辽宁建平人类上臂骨化石

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1957年夏,辽宁省文化局曾派辽宁省博物館孙守道和郭文宝两同志前往建平县調查 育椎动物化石,在建平鎮合作社收购的龙骨中发現了一根人类肱骨(上臂骨)化石,最近由 辽宁省博物館送交中国科学院古脊椎动物与古人类研究所进行研究。本文对此标本作一 簡单描述。

在发現人类肱骨之前,辽宁省博物館于 1957 年 4 月曾在建平县的同一合作社选出了 披毛犀 (Coelodonta antiquitatis Blumenbach)、轉角羚羊 (Spirocerus cf. kiakhtensis Pavlowa)、古野牛 (Bison priscus Bojanus)、野驢 (Equus hemionus Pallas) 和蒙古野馬 (Equus cf. przewalskyi Poliakoff) 等哺乳动物化石,經周明鎮和薛祥煦鉴定,并由于披毛 犀和古野牛的存在,确定其地质时代为更新世晚期 (1958)。

据辽宁省博物館的同志估計,上述的人类化石与这些哺乳动物化石大概来自同一地点。

肱骨标本系右侧的,从結节間沟和三角肌粗隆的特殊形式,骨干較大的扭轉度,骨干远端的横切面呈明显的三角形,以及整个肱骨各部分的比例等,都可以肯定是人类的肱骨,除两端的骨髁外,全部保存。上端断裂处約在外科頸的部分,下端則在內外髁稍上处断裂。化石呈乳白色,石化程度相当深。长 255毫米。由骨干的較为粗大,緣嵴較銳和肌嵴明显等,可以确定是属于男性的成年个体。肱骨干較明显地向后弯曲,弯曲的頂部在骨干下半中央稍上处。骨干有明显的扭轉,是一种較为进步的性质。但由于两端的肱骨头和內外髁缺失,扭轉角的确实度数,难于計算。骨干外侧面的橈神經沟甚浅。布勒(Boule,M. 1911/13) 曾指出所有尼人类型肱骨的橈神經沟都很浅,而現代人的橈神經沟則很明显,因此在这一性质上建平人肱骨却与尼人相似。前面偏外处有明显的三角肌粗隆,其内侧緣向上与大結节嵴的延續部相接。在結节間沟的下方胸大肌附着处,形成明显隆起的骨嵴,长达 40毫米。其內外側緣向下則汇合而与骨干的前緣相續。三角肌粗隆表面的骨盾粗糙而稍微隆起。

結节間沟浅而寬闊,沟两側的大結节嵴和小結节嵴較一般現代人为稍显,特別是小結 节嵴。大結节嵴下延与三角肌粗隆的內側嵴相續。

骨干中部的前后径(21.6毫米)大于横径(16.7毫米),指数 72.2。 中国猿人肱骨的这个指数为 73.5,与建平人相似。

骨干的下半横切面約呈等边三角形。內側緣較为圓鈍,外側緣則形成銳婚。

在整个人类发展的过程中,从猿人到新人,总的来說,肱骨形态的变化是不大的,例如中国猿人的肱骨与现代人的,在外表形态上非常相似,沒有显著的差别。

在我国已发现的各种化石人类中,有肱骨化石材料的有中国猿人和山頂洞人。另外在河套地面上撿得的肱骨化石,其时代可能比河套人为晚,大概是旧石器时代晚期的。这些肱骨以及这次的建平人肱骨都比較細致,形态結构較为近似,可能表示其有一定的系統关系。而与欧洲发现的各种尼安德特类型人类的肱骨即有明显的不同,尼人的肱骨远为粗壮。例如肱骨中段的最大直径和最小直径在中国猿人各为 20.7 毫米和 15.4 毫米,尼人則各为 24.5 毫米和 19.3 毫米。

建平人肱骨的地质时代,根据哺乳动物化石的材料,大概是更新世晚期。这一地质时期的人类可能是古人或新人类型,但从肱骨上难于辨别出来,因而不能确定建平人是古人还是新人类型。

