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Chronology of the early modern humans in Asia: current issues

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## 主題

Chronology of the early modern humans in Asia: current issues

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In Asia (Levant; Siberia and the neighbouring parts of Northeast Asia; and East and Southeast Asia), finds of skeletal remains of Pleistocene modern humans (Homo sapiens sapiens) are quite rare compared to Europe. In order to understand the patterns of their chronology, direct age determinations should be taken into account as the most reliable age estimates. In Siberia, the dates on modern humans are in the range of ca. 41,000-13,800 uncalibrated 14C years (BP). In China, the single direct date on a Pleistocene modern human is ca. 34,400 BP, while in Japan the dates are of ca. 20,400-14,200 BP. In Southeast Asia, the age of the oldest modern humans is ca. 50,000-26,000 BP and possibly older. In Levant, the earliest modern humans are now dated to ca. 180,000-190,000 years ago.

Without an increase of direct ages for Pleistocene modern humans, especially in China, it would be impossible to create a reliable chronology of them in Asia. So far, the claims of southern Chinese H. s. sapiens to be of ca. 80,000–100,000 years old are not substantiated.

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