

PRESS RELEASE



INTERMEDIATHEQUE
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Special Exhibition

December 2017

“The Dawn of Design – From the Oldest Stone Tools to Handaxes”

Main Features of the Exhibition

“Reconsidering the dawn of design from the oldest stone tools reported from Ethiopia”

- This exhibition is a unique opportunity for the public in Japan to appreciate 8 stone tools scientifically treasured in Ethiopia, thanks to the long-term collaboration between the University Museum, the University of Tokyo and the National Museum of Ethiopia.
- The oldest stone tools, as well as the oldest “designed” stone tools of which handaxes are most representative, prompt a new reflection on the origins and development of tools during the early periods of mankind.
- At the Hongo Campus, a detailed exhibition on early stone tool technologies and their development is presented in parallel until January 28.

Key Information

[Title] Special Exhibition “The Dawn of Design – From the Oldest Stone Tools to Handaxes”

[Dates] December 12, 2017 – April 8, 2018

[Opening Hours] 11:00 - 18:00 (open until 20:00 on Friday and Saturday; last entry 30 minutes before closing)

*Opening hours may change.

[Closed on] Mondays (or the following Tuesday if Monday is a National Holiday) and Year-end holidays. May close irregularly.

[Venue] Intermediatheque 2F [GREY CUBE]

[Organizers] The University Museum, the University of Tokyo (UMUT)

[Cooperation] Authority for Research and Conservation of Cultural Heritage (A.R.C.C.H.) of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Ethiopia, Gona Paleoanthropological Research Project, Konso Paleoanthropological Research Project, Middle Awash Research Project

[Admission] Free of charge

[Address] KITTE 2-3F, 2-7-2 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, JAPAN

[Access] JR lines and Tokyo Metro Marunouchi line Tokyo Station. Direct access from the Marunouchi Underground Pathway.

Publications

- Exhibition Catalogue “The Early Acheulean – Konso, Ethiopia” (Distributed by the University of Tokyo Press)
- Illustrated Catalogue “The Dawn of Anthropology and Prehistory – 101 Anthropological Specimens from the Meiji Era in the Collections of the University Museum, the University of Tokyo” (Distributed by the University of Tokyo Press)
- Card leaflet
- Poster

Main Exhibits

1

Trihedral Pick (Specimen Number: KGA6-A1 O98)

1.75 million years ago / Unearthed in Konso, Ethiopia / Site KGA6-A1

An example of the oldest Acheulean tools (handaxes and picks).

2

Pointed Handaxe (Specimen Number: KGA10-A6 1)

1.43 million years ago / Unearthed in Konso, Ethiopia / Site KGA10-A6

A stone tool made on quartz.

3

Handaxe (Specimen Number: KGA12-A1a 1)

1.25 to 1.3 million years ago / Unearthed in Konso, Ethiopia / Site KGA12-A1

A handaxe with thinned tip.

4

Ovate Handaxe (Specimen Number: KGA20-A2b 2)

0.8 to 0.9 million years ago / Unearthed in Konso, Ethiopia / Site KGA20-A2

A refined, thin handaxe.



1



2



3



4