

A

International Symposium on Quaternary Environmental Changes and Humans in Asia and the Western Pacific

Dates: November 19 – 22, 2007

Venue: National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), Tsukuba, Japan

Location: 60 km northeast of Tokyo and 60 km northwest of Narita (Tokyo) International Airport

Key date:

September 15, 2007: Deadline for submission of abstracts and requests for hotel accommodation.

In celebration of

the 50th anniversary of the Japan Association for Quaternary Research (JAQUA)

in conjunction with the 125th anniversary of the Geological Survey of Japan (GSJ), AIST

Organizers:

Japan Association for Quaternary Research (JAQUA)

Geological Survey of Japan, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)

Supporting organizations:

INQUA Commission on Stratigraphy and Geochronology

INQUA Commission on Coastal and Marine Processes

INQUA Commission on Palaeoecology and Human Evolution

INQUA Commission on Terrestrial Processes, Deposits and History (provisional)

Japan National Committee for the International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE)

Science Council of Japan (planned)

Invitation

The Japan Association for Quaternary Research (JAQUA) and the Geological Survey of Japan (GSJ), National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), celebrate their 50th and 125th anniversaries respectively, with an international symposium entitled "*Quaternary Environmental Changes and Humans in Asia and the Western Pacific*". The conference will be held at the GSJ, AIST in Tsukuba, Japan from November 20–22, 2007. JAQUA was founded on April 29, 1956 with 204 members. The Society currently includes more than 1600 members and has published an official journal, *The Quaternary Research "Daiyonki-Kenkyu"*, since 1957. The Geological Survey of Japan (GSJ) was established for geological mapping of the country and relevant study on February 13, 1882, and has been conducting geological surveys and geological research. The GSJ has been part of the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) since April 1, 2001.

The objectives of the symposium are to present an updated view on Quaternary Research and to foster the exchange of knowledge, collaborative research, and networking in Asia and the Western Pacific regions. Six thematic sessions are planned:

Planned symposium

There will be two plenary keynote lectures on the opening morning (November 20) followed by six thematic sessions from the afternoon of November 20 to the morning of November 22 and two plenary keynote lectures on the closing afternoon (November 22). Each session will include oral presentations by several invited speakers. Only invited and keynote speakers will make oral presentations during morning and afternoon sessions. All other papers will be poster presentations during 2-hour lunch breaks. However, the conveners may ask some authors to upgrade their poster presentations to oral presentations. Other papers on Quaternary research are also welcome as posters in the symposium.

Plenary keynote lectures

Prof. Emeritus Hiroshi MACHIDA, Tokyo Metropolitan University, Japan

“Features of Quaternary studies in Japan, focused on tephra-based environmental changes”

Prof. WANG Pinxian, Tongji University, China

"Feeling the Earth's pulse from global monsoon records"

Prof. Thijs van KOLFSCHOTEN, Leiden University, the Netherlands

"Early human history in Europe during the late Early and early Middle Pleistocene"

Profs. David J. LOWE, University of Waikato, New Zealand, and Rewi M. NEWNHAM, University of Plymouth, UK

"Late Quaternary environmental change and archaeology in New Zealand: NZ-INTIMATE project and role of tephrochronology"

Outlines of six sessions with partial list of invited speakers

Session 1 Paleooceanography in the Western Pacific and Marginal Seas

Convener: Tadamichi OBA (Hokkaido University), Ken IKEHARA (Geological Survey of Japan, AIST)

This session offers you an opportunity to present and discuss the results of your studies related to paleooceanography in the Western Pacific and its marginal seas (Okhotsk Sea, Japan Sea, East China Sea, South China Sea, etc.). In particular, the following subjects will be welcomed: 1) fluctuations of the western boundary currents and their relationship to atmospheric circulation or ENSO-like variability; 2) Asian monsoon records in marine sediments and their relationship to the Dansgaard-Oeschger cycle, loess, lake sediment, and stalactite records; or 3) Paleoenvironmental changes in the marginal seas and linkages to global climate change.

