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## **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

## Preparation and Thermal Shock Resistance of Corundum-mullite Composite Ceramics from Andalusite

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## Abstract:

Corundum-mullite composite ceramics have high hardness, small plastic deformation and other excellent performances at high temperature. Corundum-mullite composite ceramics were fabricated from andalusite and  $\alpha$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> by in-situ synthesis technology. Effects of mullite/corundum ratio and sintering temperatures on the water absorption, apparent porosity, bulk density, bending strength, thermal shock resistance, phase composition and microstructure of the sample were investigated. Results indicated that the in-situ synthesized mullite from andalusite combined with corundum satisfactorily, which significantly improved the thermal shock resistance as no crack formed after 30 cycles of thermal shock (1100 °C-room temperature, air cooling). Formula A4 (andalusite: 37.31 wt%, α-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: 62.69 wt%, TiO<sub>2</sub> in addition: 1 wt%, mullite:corundum=6:4 in wt%) achieved the optimum properties when sintering at 1650 °C, which were listed as follows: water absorption of 0.15%, apparent porosity of 0.42%, and bulk density of 3.21 g·cm<sup>-3</sup>, bending strength of 117.32 MPa. The phase composition of the sintered samples before and after thermal shock tests were mullite and corundum constantly. The fracture modes of the crystals were Download English Version:

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