

## 1. Glossary of Archaeological Terms

- **San:** a name given to the original hunter-gatherer (or Bushmen) inhabitants of South Africa.
- **Khoekhoen/Khoikhoi:** the name given to the later pastoralist (sometimes referred to in a derogatory fashion as “Hottentots”) who arrived in South Africa some 2 000 years ago with cattle, sheep and pottery.
- **Stone tools/implements:** Stone artefacts can be manufactured by knocking one stone against another to produce a stone flake. These sharp stone flakes can be used for many purposes including the skinning of animals and the preparation of skin clothing, etc. The style of the stone tool indicates to the archaeologist the age of the tool and whether it belongs to the ESA, MSA or LSA. Bored stones are large round stones with a hole in the centre, commonly believed to have been used as weights on the digging sticks of Bushwomen. Grindstones are large, flat stones with a hollow in the centre. They were used by Bushman, Khoikhoi and Black groups to grind up plant materials, etc.
- **Pottery:** The Khoikhoi, as well as the first black farmers in the Eastern Cape made pottery bowls and jars for cooking and storing foodstuffs. Broken pieces of pottery may be found all over the landscape and the style of the pottery indicates to the archaeologist whether it was made by the Khoikhoi or black farmers.
- **Site:** is the name used by archaeologists to indicate the place where people used to live in the past and discard their debris.
- **Early Stone Age (ESA):** refers to the period between 1 million and 250 000 years ago when *Homo erectus* people lived in Southern Africa. Their stone tools are distinctive and include handaxes and cleavers.
- **Middle Stone Age (MSA):** refers to the period between 125 000 and 20 000 years ago. South Africa was inhabited by *Homo sapiens* who manufactured a different type of stone tool.
- **Later Stone Age (LSA):** refers to the period between 20 000 years ago and the arrival of white settlers in the region. Bushmen groups were still living in isolated areas in the Karoo up until the 1830s.
- **Rock paintings:** the paintings found in rock shelters and caves throughout the region were painted by Bushmen groups. Some of the paintings date to the last 5 000 years. The paintings represent the religious beliefs of the Bushmen people.