Invited speakers

Prof. Min-Te CHEN, National Taiwan Ocean University, Chinese Taipei

"The last 100 kyr in tropical western Pacific: Insights from East and South China Sea marine cores"

Prof. Boo-Keum KHIM, Pusan National University, Korea

"Variation of geochemical properties in the northern East Sea (Sea of Japan) during the last 170 kyr"

Session 2 Geological Context and Chronology of Early Hominids in Java

Convener: Shuji MATSU'URA (Ochanomizu University)

The island of Java, Indonesia, has been the source of a number of fossil remains of early Asian hominids for over 100 years, and these fossil specimens have significant bearing on elucidating evolutionary histories of *Homo erectus*. Recent international joint research projects have provided new data on stratigraphy and chronology of the hominid-fossil bearing deposits in Java. There is, however, still much controversy, especially as to their chronometric age. This session will deal with developing a framework to address the dating problems on the early hominids of Java.

Invited speakers

Dr. Fachroel AZIZ, Geological Survey Institute, Indonesia

"Faunal stratigraphy of the fossil hominid sites in Java"

Session 3 Coastal Environmental Changes and Human Activities in the Asia-Pacific Region

Convener: Yoshiki SAITO (Geological Survey of Japan, AIST), Yusuke YOKOYAMA (University of Tokyo), Till J.J. HANEBUTH (University of Bremen)

The coastal zone, where land and sea meet, has changed in response to sea level and climate changes throughout the Quaternary, and more recently through human activities. This session focuses on the coastal environmental changes and processes, both onshore and offshore, that resulted from natural and anthropogenic causes during the Late Quaternary.

Relevant organizations: INQUA Commission on Coastal and Marine Processes, IGCP-475 DeltaMAP, CCOP DelSEA, and IGBP-LOICZ.

Invited speakers

Prof. Tezer M. ESAT, The Australian National University, Australia

"Severe climate and sea-level fluctuations over the past 140 ky and opportunities for human migrations across the South East Asian and the Australian continental boundaries"

Dr. Niran CHAIMANEE, CCOP, Thailand

"Erosion processes and rehabilitation measures for the mangrove muddy coast of the Chao Phraya delta, Thailand"

Session 4 Environmental Changes and Human Occupation in North and East Asia during OIS 3 and OIS 2

Convener: Akira ONO (Tokyo Metropolitan University)

This session focuses on the correlation between environmental changes and human activities at Paleolithic sites in North and East Asia, with particular reference to the OIS3 and OIS2 periods. Chronologically, the middle of OIS3 corresponds broadly to the Middle to Upper Eurasian Paleolithic transition, and this period also incorporates critical issues of human occupation in the Japanese islands from the Asian mainland. Although traces of Upper Paleolithic people during OIS2 have been found at many locations in the North and East Asia, human occupation in the context of environmental changes is still open to discussion. Subjects of the session will include: 1) basic chronological issues of Paleolithic industries with numerical dates, 2) the present situation of reconstructing environmental changes during OIS3 and OIS2 among the areas of interest, and 3) Paleolithic features, both common and diverse, among faunal and lithic assemblages.

Invited speakers

Prof. Anatoly M. KUZNETSOV, Far Eastern State University, Vladivostok, Russia

"Environmental changes during OIS3 and OIS2 and the origin of microblade industries in north-east Asia"

Prof. LEE Heonjong, Mokpo University, Korea

"Recent Palaeolithic and Quaternary research in the Youngsan river basin"

Prof. GAO Xing, Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

"A behavioral model for human evolution in the Pleistocene in China."

Session 5 Enormous Tectonic Events in Asia—Their Effects on Landforms and Human Activity

Convener: Takashi AZUMA (Geological Survey of Japan, AIST)

In this session, we will focus on tectonic phenomena in Asia and how they affect landform development and human activities. Active tectonics and tectonic phenomena, including volcanic activity and earthquakes, are generated both on plate boundaries and active inland faults. Geological data indicates the existence of a large number of huge natural disasters beyond the historical record. We will discuss the characteristics of natural disasters and how to mitigate

the damage they cause.

Invited speakers

Prof. Yue-Gau CHEN, National Taiwan University, Chinese Taipei

"Disaster of the 1999 Chi-Chi earthquake and current seismic hazard program in Taiwan." (provisional title)

Session 6 The Lower-Middle Pleistocene Boundary in the Asia/Pacific Region

Convener: Muneki MITAMURA (Osaka City University), Nadya ALEXEEVA (Geological Institute Siberian Branch of RAS)

The commission of stratigraphy and geochronology, one of five INQUA committees, is discussing the installation of a global boundary stratotype of section and point (GSSP) of the Lower-Middle Pleistocene boundary. Now, three candidate sites have been proposed as the GSSP: Montalbano Jorica section (south Italy), Valle di Manche section (south Italy) and Yoro Chiba section (Japan). We will advance discussion on the Lower-Middle Pleistocene boundary in Japan and Asia.

