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**THE CATALOGUE OF THE CRUSTACEAN COLLECTION
DONATED BY DR. HILARIUS MITREA TO “GRIGORE ANTIPA”
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY OF BUCHAREST**

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Abstract. The specimen catalogue of the decapod crustacean group collected by Dr. Hilarius Mitrea from Indonesia at the end of the 19th century and donated to “Grigore Antipa” Museum is presented further on. The collection which survived till now includes 10 species with 42 specimens collected from Sumatra, Kalimantan and Sulawesi islands, between 1869 and 1894. The paper completes the catalogue published by Marinescu and Rojancovski (1972).

Résumé. On présente le catalogue des pièces du groupe de crustacés décapodes collectées par le dr. Hilarius Mitrea en Indonésie à la fin du XIX^{ème} siècle et dont il a fait don au Muséum „Grigore Antipa”. La collection qui a survécu jusqu’à présent comprend 10 espèces avec 42 exemplaires, collectés dans les îles Sumatra, Kalimantan et Célèbes (Sulawesi) entre 1869 et 1894. Le travail complète le catalogue publié par Marinescu et Rojancovski (1972).

Key words: Dr. Hilarius Mitrea, crustacean collection, Indonesia, donation, catalogue.

INTRODUCTION

Along time, over 60 articles on the Romanian explorer and physician Hilarius Mitrea’s life, considered the most important donor of “Grigore Antipa” National Museum of Natural History, were written, more or less exact. The first articles announced Mitrea’s arrival in Romania with his fabulous donation for the National Museum of Natural History of Bucharest (including those from “Transilvania” from 1882, which published the donation list made in that year), and continued with the biographical mentions of different authors (Antipa, 1934; Andrei, 2004; Culcer, 1961; Marinescu, 1969, 1971, 1978; Marinescu & Andrei, 1980; Marinescu & Ionescu - Konnerth, 1985 and Pop, 1966 a, b, 1968, 1971), with the catalogues of the collections preserved at “Grigore Antipa” National Museum of Natural History (Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1971, 1972) and ended with the posthumous publication signed by Pop & Sturza (1994) where it is made Mitrea’s the most complete and documented biography till that time together with a complete bibliography till 1974. Also, I have to mention Angela Petrescu’s article dedicated to the catalogue of the bird collection made by Mitrea in the valley of Barito River, Kalimantan (2001) and Murariu’s (2006) and Balint’s (2007) the most recent articles. The papers dedicated exclusively to the collection are those written by Marinescu (1971) who present the pieces donated by Mitrea (three fish species) to the collections of the Museum of Natural History of Vienna for the first time, the catalogue of the fish collection (Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1971) and of the zoological one from “Grigore Antipa” Museum of Bucharest (Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972) and the revised catalogue of the bird collection of Kalimantan, which belongs to the first Mitrea donation from 1882, published by A. Petrescu (2001). Pop, Marinescu and others report an approximate figure of the collection volume: 1,200 specimens (sometimes

mentioned as 1,200 species). Collection, gathered along 25 years of activity as an army medical officer within the Dutch colonial army in Indonesia, is extremely rich in zoological and ethnographical pieces, but remained insufficiently studied, some groups being unstudied till now, for example the molluscs and the insects.

As Grigore Antipa mentioned (1934), the pieces received by Grigore Ștefănescu (director of the museum that moment) from Hilarius Mitrea in 1882 did not draw his attention (this aspect is underlined also by the inventory made by Ștefănescu in order to hand it over to Antipa, on the 15th of July 1894, document presented by Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972) being left unpacked till 1894, when Antipa was appointed director. On this occasion, Antipa discovered in the basement of the University of Bucharest (damaged by fire in 1884), in whose building the museum was sheltered that time, the 38 boxes sent by Mitrea from Indonesia. As he told later, the pieces were immediately prepared, mounted and exhibited in the Museum from 19 Polonă Street, later on moved (1906) in the present building from 1 Kiseleff Avenue. The volume of the second transport, which reached the museum in 1895, is unknown. Antipa (1934) is the first who mentioned the crustaceans in Mitrea's donation (1934), absent in the list published in 1882 and in Mitrea's brief enumeration from his letter from the 3rd of July 1895 sent from Vienna to the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Public Instruction: "A. una cămașă de cuirasă din insula Celebes. B. 12 obiecte de argint executate la Padang. C. cinci cutii cu scoici din Insulele Molluce. D. trei sticle cu pești, șerpi, etc. E. trei sticle cu gândaci, etc. F. o cutie (trimisă prin poștă) cu gândaci determinați în Muzeul Imperial din Viena" (Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972) ["A. an armoured shirt from Celebes Island. B. 12 silver objects made in Padang. C. five boxes with shells from Molluce Islands. D. three bottles with fish, snakes, etc. E. three bottles with beetles, etc. F. a box (sent by mail) with beetles identified in the Imperial Museum of Vienna"].

