

CONTENTS

<i>List of illustrations</i>	ix
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
Chapter 1 Introduction	1
The problem and its setting	1
The Hausa are everywhere	3
Anthropologists and the study of pilgrimage	6
Metaphysical and pragmatic views in social explanation	12
What makes men tick: some anthropological approaches to the analysis of thought and action	16
Concept, precept, context and praxis	23
Outline of the argument	27
Chapter 2 The history of West African migration to Sudan	30
A note on history and social anthropology	30
The golden road to Mecca	33
Hausaland before the Fulani <i>jihads</i>	35
The Fulani <i>jihads</i> and the consolidation of Islam	38
Some consequences of the Fulani <i>jihads</i> for our theme	46
Mahdism, colonial rule and millenarian beliefs in Northern Nigeria at the end of the nineteenth century	48
Two cogs in the wheels of history	52
Chapter 3 The rural dwellers: moral virtues, secular constraints	65
Entering and leaving Sudan from West Africa	65
West Africans and the Gezira Scheme	68
Rural life is good for pilgrims	70
Wad Fellata: a pilgrim work camp in the Gezira	72
A brief look at a polygynous pilgrim family	77
The Quranic schools	79
Sharecropping and farmwork in Wad Fellata	83
Cold and warm debts in Wad Fellata	87
Inter-village relationships	91
Summary	92

Chapter 4	The urban dwellers: landlords, clients, <i>fakis</i> and beggars	94
	Wad Medani: the principal urban centre in the Gezira region	94
	Old settlers and newcomers: two sets of occupational categories in Wad Medani	96
	The 'elite': the landlords	101
	The <i>fakis</i>	107
	The lower set: tailors, water-vendors, butchers and beggars	112
	The complementarity of town and country	117
	Summary	118
Chapter 5	The Islamic pilgrimage and the West African subculture in Sudan	121
	The cultural propensities model	122
	The 'too-many-chiefs' model	125
	The <i>turuq</i> and the power of dogma	129
	'Them' and 'us': primordial sentiments and objective difference	136
	Some symbols of distinctiveness: custom and language	140
	Potential conflict and the dissenters	146
	Summary	151
Chapter 6	Divine design and its consequences for the achievement of pilgrimage in this life	152
	Debts, gifts and <i>Insha'Allah</i> : some key concepts and precepts in the ontology of West African pilgrims in Sudan	154
	<i>Fakis</i> and divine design	170
	Going there and getting there	177
Chapter 7	The pilgrimage as a paradigm for life	181
	<i>Appendix I: In the field</i>	194
	<i>Appendix II: Some brief biographical notes on the key informants quoted in the text</i>	202
	<i>Glossary</i>	203
	<i>Notes</i>	206
	<i>References</i>	223
	<i>Index</i>	231