



Reconstruction of pliocene-pleistocene ecological conditions of Western Transbaikalia

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The aim of this study is to examine paleoenvironmental conditions and soil evolution during the Late Pliocene and the Early -Middle Pleistocene in the Western Transbaikalia (Eastern Siberia, Russia). The basic objects of study are the palaeontological sites Udunga and Tologoy. Our researches based on pedohumic method (Dergacheva, 1997), when the pedogenic humus properties of site sediments analysed and used as the basis for reconstructing soil-forming processes.

On the basis study of pliocene sediments of the Udunga site has revealed three different pedogenetic cycles, depending on water regime and duration of pedogenesis in subtropical environment.

The stratigraphic section of the early -middle pleistocene part of the Tologoy site has 4 zones of pedogenesis that are distinguishable by pedogenic humus and other features, and consequently by the character of ancient soil forming processes. Climatic change trends both to humidity and to aridity, the landscape was similar to today, an environmental ombination of dry steppes, wetlands and alkaline areas.