Studying the museum inventory, made by Antipa in 1932, Marinescu & Rojancovski (1972) found 12 species with 43 cited specimens. "Cifra a scăzut în timpul cutremurului din 1940 (există o mențiune în această privință)" ["This number decreased during the 1940 earthquake (there is a mention in this respect)"]. Also they present its state in 1972: "Este redusă astăzi la un număr derizoriu de crustacee (șapte specii) păstrate aproape toate în colecția științifică: o singură specie, *Palinurus ornatus* Fab., din insulele Celebes, se găsește încă în expunerea publică." [Today, it is reduced up to a ridiculous number of crustaceans (seven species) almost all preserved in the scientific collection; a single species, *Palinurus ornatus* Fab., from Celebes Islands, is in the public exhibition"].

MATERIAL AND METHOD

In the deposit of the crustacean collection of "Grigore Antipa" National Museum of Natural History, I found 19 jars and one dried and mounted specimen while I was studying the inventory of this collection and the labels from these jars, on which was written Mitrea's name as collector and donor. Pieces of this collection are not displayed in the museum in this moment.

Unfortunately, neither in the Museum archives nor in those of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Public Instruction (M.R.A.P.I.) from the National Archives Bucharest City Department (NABCD) the list (lists) of the pieces sent by Mitrea was (were) not found. In these archives I found only the following documents regarding Mitrea's donation: a copy of a letter from the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Public Instruction (NABCD, fund M.R.A.P.I., mark 603/1895, page 49, Fig. 1),

dated the 8th of July 1895, where it is written: „D-lui Gr. Antipa, Directorul Muzeului de Istorie Naturală Secția zoologie, Loco, Am onoarea a vă înainta în original scrisoarea D-lui Dr. Mitrea din Viena, împreună cu catalogul de colecțiunile de pescii și șerpi trimise muzeului nostru și primite de D-voastră. Primiți etc. Director” [To Mr. Gr. Antipa, director of the Museum of Natural History, Zoology Department, Loco, I have the honour to present to you Dr. Mitrea’s original letter from Vienna, together with the catalogue of the fish and snake collections sent to our museum and received by you. Receive ... etc., Director”]; two fracht brief (way bills) written by hand by Antipa, dated the 3rd and, respectively, the 5th of July 1895, no 50, fracht brief no 127, NABCD, fund M.R.A.P.I., mark 707/1895, page 192, it is mentioned that „D. Mitrea, din Viena, prin Francesco Parisi, 121 kil.” [“Mr. Mitrea from Vienna, through Francesco Parisi”] informed that he paid for „fracht, barieră, căruțaș, hamali, etc.” [“way bill, barrier, carrier, porters, etc.”], 9.60 lei (Fig. 2), as it results from the wages docket for 1895/1896 (NABCD, fund M.R.A.P.I., mark 603/1895, page 151; and the receipt 256, record no 13, „Viena 5.VII.1895 Francesco Parisi”, NABCD, fund M.R.A.P.I., mark 707/1895, page 165) (Francesco Parisi transported to Bucharest Hilarius Mitrea’s donation from 1895, mentioned in the letter sent by Mitrea from Vienna, on the 3rd of July 1895 (see Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972; Marinescu & Ionescu - Konnerth, 1985). To all there, Grigore Antipa’s two reports are added, the first dated the 15th of February 1896 (NABCD, fund M.R.A.P.I., mark 256/1896, page 18, fig. 3) where we can read: “Domnule Ministru, Prin raportul meu nr. 15 din 26 iulie 1895 am onoarea a vă înștiința că Muzeul de Istorie Naturală Sect. Zoologie a primit în dar două colecțiuni însemnate de animale rari din Arhipelagul Malaez de la D-nii Dr. H. Mitrea și Dr. Th. Adensamer și v-am rugat ca pentru a prepara și expune acele obiecte în Muzeu să binevoiti a acorda un credit extraordinar pentru a procura materialele și dulapurile trebuitoare. Prin adresa D-voastră Seria B Nr. 4897 din 11 August 1895 ați binevoit a-mi face cunoscut că să aștept cu prepararea acestor animale până la deschiderea de credite extraordinare când îmi veți pune la dispoziție suma de 2000 fr. cerută. Astăzi acel credit de 2000 fr. pentru procurarea materialelor necesare pentru conservarea și prepararea acestor colecțiuni fiind deschis prin Decretul nr. 726 din Ord. 17114 credit extra nr. 726/96, D. Sale D-lui Ministru al Cultelor și Instrucțiunii Publice”; [Dear Sir, By my report no 15/26th of July 1895, I have the honour of announcing you that the Museum of Natural History, Zoology Department, received as a gift two important collections of rare animals from the Malay Archipelago from Dr. H. Mitrea and Dr. Th. Adensamer and I asked you to agree an extraordinary credit for buying the necessary materials and cases in order to prepare and display those objects. By your address Series B no 4897 of 11th of August 1895, you were so kind and asked me to delay the preparation of these animals till the extraordinary credits are launched and you will put at my disposal my required sum of 2,000 fr. Today that credit of 2,000 fr. for the material acquisition for preparing and preservation of those collections is launched by the Decree no 726 of the Order 17114 credit extra no 726/96, To His Excellency Ministry of Religious Affairs and Public Instruction”]; the second one, from 27th of May 1896 (NABCD, fund M.R.A.P.I., mark 256/1896, page 57), by which he mentioned the dispatch with legal documents, on the minister’s address, for the sum of 2,000 lei given as an extraordinary credit by the Decree no 726 on the 9th of February 1896 „pentru prepararea și expunerea colecțiunilor dăruite acestui Muzeu de D-nii Dr. H. Mitrea

și Dr. Th. Adensammer” [“for the preparation and displaying of the collections given to this Museum by Dr. H. Mitrea and Dr. Th. Adensammer”].

