

Jornadas Argentinas de Paleontología de Vertebrados

21 al 23 de mayo



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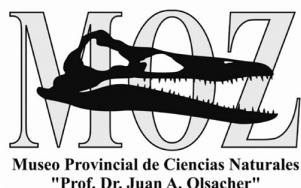
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REINTERPRETATION OF THE ROSTRAL SKULL SHAPE OF *MALAWISAURUS DIXEYI* (HAUGHTON) (SAUROPODA, TITANOSAURIA)

R. JUÁREZ VALIERI^{1,2} Y S.D. RÍOS DÍAZ^{3,4}

¹Secretaría de Cultura de la Provincia de Río Negro, 8332 General Roca, Río Negro, Argentina.

²Amautas Consultores. Mariano Moreno 1020, 8332 General Roca, Río Negro, Argentina. r.juarez@amautasconsultores.com.ar

³Dirección General de Bienes y Servicios Culturales, Secretaría Nacional de Cultura, Asunción, Paraguay. sergiord40@gmail.com

⁴Museo Nacional de Historia Natural del Paraguay, San Lorenzo, Paraguay.

Among titanosaur sauropods, only a few species are known from skull remains, with the snout and rostrum being especially poorly represented in the fossil record. Among them, cranial remains were reported for *Malawisaurus dixeyi* (Haughton) from the Early Cretaceous (Aptian) of Africa, and a structure reminiscent of basal macronarians was proposed for its rostrum. Here we reinterpret the identification of some of the cranial bones, and discuss their significance. The principal subject is the assignment of the supposed vertical jugal as an inverted structure comprising most of the jugal with the maxillary, and lacrimal process articulated with the complete lacrimal. The morphology of the jugal proposed here implies the presence of a long and thin articulation facet for the maxilla, which obligatorily has to display a long jugal process separate from the principal body, as it is present in *Rapetosaurus* and *Tapuiasaurus*, and could be considered a derived character respect to the morphology of *Nemegtosaurus*, *Giraffatitan* and other basal titanosauriforms. The lacrimal presents a foramen as in other titanosaurs, and a dorsoanterior projection for the articulation with the maxilla, which is strongly developed as in *Rapetosaurus* and *Bonitasaura*. The lacrimal is constricted in the point of contact with the jugal, a character only present in *Rapetosaurus*. The resulting skull shape represents a clearly difference from the original reconstruction of the *Malawisaurus* skull, with an extensive anteroposterior maxillojugal articulation developing a long snouted rostrum, suggesting a derived morphology similar to other gondwanan titanosaurs.

PEIROSAURID (CROCODILYFORMES) REMAINS FROM THE PORTEZUELO FORMATION (TURONIAN–CONIACIAN) AT AÑELO LOCALITY, NEUQUÉN

G. LIO¹, R. JUAREZ VALIERI^{2,3}, L. FILIPPI⁴, F.L. AGNOLÍN^{1,5} AND D. ROSALES⁶

¹Laboratorio de Anatomía Comparada y Evolución de los Vertebrados, Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales “Bernardino Rivadavia”, Av. Ángel Gallardo 470, 1405 Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina. alioramus@hotmail.com

²Secretaría de Cultura de la Provincia de Río Negro, 8332 General Roca, Río Negro, Argentina.

³Amautas Consultores. Mariano Moreno 1020, 8332 General Roca, Río Negro, Argentina. r.juarez@amautasconsultores.com.ar

⁴Museo Municipal Argentino Urquiza. Jujuy y Chaco s/n, 8319 Rincón de los Sauces, Neuquén, Argentina. lsfilippi@gmail.com

⁵Fundación de Historia Natural “Félix de Azara”, Universidad Maimónides, Hidalgo 775, 1405 Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina. fedeagnolin@yahoo.com.ar

⁶Dirección de Cultura, Municipio de Añelo.

The clade Peirosauridae is mainly a Gondwanan group composed by mid to large sized terrestrial crocodyliforms. The peirosaurid here reported comes from the upper levels of the Portezuelo Formation (Turonian–Coniacian, Upper Cretaceous) at Añelo fossiliferous locality, Neuquén Province, Argentina. This specimen consists of an incomplete skeleton composed of a left dentary and splenial, right maxilla, right jugal, a dorsal vertebra, a dorsal osteoderm, and right humerus. Its referral to Peirosauridae is sustained by: posterior maxillary teeth low and globular, with a clear neck and serrated carinae, maxillary and dentary ornamentation composed of pits and ridges, and the presence of amphicoelous vertebral centra with large hypapophyses. The new specimen is related to *Gasparinisuchus* in having mandibular symphysis extending posteriorly to the level of eight teeth and with a large participation of the spleniials. Anyhow some differences may be observed: in the new specimen the maxillary teeth are not separated in discrete alveoli, the dentary symphysis is very elongate and compressed and surpasses the level of the ninth tooth, the fourth dentary tooth is caniniform, very large, acute and transversely compressed (much larger than other peirosaurids), and the anterior dentary teeth exhibit less globular, and sharp serrated crowns. This suggests that the specimen here reported had greater heterodont dentition when compared with remaining taxa. With this addition, we elevate to four the number of Patagonian peirosaurids, increasing the diversity for the clade in this landmass. Moreover, it represents the only peirosaurid described for the Portezuelo Formation.

ANÁLISIS MORFOLÓGICO DEL CAPARAZÓN A TRAVÉS DE MORFOMETRÍA GEOMÉTRICA EN TORTUGAS DE LA FAMILIA CHELIIDAE CON INFERENCIAS SOBRE SU HISTORIA EVOLUTIVA

I.J. MANIEL^{1,2} Y M.I. STEFANINI³

¹CONICET, Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas, Argentina.

²Fundación de Historia Natural Félix de Azara, CEBBAD, Universidad Maimónides. Hidalgo 775, 7º piso, 1405 Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina.

³Laboratorio de Paleontología Evolutiva de Vertebrados, Departamento de Ciencias Geológicas, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Ciudad Universitaria, 1428 Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina.