

First Announcement

Fourth Kyoto Workshop on Evolutionary Thanatology: Perspectives on Deaths Past, Present, and Future

Kyoto University

March 13, 2020



Leading Graduate Program
in Primatology and Wildlife Science,
Kyoto University

We are pleased to announce the 4th Kyoto Workshop on Evolutionary Thanatology, to be held at Kyoto University on Thursday March 13, 2020. Following three successful previous workshops, the aim is again to bring together researchers and students from different disciplines who share interest in the broad topic of death and dying. The theme of the workshop is “Perspectives on deaths past, present, and future,” with presentations from experts in archaeology, comparative psychology, primatology, and transcultural and religious studies.

The venue for the Workshop is Kyoto University’s **Yoshida Izumidono**, which is in Marikoji Street, a 5-minute walk from the Hyakumanben intersection and the main university campus (see the attached photos and plan below, location no. 76).

Financial and logistic support for the Workshop has been generously provided the Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science, and Kyoto University Institute for Advanced Study.

For further information please contact:

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Provisional Program

- 09:30 – 10:15** **Nachiketh Sharma (Kyoto University)** – Behavioural responses of wild Asian elephants to dying and dead conspecifics.
- 10:15 – 11:00** **Jim Anderson, Hanling Yeow, Satoshi Hirata (Kyoto University)** – Chemical cues of death: do chimpanzees respond to putrescine?
- 11:00 – 11:45** **André Gonçalves (Kyoto University)** – Chimpanzees' attention towards dead vs live mammals: a preliminary eye-tracking experiment.
- 11:45 – 12:30** **TBC**
- 12:30 – 13:30** **Lunch break**
- 13:30 – 14:15** **Paul Pettitt (Durham University)** – Neanderthal and early *Homo sapiens* burials in Europe and the Middle East; new data, new ideas.
- 14:15 – 15:00** **Koji Mizoguchi (Kyushu University)** Title tbc
- 15:00 – 15:45** **Alex Weiss (University of Edinburgh)** – Personality and Longevity: Lessons from a Tommy, two rock stars, and termites.
- 15:45 – 16:30** **Claire White (California State University, Northridge)** – Not just dead meat: An evolutionary account of corpse treatment in mortuary rituals.
- 16:30** **Open Discussion**
- 17:30** **Close and Refreshments**

Yoshida Izumidono

