The Gebusi

One of the most popular anthropological case studies published in the last two decades

The latest edition of The Gebusi incorporates important new fieldwork and includes updated sections at the end of individual chapters, bringing a riveting story fully up to date. Readers are welcomed into the lives of Papua New Guinea rainforest dwellers to witness a dramatic arc of cultural change and human transformation.

When Knauf first studied them, Gebusi practiced powerful spirit sessions and sorcery divinations, held resplendent initiations that included distinctive sexual customs, and endured high rates of violence. Sixteen years later, he found them participating in market activity, schooling, government programs, and sports; performing their own popular music; and practicing Christianity. More recently, Gebusi have been battered by economic hardship and withdrawal of government services—but have admirably revitalized their culture and livelihood. Sustained by traditions, access to land and waterways, and a keen sense of humor and vitality, Gebusi exhibit resilience and dignity amid conditions of continuing uncertainty and change.

Introduction: In Search of Surprise
Broader Connections: Cultural Anthropology

PART ONE: 1980–1982
- Trends in the Capital
- Market Exchange and Culture
- Births of Survival
- Broader Connections: Substance, Health, and Language
- Lives of Death
- Broader Connections: Life Stories, Social Life, and "Doing Ethnography"
- Getting Along with Jin and Kina
- Broader Connections: Groups, Marriage, and Social Organization
- Spirits, Sex, and Celebration
- Broader Connections: Masculinity and Gender
- Ultimate Splendor
- Broader Connections: Ritual Initiation and Life-Cycle Transitions

PART TWO: 1998
- Time for Change: Yuway’s Sacred Decision
- Broader Connections: Seculural and Religious Change
- Pennies and Peanuts, Rugby and Radios
- Broader Connections: Markets, Development, and Modern Aspirations
- Mysterious Romance, Martial Choice
- Broader Connections: Ethical Challenges, Agency, and "Compassionate Marriage"
- Say’s Dance and After
- Broader Connections: Notionhood, Ethnicity, and Folklore

PART THREE: Three Decades of Cultural Change
- Closer, Closer, Further Away: Revival and Independence
- Broader Connections: Cultural Survival, Development, and Applied Anthropology
- The Larger Future
- Broader Connections: Globalization, Political Economy, and the Future of Culture

Instructor’s resource materials available online
On-site instruction videos & extensive image bank linked to each chapter available on author’s website: www.bruceknauft.com
See ebook options: www.waveland.com

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An absorbing, well-written, and humanistic account based on profound scholarship, The Gebusi, 4/E includes end-of-chapter Broader Connections that link Gebusi experiences to major anthropological topics—subsistence, kinship and marriage, politics, religion, gender and sexuality, ethnicity, nationalism, modernity, and the ethics of engaged and applied anthropology.

Sixty photos, including twenty in a stunning full-color insert, accentuate Knauf’s absorbing narrative. Callouts to new instructional videos recorded with Gebusi and an extensive online image bank on the author’s website enrich the ethnography.

237 pages, value priced to students at $29.95
ISBN 978-1-4786-3003-6  paperback
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