



human development in landscapes
GRADUATE SCHOOL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KIEL

CONSTRUCTION OF SOCIAL IDENTITIES. ETHNOARCHAEOLOGY IN THE UPPER BASIN OF WHITE VOLTA RIVER (NE GHANA)

David Javaloyas Molina, University of Balearic Islands

Erasmus guest lecturer at Kiel University, 10th-12th July 2012

Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th: 10:15-11:45 am, 14:15-15:45 pm

Thursday 12th: 10:15-11:45 am

Venue: Leibnizstraße 1, room 105a

PROGRAMME

A. BALEARIC ISLANDS PREHISTORY

1. More than a house. Between public and private spaces in Balearic Bronze Age Navetiformes (c. 1500-850 cal BC)

Abstract:

Traditionally, scholars have interpreted navetiformes, the most common constructions in the settlements of Mallorca and Minorca during the Bronze Age, as regular houses or as domestic spaces. However, those concepts are problematic and have multiple meanings in different cultures and times and these views have failed to understand properly the specific characteristics of these constructions.

We argue that better than consider these buildings just as a static physical structures, where the people lived, we should understand them as an essential element in shaping the social life in those communities. We propose that navetiformes had an active and changing role in the constitution of households and shaping the Bronze Age communities.

B. ETHNOARCHAEOLOGY IN THE UPPER BASIN OF WHITE VOLTA RIVER (NE GHANA)

1a. Understanding the communities of the NE of Ghana: A brief history and current characteristics.

1b. Ethnoarchaeology as archaeology of the present: the theoretical premises of the UBI ethnoarchaeological project.

2. Houses and social identities in Pib-Ri area.

3. Production, distribution and consumption of pottery in a multi-ethnic society.

4. Words in a baobab: historical consciousness among the mamprusi and western archaeology.

Abstract:

Ethnoarchaeology is a subdiscipline that has developed strongly during the second half of the 20th century, especially by the hand of the New Archaeology founded by Lewis Binford. However, the subsequent criticisms addressed from the post-processual views and the accumulation of experiences has shifted its foci of interest and the ways in which is carried out. If in a first moment its main goal was the obtaining of archaeological analogies nowadays ethnoarchaeological projects has become an archaeology of the present, focusing primarily on the study of the relationships that material culture develops in the social life of human communities. In these lectures we present the work which, since 2009, the Research Group Arqueobalea (University of the Balearic Islands) is developing in northeastern Ghana.

Registration (not mandatory but desirable): rcolunge@gshdl.uni-kiel.de