Unfortunately, I couldn’t see Antipa’s inventory from 1932 for the collections of invertebrates, not found in the museum archive.

I have made photos of all pieces and I have read all the present invertebrate collection inventories, those from the ’50 and ’70.

For the identification of the unidentified crab for which there is this mention in the register and on the label, I asked for help a foreign specialist, Dr. Michael Türkay from Senckenberg Research Institute, Germany. I contacted Dr. Peter Dworschak, the present curator of the crustacean collection of the Museum of Natural History of Vienna for additional data on the person who made the identification of the material brought by Mitrea for the Museum of Bucharest. It was about Karl Koelbel (1834-1896), curator between 1878 – 1896, who made the identification probably at Franz Steindachner’s request (1834-1919), a well-known specialist in fish and reptiles, chief of the Department of Zoology, then director of the Museum of Vienna. He was the closest person to Mitrea in that museum and also he was in good relations with Grigore Antipa.

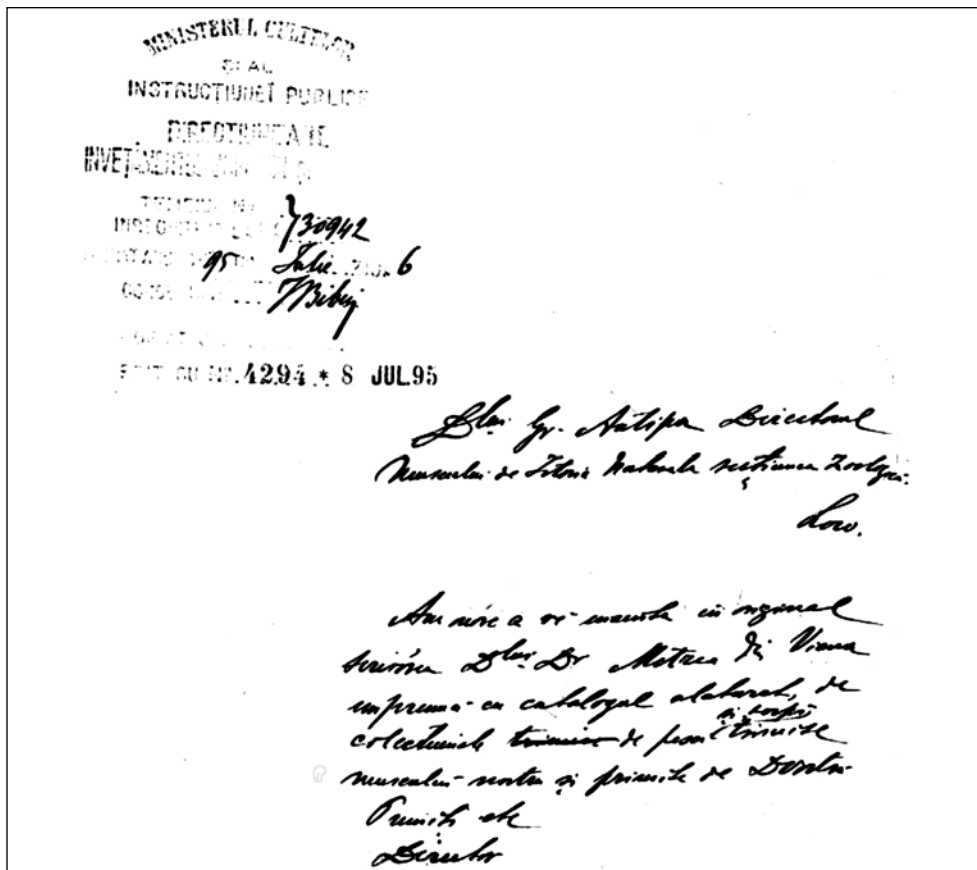


Fig. 1 – The address of the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Public Instruction from the 8th of July 1895.

