

## Upper Pleistocene Child's Skeleton from Hungsu Cave (Turubong Cave Complex), Ch'ongwon, Korea

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In 1982 a child's skeleton designated by the name "Hungsu Cave Child No. 1" was discovered *in situ* by the effect of excavation team of Chungbuk National University Museum. This individual was found in the Upper Pleistocene deposit of Turubong limestone cave complex, Ch'ongwon, South Korea.

The characteristic features of the Hungsu child's skeleton are described and compared with other hominid materials by metrical/nonmetrical methods. Some important craniometric points (e.g. *Nasion* and *Basion*) and some missing parts of the skull were reconstructed. Observations of the dental eruption and calcification pattern combined with roentgenographic analysis revealed that this child could be assigned an age of 5 (Range: 4-6 years) years. Estimated cranial capacity ranged from 1,260cc to 1,300cc. The estimated stature ranges 110-120cm.

Measurements taken from the estimated *Basion* and *Nasion* can be questioned. If those slight evidences of dissimilarity are ignored, the comparison of the Hungsu child's cranium with the normal range of the growth of LMA\* sample show that they are similar in many respects. The Hungsu individual is only differentiated by the superiority in size of skull, cranial length and height, and most significantly, its greater parietal arc. Robustness of the corpus of the mandible and massive condylar process are also striking characteristics. These features are regarded as primitive.

When the parietal arc of the Hungsu skull is compared with that of the La Quina neanderthal child and that of the Yokpo child, the Hungsu one is significantly longer than the latter, and its arc is almost the same as that of Mandal adult skull. Many primitive features of the mandible are frequently observed in those of *Homo erectus* children in Zhoukoudian, China.

The maximum lengths of long bones (e.g. femur and tibia) are related to those of a 3.5 year old child sample. Some retardation in the growth of long bones is suggested.

Summing up all characteristics, Hungsu child can, currently be classified as "an anatomically modern man or an anatomically *Homo sapiens*" that might have been derived from the African origin stock.

\* LMA: Lowe Museum of Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley