Recurrent explosive eruptions from a high risk Main Ethiopian Rift volcano throughout the Holocene

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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Materials and Methods

DR1 a. Lake core and proximal tephras

Table DR1 Locations and details of lake sediment cores, proximal tephras and obsidian samples.

Lake sediment cores

Site	Core name	Latitude	Longitude	Collection date	Water depth (m)	Core length (m)	Age (cal. ka)
Tilo	Tilo97-1	7° 5'46.71"N	38° 5'26.23"E	1997	10	18	10
Awassa	Aw-94	7° 2'44.46"N	38°26'54.10"E	1995	12	12	7.4
Chamo	CHA-01-2010	5°52'26.92"N	37°32'52.32"E	2010	14	14.3	8.7

Proximal samples

Sample ID	Sample area	Latitude	Longitude	Volcano	Sample type	Age estimate
ST-NW 1	Lake Awassa: Shallo Swamp	7° 3'11.70"N	38°32'57.03"E	Corbetti	Pumice	$< 2.3 \text{ ka}^{[3]}$
	Lake Awassa: northern shore					
E950010	promontory Lake Awassa: northern shore	7° 7'48.29"N	38°26'48.33"E	Corbetti	Obsidian Weathered	Holocene
E950011	promontory Lake Awassa: hill on northern	7° 7'48.29"N	38°26'48.33"E	Corbetti	obsidian	Holocene
E950019	shore	7° 8'14.51"N	38°26'32.30"E	Corbetti	Obsidian	Holocene

Details of all studied lake sediment cores are given in Table DR1. Sediments were cored from lakes Tilo, Awassa and Chamo as part of a long term collaborative study between Aberystwyth and Addis Ababa Universities and the University of Cologne. To ascertain the volcanic source of the tephra layers deposited in the three lakes, obsidian and tephras samples were collected from within the Corbetti Caldera for compositional analyses. The Chabbi obsidian and the Wendo Koshe Pumice were sampled from within the Corbetti Caldera by N. J. G. Pearce during field campaigns in 1995 and 1996.

S1 b. Visible tephra sampling and cryptotephra identification

Visible tephras in the Tilo and Awassa sediments were recorded. Tephras samples, collected from the full thickness of the layers, were then wet sieved to 90-250 mm and dried. However, we could no longer define the original tephrostratigraphy described by Telford et al. (1999) and were only able to sample and analyse three tephras. To investigate tephras dispersal, the Chamo sediments were investigated to identify cryptotephras - far travelled, typically dilute and fine grained tephras which are indistinguishable from the host sediments (Lane et al., 2014; Davies, 2015). To locate cryptotephras, standard extraction methods(Blockley et al., 2005) were followed. Due to sample availability and time constraints, sediments were sampled for cryptotephra between 502 - 920 cm depth (0.5 - 4.5 cal. ka BP). Contiguous and continuous 2 cm samples across these intervals were dried and weighed. Samples were treated with 1 M HCL to remove carbonates, sieved to > 25 μ m and density separated using sodium polytungstate, to 1.95-2.55 g/cm³. Extracted glass shards were then counted using a transmitted light microscope. Primary cryptotephra deposits are typically characterised by a rapid increase in shard counts which declines upwards through the stratigraphy (Lane et al., 2014). Samples for geochemical analysis were taken at the depth of the initial increase in shard counts in the stratigraphy (S2a).

S1 c Glass compositional analysis

Shards from visible and cryptotephras were mounted in epoxy resin; ground and polished. Single grain major and minor element concentrations were measured using a JEOL 8600 wavelength dispersive electron microprobe (EMP) at the Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art, University of Oxford. To reduce alkali migration in the glass a defocussed beam with a 10 µm diameter, 15 kV accelerating voltage and 6 nA current was used. Na was counted first, for 10 s, Cl and P were collected for 60

s and other major elements were collected for 30 s. A suite of mineral standards were used to calibrate the instrument and the MPI-DING volcanic glasses(Jochum et al., 2006) were used as secondary standards. All analyses presented in the text, tables and graphs have been normalised to an anhydrous basis, to remove any effects of the variable secondary hydration of glasses. The raw glass analyses are given in the supplementary data (S2 b). Trace element compositions of single glass shards were determined using laser ablation (LA) ICP-MS at Aberystwyth University. Analyses were performed using a Coherent GeoLas ArF 193 nm Excimer laser coupled to a Thermo Finnigan Element 2 ICP-MS; with a laser energy of 10 J cm², repetition rate of 5 Hz and 24 s acquisition time. ²⁹Si was used as the internal standard, the SiO₂ having previously been determined by EPMA. Trace element concentrations (ppm) were calculated by comparing the analyte isotope intensity/internal standard intensity in the shard to the same ratio in the NIST SRM 612 reference material using published concentrations from Pearce et al., 2011, 2014). The rhyolitic MPI-DING reference material, ATHO-G, was analysed during each analytical run to monitor accuracy and precision, and analyses are given in S2 b.

S1 d Chronology

In order to investigate the timing of past volcanism, age models were constructed for the Tilo, Awassa and Chamo sediments. Seven published dates(Telford and Lamb, 1999) on grass charcoal fragment provide the chronology for the Tilo97-1 archive. Four published dates(Telford et al., 1999), determined on bulk sediments provide the chronology for the Awassa Aw-94 archive. Nine radiocarbon dates, including seven ages from Kassa (2013), on plant and shell fragments give the chronology for the Chamo CHA-01-2010 core.

Prior to AMS analysis, samples were pretreated using conventional procedures(Rethemeyer et al., 2013). To remove carbonates, sediment samples were treated with HCl and charcoal samples were treated with a further NaOH wash to remove secondary organic acids. Sample carbon was then converted to graphite and measured at Beta- Analytic (Tilo and Awassa) and CologneAMS(Rethemeyer et al., 2013) (Chamo).

