

**Across the Movius Line**  
**- Cultural Geography of South and Southeast Asia in the Late Pleistocene**

- Organizers: Yoshihiro Nishiaki (The University Museum, University of Tokyo)  
Seiji Kadowaki (Nagoya University Museum, Nagoya University)
- Coordinators: Atsushi Noguchi (The University Museum, University of Tokyo)  
Rintaro Ono (Tokai University)  
Miho Suzuki (The University Museum, University of Tokyo)
- Speakers: Gerrit D. van den Bergh (University of Wollongong, Australia)  
James Blinkhorn (Archaeology, Classics and Egyptology Department, Liverpool University, UK)  
Chris Clarkson (University of Queensland, Australia)  
Alfred Pawlik (University of the Philippines Diliman, the Philippines)  
Patrick Roberts (Department of Archaeology, Max Plank Institute for the Science of Human History, Germany)  
Hiroyuki Kitagawa (Institute for Space-Earth Environmental Research, Nagoya University)  
Kazunobu Ikeya (Research Center for Cultural Resources, National Museum of Ethnology, Japan)  
Yuichiro Wakano (School of Interdisciplinary Mathematical Sciences, Meiji University, Japan)

Date: November 18–19, 2017

Venue: INTERMEDIATHEQUE, JP Tower Museum, Tokyo (<http://www.intermediatheque.jp/en>)

Outline:

Research on Lower and Middle Pleistocene archaeology of South Eurasia often addresses contrasts in cultural evolution between South and Southeast Asia, which represent a geographic boundary often referred to as the “Movius Line”. The original definition of this line proposed in the 1940s, which noted the absence of hand axes and Levallois technology in the eastern archaeological record, received repeated critiques based on ever increasing levels of evidence mainly from the east and can no longer be corroborated with presently available evidence. Nevertheless, , most researchers still accept the existence of differences in a wide range of archaeological records between eastern and western regions, most notably in lithic technology. The background and mechanisms that underlie these distinctions, although they likely reflect different biogeographic and historic factors, remain a key archaeological research area when dealing with the Lower and Middle Pleistocene of South Eurasia and are certainly worthy of further attention.

In the context of this research background, this workshop emphasizes a less well-studied archaeological period, the Upper Pleistocene, when anatomically modern humans first appeared within the regions of interest. It is clear that modern humans dispersed across the Movius Line and changed the biogeography of humans, but less clear are when and how they impacted the cultural geography in the regions. The first aim of this workshop is to present the latest archaeological records in order to evaluate whether a geographic dividing line exists in this formative period of modern human cultures.

The second aim is to compare diachronic changes in lithic and subsistence technologies of South and Southeast Asia throughout the period of modern human arrival. Thus, this workshop provides an opportunity of comparative perspectives to address the formative processes that shaped modern human cultures in this part of Asia. It is hoped that comparisons of cultural patterns across the Movius Line, if present, in the periods before and after the arrival of modern humans will enable an improved understanding of their behavioral characteristics.

**Provisional Program\*:**

*Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017*

- 13:00–13:15      Opening remarks (Y. Nishiaki)  
13:15–13:45      Introduction (A. Noguchi and R. Ono)

**Session 1: Regional Variability in Lithic Technologies**

- 13:45–14:15      Environments and Cultural Change in the Indian Subcontinent: Implications for the Dispersal of *Homo sapiens* in the Late Pleistocene (J. Blinkhorn)  
14:15–14:45      Behind the lines: Technology, Adaptation and Interaction of humans in the maritime environments of prehistoric Island Southeast Asia (A. Pawlik)  
14:45–15:30      *Coffee break*  
15:30–16:00      The anatomically modern human colonisation of Island Southeast Asia and Sahul 65-70kya (C. Clarkson & K. Norman)  
16:00–16:30      Emergence of bladelets in the Levant and its behavioral meanings (S. Kadowaki)  
16:30–17:30      Discussion 1: Regionality and variability of lithic technologies  
18:30–20:30      *Dinner*

*Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017*

**Session 2: Resource Environments and Behavioral Adaptations**

- 11:15–11:45      Plastic pioneers: hominin biogeography across the Movius Line during the Late Pleistocene (P. Roberts)  
11:45–12:15      Megafauna extinctions and the arrival of anatomically modern humans in Southeast Asia (G. van den Bergh)  
  
12:15–12:45      Environments, Resource Use and Maritime adaptation in Wallacea in the Late Pleistocene: Comparison of modern human migration routes into Oceania (R. Ono)  
12:45–13:45      *Lunch*  
13:45–14:15      The Late Pleistocene environment in South and Southeast Asia (H. Kitagawa)  
14:15–14:45      Resource environment and behavioral adaptations: An ethnological view (K. Ikeya)  
14:45–15:15      Theoretical models of cultural drift, effective population size, and iterated founder effect (Y. Wakano)

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15:15–15:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
15:45–17:00	Discussion 2: Context of regionality and changes
18:00–20:00	<i>Farewell dinner</i>

\* All titles are tentative. The final program will be announced in September 2017.

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