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THE JAPANESE MACAQUES OF ARASHIYAMA: DEMOGRAPHIC STUDIES, BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH, AND MANAGEMENT EFFORTS

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The Arashiyama group of Japanese macaques (*Macaca fuscata fuscata*), a free-ranging provisioned troop living in the mountains on the northwest outskirts of city of Kyoto, Japan, is one of the longest studied non-human primate populations in the world, and has been the focus of numerous international collaborative research efforts for decades. This symposium aims to 1) emphasize the unique value of the longitudinal data sets that have been collected on the Arashiyama macaques for more than half a century, 2) review some historical and ongoing research contributions that are indicative of the range of investigations conducted on this group, and 3) encourage future studies of this primate population. First, we will show how fifty years of continuous demographic data represent unique resources for behavioral studies that are contingent on individual identification and known genealogical relationships. Then, we will present some of the major findings that have been derived from these longitudinal records, covering topics such as group fission, male transfer, reproductive and non-reproductive sexual behaviors, social interactions, and behavioral traditions. Finally, we will discuss the scope and magnitude of research and management efforts that have been conducted on the Arashiyama macaques, as well as, its overall significance for wider issues in the area of evolutionary studies.

Keywords: long-term research, demography, Arashiyama, Japanese macaques