

The 2nd Anthropological Congress of Dr. A. Hrdlička was held in Humpolec between September 3–7, 1979. The event was highlighted by two facts: it was already the second anthropological congress to be held in Humpolec, the birthplace of Dr. A. Hrdlička, coinciding with the 110th anniversary of the birthday of this famous anthropologist of Czech origin, and at the same time it was the 115th national meeting of the Czechoslovak anthropologist. Already five years have elapsed since the last congress of this kind in Brno, and perhaps this fact also contributed to the fact that the congress aroused extraordinary attention among foreign researchers. The agenda of the congress comprised 176 papers, in fact the event was attended by 173 anthropologists.

Most participants of the congress came from Czechoslovakia, but some of the neighboring nations were represented by large delegations — Poland by 14, the German Democratic Republic 7, the Soviet Union 6, Federal Republic of Germany, U.S.A. and Yugoslavia by 5 each, three delegates came each from Belgium, Hungary, Netherlands, Rumania and Spain. The congress was attended also by guests from Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Egypt, France, India, Italy and Switzerland.

Shortly, it was a large session, we are not able to mention all the papers delivered during the congress. The main session took place in the central hall, with simultaneous interpretation. Here the papers were divided into the following topical groups:

Papers dealing with Dr. A. Hrdlička, general anthropology, ontogenesis of man, functional anthropology, anthropology of adults, medical anthropology, ethnic anthropology, palaeoanthropology, historic anthropology and osteology — varia. The section of the human ontogenesis dedicated a half-day session to the International Day of the Child. The adjoining smaller rooms housed four scientific sessions, one on palaeopathology, the other on human evolution, the third on the anthropology of sportsmen and the fourth on dermatoglyphics, the proceedings of these sessions were not interpreted, the respective sessions were held in English, French or German.

The main organizer of the congress was the Prague branch of the Czechoslovak Anthropological Society of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. The congress was sponsored by the Ministry of Education of the Czech Socialist Republic, the Faculties of Natural Sciences and of General Medicine of the Charles University and the Municipal Council of the town of Humpolec. It was not a formal sponsorship, all the above institutions had greatly contributed to the success of the event inaugurated in the Pantheon of the National Museum in Prague and housed by the building of the secondary school in Humpolec. The host town had to solve a number of extraordinary problems connected with the accommodation, transport of and catering for an unexpectedly high number of participants. At the occasion of the congress Czechoslovak and foreign anthropologists received Hrdlička's Memorial Medal and young anthropologists were awarded the Prize of Dr. A. Hrdlička for the best works in the branch.

A rich social programme formed integral part of the congress. It culminated with a final reception combined with sitting around a huge campfire. After the congress there was a one-day trip for the participants to the Museum of Book in Žďár nad Sázavou, to Pernštejn Castle and to the new exhibitions of the Anthropos Pavilion in Brno.

The congress was well organized and had a very good scientific standard indeed. Each participant received gifts of the host town — a graphic paper of Humpolec and a cup with the emblem of the congress.

The participants left with very positive impressions and with a host of new ideas for their further scientific activities. These impressions will be underlined also by the proceedings of the congress to be published in 1981.

Milan Stloukal

This meeting of Czechoslovak and G.D.R. specialists on human evolution was prepared by the Department of the Evolutionary Biology of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in co-operation with the "Anthropogenesis" working group of the Academy of Sciences of the German Democratic Republic (Arbeitskreis für die Probleme der Menschenwerdung), headed by Dr. H. Ullrich from the Archaeological Institute of the German Academy of Sciences. The meeting took place at the Recreation Centre of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in Jáchymov. Twenty-one participants delivered 19 papers dealing with various problems of the evolution of man and of the human society. Six papers were read by German specialists, seven by the members of the Department of Evolutionary Biology and the rest by other participants of the event.

The programme was divided into three sections:

1. General rules of the evolution of man and of human society from the biological and social point of view.
2. Methodology of the evolutionary biology.
3. Hominid variability and systematics.

There were three opening papers, one by the corresponding member of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences V. Novák on Relationship between Natural Selection and Sociogenesis in Human Evolution, the other by Academician Professor Herrmann, Director of the Archaeological Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the G.D.R. on Tool Production as Factor and Result of the Human Evolution, and the third by Dr. Jelínek, Head of the Anthropos Institute on Mladěč Human Remains and Homo sapiens sapiens.