在我国的人类化石材料中,肢骨还是比較少的,因而建平人肱骨的发現增加了研究古人类体质的宝貴材料,而且这是在辽宁省境内第一次发现的人类化石,对于了解更新世晚期我国古人类的分布也具有重要的意义。

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FOSSIL HUMAN HUMERUS FROM CHIENPING, LIAONING PROVINCE

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The fossil human humerus was recently sent to the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology for study through the courtesy of the Provincial Museum of Liaoning. It was found early in 1957 in the Chienping District. Although no data regarding the exact locality are available, few mammalian fossils were reported to be associated with the human remain. They had been studied by Chow Minchen and Hsien Hsianghsi (1958) and were identified as follows:

Equus cf. przewalskyi Poliakoff
Equus hemionus Pallas
Coelodonta antiquitatis Blumenbach
Spirocerus cf. kiakhtensis Pavlowa
Ovis ammon Linné
Bison priscus Bojanus
Bos sp.

The geological age of these mammals was considered by them to be Late Pleistocene because of the presence of such species as Coelodonta antiquitaris, Bison priscus etc.

The fossil human specimen consists of merely the shaft without either end. It is milk white in color, fairly heavily fossilized. Proximally it is broken off at the surgical neck and distally a little above

the epicondyles. The total length of the fragment amounts to 255 mm. The robusticity of the bone and the sharpness of all the contours suggest a male individual.

The shaft shows a fairly marked backward curvature the vertex of which lies well below the mid-shaft level. The torsion of the shaft is pronounced. The musculo-spiral groove is only faintly indicated as in all the humeri of the Neanderthal group. The deltoid tuberosity is pronounced with slightly bulging surface. Along its medial border below the bicipital groove, where the M. pectoralis is attached, there is a prominent ridge which extends upward to be merged into the crest of the greater tubercle.

The bicipital groove is shallow and wide with pronounced bicipital ridges.

The shaft at the middle has an antero-posterior diameter 21.6 mm and a transverse diameter 16.7 mm, with a shaft index 72.2. It is interesting to note here that the *Sinanthropus* humerus has a similar shaft index, 73.5.

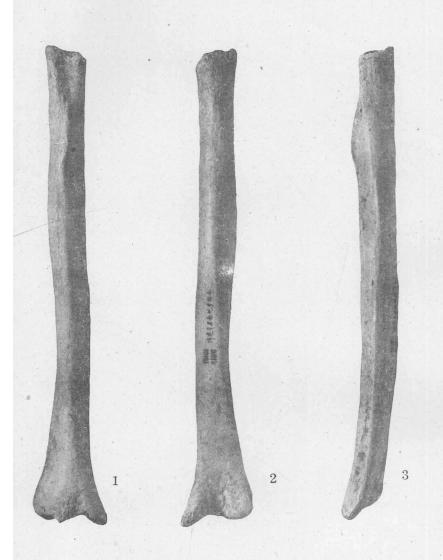
At the level of the distal portion of the shaft, the contour is equilaterally triangular in shape. The medial border is rounded and the lateral one, sharp.

In all the fossil human humeri so far found in China, such as those of *Sinanthropus* of the Early Paleolithic Age and of Ordos Man and Upper Cave Man, both of the Late Paleolithic Age, the shafts are slimmer as compared with the more stout specimens of the Neanderthal group found in Europe. In this respect, the Chienping humerus is definitely closer to those found in China.

As no artifacts were found associated with the human fossil, it is difficult to ascertain whether the Chienping specimen belongs to the Middle or Late Paleolithic Age.

The discovery of the Chienping fossil human humerus is of great interest because it is the first discovery of fossil human remains in the Province Liaoning. So far, only few materials of limb bones of ancient human remains have been uncovered in China. It helps us in the further understanding of the distribution of Late Pleistecene Man in China.

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辽宁建平人肱骨 ×1/2 1. 前面观, 2. 后面观, 3. 內側面观, 4. 外側面观。