

Scientists say they have found a 43 million-year-old fossil of a whale ancestor in Egypt.

The fossil remains help show how ancestors of modern whales might have moved from living on land to living in water.

An Egyptian-led team of researchers made the discovery.

The newly found whale belongs to the Protocetidae group.

That is a group of ancient whale ancestors that might have lived on land and in the water.

The fossil was found in the Fayum Depression in Egypt's Western Desert.

The area was once covered by a sea.

Scientists have made many discoveries there that have provided more information about the evolution of whales.

The new species is named *Phiomictetus Anubis*.

It is estimated to have been three meters long and weighed about 600 kilograms.

It fed on other animals, the researchers said.

It is the oldest whale ancestor known in Africa.

"*Phiomictetus anubis* is a key new whale species, and a critical discovery for Egyptian and African paleontology," said Abdullah Gohar of the Mansoura University Vertebrate Palaeontology Centre (MUVF).

He is the lead writer of a paper on the fossil.

The whale evolution in Africa is still largely unknown, the researchers said.

But work in the area can provide new information about the evolutionary change from amphibious to fully aquatic whales.

Rocks in the Fayum Depression cover a 12 million year period.

Researchers have found "semiaquatic crocodile-like whales to giant fully aquatic whales," said Mohamed Sameh.

He is with the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency and also a writer of the study.

The research also raises questions about ancient environments.

Part of the whale's name honors the Fayum Depression.

The species name comes from Anubis, the ancient Egyptian god connected with the afterlife.

I'm Dan Novak.

科学家称，他们在埃及发现了一块 **4300** 万年前的鲸鱼祖先化石。

化石遗骸有助于说明现代鲸鱼的祖先可能是如何从陆地迁移到水中生活的。

一个由埃及领导的研究小组发现了它。

新发现的鲸鱼属于原鲸科。

那是一群可能生活在陆地和水中的古老鲸鱼祖先。

这块化石是在埃及西部沙漠的法尤姆洼地发现的。

这个地区曾是一片汪洋。

科学家们在那里有许多发现，为鲸鱼的进化提供了更多的信息。

这个新物种被命名为阿努比斯原鲸。

据估计，它长 **3** 米，重约 **600** 公斤。

研究人员说，它以其他动物为食。

它是非洲已知的最古老的鲸鱼祖先。

曼苏拉大学脊椎动物古生物中心(MUVP)的阿卜杜拉·戈哈尔说：“阿努比斯原鲸是一种关键的新鲸鱼物种，也是埃及和非洲古生物学的一个重要发现。”

他是一篇关于该化石的论文的主要作者。

研究人员说，鲸鱼在非洲的进化在很大程度上仍然是未知的。

但在该地区的工作可以提供关于鲸鱼从两栖到完全水栖的渐进性变化的新信息。

法尤姆洼地中的岩石存在了 **1200** 万年。

穆罕默德·萨梅说，研究人员发现了“半水生鳄鱼状鲸鱼到巨型全水生鲸鱼”。

他就职于埃及环境事务署，也是这项研究的作者之一。

这项研究还提出了有关古代环境的问题。

该鲸鱼的名字中有一部分是为了纪念法尤姆洼地。

这个物种的名字来自阿努比斯，一位与来世有关的古埃及神。

我是丹·诺瓦克。