



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Archaeozoology Vs Zooarchaeology: Comparative Insights Into The Study Of Faunal Remains In Armenia

MANASERYAN N. ¹, GYONJYAN A. ^{1*}

¹ Scientific Center of Zoology and Hydroecology, Yerevan, Armenia

*Corresponding author

Abstract

In Armenia, Soviet-era archaeologists and zoologists operated in isolation, with archaeologists often ignoring faunal remains and zoologists focusing only on animal taxonomy. This separation hindered a holistic reconstruction of past environments. Bridging these fields is now recognized as essential for reconstructing ecosystems, necessitating collaboration among archaeozoologists, archaeobotanists, and molecular archaeologists. Archaeozoological studies previously relied on traditional sampling and morphometric species identification without environmental context. Our approach has evolved to incorporate modern techniques, such as genomic analyses and species distribution modeling (SDM), alongside remote sensing and GIS mapping. Additionally, collaboration with groups like Sevan's «ArmDiving» divers expands our specimen collection, enabling study of Lake Sevan's ecosystem history. Our comprehensive framework, integrating historical and contemporary data, examines evolutionary changes in animals, their ecosystems, and human impacts across the Holocene. The extensive dataset of over 100,000 bone remains, spanning from the Neolithic to Medieval periods, is pivotal for understanding biodiversity trends and ecological responses to human pressures. By linking historical and modern zoological studies, our research provides insight into human-animal interactions over time. This understanding is crucial for contextualizing current human-wildlife conflicts, revealing parallels in hunting practices and species conservation challenges, and supporting informed conservation strategies today.

Keywords

Armenia, Holocene, Animal bones, Archaeozoology, Biodiversity

Session

6. Life and death: Human behaviour and practices

Workshop

A16697MM - Development in South West Asia (SWA) of local initiatives in bioarchaeological practices and trainings.

Type of paper

Oral presentation