OxCal version 4. 2(Bronk Ramsey and Lee, 2013) was used to generate Bayesian P_Sequence depositional models(Bronk Ramsey, 2008) for the archives (Figs. DR1 and DR2), using the IntCal13(Reimer et al., 2013) calibration curve. Prior to analysis, sediment core depths were converted to event free depths by excluding tephra layers of > 0.5 cm thickness. Interpolated tephra age ranges were retrieved using the Date function and are herein quoted to 68.2% confidence levels. OxCal P_Sequence parameters and code for each age model is given below. Only the lower part of the Chamo sequence below 470cm, that is constrained by radiocarbon age estimates and corresponds to the section where tephra/cryptotephra were recovered, was modelled in OxCal. Two dates (COL2454 and COL2455) from 865.5 cm depth in the CHA-01-2010 archive have been combined using the *R_Combine* function. Sediment deposition rates are typically constant within the age model, however beneath 470.5 cm depth (766 – 882 cal. a BP) sedimentation rates increased significantly. The modelled age-estimate for CHT-2 is not bounded by a lower (older) age-estimate for CHT-2 is considered less robust that the age for CHT-1.

Table DR2 AMS ¹⁴C measurements for the Awassa, Tilo and Chamo sediments cores. Ages were calibrated using IntCal13(Reimer et al., 2013) run in OxCal version 4.2(Bronk Ramsey, 2009). Seven radiocarbon ages (*) on the Chamo sediments are from Kassa(Kassa, 2013). Two dates (COL2454 and COL2455) from 865.5 cm depth in the CHA-01-2010 archive have been combined using the *R_Combine* function.

			δ ¹³ C		
Samnle number	14C age yr BP (+ 1 σ)	Depth (cm)	(‰ PDR)	Calibrated	Dated material
Awassa	DI (±10)	(em)	100)	uges Di	material
Beta-100436	1450 ± 80	259	-20.9	1515 - 1290	Bulk
Beta-100437	3180 ± 90	522	-19.9	3558 - 3340	Bulk
Beta-81512	4500 ± 110	687.5	-19.5	5187 - 4848	Bulk
Beta-81513	6270 ± 130	1132.5	-24.4	7420 - 7074	Bulk
Tilo					
Beta-106145	1390 ± 50	180	-15.9	1345 - 1279	Charcoal
Beta-106146	2400 ± 50	347	-15.9	2675 - 2350	Charcoal
Beta-106147	4140 ± 60	594.5	-19.1	4816 - 4574	Charcoal
Beta-90886	5520 ± 80	804	-18.1	6399 - 6212	Charcoal
Beta-106148	6880 ± 50	1289.5	-17.3	7762 - 7664	Charcoal
Beta-90887	7930 ± 90	1764	-21.1	8954 - 8274	Charcoal
Beta-106149	8840 ± 50	2316.5	-15.6	10155 -9834	Charcoal
Chamo					
COL3249	921 ± 35	470.5		882 - 766	Plant/wood
COL1244*	1240 ± 31	639		1271-1210	Plant
COL3250	1398 ± 47	646.5		1335 - 1279	Plant/wood
COL1246*	1489 ± 81	664		1411 - 1301	Plant
COL2454*	3083 ± 34	865.5		3445 -3382	Ostracod
COL2455*	3304 ± 37	865.5		3445 - 3382	Plant
COL1240*	4081 ± 24	986		4567 - 4450	Shell
COL1241*	3978 ± 48	987		4571 - 4450	Shell
COL1247*	6578 ± 34	1289		7498 - 7434	Plant

OxCal Code for the Tilo 97-1 sediment core

Options() BCAD=FALSE; PlusMinus=FALSE; }; Plot() { Outlier_Model("General",T(5),U(0,4),"t"); P_Sequence("Tilo1",1,0.05,U(-2,2)) Boundary() { z=2117; }; R_Date("14c 7",8840,50) { Outlier(0.05); z=2083.5;), Date("TT14",) { z=2039; }; R_Date("14c 6",7930,90) { Outlier(0.05); z=1579; Date("TT13",) { z=1438; }; R_Date("14c 5",6880,50) { Outlier(0.05); z=1109.5; Date("TT12",) { z=735; R_Date("14c 4",5520,80) { Outlier(0.05); z=659; }; Date("TT11",) { z=618.5; }; Date("TT10",) { z=571; R_Date("14c 3",4140,60) { Outlier(0.05); z=485.5; Date("TT9",) { z=479; }; Date("TT8",) { z=356; Date("TT7",) { z=351; }; R_Date("14c 2",2400,50) { Outlier(0.05); z=314; }; Date("TT6",) { z=288; }, Date("TT5",) { z=260; }; Date("TT4",) { z=245.5; }; Date("TT3",) { z=213; }; Date("TT2",) z=195.5; R_Date("14c 1",1390,50) { Outlier(0.05); z=175.5; };
Date("TT1",) { z=98.5; };

OxCal code for the Awassa AW-94 sediment core

```
Options()
 BCAD=FALSE;
PlusMinus=FALSE;
};
Plot()
 {
Outlier_Model("General",T(5),U(0,4),"t");
P_Sequence("",1,0.1,U(-2,2))
 {
Boundary()
  {
z=1068.5;
 },
R_Date("14c 4",6270,130)
  {
Outlier(0.05);
  z=1025.5;
 };
Date("AWT5")
  i
z=980;
 };
Date("AWT4")
  z=827;
 Date("AWT3")
  {
z=790;
 R_Date("14c 3",4500,110)
  {
Outlier(0.05);
z=669.5;
 };
Date("AWT2")
  {
z=532;
 R_Date("14c 2",3180,90)
  Outlier(0.05);
  z=508;
 };
R_Date("14c 1",1450,80)
  {
Outlier(0.05);
  z=245;
 };
Date("AWT1")
  {
z=239;
 };
Boundary()
{
z=0;
};
};
};
```

