

Contents

1	Research Objectives, Materials and Methods	1
1.1	Overview	1
1.2	Introducing Ethnoarchaeology	2
1.3	The Sahara Desert: A ‘Marginal Centre’ of African Studies?	3
1.4	Types Versus Variation in the Archaeological Study of Pastoralism	4
1.5	Ethnoarchaeology of Pastoral Sites in Arid Lands	5
1.6	Research Objectives	6
1.7	Materials and Methods	8
1.7.1	Earlier Preliminary Research, Schedule and General Remarks	8
1.7.2	The ‘Regional’ Level of Analysis	8
1.7.3	The ‘Site’ and the Settlement Patterns	9
1.8	Survey of Deserted Campsites in the Acacus Mts.	10
	References	11
2	The Environment	15
2.1	The Tadrart Acacus Massif and Central Sahara	15
2.2	Geomorphology	15
2.3	Climate	16
2.4	Flora and Vegetation	18
2.5	Main Features of the Tadrart Acacus Landscape	18
2.5.1	Valleys and Pastures	18
2.5.2	Water Resources	20
2.5.3	Shelters and Caves	22
2.5.4	Paths and Passageways	23
	References	24

3	The Kel Tadrart Tuareg: Ethnohistorical and Ethnographic Background	27
3.1	Ethnohistorical Background	27
3.1.1	The Tuareg in the SW Fazzan	27
3.1.2	The Northern Tuareg and the Literature.	27
3.1.3	The Kel Tadrart in the Early Ethnohistorical Accounts	29
3.2	The ‘People of the Acacus’ Today.	31
3.2.1	The Kel Tadrart Identity and Figures.	31
3.2.2	Origins and Death.	33
3.3	Livestock and Husbandry	34
3.3.1	Kel Tadrart Herds	34
3.3.2	Size of Herds	34
	References	41
4	The Regional Level of Analysis.	43
4.1	The Settlements.	43
4.1.1	Date of Settlement	43
4.1.2	Physical Location of the Settlements.	43
4.1.3	Soils	47
4.1.4	Water	48
4.1.5	Kinship	52
4.2	Mobility	53
4.2.1	Nomads and Sedentists	53
4.2.2	Markets: An Individual Choice.	59
	References	61
5	Site Specific Analysis: Composition and Layout	63
5.1	The Main Sites: Overview	63
5.2	The Locations	63
5.3	Site Structure	65
5.4	Domestic Fixtures	66
5.4.1	Dwelling Huts	66
5.4.2	Northern Tuareg Hut Types	69
5.4.3	Kel Tadrart Hut Types.	69
5.4.4	The Roof	73
5.4.5	Distribution of Type1 and 2 Dwelling Huts	73
5.4.6	Shapes and Sizes	76
5.4.7	The Kitchen	76
5.4.8	The Diwan	79
5.4.9	The Structures in Comparative Perspective: Indications of Wealth?.	83

5.5	Activity Areas	85
5.5.1	The Discards: Ashes, Charcoals, and Litter	85
5.5.2	Other Activity Areas	87
5.6	Livestock Fixtures and Dung Areas	88
5.6.1	Adult Stock Corrals	89
5.6.2	Young Stock Pens	91
5.6.3	Chicken Houses	94
5.6.4	Dung Areas	94
5.7	Layout and Space	96
	References	98
6	The Abandoned Campsites in the Tadrart Acacus	99
6.1	The Abandonment of Settlements	99
6.2	The Surveys	99
6.2.1	The Fieldworks in 2003 and 2009	99
6.2.2	The Setting of the Sites	101
6.2.3	Preservation and Use of Sites	103
6.2.4	Portable Items and Refuse	108
6.2.5	The Deserted Landscape	109
6.3	Studies of Selected Abandoned Campsites	110
6.3.1	The Sample	110
6.3.2	Geomorphological Notes on Site Locations	115
6.3.3	Domestic Fixtures	116
6.3.4	Dumps and Discard Areas	116
6.3.5	Pens, Corrals and Dung	119
6.3.6	Portable Items	124
6.3.7	Spatial Distribution of Items and Gender	125
6.3.8	Refuses, Recyclables and Other	130
6.3.9	Some Remarks	140
	References	141
7	Ethnoarchaeological Suggestions for a Review of the Last 3,000 Years in the Tadrart Acacus	143
7.1	The Tadrart Acacus in Historical Times	143
7.2	Signs in Place	144
	References	145
8	Conclusions	147
8.1	Retrospective	147
8.2	The ‘Aridity Paradigm’ in the Archaeology of Holocene Sahara: Lessons from the Present	147
8.3	Variable Landscapes Made of Locales and Lines	148
8.4	The Settlements: Traditional Assumptions and Actual Trends	149

8.5	Past and Present	150
8.6	Final Remarks	151
	References	151
Index	153



<http://www.springer.com/978-3-319-08529-6>

Ethnoarchaeology of the Kel Tadrart Tuareg
Pastoralism and Resilience in Central Sahara

Biagetti, S.

2014, XV, 154 p. 65 illus., 56 illus. in color., Softcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-08529-6