1. Record Nr. UNINA9910779171303321 Autore Korieh Chima J (Chima Jacob), <1962-> Titolo The land has changed [[electronic resource]]: history, society and gender in colonial Eastern Nigeria / / Chima J. Korieh Calgary [Alta.], : University of Calgary Press, c2010 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-280-12709-0 9786613530950 1-55238-496-9 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (392 p.) Collana Africa: missing voices series Disciplina 306.3/490966946 Igbo (African people) - Agriculture - History Soggetti Women, Igbo - Social conditions Igbo (African people) - History Igbo (African people) - Economic conditions Igbo (African people) - Social conditions Agriculture - Nigeria, Eastern - History Agriculture - Social aspects - Nigeria, Eastern - History Agriculture and state - Nigeria, Eastern - History **Great Britain Colonies Africa** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction: perspectives, setting, sources -- "We Have Always Been Farmers": society and economy at the close of the nineteenth century -- Pax Britannica and the development of agriculture -- Gender and colonial agricultural policy -- Peasants, depression, and rural revolts --The Second World War, the rural economy, and Africans -- The African elite, agrarian revolution, and sociopolitical change, 1954-80 -- On the brink: agricultural crisis and rural survival. Sommario/riassunto "A century ago, agriculture was the dominant economic sector in much of Africa. By the 1990s, however, African farmers had declining incomes and were worse off, on average, than those who did not farm.

Colonial policies, subsequent 'top-down' statism, and globalization are

usually cited as primary causes of this long-term decline. In this

unprecedented study of the Igbo region of southeastern Nigeria, author Chima Korieh points the way to a more complex and inclusive approach to this issue. Using agricultural change as a lens through which to view socio-economic and cultural change, political struggle, and colonial hegemony, Korieh shows that regional dynamics and local responses also played vital roles in this era of transformation. British attempts to modernize the densely populated Igbo region were focused largely on intensive production of palm oil as a cash crop for export and on the assumption of male dominance within a conventional western hierarchy. This colonial agenda, however, collided with a traditional culture in which females played important social and political roles and male status was closely tied to yam cultivation. Drawing on an astonishing array of sources, including oral interviews, newspapers, private journals, and especially letters of petition from local farmers and traders. Korieh puts the reader in direct contact with ordinary people, evoking a feeling of what it was like to live through the era. As such, the book reveals colonial interactions as negotiated encounters between officials and natives and challenges simplistic notions of a hegemonic colonial state and a compliant native population."--P. [4] of cover.