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Education

Ph.D. in Archaeology, University of Cape Town (UCT), December 2013.
B.A. Honours in Archaeology, University of Zimbabwe (UZ), September 2008
B.A. General (Archaeology, Geography and Economic History), UZ, September 2007.

Research Interests

Geography: *Primarily southern Africa but with broad interests across the continent.*

Thrust: *My work broadly seeks to highlight African achievements during the Iron Age (the last 3000 years in Africa), with emphasis on southern African technologies and civilizations. My work intersects cultural, political economy, and technological approaches to study the history of complex social systems, as well as movements of resources, commodities, ideas, and technologies across different scales i.e., household, local, regional, and intercontinental levels. Having started in the Stone Age, my growing research interests have taken root in last 1000 years, associated with the height of ancient civilizations in southern Africa at Great Zimbabwe. My eclectic methodological toolkit ranges from archaeological techniques, archaeometallurgy, glass beads chemistry and ceramic petrography, as well as heritage studies and museology.*

Current academic & professional appointments

Field Museum of Natural History (Department of Anthropology), Chicago USA

Assistant Curator of African Anthropology; August 2021-

University of Illinois, Chicago (Department of Anthropology), Chicago USA

Lecturer, January 2022-

University of Oslo (Department of Archaeology, Conservation and History), Oslo Norway

Adjunct Associate Professor (20%), April 2024-2027

University of Johannesburg (Centre for Anthropological Research), Johannesburg South Africa

Senior Research Associate, January 2019-

Past Academic and administrative appointments

Sol Plaatje University (Heritage Studies Department), Kimberley South Africa

- A. Senior Lecturer, April 2021-June 2021
- B. Lecturer, July 2018-March 2021

University of Cape Town (Department of Archaeology), Cape Town South Africa

- A. Lecturer & Course Convener January 2014-June 2014; August 2017-December 2017.
- B. Co-Lecturer January 2010-June 2018.
- C. Teaching Assistant May 2009-July 2017.
- D. Postdoctoral Research Scientist June 2014-December 2018.

University of Zimbabwe (Department of History), Harare Zimbabwe

Teaching Assistant August 2008- April 2009.

Carrier Honors and Awards

2020-21: Awarded the South African Department of Higher Education and Training's (DHET) Future Professorship for the first cohort

2020-2025: Awarded the South African National Research Foundation Y2 Rating

2019: Received the first prize for the best research paper in Antiquity Journal

2010: Received the first prize for the Best Student Poster at the joint, PANAF-SAFA conference held in Dakar, Senegal

Journal Reviewing Experience

Azania: Archaeological Research in Africa (2024)

African Archaeological Review (2018, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023)

ANTIQUITY Journal (2022)

HELIYON Journal (2022)

Heritage & Society (2019, 2020, 2021)
KOEDOE Journal (2023)
Journal of African Archaeology (2019)
Journal of Archaeological Research (2020, 2022)
Journal of Archaeological Science Reports (2019)
Journal of Public Health and Diseases (2020)
Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Anthropology (2019)
Oxford Research Encyclopedia of History (2020)

External Examination

Doctorate

University of Pretoria (2018); University of Illinois, Chicago (2023)

Masters

University of Pretoria (2020); University of Cape Town (2020 and 2022)

Honors

University of Pretoria (2018 and 2019); University of Johannesburg (2021)

Funding and Rating Reviews

United States of America's National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant (2022 and 2025)
South Africa's National Research Foundation Rating (2019 and 2020)
British Museum's Endangered Materials Knowledge Programme Funding (2020 and 2022)
United Kingdom-South Africa Commonwealth Masters Fellowship (2021)

Publications 1: Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Nyamushosho, RT., Moffett, AJ., Chirikure, S., **Bandama, F.** and Dussubieux, L 2024.
Chumnungwa Glass Beads: New Insights into the Geochemistry, Circulation, and

Consumption Patterns of Pre-European Glass Beads in Iron Age Southern Africa, CE 980–1650. *African Archaeological Review* 41 (3): 373-403.

