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978-1-107-02212-6 - Smugglers and Saints of the Sahara: Regional Connectivity in the Twentieth Century

Judith Scheele

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Smugglers and Saints of the Sahara

Smugglers and Saints of the Sahara describes life on and around the contemporary border between Algeria and Mali, exploring current developments in a broad historical and socioeconomic context. Basing her findings on long-term fieldwork with trading families, truckers, smugglers, and scholars, Judith Scheele investigates the history of contemporary patterns of mobility from the late nineteenth century to the present. Through a careful analysis of family ties and local economic records, this book shows how long-standing mobility and interdependence have shaped not only local economies but also notions of social hierarchy, morality, and political legitimacy, creating patterns that endure today and that need to be taken into account in any empirically grounded study of the region.

Judith Scheele is post-doctoral research Fellow at All Souls College, Oxford University. She is a social anthropologist who has conducted extensive fieldwork in Algeria, Mali, and, more recently, Chad. She is the author of *Village Matters: Knowledge, Politics and Community in Kabylia, Algeria* (2009).

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JUDITH SCHEELE

University of Oxford



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