

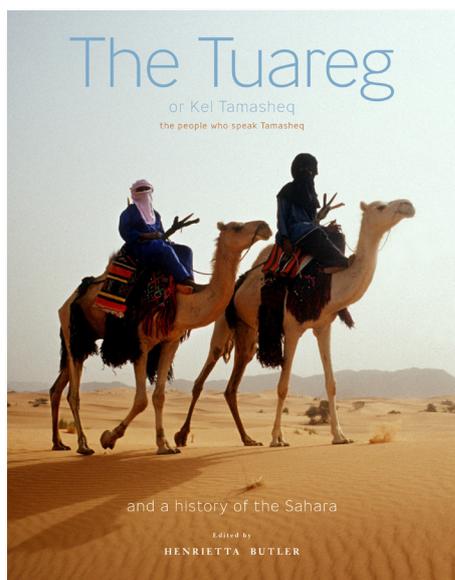
# The Tuareg

*Kel Tamasheq, the people who speak Tamasheq, and a History of the Sahara*

Henrietta Butler



Unicorn Press Ltd



**Date of publication:** 4th June 2015

**ISBN:** 978-1-906509-309

**Trim size:** 207 x 210 mm

**Price:** £30.00

**Extent:** 208 pp

**Binding style:** Paperback with extended flaps

**Details of illustration:** 60+ images in colour, archive documents, maps and drawings

## Key Sales Points

- Beautifully illustrated book that accompanied the exhibition at The Royal Geographical Society in June 2015 and Royal Scottish Geographical Society in Perth in September 2015, with more dates and venues to be confirmed.
- An extraordinary history of a largely unknown area and people of Africa.
- With an introduction by Robin Hanbury-Tenison, a preface by Justin Marozzi, essays by Jeremy Swift, Mohamed Aghali-Zakara, Pierre Boilley and Berny Sèbe, and photographs and the work of Edmond Bernus, Suzanne Bernus, Henrietta Butler, Jean-Marc Durou, Ghoubëid Alojaly, Akli Sh'kka, Francis Rennell Rodd and Henri Delord

## Description

Romanticised as mysterious 'people of the veil', with an historic reputation too as fearsome warriors, the Tuareg were the guardians of the Sahara for over a thousand years. Surviving in one of the most pitiless and inhospitable terrains on earth, they controlled the lucrative caravan trading routes until 19th and 20th century colonisation subjugated them. Current global politics and the rise of political Islam, jihadism and terrorism has further fragmented their society and way of life harshly. Yet the unique and distinctive Tuareg culture, with its ancient Tifinagh script and traditions of proverbs, poetry and song - and strict behavioural codes - remains powerful despite the pressures on this proud race.

This timely and inspiring book tells the story of what has happened in the Sahara and what is happening today. It is a story constantly misunderstood and misrepresented but revealed and described here with absolute authority and sympathy. The accompanying photographs capture the grandeur of the Sahara and the elegant, resourceful Tuareg.

The photographer Henrietta Butler has assembled a team of renowned experts whose common theme is above all their passionate interest in these marginalised peoples who now find their way of life and culture so challenged.

## About the Author

Former Guardian photographer Henrietta Butler first met the Tuareg in 2001 when she covered the Cure Salée festival in northern Niger, for *Guardian Travel*. She has continued to return to the area and to the Tuareg region of Algeria for the past 14 years - areas now under high security, firmly in foreign offices' 'red zones', with tourism dead.

In 2002 Henrietta shared the exhibition *Desert Nomads* with Sir Wilfred Thesiger, and curated his photographs for this. She has also worked for the BBC, The Royal Shakespeare Company, The Royal Opera House, Oxford Film and TV, and *The Independent on Saturday* and *The Sunday Times* magazines.

## Publicity & Marketing

- "Captivating photography...a fascinating read and an amazing culture", *Notting Hill Post* June 2015
- "A beautiful and startling book", *African Banker* Sept 2015
- "Sumptuous...more of an historical and anthropological study than a photographic collection per se, but the images are fascinating" *Royal Photographic Society Journal* Oct 2015
- "An expert team of contributors shed new light on the Tuareg ...this wonderful book reveals a little-known people and their intriguing and vibrant culture", *Outdoor Photography* 'Book of the month' Oct 2015



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**Distribution**  
Marston Book Services  
160 Eastern Avenue  
Milton Park,  
Oxfordshire  
OX14 4SB

T +44 (0)1235 465500  
F +44 (0)1235 465555  
Orders: [trade@marston.co.uk](mailto:trade@marston.co.uk)  
Enquiries: [enq@marston.co.uk](mailto:enq@marston.co.uk)