

Tools may dig up historical clues

THOMAS WAGNER
News Staff

A University of Alberta anthropologist has found thousands of ancient tools and artifacts left by early man in Iringa, Tanzania.

In 2006, associate professor Pam Willoughby, along with graduate students Pastory Bushozi and Katie Bittner, found 182kg of historical artifacts such as pottery, animal bones, and, most importantly, stone tools.

Willoughby first went to Tanzania in 2005 in search of rock shelters that ancient peoples would have used as instant housing over 200 000 years ago. She had hoped that these caves might contain the garbage left behind by our ancestors thousands of years ago, but when she arrived, she found artifacts literally covering the floor.

"The surface had pieces of pottery and iron from early smelting on it. [It] was just littered with artifacts," Willoughby explained. "[However], my permit wasn't for [that] region, but the next region over, so even though I saw stuff and took lots of pictures, I couldn't collect anything."

When she returned the next year, her intent was just to prove that artifacts were there so that she could get a grant and return later. However, she found so much in the 30 days of digging that another trip back has been put on hold until all of the artifacts could be properly documented and studied. This is due in large part to the stringent rules of the Tanzanian government, which still owns the artifacts even though Willoughby found and collected them.

"We have [the artifacts] on loan for, in theory, as long as we want, but the understanding is that we don't go back



TARASTIEGLITZ

A ROCKY PAST A massive find of ancient tools may unlock humans' past.

to get more until we return [the ones we've already taken]," Willoughby explained.

The artifacts that Willoughby brought back to the U of A range in age from over 100 000 years old—the Middle Stone Age—to about 3000 years old, in the period known as the Iron Age. Although the focus of the study is on Middle Stone Age artifacts, the newer ones, because they lie on top, must also be collected and analyzed.

Through her work, Willoughby hopes to answer two pressing issues: first, how the tools of the Later Stone Age emerged from the larger, earlier type; and second, what prevented the

tools' makers, our ancestral *Homo sapiens*, from leaving Africa.

According to Willoughby, although they had the technology to make these tools more than 100 000 years ago, they didn't emerge from Africa until only 40–60 000 years ago.

With those questions in mind, Willoughby hopes to return next year to collect and study more samples and continue her work answering the questions of the past.

"In theory, we're looking for the magical, hypothetical site where [Middle Stone Age tools] change into [Later Stone Age tools]," Willoughby explained. "I think one of our sites, Mlambalasi, could be that site."

ICC needs more recognition—Goldstone

LEE SATVEIT
News Writer

The survival of international justice depends on the will of leading nations, according to Richard J Goldstone, former Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa and former prosecutor of the UN International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia.

Goldstone spoke at the 19th annual McDonald Lecture, held in the Law Centre on 27 September. His speech, entitled "The Future of International Justice," provided insights into the development of international criminal law and discussion of the challenges that lie ahead in addressing it.

Identifying the key problems facing the International Criminal Court (ICC), Goldstone said that "[the Court] hasn't got its own police force or own army—it has to rely on governments to support it." Later, he emphasized that the lack of political will and the failure of leading nations to recognize the Court were other vital and related concerns.

After expressing disappointment that the UK and France (both parties to the Rome Statute, which created the Court) failed to even mention the ICC in their calls for action in Sudan, Goldstone noted that "unless the political will can be mustered in that regard, credibility of the Court is being weakened."

"[We need to] put pressure on countries to recognize the Court," he said, noting that the concept of international criminal justice hasn't been with us long.

"Until Nuremberg, there was no such thing as international criminal justice. It didn't exist."

Goldstone added that prior to Nuremberg, war criminals enjoyed effective and concrete impunity.

"In their own countries, they were unfortunately regarded more often than not as war heroes, and not as war criminals. Nuremberg ignited a flame and a hope for an international criminal court. Unfortunately, the Cold War intervened."

"Until Nuremberg, there was no such thing as international criminal justice. It just didn't exist."

RICHARD J GOLDSTONE
INT'L CRIMINAL LAW EXPERT

Goldstone pointed out that it wasn't until 1993 that an ad hoc international criminal court was established in the former Yugoslavia, and explained that it was established due to European anti-war sentiment following World War II.

Goldstone said that in 1994, when Rwanda requested a court to be set up in their country, the UN Security Council could not have denied Rwanda the same service that was provided in the former Yugoslavia.

"It is impossible to understand international criminal justice without recognizing the politics that is its mother and father. Without politicians, without politics, there wouldn't be international criminal courts—they wouldn't get financed, they wouldn't be established in the first place," Goldstone said, noting

the great advances and benefits that have been achieved in international criminal justice.

He said that in recent years, gender-related crimes such as systematic mass-rape have finally been recognized as being criminal, and not just an uncontrollable aspect of war.

"Systematic mass rape has been used as a form of warfare for thousands of years, but it was never recognized as a crime," Goldstone said. "The reasons are obvious—these laws were written by men. [They] assumed and accepted that rape and plunder was something that automatically happened in warfare."

But that has changed, and Goldstone said this was due in no small part to the ad hoc tribunals formed in Yugoslavia and Rwanda—both precursors to the ICC.

Goldstone went on to say that thanks to the creation of the ICC, the protection of civilians has been extended to civilians in civil wars, rather than just civilians involved in wars between nations. In Goldstone's opinion, the existence of the ICC can create real deterrence.

"It is difficult to prove deterrence," Goldstone noted. "How do you prove what would have happened but for these tribunals having been set up?"

Goldstone ended his speech praising Canada and the nations of Scandinavia, whose foreign policy he deemed as being based on morals rather than on commercial concerns. There are currently 104 nations party to the Rome Statute, but Goldstone emphasized that two important democracies—the US and India—haven't ratified it.

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