

# LINCOM Studies in Anthropology

new

Vol. 09

## Ethnography and Folklore of the Georgia-Chechnya Border: Images, Customs, Myths & Folk Tales of the Peripheries

SHORENA KURTSIKIDZE & VAKHTANG CHIKOVANI  
*University of California, Berkeley*

The aim of this book is to acquaint a wide audience with the traditional culture of the Christian and Muslim highlanders who live on the border of Europe and Asia in the central part of the Caucasus Main Mountain Range. Under one cover, the publication features unique materials on visual anthropology, ethnography, mythology, and folklore of the region.

The book portrays the mysterious subgroup of Georgian highlanders, the Khevsur, who are considered to be the champions of Georgian patriotism and at the same time, according to one popular theory, are believed to be direct descendants of the last Crusaders.

Featuring 158 black and white original photographs and accompanying explanatory texts, the publication gives a detailed description of the exotic religious institutions and examples of material culture of this group of highlanders, illustrating the closeness of their lifestyle to the ways of the Frankish crusaders. The emphasis is on the spheres of folk culture that bear clear traces of centuries of confrontations between two ethnic groups: Christian Georgian highlanders and their neighbors, Muslim Vainakh or Chechen and Ingush. The authors attempt to show how the traditional mode of life of the highlanders affects the contemporary ethnic and political situation in the region.

The publication includes original translations of Georgian folk tales and myths. The latter are narratives representing mythologized chronicles of "holy wars" of old times once carried out on the border of Europe and Asia by the ancestors of the Khevsurs.

Shorena Kurtsikidze and Vakhtang Chikovani are cultural anthropologists and natives of Georgia. They have been teaching the Georgian language, culture, and folklore courses at the *University of California, Berkeley*. Both authors are affiliates of the Institute of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies at the same university and regularly give talks and public lectures about Georgia and the Caucasus.

ISBN 978 3 89586 328 8 (Hardbound). LINCOM Studies in Anthropology 09. 560pp. 152 photographs. USD 217.50 / EUR 148.00 / GBP 106.50. 2008.

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*Indigenismo y literatura de frontera*

ISBN 978 3 89586 143 7. 220pp. Native America 05. USD 99.90 / EUR 68.00 / GBP 48.90. 2008/III.

## Language, Culture and the Individual:

A Tribute to Paul Friedrich

CATHERINE O'NEIL (*University of Denver*), MARY SCOGGIN (*Humboldt State University*), KEVIN TUIITE (*Université de Montréal*) (eds.)

This volume presents a ground-breaking collection of essays inspired by the work of linguist, anthropologist and poet Paul Friedrich. The core of this collection is the dramatic and creative connection between language and culture: linguaculture. Each essay relates language at its most technical to culture in its most intangible forms. The work represented here is based upon long-term immersion in multiple dimensions of culture, from the hallowed interiors of intellectual life to everyday encounters and observations. Balance between these two perspectives – objective and analytical systematicity on the one hand and human affect and individuality on the other – unify these works. Another specific bond is a hallmark of Paul Friedrich's method: a faithfully microscopic eye for detail combined with a panoramic vision of the cultural context as a whole.

In keeping with Paul Friedrich's intellectual legacy, this collection is not grounded in, nor contained by, any single academic discipline. It is, rather, informed by a sensibility to the complex and multilayered interplay of the domains of human thought, perception and activity that we conventionally label "language" and "culture." Among the contributors to this volume are specialists in comparative literature, Slavic studies and Classics; poets, translators, literary critics, a professional singer and an avant-garde painter.

John Attinasi *Anthropology on the Borderlines: Eclecticism and Synthesis in the Work of Paul Friedrich, I*

Murray J. Leaf *Romanticism, Meaning and Science*

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## Fronteras exteriores e interiores: indigenismo, género e identidad

ISABEL GARCÍA PAREJO, AZUCENA PALACIOS, ISABEL RODRÍGUEZ

Conceptos del tipo de 'frontera' se caracterizan por el hecho de que entrañan una dimensión simbólica al lado de la natural. La dificultad de separar ambas dimensiones, aún en aquellos casos en que la frontera se concibe en términos tan supuestamente naturales como el de límite, explica en parte la tendencia actual a interpretar dicho concepto desde presupuestos más dinámicos y multidisciplinarios, en consonancia con las dinámicas sociopolíticas actuales.

La originalidad de este volumen estriba en que aborda en toda su complejidad las múltiples dinámicas asociadas a los diversos tipos de fronteras. De acuerdo con esas dinámicas, diferentes colectivos construidos en torno a variables tales como el estatus social, el género, la etnia, etc., así como su interacción en contextos heterogéneos, son estudiados desde enfoques teóricos tan diversos como la antropología, la historia, la sociología, la sociolingüística, la literatura o la geografía.

