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DATING THE FOSSIL RECORD OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN CERCOPITHECIDAE. E. DELSON. *American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY 10024 USA and Lehman College, CUNY.*

Fossil cercopithecids were first reported from southern Africa in 1920. To date, at least 16 site units in South Africa have produced several thousand specimens, but Leba is still the only locality in Angola to have yielded primate fossils. As part of a long-term project on African Plio-Pleistocene Cercopithecidae, I recently reported the distribution of fossil monkeys in over 60 site units and presented a preliminary chronological framework for the mainly South African undated assemblages, based on a cercopithecoid biochronology of seven AC (African Cercopithecoid) zones, calibrated by radiometric and magnetostratigraphic data from superposed sequences of site units such as at Omo, Hadar, Olduvai, Koobi Fora and Makapansgat. Those results (Cour. Forsch. Inst. Senckenberg, 69: 199-218, 1984) may be modified slightly on the basis of new dates for the middle Omo sequence and correlations to Hadar and Koobi Fora as reported by BROWN and colleagues. I interpret the Makapan paleomagnetic results to indicate a date for the fossiliferous Member 3 (grey breccia) and lower Member 4 (pink) between 2.9 and 3.0 m.y. (Kaena reversed subchron). The Sterkfontein Member 4 ("Type Site") cercopithecids are broadly comparable to those from Makapan, but differ in their lack of the less derived *Theropithecus* and the presence of two species of *Papio*; they may date in the range of 2.5-2.3 m.y. ago. The presence at Leba of numerous

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Papio (Dinopithecus) sp. comparable to those from the lower Omo site units alongside *Cercopithecoides* suggests an age comparable to that of Sterkfontein Member 4. The Taung cercopithecoid assemblage includes roughly equal numbers of *Papio* and *Parapapio*, suggesting assignment to zone AC4, which in eastern Africa records a "relay" where typically Pliocene taxa coexist with more "modern" species which replace them by the succeeding zone. On this basis, the Taung monkeys (and, I argue, the type of *Australopithecus africanus*) date to between 2.3 and 2.1 m.y. Swartkrans Member 1 and Kromdraai date to about 1.9 and 1.7 m.y., respectively.

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Cercopithecids first appeared in southern Europe in the mid-Tortonian (Late Tortonian). *Mesopithecus pentelici* is known from Pikermi and Saloniki (Greece), Titov Veles (Yugoslavia) and Kalimanci, Kromodovo and Gorna Susica (Bulgaria) about 8-9 m.y.

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ago. At the same time, *Oreopithecus bambolii*, an oreopithecoid cercopithecoid, is found at Monte Bamboli and other site units in Tuscany, Italy. Although *Mesopithecus* probably reached Europe from the Near East, it is probable that *Oreopithecus*, entered the insular Tuscany region by crossing the Mediterranean over a temporary "land bridge". The persistence of forested conditions in central Europe may have led to the differentiation of the "colobine forest baboon" *Dolichopithecus* in the terminal Miocene, but this taxon becomes widespread only in the Pliocene, from Spain through Romania and southern USSR (and possibly extending into Mongolia). It is often found alongside *Mesopithecus montpressidensis*, less terrestrial than its older congener; both taxa became extinct by the late Pliocene. *Macaca* also first appears in Europe early in the Pliocene, probably entering from the east. Names have been given to numerous local variants, but almost all appear to me to be little different from the living North African *Macaca sylvanus*, to which I assign a series of loosely defined chronosubspecies. These occur at such Pliocene sites as Cova Bonica and Puebla de Valverde (Spain). For nace RDB, Mugello and the Upper Valdarno field (Italy), Sandalja (Yugoslavia) and in Holland, Hungary and France. In the Early and Middle Pleistocene, macaques occur from England and Spain through the Soviet Caucasus. Only the ?Late Pliocene Sardinian site of Capo Figari has yielded a potentially distinct species, the small *M. majori*. Finally, a large terrestrial macaque derivative, *Paradolichopithecus*, is known from the mid-Pliocene at Malutesti (Romania). Viallette (France), Cova Bonica and Puebla de Valverde (Spain) and from the latest Pliocene of Seneze (France), Grunneanu (Romania) and Kuruk (Tadzhikistan).