

洞窟學에 관한 文獻

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우리나라에는 학술과 관광자원으로 이용할 수 있는 유명한 석회동굴이 영월, 단양, 삼척, 울진, 제주도 등을 비롯하여 많이 산재하고 있으며, 동굴에 대한 탐험과 연구자는 최근에 들어 한국동굴학회를 중심으로 활발하게 진행되고 있는 실정이다. 이웃의 일본과는 일본동굴학회 및 일본 Caving 협회와 함께 동굴에 대한 자료교환과 상호간 연구자들의 교환방문에 의하여 긴밀하게 연구가 진행되고 있다.

일본에서는 야마구치현(山口縣)의 아끼요시다이(秋吉台)에 있는 동굴에 박물관이 설립되어 지질, 생물, 농학분야에 유명한 학자들이 상근연구자로 참여하고 있으며, 매년 연구생들이 10명씩 방문하여 연구하고 있는 실정이다. 그 밖에도 유명한 동굴이 발견된 장소는 국립공원으로 지정되어 보호를 받고 있는 것은 우리나라에서도 반드시 고려해볼 만한 문제라고 생각한다.

미국에서도 National Speological Society (미국동굴학회)를 중심으로 많은 동굴탐험과 연구가 진행되었으며 구주지역도 마찬가지이다. 여기서는 미국에서 발간된 단행본과 중요한 미국동굴학회지 내용을 소개하고자 한다. 더 상세한 내용은 National Speological Society, Cave Ave., Huntsville, Al 35810, U. S. A. 로 연락하면 알 수 있다.

미국동굴학회에서 발행된 학술지의 내용을 간추리면 다음과 같다.

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