

ABSTRACT

Adaptation / transformation of pastoral societies in the face of modern changes

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Raika, stockbreeders of sheep and dromedaries in the most arid area of India, the Rajasthan, adapted to the news reform political and economic by adopting a nomadic practice. This passage to a nomadic organization did not upset the pastoral social structure because it was set up by the existence of the old social relations. In addition, the respect of traditional rules of alliance supported the social reproduction. Matrimonial alliances, in which all the families are committed, allowed a reciprocity between lineages and reaffirmed agnatic alliances between groups. However, this pastoral caste has more and more difficulties to reproduce hers economic and social relations on which she's build on. Another part of this caste chose to give up the pastoralism, to work in the city. We assist to an increasing urbanization which develops with schooling. These urban families start to change the social relations with Raika-stockbreeders. They refuse, today, to continue the traditional rules of marriages and initiate a social transformation.