The principal topics of the symposium and of the following discussion were: Participation of the neoteny in the development of the principal characters of Homo sapiens. The evolution of human locomotion and bipedal walking. Human reproduction and its morphophysiological grounds. Evolution and material culture (tool production, technology, etc.) and some philosophical aspects of its impact on the evolution of the human society. The profound discussions have contributed to the success of the meeting. It has been decided to organize similar meetings again in the German Democratic Republic and in Czechoslovakia alternately.

V. Novák

Colloque „LES PROCESSUS DE L'HOMINISATION. L'évolution humaine. Les faits. Les modalités.“ Paris, 16–20 juin 1980.

Le C.N.R.S. (Prof. D. Ferembach), a organisé à Paris, du 16 au 20 juin, en commémoration de la mort de Paul Broca, un colloque international sous le titre „Les processus de l'homínisation. L'évolution humaine. Les faits. Les modalités“. Le colloque a été ouvert par le Prof. L. Thibault, Président du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique. Le matin du 16 juin fut voué à la mémoire et à l'appréciation du travail scientifique de Paul Broca.

Le colloque a été consacré à 5 thèmes principaux.

Thème 1. *Origine du genre HOMO*

- E. L. Simons: Origine du genre Homo à partir d'Australopithecus, de Ramapithecus ou d'une forme encore inconnue.
- L. de Bonis: Les Primates hominoïdes du Miocène et le problème du Ramapithecus.
- Y. Coppens: L'origine du genre Homo.
- B. Kurtén: The "Gestalt" of hominid evolution.

Thème 2. *Les stades évolutifs du genre Homo et l'apparition de Homo sapiens sapiens*

- W. W. Howells: Current theories on the origin of Homo sapiens sapiens.
- H. de Lumley: Les civilisations paléolithiques et leur continuité.
- J. K. Woo: Chinese paleoanthropology.
- J. Jelínek: Homo erectus est-il déjà Homo sapiens?

- E. Genet-Varcin: Peut-on parler d'un stade archanthropien en Europe?
- B. Vandermeersch: Origine de Homo sapiens sapiens au Proche-Orient.  
Thème 3. *Tendance évolutive au sein de Homo sapiens sapiens à partir de son émergence en Europe*
- I. Schwidetzky: Les grandes lignes de l'évolution morphologiques de Homo sapiens sapiens depuis son apparition jusqu'à l'Homme actuel.
- D. de Sonneville-Borders: Cultures et milieux naturels d'Homo sapiens sapiens en Europe.
- A. Leroi-Gourhan: Les débuts de l'art paléolithique.
- D. Vialou: La figuration humaine au Paléolithique supérieur.
- R. Fenart: Recherche de stigmates de l'hominisation par l'orientation vestibulaire du crâne.
- A. Delmas: Apparition du langage.
- J. Wind: Langage articulé chez les Néandertaliens?
- O. Necrasov: Les tendances évolutives chez l'Homme actuel.
- R. Riquet: Ecologie humaine et évolution.
- A. Wiercinski: The recent evolution in Poland.
- M. C. Chamla: Modifications récentes cranio-faciales et dentaires en Afrique du Nord de l'Épipaléolithique à l'époque actuelle.
- B. Arensburg: The recent evolution in Israël.
- D. F. Roberts: Recent evolution in Britain and neighbouring countries.
- M. D. Garralda: L'évolution récente dans le Péninsule ibérique.  
Thème 4. *Les facteurs de l'évolution et de diversité humaine. Influence du milieu. Les faits. Les limites*
- J. Hiernaux: L'influence du milieu humain sur l'évolution des génomes collectifs.
- Z. Gavrilović: Influence du milieu social sur la stature et l'apparition des premières règles.
- A. Ducros: Biosociologie et évolution.
- G. Larrouy: Influence de l'altitude. Aspects hémotypologiques, cytologiques et enzymatiques particuliers. Leur rapport avec certaines données physiologiques.
- P. Moeschler: Influence du climat.
- M. T. de Lestrangé: Similitude et divergences chez trois populations du Sénégal oriental: rôle possible de l'alimentation et du rythme de travail au cours du cycle annuel.
- P. Marquer: Endogamie, exogamie et microévolution.
- B. Billy: Migration et évolution chez quelques populations actuelles.
- J. Dastugue: Pathologie et évolution.  
Thème 5. *Les facteurs génétiques. Remaniements chromosomiques et géniques*
- J. de Grouchy: Les facteurs génétiques de l'évolution humaine.
- I. Lengyel: Serological examination of some Archanthropus finds.
- M. Goodman: Amino acid sequences of the Primates. Their contribution to understanding human evolution.
- J. Ruffie: Groupes sanguins et évolution humaine.
- R. Marty: Conception moléculaire de l'évolution (évolution moléculaire des hémoglobines et des cytochromes).
- B. Chiarelli: Evolution des chromosomes et origine du caryotype humain.
- B. Dutrillaux: Phylogénie chromosomique des Primates: les Hominidés sont issus, par évolution populationnelle, de Pongidés ancestraux.
- M. O. Rethore: Les effets des dosages géniques.
- P. Darlu: Variations physiologiques et évolution génétique.
- Ch. Suzanne: Caractères anthropologiques: effets des facteurs héréditaires et mésologiques.
- A. Thoma: Trois aspects de l'hominisation.