Chirikure, S. **Bandama, F.**, House, M. Manyanga, M. and Nyamushosho, RT. 2024. Archaeology, climate change and human adaptation in southern Africa: Evidence from Mapela and Little Mapela, southern Africa. *Quaternary Science Advances* 15, 100219

Bandama, F. and Babalola, A.B., 2023. Science, not black magic: metal and glass production in Africa. *African Archaeological Review* 40(3): 531-543.

Chirikure, S., **Bandama, F.**, Hall, S., Killick, D., Mathoho, N.E., Nkhasi-Leosana, M., Rosenstein, D.D. and Thondhlana, T., 2023. Dispersed craft production systems at Rooiberg, c. 1200–1850, and broader implications for southern African history. *Southern African Humanities* 36(1):163-180.

Bandama, F., Chirikure, S., Hall, S. and Shuro, I. 2022. Iron Fabrication during the “Age” of Tin and Bronze in the Southern Waterberg of Limpopo Province, South Africa. *Studies in the African Past* 13/14: 1-19.

Moffett, A.J., Nyamushosho, R.T., **Bandama, F.** and Chirikure, S., 2021. Stringing Together Cowrie Shells in the African Archaeological Record with Special Reference to Southern Africa. *Journal of Archaeological Method and Theory* 1-40. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10816-021-09539->

Nyamushosho, R.T., Chipangura, N., Pasipanodya, T.B., **Bandama, F.**, Chirikure, S. Manyanga, M. 2021. Nyanga pottery and the Manyika ethnohistory: towards a decolonised archaeology of the Nyanga agricultural complex. *Heliyon* 7(3): e06609. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2021.e06609>

Bandama, F. 2020. Preindustrial Mining and Metallurgy in Africa. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Anthropology*: 1-21. DOI: 10.1093/acrefore/9780190854584.013.64

Nyamushosho, R.T., Chirikure, S., **Bandama, F.**, Manyanga, M. and Mukwende, T. 2018. Are drylands marginal? The case of Mananzve, Shashi region, southwestern Zimbabwe. *Azania: Archaeological Research in Africa* 53(4): 439-476.

Mukwende, T., **Bandama, F.**, Chirikure, S. and Nyamushosho, R.T. 2018. The chronology, craft production and economy of the Butua capital of Khami, southwestern Zimbabwe. *Azania: Archaeological Research in Africa* 53 (4): 477-506.

Bandama, F., Manyanga, M. and Chirikure, S. 2018. Copper wire objects from Jahunda and Little Mapela: technology, value systems and networks in Iron Age southern Africa. *Azania: Archaeological Research in Africa* 53 (4): 528-545.

Bandama, F., Chirikure, S., Hall, S. and Tinguely, C. 2018. Measly but motley and manifest: The typological and chemical characterisations of glass beads from the Southern Waterberg, Limpopo Province of South Africa. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 18: 90-99.

Chirikure, S., Nyamushosho, R., **Bandama, F.** and Dandara, C. 2018. Elites and commoners at Great Zimbabwe: archaeological and ethnographic insights on social power. *Antiquity* 92 (364): 1056-1075.

Chirikure, S., Mukwende, T., Moffett, A.J., Nyamushosho, R.T., **Bandama, F.**, House, M. 2018. No Big Brother Here: Heterarchy, Shona Political Succession and the Relationship between Great Zimbabwe and Khami, Southern Africa. *Cambridge Archaeological Journal* 28 (1): 45-66.

Chirikure, S., Moultrie, T., **Bandama, F.**, Dandara, C. and Manyanga, M. 2017. What was the population of Great Zimbabwe (CE1000 – 1800)? *PLoS ONE* 12(6): p.e0178335.

Bandama, F., Moffett, A.J. and Chirikure, S. 2017. Typological and technological attributes of metallurgical crucibles from Great Zimbabwe (1000–1700 CE)'s legacy collections. *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* 12: 646-657.

