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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

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