0. Monday September 8, 2008: Plenary Session. Session Chair: Diane Gifford-Gonzalez.

Welcome by Ingwer Ebsen, Vice-President, Goethe-University.

Welcome by the Executive Governor of Kaduna State, Nigeria, Arc. Mohammed Namadi Sambo.

Opening Remarks by Peter Breunig, Head of Organizing Committee.

Nicholas Conard. Did behavioral modernity evolve exclusively in Africa?

Jan-Berend Stuut. Paleoclimate on geological timescales: African climate since the Late Neogene.


Oumarou Amadou Ide. Evolution de la recherche archéologique au Niger des indépendances à nos jours.

Karega-Munene and Peter Schmidt. Postcolonial archaeologies in Africa.


Abdoulaye Maga. Circuits et facteurs internes du trafic des objets archéologiques nigériens et ouest-africains.


Carlo Giraudi. Late Upper Pleistocene and Holocene hydrological balance in the GOBERO temporary lake (Niger).

Anna Maria Mercuri and Isabella Massamba N’siala. Vegetation and plant use at Gobero (central Niger) inferred from pollen.

Christopher M. Stojanowski. Biological structure and population affinity of burial components at Gobero: intra-site and regional perspectives.

Elena A. A. Garcea, C. Lemorini, E. Cocca and G. Mutri. The lithic and ceramic assemblages from Gobero.

Helene Jousse. Patterns of animal exploitation in a lacustrine environment by the two human populations of Gobero (Niger) during the Holocene.

Kelly J. Knudson and Christopher M. Stojanowski. Recent bioarchaeological and biogeochemical research at Gobero: paleodiet and residential mobility in the early and middle Holocene.


Elena A. A. Garcea. Gobero: secular or sacred place?


Alice Lucie Mezop Temgoua. Archaeology, oral traditions, ethnography, linguistics, and the settlement dynamics in the Faro area (Cameroon and Nigeria).

Alexandre Livingstone Smith and Anneleen van der Veken. Crossing Borders II: new data on material and immaterial culture in the Luba area (Katanga, DRC).


Conny Meister. Remarks on the first Early Iron Age funeral tradition of southern Cameroon.

Christophe Mbida: Preliminary study of soil samples from Iron Age Campo necropolis.

Bienvenu Gouem Gouem. New perspectives on early farming settlement patterns on the southern coast of Cameroon.

Pascal Roger Nlend Nlend. Synthèse préliminaire de l’étude du site archéologique de Bwambé (Kribi, Littoral du Cameroun).


Marie Juliette Leka. Etude préliminaire des sites archéologiques en pays tikar: description et analyse d’une série de fosses.

Alfred Ngomanda, Katharina Neumann, Stefanie Kahlheber and Alexa Höhn: What happened in the Central African rain forest during the 3rd millennium BP?

Benjamin Smith: ‘The Flesh Eaters’. A prehistory for the pygmies of Central Africa?

W. Paul Adderley and Carlos Magnavita. Multi-use ditches or simply mud? Geoarchaeological investigations at Gajiganna culture sites in northern Nigeria.

Nicole Rupp and Peter Breunig. Recent studies on the Nok Culture, Central Nigeria.

Pierre de Maret. From kinship to kingship: an African journey into complexity, or is it perplexity?

Eric Huysecom, Anne Mayor, Barbara Eichhorn and Geneviève Perreard: Dourou-Boro and Pégué: a re-evaluation of ‘Toloy’ constructions in the Dogon country (Mali)

Anne Mayor. The Toloy-Tellem sequence (Dogon country, Mali) revisited through ceramic and iron objects studies: a complex history of population revealed during the 1st millennium AD.

Susan K. McIntosh and Mamadou Cissé. Recent excavations at Gao-Saney and Gao Ancien (Mali): preliminary results.

Kevin C. MacDonald. Cities and the Invisible State: lessons from the oral history and archaeology of Ségou.

Anne C. Haour. Garumelle, former Kanem-Borno capital?

Carlos Magnavita. Displaying power: mud-walled settlements and fired-brick architecture at Lake Chad.

Detlef Gronenborn and Scott MacEachern: A tribute to Graham Connah

Continued on Thursday

Scott MacEachern. Wandala and the DGB sites: political centralisation and its alternatives north of the Mandara Mountains.

Detlef Gronenborn and James Ameje. Durbi Takusheyi — citadels without cities?

Akin Ogundiran. Aspects of everyday material life in Ede-Ile (southwestern Nigeria), ca. 1600–1830s.

Noemie Arazi. Fact or fiction? The presence of Somono/numu in the Inland Niger Delta of Mali before the rise of Bamana Segu.
Judy Sterner. Gender and meaning in basketry: the view from the Mandara Mountains.

