

A Pastoral Democracy: A Study of Pastoralism and Politics Among the Northern Somali of the Horn of A

516

REVIEWS

For even a superficial perusal of the book shows that the historical problems involved are often very delicate ones. To encounter a name for a herd does not mean that it is an *armée bovine*; some herds were not attached to armies but apparently served mainly ritual purposes in the *ubwiiru*, or even as herds dedicated to the spirit of a former hero or king, etc.

The real significance of the book lies in the fact that the chiefs to whom these armies were granted were the 'provincial' or 'army' chiefs of Ruanda, the most important and powerful persons in the realm. The traditions thus give us a cross-section of the distribution of power for each reign and also for each period of competition for power. To be seen in a proper setting, and to be most revealing, these data need to be correlated with the genealogies of the main families of Ruanda. It appears that, if one sets aside the ritual herds of the *ubwiiru*, more than half the chieftainships went to close relatives of the reigning king, and that all of them were granted within a fairly narrow *élite*. The data show then that the royals enjoyed more power than can be gathered from other sources, and that inside the Tutsi aristocracy there was a small *élite* closely tied to the kingship.

For the military history of Ruanda these data are of little use since the term *armée sociale* is misleading. Some of the herds were attached to the *ubwiiru* and had only theoretical connexions with armies. The main bulk of the rest were attached to groups of herders only, not to 'fighting' units. Only a part, therefore, were really linked up with the military organizations. And it is to disentangle the relationships between the various institutions—*ubwiiru*, personal herds, groups of herders, and armies (or companies)—that a closer study of the data would seem to be vital. All these institutions seem to have originated separately, and to have been fused or correlated only later, and not in any consistent manner.

This book will then be of great use to specialists in Ruanda history, but it will have little value to other readers since its subject-matter is too restricted and its value too unequal to allow of easy assessment.

University of Wisconsin,
Madison

J. VANSINA

PASTORALISM AND POLITICS AMONG THE SOMALI

A Pastoral Democracy; and Study of Pastoralism and Politics among the Northern Somali of the Horn of Africa. By I. M. LEWIS. London: Oxford University Press, for the International African Institute, 1961. Pp. xii, 320, illus., maps. 45s.

Although the book under review is mainly concerned with the description of Northern Somali pastoral society as it exists today, the author has included a great deal of valuable historical information in his introduction and in numerous references to the past throughout the text. The historical facts adduced by the author are not mere unrelated items of antiquarian interest, but are used to give depth to his analysis and to show the connexion between the realities of present-day life among the Somalis, and their long and proud cultural heritage.

In his introduction, Dr Lewis gives a brief but lucid sketch of Somali history

A Pastoral Democracy: A Study of Pastoralism and Politics Among the Northern Somali of the Horn of Africa. Front Cover. I. M. Lewis. International African. A Pastoral Democracy: A Study of Pastoralism and Politics Among the Northern Somali of the Horn of Africa. Front Cover. I. M. Lewis. Africana Publishing. I. M. Lewis A Pastoral Democracy A study of pastoralism and politics among the Northern Somali of the Horn of Africa (, reprinted with a new introduction in. Lewis I. M.: A pastoral democracy: a study of pastoralism and politics among the northern Somali of the Horn of Africa, xiii, pp., front., 9 plates. London, etc. A Pastoral Democracy: A study of pastoralism and politics among the Northern Somali of the Horn of Africa (, reprinted with a new introduction in). A Pastoral Democracy: A Study of Pastoralism and Politics among the Northern Somali of the Horn of Africa. I. M. Lewis. A Pastoral Democracy: A Study of Pasloratism and Politics among the Northern Somali of the Horn of Africa. I. M. LEWIS. New York: Oxford University Press for. B. W. Andrzejewski; A Pastoral Democracy: A Study of Pastoralism and Politics among the Northern Somali of the Horn of Africa, International Affairs, Volume A Pastoral Democracy: A Study of Pastoralism and Politics Among the Northern Somali of the Horn of Africa. Front Cover. I. M. Lewis. Oxford University Press. pastoral democracy: a study of pastoralism & politics among the Northern Somali of the Horn of Africa. - 3rd ed. Oxford: James Currey, - IAI classics in African. A pastoral democracy: a study of pastoralism and politics among the northern Somali of the Horn of Africa. Responsibility: I.M. Lewis. Imprint: New York, N.Y. Publication Information. Author: Lewis, I. M.. Title: A pastoral democracy: a study of pastoralism and politics among the northern Somali of the Horn of Africa. Bells: Connecting Animals, People and Land arrow A Pastoral Democracy: A Study of Pastoralism & Politics Among the Northern Somali of the Horn of. Published: (); A modern history of Somalia: nation and state in the horn of a study of pastoralism and politics among the northern Somali of the Horn of. A pastoral democracy: a study of pastoralism and politics among the Northern Somali of the Horn of Africa. by Ioan Myriddin Lewis. Print book. English.

[\[PDF\] The tryal of the witnesses of the Resurrection of Jesus. The third edition.](#)

[\[PDF\] Earth and Space Science \(Steck-Vaughn Science Series\)](#)

[\[PDF\] The Hermetic Museum \(Illustrated\)](#)

[\[PDF\] Communication Research Measures II: A Sourcebook \(Routledge Communication Series\) \(v. 2\)](#)

[\[PDF\] Dates, Double Dates and Big, Big Trouble \(Allys World\)](#)

[\[PDF\] Alvar Aalto Summer Homes](#)

[\[PDF\] Buttons of the Canadian Militia: Army, Naval, and Air Force, 1900-1990](#)