

The challenges of differences of worldview between agricultural and pastoralist societies for sensitive transformation

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REAP

Rural
Extension with
Africa's
Poor





Canada's Forced Schooling of Aboriginal Children Was 'Cultural Genocide,' Report Finds

Aboriginal Canadians were forced to attend boarding schools like this one in the Northwest Territories, shown around 1936.





New York Times JUNE 2, 2015

OTTAWA — Canada’s former policy of forcibly removing aboriginal children from their families for schooling “can best be described as ‘cultural genocide.’ ”

That is the conclusion reached by the country’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission after six years of intensive research, including 6,750 interviews. The commission published a summary version on Tuesday of what will ultimately be a multivolume report, documenting widespread physical, cultural and sexual abuse at government-sponsored residential schools that Indian, Inuit and other indigenous children were forced to attend.

The schools, financed by the government but run largely by churches, were in operation for more than a century, from 1883 until the last one closed in 1998.



A difficult Question to consider

Is Western Education (Schooling) in danger of being Cultural imperialism by majority agricultural communities on pastoralist values and lifestyles?



Worldview

“Basic assumptions about reality which lie behind the beliefs and behaviour of a culture”



Worldview

- People perceive the world differently
- They make different assumptions about reality
- Normally taken for granted within the culture
- Largely unexamined within the culture
- Implicit

So few people think about the fact that others may have a significantly different worldview



Ethnocentrism

Ethnocentrism is the normal emotional response people have when they confront another culture for the first time.

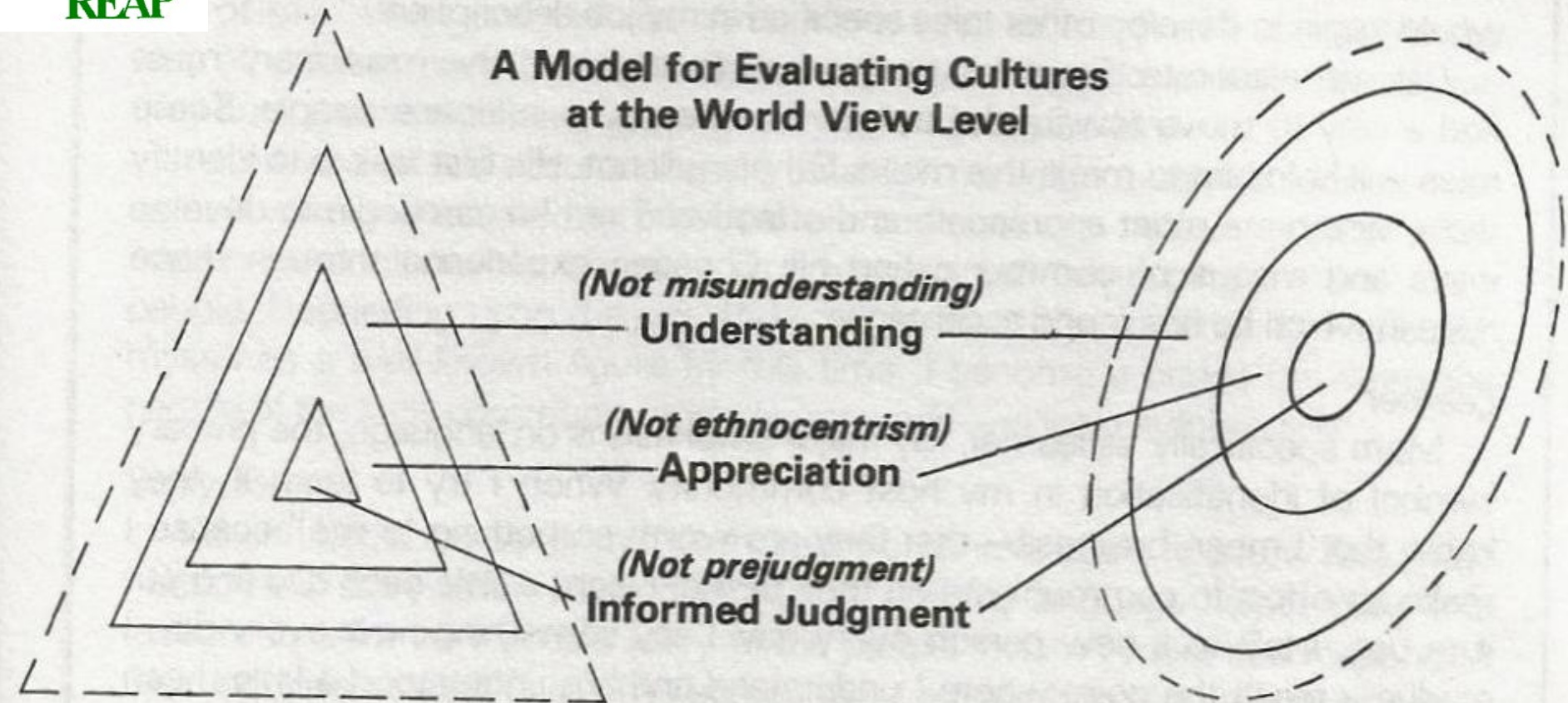
When we are confronted by another culture (and especially another worldview), our own is called into question. Our defence is to avoid the issue by concluding that our culture is better and other people are less civilised.