Invited speakers

Dr. Nadya RAZJIGAEVA, Pacific Institute of Geography Far East Branch, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia

"Lower-Middle Pleistocene boundary in the Kuril Islands"

Dr. Nadya ALEXEEVA, Geological Institute Siberian Branch, Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia

"Mammalian fauna change around the Lower-Middle Pleistocene boundary on the Eurasia"

Schedule at a glance (provisional)

	Nov. 19 (Mon)	Nov. 20 (Tue)	Nov. 21 (Wed)	Nov. 22 (Thu)
Morning session 09:00–12:00		Plenary session Keynote lectures	Session 2 Session 3	Session 5 Session 6
12:00–14:00		Lunch & Posters	Lunch & Posters	Lunch & Posters
Afternoon session 14:00–17:00	Registration 16:00–	Session 1	Session 4	Plenary session Keynote lectures
Evening	Ice-breaker	Conference dinner		

Venue

The symposium will be at the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), in the auditorium in AIST Central. AIST is in Tsukuba City, about 60 km north of Tokyo and 60 km northwest of the Narita International Airport.

Web site: http://www.aist.go.jp/aist_e/guidemap/tsukuba/tsukuba_map.html

Official language

English is the official language of the symposium.

Call for abstracts

Abstracts should be e-mailed to the Conference Secretariat <jaqua50org@m.aist.go.jp> by **September 15**. Abstracts should be composed in MS Word and must contain the following information in the following order: title, author(s), affiliation(s), e-mail address of corresponding author, main text (A4, 1 page including figures, less than 500 words). A template is provided at the end of this circular. All abstracts will be published in an abstracts volume that will be distributed to all participants. Successful contributors will be notified by October 10. The conveners may ask some authors to upgrade their poster presentations to oral presentations.

Post-conference publications

Some conveners are planning to publish papers presented at relevant sessions in special issues of international journals (e.g., Quaternary International, Journal of Quaternary Science). If you are interested in the publication, please contact directly relevant conveners.

Registration and payment of registration fee

The registration fee covers the cost of the abstracts volume, coffee/tea during the symposium, and attendance at the ice breaker function on November 19 and the conference dinner on November 20.

Regular participants:	JPY 10,000 (= ca. 70 EURO, US\$ 80)
Student participants:	JPY 5,000 (= ca. 35 EURO, US\$40),
Spouse/accompanying person:	JPY 5,000 (abstracts volume not included)

Pre-registration by email using the registration form at the end of this circular is preferred. On-site registration is acceptable only for those who do not have presentation and hotel request.

The registration fee must be paid in cash at the registration desk on arrival at the symposium.

The registration desk will be at the Geological Survey of Japan (AIST Central, Building no. 7) in the afternoon of November 19 and in the Auditorium (AIST Central) from November 20 to 22.

Please note that those who are presenting papers or posters, and those who have requested assistance with hotel accommodation (see below) must submit the registration form by **September 15**.

Accommodation

The Conference Secretariat has booked rooms for participants at the Okura Frontier Hotel Tsukuba Epochal. A special discount price is available only for conference participants. Please complete and return the request for accommodation (at the end of the registration form) to the Secretariat by **September 15**.

Okura Frontier Hotel Tsukuba Epochal:

2-20-1 Takezono, Tsukuba-city, Ibaraki 305-0032, Japan

Phone: +81-29-860-7700, Fax: +81-29-860-7701, E-mail: epochal@okura-tsukuba.co.jp

Web page: <http://www.okura-tsukuba.co.jp/index.html>

Visas

All visitors to Japan must have a passport that is valid for at least six months after their arrival. The Japanese government requires a valid visa for entry to Japan by people of many nationalities. Please consult your travel agent or a Japanese Embassy well in advance of your arrival regarding visa requirements. You may also check Japanese visa requirements for people of various nationalities at http://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/02.html. If you need a letter from the Conference Secretariat related to visa application, please provide your passport details (and those of your spouse or accompanying person if applicable) in the registration form with your short CV (1-2 pages, A4). If you complete this part of the registration form we will send the required document to the address you provide in the registration form.

