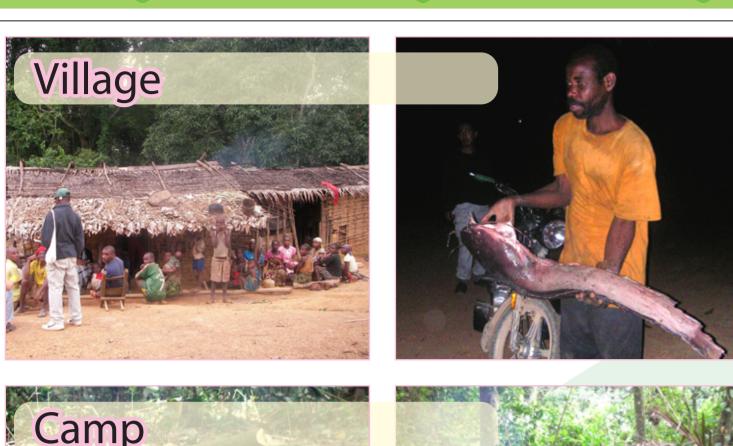


# The growth and nutritional status of "Pygmies' hunter-gatherers" children in South-East Cameroon.

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# 3. HOW do they live? Campin Tropical rainforest Farming & wage work in semi-settlement village

