

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910786342403321
Autore	Popenoe Rebecca <1962-, >
Titolo	Feeding desire : fatness, beauty, and sexuality among a Saharan people // Rebecca Popenoe
Pubbl/distr/stampa	London ; ; New York : , : Routledge, , 2004
ISBN	1-135-14085-5 1-283-84507-5 1-135-14077-4 0-203-60352-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (249 p.)
Classificazione	73.06
Disciplina	306.4
Soggetti	Body image in women - Azaouak Valley (Mali and Niger) Human body - Social aspects - Azaouak Valley (Mali and Niger) Muslim women - Azaouak Valley (Mali and Niger) Overweight women - Azaouak Valley (Mali and Niger) Sex customs - Azaouak Valley (Mali and Niger) Women, Arab - Azaouak Valley (Mali and Niger) Azaouak Valley (Mali and Niger) Social life and customs
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 211-219) and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title; Copyright; Dedication; CONTENTS; List of illustrations; Acknowledgments; Prologue: There is more to beauty than meets the eye; Beauty universals and cultural particulars; Fatness and fattening cross-culturally; Preview of the book; PART I Entering the field; 1 Coming into the Azawagh; The Azawagh; Who are the "Azawagh Arabs"?; Peace Corps prelude: Tchin Tabaraden; Fieldwork: Tassara; Stasis and change; 2 Getting fat; Travelers and explorers, 1352-1936; French colonial officials in the Azawagh; Anthropologists on fattening in the Sahara; Getting fat in the Azawagh today; Aichatou Talking about getting fat: lebluh and al-gharrWhen does fattening begin?; Who fattens?; What to eat?; Why fatten?; PART II Self-representations; 3 In the name of Allah, most benevolent, ever merciful; The centrality of Islam in Azawagh Arab life; Islam and Islams; The world Allah made; Islam and the body; Islam, gender, and the social

fabric; Structures of Islamic life; Spirits; Heaven, and heaven on earth;  
 Abetting God's order; Lived Islam; 4 Ties of blood, ties of milk, ties of  
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 challenges of marriage; Ties of blood  
 Ties through men Tribes; Ties through women; Milk kinship; Kinship  
 and sentiment; Marriage; Divorce; Weddings; Fattening and marriage; 5  
 "The men bring us what we will eat": herding, trade, and slavery;  
 Material value and aesthetic values; Honor and pride; Caste in Moor  
 society: slaves, freed slaves, artisans, and Arabs; Slavery; A license to  
 leisure: women's "work"; Subsisting in the Sahara: men's work;  
 Investment of milk from cows in women; Imbuing life with value; PART  
 III Veiled logics; 6 The interior spaces of social life: bodies of men,  
 bodies of women; Male bodies and female bodies  
 Azawagh Arab bodies Metaphorical bodies; The connectedness of  
 bodies to the world around them; The connectedness of bodies to non-  
 bodily domains; Willful bodies; Heavenly bodies; 7 The exterior spaces  
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 gendered geography of everyday life; The tent: women's world;  
 Engendering space: center and periphery, stasis and movement;  
 Engendering space: placehood; Town and desert: women's changing  
 worlds; PART IV Negotiating life's challenges; 8 Well-being and illness;  
 Understanding disease: "hot" and "cold"  
 Hot and cold vs. Western biomedicine The social consequences of hot  
 and cold; Open women, closed men; Pregnancy, childbirth, and  
 postpartum; The daily diet; Sex; Mind and body, women and men;  
 Exercising agency; 9 Beauty, sex, and desire; A review of the argument;  
 Socializing sexuality; Feeding desire; Notes; Glossary; Bibliography;  
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## Sommario/riassunto

While the Western world adheres to a beauty ideal that says women can  
 never be too thin, the semi-nomadic Moors of the Sahara desert have  
 for centuries cherished a feminine ideal of extreme fatness. Voluptuous  
 immobility is thought to beautify girls' bodies, hasten the onset of  
 puberty, heighten their sexuality and ripen them for marriage. From  
 the time of the loss of their first milk teeth, girls are directed to eat  
 huge bowls of milk and porridge in one of the world's few examples of  
 active female fattening. Based on fieldwork in an Arab village in Niger,  
 Feeding Desire analyses th

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