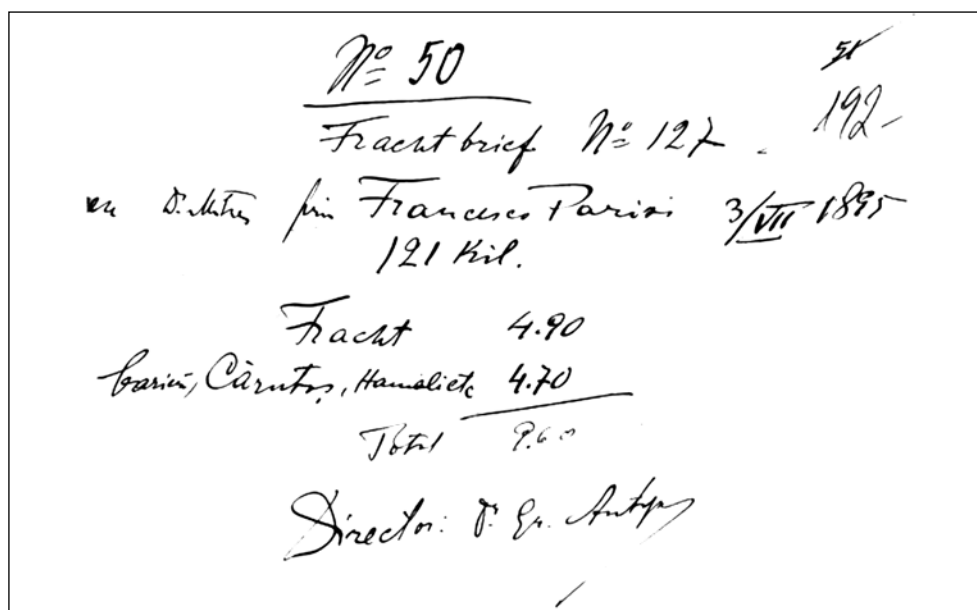


Fig. 2 – Antipa’s way bill dated the 3rd of July 1895.

RESULTS

In those 19 jars I found 42 specimens belonging to 10 species of seven families and of the infraorders Penaeidea, Eryonidea, Brachyura and Anomura.

Infraorder Penaeidea Family Alpheidae Rafinesque, 1815

1. *Alpheus* sp.

Distribution: Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea, Atlantic, Indo - West Pacific.

Habitat: mangroves and sponge-dwelling.

Collection number: 8855.

Material: five specimens (one specimen on a white glass plate, other four behind the plate).

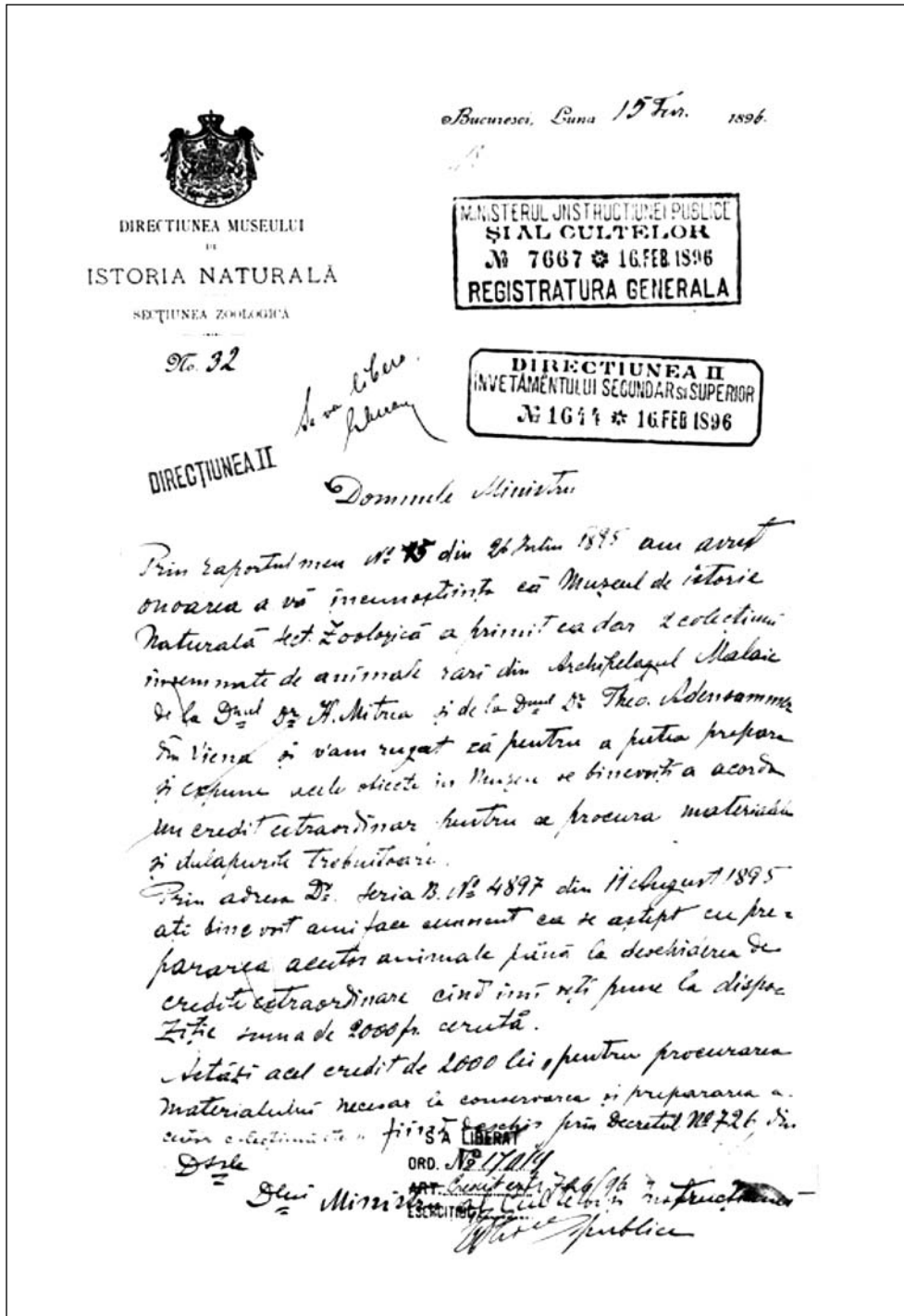
Locality: Sumatra.

