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**UTILIZATION OF VOLCANIC ASH IN THE  
MANUFACTURE OF GLAZED CERAMICS**

**A RESEARCH STUDY**

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# **UTILIZATION OF VOLCANIC ASH IN THE MANUFACTURE OF GLAZED-CERAMICS**

**A Research Study Submitted to the Faculty  
of the Laboratory School, College of Education  
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Indang, Cavite**

**In Partial Fulfillment  
Of the Requirements for Graduation**



*Utilization of volcanic ash in the  
manufacture of glazed-ceramics*  
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## ABSTRACT

**CARAIG, MARY GRACE P.; CUEVAS, JULIE R.; FEDERICO, RYAN P.; and JIMENO, MA. IRENE T.,** Applied Research III (General Science Curriculum), Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite, February, 2000, **“UTILIZATION OF VOLCANIC ASH IN THE MANUFACTURE OF GLAZED-CERAMICS.”**

Advisers: Engr. Ruel Mojica  
Prof. Dulce Ramos

The study entitled “Utilization of Volcanic Ash in the Manufacture of Glazed-Ceramics” was undertaken to utilize volcanic ash in the manufacture of glazed-ceramics. It also aims to (a) evaluate the quality of the produced ceramics in terms of hardness and dryness; (b) determine the appropriate proportion of volcanic ash and clay that will produce good quality ceramics; and (c) estimate the cost and return of producing ceramics out of volcanic ash. The study was conducted at MSD-ITDI, Department of Science and Technology, Bicutan, Taguig, M.M. from August to December 1999.

The proportions used in the study were; *Treatment 0.* 100 g. Ilo-Ilo Black Ball Clay, 50 g. Feldspar and 350 g. Red Clay; *Treatment 1.* 100 g. Ilo-Ilo Black Ball Clay, 100 g. volcanic ash, 50 g. Feldspar and 250 g. Red Clay; *Treatment 2.* 100 g. Ilo-Ilo Black Ball Clay, 175 g. volcanic ash, 50 g. Feldspar and 175 g. Red Clay; *Treatment 3.* 100 g. Ilo-Ilo Black Ball Clay, 250 g. volcanic ash, 50 g. Feldspar and 100 g. Red Clay; and *Treatment 4.* 100 g. Ilo-Ilo Black Ball Clay, 350 g. volcanic ash and 50g. Feldspar.

Highly significant results were obtained in the parameters such as mass of

unfired, fired, freshly-glazed and finished products; volume change of unfired and fired ceramics; moisture content; and production cost of the produced products. However, non-significant results were obtained from volume and densities of unfired, fired, freshly glazed and finished ceramic products; volume changes and density changes of unfired and fired ceramics.

The lowest firing shrinkage was observed in Treatment 3 composed of 20% Ilo-Ilo Black Ball Clay, 50% volcanic ash, 10% Feldspar and 20% Red Clay with a firing shrinkage of  $6.387 \text{ cm}^3$ . Meanwhile, the highest firing shrinkage was observed in Treatment 0 composed of 20% Ilo-Ilo Black Ball Clay, 10% Feldspar and 70% red Clay with a firing shrinkage of  $36.923 \text{ cm}^3$ .

It was proven that pure clay is still the most advisable material for glazed-ceramic production, although the proportion 20% Ilo-Ilo Black Ball Clay, 50% volcanic ash, 10% Feldspar and 20% Red Clay can also be utilized.

In terms of economic feasibility, Treatment 4 composed of 20% Ilo-Ilo Black Ball Clay, 70% volcanic ash and 10% Feldspar obtained the lowest cost of production of only P8.30 per piece.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH .....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....	v
ABSTRACT .....	viii
LIST OF TABLES .....	xii
LIST OF APPENDICES .....	xiii
LIST OF PLATES .....	xv
INTRODUCTION	
Importance of the Study .....	2
Statement of the Problem .....	3
Objectives of the Study .....	3
Scope and Limitation of the Study .....	4
Time and Place of the Study .....	4
Definition of Terms .....	4
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE .....	6
MATERIALS AND METHODS	
Materials .....	13
Equipment .....	13
Methods .....	13
Collection of Materials .....	13
Preparation of Materials .....	14

Preparation of Samples .....	14
Properties of Glazed Ceramics .....	16
Experimental Design .....	17

## DISSCUSSION OF RESULTS

Volume, Mass and Density of Unfired Ceramics .....	18
Volume, Mass and Density of Fired Ceramics .....	19
Volume, Mass and Density of Freshly Glazed Ceramics .....	20
Volume, Mass and Density of Finished Ceramic Products .....	21
Volume Changes, Mass Changes and Density Changes of .....	22
Unfired and Fired Ceramics (Firing Shrinkage)	
Production Cost for each Ceramics and Comparison to .....	24
Commercialized Ceramics	
Moisture Content of Glazed Ceramics .....	25

## SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary .....	26
Conclusion .....	27
Recommendations .....	27
LITERATURE CITED .....	28
APPENDICES .....	29
PLATES .....	53

## LISTS OF TABLES

Table Number		Page
1	Ilo-Ilo Black Ball Clay, Volcanic Ash, Feldspar ... .. and Red Clay Content of Ceramic Products	14
2	Volume, Mass and Density of Unfired Ceramics ... ..	18
3	Volume, Mass and Density of Fired Ceramics ... ..	19
4	Volume, Mass and Density of Freshly Glazed Ceramics ... ..	20
5	Volume, Mass and Density of Finished Ceramic Products ... ..	21
6	Volume Changes, Mass Changes and Density Changes of ... .. Unfired and Fired Ceramic Products (Firing Shrinkage)	23
7	Production Cost for each Ceramic Product and Comparison ... .. to Commercialized Ceramic Products	24
8	Moisture Content of Glazed Ceramics ... ..	25



## LIST OF APENDICES

Appendix Letter	Page
A. Volume, Mass and Density of Replication of Unfired Ceramics ... ..	30
A-1. ANOVA for Mass of Unfired Ceramics ... ..	31
A-2. ANOVA for Density of Unfired Ceramics ... ..	31
A-3. ANOVA for Volume of Unfired Ceramics ... ..	32
B. Volume, Mass and Density of Replications of Fired Ceramics ... ..	33
B-1. ANOVA for Volume of Fired Ceramics ... ..	34
B-2. ANOVA for Mass of Fired Ceramics ... ..	34
B-3. ANOVA for Density of Fired Ceramics ... ..	35
C. Volume, Mass and Density of Replications of Freshly-Glazed Ceramics ... ..	36
C-1. ANOVA for Volume of Freshly-Glazed Ceramics ... ..	37
C-2. ANOVA for Mass of Freshly-Glazed Ceramics ... ..	37
C-3. ANOVA for Density of Freshly-Glazed Ceramics ... ..	38
D. Volume, Mass and Density of Replications of Finished Ceramic Products ... ..	39
D-1. ANOVA for Volume of Finished Ceramic Products ... ..	40
D-2. ANOVA for Mass of Finished Ceramic Products ... ..	40
D-3. ANOVA for Density of Finished Ceramic Products ... ..	41
E. Volume, Mass and Density of Replications of Unfired and Fired Ceramics ... ..	42
E-1. ANOVA for Volume Change ... ..	43
E-2. ANOVA for Mass Change ... ..	43



F. Density Change of Replications of Unfired and Fired Ceramics ... ..	44
F-1. ANOVA for the Density Change of Ceramics ... ..	45
G. Moisture Content of Replications of Ceramic Products ... ..	46
G-1. ANOVA for Moisture Content of Ceramic Products ... ..	47
H. Determination of the Production Cost of Ceramics ... ..	48
I. Production Cost of Replication of each Ceramic ... ..	50
I-1. ANOVA for Production Cost of Ceramics ... ..	50
J. Accomplishment Report for the MOR/ Breaking ... ..	51
Strength of Each Ceramics Produced	

## LIST OF PLATES

Plate Number		Page
1	Molding of the Mixture ... ..	54
2	Firing of the Unfired Ceramics ... ..	55
3	Fired Ceramic Products ... ..	56
4	Glazing of the Fired Ceramics ... ..	57
5	Freshly-Glazed Ceramics ..... ..	58
6	Finished Products ... ..	59
7	Oven/ Kiln ... ..	60

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<sup>1/</sup> A Research Study, presented to the Faculty of the College of Education Laboratory School, Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite, in the partial fulfillment of the requirements for Graduation, prepared under the supervision of Engr. Ruel Mojica and Mrs. Dulce Ramos, Advisers.

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## INTRODUCTION

Ceramics is a term that was originally applied to products made from natural earths that had been exposed to high temperatures. Today, the field of ceramics covers a widely glass, enamels, refractories (high temperature materials), structure clay products, abrasives, whitewares, porcelain enamel or metal system. Industrial ceramic maybe said to have begun with the first barter of potter's ware. Through ancient times and the middle ages, the techniques for making clayware continued to advance and with the coming of industrial and scientific revolutions, the industries were ready to supply the scientist with porcelain for chemical experimentation, manufacturing and also to supply an increased demand for containers, table wares, sanitary wares and construction materials.

Sometimes, the unavailability of clay is one of the main problems of ceramic manufacturers because they have to import the supply of clay at a very high price (Braganza, 1989). They have to do this because our country has very limited supply of non-metallic resources.