Empathy: The solution to Ethnocentrism

Evaluating Other Cultures

A Model for Evaluating Cultures at the World View Level



Remember: we should not judge another culture by the values of our own culture. Rather we need to judge it by 1) a bicultural evaluation scale that is detached from both and evaluates both, and by 2) the Scriptures and God's revelation.

From Paul G. Hiebert, "Anthropological Tools for Missionaries" (Singapore: Haggai Institute, 1983), p. 13.



A Biblical Challenge

What does it mean to Love your Neighbour as Yourself?

“Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but **love your neighbour as yourself**. I am the LORD.” Lev 19:18

- a. Most of us apply this assuming he/she has the same worldview as ourselves
- b. We need to try and understand his/her worldview and try to think what he/she would like
- c. This brings a real challenge for a genuinely Christian response in a cross-cultural situation



Four Basic Means of Production

Hunter/ Gatherers	Pastoralists
Hoe Agriculture	Plough and/or Irrigated Agriculture





Four Basic Means of Production





TRUTH EVERY DAY

Daily Monitor

Friday February 26, 2016

“Contrary to what some people think, the Karimojong embrace opportunities that enhance their livelihood and lifestyles such as using phones to scout for water and pasture. **The challenge is that they are misunderstood and most interventions aim to change them ‘to be like us’.** As Minority Rights Group states, “pastoralists are made to fit into services, instead of services made to fit into the pastoralists livelihood system’ (MRG, 2013).”



Case Study

Conflict In Mundri County,
South Sudan

A clash of Worldviews





Conflict in Mundri

A clash of Worldviews

Each side genuinely sees its way of life as superior to the other or the others as inferior

“poor people; they have no cattle – no life”

“backward, dirty people living in the open and sleeping with their animals”



Not a new problem

Genesis 46:33-34

33 When Pharaoh calls you in and asks, ‘What is your occupation?’

34 you should answer, ‘Your servants have tended livestock from our boyhood on, just as our fathers did.’ Then you will be allowed to settle in the region of Goshen, *for all shepherds are detestable to the Egyptians.*”