Remarks: outside label written in China ink “*Alpheus* sp. Sumatra”, inside label written in pencil „*Alpheus* sp.” Name of Mitrea as collector mentioned only in register, also a more precise locality: Palembang. Mentioned by Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972.

Family Palaemonidae Rafinesque, 1815

2. *Macrobrachium idae* (Heller, 1862) (syn. *Palaemon idae* Heller, 1862)

Distribution: Indo - West Pacific: Madagascar to the Philippines, Indonesia and the Admiralty Islands.

Fig. 3 – Grigore Antipa's letter from the 15th of February 1896.

Habitat: Fresh and brackish water.

Local economical importance.

Collection number: 8856a and b.

Material: three specimens (two specimens in jar with no. 8856 a, one specimen in other jar, with no. 8856 b, specimens placed after 1945 on white glass plates).

Locality: Palembang river, Sumatra.

Remarks: outside labels written in pencil, “*Macrobrachium* sp. Palembang”, name of Mitrea appeared only in the registers from the ‘50th and later. Missing from Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972.

3. *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (de Man, 1879)
(syn. *Palaemon carcinus* (L.))

Distribution: Indo - West Pacific: N.W. India to Viet Nam, the Philippines, New Guinea and Northern Australia.

Habitat: Fresh and brackish water, sometimes marine.

Local economical importance.

Collection number: 9490/141 (Fig. 4).

Material: three specimens (one specimen placed on black glass plate).

Locality: Palembang, Sumatra.

Remarks: outside label written in ink “*Palaemon carcinus*, Palembang, Don Dr. Mitrea”, inside label missing. Present in Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972.

Collection number: 9490/142.

Material: two specimens (one specimen placed on black glass plate, the other one, a female, with eggs).

Locality: Makassar, Celebes (Sulawesi).

Remarks: outside label written in ink “*Palaemon carcinus* F. Makassar, Don Dr. Mitrea”, inside label “*Palaemon (Eupalaemon) carcinus* No. 11 Makassar (Celebes) col. & don. Dr. Mitrea”. Present both in Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972 and in collection register.

Collection number: 9490/164.

Material: six specimens (four specimens placed on black plate, other two behind, 1st pair of pereopods missing in all of them).

Locality: Borneo (Kalimantan).

Remarks: no outside label, inside label written with pencil, folded, with writing outside, partially



Fig. 4 – *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (de Man, 1879) no. 9490/141 (Photo: A. Petrescu).

visible “*carcinus* Fabricius”. Name of Mitrea as collector appeared only in registers. Missing from Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972.

Collection number: 9490/166.

Material: three specimens (one specimen placed on black glass, other two behind, all of them with 1st pereopods missing).

Locality: Palembang, Sumatra.

Remarks: outside label, type written (older label, ink written, visible as a slender rest), “*Palaemon carcinus* Fabr. Sumatra d. H. Mitrea”, inside label, China ink written “Palembang Sumatra Decembre 1883 (Undung Tsiatan?) lg . Don. Mitrea.” The new label suggests that the material was placed later in a new jar, with a new outside label, after 1945 (?), inside label written by late Acad. Mihai Băcescu (identified by Alexandru Marinescu, fig. 5). Absent in Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972.

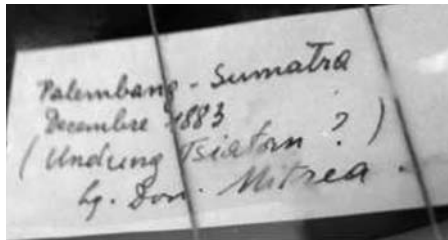


Fig. 5 – Label from the jar with specimens from Palembang (no. 9490/166) (Photo: A. Petrescu).

Collection number: 9490/168.

Material: one specimen placed on white glass plate, without 1st pair of pereopods.

Locality: Palembang.

Remarks: outside label, printed frame and museum name, China ink written “*Palaemon Carcinus* F. No. 4 don. Mitrea” (did Antipa received also a list with numbered specimens or species ?), inside label, same printed frame and museum name, China ink written “*Palaemon (Eupalaemon) Carcinus* F. No. 4 râul Palembang Sumatra col. & don Mitrea”, (Palembang river, Sumatra coll. & don. Mitrea), other label, pencil written, under the back specimen from the jar, only partially visible, could be very well read – 83 (year of collecting ?), also “atan (probably a part of Tsiatan, Indonesian name of the species) with a top hole that suggest that this label could be bound originally to the material (probably written by someone from the museum, maybe also by Acad. Băcescu). Also missing from Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972.