Fredriksen, P.D. and **Bandama, F.** 2016. The mobility of memory: space/knowledge dynamics in rural potting workshops in Limpopo Province, South Africa. *Azania: Archaeological Research in Africa* 51 (4): 489-506.

Bandama, F., Moffett, A.J., Thondhlana, T.P. and Chirikure, S. 2016. The production, distribution and consumption of metals and alloys at Great Zimbabwe. *Achaeometry* 58 (S1): 164-181.

Chirikure, S., **Bandama, F.**, House, M., Moffett, A., Mukwende, T. and Pollard, A.M. 2016. Decisive evidence for multi-directional evolution of socio-political complexity in southern Africa. *African Archaeological Review* 33 (1): 75-95.

Chirikure, S., **Bandama, F.**, Chipunza, K., Mahachi, G., Matenga, E., Mupira, P. and Ndoro, W. 2016. Seen but Not Told: Re-mapping Great Zimbabwe Using Archival Data, Satellite Imagery and Geographical Information Systems. *Journal of Archaeological Method Theory* 23: 1-25.

Mathoho, E.N., **Bandama, F.** and Chirikure, S. 2016. A technological and anthropological study of iron production in Venda, Limpopo Province, South Africa. *Azania: Archaeological Research in Africa* 51 (2): 1-23.

Bandama, F. Hall, S. and Chirikure, S. 2015. Eiland crucibles and the earliest relative dating for tin and bronze working in southern Africa. *Journal of Archaeological Science* 62: 82-91.

Chirikure, S., Manyanga, M., Pollard, A.M., **Bandama, F.**, and Mahachi, G. and Pikirayi, I. 2014. Zimbabwe Culture before Mapungubwe: New Evidence from Mapela Hill, South-Western Zimbabwe. *Plosone* 9 (10): 1-18.

Chirikure, S. and **Bandama, F.** 2014. Indigenous African Furnace Types and Slag Composition—Is there a Correlation? *Archaeometry* 56 (2): 296–312.

Bandama, F. Chirikure, S. and Hall, S. 2013. Ores sources, smelters and archaeometallurgy: exploring Iron Age metal production in the Southern Waterberg. *Journal of African Archaeology* 11 (2): 243–267.

Chirikure, S., Pollard, M., Manyanga, M. and **Bandama, F.** 2013. A Bayesian chronology for Great Zimbabwe: re-threading the sequence of a vandalised monument. *Antiquity* 87: 1-19.

Publications 2: Peer Reviewed Book Chapters

Kennedy, J., Bandama, F., Philipp, C.J. and Azamede, K. 2024. “5. A War Coat of the Anufo/Tchokossi: From Northern Togo to the Field Museum in Chicago”, in Adjei, S.K. and LeGall, Y. (eds), *Fifteen Colonial Thefts: A Guide to Looted African Heritage in Museums*. London: Pluto Press.

Bandama, F. 2022. Archaeology and History of the Subcontinent: Unraveling the South African Past. Magaziner, D. (ed.), *The Oxford Handbook of South African History*. Online edition, Oxford Academic. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190921767.013.24>

Fredriksen, P.D. and **Bandama, F.** 2020. Local craft knowledge and heritage-making in the aftermath of a capacity-building project in southern Africa. In Higgins, V. and Douglas, D. (Eds), *Communities and Cultural Heritage: Global Issues, Local Values*. New York: Routledge.

Bandama, F. 2013. A reappraisal of Stone Age hunter gatherer research in Zimbabwe with a special focus on the later periods in eastern Zimbabwe. Manyanga, M. and Katsamudanga, S. *Zimbabwean archaeology in the post independence era*. Harare: SAPESS TRUST: 17-36.

Chirikure, S., Thondhlana, T. and **Bandama, F.** 2013. Pre-colonial mining and metalworking in southern Africa: An overview with specific reference to Zimbabwe Manyanga, M and Katsamudanga, S. *Zimbabwean archaeology in the post independence era*. Harare: SAPESS TRUST: 143-158.

