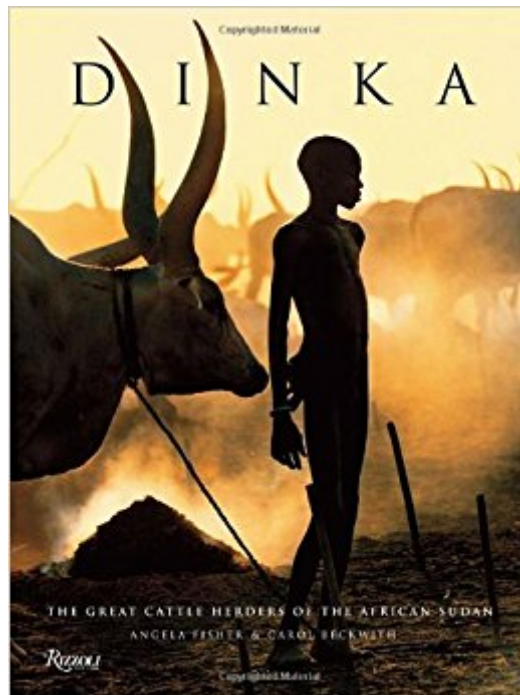


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Dinka: Legendary Cattle Keepers Of Sudan



Synopsis

This seminal volume on the indigenous African Dinka group is a landmark documentation of a vanishing people in war-torn Sudan. World-renowned photographers Angela Fisher and Carol Beckwith have devoted their lives to documenting the rapidly disappearing ceremonies and cultures of the indigenous people of Africa. In breathtakingly poignant images, they present a story that started with their first visit to the Dinka thirty years ago. Living in harmony with their cattle, the Dinka have survived years of war only to find their culture on the brink of vanishing forever. Where the White Nile River reaches Dinka country, it spills over 11,000 square miles of flood plain to form the Sudd, the largest swamp in the world. In the dry season, it provides abundant pasture for cattle, and this is where the Dinka set up their camps. The men dust their bodies and faces with gray ash—protection against flies and lethal malarial mosquitoes, but also considered a mark of beauty. Covered with this ash and up to 7'6" tall, the Dinka were referred to as "gentle" or "ghostly" giants by the early explorers. The Dinka call themselves "jieng" and "mony-jang," which means "men of men."

Book Information

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: Rizzoli; Revised ed. edition (September 14, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0847834972

ISBN-13: 978-0847834976

Product Dimensions: 12.3 x 1.2 x 16.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,449,213 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in Books > Travel > Africa > Sudan #144 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Individual Photographers > Essays #437 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Criticism & Essays

Customer Reviews

“Fisher and Beckwith have spent 30 years photographing traditional African cultures. In this monumental volume, they turn their attention to the Dinka of southern Sudan and their majestic cattle.” ~New York Times Book Review
“This volume is luminous, not only for its pictures and presentation but also for the spirit in which it was made” ~American Photo
“Larry’s Pick.” ~Larry King

Angela Fisher and Carol Beckwith have spent a lifetime studying the peoples of the Horn of Africa, and have published their photography in a series of acclaimed books as well as major magazine features in Time, Life, Vogue, Marie Claire, and Elle. They exhibit and lecture widely at prestigious venues such as the American Museum of Natural History, The Smithsonian Institution, and the Royal Geographical Society in London. Francis M. Deng is currently Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide. He has also served as a senior diplomat for Sudan, as Minister of State for Foreign Affairs (1976–1980), and as an ambassador to the United States.

I purchased this as part of my collection of Africa wildlife books. This book does not include wildlife, but as the title says, the people of the Dinka nation at work and play. Large thick book with excellent quality images. A great documentation of a lifestyle that is vanishing. I do want to note a warning: This book is realistic. As such there are many images of skin scarring and nudity that may offend some and may not be suitable to small children without some adult explanation. I'm very glad I purchased this book.

The photography in this book is spectacular and the narrative is quite informative. I was saddened to learn of the changes in the 30 years between the authors' visits to this lovely, peaceful tribe, but was grateful that they had done such a beautiful job capturing the Dinka's lifestyle, culture and spirit before it all changed. This is an eye catching coffee table book to be savored over and over.

As'salaam Ali'koum, I research and illustrate ethnic, tribal and traditional dresses of many countries! This book is a documentation of a people whose traditional way of life is slowly ending. It's crammed full of awesome color photography and includes a rich history of the Dinka people.

I shudder to think how many books I now own and none of them can hold a candle to this fantastic work of art. Speaking of work, the author must have poured her soul and heart into the book's creation, and it shows. The photography, the history, the human interest side, it's all there. I truly do love it.

Book arrived on time and in condition stated. What more do you want? The only negative is that it

was printed in China; therefore the colors are not as vibrant and vivid as some of the other books I have by the same authors. What do we expect? We want everything cheap so we get what we pay for.

My fault not to notice the format. It is too large for most bookcases and not easy to read because of the size. Pictures are beautiful.

If you appreciate truly good books, great books... then this is one you should have in your library. I probably own somewhere upwards of 1000 books. This is one that I will pull off the shelf and look at over and over again. I'm the kind of guy that when folks come over... I can't help myself, I pick up a book and say, "Check this out." This is one of those books. Enough already...it's excellent.

GOOD!

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