

FOOTNOTES - ENGLISH TRANSLATION

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FOOTNOTE

TRANSLATION

- 1 - 1 Inasmuch as the castes belonging to the same category may inter-marry, they are exogamous each in terms of the other, but endogamous in terms of the category that encompasses them.
- 2 - 1 The economy (of the river) remains archaic ... Fouta's is a subsistence economy ... of home consumption ... the valley has never known the introduction of export crops ... almost all (activity) is constituted by the primary sector: agriculture, fishing and livestock.
- 3 - 1 This preeminence of the head of the family in property rights had certain limits. Under the code of indivisibility, he was unable to alienate any portion of the family goods; under the rules of the patrimony, he could not disinherit any member of the group.
- 4 - 1 She helped her mother in household work and from the age of 15 she prepared the midday meal for the men working in the fields and each noon carried it to the fields. During the harvest, she helped her father to harvest.
- 13 - 1 All the five women are fish sellers and each takes her turn at staying home to prepare meals. They buy the fish at the beach. Even if the fish are their husbands', they must pay because the revenue is for them alone. Each woman sells her fish individually.
- 13 - 3 Her grandmother was a woman whose knowledge was well known in the village - being thioubalo, a people specialized in the knowledge of the waters, they have understanding which permits them to venture in any way and at any time in seas and rivers. Thus her grandmother treats those who have imprudently swallowed fishbones and who are in danger of death, or those who are attacked by the water spirits - which made her the most famous of her family. Her mother also holds this knowledge but cannot practice as long as her grandmother is living.
- 14 - 2 It is in some sense a profession, but without salary they sing and dance to honor the host. In return, they receive clothing, money and sometimes even jewelry.
- 14 - 3 Nevertheless there are times when the monthly ration runs out before the end of the month as well as the sum for daily expenses. Being griote, she guarantees provisions through the end of the month ... finding torobe, fulbe, etc., to request their help.
- 15 - 1 Sometimes it happens that a generous soul gives her a set of clothing.
- 16 - 1 The woman is a laundress in a prominent Pular family who were the owners of her family in the past. The mother, so that her children would not be born in captivity, bought her liberty, using all of her possessions. This has permitted them to earn a wage from the Pular family which now considers her to be an employee who earns an honest living as a freewoman.

- 16 - 3 These women do not work at the time of the festivities. They go directly to the host, make known their presence and wait comfortably for the host to give them money, which they divide up equitably. They are all from Niabina, M'Bagne. There are seven of them. They do this only when the host is a torodo from M'Bagne.
- 17 - 1 The money which she receives at festivities is carefully saved in her room. She can later purchase jewelry or buy her own housing. The profits from her doughnuts are always added to her daily expense.
- 18 - 1 She used the harvest for the family food stores and kept it in a room with a bed on one side and the sacks on the other. She sold three or four sacks often to meet food needs.
- 20 - 1 The multiplicity of monetary revenue sources should be noted. According to the average budget, no single category of receipts corresponds to over 20% of the total ... the economy appears curiously equilibrated ... If the figures are broken down in terms of household by number of revenue sources utilized, it becomes evident that the diversity of activities existing on the regional (macro) level is reproduced at the level of the household ... a population of petty-earners ... all the resources, all the activities are mobilized in each household in order to meet monetary needs.
- 20 - 2 The incidence of polygamy does not appear to be related to occupational (caste) category.
- 23 - 1 Given the great variety of tenure types and methods for their application, it is difficult to determine the proportion of cultivated area under each type. Today, at a time when the groundwork for projects is being established, the Valley lacks a regulated tenure structure. ...the adherence to the concept of 'indivisibility' and the difficulty in selling land inhibits attempts to improve the value of the land.
- 24 - 1 Plots are rarely lent to women who are married to men outside the family group because of fear of alienation of family lands. Marriage outside the family is relatively frequent despite the preference for marriage between cousins. If regional customs permit, the married woman therefore prefers to obtain her own personal, rather than family, plot which she may transmit to her children.
- 24 - 2 I sell everything - cookware, skirts, anything - everything can be sold.
- 25 - 1 ...the husband, absent for several months, and having left no means of subsistence to the wife.
- 27 - 1 The revenue of this woman is kept for gold and clothing since, she says, the men don't give them presents... the men content themselves with supplying food... the men's concern is to have many boats and earn a lot of money for God knows what.
- 27 - 2 Public opinion holds that it is especially the women who are concerned in the sumptuous expenditures - under the pretext of respect for tradition, but also because the practice of polygamy incites the women of the same man to conspicuous consumption.

