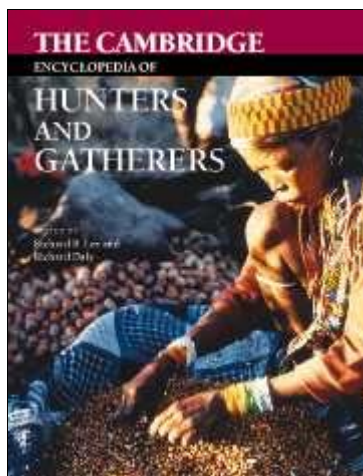


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**The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Hunters and Gatherers**

Edited by: Richard B. Lee, University of Toronto

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Hunting and gathering is humanity's first and most successful adaptation. Until 12,000 years ago, all humanity lived this way. Surprisingly, in an increasingly urbanized and technological world dozens of hunting and gathering societies have persisted and thrive worldwide, resilient in the face of change, their ancient ways now combined with the trappings of modernity. The Encyclopedia is divided into three parts. The first contains case studies, by leading experts, of over fifty hunting and gathering peoples, in seven major world regions. There is a general introduction and an archaeological overview for each region. Part II contains thematic essays on prehistory, social life, gender, music and art, health, religion, and indigenous knowledge. The final part surveys the complex histories of hunter-gatherers' encounters with colonialism and the state, and their ongoing struggles for dignity and human rights as part of the worldwide movement of indigenous peoples.

Reviews

'Any collection supporting the study of culture will need this book.'

'This is the most voluminous source available on modern hunter-gatherer societies with many excellent and readily accessible contributions.'

'The encyclopedia sheds a respectful and objective light on the Earth's indigenous peoples, who look to the future as well as to the past.'

'A gold mine of information ... there is something in this volume for everyone. Scholars of religion will certainly find a wealth of information on mythology,

cosmology, ritual practice, and sacred art. This is a book that should be on the reference shelf of every academic library catering to the needs of social scientists and humanists.'

'This is an important and fascinating work. The numerous black-and-white photographs, drawings, and maps are excellent and well placed. The bibliographies at the end of each chapter, along with filmographies of the various native groups, are convenient springboards for further research.'

'The case studies are thorough and should provide anthropologists, and those with a specific interest in hunter-gathering society, with an excellent insight into the history, culture and society of the peoples ... excellent resource or scholars. It has been well researched and written, allowing the reader to undertake a serious study of the few remaining hunter gathering people in the world in the twenty-first century.'

'The Cambridge Encyclopaedia of Hunters and Gatherers gives a wealth of information on this important basic way of life ... this is a handy and clearly arranged work that gives a lot of information and references. what strikes is that this encyclopaedia is not just a dry work to search for information bit it is also well written and really enjoyable to read.'

'... contributes significantly to our understanding of the decision-making and flexibility of foragers in a changing world, and also the particular contribution of southern African groups towards a universal application and understanding of forager ideology and social relations ... images bring to life the places and people described in the text. It is a scholarly work, but aimed at a wide audience ... stimulating and highly readable text.'

'As a general introduction to the field of hunter-gather studies, this encyclopaedia is an invaluable resource. Each chapter contains extensive reading lists to guide the general student towards further studies. The introduction to the volume is incomparable. ... This introduction alone would be an excellent resource for undergraduate anthropology students. ... This extensive piece of work, containing 128 illustrations and sixteen maps, is a must for any anthropological bookshelf, providing an introduction to specific hunter-gather groups, and presenting some of the most recent ideas in hunter-gatherer studies.'

"This is the most voluminous source available on modern hunter-gatherer societies with many excellent and readily accessible contributions." --Thomas Widlok, *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*

"...the encyclopedia sheds a respectful and objective light on the Earth's indigenous peoples, who look to the future as well as to the past." Margaret Smith

"...a gold mine of information...there is something in this volume for everyone.

Scholars of religion will certainly find a wealth of information on mythology, cosmology, ritual practice, and sacred art. This is a book that should be on the reference shelf of every academic library catering to the needs of social scientists and humanists." *Religious Studies Review*

"This is an important and fascinating work. The numerous black-and-white photographs, drawings, and maps are excellent and well placed. The bibliographies at the end of each chapter, along with filmographies of the various native groups, are convenient springboards for further research." -- *American Reference Books Annual*

"This work is a commendable ethnographic overview of global hunters and gatherers."
Robert S. Walker, University of New Mexico, *Journal of Anthropological Research*

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