

宁夏同心 *Percrocuta* 一新种

邱占祥 叶 捷

(中国科学院古脊椎动物与古人类研究所)

曹 景 轩

(宁夏地质局)

关键词 宁夏同心 中中新世 獾狗化石

内 容 提 要

本文记述了宁夏同心发现的中羆狗一新种, *Percrocuta primordialis* sp. nov.。文中讨论了 *Percrocuta* 属的含义, 新种在该属中的地位及特征。作者认为, *Percrocuta* 只应包含那些生存于中中新世的小至中等个体的特化的羆狗, 而不包括那些后期的巨型羆狗。新种个体小, 在头骨上显示出一系列原始性状, 是该属目前所知最原始的一个种。

前不久我们记述了采自宁夏同心丁家二沟的库班猪头骨化石(邱占祥等, 1988)。在同一地点同一层位还发现了一些羆狗科的化石。其中有些尺寸较小的牙床与在丁家二沟西北 2.5 公里的印字岭稍低的层位中发现的一个头骨属于同种。这些材料显然代表了 *Percrocuta* 的一个新种。*Percrocuta* 是一个引起过很多争论的属。关于它的含义至今仍有不同的见解。造成这种分歧的原因之一是我们对这类羆狗头骨了解得很少。同心印字岭的材料使我们有可能较全面地了解这类羆狗的头骨特征, 并对它们的分类提出一些看法。

本文研究的化石由孙文书修理、沈文龙绘图、张杰照相。

一、化 石 记 述

羆狗科 Hyaenidae Gray, 1869

中羆狗属 *Percrocuta* Kretzoi, 1938

始中羆狗 *Percrocuta primordialis* sp. nov.

正型标本 一接近成年的头骨, IVPP. 化石编号 V8558, 采自宁夏同心印字岭。

其它标本 一左上颌, 带 C(破), P² 和 P³, V 8559; 一幼年个体右下颌, 带 P₂—P₄, P₃ 刚出齿, P₄ 埋葬前已脱落, V8560 和一左 P₂, V 8561。均采自宁夏同心丁家二沟的马二嘴子沟。

特征 个体小, 头基长仅约 150 mm, P¹—P⁴ 长仅约 60 mm; 与所有已知欧亚种的不同是: P⁴ 前附尖低小, 其前后长仅及前尖的一半; 原尖大, 大于前附尖, 并斜向前伸。与非洲的 *P. tobieni* 的下颌(无头骨)的不同主要是下颌联合部较粗壮。

地质时代 中中新世通古尔早期, 可能相当于欧洲 Astaracian 期中的 MN6。

描述 头骨 (V 8558) 缺失鼻骨和右颧弓, 翼突、眶后突和枕髁保存不完整, 右鼓室腹壁和后壁破损; 左鼓室保存完好(为了观察其内部构造已将其腹壁剥掉)。齿列中缺失右 I^1 和 P^1 , 左 I^3-P^1 , 左、右 P^4 外脊的后部均破损, 左 P^3 也稍有破损。头骨左侧鼻部受垂向压力稍变扁。

侧面(图版 II) 整个头形较低平。前颌骨背缘斜向后上方, 眶间部不特别隆起, 顶枕部接近水平, 枕部不强烈后倾。犬齿在上颌骨外侧面形成明显的隆起。此隆起斜向后上方伸, 其后端达眶下孔的前上方。眶下孔位于 P^3 中线上方。眶前缘位于 P^4 前缘上方, 所以眶下孔和眼眶相距近, 不超过 10 mm。额骨上和颧弓上的眶后突都不很发育。上颌骨在 P^4 上方有“拇指状”凹陷。眼眶低。颧弓细弱, 呈弧形向两侧扩展。耳区自侧面看最明显的特点是耳孔大, 但不形成管状的外耳道, 耳孔的上方直接由鳞骨覆盖; 鼓室很大, 其腹缘低于关节后突和枕髁; 颈乳孔小, 位于耳孔之正后方。乳突和副枕突不分开, 都不很发育。

枕面(图 1) 和一般鬣狗的不同。它的顶缘较宽平, 两侧缘先向下再向外伸展, 呈宽缓的弧形, 这样就使整个枕面呈一两侧缘稍稍凹入的梯形。枕面较平坦, 没有很明显的中嵴及其两侧的凹陷。

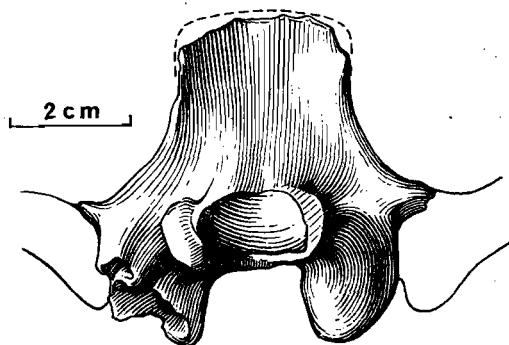


图 1 始中鬣狗 *Percrocuta primordialis* sp. nov.
头骨枕面, V 8558

Fig. 1 Occipital view of skull of *Percrocuta primordialis* sp. nov. V8558

顶面(图版 I) 最突出的特点是吻短, 头骨最宽处位于颧弓中部, 亦即整个头长之中部。鼻骨后端接近眼眶前缘水平。额骨与前颌骨刚刚相接。矢状脊高耸。枕嵴呈薄板状, 向侧上方伸出; 它和脑颅表面之间形成宽大的凹面。

腹面(图版 I) 腭部明显地前窄后宽。腭孔位于 P^3 前缘水平。腭骨在腭面上出露相当大, 其前端达到 P^3 中部水平。硬腭后缘为宽Λ字形, 其最前端处于 M^1 前缘水平。基蝶部无明显的咽结节。鼓室卵圆形, 近中壁较陡直, 远中和腹壁组成圆弧形; 左、右鼓室近中壁的前半部分互相平行, 后半部分则互相分离。颞嵴宽出外耳孔很多(部分地也是由于缺失管状外耳道所致)。鼓室内已有相当发育的鼓嵴 (Crista tympanica, 图版 II, 1, Cr), 此嵴的方向大致平行于头骨的长轴, 而不像在现生鬣狗中那样歪斜。隔板 (Septum, 图版 I, 1, S) 位置很高(向颅顶方向), 紧贴岩骨岬部 (Promontorium), 向后也不像在现生鬣