OxCal code for the Chamo CHA-01-2010 sediment core

Options() { BCAD=FALSE; PlusMinus=FALSE; }; Plot() { Outlier_Model("General",T(5),U(0,4),"t"); P_Sequence("",1,0.2,U(-2,2)) Boundary() { z=1429; Date("CHT2") { z=1360; R_Date("COL1247",6578,34) { Outlier(0.05); z=1289; R_Date("COL1241",3978,48) { Outlier(0.05); z=987; }; R_Date("COL1240",4081,24) { Outlier(0.05); z=986; }; Date("D2")

z=920; }; R_Combine("COL2454/COL2455") { R_Date("COL2454",3083,34); R_Date("COL2455",3304,37); Outlier(0.05); z=865.5; }; Date("CHT1") { z=703; }; R_Date("COL1246",1489,81) { Outlier(0.05); z=664; }; R_Date("COL3250",1398,47) { Outlier(0.05); z=646.5; }; R_Date("COL1244",1240,31) { Outlier(0.05); z=639; }; Date("D1") { z=500; }; R_Date("COL3249",921,35) { Outlier(0.05); z=470.5; }; Boundary() boc { z=470; }; }; };

We used the Tilo tephra record to calculate the frequency of Corbetti's eruptions over the last 10 kyr. The Tilo tephra layers are stratigraphically and geochemically distinct, and we therefore infer each horizon represents an individual eruption.

Return intervals were calculated according to the methods described in Connor et al. (2003, 2006). The eruption record was tested for stationarity using a Kolmo-Smirnov test (Fig DR1a), showing the rate of events did not deviate from a steady-state within the 95% confidence intervals. Repose intervals (the time between two successive eruptions) were then used in a Kaplan-Meier estimate (Dzierma and Wehrmann, 2012) to generate empirical survival function, which gives the probability that an observed repose interval will exceed a given time interval (Fig. DR1b).

 $S_T(t) = P[T > t]$ (equation 1) where S_T gives the probability (P) that an observed repose interval (T) exceeds a given time interval (t)

$$S(t_i) = \frac{N-i}{N}N$$
 $i = 1, ..., N$, (equation 2)

where N is the total number of repose intervals and i refers to the *i*th repose interval in a ordered list from oldest to youngest interval.



Fig. DR1. (a) Cumulative frequency of eruptions recorded as tephra horizons in the Lake Tilo sediment core over the last 10 kyrs. The rate of eruptions does not vary outside 95% confidence intervals (dashed lines) on the steady-state model (solid line). (b) Kaplan-Meier estimate of the survivor function, with Exponential (blue), Weibull (red) and Loglogistic (yellow) models fitted to the data.

Mid-points of the Tilo tephra age ranges from Bayesian age modeling were used for the calculations, thus any interpretations should consider this inherent age-uncertainty. A series of parametric models were fit to the Kaplan-Meier survival function using Flexsurv in R version 3.1.0, following Swindles et al. (2011); Dzierma and Wehrmann (2012) and Connor et al. (2006). On the basis of log likelihood and Akaike Information Criterion (Akaike, 1998) the eruption frequency is best described by the Weibull and Loglogistic models.

We calculate an average return rate of $\sim 900 \pm 220$ yrs (discounting the time since the most recent event), roughly comparable to the ~ 1000 year periodicity of eruptions from neighboring Alutu over the past 10 kyr (Hutchison et al., 2016). The Kaplan-Meier test shows that within any 500 year period, there may be a 35% chance of an eruption (Fig. DR1b).

S1 f Tephra volume calculation

Illustrative isopachs for the Wendo Koshe Younger Pumice (WKYP) were drawn on the basis of the correlations between TT-2 and CHT-1 and published(Rapprich et al., 2016) thicknesses of the WKYP outcropping within the Corbetti caldera. These isopachs are idealised and, for simplicity, do not take wind direction into account. We used the exponential thinning model (Pyle, 1989; Fierstein and Nathenson, 1992) (equation 3) to generate a log(thickness) versus square root of area plot and estimate tephra thickness at the source ($T=_0$).

 $\ln T = \ln T_o - kA^{1/2} \text{ (equation 3)}$

Where *T* is the tephra thickness, T_o is the thickness at source and *A* is the area of tephra deposition. The slope, *k*, can be calculated from a plot of $\ln(T)$ vs $A^{1/2}$ and can be extended back to estimate the thickness at source.

Using the calculate K and T_0 values, the thickness half-distance (b_T) and volume were calculated.

 $b_T = \frac{\ln(2)}{k\sqrt{\pi}}$ (equation 4)

 $V = 13.08T_o b_T^2 \qquad (\text{equation 5})$

<u>Supplementary 2: Data</u> DR2 a Tephrostratigraphy :

The tephrostratigraphy of the Tilo, Awassa and Chamo lake sediments is given in Table DR3 and shown in Figures DR2 and DR3.

Table DR3 List of tephra layers found in sediment cores from lakes Tilo, Awassa (based on the initial tephrostratigraphy described by Telford (1998) and Lamb (2000)) and Chamo, including their physical properties and Bayesian modeled ages (at 68.2 % confidence intervals). Depth values are given for the base of each tephra layer.