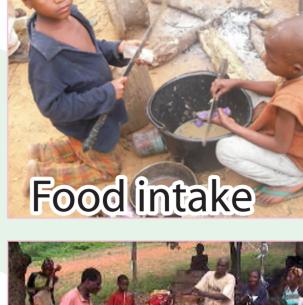


Hunting



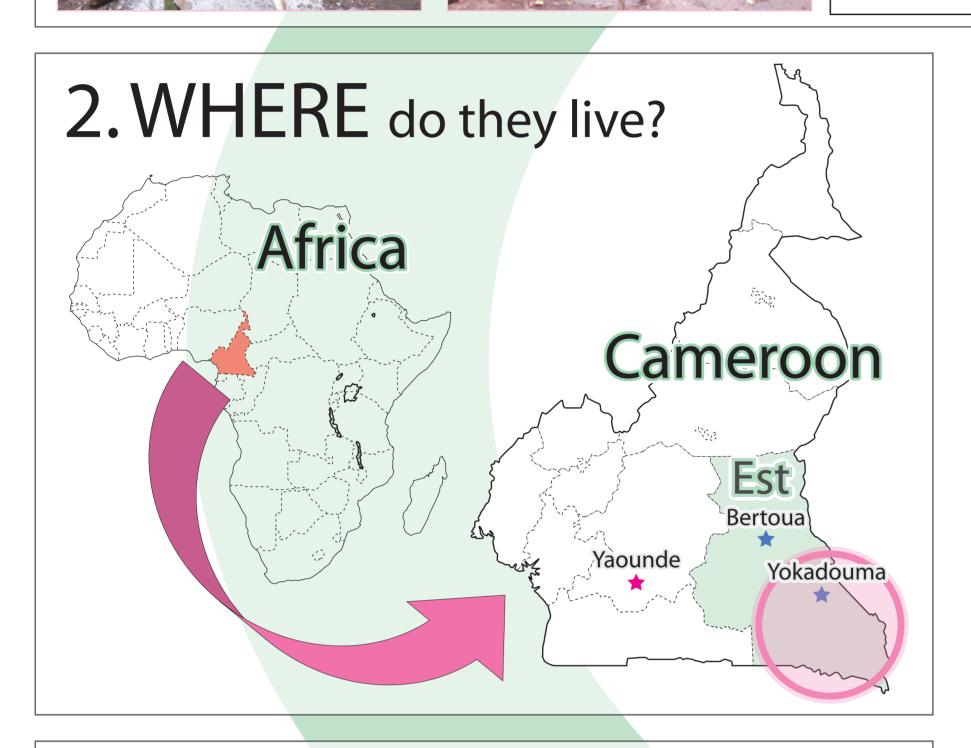
Ceremony







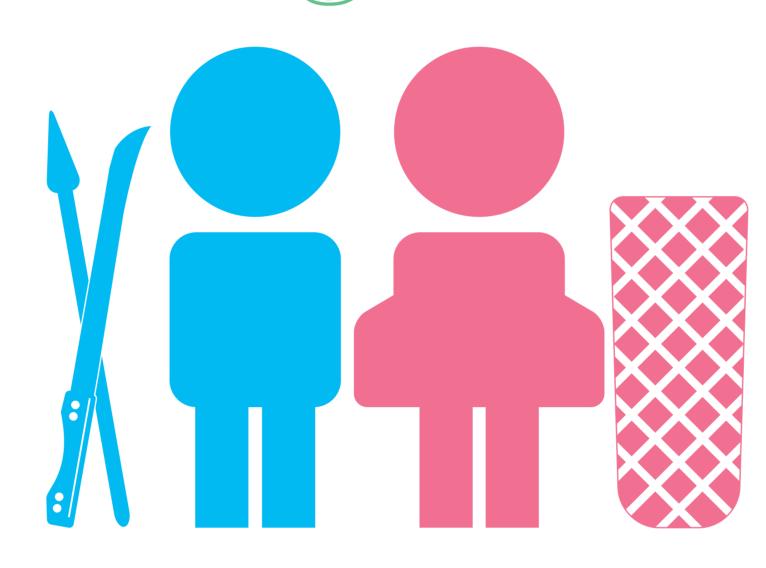




## 1. WHO are African pygmies?

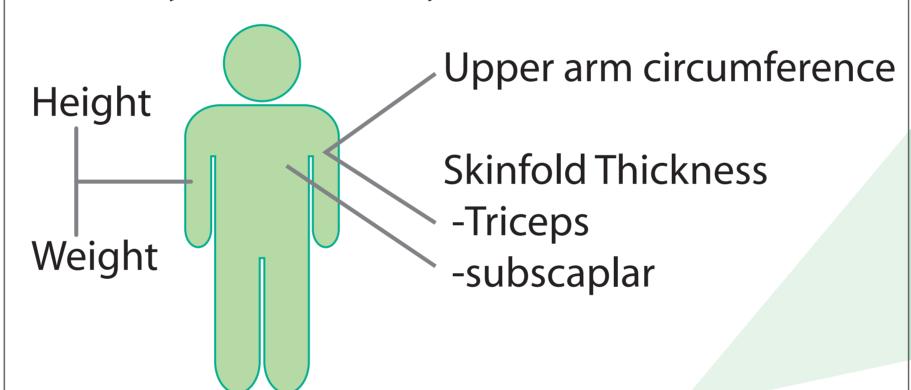
- >Original inhabitants of the tropical rainforests
- >Smallest physiques in the world population
- >Two living location
- -at semi-settlement village
- -at camp in forest
- >Groups of Pygmy Hunter-Gatherers
  - -Aka (Congo, R.C.A)
- -Twa, Efe, Mbuti (D.R.Congo)
- -Baka (Cameroon, R.Congo)

# Background



#### 6. HOW we study?

Body measurement for Baka children (2-18 yeas old; Boys=54, Girls=50)



### 5.WHY we study?

Many researchers spot at traditional & unique life of Baka, what is lost in advanced nations. There maybe a hint for "sustanable society"!!

- -Way of thinking, daily action
- -Social model







#### But... is that a possible life model?

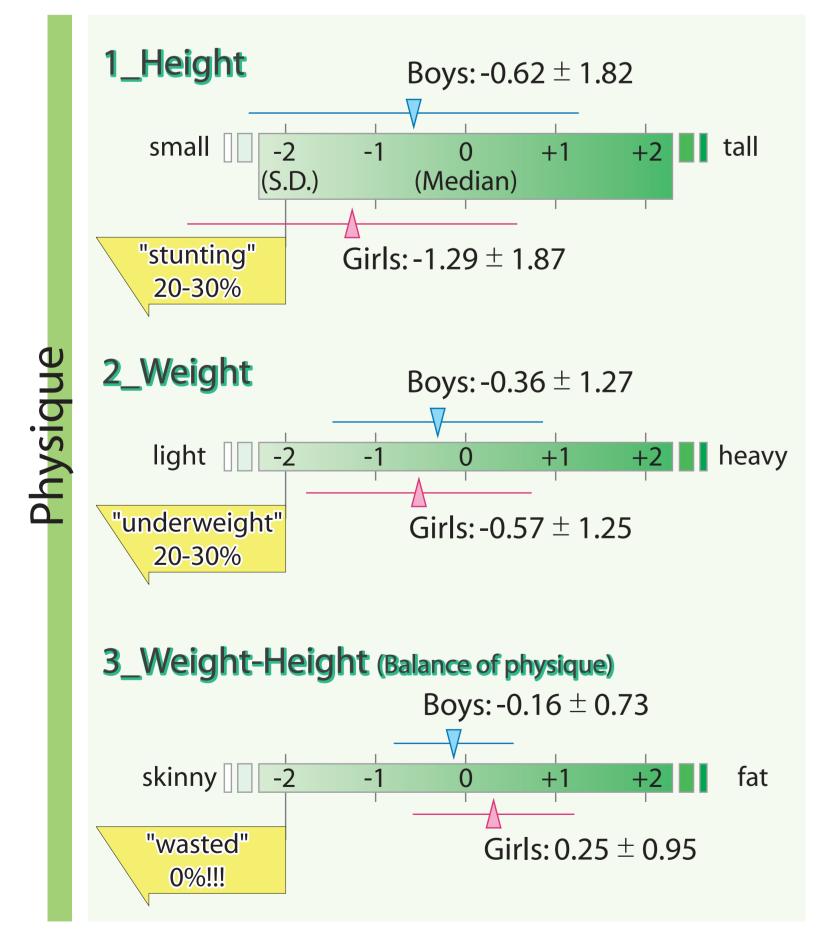
It is said that living in the tropical rainforest is difficult

