

OPINION 1368  
THE GENERIC NAMES *PAN* AND *PANTHERA* (MAMMALIA,  
CARNIVORA):  
AVAILABLE AS FROM OKEN, 1816

RULING.—(1) Under the plenary powers:

- (a) It is hereby ruled that the names *Pan* and *Panthera* are generic names and available as from Oken, 1816;
- (b) all designations of type species hitherto made for the nominal genera *Pan* Oken, 1816 and *Panthera* Oken, 1816 are hereby set aside and *Simia troglodytes* Blumenbach, 1779 and *Felis pardus* Linnaeus, 1758 are hereby designated as type species of *Pan* Oken, 1816 and *Panthera* Oken, 1816 respectively.

(2) The following generic names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) *Pan* Oken, 1816 (gender: masculine), type species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1) (b) above, *Simia troglodytes* Blumenbach, 1779 (Name Number 2300);
- (b) *Panthera* Oken, 1816 (gender: feminine), type species, by designation under the plenary powers in (1) (b) above, *Felis pardus* Linnaeus, 1758 (Name Number 2301).

(3) The following specific names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers specified:

- (a) *troglodytes* Blumenbach, 1779, as published in the binomen *Simia troglodytes* (specific name of the type species of *Pan* Oken, 1816) (Name Number 3043);
- (b) *pardus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Felis pardus* (specific name of the type species of *Panthera* Oken, 1816) (Name Number 3044).

HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.)482

The question of the status of the names in Oken, 1816, *Lehrbuch der Naturgeschichte*, was first brought to the attention of the Commission as early as 1944 by the late Dr W. H. Osgood of the Chicago Natural History Museum. His correspondence, along with that from other zoologists and a report from Mr F. Hemming (then Secretary of the Commission), was published in *Bull. zool. Nom.* (hereafter referred to as BZN), vol. 9, pp. 193–218 (May 1954). This resulted in Opinion 417 (*Ops. Decl. Int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.*, vol. 14, pp. 1–42, 1956) which, although rejecting volume 3 (Zoologie) of Oken's *Lehrbuch* for nomenclatural purposes, invited zoologists to apply for the conservation of names, which, in the interests of stability, should be accepted as from that work and date.



After the publication of Opinion 417 there was little or no correspondence regarding the names in Oken's *Lehrbuch* until an application from Sir Terence Morrison-Scott (formerly Keeper of Zoology and Director, British Museum (Natural History), London) for the conservation of the names *Pan* and *Panthera* as from Oken, 1816, was received on 26 August 1965. This was itself a revised version of an earlier draft submitted to the Commission (though never published) on 23 September 1950 asking for five of Oken's mammal names to be conserved in the event of the *Lehrbuch* being rejected by the Commission.

The later Morrison-Scott application was sent to the printer on 9 September 1965 and published on 2 November 1965 in BZN, vol. 22, pp. 230–232. Public notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the statutory serials, to seven general and two mammalogical serials. Comments were received from a variety of sources generally supporting the proposals of Morrison-Scott. Dr S. P. HersHKovitz (*Chicago Natural History Museum, Illinois, U.S.A.*) opposed the proposals and preferred the conservation of *Chimpansee* Voigt, 1831 and *Leo* Brehm, 1829 instead of *Pan* and *Panthera*. His comment was published in BZN, vol. 23, pp. 67–69 along with another comment opposing the proposals from Dr F. Dias de Avila-Pires (*Museu Nacional, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil*). Further comments by Professor E. Tortonese (*Museum of Natural History, Genoa, Italy*), Professor E. Mayr (*Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard, U.S.A.*), Dr H. Hemmer (*Institut für physiologische Zoologie, University of Mainz, BRD*), Dr V. Mazak (*MNHN, France and Institut of Systematic Zoology, Prague, CSSR*) and Dr P. Leyhausen (*Max-Planck-Institute für Verhaltenphysiologie, Wuppertal, BRD*) were received and published in BZN, vol. 24, p. 3; vol. 24, p. 66; vol. 24, pp. 259–261; vol. 25, pp. 66–67 and vol. 25, p. 130 respectively. A reply to Dr Mayr's comment by Dr HersHKovitz was published in vol. 24, pp. 261–262. Due to the many collateral issues raised in these comments, voting on the original proposals was deferred.

A second application by Dr G. B. Corbet, Mr J. E. Hill, Mrs J. M. Ingles and Dr P. H. Napier (*Department of Zoology, British Museum (Natural History), London*) was received on 16 November 1973. This incorporated the original proposals of Morrison-Scott plus all the published comments. It was sent to the printers on 14 January 1974 and published in BZN, vol. 31, pp. 29–42. Public notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the statutory serials, to seven general and two mammalogical serials.

