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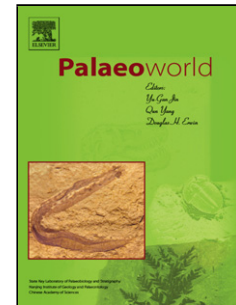
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Taxonomical revision of “*Arctonyx*” fossil remains from the Liucheng *Gigantopithecus* Cave (South China) by means of morphotype and morphometrics, and a review of Late Pliocene and Early Pleistocene *Meles* fossil records in China

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Abstract

“*Arctonyx*” fossil remains from the Liucheng *Gigantopithecus* Cave, Guangxi, are redescribed and analysed in details. Detailed tooth character differences between *Arctonyx* and *Meles* are analysed. It is shown that materials from the Liucheng *Gigantopithecus* Cave actually belong to two species of *Meles*: *Meles minor* and *Meles magnus* n. sp. At the same time, a review of Late Pliocene and Early Pleistocene *Meles* records in China is made. During Late Pliocene, *Meles* are only represented by *M. chiai* and one archaic form. During Early Pleistocene, *Meles* from northern and central part of China are represented by two nearly sympatric species *Meles chiai* and *Meles teihardi*. *Meles* from South China are represented by *M. minor* and *M. magnus* n. sp., though the distribution of the two species is still unclear. *M.*

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