

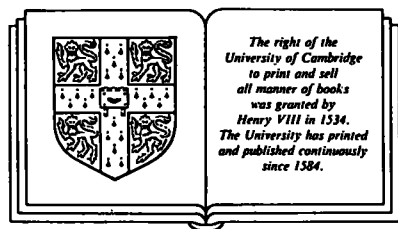
# HUNTERS AND HERDERS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

---

*A comparative ethnography of the  
Khoisan peoples*

ALAN BARNARD

*University of Edinburgh*



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

*Cambridge*

*New York Port Chester*

*Melbourne Sydney*

# Contents

|                                 |         |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| <i>List of figures and maps</i> | page xi |
| <i>List of tables</i>           | xiii    |
| <i>Preface</i>                  | xv      |
| <i>A note on orthography</i>    | xviii   |

## Part I: The Khoisan peoples

|   |                                                                    |    |
|---|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 1 | Introduction                                                       | 3  |
| 2 | Ethnic classification, origins, and history of the Khoisan peoples | 16 |

## Part II: A survey of Khoisan ethnography

|    |                                             |     |
|----|---------------------------------------------|-----|
| 3  | The !Kung                                   | 39  |
| 4  | The !Xõ and Eastern ≠ Hoã                   | 62  |
| 5  | The Southern Bushmen                        | 77  |
| 6  | The G/wi and G//ana of the central Kalahari | 98  |
| 7  | The Eastern and Northern Khoe Bushmen       | 117 |
| 8  | The Nharo                                   | 134 |
| 9  | The Cape Khoekhoe and Korana                | 156 |
| 10 | The Nama and others                         | 176 |
| 11 | The Damara and Hai//om                      | 199 |

**Part III: Comparisons and transformations**

|    |                                                                    |     |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 12 | Settlement and territoriality among the desert-dwelling<br>Bushmen | 223 |
| 13 | Politics and exchange in Khoisan society                           | 237 |
| 14 | Aspects of Khoisan religious ideology                              | 251 |
| 15 | Bushman kinship: correspondences and differences                   | 264 |
| 16 | Khoe kinship: underlying structures and transformations            | 282 |
| 17 | Conclusions                                                        | 295 |
|    | <i>References</i>                                                  | 303 |
|    | <i>Index</i>                                                       | 337 |

# Figures and maps

|     |                                                                                               |             |     |
|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----|
| 2.1 | Relative minimum genetic distance linkages                                                    | <i>page</i> | 19  |
| 2.2 | Relative maximum genetic distance linkages                                                    |             | 20  |
| 2.3 | Geographical locations of selected populations                                                |             | 21  |
| 2.4 | Geographical locations of major non-Khoe-speaking<br>Bushman groups                           |             | 23  |
| 2.5 | Geographical locations of major Khoe-speaking groups                                          |             | 24  |
| 2.6 | Probable migration routes of the Khoe-speaking peoples                                        |             | 35  |
| 3.1 | !Kung dialect areas                                                                           |             | 40  |
| 3.2 | Zu/'hoã kinship terminology: basic structure for male ego                                     |             | 48  |
| 3.3 | Zu/'hoã kinship terminology: an alternative structure                                         |             | 50  |
| 4.1 | !Xõ country                                                                                   |             | 65  |
| 4.2 | !Xõ kinship terminology: basic structure                                                      |             | 75  |
| 4.3 | The Eastern ≠ Hoã terminology                                                                 |             | 76  |
| 5.1 | The Southern Bushmen                                                                          |             | 78  |
| 5.2 | The /Xam relationship terminology                                                             |             | 95  |
| 6.1 | The Central Kalahari Game Reserve                                                             |             | 99  |
| 6.2 | Schematic representation of G//ana migrations in the<br>eastern Central Kalahari Game Reserve |             | 104 |
| 6.3 | The G/wi relationship terminology                                                             |             | 110 |
| 6.4 | The G//ana relationship terminology                                                           |             | 110 |
| 7.1 | Major Eastern and Northern Khoe Bushman linguistic<br>groups and their territories            |             | 118 |
| 7.2 | The Tshwa relationship terminology: partial representation                                    |             | 129 |
| 7.3 | The Bukakhoe and Kxoe relationship terminologies:<br>probable genealogical usage              |             | 130 |

|      |                                                                                                           |     |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| 8.1  | Nharo country                                                                                             | 135 |
| 8.2  | Idealized representation of the cycle of marriage and childbirth gifts ( <i>kamane</i> )                  | 147 |
| 8.3  | The Nharo relationship terminology: basic structure                                                       | 149 |
| 9.1  | Locations of the Cape Khoekhoe (c. 1700), Einiqua (c. 1800) and Korana (c. 1800)                          | 157 |
| 9.2  | A Korana camp                                                                                             | 168 |
| 9.3  | Korana relationship terminology: basic structure                                                          | 171 |
| 10.1 | Southern Namibia (German South West Africa), with locations of the Nama tribes prior to the War of 1904–7 | 178 |
| 10.2 | Traditional Nama tribal alliances                                                                         | 182 |
| 10.3 | Nama kinship terminology: basic structure                                                                 | 187 |
| 10.4 | Nama kinship terminology: examples of relative age markers for first ascending generation consanguines    | 188 |
| 11.1 | Northern Namibia (German South West Africa): the Damara, Hai//om, and other groups                        | 200 |
| 11.2 | Traditional Damara, Hai//om, and Herero village layouts                                                   | 207 |
| 11.3 | Damara kinship terminology: basic structure                                                               | 208 |
| 12.1 | A schematic representation of !Kung (Zu/'hoã) and G/wi settlement patterns                                | 230 |
| 12.2 | A comparative model of Kalahari Bushman settlement: aggregation and dispersal                             | 231 |
| 12.3 | A comparative model of Kalahari Bushman settlement: nucleation and the availability of surface water      | 231 |
| 12.4 | A comparative model of Kalahari Bushman settlement: territoriality and the abundance of resources         | 234 |
| 15.1 | !Kung, Nharo, G/wi, and !Xõ JOKING and AVOIDANCE categorization                                           | 269 |
| 15.2 | Eastern ≠ Hoã JOKING and AVOIDANCE categorization: a conjectural model                                    | 280 |

# Tables

|      |                                                                                  |             |     |
|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----|
| 3.1  | Zu/'hoã relationship terms                                                       | <i>page</i> | 49  |
| 8.1  | Means of subsistence of Ghanzi farm Bushmen                                      |             | 143 |
| 8.2  | Nharo kin categories                                                             |             | 148 |
| 9.1  | Korana relationship terms for women of male ego's generation                     |             | 172 |
| 10.1 | Nama tribal names and populations in 1876                                        |             | 180 |
| 12.1 | Territoriality and levels of social organization                                 |             | 236 |
| 14.1 | Structural relations among Nama beings                                           |             | 258 |
| 15.1 | Gruber's interpretation of the Eastern ≠ Hoã terminology                         |             | 276 |
| 15.2 | Barnard's interpretation of the Eastern ≠ Hoã terminology                        |             | 277 |
| 16.1 | Genealogical referents of Khoe kin categories                                    |             | 284 |
| 16.2 | Khoe egocentric relationship terms                                               |             | 284 |
| 16.3 | Summary of Khoe egocentric relationship term usage within lower level categories |             | 287 |
| 16.4 | Khoe egocentric GRANDRELATIVE terminologies                                      |             | 289 |