Tephra ID	Composite depth of the base (cm)	Thickness (cm) Tephra description		Modeled age (cal. ¹⁴ C yrs BP)
Tilo				
TT-1	103	4.5	Reverse-graded, coarse ash	1280 - 460
TT-2	220	20	Discontinuous fine-coarse ash	1526 - 1263
TT-3	238	0.5	Fine-coarse ash	1773 – 1276
TT-4	272.5	2	Fine-coarse ash	2368 - 1365
TT-5	292	5	Reverse-oraded fine-coarse ash	2462 - 1711
TT-6	321	1	Fine-coarse ash	2672 - 2159
TT-7	385	1	Fine-coarse ash	3092 - 1998
TT-8	427	37	Coarse ash and lapilli	3258 - 1998
TT-9	588	38	Coarse ash	4804 - 4530
TT-10	710	30	Fine-coarse ash	5932 - 4871
TT-11	763.5	6	Coarse ash	6386 - 5754
TT-12	915	35	Coarse ash and lapilli	6679 - 6291
TT-13	1623	5	Coarse ash	8701 - 8275
TT-14	2272	48	Coarse ash	10,098 - 9751
Awassa				
AWT-1	253	14	Coarse ash	1474 - 1250
AWT-2	550	4	Coarse ash and lapilli	3779 - 3435
AWT-3	818	10	Coarse ash	5934 - 5440
AWT-4	928	73	Fine-coarse ash	6190 - 5693
AWT-5	1087	6	Fine-coarse ash	7150 - 6765
AWT-6	1160.5	0.5	Fine-coarse ash	>7420
AWT-7	1189	24	Fine-coarse ash	>7420
Chamo				
CHT-1	702	Cryptotephra		1919 - 1524
CHT-2	1361	1		8270 - 7783



Fig. DR2 Bayesian depositional models for the Awassa and Tilo sediments, alongside the core lithology and tephra occurrence. Only Awassa tephras AWT-1; 2 and 4 were analysed in this study. The core depths used for the age model are corrected for the presence of >0.5 cm thick tephra layers, which are assumed to have been deposited instantaneously.



Chamo CHA-01-2010 core lithology, chronology and tephra glass shard concentrations

Fig. DR3 Bayesian depositional models for the Chamo sediments, alongside the core lithology and tephra glass shard concentrations. Concentrations of glass shards in 2 cm contiguous and continuous sediment samples were collected only between 502 -920 cm depth in the Chamo sediments. The age model only includes sediment depths between 470 cm and the base of the core, this interval is constrained by radiocarbon dates and corresponds to the depths at which CHT-1 and CHT-2 occur.

DR2 b Tephra compositions

Glass compositions of the lakes Awassa, Tilo and Chamo tephras are shown in Tables DR4 – DR7 and compared in Figs. DR4 – DR7. Tilo, Awassa and Chamo tephras are dominantly peralkaline rhyolites, however four shards are trachytic (Fig S3). The peralkaline tephras can be further classified as pantellerites ($Al_2O_3 < 1.33$ (FeO^T + 4).



Fig. DR4 The Tilo, Awassa and Chamo tephras are rhyolitic, however three shards are trachytic. (b) The rhyolitic compositions can be further classified as peralkaline to peraluminous.

Glass chemistry of the Lake Tilo tephras

Variable glass compositions and Zr/Th ratios divide the Tilo glass shards into two populations. Tephras TT-3 and TT-6 contain higher FeOT and Ba concentrations and lower Zr/Th ratios (55.9 - 68.2) than all other Tilo tephras (Zr/Th ~65.2 - 99.4, Fig S5). This indicates that TT-3 and TT-6 glass shards are derived from a distinct volcanic source. All other Tilo tephras have similar glass compositions and Zr/Th ratios and are co-genetic.

However, subtle inter-eruptive variations in Y, Zr, Ba and Th concentrations distinguish these tephras. Glass shards in the oldest Tilo tephras TT-11; 12; 13 and 14 (10.1 – 5.8 cal ka BP) contain the lowest Ba/Th ratios ($\sim 0.9 - 2.4$) of the Tilo tephras (Fig. S5 c). TT-12 contains lower Y concentrations and TT-13 contains higher FeO^T and Zr than glass shards in TT-11 and TT-14 (Fig. S9 b, d). Tephra glass shards in TT-1; 2; 4 and 5 (2.5 – 0.5 cal ka BP) contain higher Ba/Th ratios ($\sim 2.6 - 4.1$) that most glass shards in older tephras (Fig. S8 c). Only TT-1 and TT-2 glass shards can be distinguished, containing broadly higher concentrations of Ba than TT-4 and TT-5 (Fig. S8 c). Tephras TT-7; 8; 9 and 10 (5.9 – 2.0 cal. ka BP) contain glass shards with similar Ba/Th ratios to older and younger Tilo tephras (Fig. S5).

Glass chemistry of the Lake Chamo tephras

CHT-1 and CHT-2 glass shards can be distinguished based up their variable Al_2O_3 , Nb, Ba and Th concentrations (Fig. S6 b, c, e). CHT-1 (1.9 – 1.5 cal. ka BP) glass shards contain higher Al_2O_3 and Ba concentrations and lower Zr, Nb and Th concentrations than CHT-2 (8.3 – 7.8 cal ka BP, Fig. S6 b, c, e, f). Both Chamo tephras have identical Zr/Th ratios, indicating they are derived from a shared volcanic source (Fig. S6 f)

Glass chemistry of the Lake Awassa tephras

The Awassa tephra glass shards share similar Zr/Th ratios (Fig. S7), suggesting that they are co-genetic. However, FeOT, Y, Zr, La, Nb and Th concentrations display inter-eruptive variation, dividing Awassa tephras into three glass populations . Glass shards in AWT-1 (1.5 - 1.3 cal. ka BP) typically contain lower concentrations of incompatible elements than older Awassa tephras (Fig. S7 d, f). Glass shards in AWT-2 (3.8 - 3.4 cal. ka BP) and AWT-4 (6.2 - 5.7 cal. ka BP) are compositionally similar, however, AWT-2 contains higher Y concentrations than all other Awassa tephras and lower concentrations of Zr and Th than AWT-2 (Fig. S5 d, f).

Table DR4 Normalised major element (wt.%) and trace element concentrations in glass shards in the Tilo tephras TT-1 to TT-7. Average (± 1 st. dev.) concentrations of selected trace elements which have proved useful for discrimination and correlation are shown here, and the minimum and maximum element concentrations of each tephra are given in italics. For analytical considerations, see the Supplementary Excel file. The full glass composition dataset is available from the author upon request.

