

Brown Bag Series:

Archaeological Investigations at Tando Fagusa, Komaland, Northern Ghana

Speaker: Sammy Nkumbaan

Host Department: Museum of Anthropological Archaeology

Date: 10/09/2014

Time: 12:00 PM

Location: 2009 Ruthven

Description:

Tando Fagusa is a 6th to 10th Century AD site with evidence of unique anthropomorphic and zoomorphic terracotta (terra cotta) figurines alongside other archaeological materials suggestive of precursors to social complexity in northern Ghana prior to the period of contact with the Saharan World. The site is characterized by multiple mounds that have been identified as settlement and “stone circle” mounds. The proposed interpretation of the stone circle mounds as burials or shrines that functioned differently within the complex cultural milieu of the producers of the cultural materials is far from conclusive. My research has focused principally on settlement mounds with test excavations on stone circle mounds and draws on the limited previous research in the area on stone circle to institute a comparison that can advance our understanding to the function of the mounds and the nature of social, economic, political and ritual life within the archaeological region.