

low religious fundamentalists to block the conversion of knowledge about evolution into evolutionary belief. In addition, they raise a larger cultural question about the predictors of evolution acceptance in countries where evolution is more accepted. Is education level the only predictor or do factors such political conservatism and personality differences play the role that religious fundamentalism plays in the U.S.?

**Key words:** *acceptance of evolution, religion, education*

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### **MICROSTONYX FROM THE UPPER MIOCENE OF HAYRANLI-HALIMINHANI, TURKEY**

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Microstonyx major refers to the Suid remains retrieved from two different localities that date back to the Late Miocene period, Derindere Member of the Incesu Formation in the Hayranlı-Haliminhani area (Sivas, Turkey). These localities have the potential of yielding hominoid fossils. Microstonyx teeth display some changes in incisor morphology, which are interpreted as a further adaptation to rooting. These changes occurred during a short period of time most probably between 8.7 and 8.121 Ma ago and it could be related to environmental change. It seems that the partially open shrubland and savannah grasslands during the early or/and the Middle Turolian period (MN 11-12) has created a rich faunal diversity exaggeration in the Hayranlı-Haliminhani area. These findings are discussed within the regional context and how it contributes to our knowledge of fossil mammals in Anatolia.

**Key words:** *Suidae, Microstonyx, ecology, Late Miocene*

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### **THE EXACT DAY AND TIME OF PETRALONA SKULL DISCOVERY**

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In the present-day bibliographical data the 16<sup>th</sup> of September 1960 is indicated as the discovery day for the famous Petralona human skull. The first of the authors is a son of the late Ioannis Malkotsis (BSc Agronomy) who was one of the six persons present during the very moment of the skull's discovery inside a small chamber towards the, until then known, end of Petralona cave. I. Malkotsis was also a person who took the first photos, mainly due to whom the discovery status of Petralona skull is world wide known among anthropologists, as well as other scientists and/or ordinary people. On the opposite side of the photo, by Malkotsis' hand, instead of the 16<sup>th</sup>, the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 1960 is written. Discussing this matter we concluded that the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 1960 is the correct day of Petralona human skull discovery. On the other hand, according also to the shadows observed on the other two photos, as well as according to a recent oral communication of Dr. Aris Poulianos (a father of the second author), the discovery time of about 10-11 p.m. is the most probable. The above evidence approaches with more accuracy the exact day and time of Petralona skull discovery, reconfirming once more the very point where it was found within the Petralona cave underground surroundings.

**Key words:** *Petralona skull, discovery day, Khalkidhiki, Central Macedonia, Greece*

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