

# Chimpanzees and baboons face global warming by digging wells to filtrate drinking water



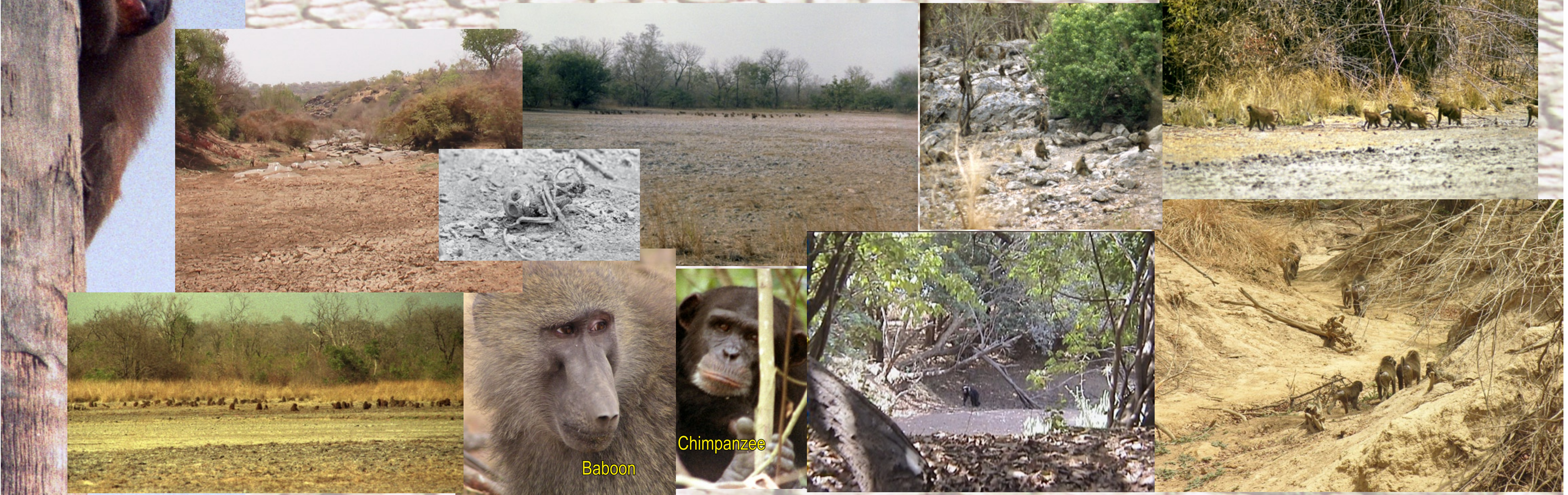
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Surface water is an essential source of life for mammals and higher vertebrates. Global warming and dryness restrict available water resources. In the African Sudanese climate, an annual rainfall deficit period, up to 350mm, began in the 1970's



Mammal species like warthogs and antelopes dig for water in the bottom of dried pools as the water vanishes in the dry season

## Searching for water during the dry season...



## ... and digging wells to get filtrated drinking water



The wells are dug in fine sand zones less than 2m far from stagnant water puddles. Concentration of bacteria is **10 times less** in the wells filtrated water than in the natural puddle water.

Bacteriological analyses show that pathogenic germs characteristic of stagnant putrid water are present in the natural puddle water, so that water is unsuitable for consumption, but are absent in the wells.

The filtrated water of the wells is clear and limpid, in contrast with the stagnant water of the

natural puddles

Digging wells in order to get filtrated water is a new cultural behavior. It appeared recently and independently in different Chimpanzees populations, as an adaptation to face dryness increase

Wells are hand dug...

... or using wood sticks tools.

Chimpanzee digged wells may look like this man digged well