Comments were received from Dr C. P. Groves (*Australian National University, Canberra, Australia*) and Dr P. Leyhausen (*Max-Planck-Institut*). These were published along with a comment from Dr R. G. van Gelder (*American Museum of Natural History, New York, U.S.A.*) offering revised proposals, in BZN, vol. 32, pp. 68–73. A reply to van Gelder from Corbet *et al.* was published in the same place. Public notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the revised proposals by van Gelder was given



in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the statutory serials, and two mammalogical serials.

A further comment was received from Dr S. P. Hershkovitz and published in conjunction with a reply from Corbet *et al.* in BZN, vol. 33, pp. 135–136.

On 7 April 1978 the Members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on V.P. (1978) 1 for or against two mutually exclusive alternatives. The first involved validating *Pan* Oken, 1816, *Panthera* Oken, 1816 and *Tigris* Oken, 1816. The second involved designating *Felis leo* Linnaeus, 1758 as type species of the nominal genus *Leo* Brehm with the suppression of *Theranthropus* Brookes, 1828 and placing *Chimpansee* Voigt, 1831 and *Leo* Brehm, 1829, along with their relevant type species, on the Official Lists with the placement of *Pan* Oken, 1816, *Panthera* Oken, 1816 and *Theranthropus* Brookes, 1828 on the Official Index. The vote in favour of the former was 14 to 3. However, during the voting period comments were received from Mr D. Heppell and Dr W. D. L. Ride who both pointed out that the voting paper did not give the opportunity to consider the alternative proposals put forward by Dr Hershkovitz in BZN, vol. 33, pp. 135–136, who, contrary to his earlier views, held that *Pan* could be taken from Palmer, 1904 and *Panthera* from Severtzow, 1858.

As a consequence of these and other comments as well as the internally inconsistent result of the vote on V.P. (78) 1 the matter was referred to Council on 5 December 1978. Unfortunately, the Council was itself divided as to the best means of approaching the problem and there followed a long series of exchanges between the Council members as to the various options open to the Commission for voting.

The matters raised by Dr Ride and Mr Heppell in their voting papers were, in part, then under consideration by the Commission in connection with the 3rd edition of the Code (i.e. the status of names in works rejected for nomenclatural purposes and the status of names for divisions and subdivisions of genera). These matters are now clarified under Articles 78h and 10e.

At a meeting of the Council at the British Museum (Natural History), London on 11 October 1984, Dr Ride again raised the question of *Pan* and *Panthera*. It was proposed that these two names should be validated (i.e. made available) as from Oken, 1816, as soon as possible.

After publication of the 3rd edition of the Code in February 1985 the status of the case was examined jointly by Dr Ride and Mr Melville. A detailed report was prepared summarising the entire history of the case along with explanations of the consequences of voting for the particular options available to the Commission. A One-Month voting paper was also prepared for issue under Byelaw 33.

The choice now placed before the Commission (given that *Pan* and *Panthera* were validated from Oken 1816 as a result of the 14 to 3 majority in V.P. (78) 1) was one of three alternatives. Alternative A was to confirm the decision reached in 1978 and complete it by designating *Homo*



*troglodytes* Linnaeus, 1758 as type species of *Pan* Oken, 1816 and *Felis pardus* Linnaeus, 1758 as type species of *Panthera* Oken, 1816.

Alternative B(i) proposed conservation of *Pan* Palmer, 1904 and *Panthera* Severtzow, 1858 by the suppression of *Chimpansee* Voigt, 1831 and all uses of *Pan* prior to Palmer, 1904 (Dr HersHKovitz's revised proposals of 1976). This alternative further entailed suppression of *Leo* Brehm and *Tigris* Gray, 1843 for priority and *Panthera* Hübner, 1823 (an unused generic name in the Lepidoptera) for priority and homonymy.

Alternative B(ii) was to give *Panthera* Severtzow, 1858 precedence over *Leo* Brehm, 1829 and *Tigris* Gray, 1843.

### DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 7 August 1985 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the One-Month Rule on Voting Paper (O.M.) (1985) 1, for or against the alternatives outlined. At the close of the voting period on 7 September 1985 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative votes—Alternative A—nineteen (19) received in the following order: Melville, Ride, Binder, Holthuis, Cocks, Uéno, Kraus, Halvorsen, Bayer, Hahn, Mroczkowski, Alvarado, Gruchy, Heppell, Corliss, Schuster, Cogger, Savage, Bernardi

Negative Votes—Alternative A—two (2) Starobogatov, Trjapitzin.

Affirmative Votes—Alternative B(i)—none (0).

