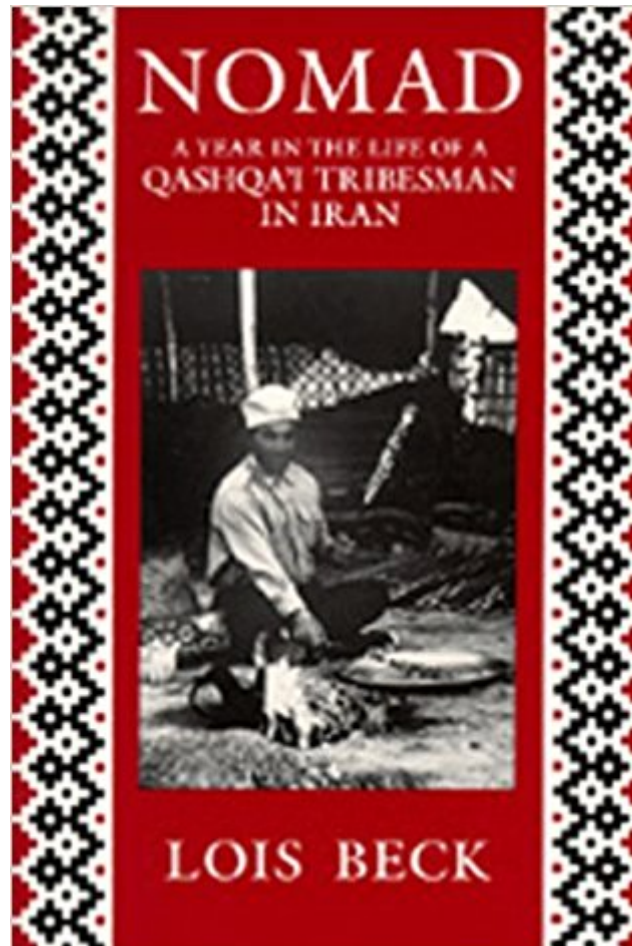


The book was found

Nomad: A Year In The Life Of A Qashqa'i Tribesman In Iran



Synopsis

Borzu Qermezi was the headman and political leader of a group of nomadic pastoralists who were part of the Qashqa'i confederacy of southwest Iran. Proud, complex, strong-willed, witty, and cunning, Borzu successfully led his people on their annual migrations for many years. He regulated their travel; mediated conflicts; intervened in (and sometimes exacerbated) tense situations between his people and other nomads; and dealt with the government police agency. Structuring the account around the four seasons, Lois Beck recounts the day-to-day activities of Borzu during the year she spent traveling with his people. She describes the rigors of nomadic life and the consequences of decisions made in haste. During 1970 to 1971, Borzu and his people were faced with many difficulties. When the expected winter rains did not fall, pastures and crops shriveled. Unable to sell their starving livestock for any profit, Borzu's people saw their debts to urban merchants and moneylenders increase. At the same time, Iran exercised more bureaucratic control over the Qashqa'i by applying new policies over migratory schedules and the allocation of scarce pastures, and by introducing non-Qashqa'i agriculturalists and livestock investors as legitimate land users. All these measures threatened the nomad's way of life and eventually undermined the role of headmen such as Borzu. Lois Beck details the vicissitudes endured by Borzu's people and the strategies he devised to cope with them. Blending ethnographic and historical material, this book contains information unavailable for other tribal and nomadic pastoral groups in the Middle East and central Asia. Through Beck's deft analysis, we come to understand why nomadic pastoralism was once an important part of this vast region, and why tribal society has endured.

Book Information

Paperback: 482 pages

Publisher: University of California Press (December 19, 1991)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0520074955

ISBN-13: 978-0520074958

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #678,822 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #291 in Â Books > History > Middle East > Iran #4808 in Â Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Anthropology > Cultural

Customer Reviews

This is one of those unforgettable books, that mark one, and that 50 years on, one will still remember. Such was the impact of Lois Beck's study of the Qashqa'i tribesmen, and in particular one headman and his family, struggling to maintain their ancient way of life in increasingly difficult and antagonistic circumstances. Transhumance (or this particular sort of seasonal human & livestock migration) has been a way of life going back to pre-historic times. Half way through this thick book, I felt passionately absorbed and involved with the minutiae of Borzu's family's life, angry with the ethnic Iranians (authorities and civilians who did nothing to protect or help these people but on the contrary encroached increasingly on the Qashqa'i's lands, enslaved them with debt, and perpetrated other injustices). This book highlights above all the great need to protect and nurture ethnic minorities, against the encroachments of majority ethnic groups, and to constantly re-assess changing needs and developments in situ. Lois Beck has done the Qashqa'i an immeasurably great service. I salute her scholarship, her great compassion, and amazing ability to bring alive what is to most of us a very remote way of life. I hope this book was read widely in Iran and by the authorities there.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Nomad: A Year In the Life of a Qashqa'i Tribesman in Iran Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility -- Iran, Israel, and U.S. Foreign Policy (Iran, Israel and U.S. Foreign Policy Book 39) The Translator: A Tribesman's Memoir of Darfur The Translator: A Tribesman's Memoir of Darfur (Basic) Bedouins of Qatar (Carlsberg Foundation's Nomad Research Project) Nomad Sanctuary (Nomad Book 2) Star Nomad: Fallen Empire, Book 1 The Twilight War: The Secret History of America's Thirty-Year Conflict with Iran Life Coaching: Life Coaching Blueprint: Save A Life One Person At A Time (BONUS 30MINUTE Life Coaching Session- How To Motivate, Inspire, Change Your Life) Undiscovered Minimalism: Gelims from Northern Iran Tribal rugs: An introduction to the weaving of the tribes of Iran The Kidney Sellers: A Journey of Discovery in Iran Guests of the Ayatollah: The Iran Hostage Crisis: The First Battle in America's War with Militant Islam Right to Passage: Travels through India, Pakistan and Iran Revolutionary Iran: A History of the Islamic Republic Confronting Iran: The Failure of American Foreign Policy and the Next Great Crisis in the Middle East A History of Modern Iran Cotton, Climate, and Camels in Early Islamic Iran: A Moment in World History Understanding Iran: Everything You Need to Know, From Persia to the Islamic Republic, From Cyrus to Khamenei

[Dmca](#)