

Correlates (community organisation and people's participation/social stratification and mobility/population/social psychological correlates), V General policy, VI Related bibliographies.

*Frank Hirtz*

**Gerd Koch:** Malingdam. Ethnographische Notizen über einen Siedlungsbereich im oberen Eipomek-Tal, zentrales Bergland von Irian Jaya (West-Neuguinea), Indonesien. (Schriftenreihe Mensch, Kultur und Umwelt im zentralen Bergland von West-Neuguinea: Beitrag 15). Berlin: Dietrich Reimer Verlag, 1984. 156 pages, DM 198.-

In 1974, when the explorations began, the Eipomek valley was not yet opened up – neither by missionaries nor by the Indonesian administration. Thus it seemed a most appropriate field of activity for the members of the main point program "Interdisziplinäre Erforschung von Mensch, Kultur und Umwelt im zentralen Hochland von West-Irian (Neuguinea)", sponsored by the 'Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft'. Within the scope of this comprehensive and exemplary project, in which a team of scientists from several branches of knowledge participated, the contribution in hand came into existence.

As far as field research is concerned, Koch, at that time director of the Berlin 'Museum für Völkerkunde', could draw on his great experience acquired by many stays in different regions of the Pacific Islands. This ample knowledge is reflected in this book, especially in Koch's facile and sure treatment of the facts and in his pertinent descriptions of observations.

At the moment of research the people of Malingdam, belonging to the Eipo culture group, were still very typical representatives of New Guinea's Highlands population, though obviously a rather simple and marginal variant. The Eipo lived in village associations which were socially, politically and economically independent units waging war on each other frequently. So-called men's houses functioned as centres of cults and social life. Classified technologically as 'neolithic', the Eipo's economic life was marked by the cultivation of sweet potatoes and taro.

Koch had about seven months at his disposal to collect his material, a period in which, according to his research priorities and the planned schedule of the complete program, he confined himself to a descriptive culture survey, to an ethnographic registration of data: further material was to be collected in a restudy; specialized problems were to be investigated by a trained social anthropologist. Whoever seeks for detailed and authentic information on the material culture of the Papuan

population, can make best use of this book. It contains a meticulous reproduction of close observations, down to the last detail. Abundant pictures and very instructive illustrations help to clarify particular aspects. After brief but adequate remarks on the general thematic 'area of settlement and population' the author offers comprehensive information on the fields of 'clothing and adornment', 'housing' (special attention was paid to the construction of family- and men's houses) and its inventory stock. Subsequently there follows a description of tools, utensils and weapons. Chapters 5 to 11 deal with several spheres of the Eipo economy, with 'keeping of domestic animals', foodstuff and luxury food, distribution of goods, lands and cultivation, with collecting, hunting, and the transportation system. In other shorter sections Koch devotes himself to various other aspects and manifestations of the Eipo's life: games, art, family and community, social conflicts, death and religious beliefs, as well as, finally, to processes of cultural change.

First of all, the results of this study are important for comparative purposes within the scope of New Guinea's Highland cultures. Beyond that, Koch was able to demonstrate, especially for the sphere of material culture, how these people have managed to adapt themselves to a comparatively inhospitable environment: they have adequate clothing, accommodation and food, their methods of cultivation are scarcely in need of improvement, their subsistence economy is self-sufficient, but nevertheless they have to import some raw materials. As a whole, this contribution represents a pioneer work in the exploration of Eipo life and culture. It is just a great pity that for several reasons further research in Malingdam has not been possible to date, for especially in the field of social anthropology some gaps ought to be filled, a lot of interesting topics could be tackled.

*Peter Hanser*

**Ullrich Hann:** Aspekte interkultureller Kommunikation. Eine Studie zum Deutschlandbild der Koreaner und Koreanerbild der Deutschen in Südkorea. Mit einem Beitrag von Hartwig Wuppermann. München: Iudicium Verlag, 1985. 380 pages, DM 33,50

Every Westerner (not only Germans) having contact with Koreans or living in Korea should read this book.

He will be confronted with stereotypes about Koreans in his own as well as his Western friends' thinking and hopefully will thus be enabled to start reconsidering.

The same holds true vice-versa for Koreans in contact with Westerners or li-