

## Additions to the Selachian fauna of the Russian Cretaceous. 2. A new species of *Paracorax* Cappetta, 1977 (Chondrichthyes: Anacoracidae)

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*Paracorax unilateralis* sp. n. from the Upper Santonian deposits near Kikino village in Penza Prov., Russia is described. It is characterized by the low tooth-crown without serration on the mesial side.

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This paper continues the series of publications on the extinct elasmobranchians (mostly sharks) from the Cretaceous of Russia. The material is deposited in the Paleichthyological Collection of the Zoological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, St.Petersburg.

### *Paracorax unilateralis* sp. n.

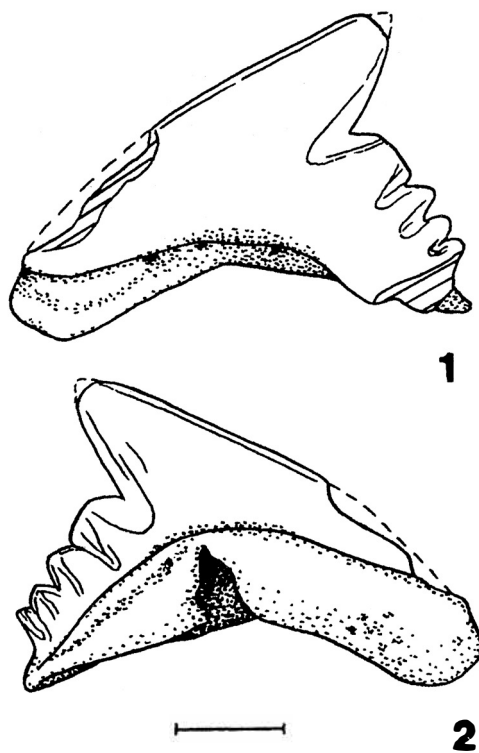
(Figs 1, 2)

*Corax* aff. *jaekeli* Woodward: Dalinkevičius, 1935: 265, pl. 3, fig. 68.

*Holotype*. ZIN PC 2/11, lower(?) lateral tooth, Russia, Penza Prov., Kikino; Cretaceous, Upper Santonian (layer 10).

*Description*. The teeth have a triangular, broad crown, the main cusp of which is bent towards the rear. The labial face of the crown has a concave profile and overhangs the root. There is no crown neck on the lingual side. The distal cutting edge (the heel) bears four strong serrations which decrease in size toward the edge of the tooth. The main cusp is relatively long and well separated from the remainder of the crown. The root is low and arcuate, its labial face is strongly reduced, its lingual (basal) face bears a large median groove.

*Dimensions*. Length of the tooth 3.9 mm, height of the tooth 2.5 mm.



Figs 1, 2. *Paracorax unilateralis* sp. n. holotype, lower(?) lateral tooth: 1, labial view; 2, lingual view. Scale bar: 1 mm.

**Distribution.** Russian Platform Sea, Upper Santonian – Campanian.

**Comparison.** From the only previously described species of the genus, *P. jaekeli* (Woodward, 1895) from the Santonian and Campanian of England and Maastrichtian of the Netherlands (Cappetta, 1977, 1987), the new species differs in the relatively low crown, lack of serrations on the mesial side of the crown, stronger main cusp, lack of the crown neck, and smaller size.

*Corax* aff. *jaekeli* from the Campanian of Lithuania (Dalinkevičius, 1935, pl. 3, fig. 68) is very close to the species described here in the lack of serrations on the mesial side of the crown, relatively strong main cusp and small size. Apparently this specimen belongs to *P. unilateralis* sp. n.

The new species is similar in appearance to *Galeorhinus girardoti* Herman, 1977 from the Campanian – Maastrichtian of Belgium and Germany (Herman, 1977, pl. 12, fig. 7), but differs in the more arcuate root, lack of striations on the labial crown side, and relatively shorter lateral teeth.

**Remarks.** The holotype of the new species is close to the tooth attributed to “*Corax jaekeli*” from the Lower Campanian of Tyk-Butak, Kazakhstan (Glickman, 1980, pl. 31, fig. 19) in the reduction of serrations on the mesial side. It differs from the tooth from Kazakhstan in the stronger main cusp, convex mesial edge of the crown and much smaller size.

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