

Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography of the Siberian Branch of
the Russian Academy of Sciences



International Symposium

«The Origins of the Upper Paleolithic in Eurasia
and the evolution of the genus Homo»

Denisova Cave, Altai, Russia
July 2–8, 2018

**The Federal State Budgetary Institution of Science
The Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography
Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences**



**International Symposium
«The Origins of the Upper Paleolithic in Eurasia
and the evolution of the genus Homo»
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Currently, the most informative Paleolithic complexes characterizing the prehistory of North and Central Asia are being investigated in the Russian Altai. A comprehensive study of stratified sites associated with the Altai Paleolithic has revealed the ongoing development of Paleolithic traditions that appears to have continued for at least 280 kyr, as well as the autochthonous origin of the Upper Paleolithic culture based on the local Middle Paleolithic that occurred about 50 kya, implying not only cultural, but also genetic continuity in the early population of the area.

This region has become particularly important following the discovery of anthropological finds in Denisova Cave. Paleogenetic analysis of bone samples showed that they belonged to previously unknown fossil man – the Denisovan – named after the site where the anthropological remains were found. The Denisova population is thought to have coexisted in the Altai with the easternmost group of Neanderthals determined by anthropological and paleogenetic analyses of fossil remains found in Denisova, Okladnikov and Chagyrskaya Caves, i.e. at least two different groups of early humans, Neanderthals and their closest relatives, the Denisovans, inhabited the Altai region at a time when anatomically modern humans came out of Africa and settled in Eurasia.

In early July 2018, an international symposium focusing on archaeological, paleontological and anthropological issues in studying the Eurasian Paleolithic is scheduled to be held in the Altai.

You are welcome to participate in the International Symposium “The Origins of the Upper Paleolithic in Eurasia and the evolution of the genus Homo”. The event will take place on July 2–8, 2018 at the archaeological research station “Denisova Cave”.

It is envisaged that the Symposium will focus on the following issues:

- periodization of the Eurasian Paleolithic;
- early Eurasian prehistory;
- Middle-to-Upper Paleolithic transition in Eurasia;
- development of cultural traditions in the early Eurasian Upper Paleolithic;
- paleogenetic history of early humans in Eurasia;

– anthropological appearance of the Paleolithic population in Eurasia.

Symposium organizers will cover expenses for traveling from Novosibirsk to Denisova Cave, accommodation and food at the campsite, as well as for the field tours.

Symposium languages: Russian, English.

Symposium Organizing Committee, The Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography SB RAS, Pr. Akademika Lavrentieva 17, Novosibirsk, 630090, Russia.

Chairmen of the Organizing Committee:

Academician A.P. Derevianko (Russia).

Deputy Chairmen of the Organizing Committee: Prof. M.V. Shunkov (Russia).

Organizing Committee Members: Academician A.P. Buzhilova (Russia), Prof. S. Pääbo (Germany), Prof. N. Conard (Germany), Prof. N. Goren-Inbar (Israel), Prof. T. Higham (UK), Prof. J. Jaubert (France), Prof. M. Petraglia (Germany), Prof. Xing Gao (China), Prof. Kidong Bae (Korea).