

## The authorship of the name *Ornismya Parzudaki* (Aves: Trochilidae)

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ABSTRACT: The name *Ornismya Parzudaki* has been credited to different authors. Here evidence is provided showing that Lesson is the correct author of the name for this taxon. The precedence of the name *Trochilus exortis* Fraser, 1840, is discussed and *Ornismya Parzudaki* seen as a senior synonym.

KEYWORDS: *Ornismya Parzudaki*, Lesson, Parzudaki, de Longuemare, author, priority, dating, *Heliangelus exortis*.

### INTRODUCTION

*Ornismya Parzudaki*<sup>1</sup> was described in 1840 in the *Revue Zoologique de la Société Cuvierienne*, in a paper entitled “Oiseaux-mouches rares ou nouveaux, communiqués par MM. Longuemare et Parzudaki, faisant partie du t. IV inédit de l’histoire naturelle des Oiseaux-mouches de M. Lesson”.

In subsequent works listing *Ornismya Parzudaki* in the synonymy of *Trochilus exortis* Fraser, 1840, French and German writers credited the description to Lesson while English and American writers considered either de Longuemare or de Longuemare & Parzudaki to have authored the name, as follows:

Bonaparte (1850: 76): *Ornismya parzudaki*, Less. 1840. Rev. Zool. 1840. p. 72.

Bonaparte (1854: 252): *Heliotrypha parzudakii*, Less. 1840.

Reichenbach (1854: 12): *Orn. Parzudakii* Less. 1840.

Cabanis & Heine (1860: 74): *Ornismya Parzudakii*, Less. R. Z. 1840. p. 72.

Gray (1869: 140): *Heliotrypha Parzudaki*, De Long.

Elliot (1876: 318): *Ornismya parzudakii*, De Long. & Parz. (nec Less.), Rev. Zool. 1840, March, p. 72.

Sclater & Salvin (1879: 529): *Heliotrypha parzudakii* (Longuem.)

Salvin (1892: 165): *Ornismya parzudakii*, de Long. & Parz. Rev. Zool. 1840, p. 72 (nec Lesson).

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<sup>1</sup> Current name: *Heliangelus exortis* (Fraser 1840).

Hellmayr (1911: 1186) even attributed the name to Sclater and Salvin as follows: *Heliotrypha parzudakii* Sclater & Salvin, P. Z. S. 1879, p. 529. Cory (1918: 266) used the attribution *Heliotrypha parzudakii* Bonaparte, Rev. Zool., 1854, p. 252.

## REASONS FOR THE CONFUSION

There are two main reasons that can explain this confusion. Firstly, the title of the paper itself, where the taxon is described, easily leads to ambiguity. Lesson, de Longuemare and Parzudaki are all mentioned in the title but not to the same degree. De Longuemare and Parzudaki are mentioned as having provided, or communicated ("*communiqués*"), specimens<sup>2</sup>, whereas Lesson is cited as the author of his "*histoire naturelle des Oiseaux-mouches*". This may explain why Elliot (1876) and Salvin (1892) specified "*nec Less.*" and "*nec Lesson*", respectively, doubtless referring to the earlier name *Ornismya parzudhaki* [sic] introduced by Lesson in "December 1838" [= 1839]<sup>3</sup>, believing the 1840 name to be a reference to that, or believing the latter to be an unavailable homonym.

Secondly, the titling of the paper does not clearly establish the author(s) of the paper; indeed one is tempted to believe that a fourth person, then anonymous, wrote the article. However, the journal included a "*TABLE DES NOMS D'AUTEURS*" at the end of the volume (page 379) where one finds: "*Lesson, Oiseaux-mouches nouv. [p.] 71*", "*Longuemare (Oiseaux-mouches nouveaux.) [p.] 71*", and "*Parzudhaki (Ois. -mouches nouv. [sic] [p.] 71*", referring to the same article and sustaining the view that Lesson, de Longuemare and Parzudaki were all authors.

