

SOCIAL INTERACTION OF MALE SULAWESI CRESTED BLACK MACAQUES (*Macaca nigra*) IN THE TANGKOKO-BATUANGUS NATURE RESERVE, NORTH SULAWESI, INDONESIA

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Social interaction of male Sulawesi crested black macaque (*Macaca nigra*) was studied in the Tangkoko-Batuangus Nature Reserve, North Sulawesi, Indonesia from January to October 2008. The subject Rambo II group consisted of 7 adult males and 19 adult females at the early stage of observation. The male transfer was often found between neighboring groups; 3 adult males emigrated from and one adult male immigrated into the group. Dominance hierarchy among those adult males was estimated with *ad libitum* sampling based on the agonistic interaction every month and its dynamic changes were traced for 10 months. Landau's index of linearity indicated that the dominance order was definitely clear in every months. The α -male copulated very frequently both with estrous and non-estrous females while the other males less. For mid-ranked males, the frequency of copulation was not always related to their rank and it was changed with their membership changes. Approach-retreat interaction between adult males was analyzed on frequencies of the approaching individuals and responses by the recipients; i.e., positive approach, neutral and negative avoidance. The dominate males approached subordinate males more often (70%) than vice versa and positive approaches by the recipients (40%) was found ordinarily while negative response (20%) was less. The approach of subordinate males was responded positively by the dominant males (85%) while negative (7%), neutral (2%) and avoiding contact are less (7%). The result may indicate that dominance relationships played a role of spatial control among them and differentiation of interaction patterns.

Keywords: Social system, dominance hierarchy, *Macaca nigra*, Tangkoko-Batuangus Nature Reserve.