

Contents

List of Figures.....	xxi
List of Tables.....	xxv
Summary.....	xxvii
Introduction.....	1
1. The shell mounds in the Diola <i>terroir</i>	7
<i>Pó di terra</i> : Landscape and the <i>terroir</i> in the Diola tchon of Guinea-Bissau.....	9
The concept of <i>terroir</i> and its correlates in archaeological theory	15
2. History of occupation of the territory and the Diola <i>terroir</i>.....	19
What do we know about the history of occupation of the territory before colonisation?	19
Shell mounds of the Casamance River	19
The Baynouk (Banhuns) populations of Casamance	22
The arrival of settlers and the impact of slave trafficking on regional dynamics	26
3. Multifunctional shell mounds? Examples and parallels to understand the role of the shell mounds in the <i>terroir</i>	31
Shell mounds as a midden	33
(1) Expedient consumption shell mound	33
(2) Shell mounds next to the dwelling	34
(3) Processing shell mounds	35
Sacred or Funeral Shell mounds	37
Shell mound as housing platform	40
4. Diola Territory Chronicles: Unravelling the Intersection of Ethnoarchaeology, Ethnography and History	43
Ethnoarchaeology as a theoretical guide	43
Fieldwork Insertion – the Diola <i>Tabankas</i> of Guinea-Bissau.....	47
5. Survey and delimitation of the shell mounds	55
6. Excavations and stratigraphic analysis.....	67
Excavations in Yal/Varela	69
Bumehban I and II	69
Wodjok I.....	73
Excavation in Elia.....	73
Excavations in Coladje	76
Horon Guiba.....	76
Icun Complex.....	76
Icun I	76
Icun V.....	85
Icun II, III and IV	87
7. Molluscs and the dynamics of living in the Diola <i>terroir</i>	97
Ocean/beach/dunes	98
Mangrove/Tarrafe/Mangal.....	99
Wood	99
Mollusc Collection.....	100
Oysters.....	100
Mollusc gathering	100
Contchurbedja	103
Caramussa	103
Gandhi.....	104

Fishing.....	104
Terraces and plateau.....	104
Rice paddies.....	106
Palm wine.....	107
Other crops.....	108
8. The midden as synthesis of the Diola <i>terroir</i>.....	111
The surface of the shell mound and the life in the village: the garbage between the local and the globalized.....	113
Shells.....	116
Rice.....	117
Animals.....	117
Bathroom.....	117
Sacred.....	120
Baobabs and vegetation.....	120
Ceramics, shells, and the shell mound.....	122
The shell mounds as midden in time.....	124
Midden as an ethnic-cultural marker?.....	125
9. Identifying multifunctional sites: barriers, paths and harbours.....	131
Barrier shell mounds.....	131
The Coladje Barrier.....	139
Path/Embankment shell mounds.....	142
Harbour shell mounds.....	145
Shell mounds as places of memory.....	146
The shells and resignification of the old houses.....	147
10. The monumental shell mounds of Coladje.....	157
There is a shell mound between Christ (Allah?) and the <i>Baloba</i>	163
Final considerations.....	169
What things make up the shell mounds, and what do they tell us about society?.....	169
What functions do the shell mounds have in Diola society today?.....	169
Midden.....	169
Barrier.....	170
Paths/Embankments.....	170
Harbour.....	170
Icun Monumental Complex.....	170
What is the relationship between the shell mounds and the landscape?.....	170
What do the shell mounds tell us about the history of the territory and Diola society?.....	171
Bibliography.....	175

Online resource: João Manga on shell mounds in Elia - <https://doi.org/10.30861/9781407361598-video>