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## COPROPHAGY-RELATED INTERSPECIFIC NOCTURNAL INTERACTIONS BETWEEN JAPANESE MACAQUES AND SIKA DEER

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Diurnal primates spend about half of their time at their sleeping sites. However, wild primates' sleep and their sleep-related behaviors have been investigated in limited aspects, because of difficulties of observing the animals' activities due to the poor visibility in the dark. In this study, we introduce nocturnal behaviors of wild Japanese macaques (*Macaca fuscata yakui*), especially interspecific interactions with sika deer (*Cervus nippon yakushimae*). Using a highly sensitive video camera, we found evidence of nocturnal interspecific interactions, such as agonistic interactions, between macaques and deer. Deer approached sleeping clusters of macaques, which slept on the ground, to eat their feces or unidentified materials near the sleeping clusters, and as a result, the macaques were often displaced from their sleeping site. There was a significant difference in the occurrence of macaque-deer agonistic interactions between seasons. Our results showed that the size of the sleeping cluster, the number of adult macaques in the cluster, and the existence of adult males in the cluster did not influence the occurrence of the agonistic interactions. Finally, we discuss the influence of this interaction on macaques and the explanations of influential factors leading to nocturnal coprophagy of macaques' feces by deer.

Keywords: sleeping, sleep disturbance, coprophagy, Japanese macaque