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Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (xiv, 344 pages) : digital, PDF file(s)
Collana	Approaches to anthropological archaeology
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Soggetti	Political customs and rites - Africa, West Excavations (Archaeology) - Africa, West Human settlements - Africa, West - History Archaeology and history - Africa, West Africa, West Antiquities
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Note generali	First published 2012 by Equinox Publishing Ltd, an imprint of Acumen.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Decentralization and the evolution of egalitarian behaviors in sedentary societies -- Ancient villages in the Niger bend: context and methods for exploring the Voltaic region -- Ethnographic perspectives on western Burkina Faso: a survey -- Kirikongo: an introduction to the site, the setting, and the research design -- The West Africa environmental setting: Kirikongo in ecological context -- Stratigraphies and depositional episodes: the excavations -- Relative chronology: ceramics -- Community growth at Kirikongo: the spatial and temporal setting -- Early sedentary life in the Voltaic region: defining a "Voltaic tradition" -- Craft production at Kirikongo: the origins, development and reinterpretation of specialization -- Herding, farming, and ritual sacrifice: the economy from Kirikongo.
Sommario/riassunto	Many West African societies have egalitarian political systems, with non-centralised distributions of power. Egalitarian Revolution in the

Savanna analyses a wide range of archaeological data to explore the development of such societies. The volume offers a detailed case study of the village settlement of Kirikongo in western Burkina Faso. Over the course of the first millennium, this single homestead extended control over a growing community. The book argues that the decentralization of power in the twelfth century BCE radically transformed this society, changing gender roles, public activities, pottery making and iron-working. Egalitarian Revolution in the Savanna will be of interest to students of political science, anthropology, archaeology and the history of West Africa.