狗中那样向下方倾斜，而是接近水平地向后延伸，过颈乳孔位置后折向下方。这样，这一隔板就把上鼓室（Upper chamber, 图版 II, 1, UC）挤向后端，以致作为齶狗科特征之一的上、下鼓室实际上变成了前、后鼓室，而且后鼓室变得很小，其后壁直接由副枕突的基部组成。内颈动脉孔（图版 II, 1, IC）位于后破裂孔之前方。在鼓室内隔板上可见一隆起的细管自此孔伸向远中和前方，这大概就是内颈动脉在鼓室内的走向。中破裂孔（Foramen lacerum medium, 图版 II, 1, FLM) 圆形，相当明显，且远离鼓室，不受其覆盖。鼓索神经孔（图版 II, 1, TC）位于关节突和鼓室前端之间的凹陷内，很小。

牙齿 I^1 和 I^2 构造接近，只是 I^1 更小。主尖在近中和远中缘各有一弱嵴，将牙齿分成圆隆的唇面和较平的舌面。舌面基部有相当发育的倒八字形齿带。 I^3 仅在舌侧有一近中齿带。 I^3 比 I^2 在宽度上大一倍。犬齿尚未完全出齿，较细弱，有一前内嵴和后嵴。

P^1 未保存，仅留有小而圆的齿槽。 P^2 斜向，其长轴与齿列方向约以 45° 相交，其后端以覆瓦状盖在 P^3 前端外方。主尖有前、后两嵴，前者转向舌侧，两嵴面间夹角约 130° ；没

表 1 头骨及上牙的测量(单位：毫米)
Measurements of skull and upper teeth, in mm

测量项目	<i>P. primordialis</i> sp. nov. V 8558	<i>P. abessalomii</i> (After Gabunia, 1973) V 8559	<i>P. miocenica</i> (After Schmidt-Kittler, 1976)	<i>P. carnifex</i> (After Pilgrim, 1932)	<i>P. tungurensis</i> (After Colbert, 1939) Type
Maximum length	170		218		
Basal length	150				
Maximum width	117		117		
Prosthion-poster. border of palate	75				
P^1-P^4 length	60.5				
I^2 (L. × W.)	5.7×3.9		5.2×4.0	7.6×5.5	10.0×6.5
I^3 (L. × W.)	7.0×6.0		7.6×5.0	10.3×8.4	12.5×9.0
C(L. × W.)	11.7×8.0				18.0×14.0
P^1 (L. × W.)	4.0×4.0 (alv.)	4.3×3.4		(5.5–6.5)× (6.6–7.0)	6.0×8.0
P^2 (L. × W.)	14.4×8.5	13.9×8.6	12.3×9.0	(13.9–15.6)× (10.7–12.0)	17.0×11.7
P^3 (L. × W.)	17.7×11.2	17.6×11.3	17.0×10.6	×14.0	21.2×15.6
P^4 (L. × W.)	26.5×15.7		28.0×13.0		29.0×16.0
M^1 (L. × W.)	4.3×11.7		3.5×11.0		4.0×9.0

有前附尖,但后附尖明显,牙齿的最宽处位于后半部;齿带只在舌侧前半部较明显。 P^3 与 P^2 构造相近,但明显地大。其前嵴更向舌侧旋转,前嵴和后嵴间夹角大约只有 120° 。前、后附尖都与主尖明显分离,后附尖更大。舌侧后半部有一明显的隆起,但不形成第三根。后齿带明显。 P^4 的前附尖小而低,在长度和高度上它只及前尖的一半;后附尖从保留的部分看大约和前尖差不多长;原尖很大,比前附尖还要大些,斜向前内方,其前缘已达整个牙齿的最前缘,它与前附尖之间以一凹相隔;自冠面看原尖为 V 形。 M^1 为横长条形,外嵴很弱,前尖外壁圆隆,后尖则几乎完全消失;原尖舌侧圆,唇侧凹,以前、后两嵴分别与前尖和后尖相连。

表 2 下颌及下牙的测量(单位: 毫米)
Measurements of lower jaw and teeth, in mm

测量项目	<i>P. primordialis</i> sp. nov. V 8560	<i>P. tobieni</i> (After Crusafont- Pairo et Agurre, 1971)	<i>P. abessalomii</i> (After Gabunia, 1973)	<i>P. miocenica</i> (After Pavlovic et Thenius, 1965)	<i>P. hebeiensis</i> (= <i>P.</i> <i>miocenica?</i>) (After Chen et Wu, 1976)	<i>P. carnifex</i> (After Pilgrim, 1932)	<i>P. tungu-</i> <i>rensis</i> (After Colbert, 1939) Type
Maximum depth of symphysis	26.3	32.0 ¹⁾	31.0—33.0	37.3 ¹⁾	35.5 ¹⁾	46.7 ¹⁾	
P_2 (L. × W.)	12.1×7.9	12.7×7.7	13.0—13.3 ×7.0—8.0	12.9×10.0	13.2×9.9	12.0—13.8 ×10.3	18.5×14.0
P_3 (L. × W.)	14.7×9.6	15.0×9.9	14.0—15.5 ×8.0—9.4	16.7—17.0 ×10.8—11.0	15.7×10.4	16.1—18.4 ×11.8—13.2	19.0×16.5
P_4 (L. × W.)	18.1×10.0	17.0×10.0	18.0×10.8 ×10.9—11.0	18.7—18.8 ×10.9—11.0	18.3×11.0	19.8—20.7 ×11.5—12.2	24.0×15.0