Publications 3: Other peer reviewed publications

Bandama, F. “Whatever training you received, from now on you are a lawyer”: Versatility as a lifeline for African archaeological scientists.” Forum comments on Thondhlana et al. 2022. The Politics of Knowledge Production: Training and Practice of Archaeological Science in Africa. *African Archaeological Review* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10437-022-09491-9>

Bandama, F. 2022. The Yoruba Ere Ibeji: Reincarnation of twins. In Patrick Ryan Williams, Gary M. Feinman and Luis Muro Ynoñán (Eds.), *Beyond Death: Beliefs, Practice, and Material Expression*. Oxford: BAR Publishing ISBN(s) 9781407360447 (ebook) <https://doi.org/10.30861/9781407360430>

Bandama, F. 2022. The Ghanaian Fantasy Canoe coffin: A box with proverbs. In Patrick Ryan Williams, Gary M. Feinman and Luis Muro Ynoñán (Eds.), *Beyond Death: Beliefs, Practice, and Material Expression*. Oxford: BAR Publishing ISBN(s) 9781407360447 (ebook) <https://doi.org/10.30861/9781407360430>

Grants

2023-2028: 12 million Norwegian krona, Norwegian Research Council

2023-2024: £149,956. Arts and Humanities Research Council – UKRI Grant
2020-2025: 50 thousand Rands National Research Foundation Rating Grant
2017-2018: African Humanities Program ACLS Post-Doctoral Fellowship
2016: National Research Foundation (NRF) Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship
2015: National Research Foundation (NRF) Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship
2014: National Research Foundation (NRF) Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship
2013: Wenner Gren, Wadsworth African Fellowship for dissertation write-up
2012: Wenner Gren, Wadsworth African Fellowship for Ph.D. study
2012: University of Cape Town International Scholarship for Ph.D. study
2011: Wenner Gren, Wadsworth African Fellowship for Ph.D. study
2011: University of Cape Town International Scholarship for Ph.D. study
2010: First prize for student poster award at the Joint PANAF-SAFA conference in Dakar, Senegal
2010: University of Cape Town Conference Travel Grant
2010: Wenner Gren, Wadsworth African Fellowship for Ph.D. study
2010: University of Cape Town International Scholarship for Ph.D. study
2009: National Research Foundation Grandholder linked bursary for MSc study

Conference presentations

Bandama, F. 2023. Glass beads from Bumbusi in northwest Zimbabwe: The intersection of history and archaeology. **Paper presented at the SAA Conference held in Portland, USA.**

Bandama, F. 2023. What African anthropological collections outside Africa want? **Paper presented at the Roundtable discussion at AHA Conference held in Philadelphia, USA.**

Bandama, F. 2019. Metal working in the shadow of the walls: Archaeometallurgical analyses of surface collections from Great Zimbabwe World Heritage Site. **Paper presented at the ASAPA Conference held in Kimberley, South Africa.**

Bandama, F. 2017. Measly but motley and manifest: The characterisation of glass beads from the Southern Waterberg in Limpopo Province. **Paper presented at the SAFA Conference held in Pretoria, South Africa.**

Bandama, F. 2016. Iron fabrication during the *Age* of tin and bronze in the southern Waterberg. **Paper presented at the SAFA Conference held in Toulouse, France.**

Bandama, F. 2015. Metal is king; and forks and spoons are a solution to hunger. Separating activity from achievement in the production and consumption of metals at Great Zimbabwe. **Paper presented at the ASAPA Conference held in Harare, Zimbabwe.**

Bandama, F. 2014a. From bloom to bangle: The fabrication and consumption of iron in the southern Waterberg during the Late Iron Age. **Paper presented at the joint PANAF-SAFA Conference held in Johannesburg, South Africa.**

Mohapi, M., **Bandama, F.**, Mathoho, E. and Chirikure, S. **2014a.** The archaeological survey of the Royal Bafokeng Nation land, Rustenburg, North West Province. **Paper presented at the joint PANAF-SAFA Conference held in Johannesburg, South Africa.**

