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978-0-521-48237-0 - Cultural Diversity among Twentieth-Century Foragers: An African Perspective

Edited by Susan Kent

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The time is long past when easy generalizations can be made about “hunter-gatherers,” “African foragers,” or “the Kalahari Bushmen” or “Pygmies.” During the past three decades there has been a wave of important ethnographic studies of African foraging populations by ethnographers from Europe, Australia, North America, and Japan. African historical and archaeological research have further enriched our understanding of hunter-gatherers. This volume provides case-studies and comparative essays by some of the leading specialists in the field. The contributors document the range of variation in economic life, settlement patterns, social institutions, gender relations, and religious beliefs, and debate the implications of the cultural diversity present in hunter-gatherer societies. The book is an important documentary source, which includes chapters representing most of the theoretical orientations common in anthropology today, as well as a stimulating introduction to and analysis of current thinking about African foraging populations.

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An African perspective

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Susan Kent

*Anthropology Program, Old Dominion University,
Norfolk, VA*



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**This book is dedicated to:
The people of Kutse, Botswana, and to
twentieth-century foragers everywhere**

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Contributors

DR ALAN BARNARD Department of Social Anthropology, University of Edinburgh

DR RODERIC BLACKBURN Kinderhook, NY

DR MATHIAS GUENTHER Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Wilfred Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario

DR BARRY HEWLETT Department of Anthropology, Washington State University

DR MITSUO ICHIKAWA Center for African Area Studies, Kyoto University

DR SUSAN KENT Anthropology Program, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA

DR GEORGE SILBERBAUER Department of Anthropology/Sociology, Monash University

DR HELGA VIERICH Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta

DR NURIT BIRD-DAVID Department of Anthropology, Tel Aviv University

DR NICK BLURTON JONES Graduate School, Moore Hall, University of California

DR KRISTEN HAWKES Department of Anthropology, University of Utah

DR ROBERT HITCHCOCK Department of Anthropology, University of Nebraska

DR DAOU V. JOIRIS Institut de Sociologie, Université Libre de Bruxelles

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DR JAMES O'CONNELL Department of Anthropology, University of Utah

DR HIDEAKI TERASHIMA Faculty of Humanities, Kobe Gakuin University

DR THOMAS WIDLAK Department of Anthropology, London School of Economics