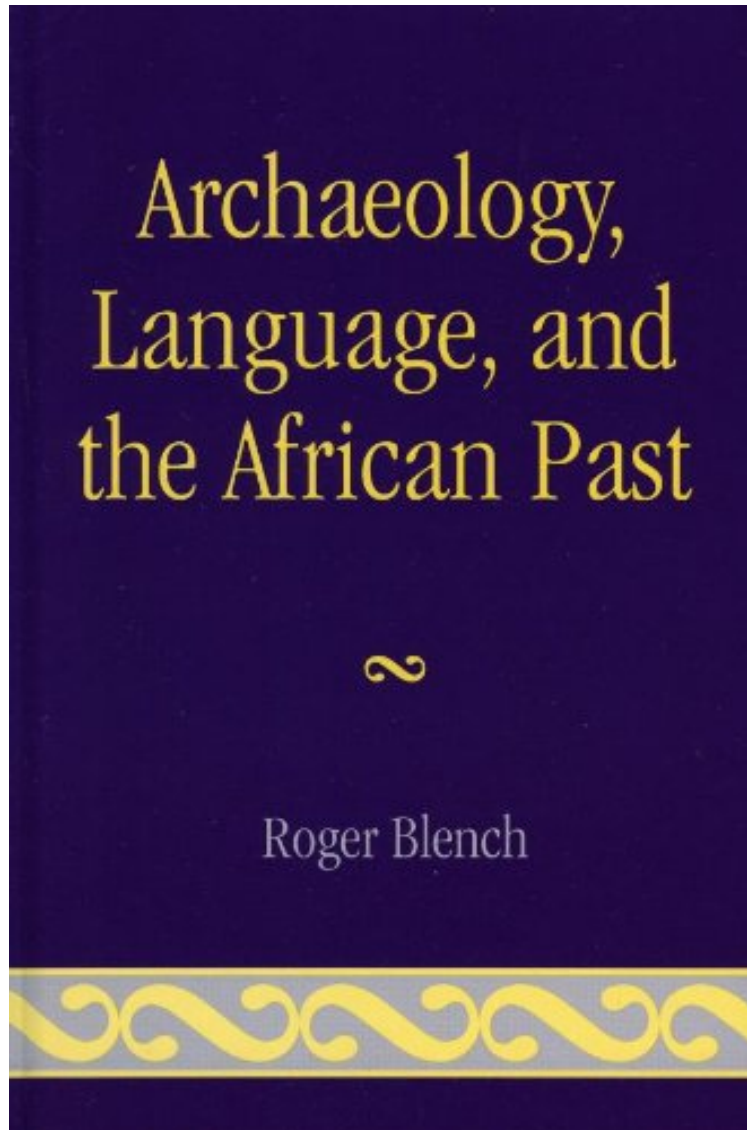


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## Archaeology, Language, and the African Past (African Archaeology Series)

Von Roger Blench

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**Von Roger Blench : Archaeology, Language, and the African Past (African Archaeology Series)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Archaeology, Language, and the African Past (African Archaeology Series):

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Lesenswert! Von Hans Dampf Die breit angelegte Untersuchung des britischen Afrikanisten und Sprachhistorikers folgt

sehr der amerikanischen Geschichtsdarstellung Christopher Ehrets, die an vielen Stellen an "science fiction" erinnert. Sie enthält nämlich viele gewagte Hypothesen, die sich aus den Einzelwissenschaften wie afrikanische Dialektforschung und Geschichte der afrikanischen Völkerwanderungen nicht ableiten lassen. Trotzdem ein lesenswertes Buch mit vielen weiterführenden Literaturhinweisen.

Kurzbeschreibung Archaeology, Language, and the African Past is an overview of theories and methods, a fusion of African linguistics and archaeology. Roger Blench provides a comprehensive look at the history of all African language families, incorporating the latest linguistic classifications, current evidence from archaeology, genetic research, and recorded history. This original and definitive volume examines the economic culture of the continent from major crops and plant life to animals and livestock from a multi-dimensional perspective. It provides students of linguistics, archaeology, and anthropology with a critical discussion on the history of African languages and the cultures they articulate. Pressestimmen For over a century linguists, archaeologists, historians, anthropologists, and more recently, geneticists have each been writing their own versions of African history. Similarly, specialists in the four African language phyla have been telling the history and classification of their own phylum. Now for the first time comes a book which synthesizes all these threads. The author is at once scholarly and able to communicate in a way that makes the book accessible to students and academics.--Derek Nurse, Memorial University of Newfoundland This book is an enthusiastic plea in favour of more intensive and dynamic trans-disciplinary collaboration for the reconstruction of the African past. With a comprehensive survey of methodological issues, the author offers a good insight in what we can credibly recover from the historical study of languages. He develops a series of inspiring assumptions on the origin and expansion of Africa's language families by linking the most recent linguistic data--often collected by himself--with evidence from archaeology, genetics, ethnography, and oral traditions. He also delves into the economic history of the continent through the comparative study of plant and animal vocabularies, a field of research which unfortunately too few other scholars in African linguistics have explored.--Koen Bostoen, Royal Museum for Central Africa Tervuren, Belgium Roger Blench's new book is an impressive demonstration of the ways in which evidence from different disciplines--including archaeology, historical linguistics, comparative ethnography, ethnobiology, and genetics--can be combined to generate compelling reconstructions of African prehistory. The result is both entertaining and scholarly, a magisterial synthesis of current methods and knowledge that is enriched by a wealth of data and insights from the author's own researches in the field. This is a book that no student of the African past can afford to be without.--Martin Walsh, University of Cambridge Roger Blench, discoverer of numerous relict and isolated African languages, takes a refreshing, global, and interdisciplinary approach to his study of African historical linguistics and archaeology, and of the cultural dynamics that lie behind the present peopling of the continent. His erudite, critical, and yet accessible exposition and bold--at times controversial--synthesis document the present state of the 'mutual interplay' between the two disciplines in a book that linguists will argue about and archaeologists pore over for many years to come.--Nic David, University of Calgary Kurzbeschreibung Archaeology, Language, and the African Past is an overview of theories and methods, a fusion of African linguistics and archaeology. Roger Blench provides a comprehensive look at the history of all African language families, incorporating the latest linguistic classifications, current evidence from archaeology, genetic research, and recorded history. This original and definitive volume examines the economic culture of the continent from major crops and plant life to animals and livestock from a multi-dimensional perspective. It provides students of linguistics, archaeology, and anthropology with a critical discussion on the history of African languages and the cultures they articulate.