Bandama, F. 2013a: The innovation of tin and bronze production in southern Africa: Findings from Rhenosterkloof 3 in the Southern Waterberg. **Paper presented at the ASAPA Conference held at the University of Botswana, Botswana.**

Bandama, F. 2013b: Indigenous copper smelting as a vehicle for teaching science and technology in Africa. **Paper presented at the 21st Annual Meeting of the Southern African Association for Research in Mathematics, Science and Technology Education held at the University of Western Cape, South Africa.**

Bandama, F. 2012: The archaeology of pre-colonial tin and bronze working in southern Africa. **Paper presented at the Ninth International Mining History Conference held in Johannesburg, South Africa.**

Bandama, F. 2011a: Southern African metallurgy and global network connections. **Paper presented at the African Archaeological Materials Research Workshop held at the University of Cape Town, South Africa.**

Bandama, F. 2011b: An exploratory study of metal working in the Late Iron Age of the Sand River valley, Southern Waterberg. **Paper presented at the ASAPA Conference in Swaziland.**

Bandama, F. 2010a: Metal working in the Sand River valley of the Southern Waterberg, Limpopo Province. Preliminary findings from Rhenosterkloof 1 and 2. **Paper presented at the joint PANAF-SAFA Conference in Dakar, Senegal.**

Bandama, F. 2010b: Indigenous iron production in South Africa: An archaeometallurgical investigation of metal working at Rhenosterkloof 1, Limpopo Province, South Africa.

Poster presented at the joint PANAFA-SAFA Conference in Dakar, Senegal (won the first prize).

Bandama, F. 2009a: Indigenous iron production in South Africa: The case of Rhenosterkloof. Poster presented at the University of Cape Town Postgraduate Science Faculty Symposium, South Africa.

Bandama, F. 2009b: The Character of Later Stone Age assemblages from eastern Zimbabwe: some insights from Gwenzi, Manjowe, Manjowe 1 and Diana's Vow. A paper presentation at the Zimbabwean Prehistory Society in Harare, Zimbabwe.

Selected research and Fieldwork

2023 Archaeological excavations at Gede, Kenya.

2022-2023 Archaeological excavations at Great Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe.

2016 Archaeological excavations at Mapela and Great Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe.

2015 Ethnographic surveys and documentation of indigenous potting amongst the Tsonga, Sotho and Venda of northern South Africa.

2014a Archaeological excavations at Khami and Little Mapela, Zimbabwe.

2014b Archaeological excavations at Great Zimbabwe.

2013a Archaeological surveys of the Royal Bafokeng Nation Land, North West province South Africa.

2013b Archaeological excavations at Mapela, an early 2nd Millennium AD site in the Shashe-Limpopo, Zimbabwe.

2013c Documentation and auditing of archaeological material excavated from the valley enclosures at Great Zimbabwe.

2011 Archaeological excavations at Rhenosterkloof 2, Rhenosterkloof 3 and Tembi 1 in the Southern Waterberg, Limpopo Province of South Africa.

2010 Archaeological surveys in the Southern Waterberg, Limpopo Province of South Africa.

2009 Archaeological excavations at Rhenosterkloof 1 in Southern Waterberg, Limpopo Province of South Africa.

Professional Associations and Positions

2022-2023: Society of Africanist Archaeologists (SAFA) Executive member-at-large, North America.

2021: Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists (ASAPA) Chairperson and Executive Committee Chairperson.

2017-present: ASAPA Secretary and Executive Council member. Re-elected 2019

2012-present: Member of ASAPA.

2010-present: member of SAFA

Referees

1. Professor Chapurukha Kusimba

Professor of Anthropology

Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture and the Environment

Department of Anthropology-Tampa and St. Petersburg

University of South Florida

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2. Professor Per Ditlef Fredriksen

Professor and Head of Research

Department of Archaeology, Conservation and History

University of Oslo

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3. Professor Shadreck Chirikure

British Academy Global Professor

School of Archaeology, University of Oxford

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