


Research Activity Report
Supported by “Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science”
 (Please be sure to submit this report after the trip that supported by PWS.)

2017.9.29

Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center/M1
Name	Yutaro Sato

1. Country/location of visit
Tanzania/Dar es salaam, Kigoma, Gombe National Park, Ruaha National Park
2. Research project
Tanzania Tour
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2017. 9. 13 – 2017. 9. 22 (10 days)
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
My Ticket Inc., JAPAN TANZANIA TOURS Inc. Ms. Nobuko Nakazawa at Graduate School of Faculty of Science, Kyoto university.
5. Progress and results of your research/activity (You can attach extra pages if needed)
Please insert one or more pictures (to be publicly released). Below each picture, please provide a brief description.
<p>The aim of this trip was to observe wild chimpanzees, and other animals at Gombe National Park and Ruaha National Park. Since this was my first trip abroad, I felt a little bit nervous even before arriving Tanzania. As I traveled with other participants from Kansai airport, I could safely get to Tanzania. When I saw a street of Dar es salaam, that gave me an impression that the city was more flourishing than I had expected. There were a lot of cars and advertisements of shops and companies on the street.</p> <p>We walked around Kigoma town on 15th (Fri). We could see dairy life of local people there. In the markets, they sold various foods, household goods, and traditional fabrics. While viewing the market, we found some beggars and a child who seemed a thief, which gave me a mixed feeling including fear, surprise, or sadness. Anyway, we could experience the atmosphere of Kigoma town.</p> <p>On 16th (Sat) we got to Gombe. In Gombe National Park, there are three chimpanzee groups. We could see only one group among them, which is well habituated to humans. The trackers first went into the forest to look for chimpanzees. We left when they told us that they found some chimpanzees. While walking to the place where chimpanzees were found, we could see some baboons, blue monkeys, red-tail monkeys, and red colobuses (Fig. 1). When we encountered chimpanzees for the first time, I could just see a chimpanzee walking through trees far away, which made me realize how difficult it was to observe wild chimpanzees. However, after that, we could see some chimpanzees just several meters away from us (Fig. 2). The party consisted of some adult females and immatures. I have seen wild Japanese macaques up close, but that they were in the same space with us without any separation made me feel somehow strange. They were resting on the trees or eating foods without reacting to us.</p>

<p>Figure.1 Baboons at the Gombe National Park.</p>

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We could see another party later. One of them was fishing termite with a stick (Fig. 3). According to the guide, they usually perform this behavior in later seasons, so it was fortunate for us to see that. Besides that, we could see some behaviors such as playing and grooming. Especially, immature chimpanzees playing cheerfully were impressive since I rarely see immature chimpanzees.

Subsequently, we took a boat to Mwangongo village, where we could see traditional dances (Fig.4). Children there were so interested in our cameras and surrounded us. We saw a school and an apparatus to extract palm oil.

We went out to see chimpanzees on 17th (Sun) too. We climbed up a mountain on this day. The route we walked this day was harder than that of the previous day. We could see some chimpanzees including the alpha female of the group. Moreover, at Jane’s house, we listened to Dr. Anton Collins, who has studied baboons there. He talked to us about baboons, chimpanzees, and Dr. Jane Goodall, and whatever. As we could stay there for only two days, we could not see some behaviors like hunting, but I was satisfied to see wild chimpanzees.

We had a free time in 18th (Mon) morning. I relaxed myself at the hotel, which was located near the lake Tanganyika. I could enjoy the beautiful scenery of the lake and some kinds of birds (Fig. 5). I would like to observe animals living there someday.

On 19th (Tue), we took a plane from Dar es salaam to Ruaha. I saw a giraffe from the plane, which excited me. Ruaha National Park is the largest national park in Tanzania and second largest one in Africa. According to a guide, approximately 270 rangers were staying there for management of the park. There was a school there for their children. After having lunch, we enjoyed a game drive. The car did not have windows and we could see wild animals up close with the pleasant wind. I cannot list up all animals we observed, but anyway, we could see so many kinds of animals (Fig.6). We stayed at a lodge at riverside. At night, we heard a lot of vocalization of animals. The guide said hyenas were also barking, but we could not see hyenas in this



Figure.2 Chimpanzees at the Gombe National Park.