- 28 - 1 ...her father being captive (and her mother as well). Before her own and her brothers' birth, her father sold all the livestock he possessed to their masters. Long ago, when there were battles, people dispersed and the stronger captured the weak, making them slaves and selling them. These captives had to work very hard in order to buy their liberty.
- 28 - 3 After the harvest, the product is kept in granaries for the year's food consumption and the seed is kept for the following year... each member has the right to use the harvest if he/she has planted, but must first see the head of the family for authorization.
- 34 - 2 The power is based on the supremacy of one caste or clan over other castes. The Emir is perhaps a despot, but a very feeble despot, at the mercy of his entourage, and prisoner of his partisans and the parasites living at his expense; these supporting him only to the extent that they profit from him.
- 35 - 1 I was reflecting on this one day as I walked through the fields, when an Arab arrived and asked his wife, gathering dates, what had become of two blocks of salt he had left in his house. "I borrowed them," she replied, "to buy some henna." "Can you return them now?" "No," replied the woman, "but within two days." A silence followed, and the husband, raising his voice said, "Aran h'lek." It was finished, their marriage had just been dissolved. The woman soon left the fields and went to prepare her baggage. As for unmarried or free women, they receive, with or without the open consent of their parents, visits from young people, entertaining and conversing with them. I thought of this in seeing the familiarity that existed between the two sexes, and later, the openness with which they often stopped me to ask if I had money.
- 40 - 1 The fertility of women being low, their pregnancies rarely normal... noting that they are more resistant, the Moors (Bidan) married black concubines whose children tolerated the rigors of the climate with greater success than those of the white (Bidan) women.
- 45 - 2 In regions of extensive rainfed agriculture, there is a tendency toward agricultural in-migrations and concentration of landholdings. These migrations and the growing permanent population of Haratins in the South will soon lead to a relative saturation of arable land area under existing production techniques. However, these agricultural migrations originally favored a certain development of cereal production in the valley. The valley was an (regional) exporter of cereals until the 1940s.
- 46 - 1 In the city or the countryside, indebtedness is largely caused by the low earnings and the low purchasing power of these earnings. Everywhere, credit has become indispensable for survival.
- 46 - 2 Allah has declared exchange to be hasty and usury to be illicit... Allah will nullify the profits of usury while he will multiply those of alms.
- 46 - 3 X gives Y a quantity of rice or tea or cloth and reclaims the next month a share of animals of which the value is considerably greater.

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- 48 - 1 This corresponds to the development of economic poles outside of Mauritania. For the colonial, Mauritania will essentially constitute a reserve of consumption goods, livestock, and to a lesser extent human workforce; this cheap labor will allow exploitation of the Senegalese peanut zone to be even more profitable.
- 49 - 1 "In 1904 the livestock market was established in Louga centralizing Mauritanian livestock arrivals in order to distribute them through Dakar and Gambia."
- 51 - 4 The PUF study claims that "close to 40% of monetary revenues in the valley and therefore more than 20% of total revenue, including barter and value of home consumed goods, results from the revenue transfers from outside the valley..."
- 55 - 2 Those who live around the migrants, and who are effective consumers, constitute a group of dependents who are much more expensive and permanent than those who remain in Fouta.
- 55 - 3 The most striking characteristic of urbanization in Mauritania is its concentration in Nouakchott, an administrative center with few productive activities.
- 56 - 1 Few immigrants have been integrated into the wage-earning sector. On the contrary, they have searched for opportunities in the private sector: commerce, subordinate employment, water-selling ... real estate speculation.
- 56 - 2 When the Toucouleur reaches a certain degree of professional specialization, he fixes himself more or less definitively where he has stable employment.
- 58 - 1 This is not a market, this is not commerce, it's a way to fill time ... it's underemployment.
- 79 - 3 She continued her studies through CM2. She would like to work but her husband categorically refused. He says that she will lose her sense of tradition and will feel capable of doing whatever she wants or become a little ambitious woman who is ready to doing anything for money.
- 83 - 1 From time to time, she buys herself jewelry - but rarely, since she must obligatorily send 4000 UM/month to her family, as well as clothing and food. She must also nourish six people who live at her house in Nouakchott.
- 85 - 1 Their friends will throw barbs at them ... but most of the older women accept them.