

A NEW *MONAESSES* SPIDER FROM MADHYA PRADESH,  
INDIA (ARANEAE : THOMISIDAE)

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MATERIAL

The description is based on two female and one male specimens.

The genus *Monaeses* was erected by Thorell with the type species *Monastes paradoxus* Lucas, 1846, which was renamed by Thorell (1869) as *Monaeses paradoxus*, from Algeria. Tikader (1963) described *M. mukundi* from Poona (Maharashtra). The description of another new species *M. jabalpurensis* is given.

The type specimens are deposited in the National Zoological Collections, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

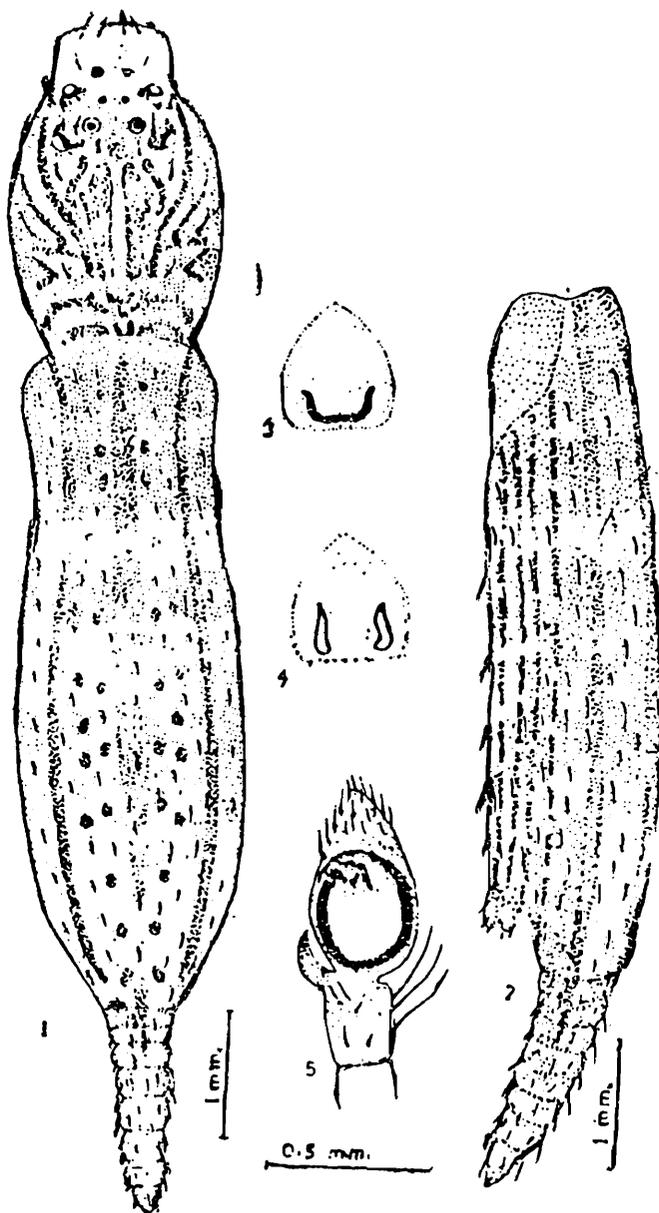
*Monaeses jabalpurensis* sp. nov.

*General* : Cephalothorax and legs light brownish green ; abdomen yellowish green. Total length 8.90 mm. Carapace 2.30 mm. long, 1.60 mm. wide ; abdomen 6.70 mm. long, 1.70 mm. wide.

*Cephalothorax* : Longer than wide, convex and sparsely spined ; clypeus long, rectangular and provided with two pairs of spines. Eyes dark, in two rows with lateral eyes larger and ringed with white tubercles ; anterior row slightly recurved, and posterior slightly more recurved than the anterior ; median ocular area longer than wide and wider behind than in front. Chelicerae long and directed forward, provided dorsally with long spines. Legs long, slender, especially I and II clothed with spiny hairs.

*Abdomen* : Very long and slender, slightly overlapping base of cephalothorax in front, dorsally clothed with short spines and provided with three longitudinal black bands as in fig. 1. Ventral side slightly lighter than dorsal side and provided laterally with brownish longitudinal discontinuous bands. Lateral side provided with four brown longitudinal almost parallel lines extending from the anterior extremity to near the spinnerets as in fig. 2. Caudal part of abdomen extending much past the spinnerets and covered with numerous folds, clothed with short spines. Epigyne as in fig. 3.

Spermathecae as in fig. 4. Male specimen nearly one third length of female, dark in colour. Male palp as in fig. 5.



Figs. 1-5. *Monaeses jabalpurensis* sp. nov.

1. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted. 2. Lateral view of abdomen.
3. Epigyne. 4. Spermathecae. 5. Right male palp (Ventral view).

*Type specimens* : Holotype ♀, paratype 1 ♀, and allotype 1 ♂, in spirit, other details as below.

*Type-locality* : India, Madhya Pradesh, Barela village, Jabalpur dist., 15 ix. 1981.  
Coll. U. A. Gajbe.

This species resembles *Monaeses parvati* Tikader but differs from it as follows :

- (i) Cephalothorax and legs light brownish-green but in *M. parvati* cephalothorax pale yellowish-olive green and legs green.

- (ii) Abdomen laterally provided with four brown longitudinal lines but in *M. parvati* abdomen laterally provided with five lines.
- (iii) Epigyne and spermathecae also structurally different.

#### SUMMARY

*Monaeses jabalpurensis* sp. nov. (Family-Thomisidae) from Jabalpur district, Madhya Pradesh is described.

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