

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-10920-8 - Marriage in Tribal Societies
Edited by Meyer Fortes
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE PAPERS IN SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

EDITORIAL BOARD:

PROFESSOR MEYER FORTES, DR J. R. GOODY

DR E. R. LEACH

No. 3

MARRIAGE IN TRIBAL SOCIETIES

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-10920-8 - Marriage in Tribal Societies
Edited by Meyer Fortes
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE PAPERS IN
SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY

1. *The Developmental Cycle in Domestic Groups*, edited by JACK GOODY
2. *Aspects of Caste in South India, Ceylon and North-west Pakistan*, edited
by E. R. LEACH

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-10920-8 - Marriage in Tribal Societies
Edited by Meyer Fortes
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

MARRIAGE IN TRIBAL SOCIETIES

EDITED BY
MEYER FORTES

CAMBRIDGE
AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS
1972

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-10920-8 - Marriage in Tribal Societies
Edited by Meyer Fortes
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521109208

© Cambridge University Press 1962

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,
no reproduction of any part may take place without the written
permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1962
Reprinted 1972
This digitally printed version 2009

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-0-521-08406-2 hardback
ISBN 978-0-521-10920-8 paperback

CONTENTS

Contributors to this Issue	<i>page</i> vi
Preface	vii
Introduction <i>by</i> MEYER FORTES	i
Conjugal Separation and Divorce among the Gonja of Northern Ghana <i>by</i> ESTHER N. GOODY	14
Taita Bridewealth and Affinal Relationships <i>by</i> GRACE HARRIS	55
Gisu Marriage and Affinal Relations <i>by</i> JEAN LA FONTAINE	88
Complementary Filiation and Marriage in the Trobriand Islands: A Re-examination of Malinowski's Material <i>by</i> MARGUERITE S. ROBINSON	121
Bibliography	156

FIGURES

Fig. 1 Affinal ties of men of Lwala minor lineage	110
Fig. 2 Marriage choices of Musole	113
Fig. 3 Presents given at marriage	129
Fig. 4 Transfer of valuables from the groom's father to the relatives of the bride seen as part of long-term reciprocity between the groom's father and the groom's own subclan.	154

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

MEYER FORTES. William Wyse Professor of Social Anthropology in the University of Cambridge, author of *The Dynamics of Clanship among the Tallensi* (1945), *The Web of Kinship among the Tallensi* (1949), *Oedipus and Job* (1959), editor, *African Political Systems* (1940), *Social Structure, Essays Presented to Radcliffe-Brown* (1949).

ESTHER NEWCOMB GOODY. Took a B.A. in Sociology at Antioch College, Ohio, in 1954, studied in Cambridge 1954–56, and carried out fieldwork among the Gonja of Northern Ghana 1956–57 on a Fellowship from the Ford Foundation. She completed her Ph.D. at Cambridge in 1961.

JEAN LA FONTAINE. Obtained her B.A. degree at Cambridge in 1953, worked for the East African Institute of Social and Economic Research 1953–55 doing fieldwork among the BaGisu, completed her Ph.D. at Cambridge in 1957, was Commonwealth Scholar at the University of Chicago, 1957–58. Author of *The Gisu of Uganda* (1958), and various papers.

GRACE HARRIS. Received an M.A. from Chicago in 1949, having graduated from the College of the University in 1945. She worked among the Taita of Kenya on a Fellowship from the Colonial Social Science Research Council from 1950 to 1952, completed her Ph.D. at Cambridge in 1955 and has taught at Cambridge, Boston University, Smith College, University of Massachusetts and Brandeis University.

MARGUERITE S. ROBINSON. Took a B.A. at Radcliffe College in 1956, worked at Cambridge University during the year 1959–60 and is now studying for a Ph.D. at Harvard University.

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-10920-8 - Marriage in Tribal Societies
Edited by Meyer Fortes
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

PREFACE

This is the third of a series of occasional papers in social anthropology published by the Cambridge University Press for the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology of the University of Cambridge. We plan to publish further volumes at intervals of about one year. Each volume will be edited by a member of the editorial board and will contain a number of papers arising out of anthropological work carried out in the Department. Each volume will deal, as far as possible, with a single broad topic of theoretical interest. The main contributions will ordinarily take the form of papers based on field research in particular areas and communities, but each volume will also include an introductory paper in which the main theoretical issues referred to in the other papers will be explicitly discussed.

The present issue has been edited by Meyer Fortes, who also contributes the introduction. Professor Fortes wishes to express appreciation of the assistance given by Dr Jack Goody in seeing this issue through the press and of the facilities placed at his disposal by the Director and the staff of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioural Sciences, Stanford, California, during a summer visit there.

The fourth number of the series, to be edited by Jack Goody, will use material from centralized political systems in Africa and be concerned with problems arising from systems of succession to office.

We are indebted to the Smuts Memorial Fund of the University of Cambridge for a grant in aid of the publication of this series.

MEYER FORTES
JACK GOODY
E. R. LEACH