## EVIDENCE OF THE CORRECT AUTHORSHIP

The authorship of *Ornismya Parzudaki* can be safely attributed to Lesson alone. The 1840 description includes the confusing, "*L'espèce décrite par moi sous ce nom, ayant été publiée par M. Gervais sous le nom d'Oiseau-mouche Ricord, cette espèce-ci conservera le nom du zélé amateur, M. Parduzaki [sic], qui nous l'a communiquée.*" (i.e.: "The species I described under this name [i.e. *Ornismya Parzudhaki* Lesson 1839], having been published by M. Gervais under the name *Oiseau-mouche Ricord*, this [new] species [i.e. *Ornismya Parzudaki* Lesson 1840] will preserve the name of the zealous amateur, M. Parduzaki [sic], who sent it to us."

Of the 'Oiseau-mouche Ricord' Lesson more expansively should have written, 'published by M. Gervais under the name *Ornismya ricordii* in 1835 in the *Magasin de Zoologie*, 5, in plate 41'. This would have made it clear that Lesson described two different species of hummingbird with essentially the same name. Firstly, *Ornismya Parzudhaki* (Lesson 1839: 315), now a junior synonym of *Ornismya Ricordii* Gervais, 1835 and secondly, *Ornismya Parzudaki* (Lesson 1840: 72-73), now a synonym of *Trochilus exortis* Fraser, 1840. Lesson, clearly aware of the precedence of *Ornismya Ricordii* Gervais over his own *Ornismya Parzudhaki*, considered his original name invalid<sup>4</sup>, and deliberately chose to again honour

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<sup>2</sup>Parzudaki is known to have received many specimens from Colombia that were sold and described by other naturalists (Stresemann 1975: 148)

<sup>3</sup>The original description is dated from December 1838 but see Dickinson (2011: 243-244) for the correct dating.

<sup>4</sup>Whereas it was in fact a homonym.

Parzudaki from whom he had received many specimens. Thus it was no accident that Lesson gave the name as “*O. [ornismya] Parzudaki*, Lesson”, and his words make clear that neither de Longuemare alone nor de Longuemare and Parzudaki shared the naming of this taxon.

#### **TROCHILUS EXORTIS FRASER 1840 AND ORNISMYA PARZUDAKI LESSON 1840, WHICH NAME APPEARED FIRST?**

According to Sclater (1893: 437), the Part. VIII, No lxxxvi, pp. 11-24 of the *Proceedings of the Zoological Society of London*, where Fraser published his *Trochilus exortis*, is dated from July 1840. The name *Ornismya Parzudaki* Lesson in the *Revue Zoologique de la Société Cuvierienne* appears to date from March 1840, but, following the recommendations made by Dickinson (2011: 244), it is more safely dated April 1840. Therefore, the name *Ornismya Parzudaki* Lesson, 1840, should have precedence over the name *Trochilus exortis*, Fraser, 1840, but traditionally has not been given that precedence. The two conditions of Art. 23.9.1 of the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature* (ICZN 1999) would both have to be met to permit reversal of precedence. I believe the first condition (non-use since 1899) is met. The second condition, the use of the junior name (*exortis*) in at least 25 works, published by at least 10 authors in the immediately preceding 50 years (i.e. between 1 January 1964 and 31 December 2013) is also met (see Appendix). Thus, the older name *Ornismya Parzudaki* Lesson, 1840, is a *nomen oblitum* while the younger name *Trochilus exortis* Fraser, 1840, is a *nomen protectum*.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

The author of the name *Ornismya Parzudaki* is Lesson, 1840. The description is part of paper written by Lesson, de Longuemare and Parzudaki. Thus, the full original citation is:

*Ornismya Parzudaki* Lesson in Lesson, de Longuemare & Parzudaki, 1840. *Revue Zoologique de la Société Cuvierienne* [3]: 72-73.

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