Weather

Late autumn is one of the best seasons in Tsukuba.. Typical daily maximum temperatures in late November are 13–16 °C with overnight minima of 2–4 °C. Weekly cold fronts bringing rain and cool weather are common at this time of year.

Currency

The currency in Japan is the yen (1 US\$ = ca. 120 JP yen). Foreign currency is best exchanged on arrival at the airport, but can also be exchanged at the conference hotel and at some local banks.

Getting from the international airport to the hotel and symposium venue

Narita International Airport is about 60 km from Tsukuba.. There are nine public bus services each day from the airport to Tsukuba city. We recommend that you arrange your flight schedule so that you arrive at a time that will suit bus departure times (schedule below). It usually takes one hour to clear immigration/customs.

From the airport to Tsukuba city

The counter for purchase of bus tickets is near the exit from customs. The fare to Tsukuba Center bus terminal is JPY 2,540-. Credit card facilities are not available at the ticket counter. The trip from the airport to Tsukuba Center takes about 90 minutes. Please note that Tsukuba Center bus terminal is not the final destination of the bus.

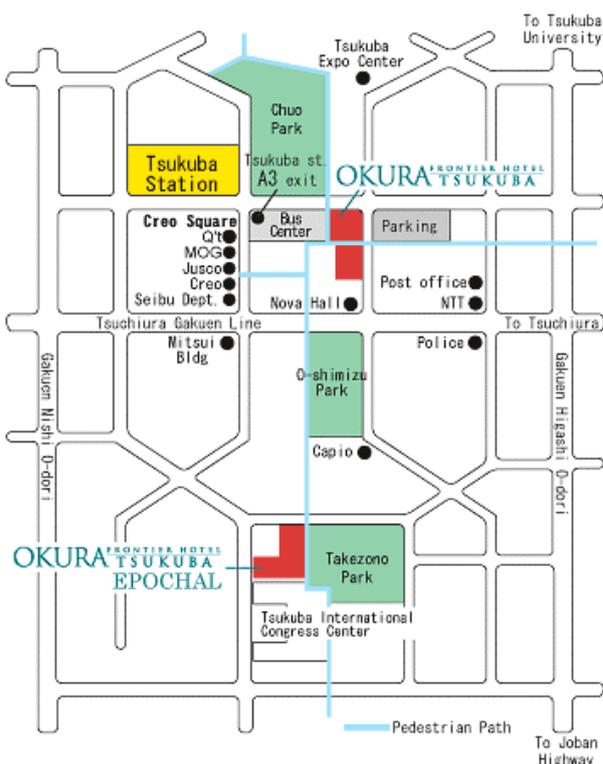
<u>Terminal 2</u> <u>departure</u>	<u>Terminal 1</u> <u>departure</u>	<u>Tsukuba Center</u> <u>arrival</u>
7:20	7:25	9:00
9:05	9:10	10:45
10:35	10:40	12:15
12:50	12:55	14:30
14:35	14:40	16:15
16:15	16:20	17:55
17:20	17:25	19:00
18:40	18:45	20:20
20:00	20:05	22:00

If your scheduled arrival time is too late to catch the last daily bus, please contact the Conference Secretariat by e-mail (jaqua50org@m.aist.go.jp) in advance.

From Tsukuba Center bus terminal to the Okura Frontier Hotel Tsukuba Epochal

We have booked rooms at the Okura Frontier Hotel Tsukuba Epochal* for attendees from foreign countries. The hotel is about 500 m south from the Tsukuba Center bus terminal (<http://www.okura-tsukuba.co.jp/english/access.html>). From the bus terminal to the hotel takes about 10 minutes on foot. If you prefer to use a taxi, the fare is about JPY 700-.

* Please note that there is also an Okura Frontier Hotel Tsukuba (not to be confused with the Okura Frontier Hotel Tsukuba *Epochal*, where we have booked rooms).



From the Okura Frontier Hotel Tsukuba Epochal to the symposium venue at AIST

The symposium venue at AIST is about 3 km south of the Okura Frontier Hotel Tsukuba Epochal. Chartered bus service between the hotel and AIST will be provided during the symposium.

