

MULTI-LEVEL SOCIAL STRUCTURE AND INFANTICIDE

A.Mori¹, U. Mori², T. Iwamoto³

¹Kyoto¹ Kyoto University, Inuyama, Aichi, Japan, ²Nagoya Bunri University, Inazawa, Aichi, Japan ³Miyazaki University, Miyazaki, Miyazaki, Japan

Presenter's Email: mori_b@pri.Kyoto-u.ac.jp

We found a gelada population on the southern plateau of Ethiopian highland in 1989. This population had been separated from northern population by rift valley and considered to belong to different subspecies from northern ones. The social structure of this population has a number of different characteristics from northern populations, small unit size, rare second male, anti-predator behavior, and especially infanticide. However, they showed the common characteristic of abortion after unit take over. We review our works, and will try to discuss on infanticide in multi-level social structure. Characteristics of infanticide should be different depending on the development or evolution of multi-level social structures. In this regard we also mention about interactions between adult males and infants in a hamadryas population at Taif, Saudi Arabia. Adult males showed quite different behavior toward male infants from female infants, i.e. interactions toward male infants had characteristics of play, and those toward female infants had characteristics of herding behavior, and sometimes adult showed abusive behavior towards female infants. The study in Saudi Arabia was a cooperative work with National Wildlife Research Center in Taif under National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development (NCWCD) Saudi Arabia.

Keywords: infanticide, gelada, hamadryas, infant