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HQR023-P02

Room:Convention Hall

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The Holocene lake level changes at Lake Qarun and Lake Hamura, Egypt

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The joint research project for the inland saline lakes has started with Kyushu university, University of Tokyo and Menoufia University in Egypt. The project is a multidisciplinary research program, focused on the environmental history of the Neolithic and later periods in this region. More in detail, our research is aimed at a high resolution environmental reconstruction in order to make clear the climatic development during the Holocene, and its impact on human societies. We undertook field surveys at inland lakes and Lake Qarun at Fayoum Basin and Lake Hamura at Wadi Natrun in northern Egypt.

The warming and very dry climate could be observed in the data from all our drillings in the early Holocene in Egypt. The three times of fluctuation between arid ? humid environment have occurred after then. The cyclic fluctuation of humidity was also observed in Lake Qarun in Egypt. The lake level of the lake was fell down after the 2200 years BP in the Ptolemaios period , and fluctuated its level with hundreds years intervals.

The above-noted recovery of humidity and its regional variability in the Holocene presumably was one of the major causes for the archaeological events, especially with regard to water availability.

Keywords: Inland Saline Lake, Lake Level Changes, Holocene, Egypt, Diatom, River Nile