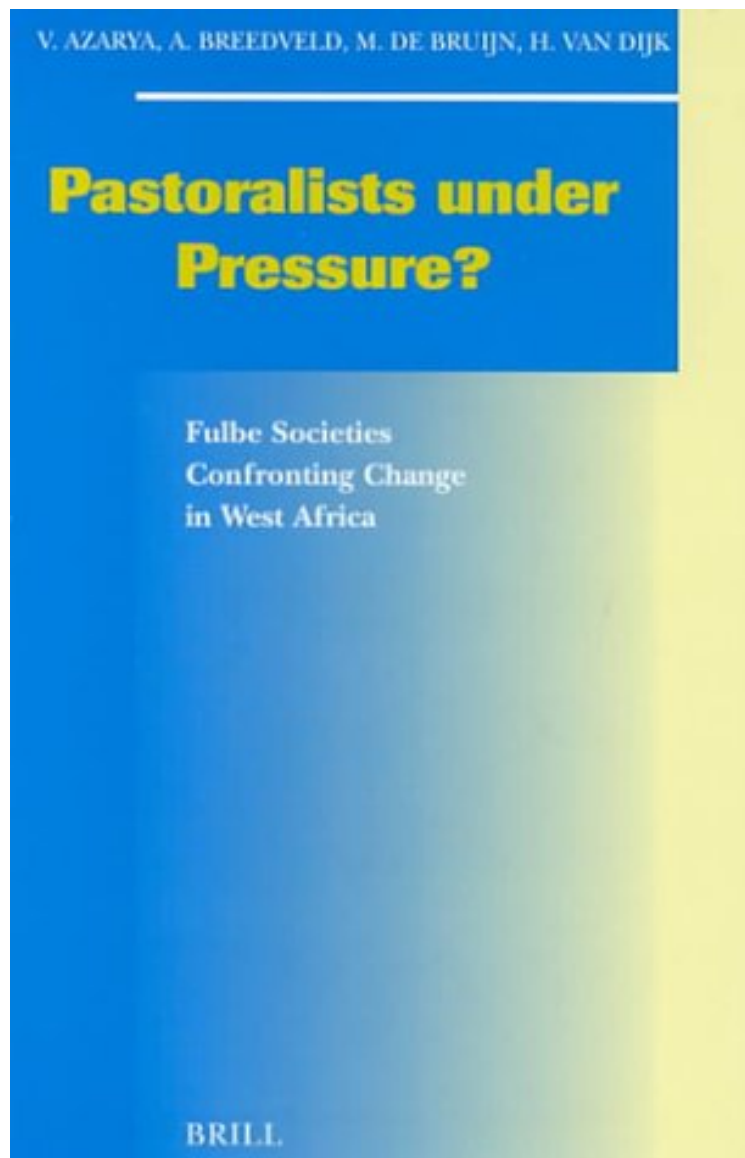


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This book brings together the work of a number of leading specialists of the Fulbe (Fulani, Peul), the largest and most widespread group of pastoralists in West Africa. The collection deals with a wide variety of subjects, ranging from ethnicity and identity, ecology and politics, and social transformation and takes us to such diverse settings across the African continent as urban Nigeria, dryland West and Central Mali, the Aadamawa plateau in Cameroon, the Guinean highlands, the Ivorian savannah, the Central Sudan, Northern Benin and the Senegal valley. This volume shows that the Fulbe are a fascinating example for the comparative study of social change, and ecological and cultural adaptation by discussing contemporary changes in Fulbe society and the amazing variety of settings in which they are able to survive.

About the Author Victor Azarya is Professor of Sociology and a Fellow of the Harry Truman Research Institute at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He has published extensively on the Fulbe and on state-society relations in Africa. His latest book is *Nomads in the State in Africa: the Political Roots of Marginality* (Ashgate, 1996). Anneke Breedveld, Ph.D. (1995) in Linguistics, is a Research Fellow at the African Studies Centre Leiden, and the African Linguistics department of Leiden University. She does research on various dialects of Fulfulde. She published on the Maasina-dialect of Fulfulde and on the semantics of ethnic labelling. Mirjam de Bruijn, Ph.D. (1995) in Anthropology is a Research Fellow at the African Studies Centre. Her research concentrates on the socio-cultural aspects of change in West African pastoral societies. She has published extensively on Islam, social security and poverty. Han van Dijk, Ph.D. (1995) in Agricultural Sciences is a Research Fellow at the African Studies Centre. His research concentrates on natural resource management, pastoral strategies, property and land tenure in African pastoral societies. He has published various articles on these issues.