

**1ST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
CLAYS AND CLAY MINERALS IN AFRICA
AND
2ND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
GEOPHAGIA IN SOUTHERN AFRICA**



**IGCP Project 545: Clays and Clay
Minerals in Africa**

**NRF Grant UID 63583: Human and
Enzootic Geophagia Southern Africa**

**NRF Grant No 73657: Clays and Clay
Minerals in South Africa**

**1ST CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT
AND CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**



**BLOEMFONTEIN, SOUTH AFRICA
19 – 21 OCTOBER 2011**

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Clays and clay minerals in Africa have not been adequately and appropriately researched upon. Poorly and fragmentally coordinated scientific investigations of argillaceous sediments coupled with acute financial constraints are accountable for the limited studies so far executed. This conference is a buildup of research initiatives and efforts that attempt to bring understanding on clays and clay minerals in the continent. The lack of a common platform where continental research findings in clays and clay minerals can be subjected to academic rigor has gingered the move towards the organization of this conference in South Africa.

OBJECTIVES

The conference's contribution to the Clays and Clay Minerals Body of Knowledge is expected to encourage governments, universities and industries to reconsider current contemporary exploitation practices of clays. The forum will also serve as a vehicle in bringing understanding and platforming existing and newly generated knowledge on clays and clay minerals into globally appreciable and stringently acceptable mainstream knowledge.

INVITATION

Participants are welcomed from Academia, Industry, Government and other Public Agencies. Earth and Environmental Scientists, Physical and Life Scientists, Engineers, Human and Social Scientists,

Medical and Allied Health Science Personnel, and Professionals of several related disciplines are invited to submit abstracts and are welcome to participate.

VENUE

Central University of Technology, Bloemfontein,
Free State South Africa

**INVITED GUEST SPEAKERS AND
KEYNOTE LECTURES**

- Dr Albert S van Jaarsveld, President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Research Foundation (NRF) of South Africa: Research Standing and Funding in Africa
- Dr T Ramontja, Chief Executive Officer, Council for Geosciences, South Africa: Clays, natural resources and economic development
- Dr Jose A Centeno, Chairman of the International Association of Medical Geology: Clays, geophagia and human health
- Prof. Aberra Mogessie, President of the Geological Society of Africa: The occurrence of Platinum Group Minerals in different tectonic settings and their economic significance

CONFERENCE THEME

**AN INNOVATIVE PERSPECTIVE ON THE ROLE
OF CLAY AND CLAY MINERALS AND
GEOPHAGIA ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Sub themes are as follows:

- The role of Clays and Clay Minerals in the characterization of Paleoenvironments
- Clay minerals geneses related to deposits, occurrences for economic development
- Mineralogical characterization of clays and clay minerals in economic development
- Chemical/geochemical characterization of clays and clay minerals: an innovative perspective
- Physical and related properties of clays and clay minerals: an innovative perspective
- Stable isotopes and dating applied to clays and clay minerals
- Clays in medicine/pharmaceutics for improvement of human health
- Historical, socio-cultural, and socio-economic aspects associated with geophagia
- Physico-chemistry, chemistry and mineralogy of geophagic materials
- Human and animal health aspects associated with geophagia
- Geophagia and the biophysical environment
- Agricultural, environmental and industrial applications of clays and clay minerals for economic growth and development
- Clays and clay minerals in soils
- Clays and clay minerals processing/beneficiation for economic growth and development
- Clays and clay minerals mining/extraction for economic growth and development
- Clays and clay minerals in geohazardous environments
- Clays and clay minerals in other related areas

CONFERENCE LANGUAGE

English language.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS AND PAPERS

Colleagues are invited to submit extended abstracts on any of the sub themes of the conference. Submitted abstracts will be reviewed by members of the International Scientific Committee; and those selected will have to be developed into manuscripts of at most eight pages according to the guidelines for submission of manuscripts (to be forwarded to authors whose abstracts will be accepted). The manuscripts will be subjected to peer-review and accepted papers will be published in the Book of Conference Proceedings.

MODE OF PRESENTATION

Both Oral and Poster Presentations are welcome.

SUBMISSION POLICIES

First authors are limited to two oral and two poster presentations.

GUIDELINES FOR ABSTRACTS

- **Language:** English (South African, US or UK)
- **Title:** 12 point font, title case, bold, Arial
- **Names of Authors:** 11 point font lower case, Arial
- **Author affiliation:** 10 point font, Arial
- **Abstract length:** at least 500 words and at most 600 words.
- **Keywords:** 6-8 keywords
- **Structure of abstract:** Introduction, Aims and objectives, Methodology, Results and Conclusion

- **Line spacing:** Single
- **Alignment:** justified
- **Page margin:** 2.5 cm margin on all sides
- The text should not be hyphenated.
- Metric (S.I.) units should be used. Use units instead of words, with free space between number and units. Do not abbreviate units.
- Present units as 1% and 4%, or 2 mm to 5 mm, not 2 to 5 mm, or 3 km x 3 km, not 3 x 3 km.
- Do not use bullets. Instead use numbering as (1.) (2.)
- Authors who have a challenge with English language are advised to seek the help of colleagues having the language proficiency.

GUIDELINES FOR POSTER PREPARATIONS

All posters should have a uniform portrait size of 110 cm by 133 cm. Colleagues having poster presentations must have had their abstracts accepted by the International Scientific Committee.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The conference is limited to 200 delegates! Registration and acceptance will be on the basis of first contact, first serve. All participants of the conference are advised to register. Registration will commence on 1st October 2010. The registration fee for academics and professionals, and students shall cover for full participation, conference bag, conference book of abstracts and related documentation, welcome party, conference meals including beverages, and conference photo. Registration fees paid by accompanying persons

shall cover very limited conference documentation, welcome party, and beverages.