Infraorder Eryonidea
Family Palinuridae Latreille, 1803
4. *Panulirus ornatus* (Fabricius, 1798)

Distribution: Indo - West Pacific region from the Red Sea and East Africa to southern Japan, New Guinea, Australia, New Caledonia and Fiji. Recently also found in the E Mediterranean.

Habitat: in shallow, coastal waters, from 1 to 8 m depth, with a few records from depths as great as 50 m. Fished for throughout its range, but in most places only on a small scale.

Collection number: 8868.

Material: one specimen.

Locality: Celebes (Sulawesi).

Remarks: dried specimen placed in a box with glass, new outside label “Crevetă albastră *Palinurus ornatus* Celebes” (Blue shrimp, in fact Blue lobster), no other label, name of Mitrea mentioned only in register; specimen that was long time displayed in the museum (Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972), now in the deposit.

Collection number: 9490/155. (Fig. 6)

Material: one specimen.

Locality: Makassar (Celebes=Sulawesi).

Remarks: outside label, printed frame and museum name, China ink written “*Panulirus ornatus* (F.) No.1 Makassar (Celebes) don. Mitrea. Not mentioned by Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972.

Infraorder Anomura
Family Coenobitidae Dana, 1852

5. *Coenobita cavipes* Stimpson, 1855
(syn. *Coenobita violaceus* Heller)
(Fig. 7)

Distribution: East coast of Africa to Ryukyu Islands and Bismarck Archipelago.



Fig. 7 – *Coenobita cavipes* Stimpson, 1855 no. 9490/294 (Photo: A. Petrescu).

Habitat: sandy beaches.
Collection number: 9490/294.

Material: one specimen.

Locality: Palembang.

Remarks: outside label written in China ink “*Coenobita violascens* Hell. Sumatra leg. și donat Mitrea (leg. and don. Mitrea, in Romanian). Specimen fixed on a white glass plate. Inside label, pencil written on a sheet of paper with lines (like actual school copy book), partially bent on left side “... bita (*Coenobita*) *violascens* Heller No. 6 ...mbang (probably Palembang) not readable line, .. in *Balanus amphitrite* Darwin”. Not mentioned the name of gastropod species conc. Present in Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972.

Infraorder Brachyura
Family Portunidae Rafinesque, 1815

6. *Portunus pelagicus* (L., 1758)
(syn. *Neptunus pelagicus* L.)

Distribution: Indian and Pacific Oceans, Red Sea and Eastern Mediterranean.



Fig. 6 – *Palinurus ornatus* (Fabricius, 1798) no. 9490/155 (Photo: A. Petrescu).

Habitat: shallow waters between 10 to 50 m depth.
 Fished for throughout its range, mainly in SE Asia.
 Collection number: 9490/215.

Material: one specimen.

Locality: Makassar.

Remarks: type written outside label "*Neptunus pelagicus* Macassar d. Mitrea (don. Mitrea), no inside label (may be lost), probably the jar and old label were changed after Antipa's death. Name of Mitrea mentioned as collector only on registers. On Marinescu et al. list.

Collection number: 9490/216. (Fig. 8)

Material: three specimens (one displayed on dark glass plate, two others behind).

Locality: Palembang.

Remarks: type written outside label "*Neptunus pelagicus* L. Palembang 9490/216". No inside label (may be lost), probably the jar and old label were changed after Antipa's death. Name of Mitrea mentioned as collector and donor only on registers. On Marinescu et al. list.

Collection number: 9490/251.

Material: one specimen displayed on a white glass plate.

Locality: Palembang.

Remarks: type written outside label "*Neptunus pelagicus* L. Palembang 9490/251; added in pencil, probably by Gabriela Andrei (former curator of crustacean collection), "don. Mitrea". No inside label (may be lost), probably the jar and old label were changed after Antipa's death. Name of Mitrea also mentioned as collector and donor on registers. Present in Marinescu et al.



Fig. 8 - *Portunus pelagicus* (L., 1758) no. 9490/216 (Photo: A. Petrescu).

Collection number: 9490/ 252.
 Material: three specimens (one specimen displayed on a dark plate, two others behind, not displayed).

Locality: Makassar.

Remarks: China ink written outside label "*Neptunus pelagicus* L. Makassar No. (no number) d. H. Mitrea", inside label, pencil written, cannot be seen, folded with writing inside. Missing from Marinescu et al.

Collection number: 9490/257.

Material: three specimens (two specimens displayed on dark plate, other one behind, not displayed).

Locality: Palembang.

Remarks: China ink, hand written, front outside label “*Neptunus pelagicus* L. Palembang don Mitrea”, back outside label, type written “*Neptunus pelagicus* L. 9490/257”. Name of Mitrea as donor also mentioned in the register. The jar was stick again, without protective bladder. Absent in Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972.

7. *Scylla serrata* (Forskål, 1755)

Distribution: throughout the Indo - Pacific region from Hawaii, southern Japan, Australia, Red Sea and East and South Africa.