	TT-1	TT-2	TT-3	TT-4	TT-5	ТТ-6	TT-7
Age (ka)	1.3 - 0.5	1.5 - 1.3	1.8 - 1.3	2.4 - 1.4	2.5 - 1.7	2.7 - 2.2	3.1 - 2.0
Thickness (cm)	4.5	20	0.5	2	5	1	1
Zr/Th	74.4 - 89.5	72.8 -85.1	55.9 - 62.9	70.5 - 80.7	72.7 - 87.1	56.2 - 65.2	73.4 - 92.1
Zr/La	8.80 - 9.32	8.45 - 9.88	7.99 - 8.69	8.80 - 9.55	8.71 - 9.99	7.89 - 8.48	9.01 - 9.75
SiO ₂	74.91 (0.55)	74.94 (0.56)	73.38 (0.38)	74.80 (0.24)	74.84 (0.46)	73.35 (0.69)	74.84 (0.23)
	72.99-75.41	72.95-75.84	72.39-73.97	74.35-75.31	73.69-76.66	72.24-75.00	74.41-75.22
Al ₂ O ₃	10.08 (0.75)	9.92 (0.66)	8.57 (0.33)	9.87 (0.14)	9.92 (0.27)	8.57 (0.52)	9.83 (0.12)
	9.56-12.81	9.39-12.51	8.16-9.46	9.71-10.24	9.65-11.26	7.47-10.07	9.70-10.16
FeO ^T	4.57 (0.11)	4.56 (0.15)	6.39 (0.25)	4.60 (0.12)	4.64 (0.14)	6.45 (0.26)	4.66 (0.13)
	4.38-4.75	4.24-4.87	5.59-6.79	4.39-4.81	4.36-4.97	5.79-6.89	4.43-4.88
Na ₂ O	5.31 (0.17)	5.45 (0.19)	6.38 (0.30)	5.38 (0.17)	5.28 (0.39)	6.45 (0.19)	5.39 (0.13)
	4.99-5.58	4.76-5.79	5.79-6.84	5.06-5.76	3.56-5.70	6.12-6.84	5.20-5.59
K ₂ O	4.48 (0.13)	4.47 (0.10)	4.31 (0.11)	4.48 (0.14)	4.46 (0.08)	4.16 (0.17)	4.43 (0.08)
	4.16-4.68	4.27-4.66	4.09-4.47	4.21-4.61	4.28-4.63	3.76-4.42	4.31-4.61
Y	260 (18.4)	259 (34.2)	265 (45.3)	265 (14.7)	280 (44.2)	231 (17.5)	230 (16.4)
	236-311	199-346	213-377	246-296	212-395	204-274	205-268
Zr	2110 (131)	2130 (267)	2090 (369)	2110 (121)	2290 (348)	1820 (113)	1880 (118)
	1930-2410	1630-2720	1740-3090	1960-2340	1770-3190	1640-2090	1730-2130
Nb	259 (8.56)	262 (10.7)	286 (36.7)	269 (8.07)	267 (18.4)	274 (15.4)	245 (6.64)
	243-276	222-279	239-356	254-286	233-337	233-301	233-260
Ba	94.4 (5.74)	92.1 (10.0)	438 (29.4)	83.3 (6.95)	82.5 (9.29)	358 (22.8)	57.6 (4.74)
	81.7-107	71.7-111	394-517	70.5-94.1	56.1-102	312-414	51.5-71.9
La	234 (12.5)	234 (24.7)	250 (44.5)	232 (14.0)	245 (33.3)	224 (16.6)	201 (13.8)
	215-259	193-292	204-363	214-259	191-323	198-263	181-226
Hf	52.5 (4.02)	53.5 (6.05)	53.1 (8.53)	56.4 (4.44)	58.0 (8.98)	45.4 (3.46)	46.7 (3.18)
	47.7-63.0	44.2-65.3	44.6-75.1	50.6-65.0	45.4-80.3	38.6-53.7	41.1-52.1
Th	26.4 (1.71)	26.9 (3.39)	35.2 (6.60)	28.1 (2.21)	28.4 (4.08)	30.1 (2.52)	23.1 (1.63)
	24.3-29.7	21.8-33.4	28.0-52.8	25.1-32.0	22.6-40.3	25.1-37.1	21.1-26.4
U	6.32 (0.37)	6.66 (0.857)	7.61 (0.924)	7.42 (0.445)	7.31 (0.583)	7.37 (0.583)	6.58 (0.239)
	5.80-7.29	4.18-8.60	6.15-9.40	6.78-8.26	5.84-8.16	6.44-8.35	5.98-6.92
	n=16	n=48	n=18	n=19	n=40	n=23	n=19

Table DR5 Normalised major element (wt.%) and trace element concentrations in glass shards in the Tilo tephras TT-7 to TT-14. Average (± 1 st. dev.) concentrations of selected trace elements which have proved useful for discrimination and correlation are shown here, and the minimum and maximum element concentrations of each tephra are given in italics. For analytical considerations, see the Supplementary Excel file. The full glass composition dataset is available from the author upon request.

