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Ancient DNA and Molecular Archaeology

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

Ancient DNA (aDNA) is any DNA extracted from ancient specimens. During the last three decades, DNA analysis on degraded samples has revealed itself as an important research tool in anthropology, molecular evolution, and population genetics. Although the field's focus was previously limited to mitochondrial DNA and a few nuclear markers, whole genome sequences from the deep past can now be retrieved. This breakthrough is tightly connected to the massive sequence throughput of next-generation sequencing platforms and the ability to target short and degraded DNA molecules. Today, ancient DNA research has facilitated a number of breakthroughs in our understanding of human evolutionary history and is likely soon becoming a standard tool in archaeology, allowing genetics to engage in a fruitful symbiotic relationship with archaeology.

This Special Issue welcomes original research, brief research reports, and review papers about molecular archaeological studies on unearthed materials (including animals, plants, humans, sediments, and so on), using genome-wide sequencing or microarray technologies or various kinds of markers, such as mtDNA, Y chromosome, STRs, and SNPs data.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes are central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fastmoving field. There is a need for good quality, open access journals in this area, and the *Genes* team aims to provide expert manuscript handling, serious peer review, and rapid publication across the whole discipline of genetics. Starting in 2010, the journal is now well established and recognised.

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