



Roots and Routes: Karretjie People of the Great Karoo: Marginalisation of a South African First People

By Michael De Jongh

Unisa Press, South Africa, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. New.. 277 x 234 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. The lives of a previously invisible and forgotten first people of South Africa come to the fore in this carefully researched study. The Karretjie People (Donkey Cart People) of the Great Karoo are direct descendants of the /Xam (San/Bushmen), who were the earliest inhabitants of much of the Karoo interior. Today, as itinerant sheep-shearers, the Karretjie People roam the arid expanses of the Karoo in their donkey carts in search of a possible shearing opportunity, sleeping over on the roadside in their make-shift overnight shelters. This unique study is the result of several decades of original research into the lives and community of these gypsy-like wanderers, and highlights the plight of this marginalised South African community, poorest of the poor . The ingenious adaptation of the Karretjie People to particularly trying circumstances and their challenging environment is illustrated by their unique way of life. In a reader-friendly narrative Mike de Jongh not only makes the story of the Karretjie People accessible to the general reader, but offers a deeper insight into the early history and environment of the Great Karoo....



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