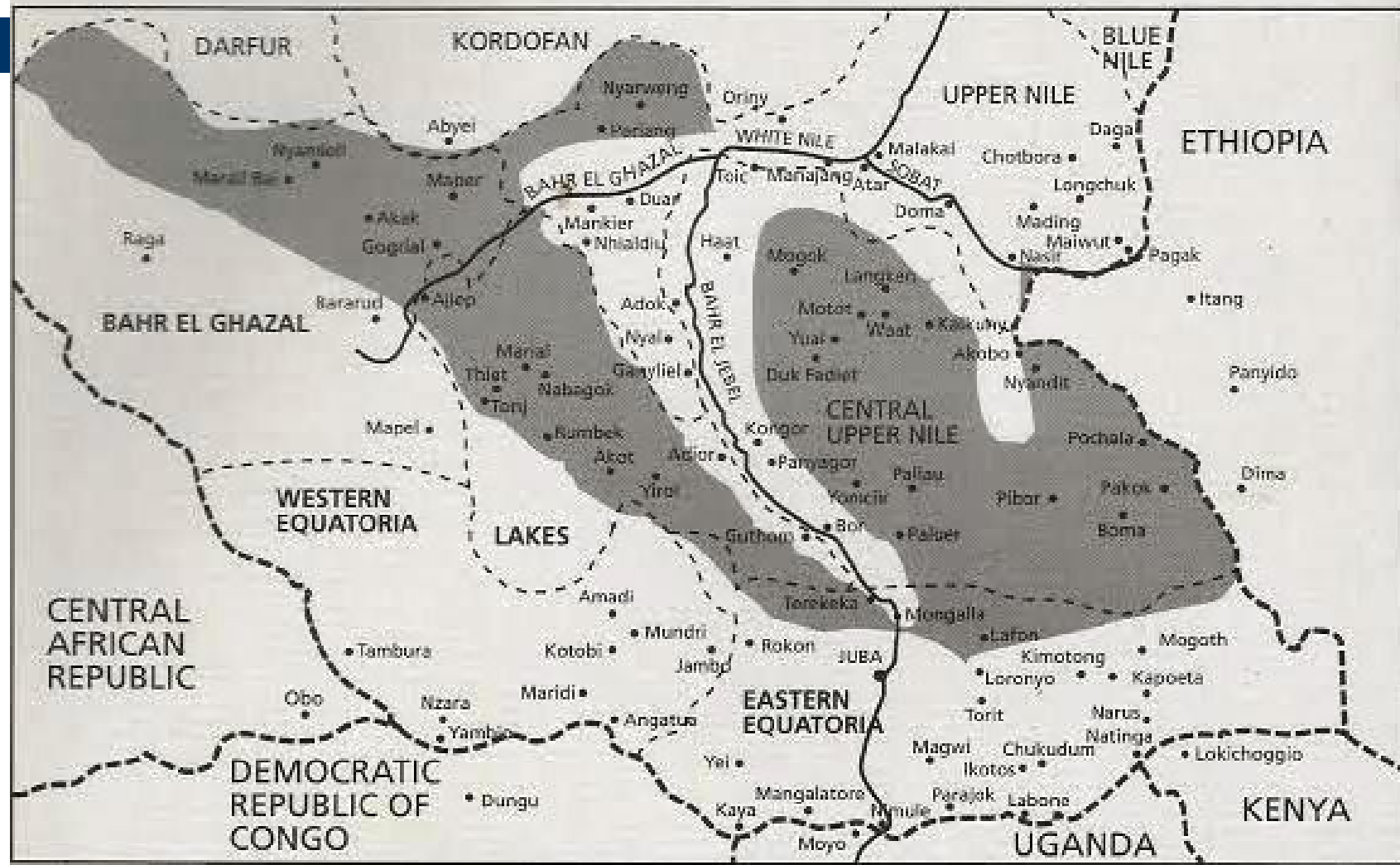
Background to South Sudan Pastoralism







THE FLOOD PLAINS FOOD ECONOMY ZONE