1) 根据标本或图版测量

下牙床(V8560, 幼年个体, 图版 II, 2—5) 水平枝低, 在 P_2 处高仅 25mm。联合部粗壮, 它的下后端位于 P_2 后半部下方, 此处水平枝下缘形成一个向下的突起。颏孔两个, 前者大, 位于 P_2 后半部下方; 后者小, 位于 P_3 中线水平。每个前臼齿都有一条贯穿整个牙齿的纵嵴。这条纵嵴在 P_2 和 P_3 上将牙齿分成大体相等的内、外两半。 P_2 无前附尖; 后附尖有, 但分离不很明显; 牙齿最宽处位于后端; 齿带不发育, 仅在前内和后内角较显著。 P_3 主尖显著地高大于 P_2 者, 它的前附尖已可分辨出来, 后附尖自外侧看已相当高, 但前后长度小; 后齿带明显; 整个牙齿自顶面看近乎一长方形。 P_4 前、后附尖都相当高大; 牙齿的内后缘平直, 自外后斜向前内方, 此处齿带亦很发育。

V 8561 为一 P_2 , 和 V8560 形态一致, 但稍大一些。

二、比较与讨论

1. 关于 *Percrocuta* 属的含义的争论

M. Kretzoi 第一个认识到这类鬣狗的特性并把它与其它鬣狗属分开。他于 1938 年曾指出, 印度 Chinji 层的 “*Crocuta*” *carnifex* 乃是一类“中等大小的、过早强烈分异”的鬣狗

(frühzeitig stark differenzierte Formen mittlerer Crösse), 并为它创立了属名 *Percrocuta* (在过去的文献中,译为中鬣狗)。确实,这种鬣狗虽然出现的时代早,但它的牙齿在特化程度上已远超过了比它出现晚的一些鬣狗,如 *Ictitherium* 等等。例如它的 M_2^2 已完全退失, M^1 很小, P^4 原尖退缩, M_1 无下后尖,跟座很小,前臼齿变粗壮等。但是, Kretzoi 的意见没有引起人们的注意。只是过了近 20 年 Kurtén 才又启用了这个名称,不过是把它当作了 *Crocuta* 的一个亚属。Kurtén 把这个亚属的范围大大地扩大了。根据他的意见,除了亚属型种外,这个亚属还应包括 *C. (P.) tungurensis*, *C. (P.) gigantea*, *C. (P.) grandis* (新种), *C. (P.) eximia* 和 *C. (?P.) salonicae* (Kurtén, 1957)。1966 年 E. Thenius 又把它提升为属,他认为 *Percrocuta* 和 *Crocuta* 分属于不同的进化支系。与此同时,他又把另外两个种也归入到 *Percrocuta*: 一个是 1965 年他和 M. Pavlović 所记述的采自南斯拉夫的 *Percrocuta miocenica*, 另一个是 C. Arambourg 1959 年所记述的采自阿尔及利亚的 "*Hyaena*" *algerensis*。G. Ficcarelli 和 D. Torre 于 1970 年曾试图把其中的一些种划归 *Adcrocuta* 属,但没有得到多少响应。大部分人仍按 Kurtén 或 Thenius 关于 *Percrocuta* 的含义建立了一些新种,例如, *P. tobieni* (Crusafont-Pairo, M. et E. Agurre, 1971), *C. (P.) abessalomii* (Cabunia, L., 1958, 1973), *C. (P.) hebeiensis* (Chen, G. et W. Wu, 1976) 和 *C. (P.) macrodonta* (Liu, T. et al., 1978) 等。这样, *Percrocuta* 就成了一个相当庞杂的属了,从小而原始的 *P. tobieni* 到巨型的 *P. gigantea* 全都归在一起了。

1976 年 N. Schmidt-Kittler 系统地研究了这类鬣狗。他首先把 "*Hyaena*" *eximia* 及与其十分接近的种,如中国的 "*Hyaena*" *variabilis*, 完全从 *Percrocuta* 中分出,归入 *Adcrocuta* 属。在这一方面 Schmidt-Kittler 的建立在乳齿形态分析上的论据是很有说服力的。另一方面他又把 *Percrocuta* 分成了两个亚属, *Percrocuta* 和 *Dinocrocuta*。前者是一些主要生存于中新世的小至中型的种,而后者是一些生活在晚中新世的大至巨型的种。

最近,我们在甘肃和政发现了一个 "*Percrocuta*" *gigantea* 的头骨。这个头骨和本文记述的头骨之间的巨大差异使我们相信把它们放在同一个属内无论如何也是不适宜的。因此我们把 *Dinocrocuta* 提升为属(邱占祥等,1988)。这样, *Percrocuta* 就只包含中新世的小至中型个体的鬣狗了。它们是: *P. tobieni*, *P. abessalomii*, *P. miocenica* (?=*hebeiensis*), *P. carnifex* 和 *P. tungurensis*。这倒是和 Kretzoi 最初的关于这个属的定义更为吻合了。

F.C. Howell 和 G. Petter 也提出了类似的看法。他们在 1985 年发表的一篇专门论述这类鬣狗的文章中也是把 *Percrocuta* 的含义缩小至只包括中新世的小至中型的过早特化的那些种,而把大型的晚中新世的种从这个属中划了出去。不过,他们把这些大型的种划归了另一个属, *Allohyaena*。这一点还缺乏足够的证据。我们对此持保留态度(邱占祥等,1988)。

2. 同心标本的归属及其性质

同心的标本很小,颊齿却高度特化: M_2^2 完全消失, M^1 很小,前臼齿相对较粗壮。这和我们关于 *Percrocuta* 的含义是完全吻合的。所以同心这些标本无疑应归入此属。按照上述的含义,目前这个属共包含六个种。现分别予以比较。

P. abessalomi 是 L. K. Gabunia 1958 年根据采自高加索 Belometscheskaya 地点的一个下牙床定的种。1973 年他又补充记述了采自同一地点的其它一些材料。其中包括一个头骨。这是到目前为止中鬣狗属中除同心材料外唯一的一个头骨。遗憾的是,它的腹面保存不好,许多重要的性状都看不清楚。同心的标本和这个种在大小上比较接近,但仍有若干差异,不能归入同种。其中最重要的是两者在 P^4 上的差别: 高加索种的原尖已退化得很小,且位置后移,前附尖则相对较大。这和我们所记述的同心标本中的 P^4 很不同,同心标本原尖大而前附尖小。高加索种没有 P^1 , P^2 相对较短粗; 同心标本有 P^1 , P^2 较细长。高加索种虽然在牙齿的大小上和同心标本差不多,但它的头骨更长(见表 1)。

