

Nemegtomaia gen. nov., a Replacement Name for the Oviraptorosaurian Dinosaur *Nemegtia* Lü *et al.*, 2004, a Preoccupied Name

Junchang Lü¹, Yukimitsu Tomida², Yoichi Azuma³,
Zhiming Dong⁴ and Yuong-Nam Lee⁵

¹Institute of Geology, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, Beijing 100037, China

²Department of Geology and Paleontology, National Science Museum,
3–23–1 Hyakunincho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 169–0073, Japan

³Fukui Prefectural Dinosaur Museum, 51–11 Terao, Muroko, Katsuyama 911–8601, Japan

⁴Institute of Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100044, China

⁵Korea Institute of Geoscience and Mineral Resources, Geology & Geoinformation Division,
30 Gajeong-dong, Yuseong-gu, Daejeon 305–350, South Korea

We recently proposed the generic name *Nemegtia* for a new oviraptorosaurian dinosaur from the Late Cretaceous Nemegt Formation of southwestern Mongolia (Lü *et al.*, 2004). However, this name is preoccupied by, and thus a junior synonym of, *Nemegtia* Szczechura (1978, p. 96), a genus of fresh water ostracod from the same formation of the same area (Late Cretaceous Nemegt Formation, southwestern Mongolia). We propose the name *Nemegtomaia* (Nemegt, geographic name, and Greek: maia, “good mother”) as the replacement name for *Nemegtia* Lü *et al.* (2004); the gender is feminine. The word “maia” stands for the fact that recent idea of oviraptorids is brooding eggs (e.g. Norell *et al.*, 1995) rather than stealing eggs (Osborn, 1924).

We thank Dr. Christian F. Kammerer of Committee on Evolutionary Biology, The University

of Chicago, for bringing the homonymy to our attention.

References

- Lü, J.-c., Y. Tomida, Y. Azuma, Z.-m. Dong & Y.-N. Lee, 2004. New oviraptorid dinosaur (Dinosauria: Oviraptorosauria) from the Nemegt Formation of southwestern Mongolia. *Bull. Natn. Sci. Mus., Tokyo*, Ser. C, **30**: 95–130.
- Norell, M. A., J. M. Clark, L. M. Chiappe & D. Dashzeveg, 1995. A nesting dinosaur. *Nature*, **378**: 774–776.
- Osborn, H. F., 1924. Three new Theropoda, *Protoceratops* zone, central Mongolia. *Amer. Mus. Novitates*, **144**: 1–12.
- Szczechura, J., 1978. Fresh-water ostracodes from the Nemegt Formation (Upper Cretaceous) of Mongolia. *Palaeontol. Pol.*, **38**: 65–121, pls. 16–37.