Normal Annual Flooding in Upper Nile



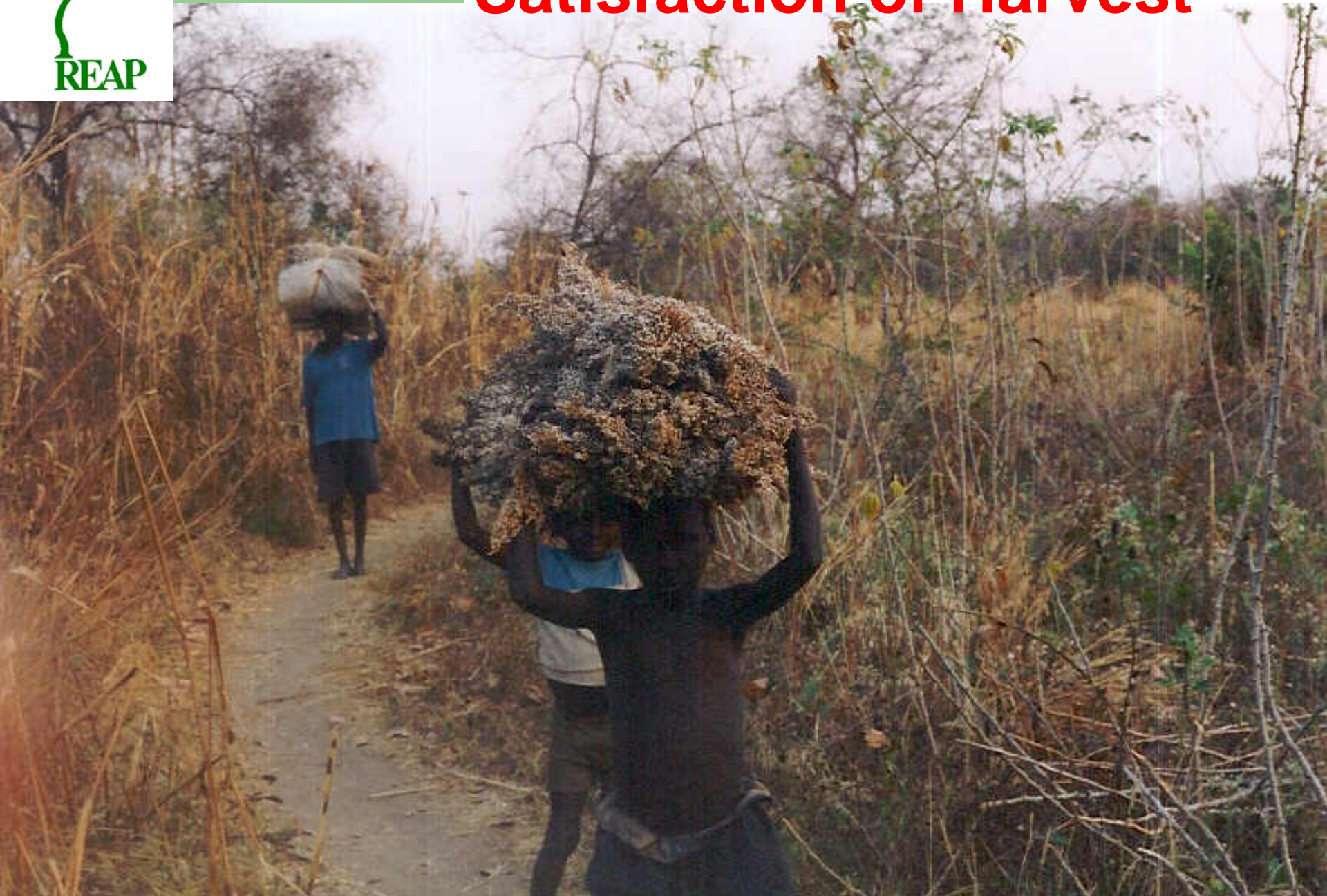


Is this Paradise or Hell?





