

Paper ID	130
Author(s)	Misung Kim
Title	The Ecology and Economics of the Mustelidae (Weasel) Family in the Joseon Dynasty
Abstract	
<p>During the Joseon Dynasty, animal pelts were highly valued commodities, used as premium winter garments, luxury goods, diplomatic gifts, and trade items. This economic importance was not limited to the skins of large animals like tigers and leopards but also included the pelts of smaller animals within the "Mustelidae (Weasel)" family. The most valuable species within this family varied depending on the time period and the trade partner. The economic value of these pelts was shaped not only by human demand and market forces but also by the animals' ecology, which significantly influenced their supply. When demand for the pelts of a particular species surged, it not only drove up their market price but also disrupted their ecological balance, often pushing the species to the brink of extinction. This decline in supply created further economic repercussions. As certain species neared extinction, substitutes were sought in the pelts of ecologically similar species, spreading the ecological impact to other neighboring species.</p> <p>This study explores the interplay between human economies and animal ecologies, shedding light on how human activities have influenced animal ecosystems as far back as the Joseon Dynasty.</p>	
Keywords	Animals, Humans

Paper ID	207
Author(s)	Inbo Cho
Title	The Pompous and the Perished: Recreational Hunting and Human-Animal Relationships in Colonial Korea
Abstract	
<p>This paper examines the activities of recreational hunters in colonial Korea. Japanese elites, along with some Korean counterparts, enjoyed recreational hunting as a modern and 'western' hobby. Most of these hunters participated in Hunting associations, such as the Choson Hunting Society(朝鮮獵友會). They frequently held hunting and shooting contests, became local escorts of hunting parties organized by high-rank officials, and later made donations to the military from the late 1930s. They pursued excitement, glory, manliness, or 'militaristic spirit(尙武精神)'. While recreational hunters showed some interest to understanding the wildlife itself, it was mainly to comprehend and 'preserve' animals for better game. In contrast, they showed little to no remorse or respect to the hunted. Public criticism on their behavior was almost nonexistent; even activists against animal cruelty did not rise against hunting. Yet amongst the pompous historical records of colonial hunters, one could face depictions of dead animal bodies. These records, mainly photographs, unearth a sharp contrast of the bragging texts by hunters. They eventually enable us to reread modern human-animal relationships from the eye of the colonial animal. Thus, the activities of recreational hunters not only provide us aspects of modern human-animal relationships in colonial Korea, but present the historical importance of researching it.</p>	
Keywords	Animals, Human-Animal Relationship, Recreational Hunting, Colonial Korea, Dead Bodies

Paper ID	097
Author(s)	Park Wanseok
Title	Symbiotic Imagination of Human-Technology-Nature in the Anthropocene Era: A New

	Materialist Approach to the Case of Korea's DMZ
Abstract	
<p>This study aims to reimagine the relationship between humans, technology, and nature in the Anthropocene era, focusing on their symbiotic potential. Specifically, it examines Korea's Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) through the lens of new materialism. The DMZ, a product of division and the Cold War, is also a unique ecological space minimally impacted by human interference, possessing distinct environmental, social, and technological characteristics. This research moves beyond viewing the DMZ merely as a symbol of division, interpreting it instead as a complex network formed by the interactions of humans, technology, and nature. Through a new materialist approach, the DMZ is understood not as a binary division between humans and nature but as an ecological and technological assemblage shaped by the entanglement of human and non-human actors. This study analyzes the ecological resilience of the DMZ, its embedded technological elements, and the social discourses surrounding it, offering a new paradigm of symbiosis for the Anthropocene era. By emphasizing the interdependence between various actors, including humans, technology, and nature, this study seeks to move beyond anthropocentric thinking and propose a philosophical and ethical framework for a sustainable future. The DMZ serves not merely as a nature reserve but as a critical model for envisioning and practicing the symbiotic potential of human-technology-nature relationships, offering valuable insights for contemporary philosophy, ecology, and technology studies.</p>	
Keywords	Humans, Climate