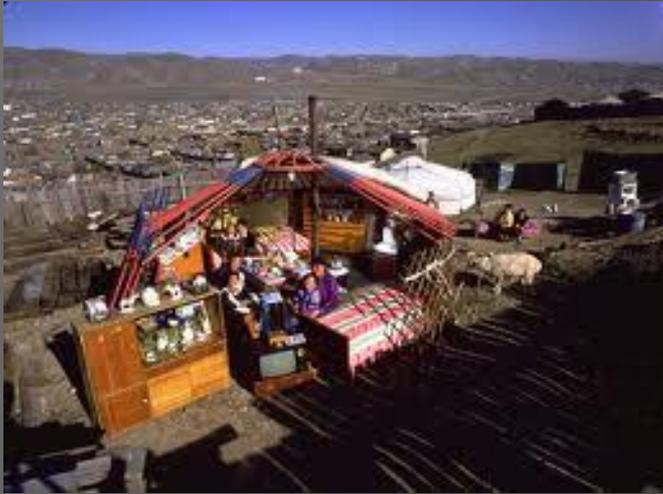
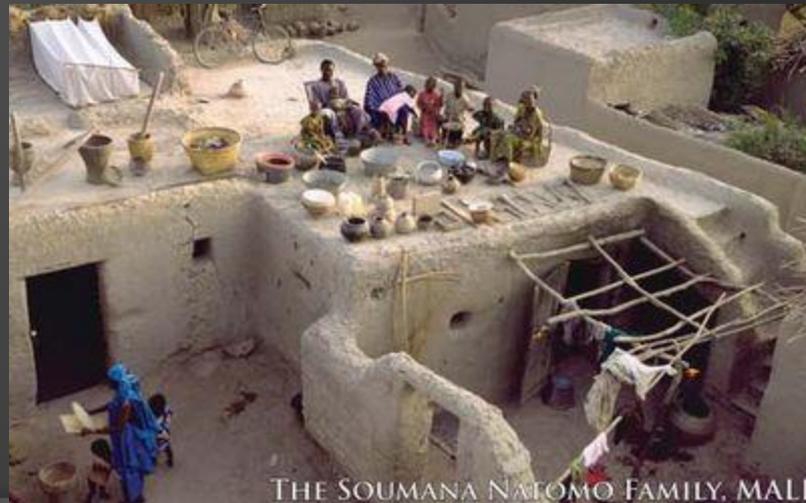
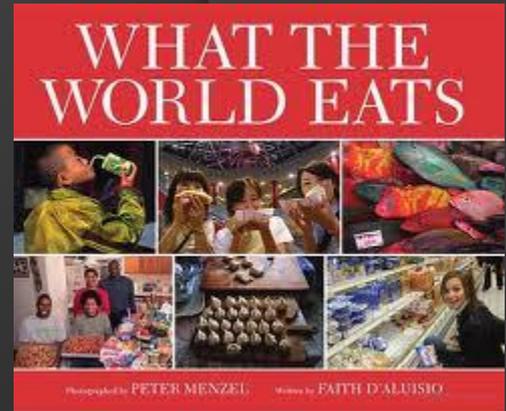


MATERIAL WORLD

A GLOBAL FAMILY PORTRAIT



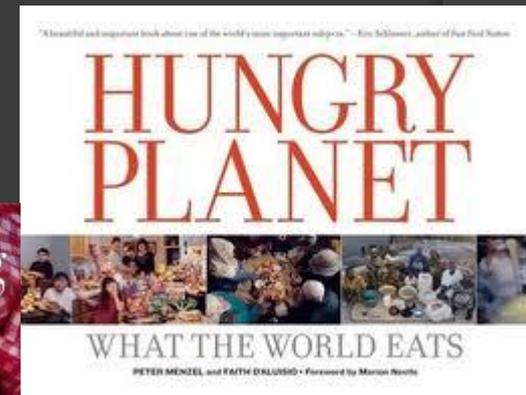
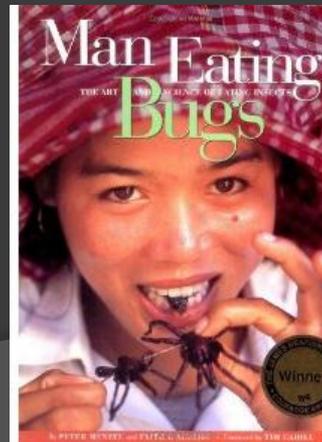
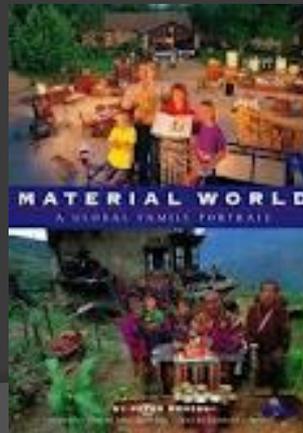
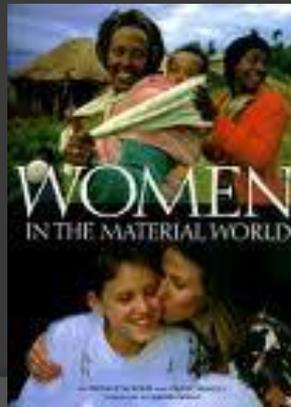
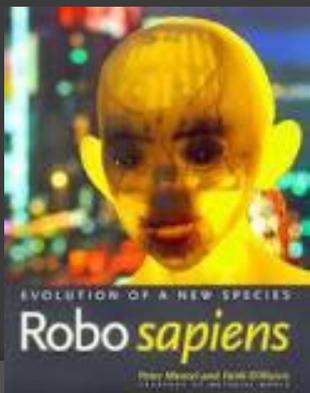
Peter Menzel &
Faith D'Aluisio



