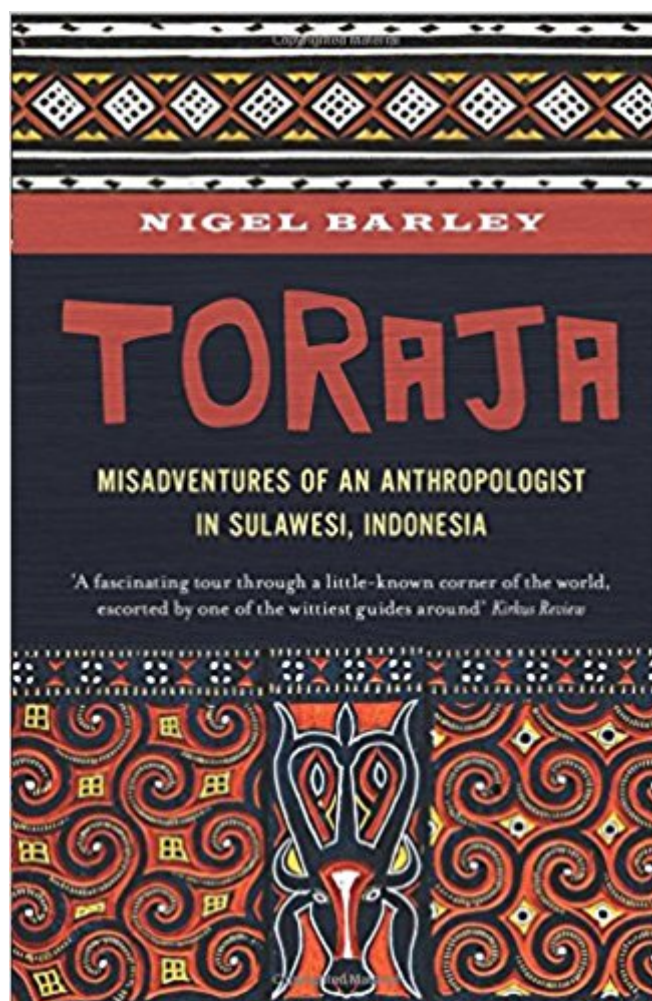


The book was found

Toraja: Misadventures Of A Social Anthropologist In Sulawesi, Indonesia



Synopsis

In 1985, Dr. Nigel Barley, senior anthropologist at The British Museum, set off for the relatively unknown Indonesian island of Sulawesi in search of the Toraja, a people whose culture includes headhunting, transvestite priests and the massacre of buffalo. In witty and finely crafted prose, Barley offers fascinating insight into the people of Sulawesi and he recounts the tale of the four Torajan woodcarvers he invites back to London to construct an Indonesian rice barn in The British Museum. Previously published as "Not a Hazardous Sport".

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The British anthropologist who wrote about his experiences in a mud hut in Cameroon sets out for a new adventure, this time in Sulawesi, Indonesia. Nigel Barley's storytelling is as entertaining as ever. This time we can read about the experiences of the Toraja men in the UK as well. I warmly recommend this book to both social scientists and general readers.

Great read and great fun!!

I was initially a little dubious about buying this when I spotted it in a bookshop in Bali, in advance of an overland trip to Sulawesi. I worried that now, 30 years after the events it described, it might not be relevant. I needn't have worried. It still gives a very accurate and insightful view of life in Toraja and makes a terrific companion to a visit to the region. Barley writes well and his stories are entertainingly similar to many incidents we have encountered in our 7 years in Indonesia. Highly

recommended!

More about the anthropologist and his adventures getting toraja carvers to England than about the Toraja. But in fairness, this is not by someone who claims to have done research in Toraja, or to speak the language. If you are looking for something light and not looking to really learn about this culture, then this is fine. But do not expect a book by a scholar of Toraja.

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