

LIVING WITH THE LAKE

PERSPECTIVES ON HISTORY, CULTURE AND ECONOMY
OF LAKE CHAD

EDITED BY
MATTHIAS KRINGS AND EDITHA PLATTE



RÜDIGER KÖPPE VERLAG KÖLN

2004

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	9
Living with the Lake – An Introduction <i>Matthias Krings and Editha Platte</i>	11
Environmental and Climatic History of Lake Chad during the Holocene <i>Heinrich Thiemeyer</i>	41
Environmental Instability and Cultural Change in the Later Prehistory of the Chad Basin <i>Peter Breunig</i>	52
Zilum Towards the Emergence of Socio-Political Complexity in the Lake Chad Region <i>Carlos Magnavita</i>	73
Floods, Droughts, and Migrations The Effects of Late Holocene Lake Level Oscillations and Climate Fluctuations on the Settlement and Political History in the Chad Basin <i>Karsten Brunk and Detlef Gronenborn</i>	101
Lake Chad Arabic and European Imagination and Reality <i>Gisela Seidensticker-Brikay</i>	133
Towards a Chronology of Arabic Settlement in the Chad Basin <i>Ulrich Braukämper</i>	148
Bush for Beasts Lake Chad from the Nomadic Wodaabe Point of View <i>Nikolaus Schareika</i>	171
The Chad Basin Development Project Rise and Fall of a Giant Irrigation Project in West Africa <i>Mohammed Adam</i>	191

Fishing for Naira	204
Some Social Trends in Lake Chad Fishery. An Overview <i>Matthias Krings</i>	
The Pains of Temporary Sojourning	227
Igbo Migrants at Lake Chad <i>Bärbel Freyer</i>	
Sex, Drugs and <i>goge</i>	244
The Amusement Quarter of Jibrillaram <i>Editha Platte</i>	
Farming the Frontier	268
Hausa Migrants and the Politics of Belonging on the Former Lake Floor of Lake Chad (Nigeria) <i>Matthias Krings</i>	

Figures

Besides the figures and maps of Breunig, Brunk and Thiemeyer, the maps were co-edited by
G. Hampel after the original of the authors

Krings and Platte	
Lake Chad and places mentioned in the text	13
Thiemeyer	
Land units in NE-Nigeria	43
OSL datings of sediments of the Bama Ridge Complex	44
Lineaments in NE-Nigeria, recognized from satellite images	46
Historical lake levels	47
Comparison of the 1963 and 1995 lake level	48
Water levels of the Northern and Southern pool of the lake	48
Breunig	
Southwestern Chad Basin with terms mentioned	54
Magnavita	
Archaeological sites and regions mentioned	74
Brunk and Gronenborn	
Southwestern Chad Basin. Boundary of Mega Chad	103
Late Holocene levels of Lake Chad and archaeological phases	104

Lake Chad at water level of 285/286 m asl.	106
Synopsis of environmental conditions, population and historic events during the last millennium	112-113
Recorded water levels of Lake Chad in the 19 th and 20 th centuries	119
Lake Chad at 283 m asl in October 1963, section of early 1870s	121
 Seidensticker-Brikay	
Trans-Saharan trade and communication routes c. 200–1900 and polities	134
 Schareika	
South-eastern Niger	174
 Adam	
Locational map showing South Chad Irrigation Project	192
South Chad Irrigation Project	195
Wheat production record from 1979–2000	196
 Krings	
Volume of trade in dried fish at Lake Chad	207
Sketch of a <i>tukul</i> site near Baranga	210
Sketch of a hookline	215
Sketch of a gillnet	215
Fish trap <i>gurar kagi</i>	217
Fish trap <i>unduruttu</i>	217
Fish trap <i>gurar Mali</i>	217
Sketch of a <i>dumba</i> fish fence	218
 Freyer	
South-Western part of Lake Chad and its hinterland	229
 Platte	
Town map of Jibrillaram	247
The amusement quarter of Jibrillaram	249
 Krings	
Lake floor villages in the south-western inundation zone of Lake Chad	271
 Contributors	291