



**POTTERY
NETWORK**

CHANGING SOCIETIES AND INNOVATIVE POTTERY IN WEST AFRICA

Guest lecture by
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29th JUNE 2023
17:30 (s.t.)
Hörsaal 010/011

Freie Universität Berlin
Hittorfstr. 18, 14195 Berlin



Webex-Link (Hybrid)

<https://fu-berlin.webex.com/fu-berlin-en/j.php?MTID=m83c6f8944ff316aa6600db5cdcf4224a>

This project seeks to understand what causes the development of pottery forms in West Africa, from the emergence of fired pottery until European colonialism. In the beginning, the pottery making traditions are characterized by simple and open forms, correlating with the start of the Holocene Period and the availability of new resources. Along with the introduction of both domesticated plants and animals a development towards a larger variety of pottery forms is recognizable.

The lecture will present a reviewed pottery chronology from the Inland Niger Delta and its uplands. Based on the form-and-function hypothesis, it will furthermore investigate how developments in the pottery traditions can be viewed as a transformation in tool's technology in order to process new resources or to fulfil the needs of a changing society and environment. The presented pottery chronology will be compared with the emergence of different resources, demography, the rise and fall of societies and the changing climate, to understand whether the change of pottery forms correlates with any of these tendencies or events.

INFO & CONTACT

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