

Studia breviora

Kozurella gen. n. (Conodonta) from the Olenekian (Early Triassic)

The new genus described characterizes *Gondolella*-type conodonts, occurring in the Olenekian Stage (considered also as Smithian and Spathian Stages) of the Lower Triassic.

Genus *Kozurella* gen. n.

Type species: *Neogondolella buurensis* Dagis, 1984 (Holotype pl. IX, figs. 1, 2)

Derivatio nominis: in honour of Heinz Kozur, D. Sc. (Budapest), one of the outstanding students of the Triassic conodonts.

Diagnosis. They build a classical *Gondolella*-type apparatus without modifications. The platform element consists of well-developed often big typical platform, and a typical carina situated along its length. The platform is broad and rough, with thick rounded edges but can be also irregularly elliptically elongated or regularly elliptical and short. Deep grooves are formed between the thick platform edges in case of a big platform. In narrower platforms, the edges are directed more or less parallel to the blade, and the conodont section has an open-V shape. The carina is very high or high in the anterior third but is gradually or abruptly lowering itself towards the posterior end. The denticles are rough, free down to their base, and inclined backwards in most of the species. In their posterior part they are fused together in the adult specimens. The last but one (or the last one) denticle is usually broader and free. When the carina is composed of thinner denticles they are fused together in their basal parts, and are free from the midst to the last one third of their height. The aboral side is almost plane in species with broad platform. In species with narrower platforms, the aboral side is convex due to elevation of the platform edges. The basal structures (the exit of the layer-parallel growth lamellae which were related to the basis of the holoconodont) are observed as a narrow and moderately convex basal field ending with a small loop. The basal pit is situated subterminally in the basal field. Its external edges are slightly protruding. The platform edges are ornamented by a honeycomb sculpture.

Remarks. The morphology of the species, and most of all, the development of a *Gondolella*-type platform and of specific carina (closer to that of the genus *Kashmirella* Budurov, Sudar & Gupta, 1988—to genus *Pseudogondolella* Kozur, 1989, the latter being its junior subjective synonym) are typical of the genus. Another important feature is the construction of a classical *Gondolella*-type apparatus. Some of these morphological features of the platform elements have been observed (although in a different manner) by Kozur (1989) but without recognizing the new genus. Direct relations and affinities proving the genus origin have not been observed. It can be supposed that *Kozurella* gen. n. derived from a neospathodiform ancestor common with the genus *Kashmirella* Budurov, Sudar & Gupta, 1988. The similarity (due to homoeomorphy) between carina of *Kashmirella nepalensis* (Kozur & Mostler, 1976) and *Kozurella buurensis* (Dagis, 1984) hints to the same origin. No relations to the platform genus *Clarkina* Kozur, 1989, have been observed, the last genus having a specific morphology and occurrence in the Indian Stage. Most probably, the genus *Scythogondolella* Kozur, 1989 from the upper parts of the Lower Olenekian Substage derived from *Kozurella* gen. n. Relations to the typical for the Middle and Upper Triassic genus *Paragondolella* Mosher, 1968, cannot be admitted. As already known, the earliest representative of the genus *Paragondolella* Mosher, 1968 — *P. regale* (Mosher, 1970) derived from the genus *Kashmirella* Budurov, Sudar & Gupta, 1988 and most probably, from *K. timorensis* (Nogami, 1968).

Volume. *Kozurella buurensis* (Dagis, 1984), *K. taymirensis* (Dagis, 1984), *K. shevyrevi* (Kozur & Mostler, 1976), *K. elongata* (Sweet, 1970), *K. jubata* (Sweet, 1970).

Occurrence. The Olenekian Stage of the Lower Triassic.

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