Habitat: muddy bottoms in brackish water along the shoreline, mangrove areas, and river mouths.

Fished for throughout its range, aquaculture.

Collection number: 9490/250.

Material: one specimen mounted on white glass plate.

Locality: Sumatra.

Remarks: material with first pair of pereopods separated from the body, placed in a new jar later, with outside label, written in China ink “*Scylla serrata* Forsk. Sumatra Don. Dr. Mitrea”, inside label, with printed frame and name of museum, a former outside one, “*Scylla serrata* Forsk. Sumatra (Palembang) No. 7 col. & don: Mitrea”, other inside label, pencil written “*Scylla serrata* (Forskål) Palembang (Sumatra) Nr. 7”... Present in Marinescu & Rojancovski, 1972.

8. *Carcinus aestuarii* Nardo, 1847

Distribution: Mediterranean and Black Sea.

Habitat: rocky bottoms with algae along the shoreline.

Collection number: 9490/305.

Material: 2 specimens (one placed on black glass plate, one behind).

Locality: unknown

Remarks: outside label, type written (later than 1945) “Crab nedeterminat” [unidentified crab], inside label „, d. Mitrea”. Specimen identified as *Carcinus aestuarii* Nardo, 1847 by Dr. Michael Türkay. Absent from Marinescu et al. list.

Family Calappidae H. Milne Edwards, 1837

9. *Matuta banksi* Leach, 1817

Distribution: Red Sea to Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, China, Japan, New Caledonia, and Fiji.

Habitat: soft sand from the intertidal to shallow sublittoral.

Collection number: 9490/176.

Material: one specimen placed on a white glass plate.

Locality: Palembang.

Remarks: outside label, printed frame and name of museum “*Matuta banksii* Leach Sumatra (râul [river] Palembang) No. 8 col & don Mitrea”, inside label “*Matuta banksii*”. Missing from Marinescu et al.



Fig. 9 – Label of the jar with *Matuta banksi* Leach no. 9490/176 (Photo: A. Petrescu).

10. *Matuta victor* (Fabricius, 1781)
(syn. *Matuta victrix* Fabricius)

Distribution: Southeast Asia to the Philippines, New Caledonia, Fiji.

Habitat: sandy areas, from the intertidal zone to depths of about 20 m.

Local importance.

Collection number: 9490/260.

Material: one specimen placed on white glass plate.

Locality: Sumatra, Palembang river.

Remarks: outside label, type written frame and name of museum “*Matuta victrix* Fabr. No. 3 Sumatra (râu [river] Palembang) col & don Mitrea”. Missing from Marinescu et al.

Beside these specimens on which I am sure that were collected and donated by Dr. Mitrea, in the deposit of “Grigore Antipa” Museum there are also three jars with material from Indonesia for which I couldn’t find any specification on the collector, excepting the specimen no 9490/263, mentioned by Marinescu & Rojancovski (1972). They said that it belongs to this collection but there are not data in the inventory register and on the label of the exhibit Mitrea’s name is written with a question mark. Taking into consideration the absence of the donation list and an inventory since Grigore Antipa’s time and the inventory numbers of the other two exhibits are in their close vicinity or included in the number list of Mitrea’s exhibits I can assert that they have the same collector (of Adensamer donation from Indonesia, from the same period, crustaceans are not known). Thus, it was reached a total of 11 species with 45 specimens, almost identical with what Antipa mentioned in 1932.

Macrobrachium rosenbergii (De Man, 1879)

Collection number: 9490/167.

Material: one specimen.

Locality: Sumatra.

Remarks: type written outside label “*Palaemon carcinus* Fabr.” Only collecting place mentioned in register.

Coenobita clypeatus (Herbst, 1755)

Collection number: 9490/263.

Material: one specimen.

Locality: Borneo (Kalimantan).

Remarks: only outside label, China ink written “*Cenobita clypeata* Herbst in *Turbo margaritaceus*”, without label inside the jar, no collector mentioned in registers, but appeared in Marinescu and Rojancovski’s list from 1972 as being collected by Mitrea.

Coenobita clypeatus (Herbst, 1785)

Collection number: 9490/295.

Material: one specimen.

Locality: Java.

Remarks: only outside label, type writing "*Cenobita clypeata* in *Turbo margaritaceus* Java", later added with pencil "9490/295", without label inside, no collector mentioned in registers.

As regards this collection, some normal questions rise. The first: when they were collected ?

A single specimen has a more complete label, that with no 9490/166 (Fig. 4), that one inside the jar, which includes the name of the exhibit in the local language beside the scientific one (with the question mark probably because of the impossibility of understanding exactly Mitrea's handwriting; according to Pop's assertions, most of the pieces sent by Mitrea had the local names mentioned, at least in 1882), collecting date, the only one from all Mitrea collection, December 1883, collecting place, Palembang, Sumatra (four months after the catastrophic eruption of Krakatoa volcano). It is the only Mitrea's precise localization in Indonesia, basing on the collected material (Marinescu asserted that in the summer of 1883, after his father's death, he left through Marseilles for Indonesia, and established in Java and Sumatra). The year of 1883 is marked with a pencil on the label of the piece no 9490/168 (the same species, *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*). Both were written by the late Acad. Mihai Băcescu, the first and the greatest specialists in crustaceans of this museum, employed here since 1940. Having such huge amount of data, probably Băcescu studied some of Mitrea's lists. I do not know if he copied other labels or not.

