Record Nr. UNINA9910160346403321 Autore **Bird-David Nurit** Titolo Us, Relatives: Scaling and Plural Life in a Forager World / / Nurit Bird-David Pubbl/distr/stampa Berkeley, CA:,: University of California Press,, [2017] ©2017 **ISBN** 0-520-96668-6 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (293 pages) : illustrations Collana Ethnographic Studies in Subjectivity;; 12 LB 41000 Classificazione Disciplina 306.3/640954 Soggetti Hunting and gathering societies - South Asia Families - South Asia Human-animal relationships - South Asia Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Previously issued in print: 2017. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- List of Illustrations -- Prologue: One of Us -- Introduction: Scalar Blindness and Forager Worlds -- Downscale 1. Maps of Home -- 1. At Home: Setting and Mind Setting -- Downscale 2: Census of Relatives -- 2. Living Plurally: Mobility and Visiting --Downscale 3. Tree of Relatives -- 3. The Sib Matrix: Dyadic and Sequential Logic -- 4. Couples and Children: Gender, Caregiving, and Foraging Together -- Downscale 4. Taxonomy of Nonhuman Relatives -- 5. Nonhuman Kin: Unispecies Societies and Plural Communities --Downscale 5. Family and Ethnonym -- 6. A Continuum of Relatives: Othering and Us-ing -- 7. The State's Foragers: The Scale of Multiculturalism -- Epilogue: Pluripresent and Imagined Communities -- Acknowledgments -- Notes -- References -- Index Sommario/riassunto Anthropologists have long looked to forager-cultivator cultures for insights into human lifeways. But they have often not been attentive enough to locals' horizons of concern and to the enormous disparity in population size between these groups and other societies. Us, Relatives explores how scalar blindness skews our understanding of these cultures and the debates they inspire. Drawing on her long-term

research with a community of South Asian foragers, Nurit Bird-David provides a scale-sensitive ethnography of these people as she

encountered them in the late 1970s and reflects on the intellectual journey that led her to new understandings of their lifeways and horizons. She elaborates on indigenous modes of "being many" that have been eclipsed by scale-blind anthropology, which generally uses its large-scale conceptual language of persons, relations, and ethnic groups for even tiny communities. Through the idea of pluripresence, Bird-David reveals a mode of plural life that encompasses a diversity of humans and nonhumans through notions of kinship and shared life. She argues that this mode of belonging subverts the modern ontological touchstone of "imagined communities," rooted not in sameness among dispersed strangers but in intimacy among relatives of infinite diversity.