

SHORT COMMUNICATION

**Gastro-intestinal Helminths in a Natural Population
of *Macaca sinica* and *Presbytis* spp. at
Polonnaruwa, Sri Lanka**

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ABSTRACT. Helminth parasites were identified in a natural population of primates at Polonnaruwa, Sri Lanka. Five fatally wounded or recently deceased toque macaques (*Macaca sinica*) and three langurs (*Presbytis senex* and *P. entellus*) were autopsied. The following nematodes were found: *Oesophagostomum aculeatum* (Chabertiidae), *Streptopharagus pigmentata* (Spirocercidae), *Physaloptera* sp. (Spiruridae), *Enterobius vermicularis* (Oxyuridae), and *Trichuris trichiura* (Trichuriidae). One cestode, *Hymenolepis* was also recovered from *P. entellus*. Among fresh faecal samples of 210 *M. sinica*, worm eggs of *Oesophagostomum* and *Strongyloides* were most abundant, followed by *Trichostrongylus*. *Trichuris* and *Streptopharagus* eggs were found occasionally.

Key Words: Helminths; Parasites; *Macaca sinica*; *Presbytis* spp.; Sri Lanka.