Satisfaction of Harvest

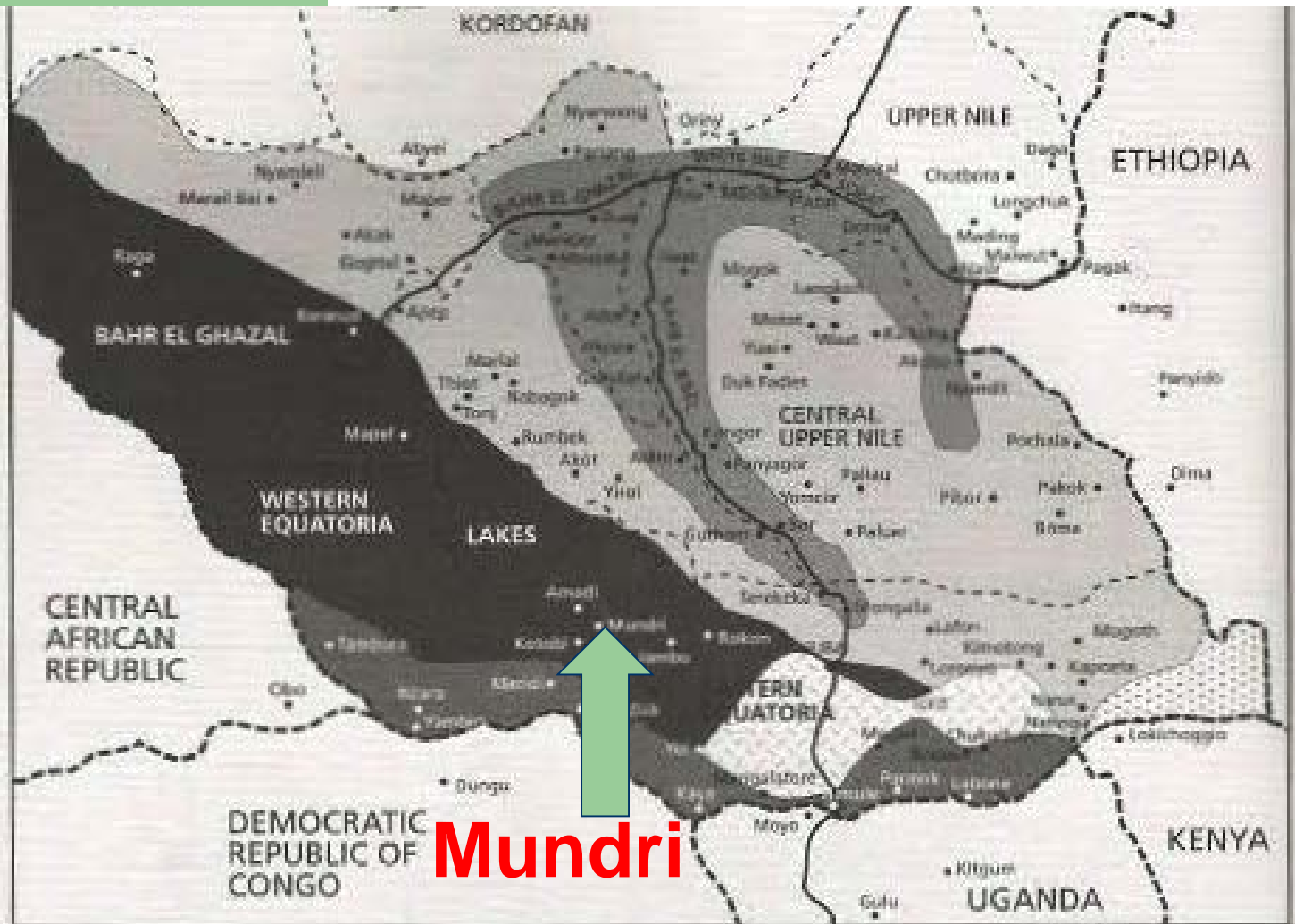







The satisfaction of the Song Bull



Location of Mundri



-  Ironstone Plateau - predominantly agriculture: some livestock
-  Arid Zone - high reliance on trade
-  Nile and Sobat Corridor - high reliance on cattle and fish

-  Green Belt - exclusively agriculture
-  Hills and Mountains - mixed options
-  Flood Plains - high reliance on cattle