	TT-8	TT-9	TT-10	TT-11	TT-12	TT-13	TT-14
Age (ka)	3.3 - 2.0	4.8 - 4.5	5.9 - 4.9	6.4 - 5.8	6.7 - 6.3	8.7 - 8.3	10.1 -9.8
Thickness (cm)	37	38	30	6	35	5	48
Zr/Th	69.1 - 87.4	73.0 - 86.4	71.6 - 87.3	69.64 - 85.5	65.1 - 78.2	75.8 - 88.2	71.2 - 87.3
Zr/La	8.48 - 9.89	8.42 - 9.38	8.30 - 9.70	8.61 - 9.51	7.98 - 8.92	9.10 - 9.64	8.83 - 9.79
SiO ₂	74.97 (0.52)	75.18 (0.52)	75.14 (0.49)	75.12 (1.01)	74.82 (0.90)	74.73 (2.14)	75.07 (1.23)
	73.82-76.91	74.36-75.65	74.58-78.39	70.25-77.13	71.02-78.00	66.63-78.05	67.28-76.58
Al ₂ O ₃	9.87 (0.26)	9.69 (0.26)	9.65 (0.22)	9.82 (0.83)	9.93 (0.73)	9.88 (2.04)	9.75 (1.24)
	9.41-11.28	9.40-10.06	8.57-10.26	9.25-14.67	9.43-14.63	9.16-18.28	8.99-17.76
FeO ^T	4.67 (0.21)	4.68 (0.21)	4.64 (0.20)	4.62 (0.36)	4.70 (0.16)	4.65 (0.91)	4.58 (0.57)
	4.33-5.78	4.33-5.02	3.76-5.02	2.72-5.04	4.29-5.05	0.94-5.06	0.66-4.84
Na ₂ O	5.22 (0.53)	5.36 (0.53)	5.43 (0.24)	5.15 (0.69)	5.23 (0.75)	5.51 (0.98)	5.49 (0.34)
	2.73-5.73	4.86-5.80	4.10-5.73	2.80-5.99	1.81-5.91	1.96-6.18	3.56-5.91
K ₂ O	4.47 (0.09)	4.45 (0.09)	4.48 (0.13)	4.53 (0.26)	4.45 (0.10)	4.65 (0.94)	4.50 (0.56)
	4.20-4.66	4.25-4.62	3.75-4.68	4.35-6.01	4.13-4.69	4.27-8.48	4.10-8.40
Y	264 (23.7)	256 (23.7)	267 (32.9)	310 (32.9)	305 (30.4)	356 (27.8)	291 (20.8)
	218-321	216-298	209-347	223-369	238-394	300-432	239-345
Zr	2120 (184)	2100 (184)	2190 (248)	2440 (238)	2300 (229)	2960 (212)	2410 (164)
	1750-2500	1740-2400	1770-2780	1790-2850	1790-2800	2460-3460	2030-2750
Nb	265 (17.1)	272 (17.1)	276 (13.4)	293 (28.3)	296 (19.1)	335 (13.9)	303 (14.0)
	211-311	247-289	227-297	212-330	255-330	313-361	264-335
Ba	71.4 (8.48)	64.2 (8.48)	67.3 (7.60)	55.9 (13.0)	49.2 (6.33)	55.0 (6.63)	56.4 (6.05)
	59.0-96.68	51.8-78.8	56.4-88.0	35.2-96.2	35.5-65.8	44.6-70.1	46.4-74.1
La	234 (23.4)	233 (23.4)	243 (30.1)	268 (24.7)	268 (24.3)	315 (22.9)	259 (17.8)
	191-293	198-266	190-311	205-310	206-323	264-367	212-302
Hf	52.4 (5.83)	52.3 (5.83)	54.0 (6.21)	63.7 (8.09)	64.0 (6.51)	73.3 (5.40)	58.2 (4.47)
	39.8-67.1	41.6-63.5	42.4-67.0	46.9-78.8	46.4-77.8	59.9-79.9	48.2-72.1
Th	26.6 (2.89)	26.6 (2.89)	27.5 (3.19)	31.8 (3.71)	31.8 (3.46)	36.6 (2.66)	30.0 (2.02)
	21.2-35.2	22.0-31.3	21.4-34.6	23.5-39.8	24.6-42.9	30.4-40.6	25.1-37.2
U	6.82 (0.597)	6.97 (0.597)	7.07 (0.41)	7.36 (0.75)	7.81 (0.775)	8.30 (0.461)	8.10 (1.35)
	5.20-9.12	6.22-8.20	6.21-7.90	5.16-8.70	6.40-9.72	7.36-9.16	6.57-16.3
	n=57	n= 59	n=61	n=39	n=58	n= 19	n= 52



Fig. DR5 Bi-plots of selected major and trace element concentrations in the Tilo tephra glass shards. (f) Glass shards in TT-3 and TT-6 have distinct Zr/Th ratios, indicating they are derived from a distinct volcanic source. All other Tilo tephras have a co-genetic origin.

F	CHT-1	CHT-2
Age (ka)	2.3 - 1.5	8.9 - 7.7
Thickness (cm)	< 1	1
Zr/Th	73.9 - 86.7	73.1 - 84.9
Zr/La	8.07 - 9.27	8.63 - 9.90
SiO ₂	75.04 (0.26)	74.86 (0.43)
	74.65-75.72	74.33-76.37
Al_2O_3	9.74 (0.12)	9.44 (0.12)
	9.50-10.01	9.19-9.61
FeO ^T	4.63 (0.17)	4.90 (0.14)
	4.32-4.86	4.56-5.18
Na ₂ O	5.29 (0.16)	5.61 (0.41)
	4.87-5.50	4.06-6.07
K ₂ O	4.42 (0.12)	4.33 (0.08)
	4.10-4.56	4.20-4.47
Y	302 (34.6)	332 (38.2)
	262-366	283-452
Zr	2420 (235)	2700 (324)
	2150-2790	2360-3760
Nb	276 (16.3)	333 (13.6)
	250-320	304-371
Ba	108 (12.5)	50.6 (8.93)
	68.4-121	42.7-73.2
La	283 (26.7)	288 (43.3)
	246-335	254-436
Hf	57.4 (5.55)	65.7 (8.10)
	47.2-66.4	57.7-94.9
Th	29.3 (2.74)	33.9 (3.74)
	25.8-33.7	30.2-47.2
U	6.82 (0.529)	9.06 (0.499)
	5.71-7.54	7.68-9.93
	n= 16	n =19

Table DR6 Normalised major element (wt.%) and trace element concentrations in glass shards in the Chamo tephras CHT-1 and CHT-2. Average (\pm 1 st. dev.) concentrations of selected trace elements which have proved useful for discrimination and correlation are shown here, and the minimum and maximum element concentrations of each tephra are given in italics. For analytical considerations, see the Supplementary Excel file. The full glass composition dataset is available from the author upon request.