En definitiva, los textos reunidos en este volumen estudian las tensiones característicamente asociadas a los contextos

fronterizos que, desde el punto de vista tanto colectivo como individual, remiten a procesos muy variados y a menudo contradictorios subsumidos en la construcción de las identidades sociales, y que inciden en las fronteras, haciéndolas más o menos visibles y naturalizándolas de diverso modo.

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ISBN 3 89586 719 5 (Hardbound). **LINCOM Studies in Anthropology 03.** 372pp. USD 186.40 / EUR 126.80 / GBP 91.30. 2006.

## Multilingual dictionary for Ethnology

GERMAN - ENGLISH - FRENCH - SPANISH - PORTUGUESE - RUSSIAN - ESPERANTO (WITH PARTLY CONSIDERATION OF FURTHER LANGUAGES)

GEREON JANZING

For some disciplines there are multilingual technical dictionaries available. For ethnology/anthropology such a book has so far been missing. Since ethnologists/ anthropologists have - for reasons of their subject - a special need for reading literature in different languages, such a dictionary should be highly appreciated. If you are engaged with comparative ethnology/ anthropology, you will probably need to read sources in all the great languages of the world. For the ability to compare them a multilingual technical dictionary will be of considerable use. So it should not be missing in any ethnological or anthropological institute.

Some of the ideas treated in this science are usually not found in conventional bilingual dictionaries, such as for example from ethnosociology "couvade", from economic anthropology "resource management", "treasuring" and with regard to hunting "antbear" and "atlatl", from technology and ergology "spindlewhorl", from religion science "transmigration". For words like these a technical dictionary might be of great value. This dictionary shows more than 1,200 entries of ethnological/anthropological interest in the languages German, English, French, Spanish,

Portuguese, Russian, and - as far as the words were available - also in Esperanto. The registers for each language help to find the words that are to be translated from one language into another.

ISBN 3 89586 299 1. **LINCOM Scientific Dictionaries 01.** 100pp. USD 81.40 / EUR 55.40 / GBP 39.90. 2001.

## African Anthroponymy: An Ethnopragmatic and Morphophonological Study of Personal Names in Akan and Some African Societies

SAMUEL GYASI OBENG  
*Indiana University, Bloomington*

Names in African cultures are pointers to their users' hopes, dreams and aspirations; they may reflect their users' geographical environments, their fears, their religious beliefs, and their philosophy of life and death. Children's names may even provide insights into important cultural or socio-political events at the time of their birth. The circumstances surrounding a child's birth may be considered when a name is being chosen.

Factors such as the day of the week of the birth, the time of day (dawn, morning, dusk, afternoon, evening, night), the season of the year, the order of birth, the location a person is born, the specific circumstances relating to the child and to the child's family, the attitude of the parents as well as the gender of the child all play significant roles in the overall naming process and in the actual name given. If one's parents suffer or suffered from child or infant mortality, one is likely to have a funny, survival or death-prevention name believed to be capable of preventing and/or eliminating totally such deaths since it has the power of preventing parents in the underworld from causing the death of such children. Names in African societies may even be important indicator(s) of the bearers behavior and as pointers to the name-bearers' past, present, and future accomplishments. Personal names in Sub-Saharan Africa are therefore not mere labels showing which person (particularly, which father) is responsible for a child's birth. There is also a close identity between the name and the name bearer such that the name links to the name-givers overall experiences. Structurally, African names range from single words, phrases, and sentences, to units larger than the sentence.

Ethnopragmatically, African personal names may involve indirectness and implicitness. They may thus be indirect reactions to problematic situations in the lives of the name-bearers, their parents or their communities at large. The greater the communicative difficulty involved in the circumstances surrounding the name-givers world, the more indirectness involved. The indirection and ambiguity involved in African naming traditions may be due to the consequences of candor and hence the need to have an escape route should the name-givers be questioned by powerful elders or superiors.

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Communication Theory

ISBN 3 89586 431 5. **LINCOM Studies in Anthropology 08.** 180pp. USD 100.20 / EUR 68.20 / GBP 49.10. 2001.

## L'ordre et le désordre Le politique en anthropologie

VICTOR PEREIRA DA ROSA & JEAN LAPOINTE  
*Université d' Ottawa*

L'objectif central de cet ouvrage est de fournir aux étudiants et étudiantes en anthropologie politique un outil pédagogique qui, à notre avis, vient combler un vide dans l'enseignement supérieur en langue française. Ce volume est l'aboutissement des expériences didactiques des auteurs qui, depuis longtemps, ont été responsables des cours et des séminaires dans ce domaine à l'Université d'Ottawa. Ce travail de synthèse incorpore des idées et des réactions de cohortes étudiantes qui ont élu l'étude du politique comme part de leur formation.