Widely knowing Mitrea's rout through Indonesia, as Pop and Marinescu reconstructed it, the following suppositions, more or less imaginable, can be made. In Palembang, Sumatra, Mitrea stood a little, at the beginning of his career. He lived in Padang on the west coast, then in Palembang, on the East coast, between 1869 and 1872; he will come back in Palembang in 1883, in second period of his staying in Indonesia. Marinescu & Andrei (1980) mentioned that he lived in Palembang and Djambi, Sumatra, between 1884-1886. In 1884, he wrote to Steindachner just from Palembang. The 20 specimens are from here. On this occasion, I certify Mitrea's presence in Palembang just from the end of 1883. Other three species with seven specimens originate also from Sumatra Island, without a precise localization, difficult to fix in time, Mitrea being remarked in Sumatra several times (Pop & Sturza, 1994). The second collecting area is Borneo Island (Kalimantan) from where a species with six specimens originates in. He might stood here within the period 1872-1876, from where he collected fish, birds and mammals (no mention on crustaceans in the present documents, probably the oldest from those collected by Mitrea, probably sent with the second donation). The third place is Celebes Island (Sulawesi), with Makassar as collecting place for three species and seven specimens. Mitrea's biographers, Pop and Marinescu, mention Mitrea's staying in Makassar within the period 1890-1893 (Pop & Sturza, op. cit.). For the specimen recently identified as *Carcinus aestuarii* Nardo, localization is much difficult. The label is more recent, after 1944 and it is typed. The species and the genus will be known from the Indo - Malay - Australian area, when it is introduced here. The species originates in the basin of the Mediterranean Sea - Black Sea, now fished also from the Indonesian waters. I can only presume that it was collected either by

Mitrea in his way back to Romania from the Mediterranean Sea, in 1881, or it was bought by him from the Museum of Naples, also then, as Pop presumes that happened with the fishes collected from the Adriatic Sea, now preserved in the collections of the Museum of Bucharest (Pop & Sturza, 1994).

A final matter on this collection, which deserves to be discussed, is that regarding the labels of the material, implicitly the oldness of the material from the respective collection jar. Four labels have border and the name “Muzeul de Istorie Naturală” [“Museum of Natural History”] printed, the rest being written by hand with black China ink. They can be the oldest, the museum having that name till 1908 when it became “museum of zoology” (till 1914). I am counting on the fact that the seven labels, out of which four are still on the jars, have a number (1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11), which might represent a number from the original list. Thus I can presume that they were displayed since the period from the 19 Polonă Str., being prepared by the technician of the museum, Simion Georgescu or better by Robert Ritter von Dombrovski, who had come at the museum in August 1895. The labels could be written then even by Antipa. Other two pieces (no 9490/250 and no 9490/294) have separated labels inside jars with the species name written with the pencil (one of them is marked with no 7). One of them might be written by another person from the museum, not by Mihai Băcescu, and the other one, incompletely legible, might have another origin (Vienna?).

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CATALOGUL COLECȚIEI DE CRUSTACEE DONATE DE DR. HILARIUS MITREA MUZEULUI NAȚIONAL DE ISTORIE NATURALĂ „GRIGORE ANTIPA” DIN BUCUREȘTI

REZUMAT

Medicul și naturalistul român Hilarius Mitrea, originar din Rășinari (Sibiu), este considerat cel mai important donator al Muzeului Național de Istorie Naturală “Grigore Antipa” (București). Colecția sa făcută timp de 25 de ani petrecută în Indonezia ca medic în armata colonială olandeză a suscitât interesul specialiștilor și publicului larg încă de la început. Până acum au fost publicate catalogul peștilor (Marinescu și Rojancovski, 1971), al colecției zoologice (Marinescu și Rojancovski, 1972), al colecției de păsări făcută de Mitrea în insula Kalimantan (Petrescu, A., 2001) și o mențiune specială pentru depistarea a trei specii de pești în colecțiile Muzeului de Istorie Naturală din Viena (Marinescu, 1971). Din păcate cataloagele originale nu au putut fi găsite, există doar lista animalelor donate de Mitrea în 1882, publicată în *Transilvania*, nr. 21 din acel an și sumarele liste din scrisoarea lui Mitrea din 6 iulie 1895 expediată Ministerului Cultelor și Instrucțiunii Publice.

Prima mențiune a crustaceelor în această donație a lui Mitrea o face Antipa (1934), iar prima listă este cea a lui Marinescu și Rojancovski (1972). Este prezentat un catalog revizuit al acestei colecții, cuprinzând 10 specii cu 42 de exemplare. Sunt făcute comentarii legate de data colectării, perioada când au fost expuse în muzeu, de cei care au preparat materialul și au scris etichetele.

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