

CONSTRUCTING PRIMATE LONG-TERM RESEARCH BASES: AN EXAMPLE OF TIBETAN MACAQUE (*MACACA THIBETANA*) AT MT. HUANGSHAN

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Most primates are long-lived animals and heavily rely on long investment in their lives. Many researches demonstrated that some short-term study could not reflect real social life in primates. Therefore, constructing a research platform for long-term comparison becomes important issue. Our field study base for Tibetan Macaque (*Macaca thibetana*) is in Huangshan National Reserve in Anhui Province, China, where is a world culture and nature heritage and well-known tourist destination. The research base was found in 1985. Two free-ranging groups of Tibetan macaques have been followed up since then. We identified all members and kept the historical records of group demography. We defined 32 behavioral catalogs, in which some behaviors such as infant-caring, bridging, power-coalition were testified uniquely. We also established a standard research methods/protocols for behavioral observation so that the research results from different researchers or periods could be compared. Our field base is easy to reach and provided with advanced logistical support such as Internet, telephone, cable TV and local cooperation. It is opening to all researchers and publics who are interesting in Tibetan Macaque and nature. We provide the case with the hope to pay more attention to systemization and standardization for primate studies.

Keywords: Long-term study, Standardization, Tibetan macaque, Mt. Huangshan