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QUATERNARY REMAINS OF BOVIDAE GRAY, 1821 FROM CAVE EMINE BAIR KHOSAR (CRIMEA)

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The Emine-Bair-Khosar is a mega-trap cave containing sediments with rich assemblages of Late Pleistocene fauna. It is located on the Chatyrdag Plateau in the Crimean Peninsula. For the first time, the cave was explored in 1908 by Alexander Kruber, but paleontological research began only in 1999. The assemblage comprised in total almost 50 species of vertebrates. The main bone accumulation (section Ba2-Bc) was deposited during the Eemian (Kaydaky, Mikulino, MIS 5e) interglacial and Middle Planiglacial (Middle Valdai, Vytachiv, MIS 3) interstadial, to the end of the Pleistocene and the Holocene, including gaps during stadials. The studied material includes the family Bovidae Gray, 1821, the most important faunal representative of the *Mammuthus-Coelodonta* complex.

Three members of this family were recorded: *Bison priscus* and *Saiga tatarica*, with the rare presence of *Bos primigenius*. Most bones belonged to juveniles. The remains of the steppe bison were similar in size to those of the Upper Pleistocene from Poland. Saiga antelope remains were similar to specimens from other sites of the Crimea like Surien 1, and from the Czech Republic and France. However, they were more distinctly longer and more massive than representatives of modern saiga from the Thuringian Plain.