Conflict in Mundri



Interventions with unforeseen consequences

Borne out of failure to understand both the present situation and history

Trypanosomiasis and Tsetse fly distribution

Area of South Sudan in which Tsetse Flies are active



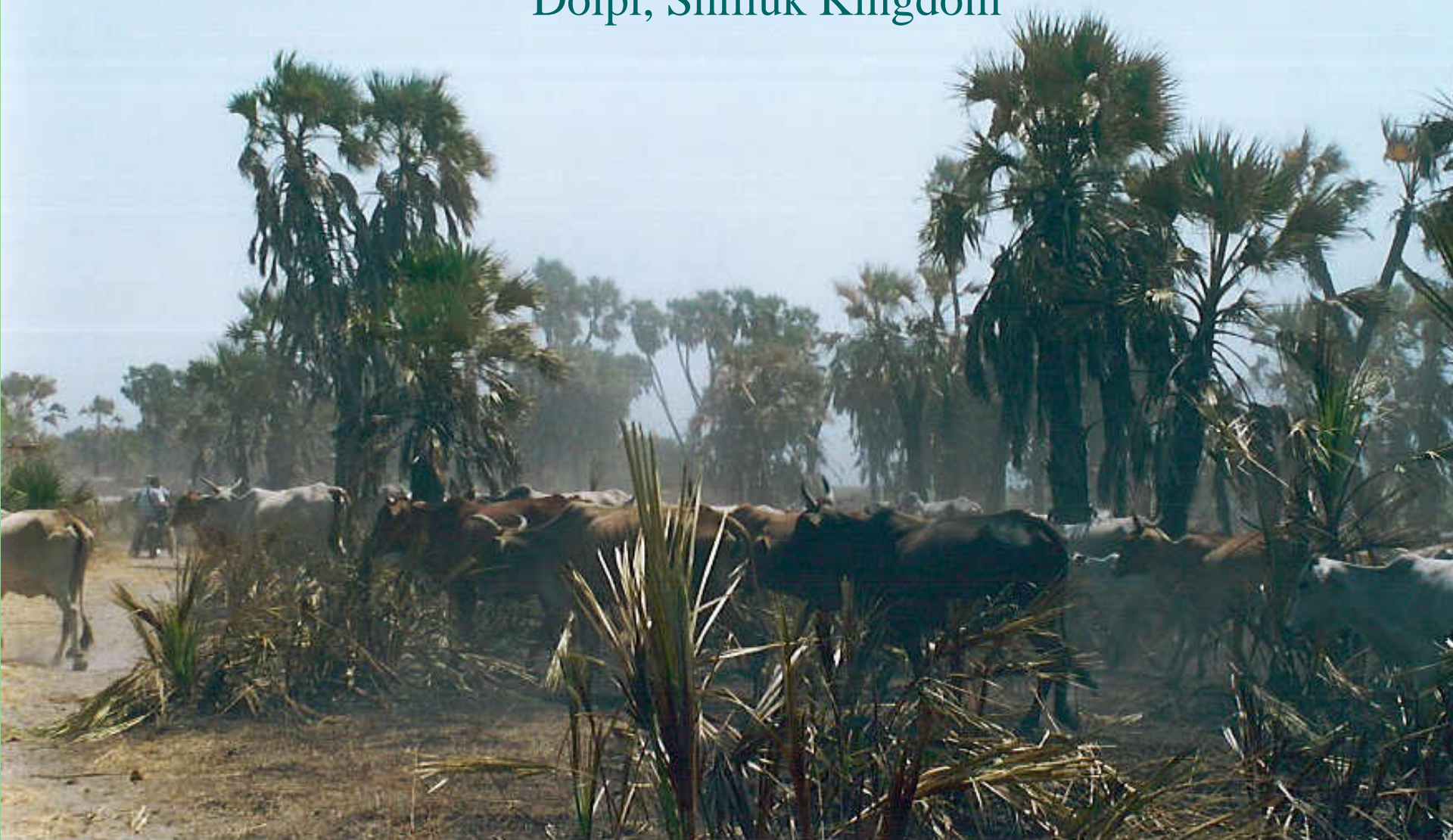


Pastoralists and Agriculturalists can live side by side and come to mutually beneficial agreements
Dolpi, Shilluk Kingdom





Pastoralists and Agriculturalists can live side by side and come to mutually beneficial agreements
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Contrast with the East African situation where pastoralists marginalised

- Pressure on land by agriculturalists threatens pastoralist way of life
- Coping mechanisms are eroded as land taken for agriculture
- Long term negative effect of short term relief leading to dependency



Education or just Schooling?

What is education?

Education is the process of facilitating learning, or the acquisition of knowledge, skills, values, beliefs, and habits.