Christopher R. DeCorse. Complexity in the era of the Atlantic World: perspectives from the Central Region Project, coastal Ghana.

Paul J. J. Sinclair. The Urban Mind: long-term urban dynamics in eastern and southern Africa.


Andrew Reid. Animals and power in the archaeology of Great Lakes Africa.


Adria LaViolette. Urban Swahili households from Chwaka, Tanzania, AD 1000–1600.


Amanda L. Logan and Catherine d’Andrea. Identifying sorghum using phytoliths and starch grains: a case study from Sudan.

Stefanie Kahlheber. Feeding Nok — subsistence data for the Nok Culture, Nigeria, 500 BC to 200 AD.

Christine Sievers. Experimental carbonization of fruiting structures beneath hearths.


Veerle Linseele. New faunal data from the Neolithic in Egypt.

Joséphine Lesur-Gebremariam. Climatic changes in Holocene Horn of Africa and animals exploitation by human societies.


David W. Phillipson. The last millennium BC in the highlands of northern Ethiopia and south-central Eritrea: the need for revised terminology.

Peter R. Schmidt. The Ancient Ona Culture of Eritrea: ritual and subsistence — a way of de-homogenizing the Pre-Aksumite?

Matthew C. Curtis. Relating the Ancient Ona Culture to the wider northern Horn: discerning patterns and problems in the archaeology of the 1st millennium BC.

Rodolfo Fattovich. Reconsidering Yeha, Tigray (Ethiopia), ca. 700–400 BC.

Laurel Phillipson. Lithic artefacts as a source of cultural, social and economic information: the evidence from Aksum, Ethiopia.

Andrea Manzo. Capra nubiana in Berbere sauce? For a constructionist approach to Pre-Aksumite art.

Catherine d’Andrea. Pre-Aksumite and Aksumite settlement of Gulo Makeda, eastern Tigray, Ethiopia.

6. Thursday September 11. The Diversity of Foraging and Food-Producing Communities in Holocene East Africa. Session Chair: Mary Prendergast.

Loretta Dibble. Fishing and land use during the mid-Holocene at Koobi Fora, Lake Turkana.


Mary Prendergast. Forager variation and transitions to food production in secondary settings: the view from Lake Victoria.


Emmanuel Ndiema, Carolyn Dillian and David Braun. Spatial dimension of early pastoralist adaptations at Koobi Fora (Kenya): evidence from geochemical analysis of obsidian sources and artifacts.

Paul Lane. Pastoralist landscapes and burial practices in Samburu and Laikipia, Kenya.

Elisabeth A. Hildebrand and Steven A. Brandt. Holocene archaeology of Highland Kafa, SW Ethiopia.

Daryl Stump: Archaeological perspectives on indigenous conservation in pre-colonial Pare, Tanzania.

Karega-Munene. ‘Grave digging’: contestations of the value of archaeological research.


Diane Gifford-Gonzalez. Introduction to the session.


Anne Muigai. Origin and migration of the sheep of Africa.

K. Ann Horsburgh. The spread of domesticated dogs across Africa: contributions from ancient DNA.


Diane Gifford-Gonzalez and Albano Beja-Pereira. The multiple African origins of domestic donkeys.


Sylvain Badey. Exploitation minière du cuivre dans la région de Nioro-du-Sahel (Mali actuel) à l’époque des empires médiévaux subsahariens.

David Killick, Lisa Molofsky, Simon Hall, Shadreck Chirikure, Robert Heimann, John Chesley, Joaquín Ruiz and Dana Drake Rosenstein. The development of an indigenous tin and bronze industry in southern Africa during the second millennium CE.


Louise Iles. The iron industries of Bunyoro-Kitara: recent archaeometallurgical research in western Uganda.

James Ameje. Traditional iron working in parts of the ‘Nok Culture’ area: notes and posers from preliminary investigations.

Pamela Eze-Uzomaka. New dates for iron smelting in Lejja, Nigeria.

Jane Humphris. Rwanda made iron — iron made Rwanda? The role of iron in pre-colonial Rwanda.

Olivier Langlois and Otto Thierry. An iron smelting observed near Molkwo (eastern piedmont of the Mandara Mountains, northern Cameroon) in the late 1980s: from the building to the use of the furnace.

Continued on Wednesday

Nicholas David. Ricardo and von Liebig in the Mandara Mountains: iron, comparative advantage, and specialization.

Shadreck Chirikure. Traversing the liminal: versatility and variability in African iron smelting practices

Eileen Kose and Marc Seifert. Your belly is my smithy — cooperative field research to fathom African metallurgy of the recent past.