L'anthropologie politique prend de plus en plus d'ampleur aussi bien dans le champ des études ethnologiques que dans celui des sciences politiques. Les auteurs tentent d'en cerner les notions fondamentales de pouvoir, gouvernement et leadership dans une perspective comparative.

Cette analyse tient compte des différentes formes d'organisation sociale qui ont cours dans l'univers ethnographique (bandes, tribus, chefferies et États). Une discussion des principales orientations théoriques qui ont marqué le développement de l'anthropologie politique est présentée succinctement. Dans les dernières sections, on étudie des cas particuliers tels que la mondialisation et la souveraineté des nations amérindiennes.

ISBN 3 89586 648 2. **LINCOM Studies in Anthropology 01.** 170pp. USD 85.80 / EUR 58.40 / GBP 42.00. 1999.

## Perspective culturelles - une introduction à l'anthropologie sociale

VICTOR PEREIRA DA ROSA & JEAN LAPOINTE  
*Université d' Ottawa*

Le but principal de ce manuel est de faire le point sur les grandes composantes de l'entreprise anthropologique, dans une perspective nord-américaine et destinée à l'enseignement universitaire en français. Réunissant des notes et des recherches que les auteurs ont accumulées au cours de leurs années à l'Université d'Ottawa, cet ouvrage se veut une synthèse des champs et des orientations des différents discours en anthropologie.

Les discussions présentées dans les diverses sections sont étayées sur les approches théoriques et méthodologiques les plus représentatives. On explore ici les thèmes traditionnels couverts dans la plupart des cours de cette discipline. De cette façon, les dimensions culturelles, économiques, politiques, psychologiques, esthétiques et religieuses de la condition humaine sont étudiées tour à tour. De nombreuses références ethnographiques sont utilisées afin d'illustrer les concepts analytiques. Autant les questions abondantes à la fin de chaque section que la bibliographie extensive facilitent les apprentissages et l'approfondissement de la matière.

De plus, ce livre reflète une préoccupation

**On the long road... Life with the others**  
(history, ethnosocial structure, life-style and culture of gypsy groups)

EUGENIA I. IVANOVA & VELCHO KRUSTEV  
*Historical Museum, Stara Zagora; Ethnographic Institute and Museum, Bulgarian Academy of Science*

The monograph "On the long road... Life with the others" presents an authentic view of the history, life-style, ethno-social and ethno-cultural structure of certain Romani groups, based on numerous resources. These Romani groups have a lasting presence in a specific geographic region in Bulgaria - large areas of the Upper Thracian Plains and the Maritza river valley - a region preferred by Romani groups. The authors show their presence in the socioeconomic life, intellectual and material culture, and the historical geography of the area from XVI century to present days. In this study previously unpublished documents, memoirs, photographs, periodic press, archaeological and ethnographic terrain material have been used.

By presenting the common and the different, by working out in details the characteristic features of their lifestyle, traditions and customs, Ivanova and Krusev show the positive as well as the negative changes in the chosen Romani groups. The authors aim at showing their nature from the inside. In order to accept the other, the different one, to live in consonance with them, one has to get to know them in the first place.

ISBN 978 3 89586 113 0. **LINCOM Cultural Studies 03.** 200 pp. 40 photographs. USD 108.70 / EUR 74.00 / GBP 53.20. 2008.

- 4. YORUBA COMMERCE IN KANO C. 1912-1999
  - 5. YORUBA ENTERPRISE IN TECHNICAL SKILLS AND URBAN SERVICE INDUSTRIES IN METROPOLITAN KANO C. 1945-1999
  - 6. YORUBA ENTREPREURS IN KANO, 1918-1999
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ISBN 978 3 89586 110 9. **LINCOM Cultural Studies 02.** 334pp. USD 108.80 / EUR 74.00 / GBP 53.30. 2008.

**Religion, Culture and Gender**  
A Study of Women's Search for Gender Equality in Swaziland

CHRISTOPHER A. BYUMA ZIGIRA  
*University of South Africa*

Although Swazi women's contribution to national development has been phenomenal, they like any other women in patriarchal societies confront an overbearing situation in which they have been regarded and treated as minors, both in the family and most spheres of public life. This has largely been due to the social construction of gender. Traditional gender-based attitudes, deeply ingrained in the people's mind set, not infrequently, have limited women's access to and control of various aspects of public life, and impinge on their rights, most especially the rights to self-determination and equal participation in the decision making process. Coupled with religion which influences "the deepest level of what it means to be human" (King, 1994:4) and zealous cultural conservatism, the Swazi women, with a few notable exceptions, experience an asymmetry of power due to the pervasive nature of gender. Nonetheless, the history of Swaziland bears testimony, however muted, to a legacy of women's struggles to overcome gendered conditions imposed upon them either by taking full advantage of their spiritual endowment and charisma to overcome attitudinal barriers or by organising themselves into groups to work for the social transformation of their conditions and status.

