

u andirhóit kwalittán
 nāye dōr sbādeyān
 tó uhī kwiréb āki hōgān
 ū kōlāi bifāqīdēt

35. During the war (1917-18) cotton reached a very high price at Tokar. People made money and spent it too. A certain man had a mistress and one evening she dropped in the dark her nose ring. Her lover took matches from his pocket but they gave insufficient light. So he made a spill of a ten pound note and using it as a torch he found the ring. He describes in the Habsit the pleasure it gave him to see her front teeth that flashed out like the lightning in the north.

iyāme baītīt mīnda
 fīrhā gandō ekātiet
 tākwile šābhén ériwāg ōmahfb
 tālāu ē Sām yiisnīb

DIACRITICAL MARKS.

- š = sh in English she.
 ṭ d = praecacuminal *t* and *d* (pronounced with the tip of the tongue curled upwards and backwards to its utmost).
 ə = the obscure vōwel, e.g. thə man; much used in Bedawiet between two adjacent consonants, e.g. eedəna, for eedna.
 ē = French *ê* with diphthongish tendency to *ei*.
 = vowel long.
 = vowel very short.
 = tonic accent or stress.
 = diphthong.
 = hamza; glottal stop.
 = occlusive final consonant not followed by the normal explosion of breath; the effect is to render voiced consonants indistinguishable from their unvoiced partners, especially *-b* sounds like *-p*, *-d* like *-t*, and *-g* like *-k*.
 Double consonants are pronounced distinctly separate as in Arabic.

THE RAIK DINKA OF BAHR EL GHAZAL PROVINCE.

By Major G. W. Titherington.

PLATES XV—XXV.

CHAPTER I.

THE RACE.

1. "DINKA" is the anglicized form of the Arabic Denkowi—Jangowi—Jangi. Moing Jang is their own name for their tribe, and anywhere but in Africa they would be a nation, both from their numbers and the extent of the country they inhabit.

The Dinka show us pre-historic man at home in the twentieth century as uncontaminated by outside influence as any race that can be found in the world to-day. They are an increasing people, flourishing, virile, pastoral, and in the early Iron Age. They number about a million persons.

2. EXTENT.

From the Bahr el Arab, in the south of Darfur, 400 miles south-eastwards to the Nile about Bor, a strip about 100 miles wide is all Dinka country. From Bor northwards on the east of the Nile as far as Renk (70 years ago, it is said, as far as Sennar), but with a large intervening wedge of Nuer about the Sobat and Bahr el Zeraf rivers, belongs to them. They stretch north of the Bahr el Arab into Kordofan and occur again north of the Bahr el Ghazal river.

3. HISTORY.

Throughout this vast area the same language and customary social system prevail, but with the local variations which are expected where little national consciousness and no written language exist and there is small reason for distant inter-communication. Modifications introduced by contact with neighbours are slight (although they exist), while the national character is conservatively resistant to such.

That they ever had one supreme head like their cousins, the Shilluk, is unlikely, and they have no tradition of it; but there can be no doubt that their social system and personal outlook, as we so lately found it,

clans were concerned, or, worse, different divisions, it might smoulder on for years. Only recently the Government got peace made between the Loing Jang and Agar. The feud had been so long and bitter that no attempt was made to balance the tale of killed and injured, nor of cattle raided, and no blood price was demanded by anyone. This was entirely spontaneous and not a Government suggestion. As a result, when Agar girls now marry into the Loing Jang, their fathers sometimes receive their own cattle in the bride-price—a strange conquest of reason over traditional prejudice.

8. HUNTING AND FISHING.

Game, big and small, is plentiful in the Raik country, and, except by a few professional hunters, it is little molested. Men travelling are ever ready with spear or throwing-club for anything they may come upon suddenly, and a meal is often got in this way when an oribi, duiker or civet cat gives a chance. Occasionally a party of young men with dogs will run down a waterbuck after rain, when the surface is soft; but the most killing methods are the various snares set for the beasts. A pit is dug at their landing-place for hippo, but they are not attacked in the water; a party of Manganerr, whose speciality this is, will be allowed to kill hippo in a Raik pool on a shares basis. Elephant are got by waiting up trees for them to come underneath, when they are speared behind the head with a heavy iron harpoon and a log to weight it. At times, young men will attack elephant on the ground with spears, out of bravado, but they are not killed thus.

Giraffe are driven in thick bush along a prepared fence to gaps where heavy nooses of raw hide are spread, and a party of spearmen lie hid. If a lion has killed a human, or becomes a nuisance to stock, it is deliberately hunted down and killed with spears, although some of the ring of men are sure to be mauled. What enables them to rise to this height of courage is the absolute dependence they are able to place on the support of their brothers by blood or initiation. Rhino, if they come near inhabited places, are shepherded away by a war party, on account of their dangerous habits, but are considered too invulnerable for attack.

The log dead-fall is not a Raik trap, but has been borrowed from further south. It is set in a narrow path in the Rains, and may slay