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TRACKING TRENDS & PERFORMANCE IN BASIC RESEARCH


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2008 : August 2008 : Toshisada Nishida

## EMERGING RESEARCH FRONTS - 2008

**August 2008**
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**Toshisada Nishida talks with *ScienceWatch.com* and answers a few questions about this month's Emerging Research Front Paper in the field of Social Sciences, general.**


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**Article: Demography, female life history, and reproductive profiles among the chimpanzees of Mahale**

Authors: Nishida, T;Corp, N;Hamai, M;Hasegawa, T;Hiraiwa-Hasegawa, M;Hosaka, K;Hunt, KD;Itoh, N;Kawanaka, K;Matsumoto-Oda, A;Mitani, JC;Nakamura, M;Norikoshi, K;Sakamaki, T;Turner, L;Uehara, S; Zamma, K

Journal: AMER J PRIMATOL, 59 (3): 99-121 MAR 2003

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### SW: Why do you think your paper is highly cited?

It is based on long-term and careful monitoring of wild chimpanzees in the Mahale Mountains National Park, Tanzania, Africa.

### SW: Does it describe a new discovery, methodology, or synthesis of knowledge?

Demography provides critical data to increase our understanding of the evolution, ecology, and conservation of primate populations. It's a new discovery which includes the lack of menopause among wild female chimpanzees and it also documents many of the demographic parameters of chimpanzees.

### SW: Would you summarize the significance of your paper in layman's terms?

This paper reports on the number of infants female chimps have in their lifetime, the causes of death, long-term population dynamics, the extent of female transfer, which is influenced by the size and composition of the unit group and size of the overall local community, the lack of menopause (namely, human menopause is unique), and many other demographic characteristics of wild chimpanzees.

**Toshisada Nishida**

**Executive Director, Japan Monkey Centre**

**Inuyama, Japan**

**and**

**Professor Emeritus**

**Department of Zoology, Graduate School of Science**


**Kyoto University**

**Sakyo, Kyoto, Japan**

*Related information:* Toshisada Nishida's contributions to primatology ([PDF file](#))

Keywords: wild chimpanzees, Mahale Mountains National Park, conservation of primate populations, lack of menopause among wild female chimpanzees, demographic characteristics of wild chimpanzees, Toshisada Nishida, primatology.

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