This study examines the Swazi women's search for gender equality. It discusses the social and cultural context of gender in Swaziland, the various moments in the Swazi women's quest for equality and its manifestations, and the push and pull effect of religion and culture. Particular attention is given to four organisations, namely Lutsango IwakaNgwane (loosely referred to as women's regiments), the Council of Swaziland Churches, the Women's Resource Centre (Umtapo waBomake) and Swaziland Action Group Against Abuse (SWAGAA). The study shows that Swazi women have, across a passage of time, adopted different strategies, including ritual, economic empowerment and creation of new knowledge through promotion of gender awareness and social advocacy either in a womanist approach that accepts women's embeddedness in Swazi culture or in the liberal feminist tradition that espouses women's individual rights.

However, the study shows that the women's movement has yet to reach the critical mass level so as to influence public policy and come to terms with the deconstruction of the dominant gender ideology.

ISBN 3 89586 840 X. **LINCOM Cultural Studies 01.** 250pp. USD 119.40 / EUR 81.20 / GBP 58.50. 2003.

avec les tensions exprimées dans les débats entre les interprétations de la pensée classique et les apports contemporains.

ISBN 3 89586 653 9. **LINCOM Studies in Anthropology 02.** 240pp. USD 101.70 / EUR 69.20 / GBP 49.80. 2001.

**Native American Religions**

NANCY BONVILLAIN

The book discusses the religions of Native peoples of North America. It presents and analyzes basic themes of Native concepts of spirit form and spiritual experience. It describes types of religious beliefs and ritual practices. And it examines the development of indigenous spiritual responses to the changes wrought by European/American/Canadian intrusions into and eventual control over North America. Native religions are discussed both from understanding spiritual experience and from examining the cultural context in which beliefs and practices develop and are legitimated. Examples will be drawn from representative nations throughout North America although exhaustive coverage of the cultures of the continent will not be possible. The book is divided into eight chapters:

**One: Introduction**

**Two: Forms of Spirit**

This chapter discusses Native beliefs about the ways in which spirit powers are manifested. Beliefs about the ways that spirit powers contact and affect human beings and the ways that people may interact with spirits are also described.

**Three: Myths and Legends**

This chapter describes Native stories of the origin and transformation of the world in which people live. It also discusses recurring themes in myths of adventure and of moral teachings that entertain and instruct. The cultural lessons and values transmitted by Native mythology are analyzed.

**Four: Renewing the Earth**

This chapter discusses rituals of earth renewal and thanksgiving. Prayers, offerings, and ceremonies conducted to honor the plants and animals that people depend upon for their sustenance are described.

**Five: The Cycles of Life**

This chapter examines rituals conducted to mark events in the life cycle, particularly birth, naming,

puberty, marriage, and death. Initiation into ritual societies is also discussed. The individual, familial, and community meanings of such rituals are analyzed.

**Six: Health and Healing**

This chapter focusses on the central role of healing rituals in Native religion and culture. Concepts of health— maintenance and disease— causation are discussed...

(For the complete text, please see the LINCOM webshop: [www.lincom.eu](http://www.lincom.eu))

ISBN 3 89586 343 2. **Native America 03.** USD 97.30 / EUR 66.20 / GBP 47.60. 2003.

**Diaspora is not like home**

A social and economic history of Yoruba in Kano, 1912-1999

RASHEED OLANIYI  
*University of Ibadan*

*Diaspora is not like home* illuminates the social and economic dynamics of Yoruba experience in Kano and how diaspora identity valorised in the uncertainties of colonial and post-colonial contexts. The book articulates the construction of Yoruba diaspora identity as a corollary of the regulated ethnic relations fostered by colonialism and the tension that the dualism of citizenship has continued to generate in the transformation of modern Kano.

Through in-depth oral interviews, and archival research, it was found that the commercial history of Yoruba in Kano constitutes an account of niche establishment in trading, technical industries and urban services in which competition and outright displacement have been encountered. This analysis of diaspora identity contributes to our understanding of patterns of migration, entrepreneurship in both formal and informal sectors, gender and inter-group relations in Nigeria. The perspectives expressed in the book are well illustrated with maps, photographs and tables.

**Contents:**

- 1. GENERAL INTRODUCTION
- 2. LITERATURE REVIEW
- 3. KANO ECONOMIC SETTING AND YORUBA MIGRATORY TRENDS