Caroline Robion-Brunner. The Jèmè-irin, an example of the development of blacksmith clan (Dogon area, Mali): social status and iron working.

Elisée Coulibaly. La transmission des savoirs et savoir-faire de la sidérurgie directe en Afrique Occidentale: le cas des métallurgistes du Bwamu (Burkina Faso, Mali).

Sébastien Perret. The socio-economic organisation of the iron production: examples from the Dogon area (Mali).


Geoffrey C.P. King. The role of active tectonics and volcanism in hominin dispersal.

Katerina Harvati. Affinities of Upper Paleolithic Europeans: African origin?


Roger M. Blench: The ‘Green Sahara’ and the dispersal of Nilo-Saharan fishing cultures.

Continued on Tuesday


Geoffrey N. Bailey et al. The Red Sea basin as habitat and dispersal corridor.

Alison S. Brooks, C. Tryon and J. Yellen. Background to ‘Out of Africa’: human behavioural responses to demographic stress during the MSA.

Steven A. Brandt, Elisabeth Hildebrand and Erich Fisher. Were the Ethiopian highlands a major center for aggregation and dispersal of late Quaternary hunter-gatherer populations?

Jeffrey Rose. Arabian refugia in the Late Pleistocene and implications for modern human expansion.
Anthony E. Marks and Hans-Peter Uerpmann. New Paleolithic finds in southeastern Arabia and the question of their possible East African origins.

John R. F. Bower and Audax Z. P. Mabulla. Territorial exclusion in the late Middle Stone Age of northern Tanzania


Amanuel Beyin. The Coastal Oasis Model and new data from the Gulf of Zula (Asfet), Red Sea Coast of Eritrea.


Claudia Näser and Cornelia Kleinitz. The good, the bad and the ugly: a case study on political, ethical and scientific dimensions of salvage archaeology from northern Sudan.


Henriette Hafsaas and Alexandros Tsakos. Rescuing the cultural heritage or preserving the cultural landscape? Natural environment and national territory in Sudan and Ethiopia.

Khidir A. Ahmed. Encounter at the cataracts.

Scott MacEachern. Archaeology and the Chad-Cameroon oil pipeline: challenges and opportunities.

Nathan Schlanger. Preventive archaeology in Africa — the call of Nouakchott.

Merrick Posnansky. Justifying Imperial sites: a dilemma for ex-colonialists.

Ndèye Sokhna Gueye. Museum exhibitions in Senegal: instrumentation of history or politics of memory?

Rahim Rajan and Heinz Rüther. The documentation and conservation of African Cultural Heritage Sites and Landscapes.


Marlize Lombard. Direct evidence for the use of ochre in Middle Stone Age adhesives.

Sarah Wurz. Debating modern behaviour in South Africa.

Christopher Stuart Henshilwood. The >100 ka levels at Blombos Cave, southern Cape: early pointers to modern human cognition?

Nicolas Conard. A critical view of the evidence for a southern African origin of behavioral modernity.

Lyn Wadley. Compound adhesives as evidence for modern cognition in the Middle Stone Age.

12. Thursday September 11. Historical Archaeology and Ethnoarchaeology. Session Chair: Diane Lyons.

Chris Ehret. Validating linguistic evidence: when is it trustworthy and when is it not?

Wazi Apoh. German colonial residues and legacies in Ghana: archaeological insight into Kpando-Todzi site (Volta region of Ghana).

Philip Allsworth-Jones. Ethnoarchaeology at IITA Ibadan.

Caleb Adebayo Folorunso. Updating the cultural landscape of Old Oyo.

Innocent Pikirayi and Anders Lindahl. Ceramics and the ethnographic present: the social context of pottery production and distribution in the Limpopo Province of South Africa.

Moustapha Sall. Culture matérielle céramique et identités en pays Fogny (Gambie, Casamance).

Per Ditlef Fredriksen. What do we learn from studying clay and pottery in households? Two differing examples from southern Botswana.

Jonathan R. Walz and N. Thomas Håkansson. Gonja revisited: archaeology and regional political ecology in the South Pare Hills and eastern Pangani Valley, Tanzania.

Richard Talla Tanto. Ethnoarchaeological investigations of Mbajeng in the Wimbum land of Donga Mantung Division, Northwest Province of Cameroon.


Liza A. Gijanto. Trade, interaction and change during the Atlantic Trade on the Gambia River.


Cornelia Kleinitz. ‘Enigmatic markings’? A diachronic perspective on multi-sensory engagements with rock surfaces in sub-Saharan West Africa.


Katie M. Manning. Dynamics of an agro-pastoral economy during the mid–late 3rd millennium BC in the Lower Tilemsi Valley, eastern Mali.


