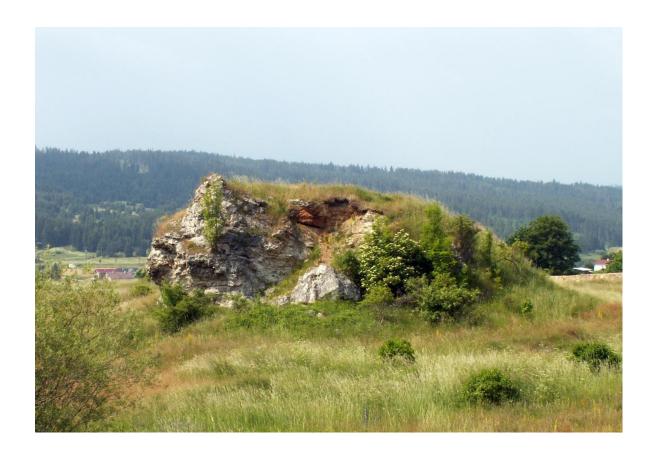


5. Geologicko-Paleontologicko-Archeologická Diskusia 2016 (5th Geological-Palaeontological-Archaeological Discussion 2016) Gánovce - Poprad



Lost Worlds of the Stone Age in Travertine

28th to 29th of April 2016



Abstract Book & Excursion Guide

Martin Sabol & Ondrej Žaár (Eds.)



5. Geologicko-Paleontologicko-Archeologická Diskusia 2016 (5th Geological-Palaeontological-Archaeological Discussion 2016) Gánovce - Poprad

NEW KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE EARLY WOOLLY RHINOS

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Mammuthus primigenius, Coelodonta antiquitatis and Bison div. ssp are the dominant taxa in the Mammuthus-Coelodonta faunal complex in northern Eurasia during the late Quaternary. But the ancestors of most of these taxa are from South Asia and Qingzang Plateau (Tibetan Plateau) and its surrounding area. The earliest fossil record of the genus Coelodonta was discovered in Tibet in recent years, which was named as Coelodonta thibetana and was dated as early as 3.7 Ma (DENG et al., 2011), the descendant of which is Coelodonta nihowanensis from the skirt of the Tibetan Plateau, such as Longdan in Gansu Province (QIU et al., 2004) and Nihewan in Hebei Province (TONG and WANG, 2014). The fossils of Coelodonta nihowanensis from Nihewan Basin resemble more like those of the true woolly rhino, Coelodonta antiquitatis, except its obviously slender limb bones. In Nihewan Basin, Coelodonta nihowanensis were usually associated with early Mammuthus and early Bison species. According to the current knowledge, Bison definitely originated in South Asia, but the richest fossil records of early Bison were discovered in North China. In recent years, much more fossils of Bison palaeosinensis were recovered in Nihewan Basin (TONG et al., under review). The early mammoth has nothing to do with the plateau fauna, but the steppe mammoth Mammuthus trogontherii, direct ancestor of Mammuthus primigenius, had its origin in Nihewan Basin (LISTER et al., 2005). Quite a number of new fossils of steppe mammoth were unearthed in Nihewan Basin in the past few years (TONG, 2012).

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