Special Issue

Quaternary Mammals: State of the Art and New Discoveries

Message from the Guest Editor

The phylogeny and systematics of Quaternary mammals, as well as their paleobiogeography and biochronology, is often a matter of discussion among palaeontologists. Despite the long history of research on these topics, Quaternary mammals are still poorly understood, and a general consensus on validity and relationships within the different species, as well as their paleobiology, still seems far from being reached. This Special Issue aims to provide a comprehensive overview as well as new hypotheses and observations on fossil Quaternary mammals; on factors that lead to their extinction, dispersal, and evolution; as well as their relationships with extant species. Contributions are requested from any taxonomic group of Quaternary mammals from all over the World, including topics on morphological and morphometric characteristics useful to discriminate or validate fossil species based on the paleobiogeography and dispersal patterns of fossil groups, on chronological and biochronological occurrences, and on phylogenetic and palaeobiological investigations. Studies at regional and continental scale are particularly welcome.

Guest Editor

Dr. Luca Pandolfi
Department of Sciences, University of Basilicata, 85100 Potenza, Italy

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Quaternary
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
quaternary@mdpi.com

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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.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Jef Vandenberghe
Department of Earth Sciences, VU University, De Boelelaan 1085, 1081 HV Amsterdam, The Netherlands

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