- -spatially dispersed
- -seasonally variable
- shortage of nutritions in sub-Saharan Africa

# First of all, we have to know their lifestyle is a possible model to live.

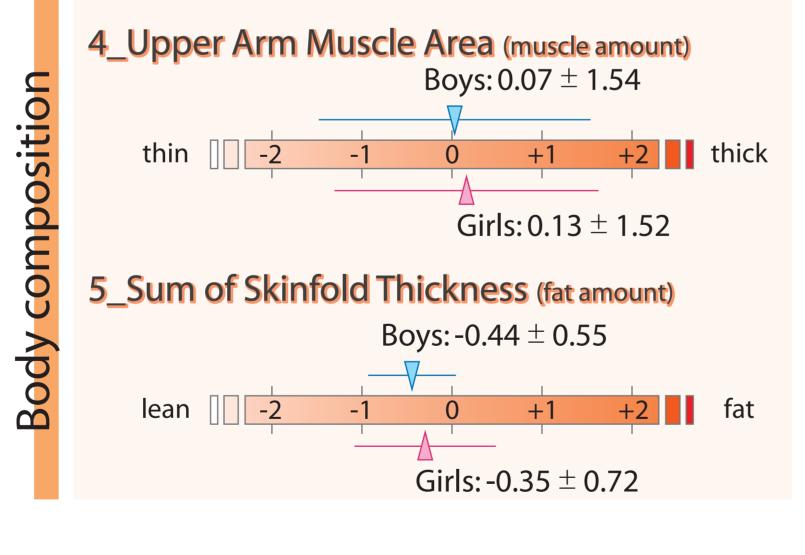
---if it's not a good model to live, it's difficult to learn the way of lives from them.

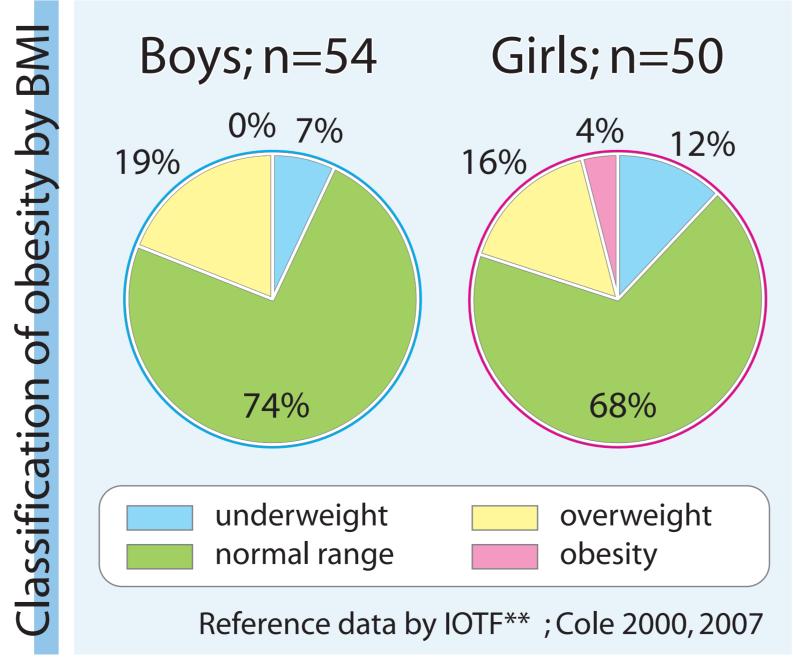
# Results & Discussion



Although 20-30 percents of the subjects have low height and low weight (< -2 S.D.), their nutritional status were judged generally good according to "weight for height" scores and BMI classification proposed by IOTF\*\*.

In addition, estimated muscle amount were equal to median of the reference data and fat amount were relatively low, suggesting that their physique were not "thin (with malnutrition)", but "lean".





#### Footnotes

\*NCHS: National Center of Health Statistics
\*\*IOTF: International Obesity Task Force

### Conclusion

According to estimated physique and body composition, childrens' nutritional status were generally good.

This means their lifestyle is a possible model to live!!

Now, we can study Baka on firm foundation, and will find out what utilize to "sustanable society".

#### Next research

#### <Going on>

Analyse growth speed and pattern with large samples. (1200 Samples; 0-55 years old)

#### <Future>

Variation of daily food intake in different districts. Relation their growth to daily food intake.

#### Acknowledgment

Taro YAMAUCHI Ph.D

- Hokkaido University (Supervisor.)

Some photos(\*\*\*) by Koji HAYASHI Ph.D - Kobe Gakuin University.

Member of smilelab all Baka pygmies...

