

A new soft-shelled trionychid turtle of the genus *Khunnuchelys* from the Upper Cretaceous Bostobe Formation of Kazakhstan

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Acta Palaeontologica Polonica 60 (1), 2015: 155-161 doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4202/app.2013.0045>

Previously unpublished trionychid turtle material from the Upper Cretaceous (Santonian–lower Campanian) Bostobe Formation from the Baybishe and Baykhozha localities in Kazakhstan is described. The material represents a new species of *Khunnuchelys*, a large, skull-based clade of Cretaceous Asian trionychids. Concordant with other partial skulls and fragmentary specimens described previously, *Khunnuchelys lophorhodon* sp. nov. has the unusual features of a beaklike maxilla and a vaulted, expanded triturating surface. In addition, the specimens reveal novel features including a constricted skull roof. Although estimates of the length of the carapace differ depending on estimation method, the skull belonged to a turtle of comparable size to the shell-based species “*Trionyx*” *kansaiensis* from the same formation. It is likely that *K. lophorhodon* and “*T.*” *kansaiensis* are synonymous, but this can be proved only by a find of associated skull and shell material.

Key words: Testudines, Trionychidae, Trionychia, *Khunnuchelys lophorhodon*, Cretaceous, Kazakhstan.

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