

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910451426303321
Titolo	Climate change and cultural dynamics [[electronic resource]] : a global perspective on mid-Holocene transitions / / edited by David G. Anderson, Kirk A. Maasch, Daniel H. Sandweiss
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam ; ; London, : Elsevier, 2007
ISBN	1-281-07676-7 9786611076764 0-08-055455-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (603 p.)
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Disciplina	551.60901
Soggetti	Climatic changes - Research Global warming - Research Paleoclimatology - Holocene Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Front cover; Climate Change and Cultural Dynamics; Copyright page; Contents; List of Contributors; List of Figures; List of Tables; Preface and Acknowledgments; Foreword; Chapter 1. Climate and culture change: exploring Holocene transitions; 1. Introduction; 2. Holocene climate change; 3. Possible causes of Holocene climate change; 4. Lessons from the past for the future; 5. Linkages between climate and culture change; 6. Conclusion; References; Chapter 2. Mid-Holocene climate and culture change in coastal Peru; 1. Introduction 2. The Peruvian archaeological record of Holocene El Nino frequency variation 3. Mid-Holocene climate from natural archives; 4. Cultural records; 5. Conclusions; References; Chapter 3. Mid-Holocene climate and culture change in the South Central Andes; 1. Introduction; 2. The physiogeographical setting; 3. Habitats for human occupation in the Atacama Desert; 4. Mid-Holocene aridity: Hostile conditions and scarce resources around 5000 cal yr BP; 5. Archaic settlement patterns and

paleoenvironmental variability; Acknowledgments; References

Chapter 4. Mid-Holocene climate and cultural dynamics in Brazil and the Guianas 1. Introduction; 2. The coastal strip; 3. Amazonia; 4. Conclusion; References; Chapter 5. Culture and climate in Mesoamerica during the Middle Holocene; 1. Introduction; 2. Chronology; 3. Paleoclimate; 4. Prehistory; 5. Conclusions; Acknowledgments; References; Chapter 6. Middle Holocene environments of north and east Africa, with special emphasis on the African Sahara; 1. Introduction; 2. Tropical Africa; 3. The Sahara; 4. Discussion; Acknowledgement; References

Chapter 7. Influence of Holocene marine transgression and climate change on cultural evolution in southern Mesopotamia ;1. Introduction; 2. Postglacial environmental change in southern Mesopotamia; 3. State development in southern Mesopotamia; 4. Discussion; 5. Conclusions; Acknowledgments; References; Chapter 8. Mid-Holocene cultural dynamics and climatic change in the Western Pacific; 1. Introduction; 2. Regional climatology; 3. Climatic and environmental change in the mid-Holocene; 4. Cultural change in mid- to late Holocene Australia; 5. Highland New Guinea agriculture; 6. Some conclusions

Acknowledgments References; Chapter 9. Mid-Holocene climate and cultural dynamics in eastern Central China; 1. Introduction; 2. Paleoclimate of the mid-Holocene in eastern Central China; 3. Cultural dynamics in eastern Central China; 4. Discussion: paleoclimates, paleoenvironments and cultural dynamics in the mid-Holocene in eastern Central China; 5. Conclusions; References; Chapter 10. Mid-Holocene climatic changes and cultural dynamics in the basin of the Sea of Japan and adjacent areas; 1. Introduction; 2. Climatic and environmental changes

3. Cultural dynamics in the mid-Holocene in the basin of the Sea of Japan

Sommario/riassunto

The Middle Holocene epoch (8,000 to 3,000 years ago) was a time of dramatic changes in the physical world and in human cultures. Across this span, climatic conditions changed rapidly, with cooling in the high to mid-latitudes and drying in the tropics. In many parts of the world, human groups became more complex, with early horticultural systems replaced by intensive agriculture and small-scale societies being replaced by larger, more hierarchical organizations. Climate Change and Cultural Dynamics explores the cause and effect relationship between climatic change and cultural transformation

2. Record Nr.	UNINA990007948010403321
Autore	Moore, Brian C. J.
Titolo	Frequency selectivity in hearing / Brian C. J. Moore
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Londra, : Academic press, 1986
ISBN	0-12-505625-7
Descrizione fisica	XV, 492 p. : ill. ; 24 cm
Disciplina	152.1
Locazione	CIRAS
Collocazione	CIRASS 64
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia