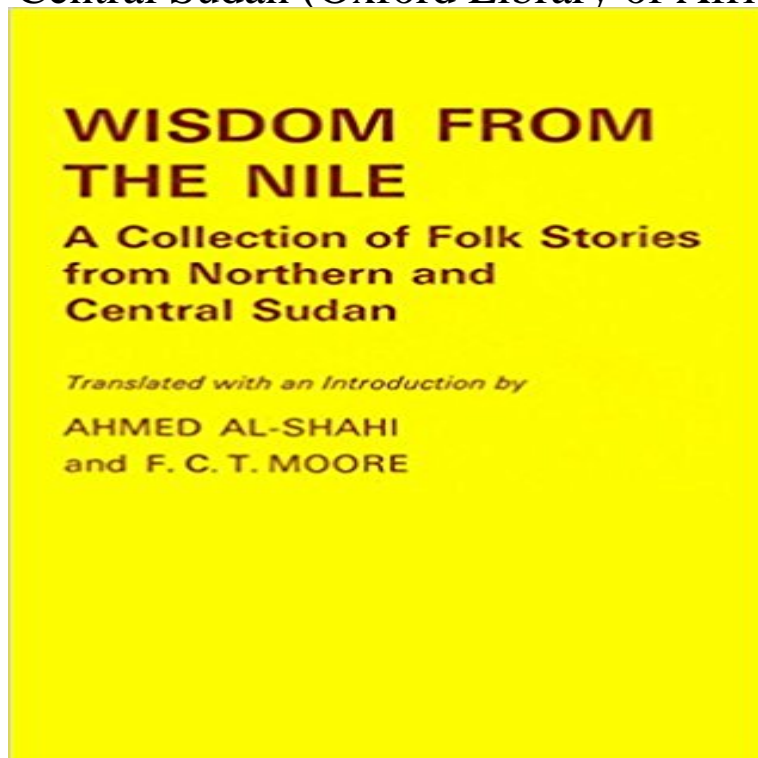


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The riverain peoples of Northern Sudan possess an extremely rich oral tradition of story-telling. The present volume is a selection of the tales collected by the authors and translated from the original Arabic. There is a substantial introduction which sets the stories in their cultural and social context and offers a systematic account of their principal themes. The book is of particular interest since in the Sudan, as in many other places, the traditions of story-telling are rapidly disappearing with the spread of literacy. --- Contents: Editorial note; Map; Part One, Introduction: 1. Wisdom; 2. Folklore and Society; 3. The Language of the Stories; 4. The Geography and Economy of the Riverain Communities; 5. Wealth and Water; 6. Riverain Society; 7. Strangers and Brothers; Part Two, The Stories [71 stories in total, pp. 61-226]; Glossary; Bibliography; Appendix: Arabic texts of stories 14, 23, 58; Index

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