ウナギ首 ANGUILLIFORMES

ウツボ科 Muraenidae・アナゴ科 Congridae・ウミヘビ科 Ophichthidae

へビのように長い体が特徴で、腹鰭がなく、 ウツボ類には胸鰭もありません。背鰭と臀 がれ 鰭は前後に長く、一般に尾鰭とつながって いますが、ウミヘビ類では尾鰭が退化し、尾 部の先端は肉質の突起となっています。ほ とんどが夜行性の肉食魚です。

ウナギ目の魚は主に温帯・熱帯域の浅い海で暮らしていますが、深海域でも多様な進化を遂げています。また、淡水域にすんでいるものも知られています。

Such fishes of the order Anguilliformes as freshwater eels, moray eels, conger eels, snake eels etc. are characterized by their snake-like long bodies and absence of the pelvic fins. Besides, moray eels have no pectoral fins. The bases of dorsal and anal fins are long and generally connected with caudal fin. All fins don't have any spines, and are solely composed of soft rays.

Anguilliformes are mainly distributed in shallow sea of warm region, but also includes several families mainly or fully composed of deep water species. Small number of species is known from freshwater.