Figure.3 A chimpanzee fishing termite with a stick.



Figure.4 The landscape of Mwangongo village.



Figure. 5 Some beautiful birds could be seen at the hotel near the lake Tanganyika.

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tour. We observed many animals the next day too. It was really nice to see wild animals, which we cannot see at a zoo. It would be great if I could see African wild dogs, leopards, and hyenas. There were so many animals that I could not fully observe for just two days.

We visited Tingatinga village on 21st (Thu). They sold a lot of traditional arts, called Tingatinga. What impressed me was that there were some differences in the style of picture depending on painters. Additionally, we went to Slipway, which had a relatively new shopping mall. Every town we visited had its own uniqueness, which interested me.

Overall, this tour was so valuable for me. I experienced so much that I cannot express them with words. Through this tour, I could see various towns, people, and culture as well as wild animals. I hope to learn basic Swahili and visit Tanzania again. Also, I would like to visit other countries to broaden my knowledge.

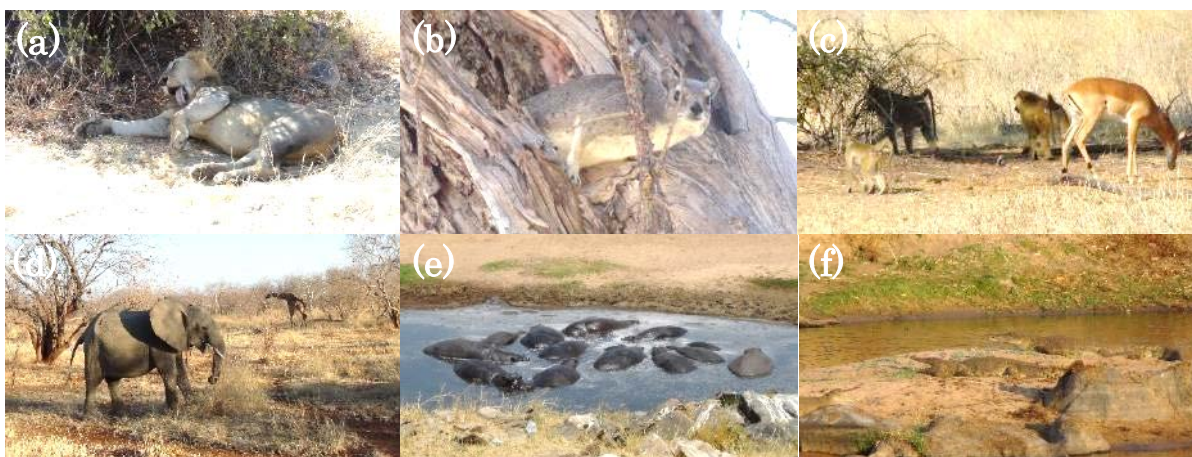


Figure. 6 Examples of animals we saw at Ruaha National Park: (a) lions, (b) a hyrax, (c) impalas and baboons, (d) an elephant and a giraffe, (e) hippopotamuses, (f) crocodiles.

6. Others

I am grateful to a lot of people for their cooperation; I thank to professors of PWS for providing me such a wonderful opportunity, officers of PWS and Ms. Fujiwara at My Ticket Inc. for their kind help. During the tour, Ms. Nakazawa at Graduate School of Faculty of Science, Kyoto university helped us a lot, including translation of Swahili, guide, and so on. I also thank to the participants of the tour, including Dr. Yumoto at Primate Research Institute. I appreciate Dr. Idani at Wildlife Research Center, Dr. Nakamura at Graduate School of Faculty of Science, Dr. Anton, who gave us an interesting talk at Gombe National Park, and drivers, trackers, and guides at Tanzania for their cooperation. I thank to staffs at Kumamoto Sanctuary for their advice for the trip.