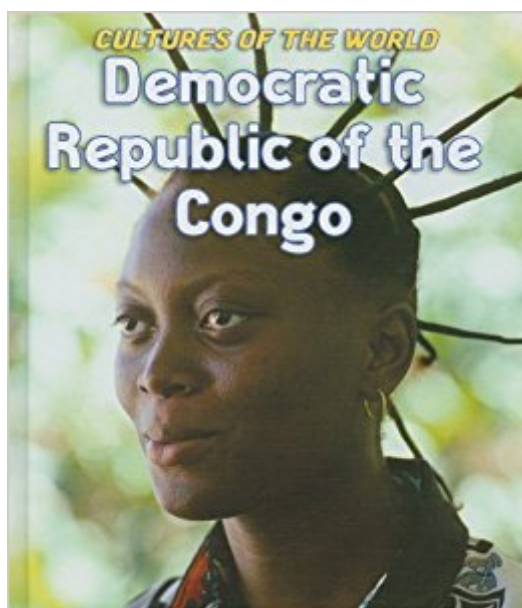


The book was found

Democratic Republic Of The Congo (Cultures Of The World, Second)



Synopsis

The highly regarded Cultures of the World series celebrates the diversity of other cultures in this fully updated and expanded edition.

Book Information

Series: Cultures of the World, Second (Book 17)

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Customer Reviews

Gr 5-9 Working within the series format, Heale and Whyte illustrate the striking difference an author's attitude can make. Both books cover the geography, history, government, economy, people, lifestyle, religion, language, arts and leisure, festivals, and food of the individual country. Each page includes an illustration, usually a full-color photograph, and each volume includes both a political and physical map of the country and quick facts. Both describe poor countries with a history of civil war and political instability. However, the condescending tone in Congo is reminiscent of accounts from the colonial period. Heale notices what a foreigner might notice: the country has some of the worst roads in the world, high humidity that can make visitors feel dizzy and sick, and quotes an 1887 visitor about the feeling of hatred the river inspires. He describes the equatorial forest as so thick and inhospitable to humans that it is virtually impenetrable but later on the same page mentions that the elusive Pygmy people slip easily through the tangled jungle growth. He dismisses the history of the Congo before European exploration in a single paragraph, and deals with indigenous beliefs in a section entitled Superstition. On the other hand, Whyte writes of the culture of Bangladesh in a sympathetic, nonjudgmental tone. Several pages are devoted to the rich history of this new nation; the importance of the emperor Asoka, who embraced Buddhism, and Nobel Prize-winner Rabindranath Tagore are made clear. She discusses in some detail the

monsoon-related seasonal cycle and the duties of Muslims, using Bengali terms. Its an attractive and informative source on Bangladesh and its culture. Kathleen Isaacs, Edmund Burke School, Washington, DC Copyright 1999 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an alternate Library Binding edition.

the author gives the exact size of the country. He has a good point when he recognize that Picasso copied congolese art. But for some details, the author is mixing facts from different period in one period.

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