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Symmetry in Human Evolution, from Biology to Behaviours

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Our knowledge of human evolution has made particular progress over the last twenty years, thanks to the discovery of new fossils, the use of new methods and multidisciplinary approaches. Moreover, studies of departure from symmetry, including variations in fluctuating or directional asymmetries, have contributed to the expansion of this knowledge in various fields of paleobiology and archaeology. This Special Issue brings together articles dealing with symmetry and human evolution. In this context, the notion of symmetry is addressed—whether to reconstitute and reconstruct partial or deformed fossil specimens, identify gene transmissions between human species, study biological variations within hominins or compare them with extant primates, address the shape of the brain, seek possible relationships between biological and behavioural data or directly address behaviours through the analysis of the production of prehistoric humans (tools, artistic productions, etc.)

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Symmetry is ultimately the most important concept in natural sciences. It is not surprising then that very basic and fundamental research achievements are related to symmetry. For instance, the Nobel Prize in Physics 1979 (Glashow, Salam, Weinberg) was received for a unified symmetry description of electromagnetic and weak interactions, while the Nobel Prize in Physics 2008 (Nambu, Kobayashi, Maskawa) was received for the discovery of the mechanism of spontaneous breaking of symmetry, including CP symmetry. Our journal is named *Symmetry* and it manifests its fundamental role in nature.

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