

Mohammed Shalabi, M.Sc.



Since I have obtained Zoology Bachelor's in 2005, I am deeply interested in the ecology and the conservation genetics of small carnivores. I have conducted ecological studies on the Egyptian mongoose in its natural distribution habitats in Egypt, focusing mainly on the feeding ecology and the diet preference between the Egyptian mongoose and other sympatric carnivores. I have got my M.Sc. From Al-Azhar University, Egypt, then I joined the international Ph.D. Program of the graduate school of Science, Hokkaido University from April, 2013 to the moment. Currently, I am studying the molecular phylogeography of endemic small carnivores on the Japanese islands and their migration history compared with their mainland closely related species. I am now using the maternally inherited, rapidly evolved mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) complete sequences in a model-based approach to reveal those migration histories. Such kind of studies is important to give us clues about the effect of past earth's climate changes on the current distribution of contemporary wild mammals. My future plan is to test the same hypothesis using different genetic markers with different tempo of evolution; like the paternally inherited and biparental genetic markers. Also I am interested in applying genetic markers to solve taxonomic ambiguities.

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