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978-1-107-64686-5 - A History of the Beja Tribes of the Sudan

A. Paul

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BY

A. PAUL, M.A.

SUDAN POLITICAL SERVICE



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P R E F A C E

My purpose has been to present in as complete and consecutive form as possible the history of the tribes which now inhabit the mountains and deserts of the Eastern Sudan. It has not been an easy task nor, in the midst of official duties, have I been able to devote to it as much time as I should have liked. The student of Beja history must, moreover, be a master of tongues, ancient and modern, to an extent to which I cannot pretend.

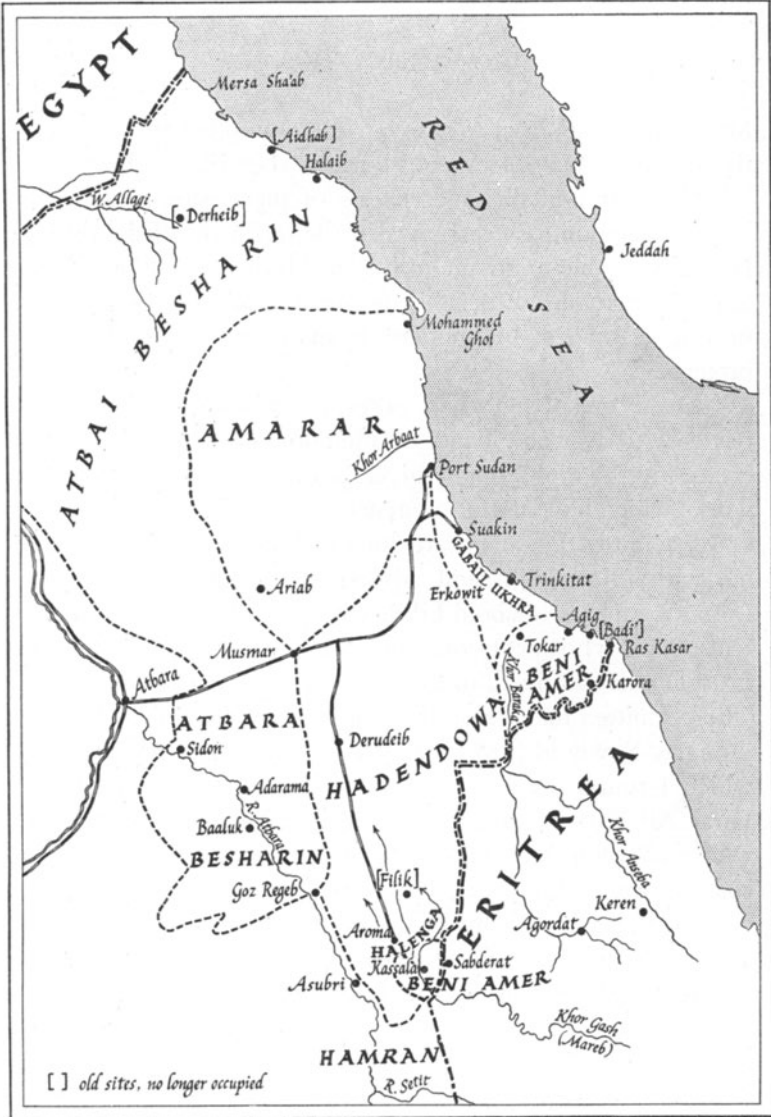
I have been sparing of my notes, not wishing to distract the reader with over-abundance of often not very rewarding references, but the bibliography given at the end omits, I hope, no works which have useful reference to the Beja.

My acknowledgements are due to all those who have helped me with information and advice, more particularly to the Librarian of the Newbold Library in the University College of Khartoum, who most courteously allowed me to borrow as many books as I liked, to the Commissioner for Archaeology, who permitted me to read the manuscript notes of the late Sir Douglas Newbold (now in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford) which I found invaluable, and to Mohammed Saleh Effendi Dirar Ali Yangi of the Eastern Telegraph Co., Port Sudan, whose encyclopedic knowledge of the tribes of the Red Sea coast was placed freely at my disposal.

I must also express my gratitude to the Sudan Government and to the Syndics of the University Press, Cambridge, for generous assistance in the publication of this book.

A. P.

KASSALA, 1954



Map 1. The Beja Country