P. tobiensi 是 Crusafont-Pairo 和 Aguirre 1971 年根据采自肯尼亚 Ngorora 地点的两个下牙床定的。在大小上它们和同心的标本很接近。可以勉强指出的区别只有: 1. 肯尼亚的标本的下颌联合部似乎不及同心标本那么粗壮,它既没有向下的突出部,下颌下缘在联合部之后也不形成凹入,这使整个下颌的下缘形成一较平滑的弧形。2. 它的 P_4 的后附尖明显地大于前附尖。这有可能表明这个种的 P^4 的前附尖也是相对较大的,因为它们是互相对应的部分。应该承认,这些区别不很显著。如果只有这些区别,很难把它们划分为不同的种。但是考虑到目前的对比还只限于下牙床及下牙(肯尼亚的材料中没有头骨及上牙),再加上地理分布上的因素,我们觉得还是把它们看作不同的种更合适。

P. miocenica 是 M. Pavlovic 和 E. Thenius 1965 年根据南斯拉夫 Prebreza 的几个下牙床定的。1976 年 Schmidt-Kittler 把土耳其 Pasalar 层的一些零散的牙齿也归入了此种,其中也有几颗上牙。根据这些材料可以看出, *P. miocenica* 显然比同心的标本大而粗壮。这从每个牙齿的大小和牙床的高度上都可以看出来(表 1, 2)。如果土耳其的材料的归属是正确的话,那么 *P. miocenica* 也应该是有 P^1 的,而且 P^4 的原尖也是斜向前方的(N. Schmidt-Kittler, 1976, Abb. 47)。在这两点上 *P. miocenica* 倒是比高加索的种更接近同心标本。

P. hebeiensis 是陈冠芳和吴文裕于 1976 年根据河北磁县九龙口的一个下牙床建立的。这件标本,无论在大小和形态上都和 *P. miocenica* 很接近。Howell 和 Petter (1985) 也认为它们应是一个种。可以多少看出一点来的差别只有: 1. 磁县的标本上的两个颏孔相距近,只有 7mm; 而在南斯拉夫的标本上两孔间距离约为 14mm, 前颏孔位于 P_2 之前下方。2. 南斯拉夫标本的 P_2 的后附尖似乎已相当发育,大于磁县标本。这些差别都很细微,很难作为划分种的依据,因此,很可能磁县的标本只应作为一个亚种看待,应该叫做 *P. miocenica hebeiensis*。1983 年陈冠芳和 Schmidt-Kittler 又把河南新安十里村的一个幼年个体的下牙床也归入到河北种中。根据我们的观察,这件标本似乎比磁县者还大些。陈冠芳和 Schmidt-Kittler 对这件标本的未萌出的 P_4 长度的测量 (~ 18.5 mm) 大概没有包括还未修理出来的后附尖(见 Chen, G. et N. Schmidt-Kittler, 1983, fig. 1, A)。我们估计它的长度可能稍小于 21mm。这要比已知的 *P. miocenica* 的最大的 P_4 还要长些。由于材料太少,新安标本的种的归属目前还很难判定。但无论如何,磁县和新安的标本都不会和同心者为同种,这一点是无疑的。

P. carnifex 是 G. E. Pilgrim 早在 1910 年就定了的,是本属的属型种。它的个体更大,牙齿更粗壮, P^4 原尖已退缩。这些都和同心标本有很大的不同。 *P. tungurensis* 是

E. H. Colbert 1939 年根据内蒙古通古尔的材料建立的一个种。这个种个体更大，牙齿的特化程度也更高。它和同心标本的区别自然是最清楚不过的了。

从上述的对比我们可以看到，同心的标本无疑是 *Percrocuta* 这个属中个体小而又构造最原始的一个新种。它的原始性特别明显地表现在裂齿的构造上。它的 P^4 实际上还处在 *Ictitheres* (鼬獾狗) 的水平上。我们将它定名为 *Percrocuta primordialis* sp. nov. (始中獾狗, 新种)。

1976 年 Schmidt-Kittler 在研究獾狗类的乳齿时发现，中獾狗的 DP_4 和所有已知獾狗者都不同，相反和猫科的 DP_4 倒有些接近，特别是和化石中的 *Stenoplesictinae* 的某些代表更为接近。因此他提出一个假说：中獾狗可能和其它獾狗有着完全不同的起源。由于中獾狗的化石发现很少，保存完好的头骨一直未发现过，这一假说在头骨上无法验证。同心的始中獾狗头骨的发现填补了这个空白，提供了一些新事实，使我们有可能进一步探讨中獾狗的起源和进化等问题。

首先，同心这个头骨，从侧面和枕面看，更像灵猫者，不像獾狗者。它相当低长，顶面平，颧弓弱，枕面近一梯形；而獾狗头骨总是相当短高，眶间部隆凸，颧弓粗壮，枕面为三角形，枕顶部向后伸展悬垂于枕髁之后上方。其次，同心头骨在耳区构造上和一般獾狗也有相当大的区别，和灵猫也较近似。这表现在外耳孔很大，但没有管状的外耳道；乳突和副枕突都很小；中破裂孔相当大，不被鼓室所覆盖等。在鼓室的内部构造上，同心头骨基本上是“獾狗型”的，但不典型；而与“猫型”的相差较大。在獾狗中鼓室分成上、下两室，分隔鼓室的隔板接近水平，或稍稍向后下方倾斜。下鼓室大，上鼓室小，位于下鼓室的后上方。在猫科和灵猫科动物中，鼓室分成前小后大两个鼓室，隔板近于垂直。在同心的标本中，鼓室分成前后两个鼓室，前者很大，后者很小，隔板接近水平。关于獾狗科上、下鼓室的形成，有人曾作过这样的假设：它们从“猫型”开始，隔板从垂直方向逐渐向后移并变水平，这样就使前鼓室逐渐变大，而后鼓室逐渐变小并升高，最终变成为下大、上小两个鼓室 (G. de Beaumont, 1972, fig. 3)。同心标本的鼓室的情况和这种假设正好相反：在原始的中獾狗中后鼓室不是像在“猫型”鼓室中那样大，而是极小。这可能说明中獾狗的鼓室进化过程是相反的：后鼓室开始时极小，后来逐渐变大升高，最终形成相当宽大的上鼓室和更为宽大的下鼓室，隔板不是向后移，而是逐渐下移以使上鼓室空间增大。如果这种解释是对的话，那么中獾狗的鼓室还是原始“獾狗型”的，而和“猫型”的相距甚远。这就表明，中獾狗和獾狗具有共近裔性状，是一个单系群，而和猫科或灵猫科动物相距较远。但是中獾狗的头骨保留着更多的与灵猫科动物相近的近祖性状，而不具备后期獾狗所具有的特化性状(但在牙齿上正相反！)。这说明中獾狗可能较早地和其它獾狗成员分开了来，沿着不同的进化方向发展。如果事实果真如此，那么中獾狗有可能和所有其它獾狗科成员¹⁾具有同级的分类阶元。

