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The Khok Sung sand pit has yielded abundant and diverse Pleistocene fossils including large mammals and other vertebrates with excellent preservation. We mainly describe mammalian fossils from this locality. The Khok Sung mammalian fauna consists of several modern species present today in mainland Southeast Asia, some extirpated species (*Crocuta crocuta ultima*, *Rhinoceros unicornis*, *Sus barbatus* and *Axis axis*), and an extinct proboscidean (*Stegodon* cf. *orientalis*). The Khok Sung mammalian assemblage includes similar species to those of other late Middle to early Late Pleistocene sites in Southeast Asia, especially Thum Wiman Nakin from northern Thailand, suggesting the age of late Middle Pleistocene. However, a younger paleomagnetic age of about 120 ka ("Blake") remains possible. With regards to the faunal comparisons and the geographical location of northeastern Thailand, Khok Sung constitutes a witness of the faunal exchanges from South China to Java via the Sino-Malayan migration route.

# THE MIDDLE PLEISTOCENE VERTEBRATE FAUNA FROM KHOK SUNG (NAKHON RATCHASIMA, THAILAND): BIOCHRONOLOGICAL AND PALEOBIOGEOGRAPHICAL IMPLICATIONS

BY KANTAPON SURAPRASIT, JEAN-JACQUES JAEGER, YAOWALAK CHAIMANEE, OLIVIER CHAVASSEAU, CHOTIMA YAMEE, PANNIPA TIAN, SOMSAK PANHA



A cranium of Axis axis (Erxleben, 1777)

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