

GENETIC SURVEY OF HYBRIDS IN A SEMI-WILD POPULATION OF LONG-TAILED (*Macaca fascicularis*) AND RHESUS MACAQUES (*Macaca mulatta*): HUMAN-ABO BLOOD GROUPS

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Rhesus (*Macaca mulatta*) and long-tailed macaques (*M. fascicularis*) are phylogenetically close to each other, and they share common biological characteristics. They are allo- or parapatrically distributed in Southeast Asia. The interspecific boundary between the two species has been proposed at 15–20°N, and the hybridization between them has been suggested at the areas. Recently, a troop of free-ranging long-tailed mixed with rhesus macaques and the hybrids were found at the south of the proposed hybrid zone, at 13°21' N 101°06'E, in southeast Thailand. Individuals showed various hybrid characteristics, for example, widely varying tail lengths among them, ranging 37.8–129.3% of their crown-rump lengths (standardized by sitting height). As the first step of genetic evaluation, we determined their human-ABO blood groups using saline agglutination method. We collected blood samples of 42 individuals in July 2006. They showed frequencies of A, B, AB and O blood groups of 26.2, 7.1, 38.1 and 28.6%, respectively (polymorphic). While the frequency profiles of long-tailed and rhesus macaques in other populations living in Thailand were also polymorphic (Malaivijitnond *et al.*, 2008), those of rhesus macaques from India and China were monomorphic (group B only). Therefore, genetic analysis should be done on these macaques to clarify their probable hybrid offspring.

Keywords: human-ABO blood groups, long-tailed macaque, rhesus macaque, hybrid