

Heading towards extinction? Indigenous rights in Africa: the case of the Twa of the Kahuzi-Biega National Park, Democratic Republic of Congo. (Applied Anthropology)

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BARUME, ALBERT KWOKWO. Heading towards extinction? Indigenous rights in Africa: the case of the Twa of the Kahuzi-Biega National Park, Democratic Republic of Congo. 142 pp., maps, plates, bibliogr. Copenhagen: Intnat. Work Grp. for Indigenous Affairs, 2000

This important and timely book focuses on the situation of the Twa Pygmies of the Kahuzi-Biega forests and National Park in South Kivu Province, Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the former Zaire. It documents some of the many abuses they have suffered and the continued discrimination they experience today. Relevant international human rights norms are explained and listed along with current approaches to conservation that emphasize the integration of indigenous people into park management on their traditional lands rather than their exclusion. This is an advocacy document that considers political economy, anthropology, history, and legal developments in the light of the Twa situation around Kahuzi-Biega.

The book is part of the excellent IWGIA Report series documenting the situations of indigenous peoples from around the world. It is highly effective in its understated but detailed examination of some of the outrageous injustices experienced by the Twa of Kahuzi-Biega when they were expelled from their traditional forests to make way for a national park between 1967 and the 1980s. Barume is uniquely qualified for this...

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The Kahuzi-Biega National Park is located near Bukavu Town in the eastern part of the DRC, within the province of South Kivu, and is named after two extinct volcanoes called the Kahuzi and the Biega. In total, the national park covers 6,000 sq. km of forest. The average annual temperature is around fourteen degrees Celsius and the annual rainfall is 1,800 mm. The vegetation in the park ranges from wet lowland rain fores, transitional rainforest, and Afromontane vegetation dominated by tree heathers (Sayer, 1992). The near extinction of lowland gorillas, which had fallen to 16,000 individuals at 'Heading towards Extinction? Indigenous rights in Africa: the case of the Twa of the Kahuzi Biega National Park, Democratic Republic of Congo.', IWGIA Document 101. Copenhagen: International Working Group on Indigenous Affairs / Forest Peoples Programme, 2000, 142 pp., US\$14.00, ISBN 87 90730 31 3. Alan Barnard (a1). (a1). University of Edinburgh. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3366/afr.2002.72.1.172>. Published online by Cambridge University Press: 03 March 2011. Please use the Get access link above for information on how to access this content. Copyright. COPYRIGHT: © International African Institute 2002. Recommend this journal. Email your librarian or administrator to recommend adding this journal to your organisation's collection. Africa. ISSN: 0001-9720.