

Special Issue

East Asian Environmental and Climatic Evolution During the Quaternary: Records, Mechanisms, and Implications

Message from the Guest Editors

East Asia is a dynamic region shaped by the East Asian monsoon, the westerlies, the Tibetan Plateau, and land–sea interactions. During the Quaternary, it experienced profound climatic transformations, including monsoon fluctuations, abrupt events, and ecosystem reorganizations. Natural archives offer key opportunities to study these dynamics, yet significant knowledge gaps persist regarding monsoon variability, abrupt events, and sedimentation processes. This Special Issue aims to provide a platform for researchers to present novel data, innovative methodologies, and integrative syntheses that advance our understanding of Quaternary environmental and climatic evolution in East Asia. We particularly encourage contributions that link multi-archive records, bridge terrestrial and marine realms, integrate paleoclimate reconstructions with numerical simulations, and/or explore the impacts of past climate changes on human societies. By bringing together diverse perspectives, this collection seeks to foster a more holistic and mechanistic understanding of East Asia's environmental dynamics during a period that holds direct relevance for assessing current and future climate trajectories.

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

We live in a Quaternary world, that is, a world shaped by the interplay of the different compartments of the earth system—lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, cryosphere—during the last ~2.6 million years. It is not possible to understand the current world—and, hence, to anticipate its possible future developments—without knowing the Quaternary history of drivers, processes, and mechanisms that have generated it. Our own species is an evolutionary outcome of the Quaternary performance. Therefore, the journal *Quaternary* is born with the aim of being an integrative journal to encompass all aspects of Quaternary science focused on understanding the complex world in which we live and to provide a sound scientific basis to anticipate possible future trends and inform environmental policies.

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