Percrocuta 仅发现于中中新世地层中(相当于欧洲的 MN6—8)。根据我们对库班猪的研究，同心动物群很可能相当于 MN6。*Percrocuta primordialis* 在形态上是该属目前已知最原始的，比欧洲发现于 MN6 的 *P. abessalomi* 和 *P. miocenica* 都更原始些。它在同

1) *Plioviverrops* 和 *Proteles* 的分类地位需另作别论。

心动物群中的出现可能是一种古老种残存的现象，而不是同心动物群的时代可能更早的指示。

(1987年10月21日收稿)

参 考 文 献

- 刘东生、李传夔、翟人杰, 1978: 陕西蓝田上新世脊椎动物化石。地层古生物论文集, 第七辑, 149—199。
- 陈冠芳、吴文裕, 1976: 河北磁县九龙口中新世哺乳动物。古脊椎动物与古人类, 14(1), 6—15。
- Arambourg, C., 1959: Vertébrés continentaux du Miocène supérieur de l'Afrique du Nord. *Publ. Serv. Carte Géol. Algérie*, n. s. Paléontologie, 4, 1—161.
- Beaumont, G. de, and P. Mein, 1972: Recherches sur le genre *Plioviverrops* Kretzoi (Carnivoa, ? Hyaenidae). *C. R. des Séances, n. S.*, 25, 383—394.
- , 1979: Qu'est-ce que la *Hyacna salonicae* Andrews? (Mammifère, carnivore). *Archives des Sciences*, 32, 247—250.
- Chen Guanfang and N. Schmidt-Kittler, 1983: The deciduous dentition of *Percrocuta* Kretzoi and the diphyletic origin of the hyenas (Carnivora, Mammalia). *Paläont. Z.*, 57, 1/2, 159—169.
- Colbert, E. H., 1935: Siwalik mammals in the American Museum of Natural History. *Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc.*, 26, 1—401.
- , 1939: Carnivora of the Tung Gur Formation of Mongolia. *Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.*, 76(2), 47—81.
- Crusafont-Paior, M. and E. Aguirre, 1971: A new species of *Percrocuta* from the Middle Miocene of Kenya. *Abh. Hess. Landesamt Bodenforsch.*, 60, 51—58.
- Gabunia, L., 1958: On fossil carnivore remains from Belomečetskaja locality (northern Caucasus). *Vertebrata Palasianica*, 2(4), 249—252.
- , 1973: Fossil vertebrates of the fauna of Bjelometschskaya. *Akad. Nauk. Georgian SSR Tiflis*, 138 pages.
- Howell, F. C. and G. Petter, 1985: Comparative observation on some Middle and Upper Miocene Hyaenids. Genera: *Percrocuta* Kretzoi, *Allohyacne* Kretzoi, *Adcrocuta* Kretzoi (Mammalia, Carnivora, Hyaenidae). *Geobios*, no. 18, fasc. 4, 419—476.
- Kretzoi, M., 1938: Die Raubtiere von Gombaszög, nebst einer Übersicht der Gesamtfauna. *Ann. Mus. Nat. Hungaricae*, 31, 88—137.
- Kurtén, B., 1957: *Percrocuta* Kretzoi (Mammalia, Carnivora), a group of Neogene hyenas. *Acta Zool. Cracoviensis*, 2(16), 375—404.
- Pavlović, M. and E. Thenius, 1965: Eine neue Hyäne aus dem Miozän Jugoslaviens und ihre phylogenetische Stellung. *Anz. Österreich. Akad. Wiss., math. naturw. Kl.*, 177—185.
- Pilgrim, G. E., 1932: The fossil Carnivora of India. *Palaeont. Indica*, n. s. 18, 1—232.
- Schmidt-Kittler, N., 1976: Raubtiere aus dem Jüngstertiär Kleinasiens. *Palaeontographica*, Abt. A, 155, 1—131.
- Thenius, E., 1966: Zur Stammesgeschichte der Hyänen (Carnivora, Mammalia). *Zts. f. Säugetierkunde*, 31, 292—300.

A NEW SPECIES OF *PERCROCUTA* FROM TONGXIN, NINGXIA

Qiu Zhanxiang Ye Jie

(Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Academia Sinica)

Cao Jingxuan

(Bureau of Geology, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region)

Key words Tongxin Ningxia; Middle Miocene; Hyaenidae

Summary

From Maerzuizigou Tongxin County, Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, the same locality where an excellent *Kubanochoerus* skull had been found, some *Percrocuta* jaws have recently been discovered. Fortunate enough, we discovered a fairly well preserved skull in a nearby site, Yinziling, some 2.5 Km northwest of the Maerzuizigou. Stratigraphically Yinziling is a little lower than Maerzuizigou, but we take it for granted that both belong to one and the same formation. Furthermore, our study has proved that the Hyaenids the two localities yielded are attributable to one and the same species.

Our knowledge of the genus *Percrocuta* has so far been based mainly on its dentition. Actually we know little of its skull, especially the cranial part.

Description

Hyaenidae Gray, 1869

Percrocuta Kretzoi, 1938

Percrocuta primordialis sp. nov.

