

PREFACE

This volume reports the results of recent researches carried out mostly between 1990 and 1995, on the social, ecological, and linguistic aspects of the !Gui and ||Gana San (Basarwa) residing in the Xade Area within the Central Kalahari Game Reserve, Republic of Botswana. The goal of the researches reported herein has been to build further on past research by systematically elucidating the livelihood, economics, social relations, face-to-face interactions, and language of the !Gui and ||Gana who are currently undergoing extremely rapid cultural transformations.

All of the papers compiled in this volume were written by Japanese anthropologists and linguists who have collaborated in three different projects financially supported by the Grant-in-aid for Scientific Research (International Academic Research) from the Ministry of Education, Science, and Culture, Japan: *A Study of Ecological Anthropology on the Consistency and Change in Traditional Societies of Africa (1988-1990)*, *Ethnic Diversity in the Kalahari and Its Ecotone (1995-1997)*, both of which were organized by J. Tanaka, and *Anthropological Study of Changing Socio-ecology of the San (1992-1994)* organized by K. Sugawara.

We hope that this volume will contribute to the advancement of the wide-ranging studies on the San hunter-gatherers, as well as aid in the formulation of future policies concerning the !Gui and ||Gana, and lead to their future development and further enhancement of their welfare.

We thank the Office of the President of the Republic of Botswana for so generously providing us the research permission. We would also like to express our profound appreciation for the generous support given to us by government institutions of the Xade and Ghanzi, especially the District Commissioner of Ghanzi, the Remote Area Development Programme, Ministry of Local Government, Lands and Housing, the Wildlife Conservation Department, and the staff of the Xade Primary School. We are very grateful to Professor Ansu Datta, Director of the National Institute for Development Research and Documentation, University of Botswana, who offered opportunities for valuable discussion. Thanks are also due to Dr. Trefor Jenkins, Professor of the South African Institute for Medical Research, Witwatersrand University, for his everlasting help and friendship. We owe a special vote of thanks to Mr. Shunsuke Goto and Mrs. Jane Goto, African Vision Safaris and Film Network, Gaborone, who kindly helped us to apply for research and residence permits. We are also greatly indebted to the staff of Toyota Motor Corporation Johannesburg, who arranged for the vehicles. We are very grateful to Mr. Kimikazu Sakamoto, Marubeni Corporation Johannesburg for his hospitality and encouragement. Finally we wish to express our hearty thanks to many !Gui and ||Gana friends, especially to our research assistants, Messrs. Daonguu, Kenta, ||Khou||noo, !Nuosie, Cheremā-!kaoxo, Cioxokx'ane, and Gyem, for their warm cooperation, generosity, and patience.

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