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Review

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Source: *The Geographical Journal*, Vol. 47, No. 1 (Jan., 1916), pp. 56-57

Published by: geographicalj

Stable URL: <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1780316>

Accessed: 18-04-2016 19:56 UTC

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their racial characteristics, their mentality and, notably, their spiritual and religious standpoint. Special interest attaches to M. Doutté's investigations into the pre-Islamic beliefs of the Berbers, and the manner in which the Makhzen endeavoured to extend its authority by strengthening orthodox Islamism; also to his accounts of the tribal marabouts, "the last survival of the Priest-kings and Divine-kings of the ancient ages of humanity." Valuable light is thrown on the condition and origin of the Jews of the High Atlas and Sus. There is reason to regard them as descendants of Berber tribes converted to Judaism before the era of the Moslem invasion. These "native" Jews have now disappeared from the Arabized regions of Morocco.

We have given but a very inadequate indication of the merits of this book, which should be read by all students of Moroccan affairs, and indeed by all lovers of travellers' tales. The illustrations, mostly from the author's photographs, are excellent. They include beautiful reproductions in colour of eight paintings by A. Corson, and half a dozen plans. Criticism is confined to one or two points. The book is bulky and would be better in two volumes; there is no map, no index, no list of illustrations. It might be urged, with respect to the absence of a map, that M. Doutté did not explore unknown territory, but though an elaborate map may not have been needed, a sketch-map should certainly have been given. Not to be able to trace the route followed or to locate the places named, in a country still largely unfamiliar, without reference to an atlas, is a source of annoyance to the reader.

F. R. C.

The Northern Bantu. An account of some Central African Tribes of the Uganda Protectorate.— Rev. John Roscoe, M.A. Cambridge University Press. 1915. 12s. 6d.

Those who have followed the writings of the Rev. John Roscoe, formerly a missionary in the service of the Church Missionary Society in Equatorial East Africa, will not be disappointed in the latest work he has issued on the subject of the Bantu tribes of the Uganda Protectorate. He deals in the present volume with the Banyoro, the Banyankole, the Bakene, the Bagesu, and the Basoga; together with some additional information regarding the Nilotic Teso (which he rather misleadingly calls Bateso) and Kavirondo. He describes their native forms of government, their clans, totems, and terms of relationship, marriage, birth, and death ceremonies, treatment of the sick, their native industries, their methods of warfare and of hunting, and their religious beliefs. He also gives some description of their physical appearance, though in that respect not going into much detail. Ethnologically the book is of first-rate value and importance, and the style in which it is written deserves special commendation. For it is scientific, informative, and yet simple in diction; entirely free from sentimentality or White-man's prejudices of any kind. Mr. Roscoe may claim to have made a distinct addition to our ethnographical knowledge of this part of Africa in having virtually discovered the Bakene lake-dwellers of the Kioga marshy region, which extends from the north of Basoga almost to Karamojo. Mr. Roscoe indeed asserts that outlying clans of the Bakene have wandered as far north as the shores of Lake Rudolf. If so, they must be almost the most northern representatives of the Bantu language family. He expresses no opinion as to whether in that region they are the relics of a former much more north-easterly extension of the Bantu-speaking negroes, or whether they represent recent migrations from south-west to north-east. He gives no specimens of their language, but states that in that respect they display a very close

affinity with the Basoga ; and the Lusoga language, as the reviewer has set forth already, scarcely shows more than dialectal differences from Luganda. It is obvious, however, from remaining place-names that a Bantu-speaking population at one time overspread much of the Mountain Nile basin between Karamojo on the east and the Bahr-el-Ghazal basin on the west, and that they were subsequently displaced by invasions of the Nilotes and of the Nandi and Masai groups and of the Sudanic Madi.

Mr. Roscoe gives a full description of the little-known Bagesu people of the western and north-western slopes of Mount Elgon. He states that they are cannibals in the sense that they consume portions of their dead, throwing out the bones and what is distasteful in the flesh to be devoured by hyenas and jackals. I visited these tribes in 1901 and found them to be speaking perhaps the most archaic of all Bantu languages. I heard their tribal name pronounced as Gishu as well as Gesu. It is possible that they once had a much wider range, and that their name still lingers in the term Waso-ngishu plateau, now outside the Bantu range and more or less in occupation of the Masai.

H. H. JOHNSTON.

Savage Man in Central Africa. A Study of the Primitive Races in the French Congo.— Adolphe Louis Cureau, Gouverneur Honoraire des Colonies. London : T. Fisher Unwin. 1915. 12s. 6d.

This book will be a disappointment to all whose knowledge of Africa has advanced beyond mere generalizations and who are sticklers for accuracy in detail and locality. Yet we notice that it has already been favourably reviewed and referred to in newspapers that are content to adopt somewhat ancient and discarded theories regarding the Negro. Though presumably the author has resided long in the Gabun and in the interior parts of French Congo, a perusal of the work conveys to the specialist the idea that it is not based on much direct personal observation and note-taking *in loco*, but to general remembrance and much reading of other authors. Undoubtedly it is interesting, because it is written in a pleasing style, but we question whether the general impressions it conveys were accurate at any time. They are certainly very old-fashioned as regards the present condition of many tribes in Western Congoland. One might also ask whether it is any more permissible to generalize about Negro Africa than about Caucasian Europe. It is as difficult to give an accurate and yet a generalized picture of the very diverse Negro and Negroid tribes of Western Equatorial Africa as it is to give a general description of the Europeans of Western Europe. One African village is not of necessity any more like another African village than Segovia is like Paris, or Marseilles like Ypres.

H. H. J.

Société de l'Histoire des Colonies Françaises. Premier Voyage du Sieur de la Courbe fait à la coste d'Afrique en 1685.— Publié avec une Carte de Delisle et une introduction par P. Cultru. Paris : Edouard Champion ; Emile Larose. 1913. Pp. 321.

This is, from a geographical point of view, the most interesting of the valuable series of publications of the Society mentioned in the title, the foundation of which in 1912 was referred to at the time in the *Journal* (vol. 41, p. 174). It reproduces for the first time the original text of one of the earliest French