L'organisation excellente et les possibilités suffisantes pour la discussion sur les différents thèmes ont contribué sans conteste au niveau élevé de ce colloque.

Les exposés seront publiés dans un recueil spécial.

J. J.

During the first months of 1979 I was delegated by the National Museum in Prague to carry out anthropological studies of different series or specimens of Ancient Egyptian human remains of three recently investigated Egyptian localities.

At *Saqqara* anthropological material excavated by the Egypt Exploration Society was studied on the invitation of the same Society. In the Memphite tomb of Haremheb, investigated by G. T. Martin, scattered fragmentary remains of the original burial of Queen Mutnodjemet were found in the innermost pillared hall N of Shaft IV. They were found to be the remains of a female of 35–40 years of age and revealed several peculiar features in the morphology of the cranium, a low stature and a very gracile skeleton with feeble development of the muscles. The conspicuous thickening of the cranial vault and the premature loss of the dentition documented important pathological changes. The pubic bone showed signs of previous difficult births. The Queen obviously died as the result of the last birth, because together with her bones remains of the skeleton of a ripe, 47.4 cm long foetus were found. Two other unknown persons, an adult male and female, were found in room G of the same shaft. In the rooms following Shaft I of Haremheb's tomb altogether 18 persons, specifically 6 males, 8 females, 2 children and 2 newly-born infants, most probably members of the family of Ramesse II, were discerned. Three chapels and a subterranean system connected with Shafts II and III were used as an ossuary for secondary burials during the Late Period up to the beginning of the Ptolemaic Period. Their bones were scattered and it was mostly impossible to reconstruct individuals. The anatomical method of study of each separate bone was therefore used which enabled the total number of buried persons to be assessed as 210, 31% of which were non-adults and 69% adults (60% males and 40% females). As regards paleopathology, traumatic and degenerative changes and dental diseases were of the greatest significance.

The Coptic cemetery of the 5th–6th cent. A.D., located in the area of the Sacred Animal Necropolis and excavated by H. S. Smith, G. T. Martin and D. G. Jeffreys, yielded remains of 159 persons. The demographic composition of the series was quite peculiar, consisting exclusively of adults from 17–48 year of age with the exception of 3 small children. Among the adults, males (82.1%) greatly predominated over females (17.9%). After analysing this finding, it could be concluded that the cemetery belonged to the nearby monastic settlement which had two chronological phases, the first and longer of which was reserved for monks the second and shorter for nuns. From the paleopathological aspect it was interesting to find that 9.4% of the males had traces of cuts and stabs on the skull and typical parry fractures on the upper extremity bones. Three individuals bore evidence of partial mummification.

In the tomb of Mereri, investigated by W. V. Davies, the remains of 3 adult individuals were determined (2 females and 1 male).

New human remains were found during recent investigations of the brick pyramid of Amenemhet III at *Dahshour* by D. Arnold of the German Archaeological Institute, Cairo branch. Most notable among them are the well-preserved skeletons of a Queen of 22–25 years of age found in burial chamber 7.2 and of another Queen of 30–35 years of age discovered in burial chamber 40.2. The scattered bones of three other secondarily moved adult individuals were found both inside and outside the pyramid.

The very important anthropological material from the Hyksos *Tell ed-Dabba* site, investigated by M. Bietak of the Austrian Archaeological Institute, Cairo division, comprised the newly discovered remains of 21 persons. Only basic demographic data could be determined due to the fragmentary or distorted nature of the bones.

Following the field-work, I lectured at a condensed semestral course on the fundamentals of physical anthropology and paleopathology in relation to Egypt on the invitation of Professor E. Sharaf, Head of the Department of Anatomy of Alexandria University.

Dr. Eugen Strouhal, CSc.