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Adaptive radiation of monograptids after the Late Wenlock crisis

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Succession of late Wenlock graptolites in the Kursala Formation, Tien Shan (Kirghizia), documents of the early recovery phase after the global *C. lundgreni* Event. *Pristiographs dubius* was the only survivor among monograptids. After displaying a mass occurrence and an increased variation, the *P. dubius* stem lineage splits into two main trends: line A, represented by *Pristiograptus idoneus* and line B, represented by *Colonograptus*? *praedeubeli*. The former leads to *Lobograptus*? *sherradae* , a generalized forerunner of such diverse trends as linograptids, cucullograptids and possibly also neocucullograptids (via *Bohemograptus*). The latter initiates the *Colonograptus-Saetograptus* line. The *P. idoneus* - *L.*? *sherrardae* lineage shows distinct gracilization, an apomorphic feature, while the other one preserves ancestral robustness, a plesiomorphic character. Hence, the bulk of the later monograptids of Gorstian and Ludfordian age may be derived from ttre *P. dubius* stem lineage. In respect of this consewative lineage a non-cladistic approach is prefered, because its morphological spectmm and evolutionary potential, and as we believe its specific identity, were preserved, in spite of numerous speciation events, until the early Pridoli.

Key words: global bioevents, *C. Lundgreni* Event, graptolites, monograptids, adaptive radiation.

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