Negative Votes—Alternative B(i)—twenty-one (21) received in the following order: Melville, Ride, Binder, Holthuis, Cocks, Uéno, Kraus, Halvorsen, Bayer, Hahn, Mroczkowski, Alvarado, Gruchy, Heppell, Corliss, Starobogatov, Trjapitzin, Schuster, Cogger, Savage, Bernardi

Affirmative Votes—Alternative B(ii)—two (2): Starobogatov, Trjapitzin.

Negative Votes—Alternative B(ii)—nineteen (19) received in the following order: Melville, Ride, Binder, Holthuis, Cocks, Uéno, Kraus, Halvorsen, Bayer, Hahn, Mroczkowski, Alvarado, Gruchy, Heppell, Corliss, Schuster, Cogger, Savage, Bernardi.

No votes were returned by Brinck, Dupuis, Willink and Lehtinen.

Holthuis commented: '*Homo troglodytes* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Systema Naturae*, ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 24) describes a white tropical being ('Corpus album...') which may be an albino negro or Malay. This is also shown by the reference to 'Kakurlacko'. In the colonial slang of the day, the word 'kakkerlak' or 'witte kakkerlak' (=cockroach or white cockroach) was used in the East Indies to indicate someone who looked European but had some (or much) native Malay blood. Linnaeus' reference to Bontius, 1658 (in W. Piso, *De Indiae utriusque re naturali et medica*, pt. 3, pp. 1–160) is to Bontius' (p. 84) description and figure of 'Orang Outang sive Homo silvestris'. Although Bontius' figure is rather crude and looks more like a hairy lady than an Orang Utan, his description is almost certainly based (at least partly) on the ape. Among authors there is some difference of opinion



on what Brontius' animal represents, but most consider it an orang utan. Anyhow Linnaeus' *Homo troglodytes* is based on a mixture of human beings and the orang utan, but certainly not on the chimpanzee. The name *troglodytes* as used at present for the chimpanzee is based on *Simia troglodytes* Blumenbach, 1779 (*Handbuch der Naturgeschichte*, p. 65). Blumenbach's description and literature references leave not the slightest doubt that he described the chimpanzee (he also cited the vernacular name Chimpanse for it). That he did not just place *Homo troglodytes* L. in the genus *Simia* is shown by his remark on the previous page (p. 64): 'Linne's *Homo troglodytes* ist ein Gemisch aus der Geschichte dieser presshaften waren Menschen [which he defined a few lines previously as 'Die Kackerlacken, Blasards, Albinos oder, weisse Mohren sind nicht einmal eine Spielart, geschweige eine besondere Gattung'], und des Orangutangs'.

'There is no good reason not to consider *Simia troglodytes* Blumenbach, 1779 a good species and it should be used as the type of *Pan*, not *Homo troglodytes* L.'

'*Troglodytes niger* Geoffroy, 1812 (*Ann. Mus. Hist. nat. Paris*, vol. 19, p. 87) is an unnecessary name, but it is not a replacement name for *Homo troglodytes* L. It is a new name in the synonymy of which Geoffroy cited '*Simia troglodytes* Linn., 12, 1 [evidently meaning 12th edition of *Systema Naturae* (should be 13th) first species of *Simia*] '*Simia pygmaeus* Scrb fig. 1, B' (=Schreber, *Die Säugethiere*) and *Simia satyrus* Schreb., fig. 2 (same work). Actually *Homo troglodytes* L. is not mentioned by Geoffroy, and all his references are to recognizable descriptions and figures of the chimpanzee'.

'My vote for Alternative A is on the condition that *Simia troglodytes* Blumenbach, 1779 and not *Homo troglodytes* L. be made the type of the genus *Pan* Oken, 1816'. [This comment was circulated to Council who approved the designation of *Simia troglodytes* Blumenbach, 1779 as type species of *Pan* Oken, 1816 and this is incorporated in the present ruling.]

## ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

- Pan* Oken, 1816 *Lehrbuch der Naturgeschichte*, vol. 3 (Zoologie), p. 1230  
*Panthera* Oken, 1816, *Lehrbuch der Naturgeschichte*, vol. 3, (Zoologie), p. 1052  
*pardus*, *Felis*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Systema Naturae*, ed. 10, p. 41-42  
*troglodytes*, *Simia*, Blumenbach, 1779, *Handbuch der Naturgeschichte*, p. 65.

## CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the votes cast on Voting Papers (78)1 and (O.M.) (85)1 were cast as set out above, that the proposals contained in



those voting papers have been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decisions so taken, being the decisions of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, are truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1368.

P. K. TUBBS

*Executive Secretary*

*International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature*

*London*

*7 October 1985*



International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature. 1985. "Opinion 1368."  
*The Bulletin of zoological nomenclature* 42, 365–370.

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