Type Skull, V 8558, Yinziling.

Hypodigm Left upper jaw with P^4 and P^3 , V8559; right lower jaw with P_{2-4} , V 8560 and a left P_2 , V 8561. All are from Maerzuizigou.

Diagnosis The smallest among the known Eurasian species. Its basal length is about 150 mm, while that of P^1-P^4 is 60 mm. P^4 has a large protocone which projects antero-laterally, but a small parastyle, only about half the size of paracone. It differs from the similarly small-sized African *P. tobieni* by its robuster symphysis.

Geological age Earliest Tungurian age (= MN6).

Description Unlike typical hyaenids, the skull is very low, without strongly domed frontal and an overhanging apex of the occipital surface. The preorbital foramen lies above the middle of the P^2 . The maxilla shows on its facial surface a "thumb"-like depression over the P^4 . The zygomatic arch is thin and weak, but strongly expands laterally at its mid-length. The occipital surface is trapezoid in shape, its upper border rather wide, flat and plate-like. The

squamosal crest forms a broad shelf over the tympanic region and covers it widely from above. The tympanic bulla is strongly convex, ovoid in form, but without true external bony auditory tube. Seen from the ventral side, within the bulla the tympanic crest (Pl. II, 1, Cr) stretches less obliquely than in recent hyaenas, forming a very small angle with the sagittal plane. The septum (Pl. II, 1, S) in the bulla is situated close to the promontorium of the petrosal bone, therefore, the upper chamber of the bulla is extremely small and the lower chamber occupies almost the whole space of the bulla. The inner carotid foramen (Pl. II, 1, Ic) lies in front of the posterior foramen lacerum. The middle foramen lacerum (Pl. II, 1, FLM) is not covered by the bulla wall as is usual in the hyaenids because of its anterior position.

I^1 and I^2 are much alike in morphology. Each has a well developed lingual cingulum, which is centrally cleft into a pair of tubercles. I^3 is much larger than the preceding two, with a faint mesial cingulum only. The presence of a pair of small P^1 is unmistakably deducible from the alveoli they left. P^2 , obliquely situated, is provided with an anterior and a posterior ridge, the former of which turns lingually so that the two ridges form a wide angle of about 130° . There is a small posterior cusp, but no anterior one. The cingulum is present only on the first half of the lingual side. P^3 is markedly robuster than P^2 . Its anterior and posterior ridges form an angle of about 120° . Here a small anterior cusp is also present, but no third root is observed (see Howell et al., 1985, p. 428). P^4 is very characteristic of the species (see diagnosis above). M^1 is short anterior-posteriorly, but considerably widened.

The ramus horizontalis is low, but its symphysis is rather robust, forming a downward projected "chin" at the level between P_2 and P_3 . There are two mental foramina: the anterior one is larger, situated below the second half of the P_2 , while the posterior one is smaller, lies below the middle of the P_3 . P_2-P_4 have almost centrally situated longitudinal ridges apiece. The anterior cusplet is hardly discernible on P_2 , traceable on P_3 , but large on P_4 . The posterior cusplet increases in size from P_2 to P_4 . The main cusp of the P_3 is much larger than that of P_2 .

Comparision and discussion

1. The status of genus *Percrocuta*

M. Kretzoi was the first one who recognized the premature specialization of the Indian hyaenid species, "*Crocula*" *carnifex*, and coined a new generic name *Percrocuta* for it. According to his opinion, the new genus was diagnosed as "frühzeitig stark differenzierte Formen mittlerer Grösse. P auch vorne mit massigem Paraconid. Deuterocon am P^4 massig reduziert, am relative kurzen und massiven M_1 its vom Metaconid nichts mehr zu sehen. Tablonid hechgründig reduziert, nur mehr als Cingulum und Hypoconid vorhanden." (M. Kretzoi, 1938, p. 118).

Kretzoi's opinion has long been neglected. Only until after about 20 years, Kurtén revived that forgotten name, but as a subgenus of the genus *Crocuta* (B. Kurtén, 1957). At the same time Kurtén considerably widened the original concept of *Percrocuta* by including other five species into it: *C. (P.) tungurensis*, *C. (P.) gigantea*, *C. (P.) grandis* (sp. nov.), *C. (P.) eximia* and *C. (?P.) salonicae*. In 1966, E. Thenius resumed genus status of *Percrocuta* adding two more species: *P. miocenica* and *P. algerensis*. Most of the later authors accepted either Kurtén's, or Thenius' viewpoint, and included a series of new species into this hyaenid group: *P. tobieni*, *P. abessalomii*, *P. hebeiensis*, *P. macrodonta* etc. As a result, *Percrocuta* became rather jumbled.

In 1976, N. Schmidt-Kittle made a thorough investigation into this problem. First of all, he, in a fully convincing way, excluded "*Hyaena*" *eximia* group of species from *Percrocuta*. He

transferred them to another Kretzoi's genus *Adcrocuta*. Then he subdivided *Percrocuta* into two subgenera: *Percrocuta* and *Dinocrocuta*. The former comprises mainly the Middle Miocene species of small and middle size, while the latter consists of the Late Miocene species of large or even gigantic size. The recent discovery of the "*Percrocuta*" *gigantea* skull with so many distinctive characters convinced us that the gigantic forms must be genetically separated from the small and middle-sized forms. Therefore, we raised Schmidt-Kittler's subgeneric name *Dinocrocuta* to a genus level (Qiu Z. et al., 1988). As a result of the above indicated segregation, the genus *Percrocuta* is inevitably to be understood narrowly, to include only the Middle Miocene species of small and middle size. These species are *P. tobieni*, *P. abessalomi*, *P. miocenica* (? = *hebeiensis*), *P. carnifex* and *P. tungurensis*. It is interesting to note that recently F. C. Howell and G. Petter (1985) expressed similar view, with the only difference that *Dinocrocuta* was taken there as a subgenus of *Allohyaena*, a viewpoint that we discussed elsewhere (Qiu Z. et al., 1988).

