

## A new Miocene sirenian from Kutch, India

J.G.M. Thewissen and Sunil Bajpai *Acta Palaeontologica Polonica* 54 (1), 2009: 7-13 doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.4202/app.2009.0102

We report a new Miocene sirenian from District Kutch, State of Gujarat, India: *Domingia sodhae* gen. et sp. nov. The new species is a dugongine dugongid with flattened tusk–like upper incisors. Like some other Miocene dugongids, *Domningia* is large and has complex, bilophodont molars and three–rooted premolars, which are strongly worn. The rostrum is downturned significantly, similar to modern dugongs, and indicative of a specialized feeding mode. Phylogenetically, it is closely related to *Dioplotherium*, *Rytiodus*, *Corystosiren*, and *Bharatisiren*. Among these, *Domningia* is most similar to *Bharatisiren indica* and *Dioplotherium manigaulti*, in that all three taxa retain multi–rooted premolars. Similar to *Bharatisiren*, the nasal process of the premaxilla is long. *Bharatisiren* and *Domningia* are part of a late Oligocene and early Miocene radiation of dugongines in South Asia.

Key words: Mammalia, Sirenia, Miocene, India.

J.G.M. Thewissen [thewisse@neoucom.edu], Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine, 4209 State Route 44, P.O. Box 95 Rootstown, Ohio 44272, USA; Sunil Bajpai [sunifes@iitr.ernet.in], Department of Earth Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, 247 667 Uttarakhand, India.

This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (for details please see <u>creativecommons.org</u>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.