Fig. DR6 Bi-plots of selected major and trace element concentrations in the Chamo tephra glass shards. Glass in CHT-1 and CHT-2 share identical incompatible element ratios, suggesting they are derived from a shared volcanic source.

Table DR7 Normalised major element (wt.%) and trace element concentrations in glass shards in the Awassa tephras, only AWT-1, AWT-2 and AWT-4 were analysed in this study. Average (± 1 st. dev.) concentrations of selected trace elements which have proved useful for discrimination and correlation are shown here, and the minimum and maximum element concentrations of each tephra are given in italics. For analytical considerations, see the Supplementary Excel file. The full glass composition dataset is available from the author upon request.

	AWT-1	AWT-2	AWT-4
Age (ka)	1.5 - 1.3	3.8 - 3.4	6.2 - 5.7
Thickness (cm)	14	4	73
Zr/Th	49.6 - 83.7	66.9 - 85.4	72.8 - 82.1
Zr/La	6.63 - 8.65	6.83 - 8.90	8.70 - 9.21
SiO ₂	74.08 (2.49)	75.42 (0.27)	74.93 (0.34)
	66.81-75.80	75.09-76.09	74.33-75.37
Al_2O_3	11.12 (2.54)	9.62 (0.14)	9.65 (0.13)
	9.35-19.13	9.37-9.92	9.43-9.88
FeO ^T	4.06 (1.39)	4.60 (0.12)	4.78 (0.23)
	0.52-6.43	4.41-4.89	4.53-5.36
Na ₂ O	5.03 (0.68)	5.20 (0.27)	5.23 (0.15)
	3.44-6.17	4.58-5.59	4.97-5.51
K ₂ O	5.08 (0.98)	4.47 (0.11)	4.43 (0.14)
	4.26-7.36	4.34-4.71	4.18-4.55
Y	203 (28.7)	285 (34.0)	294 (26.5)
	126-237	227-357	256-339
Zr	1620 (236)	2030 (254)	2400 (228)
	1060-1910	1610-2470	2130-2830
Nb	213 (27.2)	260 (19.0)	278 (16.0)
	171-260	221-287	246-305
Ba	237 (130)	81.2 (33.0)	69.8 (9.74)
	29.7-481	62.7-196	60.1-94.1
La	210 (21.3)	251 (25.3)	269 (27.1)
	153-238	211-299	235-316
Hf	44.1 (4.94)	51.8 (5.61)	63.6 (5.56)
	31.5-52.9	43.9-62.61	56.6-72.3
Th	22.8 (3.69)	26.5 (3.18)	31.4 (3.46)
	16.9-31.1	22.2-33.0	26.6-38.8
U	6.43 (1.15)	7.54 (1.82)	8.11 (0.71)
	5.01-8.98	5.23-13.3	7.09-9.11
	n = 30	n= 28	n=10



Fig. DR7 Bi-plots of selected major and trace element concentrations in the Awassa tephra glass shards. Glass shards in AWT-1, AWT-2 and AWT-4 have similar incompatible element ratios, implying a co-gentic origin. (c) AWT-1 is distinct in having bimodal glass composition.

S2 c Tephra correlations

AWT-2 and AWT-4 tephras have similar elemental compositions and Zr/Th ratios to the low FeO^T Tilo tephras, suggesting that some Awassa and Tilo tephras are derived from a shared source (Fig. S8). Glass shards in AWT-2 and AWT-4 (6.2 - 3.4 cal. ka BP) contain similar Ba concentrations to TT-7, TT-8, TT-9 and TT-10 (5.9 - 2.0 cal. ka BP). However, it is not possible to identify definitively those tephras that were produced by the same eruptive event (Fig. S8). Although we cannot correlate these tephras to individual events, we can use their glass composition as a broad signature for the Holocene eruptive from nearby Corbetti.

Both Chamo tephras have similar Zr/Th ratios and compositions to the low FeO^T Tilo tephras, suggesting they have a co-genetic origin (Fig. S8 and S 10). However, the Chamo tephra glass shards are distinct from all Awassa tephras in terms of their Ba concentrations. Glass shards in CHT-1 have comparable compositions to TT-1; 2; 4 and TT-5 (Fig. S9). Glass shards in TT-4 and TT-5 are distinct in terms of their Ba concentrations (Fig. S9 c). Figure S10 shows that TT-1 has a statistically different composition to CHT-1. Based on their similar composition and comparable ages, we interpret that TT-2 (1.5 - 1.3 cal. ka BP) was produced by the same eruptive event as CHT-1 (1.9 - 1.5 cal. ka BP). Whilst co-genetic, the glass composition of the Wendo Koshe Younger Pumice is less evolved than CHT-1. This is consistent with their origin from a compositionally zoned magma chamber, with a change in wind direction during the eruption depositing less evolved compositions proximally and more evolved compositions distally.

Glass shards in CHT-2 (8.3 – 7.9 cal. ka BP) are compositionally similar to the older low FeO^T Tilo tephras, TT-11; 12; 13 and TT-14 (10.1 – 5.8 cal. ka BP, Fig. S10). However, TT-12 and TT-14 are distinguished from CHT-2 on the basis of their Al₂O₃, Y and Th concentrations (Fig S10 b, c, d). Principal component analysis of the composition of the older Tilo tephras and CHT-2, demonstrates that TT-13 (8.7 – 8.3 cal. ka BP) is the correlative (Fig. S11).



Fig. DR8 Bi-plots comparing the major and trace element composition of glass shards in selected Tilo tephras with glass shards in AWT-2 and AWT-4. The Awassa tephras cannot be correlated to individual Tilo tephras based on their major and trace element composition.



