Monday Morning

RMRC, Bhubaneswar

(Laxmi Narayan Memorial Library)

Weekly Current Awareness Service

Vol.2 # 6 **6th February** **2017**

TO READ A BOOK FOR THE FIRST TIME IS TO MAKE AN ACQUAINTANCE WITH A NEW FRIEND; TO READ IT FOR A SECOND TIME IS TO MEET AN OLD ONE.

— ANONYMOUS, CHINESE SAYING

About Monday Morning

Monday morning is a weekly E- CAS (Electronic Current Awareness Service) of RMRC Library, Bhubaneswar which carries one Biomedical & health science news item and some useful current medical research links so that the scientists can access the articles. This E- Bulletin starts its journey from 21st Nov. 2016. In this maiden attempt we cordially invite your inputs and suggestions to improve in future.

Dr. Banamber Sahoo, Lib & Inf. Officer
Satyajit Nayak & Twinkle Rout (Lib. Trainee)

YOU DON'T SAY!

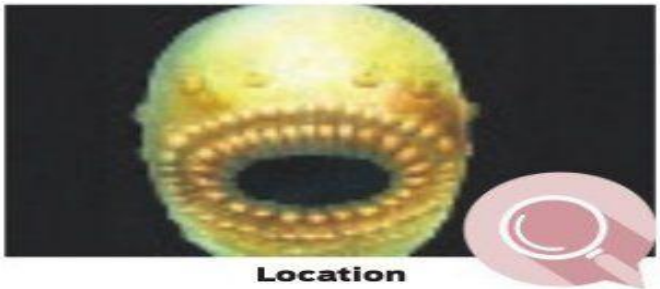
Oldest known human ancestor had no anus

According to study, Saccorhytus is the earliest step yet discovered on the evolutionary path that led to humans

LONDON: A microscopic, bag-like sea creature with a large mouth and no anus, which lived about 540 million years ago, could be our earliest known ancestor, say researchers. Named Saccorhytus, after the sack-like features created by its elliptical body and large mouth, the species is new to science and was identified from microfossils found in China.

According to a study, published in the journal *Nature*, Saccorhytus was the common ancestor of a huge range of species, and the earliest step yet discovered on the evolutionary path that eventually led to humans, hundreds of millions of years later. Saccorhytus was about a millimetre in size, and probably lived between grains of sand on the seabed. It is thought to be the most primitive example of a so-called "deuterostome" – a broad biological category that encompasses a number of sub-groups, including the vertebrates.

"We think that as an early deuterostome, this may represent the primitive beginnings of a very diverse range of species, including ourselves," said one of the researchers Simon Conway Morris, Professor of Evolutionary Palaeobiology at University of Cambridge. "To the naked eye, the fossils we studied look like tiny black grains, but under the microscope the level of detail is jaw-dropping. All deuterostomes had a common ancestor, and we think that is what we are looking at here," Conway Morris added.



Location

The Saccorhytus microfossils were found in Shaanxi Province, in central China, and pre-date all other known deuterostomes.

Most other early deuterostome groups are from about 510 to 520 million years ago, when they had already begun to diversify into not just the vertebrates, but the sea squirts, echinoderms (animals such as starfish and sea urchins) and hemichordates (a group including things like acorn worms).

http://epaper.newindianexpress.com/c/16581288

1. **Americans say 'yes' to vaccines; Europeans, to marches: The *Science* Insider briefing.**
   As scientists—and science supporters—prepare to march in the United States, Europe, and beyond, it's easy to forget that not everyone is on board. Some point to the dangers of further politicizing science, and some (including many of our astute readers) say it's far too early to weigh in on the science-related policies of the new U.S. administration. But the key word there is "science-related." Science touches politics in a host of areas, from funding for health care research to policies that limit—or enhance—international cooperation. Is there a story you think we're missing? Contact us at the bottom of this briefing to let us know! For more details click on the below link.
   http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2017/02/americans-say-yes-vaccines-europeans-marches-scienceinsider-briefing
2. **Gene drives thwarted by emergence of resistant organisms.**
   In the small city of Terni in central Italy, researchers are putting the final touches on what could be the world's most sophisticated mosquito cages. The enclosures, each occupying 150 cubic metres, simulate the muggy habitats in which Africa's Anopheles gambiae mosquitoes thrive. By studying the insects under more-natural conditions, scientists hope to better understand how to eradicate them — and malaria — using an emerging genetic-engineering technology called gene drives. For more details click on the below link.
   http://www.nature.com/news/gene-drives-thwarted-by-emergence-of-resistant-organisms-1.21397
3. **Changing paradigm of biochemical sciences: molecular networks in health and disease.**
   The 23rd meeting of TRendys in Biochemistry was held recently. TRendys is a national forum to discuss frontier areas and concepts in biochemistry. The meeting was inaugurated by S. K. Srivastava (North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), Shillong) who also presented the TRendys Oration Award to Hemanta K. Majumder (CSIR-Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Kolkata). Ramesh Sharma (NEHU) gave the welcome address. A. K. Kondapi (University of Hyderabad) briefed the audience on how this national meeting was first initiated by T. Ramasarma (IISc, Bengaluru) to enable students to interact with scientists on novel discoveries and breakthroughs in the subject. Ramasarma recounted how he was invited by CSIR to join a programme to motivate young scientists. The inaugural programme concluded with the vote of thanks by A. K. Singh (NEHU). For more details click on the below link.
   http://www.currentscience.ac.in/Volumes/112/02/0219.pdf
4. **WHO Weekly epidemiological record.**
   Early warning, alert and response system in emergencies: a field experience of a novel WHO project in north-east Nigeria. For more details click on the below link.
   https://extranet.who.int/iris/restricted/bitstream/10665/254503/1/WER9205.pdf

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