

FOSSIL MAMMALS OF ASIA

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NEOGENE BIOSTRATIGRAPHY
AND CHRONOLOGY

Edited by Xiaoming Wang, Lawrence J. Flynn, and Mikael Fortelius



Columbia University Press *New York*

Supported by the Special Researches Program of Basic Science and Technology
(grant no. 2006FY120400), Ministry of Science and Technology, People's Republic of China.

Columbia University Press
Publishers Since 1893
New York Chichester, West Sussex
cup.columbia.edu

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
Fossil mammals of Asia : Neogene biostratigraphy and chronology / edited by Xiaoming Wang,
Lawrence J. Flynn, and Mikael Fortelius.
p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

Summary: "This book is on the emergence of mammals in Asia, based largely on new fossil
finds throughout Asia and cutting-edge biostratigraphic and geochemical methods of dating
the fossils and their geological substrate"—Provided by publisher.

ISBN 978-0-231-15012-5 (cloth : alk. paper)

1. Mammals, Fossil—Asia. 2. Paleontology—Neogene. 3. Paleontology—Asia.
4. Geology, Stratigraphic—Neogene. 5. Geology, Stratigraphic—Asia. I. Wang,
Xiaoming, 1957– II. Flynn, Lawrence J. (Lawrence John), 1952–

III. Fortelius, Mikael, 1954–

QE881.F66 2012

569.095—dc23

2012008531



Columbia University Press books are printed on permanent and durable acid-free paper.

This book is printed on paper with recycled content.

Printed in the United States of America

COVER IMAGE: About 15 Ma, in the early Middle Miocene of Central Asia, an agitated *Kubanochoerus*, with characteristically high facial horns, charges up a trail in a riparian habitat. The *Kubanochoerus* was a large, long-legged member of the pig family (Suidae), with individuals of some species exceeding 500 kg. It is charging past the fossorial rodent *Tachyoryctoides*, a fully subterranean extinct muroid unrelated to modern burrowing rodents. *Tachyoryctoides* was larger than the living Asiatic zokor, a mole rat of body mass typically 200 g or more. Both mammals are iconic for a large part of Asia, from Mongolia and China, eastward to the Aral Sea. They overlap in time, although *Kubanochoerus* characterizes Middle Miocene Tunggurian-age faunas, while *Tachyoryctoides* is commonly found in Oligocene and Early Miocene assemblages. (Illustration by Mauricio Antón)

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nor Columbia University Press is responsible for URLs that may have expired
or changed since the manuscript was prepared.

To Richard H. Tedford

1929–2011

We dedicate this book to Richard H. Tedford for the perceptive advancements that he stimulated in the field of evolutionary biology, as represented by the vertebrate fossil record of Asia. Dick's many passions included field documentation of Asian mammalian biostratigraphy, and he set a high standard for all to follow in championing multidisciplinary, international collaborations. His work inspires future generations of researchers.

