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AAI Associazione Antropologica Italiana



*Oreopithecus*150

a Miocene hominoid enshrouded in a 150-years-long mystery

International Conference

Università di Firenze, Aula Magna

Piazza San Marco 4, Firenze, Italy

20 October 2022

The conference celebrates *Oreopithecus bambolii* on the 150th anniversary of its definition by the French paleontologist Paul Gervais in 1872. Initially based on the description of a mandible (IGF 4335) found at Montebamboli, in southern Tuscany, knowledge of this species has leaped forward with the discovery in 1958 of a second pivotal specimen (IGF 11778) at Baccinello, also in southern Tuscany, that is the most complete nonhominin hominoid in the fossil record so far unearthed. Both fossils are hosted at the Museum of Geology and Paleontology of the University of Florence, together with rich remains of the associated vertebrate fauna.

The study of *Oreopithecus bambolii*, spanning between 8.3 – 6.7 million years, has been at the center of intense debate regarding the species' locomotor behavior, phylogenetic position, insular paleoenvironment, and utility as a model for early hominin anatomy. The side study of the associated fauna paved the way for the reconstruction of the Late Miocene paleobiogeography of Tuscany.

Hosting Institution: Sistema Museale d'Ateneo, Università di Firenze.

With the collaboration of: Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra, Università di Firenze.

Scientific committee: Luca Bellucci, Elisabetta Cioppi, Fabio Di Vincenzo, Stefano Dominici, Lorenzo Rook, Andrea Savorelli.

Organizing committee: Luca Bellucci, Chiara Boni, Alessandra Casini, Elisabetta Cioppi, Fabio Di Vincenzo, Stefano Dominici, Barbara Montecchi, Roberta Pieraccioli, Daniela Pini, Lorenzo Rook, Andrea Savorelli, Andrea Sforzi.

Under the auspices of: Società Paleontologica Italiana, Associazione Nazionale dei Musei Scientifici, European Association of Vertebrate Palaeontologists, Istituto Italiano di Paleontologia Umana, Istituto Italiano di Antropologia, Associazione Antropologica Italiana, Società Italiana di Antropologia e Etnologia, Musei di Massa Marittima, Museo di Storia Naturale della Maremma, Parco Nazionale delle Colline Metallifere Grossetane.



The mandible type specimen for *Oreopithecus bambolii* (IGF 4335)

Provisional Program Conference, 20 October 2022

Invited Speakers

David M. Alba (Institut Català de Paleontologia Miquel Crusafont): *Fossil apes and human evolution*

Daniel DeMiguel (ARAID / Universidad de Zaragoza): *Reconstructing diets and habitat change from dental wear*

Ashley S. Hammond (American Museum of Natural History, New York): *Oreopithecus at 150: Where do we stand now?*

Elisabetta Cioppi (SMA, Università di Firenze): *Historical background of the study of Oreopithecus*

Stefano Dominici, Marco Benvenuti (SMA, Dip.to Scienze della Terra, Università di Firenze): *Geologic setting of Tuscan Miocene vertebrates*

Luca Sineo, Roberto Miccichè, Carolina Di Patti, Jacopo Moggi (Museo Gemmellaro, Università di Palermo): *an Oreopithecus jaw in the museum "Giorgio G. Gemmellaro" in Palermo.*

Luca Bondioli (Dip.to di Beni Culturali, Università di Bologna), **Alessia Nava**, (School of Anthropology and Conservation, University of Kent, Canterbury): *Virtual histological reconstruction of dental enamel microstructures of Oreopithecus bambolii*

Luca Pandolfi, Lorenzo Rook (Dip.to Scienze della Terra, Università di Firenze): *The late Miocene endemic faunas of the Tusco-Sardinian paleobioprovince*

Alessandro Urciuoli (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona): *Phylogenetic relationships of the late Miocene apes based on morphology of the inner ear*

Weronika Cieszyńska (PUSHH Project, Università di Firenze; PhD, Università di Pisa): *Searching enamel proteins in late Miocene fossil (Oreopithecus bambolii and associated faunas) may help in resolving debated phylogenetic relationships*

The conference is also open to oral and poster contributions. The poster session will be held in the nearby Museum of Geology and Paleontology. The event is an opportunity to conduct a census of remains of *Oreopithecus* and associated fauna hosted at museums throughout the world.

Contributions based on previously-unpublished museum collections are particularly welcomed. A proceedings volume, issued by the Bollettino della Società Paleontologica Italiana, will be prepared. For info, registration and abstracts submission please write to oreopiteco150@sma.unifi.it

Provisional Program Field trip, 21 October 2022

A guided geological field trip in southern Tuscany to the localities of provenance of the *Oreopithecus* and the associated fauna will take place on the day following the conference, in collaboration with the Museo Archeologico di Massa Marittima (Grosseto), the Parco Nazionale delle Colline Metallifere Grossetane and the Museo di Storia Naturale della Maremma (Grosseto).

The preliminary program includes an excursion to the Montebamboli lignite (weather permitting), lunch at a local farmhouse, and a visit to the Maremma Natural History Museum in Grosseto in the afternoon.

Scientific Contributions

The abstract of the scientific contributions (oral communications and posters) should be sent to oreopiteco150@sma.unifi.it by 16 September 2022 (up to 2,000 characters, including spaces, English language). The abstract should be written using the standards of the Bollettino della Società Paleontologica Italiana (<http://paleoitalia.org/media/u/extras/notes-for-authors.pdf>). No figures or tables will be included in the volume of abstracts. An abstract book will be given to registered members when they pick up their conference materials. When submitting their work, authors are invited to suggest the preferred mode (oral communication or poster) for the presentation of their contribution, pending the decision of the Scientific Committee. Each participant can present a maximum of one oral contribution and/or one poster. Oral presentations should be a maximum of 15 minutes (12 minutes for presentation + 3 minutes for discussion and questions). The file (in PowerPoint or PDF format) must be uploaded before the start of the sessions. Posters (70x100 cm) will be displayed in the “Sala Strozzi” of the Museum of Geology and Paleontology.

Registration

Please make your payment through the online PagoPA system procedure (see **payment guidelines**), as it will not be possible to pay for the registration onsite. The procedure is in Italian. Once payment has been successfully completed, please send the **registration form** with the payment receipt to oreopiteco150@sma.unifi.it