

QUATERNARY PRIMATES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, BETWEEN PALAEOENVIRONMENTS AND HUMAN PRESSURES.

T. Ingicco

Museum national d'Histoire naturelle, Departement de Prehistoire, Paris, France

Presenter's Email: ingicco@mnhn.fr

Non-human primate fossil remains may represent up to 70% of the Late Pleistocene and Holocene faunal assemblages excavated in archaeological karstic fillings of Southeast Asia (such as Song Terus and Tabuhan caves in Southern Java, Indonesia). The relationships between humans and monkeys is in question as well as climate variations after MIS 2. The subfossils are *Macaca fascicularis*, identified from some remains, *Trachypithecus auratus* which is the best represented, and a new giant species of *Trachypithecus*. If those monkeys were domesticated or commensals we hypothesize that their alimentation should be different than wild individuals. Dental microwears observed on SEM revealed that the nutrition of the fossils was the same as today. The concretions on bones are at the same proportions all along the Holocene stratigraphic layers preserved which implies that the humidity was always present from 12000 BP to 4000BP. Then the abundance of non-human primates is certainly due to food selection by prehistoric men. This is confirmed by archaeozoological analysis. Also many *Trachypithecus* faces as well as canines used as ornaments, and the presence of monkeys in human burials let us see the importance of those colobes in *Homo sapiens* metaphysic world. At the end, monkeys fibula and ulna transformed for tools show the importance of those primates in all the *Homo sapiens* behaviours at the beginning of Holocene in insular Southeast Asia.

Keywords: *Trachypithecus*, Pleistocene-Holocene boundary, Human behaviour, Palaeoenvironments