2. Identification and affinity analysis of the Tongxin species

The main characters of the Tongxin species are evidently percrocutoïd: the loss of M_2^2 , the strong reduction of M^1 , the robustness of the premolars etc. Therefore, there is no doubt that it belongs to the genus *Percrocuta* as above defined.

P. abessalomi is probably the best known species of the genus except the new species from Tongxin. The material so far discovered comprises skull, though poorly described, and lower jaws. Judged by size alone, it is the most comparable to that of Tongxin among the Eurasian species. However, there are still differences between them. The most remarkable one is shown on P^4 . The P^4 in *P. abessalomi* has a much reduced protocone, but rather large parastyle, while in the Tongxin species the protocone is large, but parastyle is poorly developed. *P. abessalomi* lacks P^1 , but its P^2 is comparatively short and wide; while there are P^1 on both sides of the Tongxin skull, but its P^2 is slimmer.

The comparison between *P. primordialis* and *P. tobieni* to be restricted to lower jaw owing to the lack of any other parts of skeleton preserved for the latter species. In *P. tobieni* the symphysis is weakly developed so that its lower border forms a regular curve. The Tongxin species has a stronger symphysis, and a downward projected "chin" is discernible. In *P. tobieni* the posterior cusplet of the P_4 is much more developed than its anterior one, while the size difference of these two cusplets in Tongxin specimen is less so marked. It is to be admitted here that we have attached greater importance to geographical factor rather than morphological distinction in the present case when we decided to view them as two independent species.

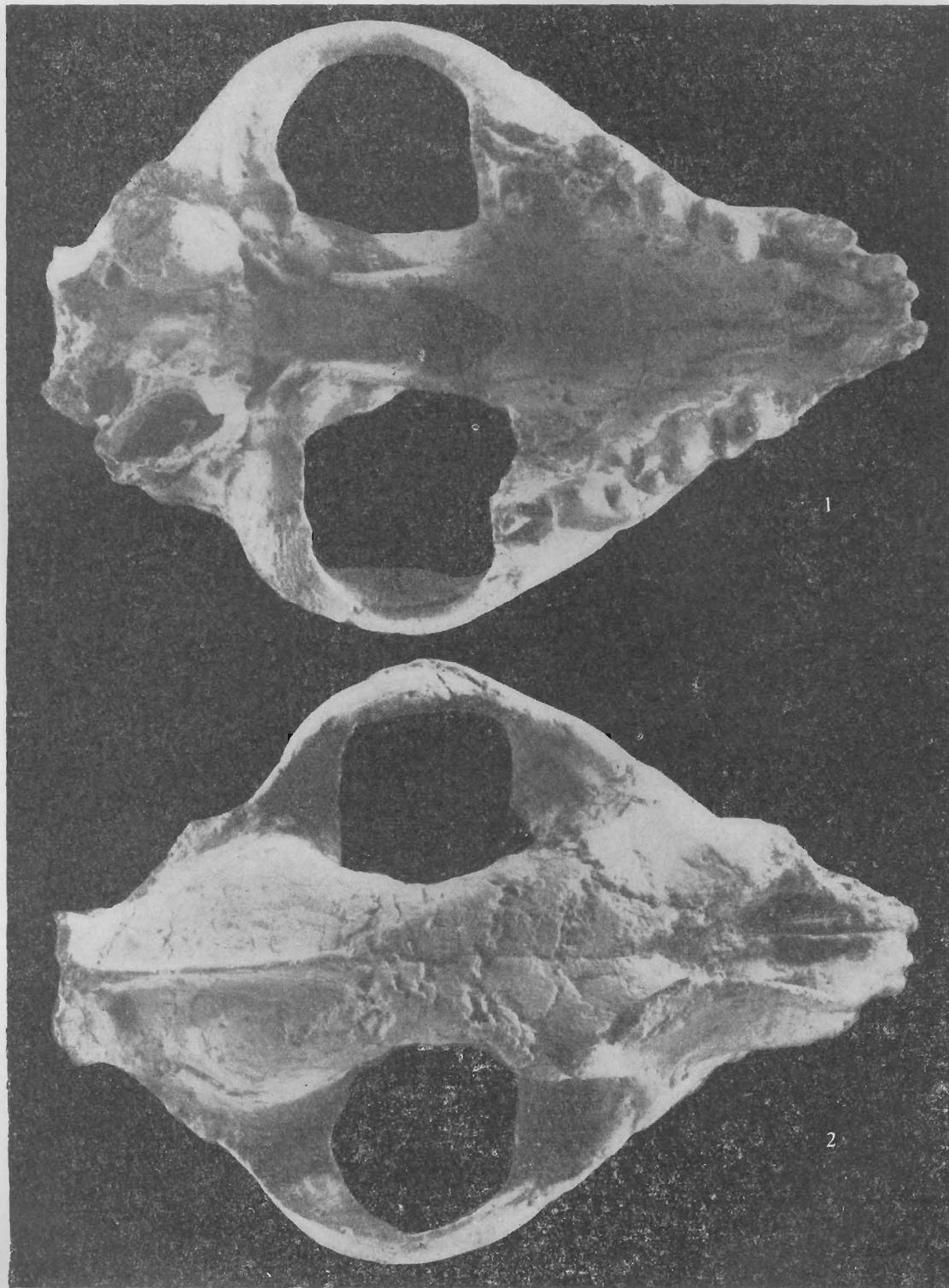
The distinction between *P. miocenica* and the Tongxin species is apparent. The former is evidently larger and more advanced than the latter. In both size and morphology *P. hebeiensis* is almost identical with *P. miocenica*. The former, therefore, might well be only a geographic subspecies of the latter, as pointed out by Howell and Petter in 1985.

P. carnifex and *P. tungurensis* are even more highly specialized forms. Therefore no comparison is needed to separate them from the Tongxin species in species level.

