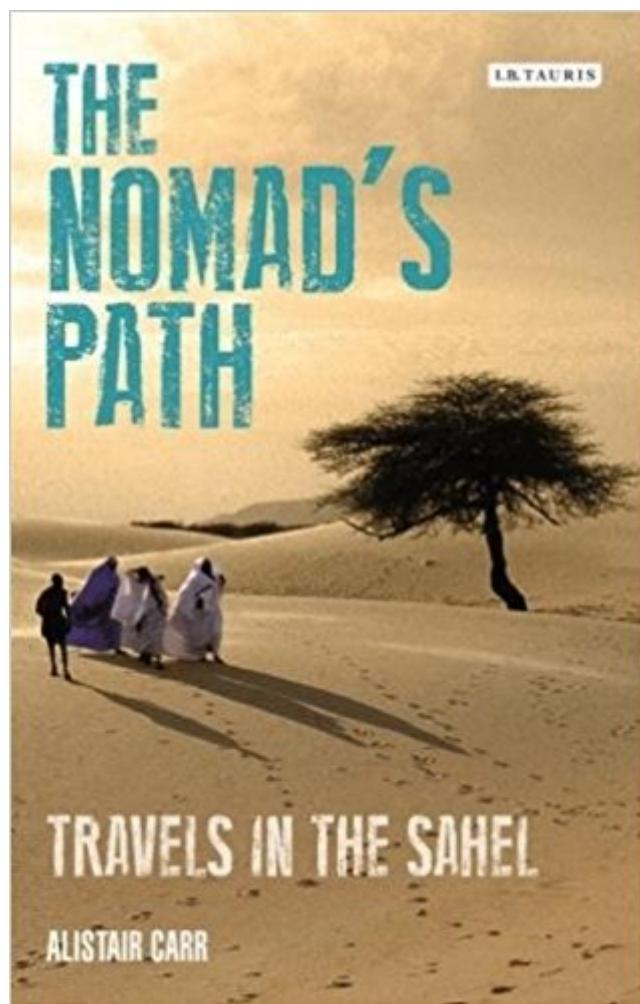


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The Nomad's Path: Travels In The Sahel



Synopsis

The Manga is one of Africa's most remote and wild regions: a hostile and unforgiving landscape inhabited by nomads like the hardy Tubu. Situated in south-eastern Niger, and in the shadow of the Old Salt Road, it has been mislaid by the modern world; no Caucasian had been seen there in living memory. The Nomad's Path is an account of a journey across this inhospitable region with former Tubu rebels at a time of Tuareg insurgency, when explosions from landmines rocked towns, mountains were overrun with militia, and journalists were being thrown into desert prisons for speaking to rebel leaders. Framed against this volatile atmosphere, The Nomad's Path is the beginning of a wider enterprise: the exploration of the region's history and the ongoing consequences of the Tuaregs' 1885 disenfranchisement. It explores the centuries-old link between the Barbary Coast and the Sahel along the Old Salt Road, once trodden by corsairs and slaves, camels and the armies of empires, while conjuring to life a lost wilderness and those who survive within it. At its heart, however, is a journey across the Sahel with the Tubu nomads. It is their tale and a window into the nebulous Manga. Carr perceptively observes Tubu culture, their harmonious relationship with Islam, and their interaction with the Manga's other peoples: the Fulani, Kanuri, and Arabs. Woven with tales of rebellion, lost settlements, and civilizations, explorersâ• both intrepid and madâ• and an epic 17th century odyssey, Carr captures a sense of the intangible nature of the Sahel's Manga. A timely and evocative portrait of the Tubu and their worldâ• a people living on the tide-line of the Sahara and the edge of the world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

""A brave, unusual and ambitious journey, in the old style of travel that I (of course) welcome. I've never been to any part of the Sahel. But this made me want to go.""¹ Colin Thubron, travel writer and novelist""A remarkable and tenacious adventure in the finest tradition of British travel writing. Alistair Carr sheds light on a troubled and long neglected part of the world that will occupy policymakers for years to come.""² Justin Marozzi, travel writer, historian and journalist""Carr's prose can be wonderfully evocative.""³ TLS, Times Literary Supplement --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Alistair Carr, a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, has broadcast for the BBC and is author of *The Singing Bowl - Journeys through Inner Asia*. He lives in coastal Suffolk.

I saw this title recommended in the Explorer's Club Journal and new it would be a good read. And they were right. Written about an area few know anything about while accurately including historic events I remember (upheaval in Chad), the people are as real as they get. I only wish I was sitting on top of the big white camel instead of the lead character. A book highly recommended for those who enjoy travel far off the beaten path.

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