

## **Towards political ecology of Life?**

**Akio Tanabe**

**Institute for Research in Humanities, Kyoto University**

### **Abstract**

Human beings are exhausting their own basis for existence. It is urgent that we establish a sustainable humanosphere in order to survive. By "humanosphere" I refer to human beings and their environment. To make human life sustainable, it is obviously not enough to just think about human beings and we must take into consideration the socio-ecological environment that supports human life. In India, there is a worldview on the biomoral connectedness between humans, land, food, ancestors and deities. Such sensitivity on the connectedness of life should be seen as cultural resources, instead of mere relativistic belief, for introducing biospheric perspective for sustainable humanosphere. I put forward the idea of "democracy of all beings" to suggest that we recognize the agency of unique and plural beings in the world and extend the principle of democracy to apply not only to humans but also to the world of sentient and insentient beings. Democracy of all beings based on political ecology of life takes into consideration the global connectedness of life and tries to respect and guarantee the agency of all beings -- human beings and other sentient and insentient beings -- that are singularly unique and ontologically equal.