The Gods must be crazy



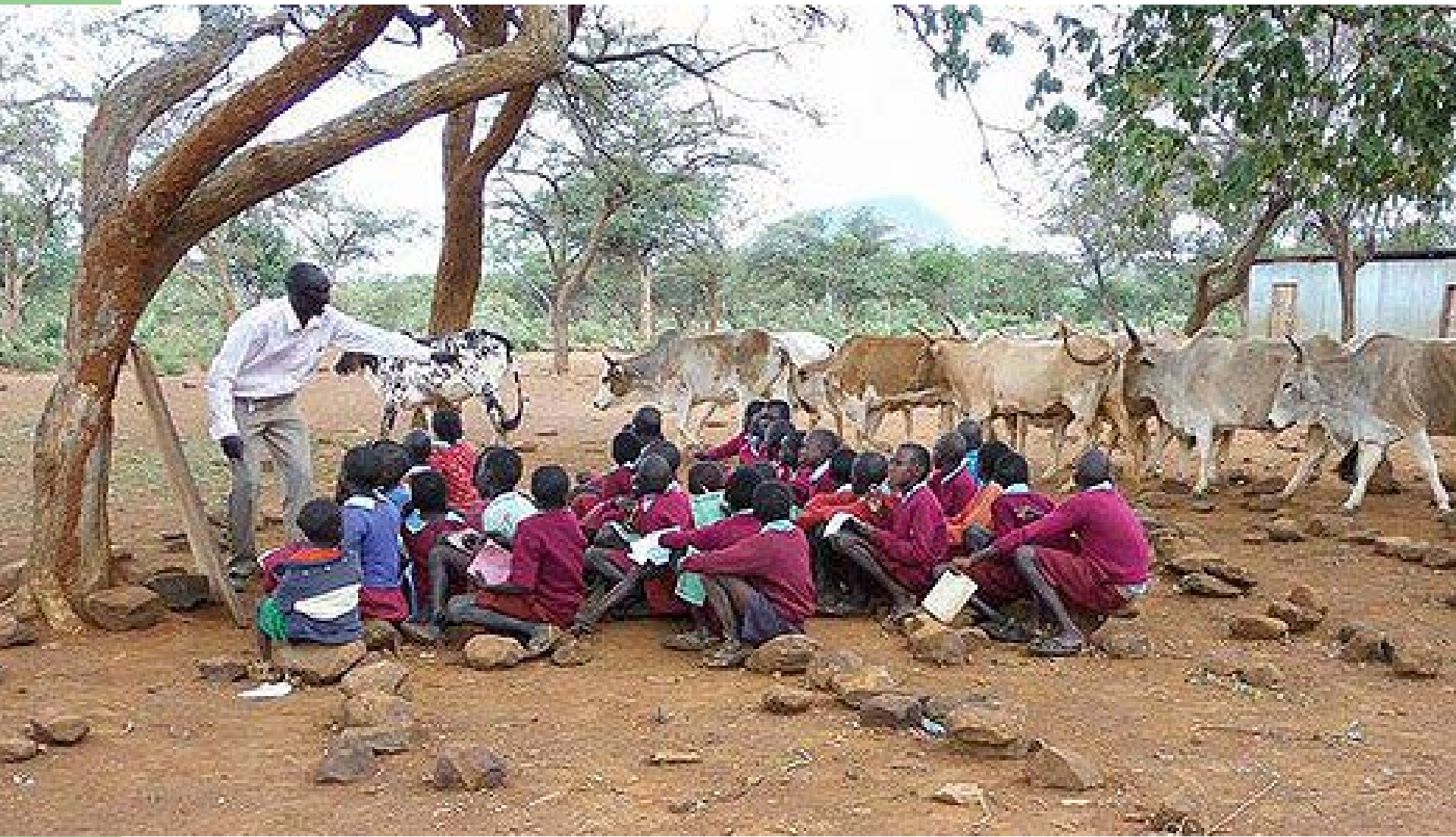


School Curriculum

When thinking of the relevance of a curriculum we need to think of many factors:

- ***Origins of the curriculum***
- ***Purpose of the curriculum***
- ***Development of the curriculum***
- ***Relevance of the curriculum***

Buildings or Trees?