Daouda Kéita. Kokolo, un site d’habitat protohistorique en Pays dogon.

Gabriele Franke. Cultural change in the mid–first millennium BC — new evidence from the Nigerian Chad Basin.

Didier N’Dah. Les sites du Late Stone Age de la Pendjari (nord-ouest de la République du Bénin).

Timothy A. Insoll. Pots and earth cults. The context and materiality of archaeological ceramics amongst the Tallensi of northern Ghana and their interpretive implications.


Continued on Wednesday

Oumarou Amadou Ide. La moyenne vallée de la Mékrou (Niger S.O.): éléments d’une occupation humaine ancienne.

Olalekan Akinade. The differentiation in space, location and time of Nok terracotta objects, Nigeria.

Musa O. Hambolu. Constructing a relationship between northwestern Nigerian terracotta sculptures and those of Nok.

Giuseppina Mutri. Natural resources as cultural features in the settlement system of Late Pleistocene foragers in the Jebel Garb, Libya.

Karin Kindermann. Seasonal cycles and settlement patterns of Holocene hunter-gatherers at Djara, eastern Sahara.


11.05–11.25 Michael Brass: Investigating long-term changes in Saharan pastoral social organisation, 3rd to 1st millennium BC.

Tilman Lenssen-Erz. The aesthetics of aridification: the evolution of herder rock art in NE Chad.


Friederike Jesse, Karl Peter Wendt, Franziska Bartz, Thomas Frank, Fenna Godhoff, Robin Peters and Bernhard Buhs. Shades of the past: GIS-based spatial analysis of prehistoric surface sites in the Lower Wadi Howar (northern Sudan).

Katie Biittner. Raw material variability in MSA lithic assemblages from Iringa region, Tanzania.

Pastory M. Bushozi. Middle Stone Age technology and hunting behaviour in Tanzania.

Ralf Vogelsang. New excavations and dating of the Middle Stone Age Layers at Apollo 11 (Namibia).

Jayne Wilkins, Luca Pollarolo and Kathleen Kuman. Prepared core technology at Kudu Koppie and the modern human behaviour debate.


Pierre-Jean Texier, Guillaume Porraz, Chantal Tribolo and Jean-Philippe Rigaud. Technology and techniques involved in the shaping of the Stillbay bifacial points after the analysis of the more characteristic remains from Eales Cave, Hollow rockshelter and Diepkloof rockshelter lithic assemblages (Western Cape, South Africa).

Karen Loise van Niekerk. A preliminary report on the fish remains from the Middle Stone Age sites of Blombos Cave and Klasies River with reference to the taphonomy of fish bones from Later Stone Age assemblages in the southern Cape, South Africa.

Moleboheng Mohapi. A new angle on Middle Stone Age hunting technology in South Africa.

Andrew W. Kandel and N. J. Conard. The significance of coastal adaptations along the southern and western coasts of South Africa.


Pamela R. Willoughby. The Middle and Later Stone Age of Iringa, southern Tanzania.


Seke Katsamudanga. Researching the ancestral landscape of Manyikaland, southeastern Zimbabwe — a spatial investigation.


Judith Sealy. The emergence of pastoralism in southernmost Africa: new evidence from stable isotopes.


Susan Pfeiffer and Lesley Harrington. Indicators of childhood health among foragers and agriculturists of southern Africa.

Genevieve Dewar and Susan Pfeiffer. Calibration of radiocarbon dates from human skeletons that reflect marine food intake: a comparison of methods.

C. Garth Sampson. Late Holocene faunal diversity in the upper Seacow River valley, South Africa.

Maria M. Van der Ryst. Olieboomspoort shelter: home is where the hearth is.

Morongwa N. Mosothwane. Isotopic evidence of change in Toutswe environment, east central Botswana.

Edwin N. Wilmsen, David Killick and Dana Drake Rosenstein. The social geography of pottery in Botswana as reconstructed by optical petrography.

Sarah M. Mthulatsipi. Landscape dynamics: a case study of the confluence zone of the Shashe and Limpopo Rivers, eastern Botswana.

Justin du Piesanie. Understanding social complexity in the Middle Iron Age of South Africa: The case of K2 and Leokwe.


M. H. (Alex) Schoeman. Rain and smoke: the archaeology of rain-control places and things in the Shashe-Limpopo confluence area.

Tom Huffmann. Mapungubwe and Great Zimbabwe: the origin and spread of social complexity in southern Africa.

Dana Drake Rosenstein. Considerations for absolute dating of Late Iron Age sites in southern Africa: comparing radiocarbon, luminescence and archaeomagnetism.


Wim Moritz Biemond. Reinterpreting the origin and spread of the Toutswe chiefdom in Botswana.