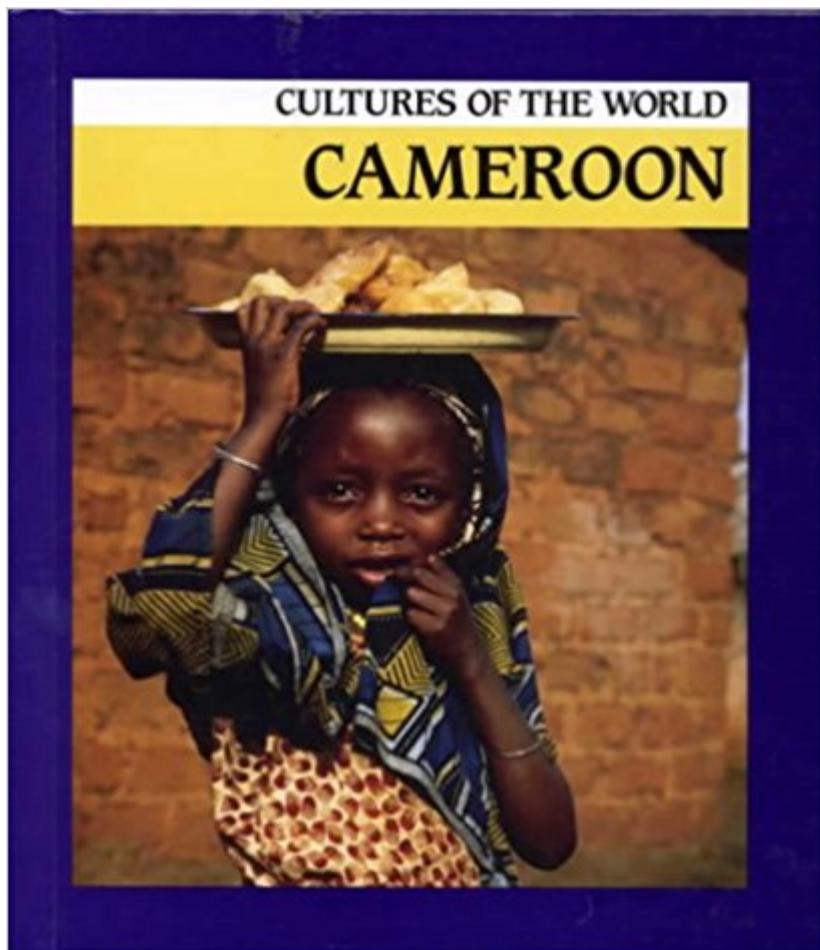


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Cameroon (Cultures Of The World)



Synopsis

Book by Sheehan, Sean

Book Information

Series: Cultures of the World (Book 21)

Library Binding: 128 pages

Publisher: Cavendish Square Publishing (October 6, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0761411585

ISBN-13: 978-0761411581

Product Dimensions: 9.7 x 8.3 x 0.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

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Best Sellers Rank: #1,729,080 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in Books > Teens > Education & Reference > History > Africa #331 in Books > History > Africa > Central Africa #1238 in Books > Teens > Education & Reference > Social Science

Customer Reviews

Gr 6-10-It may seem hard to imagine that such a small volume could be teeming with so many problems, but this one is. Some are errors of omission, such as the lack of any reference to health care and disease. Others are a combination of misinformation and confusing language as is the case with the description of the electoral process: "The president is elected for a period of five years by direct and secret universal suffrage." The vocabulary is confusing and the statement is inaccurate; constitutional changes were approved in 1995 that extended the president's term from five to seven years and placed term limits for the first time. There are also inconsistencies throughout. One description of President Ahidjo reads: "His greatest achievement was to successfully and peacefully oversee the emergence of Cameroon as one united country-." Just six pages earlier, readers were told that during his rise to power, "parties that failed to cooperate with this process were outlawed and their leaders arrested.-Military force was used to destroy the remnants of the UPC opposition to the new state." There are many such seeming contradictions. Although there is a need for material on this subject for reports and general interest reading, the faults far outweigh the benefits of this book. Jim Hathaway's Cameroon in Pictures (Lerner, 1999) is a slimmer volume, but infinitely more useful as a starting point for research.-Genevieve Ceraldi, Donnell Library Center, New YorkCopyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

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