

INSTITUT FONDAMENTAL D'AFRIQUE NOIRE
RADIOCARBON DATES II

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Treatment of samples and counting equipment have remained essentially the same as described previously (R, 1974, v 16, p 404-306). Sample CO₂ is used to fill a 1.2L steel proportional counter at 740mmHg.

Age calculations are based on a ¹⁴C half-life of 5568 ± 30 yr and 0.95 of activity of the NBS oxalic acid standard. Finite ages are quoted with 1σ criterion corresponding to the standard deviation based only on counting errors; the maximum age is quoted with 4σ criterion above background.

ARCHAEOLOGIC SAMPLES

These samples were coll by IFAN Prehist Dept from different districts of Senegal.

DaK-201. IFAN 108 867 ± 117

Charcoal from Senegambian Megalithic site, Sine-Ngayene, Niore du Rip Senegal dist (13° 41' N, 15° 32' W); depth 110cm, 80km from sea. Megalithic circle containing 29 human tombs; assoc objects: iron weapons, copper ornaments, ceramic, carnelian beads. Coll 1975 by G Thilmans and subm by G Thilmans and C Descamps, IFAN Prehist Dept. *Comment*: dates period of Senegambian Megalithic civilization.

DaK-177. IFAN 97 5070 ± 110

Charcoal from Megalithic site, Tiekene-Boussoura, Koupentoum dist, Senegal (14° 00' N, 14° 35' W); Megalithic circle no. 8 containing human tombs. Coll 1974 by G Thilmans and subm G Thilmans and C Descamps. *Comment*: dates period of Senegambian Megalithics.

DaK-162. IFAN 81 751 ± 100

Shells of ostrich egg from Rao tumulus, Massar dist, Bas-Senegal (15° 58' N, 16° 20' W). Coll 1942 by Joire and G Duchemin and subm by Prehist Dept, IFAN. *Comment*: dates famous golden pectoral (breast-plate) excavated from tumulus.

DaK-167. IFAN 85 2126 ± 110

Charcoal from Tiekene-Boussoura Megalithic site, Koupentoum dist Senegal (14° 00' N, 14° 35' W); depth 105cm. Coll 1974 by G Thilmans and subm by G Thilmans and C Descamps. *Comment*: dates a period of Senegambian Megalithics. Cross-check was made with Nancy lab: Ny-357 = 1980 ± 60. Both dates seem to agree.

DaK-155. IFAN 82 1363 ± 120

Charcoal from Sintiou-Bara site, Matam dist, Senegal (15° 42' N, 13° 24' W), depth 280 cm. Assoc with pottery, iron, and silver objects.

Coll 1973 and subm by A Ravise, IFAN Prehist Dept. *Comment*: dates period of Senegalese protohistory.

DaK-192. IFAN 83 **900 ± 100**

Charcoal from same site as DaK-155, depth 225cm. Coll 1973 and subm by A Ravise.

DaK-191. Khant 11-75 **5415 ± 10**

Shells (*Arca senilis*) from Khant II site, 25km NNE of Saint-Louis du Senegal (16° 05' N, 16° 20' W), depth 100cm. Assoc with human skeleton. Coll 1974 and subm by A Ravise. *Comment*: dates Neolithic skeleton and assoc industry.

The following samples are coll by Hist Dept, Fac Lettres, Dakar, from Mauritanian archaeol sites: Tegdaoujt Aoudaghost, and Koumbi Saleh (Robert, 1971).

DaK-156. KS AO_I44 (C) **981 ± 114**

Charcoal from Koumbi Saleh archaeol site, Timbedra dist Mauritania (15° 40' N, 8° 5' W), depth 510cm, 945km from sea. Assoc with Medieval ceramics. Coll 1972 and subm by A Cros and S Robert. *Comment*: dates archaeol Layer IIIa.

DaK-157. KS 72 AO_I44 (D) **1122 ± 125**

Charcoal from Koumbi Saleh site, depth 510cm, 945km from sea. Coll 1972 by A Cros and subm by A Cros and S Robert. *Comment*: dates archaeol Layer IIIa.

DaK-158. TEG 73 AO_V79 **633 ± 120**

Charcoal from Tegdaoujt archaeol site, Tamchakett dist, Mauritania (17° 25' N, 10° 25' W); depth 500cm, 586km from sea. Assoc with ceramics. Coll 1973 by A Cros and subm by A Cros and S Robert. *Comment*: dates assoc industry.

DaK-172. TEG 73 C VII 27 **1017 ± 100**

Charcoal from Tegdaoujt site, depth 260cm, 580km from sea. Assoc with Medieval ceramics. Coll 1973 and subm by C Vanaecker and S Robert. *Comment*: dates assoc industry.

DaK-173. TEG 73 C VII 103 **1031 ± 100**

Charcoal from Tegdaoujt site, depth 115cm. Coll 1973 and subm by Claudette Vanaecker and S Robert. Assoc with Medieval ceramics. *Comment*: dates Medieval ceramics.

