



Dr. Dong Hoon Shin

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Dr. Dong Hoon Shin graduated from a medical school in South Korea, trained as anatomist in graduate school, and currently majoring in paleopathology and biological anthropology as a professor in Seoul National University, South Korea. Over the years, his research interest has been mainly focused upon acquiring the scientific information of pre-modern people's health and disease status in history. By research tools ranging from anatomical, histological techniques to various biochemical analyses, he tried to reveal the changing patterns of physical or pathological traits of our ancestors at each stage throughout history. His topics include the paleopathological works on ancient bones and researches of viral, bacterial, or helminthic pathogens remained in archaeological human specimens. The studies were fruitful in that a vivid glimpse of the pre-modern people's lives could be successfully restored, and thus, their actual health status and disease pattern were interpreted in more detail from medical as well as sociocultural perspectives. In order to obtain successful outcomes of our research, his team is not only performing laboratory practices, but is also actively joining in the field works with archaeologists to investigate ancient graves or cemeteries worldwide. Now his study is undergoing for many archaeological specimens of Asia, Europe, and Americas, broadening the geographical range of research to enrich our understanding of human diseases in the past.