Fig. DR9 Bi-plots comparing the major and trace element composition of glass shards in younger Tilo tephras, TT-1 – TT-5, with glass shards in CHT-1 and the Wendo Koshe Pumice. CHT-1 and TT-2 glass shards occupy the same compositional fields, indicating they are correlatives. Both tephras correlate to the Wendo Koshe Pumice on the basis of their similar composition and ages. Small differences in incompatible element concentrations may be related to compositional zoning of the magma chamber, and/or differential dispersal of different eruption phases.



Fig. DR10 Bi-plots comparing the major and trace element composition of glass shards in older Tilo tephras, TT-11 - TT-14, with glass shards in CHT-2. Based on their similar composition and age, we correlate TT-13 and CHT-2.



Fig. DR11 Principal components plots of the composition of glass shards in selected Tilo tephras with those in the Chamo tephras. Bi-plots show the first three principal components plotted against each other. (c) We correlated TT-2, CHT-1 and the Wendo Koshe Pumice, the remaining Tilo tephras have statistically different compositions. (b, f) TT-13 and CHT-2 have the most similar compositions, confirming our correlation.

DR2 d Tephra sources

The major and trace element composition of the Wendo Koshe Pumice and Chabbi Obsidian (see Table DR8). sampled from inside the Corbetti caldera, are compared with the composition of tephras from lake archives in Figure 2. Published glass data for Holocene volcanoes in the MER is limited. However, published bulk compositions of post- caldera tephras from Gedemsa (Peccerillo et al., 2003) and Alutu (Hutchison et al., 2016) and obsidian melt inclusion analyses from Fentale (Taylor et al., 1997) are shown for comparison in Figure 2. These volcanoes are also listed by the World Bank at a high level of uncertainty and risk. Fentale last erupted in 1820 (Siebert et al., 2010). Whilst obsidian is erupted effusively, and does not form widespread deposits, it provides a broad glass compositional fingerprint for a given volcano. Bulk analyses contain contaminant minerals nonetheless incompatible element ratios can be used for broad comparison. Distinct major and trace element concentrations and variable incompatible element ratios of glass shards in the Tilo, Awassa and Chamo tephras indicate that three volcanic centres are responsible for generating the 19 tephra layers we have geochemically characterised. Most Awassa, Tilo and Chamo tephras have similar compositions and Zr/Th ratios ($\sim 65.2 - 99.4$) to both the Corbetti obsidian and the Wendo Koshe Younger Pumice (Zr/Th ~68.9 - 87.5, Fig 2 b). Therefore, we infer that the majority of tephras derive from centres within the Corbetti caldera. To identify the sources of TT-3 and TT-6 and AWT-1, further sampling and glass analyses of volcanic centres in the Main Ethiopian Rift are required. Glass shards in the Wendo Koshe Younger Pumice, sampled from inside the Corbetti Caldera, are compositionally similar to TT-2 and CHT-1 (Figs. DR9 and DR11). These tephras contain characteristically high Ba concentrations (Fig DR9 c). Whilst co-genetic, CHT-2 glass shards are more enriched in incompatible elements than the Wendo Koshe Younger Pumice (Fig. DR9 d, f). This may be associated with compositional zoning at the source volcano, with more evolved compositions only dispersed towards distal locations.

Shards in TT-3 and TT-6 have distinct elemental compositions and Zr/Th ratios when compared with the composition of the other Tilo tephras and those tephras and obsidians collected from Corbetti, Fentale, Gedemsa and Alutu (Fig. 2 b).

Table DR8 Normalised major element (wt.%) and trace element concentrations of glass in the Wendo Koshe Pumice (ST-NW1) and Chabbi obsidians (E950010, E950011, E950019) were analysed in this study. Average (± 1 st. dev.) concentrations of selected trace elements which have proved useful for discrimination and correlation are shown here, and the minimum and maximum element concentrations of each tephra are given in italics. For analytical considerations, see the Supplementary Excel file. The full glass composition dataset is available from the author upon request.

	ST-NW1	E950010	E950011	E950019
Age (ka)	$< 2.3 \text{ ka}^3$	Holocene	Holocene	Holocene
Zr/Th	76.9	79.3	77.4	77.6
Zr/La	8.95	8.64	8.53	8.50
SiO ₂	72.98 (1.75)			
	67.88 - 74.57			
Al_2O_3	9.56 (0.35)			
	8.92 - 10.58			
FeO ^T	4.42 (0.17)			
	4.19 - 4.66			
Na ₂ O	5.21 (0.22)			
	4.69 - 5.57			
K ₂ O	4.33 (0.13)			
	4.09 - 4.58			
Y	245 (11.6)	216 (24.0)	185 (15.5)	170 (17.3)
	228 - 226	168 - 254	155 - 215	132 - 196
Zr	1930 (77.1)	1780 (189)	1510 (135)	1430 (115)
	1810 - 2060	1360 - 2060	1230 - 1830	1200 - 1610
Nb	256 (6.52)	228 (30.1)	200 (12.6)	183 (9.37)
	241 - 269	179 - 275	173 - 231	150 - 193
Ba	93.6 (4.65)	75.0 (26.7)	110 (6.53)	101 (6.19)
	87.0 - 102	46.0 - 126	90.9 - 119	89.8 - 112
La	216 (11.8)	206 (19.6)	177 (17.1)	168 (17.3)
	197 - 238	164 - 237	142 - 217	133 - 193
Hf	50.5 (2.86)	44.0 (5.14)	38.0 (4.22)	34.9 (3.48)
	46.5 - 58.2	32.9 - 51.8	30.8 - 50.0	30.0 - 41.7
Th	25.1 (1.15)	22.5 (2.54)	19.5 (1.99)	18.4 (1.64)
	23.2 - 27.3	17.7 - 26.5	16.2 - 23.8	15.7 - 21.7
U	6.81 (0.58)	6.26 (1.18)	5.975 (0.51)	5.12 (0.33)
	6.09 - 8.71	4.41 - 8.27	4.89 - 6.99	4.72 - 5.76
	n=17	n=19	n=17	n=19

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