DaK-194. TEG 73 SRV **1851 ± 100**

Charcoal from Tegdaoujt site, assoc with modern ceramics; depth 100cm. Coll 1973 and subm by S Robert. *Comment*: dates assoc industry.

DaK-195. TEG-73 SY III 1170 ± 100

Charcoal from Tegdaoujt site, depth 335cm. Assoc with Medieval ceramics. *Comment:* dates assoc industry.

GEOLOGIC SAMPLES

Benin series

Evolution of the Benin shoreline during the late Quaternary is studied here. The actual shoreline approximates that which existed in the yr 0 and even that of the last 2 millennium bc. DaK-197 and -198 confirmed indications of DaK-182: prior to beginning of our era, sea level of Benin region of West African coast was lower than present sea level (Paradis, 1976).

DaK-182. DY Cot 1 2040 ± 110

Shells (*Arca senilis*) from "crique d'Akpakpa", Cotonou Benin (6° 27' 30" N, 2° 28' W); depth 20cm below sea, 200cm from shore. Coll 1974 and subm by Guilhan Paradis, Bot Lab, Univ Cotonou, Benin. *Comment:* dates sea shoreline at time of shell deposit.

DaK-183. DY Dje 2 3900 ± 140

Shells (*Spisula*) from Djeffa dist, Benin (6° 23' N, 2° 33' 40" W); depth 90 to 100cm, 4.5km from sea. Coll 1975 and subm by G Paradis. *Comment:* dates ancient mangrove lagoon Tchonvi-Djefja-Kpodji.

DaK-184. DY Dje 3 640 ± 100

Shells (*Pachymelania aurita*) from Djassin-Quinvie, near Porto-Novo town, Benin (6° 29' N, 2° 37' W); depth 200cm under water, 12km from sea. Coll 1974 and subm by G Paradis. *Comment:* dates ancient brackish lagoon at foot of dead cliff of surf-deposited sand.

DaK-196. DY ouid 6 180 ± 115

Shells (*Arca senilis*) from Sehome dist, W Aheme lake, Benin (6° 30' 10" N, 1° 58' W); 23km from sea. Coll 1975 and subm by G Paradis. *Comment:* dates kitchen midden on Ahme Lake shore.

DaK-197. DY ouid 7 2930 ± 130

Shells (*Ostrea tulipa*) from Djegbame Benin dist, Benin (6° 19' 48" N, 1° 58' 15" W); depth 120 cm, 3km from sea. Coll 1974 and subm by G Paradis. *Comment:* dates lacustrine deposits.

DaK-198. DY ouid 9 2510 ± 120

Shells (*Cardium ringens*, *Arca senilis*) from Djegbadji W Ouidah town, Benin (6° 19' N, 2° 05' 10" W); depth 50cm, 500m from sea. Coll 1975 and subm by G Paradis. *Comment:* dates shoreline at time of shell deposition.

DaK-199. DY Cot 8 **2675 ± 120**

Charcoal from Cocotomey dist, "carriere colas", Benin (6° 23' 40" N, 2° 18' 10" W); 5km from sea. Coll 1975 and subm by G Paradis. *Comment*: dates layer of yellow sand considered to mark ancient shoreline.

DaK-200. DY Cot 12 **865 ± 115**

Peat (*Rhizophora*) from Togbin dist, W Cotonou town, Benin (6° 20' 50" N, 2° 18' 20" W); 500m from sea. Coll 1975 by G Paradis. *Comment*: dates formation of *Rhizophora* mangrove at site.

Saloum series

In this series, the late Quaternary shoreline of SW Senegal is studied. Dates are established within framework of a UNESCO 10-yr project, aiming at "River Flood and Lake Level Changes": Internatl Geol Correlation Prog (IGCP).

Whereas DaK-1974 corresponds to Nouakchott transgression, DaK-175 and -176 concur and correspond to final phase of late alluvium of Saloum R delta; alluvium could be contemporary with off-shore sand bars of Saloum R delta.

DaK-174. E 8 **5530 ± 150**

Shells (*Arca senilis*) from Gandoul I., Saloum estuary, Senegal (13° 58' N, 17° 35' W); 16km from sea. Coll 1975 and subm by El Hadj Salif Diop, Geog Dept, Fac Lettres, Dakar. *Comment*: dates Nouakchottian transgression. Oldest bank dated in Saloum Is.

DaK-175. E 21 **2695 ± 100**

Shells (*Arca senilis*) from Sangomar Cape, Saloum, Senegal (14° 53' N, 17° 47' W); 500cm from sea. Coll 1974 and subm by El Hadj Salif Diop. *Comment*: dates final phase of late alluvium, contemporary to formation of off-shore sand bars of Saloum delta.

DaK-176. P₂ E.3 **2550 ± 100**

Shells (*Arca senilis*) from Dienewar dist, Gandoul I, Senegal (13° 54' N, 17° 44' W); 1km from sea. Coll 1974 and subm by El Hadj Salif Diop and Sall, Geog Dept, Fac Lettres, Dakar. *Comment*: dates final phase of late alluvium; could be contemporary with formation of off-shore sand bars of Saloum delta.

REFERENCES

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