EARLY REGISTRATION FEES

Academics and professionals: **R3000.00 (or US\$400.00),**

Students with proof of studentship: **R2000 (or US\$ 275.00)**

Accompanying persons: **R1500 (or US\$200.00)**

LATE REGISTRATION FEES

Academics and professionals: **R3500.00 (or US\$450.00),**

Students with proof of studentship: **R2500.00 (or US\$325.00),**

Accompanying persons: **R2000.00 (or US\$250.00).**

DRESS CODE

Conference participants must abide to appropriate professional dressing attire at all times. Presenters must be formally dressed.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

The conference programme will be made available at a later date.

ACCOMMODATION

Participants are requested to make their own accommodation arrangements. Please contact the Events Management Coordinator at africanclays@gmail.com for a list of hotels and B&Bs in Bloemfontein.

TRANSPORTATION

Delegates are encouraged to make their own transport arrangements.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Early Registration: **1st October 2010**
- Abstract submission deadline: **31st January 2011**
- Notification of decision on abstract: **28th February 2011**
- Submission of full manuscripts for accepted abstracts: **30th April 2011**
- Manuscripts sent for peer reviewing: **31st May 2011**
- Return of reviewers' reports on manuscripts: **30th June 2011**
- Forwarding of reviewers reports to authors: **15th July 2011**
- Submission of revised manuscripts from authors: **31st July 2011**
- Commencement of late registration: **2nd August 2011**
- Editorial committee meeting: **12th - 14th August 2011**
- Galley proofs sent to authors: **31st August 2011**
- Return of galley proofs: **5th September 2011**
- Release of published proceedings: **19th October 2011**

REFUND POLICY

Should registered participants intend to cancel their registration, they should send written notification to the Event Management Coordinator. Notifications received before 1st August 2011 shall attract an 80

% refund. There will be no refund after 1st August 2011. However, registration can be transferred to another colleague if written notification is received for that purpose.

DISPLAY OF PROMOTIONAL ITEMS

Companies are welcome to display their promotional items at a fee of R5000.00. Please contact the Event Management Coordinator africanclays@gmail.com.

CONFERENCE ORGANISATION

Conference Convenor

Prof G-IE Ekosse, Walter Sisulu University, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa

Conference Secretary

Dr VM Ngole, Walter Sisulu University, Eastern Cape Province, South Africa

International Scientific Committee

- Prof G-IE Ekosse (Chairperson)
- Prof L de Jager, Central University of Technology, Bloemfontein, South Africa
- Prof A Mulaba, University of Johannesburg, South Africa
- Prof S Songca, Walter Sisulu University, South Africa
- Prof P Nkurunziza, University of Burundi, Bujumbura, Burundi
- Prof Yongue Fouateu Rose, University of Yaounde, Cameroon
- Dr E Shemang, University of Botswana, Botswana

- Dr K Mwitondi, University of Sheffield-Hallam, Sheffield, United Kingdom
- Dr E Morton, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, IN, USA
- Dr G Okunlola, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
- Dr GW Nyakairu, Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda
- Mr M Tesfai, Department of Mines, Ministry of Energy and Mines, Eritrea
- Mr Tibebe Mengistu, Department of Mines, Ethiopia

Editorial Team

- Prof G-IE Ekosse (Chairperson)
- Prof L de Jager, Central University of Technology, Bloemfontein, South Africa
- Prof J Hughes, University of Kwazulu Natal, South Africa
- Dr VM Ngole, Walter Sisulu University, South Africa
- Dr C Brand, Central University of Technology, Bloemfontein, South Africa

Local Organising Committee

- Prof L de Jager (Chairperson)
- Prof van Schalkwyk, Central University of Technology, Bloemfontein, South Africa
- Dr S Matoti, Central University of Technology, Bloemfontein, South Africa
- Dr R Theron, Central University of Technology, Bloemfontein, South Africa
- Mr F Mongogoa, Central University of Technology, Bloemfontein, South Africa
- Mr J Mokoena, Central University of Technology, Bloemfontein, South Africa

Event Management Coordinator

Ms L Smith, Central University of Technology, Bloemfontein, Free State Province, South Africa

CONFERENCE CONTACT

For all correspondences regarding the conference, please use the email: africanclays@gmail.com

ABOUT BLOEMFONTEIN

Bloemfontein is the capital city of the Free State Province of South Africa, as well as the judicial capital of South Africa. Bloemfontein is popularly and poetically known as "the city of roses", owing to the abundance of these flowers and the annual rose festival held in Bloemfontein in October each year. The city's Sesotho name is *Mangaung*, meaning "place of cheetahs". The city is home to 369,568 residents. Bloemfontein is situated on dry grassland and is located in central South Africa on the southern edge of the Highveld. The area is generally flat with occasional hills and the general vegetation is Highveld grassland. Bloemfontein experiences a semi-arid climate, with hot summer days (Jan: max: 32°C min: 19°C; frequent afternoon thunderstorms) and cooler, dry winters, often with frosts (July: max: 14°C min:-3°C). Bloemfontein is served by the Bloemfontein Airport.

DISCLAIMER

The organisers of the 1st INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CLAYS AND CLAY MINERALS IN AFRICA and the 2nd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GEOPHAGIA IN SOUTHERN AFRICA are making every possible effort to ensure that the conference is successful. However, neither the organisers nor any of their representatives will be legally responsible for any alteration of arrangements, programmes or plans having to do with the conference; or any damages, injury, loss or inconvenience that may be suffered by any individuals while travelling to or from, or during their stay in Bloemfontein for the conference.



Waterfront, Bloemfontein