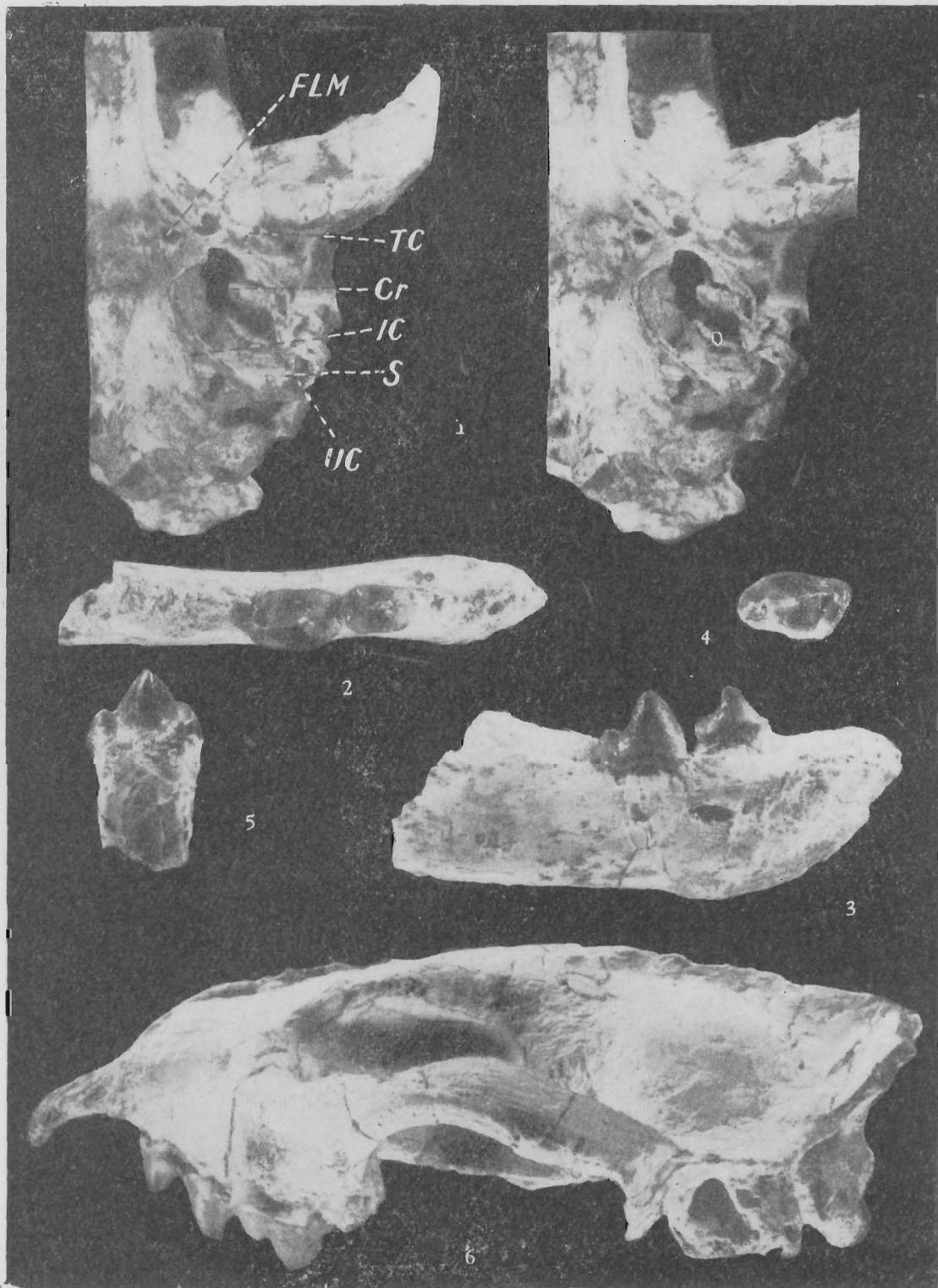
Because of the poor state of preservation, we have so far known little of the skull structure of the genus *Percrocuta*. The Tongxin skull fill in some degree the blank in that regard. What strikes us most is the fact that the Tongxin skull retains a series of plesiomorphic features reminiscent of those of viverroid animals. These are the comparatively long and low skull, the rather flat skull roof, the weak zygomatic arch, the trapezoid form of the occipital surface and especially the primitive ear region. The foramen acousticum is very large, but without bony

auditory tube. The mastoid and paroccipital processes are small, the foramen lacerum medium is large and situated in front of the bulla, instead of being covered by the latter. In its inner structure, the bulla is not strictly typical "hyaenoid". The posterior chamber is very small and situated not very high in comparison with the very large anterior chamber. G. de Beaumont thought that the "hyaenoid" type of bulla chambers derived from the "feloid" type: with the backward and horizontal shifting of the septum the originally small anterior chamber enlarged gradually, while the posterior one, formerly much larger than the anterior chamber, became smaller and smaller and shifted upward. Eventually they changed their positions so that an upper and lower chamber formed. The Tongxin skull seems to demonstrate the contrary: In primitive hyaenids the posterior chamber must have been very small; then, along with the downward shifting of the septum it enlarged, and simultaneously extended upward. Finally the two chambers turned into an upper-posterior chamber, and a lower-anterior one.

To sum up, the Tongxin skull shows two kinds of features: a group of plesiomorphic features, reminiscent of viverroid animals and a group of apomorphic features of the hyaenid family, but in their primitive states. Bearing these characters in mind, we would come to the conclusion that *Percrocuta* comprises, together with some other hyaenids, a monophyletic group, but it might branch off from the main stem very early, probably in Early Miocene, forming later a special group of hyaenids with premature tooth specialization.



始中鼈狗 (*Percrocuta primordialis* sp. nov.), V8558
1. 头骨腹面 Ventral view of skull, $\times 4/5$ 2. 头骨背面 Dorsal view of skull, $\times 4/5$



始中瀛狗 (*Percrocuta primordialis* sp. nov.)

1. 耳区结构 Auditory region, V8558, $\times 1$
- 2—3. 右下颌带 P₂, P₃, (2. 咬面, 3. 颊面) Right mandible with P₂, P₃ (2. occlusal view, 3. labial view), V8560, $\times 1$
- 4—5. 右 P₄, (4. 咬面, 5. 舌面) Right P₄ (4. occlusal view, 5. lingual view), V8560, $\times 1$
6. 头骨侧面 Lateral view of skull, V8558, $\times 4/5$