Getting from Tokyo to the symposium venue

Taking the highway bus is a convenient way to get from JR Tokyo Station to AIST. Your destination is “Namiki ni-chome”, which is right in front of the main entrance of AIST. The bus departs from departure point 3 at the South Yaesu exit of JR Tokyo Station. The one-way single fare is JPY 1,150-. Buses depart every 10–20 minutes and the trip to Tsukuba takes 60–90 minutes. Timetables can be viewed at (<<http://www.jrbuskanto.co.jp/mn/ceindex.html>> click on “jyoban area”).

Key date:

September 15 is the deadline for submission of abstracts and for requests for hotel accommodation.

For further information:

Conference web page: http://www.soc.nii.ac.jp/qr/english/meetings/symposium2007_e.html

Conference Secretariat:

E-mail: jaqua50org@m.aist.go.jp, or

Dr. Takashi Azuma or Dr. Yoshiki Saito <yoshiki.saito@aist.go.jp>

Geological Survey of Japan, AIST Central 7, Higashi 1-1-1, Tsukuba 305-8567, Japan

Fax: +81-29-861-3803 or 3747

Registration form

Please send your completed form in the body of an e-mail message, or as an e-mail attachment, to the Conference Secretariat jaqua50org@m.aist.go.jp. If you do not receive a response within one week to confirm receipt of your registration form by the Conference Secretariat, please send an e-mail to <yoshiki.saito@aist.go.jp>.

**International Symposium on
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Surname _____ Given name _____

Preferred title (select one) Prof./Dr./Mr./Mrs./Miss Male [] Female []

Affiliation _____

Address _____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Your presentation (if applicable):

Session: [1:] [2:] [3:] [4:] [5:] [6:] [others:]

Type of presentation: [] Invited oral from session [] conveners, [] Poster

Title of presentation: _____

Abstract enclosed Yes [] No []

Do you intend to submit a manuscript for inclusion in the post-conference publication? Yes [] No []

Passport information (only required for attendees who need a letter from the Conference Secretariat in support of their visa application): Please send short CV (1-2 pages A4) to the Secretariat also.

Name on passport: _____

Nationality: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Schedule: arrival date _____, departure date _____.

(Please also provide this information for your spouse or accompanying person.)

Accommodation request

Please note that hotel rooms will be booked only if flight information is provided (below) at least one month before your arrival.

[] Single room: JY 9,815 per night, single occupancy

[] Double room with twin beds: JY 14,086 per night, double occupancy

The above prices includes breakfast, tax and service charge

Participants wishing to share a room with twin beds with another conference participant, please name your roommate if known [name: _____].

Alternatively, are you willing to have a roommate assigned by the organizers? Yes [] No []

Check-in date: November _____ Check-out date: November _____

Special requests (dietary needs, wheelchair access, etc.): _____

Flight information: Arrival on November _____ on flight no. _____

Departure on November _____ on flight no. _____

Template for Abstracts

All text should be in 11 point Times New Roman <Abstract Template>.

Type the title of your paper here

Type author(s) name(s) here, e.g., Yoshiki SAITO ^{1*}, Takashi AZUMA ² & Ken IKEHARA ¹

Type author(s) address(es) for all and e-mail address for corresponding author only here, e.g.,

¹ Geological Survey of Japan, AIST, Central 7, Higashi 1-1-1, Tsukuba, 305-8567 Japan

*E-mail: yoshiki.saito@aist.go.jp

² Active Fault Research Center, AIST, Central 7, Higashi 1-1-1, Tsukuba, 305-8567 Japan

Format

Type the text of your abstract here. Use Times New Roman 11 pt font. Your abstract should be less than 500 words and, including figures and tables, should fill no more than one A4 page. Keynote and invited speakers only are permitted a maximum of two pages. Inclusion of a list of relevant references is recommended. Color figures and photos will appear in black and white in the published volume, but colors will be retained in the web edition (pdf). Please set top and side margins at 22 mm and bottom margin at 25 mm.

Please send your text in an MS Word file (< .doc format> File name should be: *your name.doc*) to the Conference Secretariat by e-mail <jaqua50org@m.aist.go.jp> by **September 15**.