**If you are used to the open air
life.....**







A diverging society

***Some contrasts observed by a Dinka Bishop
of his own people***

Trousers	Jelabia
Cultivation	Cows / milk
School	Cattle camp
Inside the church building	Sit outside looking in



Conflict of values in Western Education

- Schooling is designed to promote Personal Advancement and Self Interest
- Me rather than us



Conflict in the student

- Conflict with the culture
- Conflict between expectations of the community v expectations raised through the study



Let's be relevant and remember the Four Basic Means of Production





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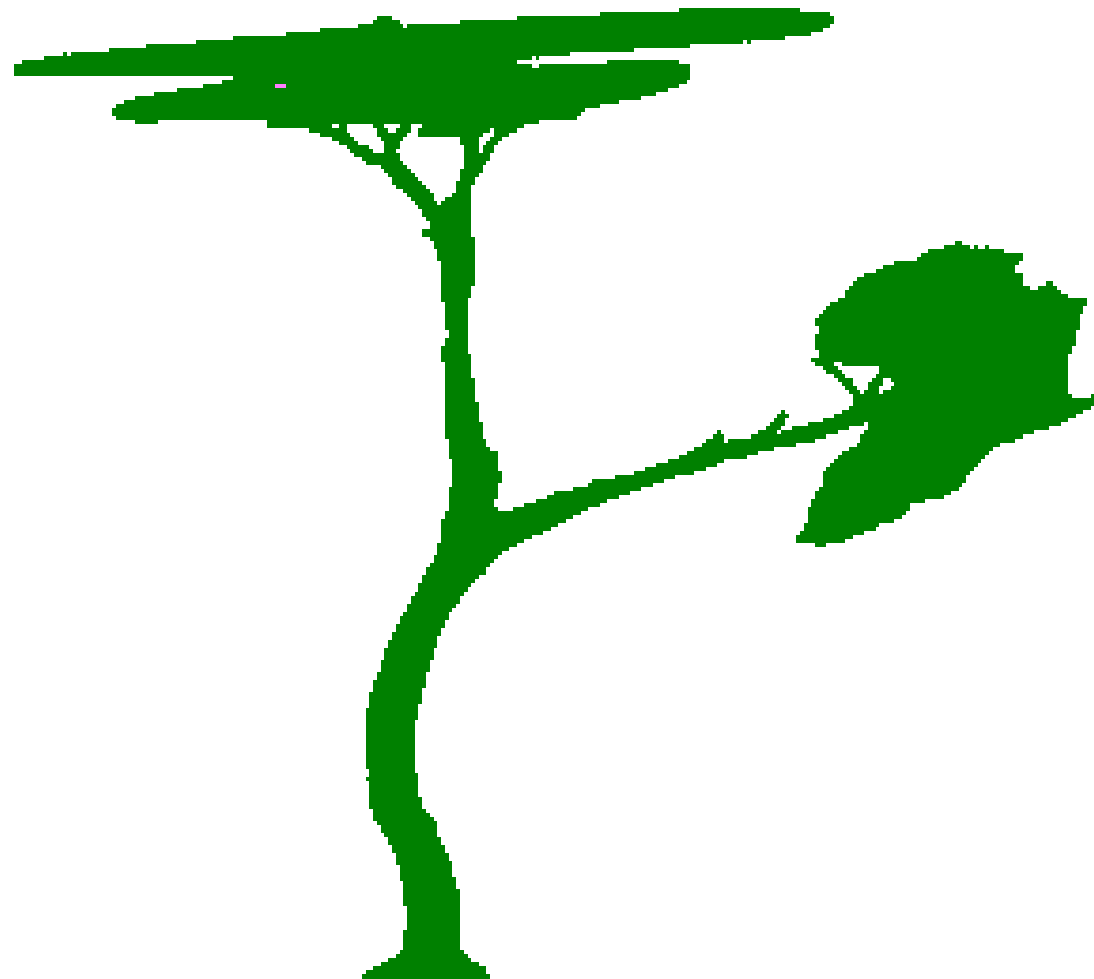
Yon Fernandez de Larrinoa, co-founder of the FAO Pastoralists Knowledge Hub.

“Pastoralism was often seen in a bad light, but this is slowly changing. Officials and the public increasingly value the socio-cultural legacy of the herders, and their role in food security and provision of ecosystem services while maintaining the environment. This became evident during the discussions at the Paris Climate Change Summit”, said Yon Fernandez de Larrinoa, co-founder of the FAO Pastoralists Knowledge Hub.



Thank You

Asante



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