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Archaeological Finds and other fields of Arts and Antiquities

## **Program and Abstracts**

### **149. INAA of pottery from Il Lokeridede and Jarigole, Koobi Fora region, Kenya**

**C. Koch\*, L. Pavlish\*\*, R. M. Farquhar\*\*, R.G.V. Hancock\*\***

\*African Studies Institute, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey

\*\*University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

Instrumental Neutron Activation Analysis (INAA) was carried out on 52 samples recovered from the presumed Pastoral Neolithic sites of Il Lokeridede and Jarigole which are located in the Sibiloi National Park on the Koobi Fora Formation on the East shore of Lake Turkana near the Northern Kenyan borders with Ethiopia and the Sudan. The elemental data obtained from the SLOWPOKE Reactor Facility [University of Toronto], can be separated into two Groups (A & B). Group A samples represent both sites while group B samples come only from Jarigole. Group A samples suggest that sherd material recovered from these two sites may have come from a similar clay source. Since each of the sites contain samples of pottery ware that appear both physically and chemically similar, site contemporaneity may be inferred. A radiocarbon date obtained on charcoal from the IsoTrace Facility [University of Toronto] in connection with this project confirms the Pastoral Neolithic age (2910 - 2575 BC) for the site of Il Lokeridede. This is the first AMS date obtained from samples from the Koobi Fora Region. It is also the first date for any site in the Jarigole Mortuary Tradition.