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978-0-521-18422-9 - Patterns of Growth and Development in the Genus *Homo*

Edited by J. L. Thompson, G. E. Krovitz and A. J. Nelson

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Cambridge Studies in Biological and Evolutionary Anthropology 37

Patterns of Growth and Development in the Genus *Homo*

It is generally accepted that the earliest human ancestors grew more like apes than like humans today. If they did so, and we are now different, when, how, and why did our modern growth patterns evolve? This book focuses on species within the genus *Homo* to investigate the evolutionary origins of characteristic human patterns and rates of craniofacial and postcranial growth and development, and to explore unique ontogenetic patterns within each fossil species. Experts examine growth patterns found within available Plio-Pleistocene hominid samples, and analyze variation in ontogenetic patterns and rates of development in recent modern humans in order to provide a comparative context for fossil hominid studies. Presenting studies of some of the newest juvenile fossil specimens and information on *Homo antecessor* – the newest species assigned to the genus – this book will provide a rich data source with which anthropologists and evolutionary biologists can address the questions posed above.

JENNIFER L. THOMPSON is a paleoanthropologist and Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology and Ethnic Studies at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Her research interests include paleoanthropology, paleobiology, hominid growth and development, human origins, skeletal biology, odontology, and morphometrics.

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