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978-1-107-01829-7 - Human Adaptation in the Asian Palaeolithic: Hominin Dispersal and Behaviour during the Late Quaternary

Ryan J. Rabett

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Human Adaptation in the Asian Palaeolithic

This book examines the first human colonization of Asia and particularly the tropical environments of Southeast Asia during the Upper Pleistocene. In studying the unique character of the Asian archaeological record, it reassesses long-held views about the development of human ‘modernity’. Ryan J. Rabett proposes that an evolutionary relationship exists between the process of colonization, the challenges encountered during its pursuit – especially in relation to climatic and environmental change – and the forms of human behaviour that emerge as a result. The book argues that human modernity was not something achieved in the remote past in one part of the world but rather that it has developed out of a diverse, flexible and locally contingent process of adaptation; one that continues to this day.

Ryan J. Rabett is a Research Fellow at the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research at the University of Cambridge. His research focuses on archaeological sites in Asia, and since 2007, he has been the director of a major project in northern Vietnam. He is the author of more than 40 articles, which primarily focus on prehistoric subsistence and technological strategies in Asia.

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McDonald Institute, Cambridge University



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