



SPACE, PLACE AND IDENTITY

WODAABE OF NIGER IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Florian Köhler

Summary

Known as highly mobile cattle nomads, the Wodaabe in Niger are today increasingly engaged in a transformation process towards a more diversified livelihood based primarily on agro-pastoralism and urban work migration. This book examines recent transformations in spatial patterns, notably in the context of urban migration and in processes of sedentarization in rural proto-villages. The book analyses the consequences that the recent change entails for social group formation and collective identification, and how this impacts integration into wider society amid the structures of the modern nation state.

“A highly welcome contribution to research on mobility in West Africa and more particularly in the West-African Sahel region in as far as it focusses on the complexity of mobility phenomena in a pastoral nomadic group.” •

Elisabeth Boesen, Université du Luxembourg

“This is a wonderful and deeply detailed study of a group of Wodaabe in Niger. The author’s descriptions of a sub-group of Gojanko’en and their various strategies of mobility, dispersion, and cohesion is absorbing and clearly based on solid fieldwork.” • **Wendy Wilson-Fall**, Oeschle Center for Global Education

About the Author

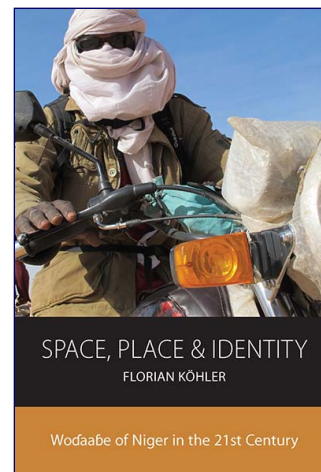
Florian Köhler is currently a research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle, Germany. He is also trained as a practitioner in peace-building and conflict-resolution and worked for the German Development Service (DED) in Haiti and for the Civil Peace Service (ZFD) in Niger, Benin and Burkina Faso.

Series: Volume 21, *Integration and Conflict Studies*

50% Discount
via our website

Use Coupon Code: KOH364

Recommend this book to your
librarian using [this form](#)



expires May 31, 2020

Binding: Hardback

PRINT ISBN: 978-1-78920-636-4

E ISBN: 978-1-78920-637-1

Final Extent: 246 pages, 23 illus.,
bibliog., index

PRICE: ~~\$135.00 / £99.00~~
\$67.50 / £49.50

eBook PRICE: \$34.95 / £27.95

Publication

Date: March 2020

 [Facebook.com/BerghahnBooks](https://www.facebook.com/BerghahnBooks)

 [@BerghahnBooks](https://twitter.com/BerghahnBooks)

 [berghahnbooks.com/blog/](https://www.berghahnbooks.com/blog/)

Table of Contents

List of Illustrations

Acknowledgements

Notes on Language and Transcriptions

Introduction

Part I: *Taarihi*: Mobility and Group Formation in Historical Perspective

Chapter 1. The Wodaabe in Niger: Structure as Historical Process

Chapter 2. A History of Migrations: Placemaking Processes in Diachronic Perspective

Part II: *Duuniyaaru*: Spaces of Social Interaction

Chapter 3. Inter-ethnic Relations: The Balance of Integration and Conflict

Chapter 4. A Meta-ethnic Social Space: The Continuum of Identity and Difference

Part III: *Ladde*: Transformations in the Pastoral Realm

Chapter 5. From Nomadic Pastoralism to Sedentarization and Economic Diversification

Chapter 6. Consequences of the New Spatial Strategies

Part IV: *Si'ire*: Appropriating the City

Chapter 7. New Resources in the Urban Space

Chapter 8. Social Interaction in the City

Chapter 9. The Translocal Dimension of Urban Migration

Part V: *Gassungol* Wodaabe: The Translocal Network of the Ethnic Group

Chapter 10. The Translocal Community and Social Reproduction

Chapter 11. Cultural Change and the Reproduction of Difference

Conclusion

References

Index