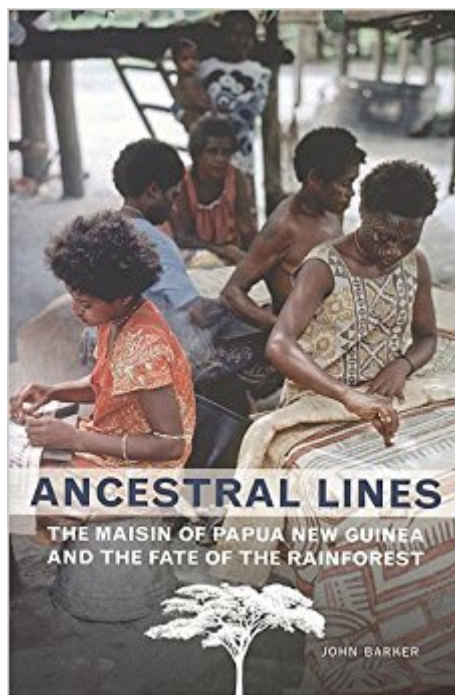


The book was found

# Ancestral Lines: The Maisin Of Papua New Guinea And The Fate Of The Rainforest (Teaching Culture: UTP Ethnographies For The Classroom)



## Synopsis

More than a century of interaction with colonial and global agencies and forces have brought many changes to the lives of the Maisin people who live on the northeastern coast of Papua New Guinea. Yet ancestral traditions continue to strongly inform their way of life. Their beautifully designed tapa cloth, made from the pounded inner bark of the paper mulberry tree, most vividly connects the past with the present. Using the various stages of tapa cloth production to frame a broader discussion of changes and continuities in Maisin culture (economic pursuit, social arrangements, gender relations, religion, politics, and the environment) Barker offers a nuanced understanding of how the Maisin came to reject commercial logging on their traditional lands. Viewed in isolation, the decision appears to be a confirmation of tradition over "modernity." Yet the book shows that it is the most recent, and perhaps dramatic, instance in a long chain of improvisations and compromises that have allowed the Maisin to remain true to core ancestral values while participating in wider social, political, and economic systems. *Ancestral Lines* provides an important counterpoint to the stereotype of indigenous peoples as passive victims of impersonal global forces. While accessible to most readers, including those with little or no knowledge of Melanesia or anthropology, *Ancestral Lines* has been designed with introductory anthropology courses in mind. Each chapter opens with a description of succeeding stages in the creation and use of a piece of tapa cloth. These, in turn, lead into discussions of dimensions of Maisin life that correspond to the sections and order of most standard introductory textbooks.

## Book Information

Series: Teaching Culture: UTP Ethnographies for the Classroom

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: University of Toronto Press, Higher Education Division; 2 edition (November 1, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442601051

ISBN-13: 978-1442601055

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #126,286 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 inÂ Books > History > Australia & Oceania > Papua New Guinea #34 inÂ Books > History > Australia & Oceania > Oceania #275 inÂ Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > Globalization

## Customer Reviews

"The Maisin of Papua New Guinea come alive in these pages, and the core question of how they have come to want to preserve their rainforest is one that will capture the imagination of students. A triumph of ethnographic writing." - Joel Robbins, University of California, San Diego --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Barker's book is beautifully organized, clearly written, and each chapter fits snugly within the confines of a basic topic included on all introductory syllabi. Moreover, unlike many ethnographies written specifically for undergraduates, Barker has produced a book that will neither talk down to nor bore students. The Maisin of Papua New Guinea come alive in these pages, and the core question of how they have come to want to preserve their rainforest is one that will capture the imagination of students. It is easy to incorporate into a course's existing structure and it adds the ethnographic detail that most textbooks leave out. Barker's finely observed discussions of such topics as reciprocity, kinship, and sorcery not only cover the major lines of argument surrounding them, but also add new ideas. It is therefore a text that can be as easily assigned to upper level students as to lower level ones. (Joel Robbins, University of California, San Diego) Clearly written and assiduously organized, this book succeeds at many levels, as an engaging and accessible ethnography and a sophisticated analysis of cultural identity and social practice in a globalizing world. (R. Scaglion, University of Pittsburgh) Barker's clear, engaging, and often self-reflexive writing style provides students with a readable and interesting ethnography. (Pacific Affairs)

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Ancestral Lines: The Maisin of Papua New Guinea and the Fate of the Rainforest, Second Edition (Teaching Culture: UTP Ethnographies for the Classroom) Ancestral Lines: The Maisin of Papua New Guinea and the Fate of the Rainforest (Teaching Culture: UTP Ethnographies for the Classroom) The Person in Dementia: A Study of Nursing Home Care in the US (Teaching Culture: UTP Ethnographies for the Classroom) PAPUA NEW GUINEA Country Studies: A brief, comprehensive study of Papua New Guinea Papua-neuguiea, Indonesien: West-Papua, Molukken = New Guinea = nouvelle-Guinee = nueva Guinea = Novaia Gvineia Guinea Pigs Owner Handbook: The Complete Beginner's Guide to Guinea Pig Care and Facts (How to Care for Guinea Pigs, Guinea Pig Facts Book 1) One Thousand One Papua New Guinean Nights: Folktales from Wantok Newspaper. Volume 2: Tales from 1986-1997, Indices, Glossary, References and Maps (Papua New Guinea Folklore Series) Papua New Guinea History and Culture: Travel and Tourism A Kiap's

Story: A Decade in the Life and Work of an Australian Patrol Officer in the Kokoda, New Britain, New Ireland, Madang and Sepik Regions of Papua New Guinea 1948-1958 Down under: Mineral heritage in Australasia : an illustrated history of mining and metallurgy in Australia, New Zealand, Fiji and Papua New Guinea (Monograph) Conservation Is Our Government Now: The Politics of Ecology in Papua New Guinea (New Ecologies for the Twenty-First Century) Papua New Guinea: People, Politics and History since 1975 Becoming Sinners: Christianity and Moral Torment in a Papua New Guinea Society (Ethnographic Studies in Subjectivity) Leviathans at the Gold Mine: Creating Indigenous and Corporate Actors in Papua New Guinea Materializing the Nation: Commodities, Consumption, and Media in Papua New Guinea The Time of Darkness: Local Legends and Volcanic Reality in Papua New Guinea Diving & Snorkeling Papua New Guinea (Lonely Planet Diving and Snorkeling Guides) Papua New Guinea ; Living and Travelling Visions of a Rainforest: A Year in Australia's Tropical Rainforest Escape From Hermit Island: Two Women Struggle to Save Their Sunken Sailboat in Remote Papua New Guinea

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)