THE SOUMANA NATOMO FAMILY, MALI

Books & Research Projects by Menzel and D'Aluisio

1. Material Worlds: A Global Family Portrait (1994)
2. Women in the Material World (1996)
3. Hungry Planet: What the World Eats Women in the Material World (2000)
4. Robo Sapiens: Evolution of a New Species (2001)
5. Man Eating Bugs: The Art and Science of Eating Insects (2004)



Material World: A Global Family Portrait (1994) By Peter Menzel & Faith D'Aluisio

○ Menzel's CENTRAL Research Questions???:

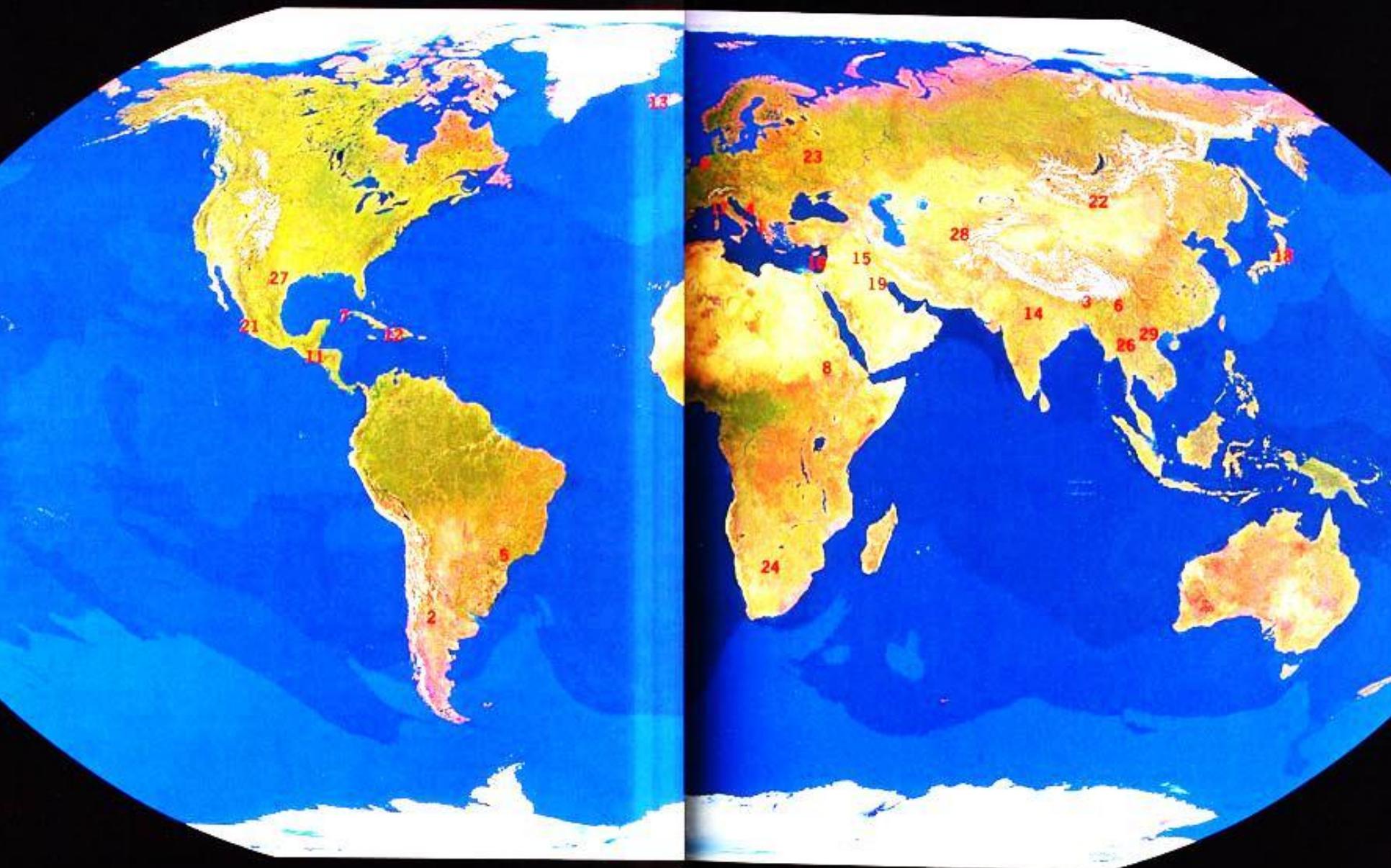
1. What are our connections (emotional, identity, family, sacred, etc.) to our **MATERIAL OBJECTS & Possessions** on a **GLOBAL SCALE**?
2. What are the **SIMILARITIES/DIFFERENCES** in terms of the things/materials we collect and connect to?
3. How can we **OVERCOME CULTURAL STEREOTYPES** to achieve a more nuanced “big picture” understanding of the “other.”
4. Can all **6+ Billion HUMANS on EARTH** have all of the things we want and still sustain a **HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT** for all human cultures and other animal/biological cultures?
5. **HOW** can you use **PHOTOGRAPHY** to gain a more bigger, more intelligent, perspective of our world and the important issues we face?



Menzel & D'Aluisio's Focus and Approach

- **Focus and Approach** -- An examination of Family and Material Consumption for the 21st Century
 - 16 documentary photographers
 - Traveled to 30 nations around the globe
 - Lived for a week with families which were statistically average for that country
 - At the end of each visit, photographed a portrait of the family outside of its home with all of its possessions.
- **Underlying Premise:** We have NO vision of the “other” and little understanding of our **common connections** as human beings.
- **Funding\$\$** -- Supported in part by the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Program **AND** Menzel's own \$\$

The Project: 30 Countries



rel: page 192
Salta: page 120

6 China, Shijing: page 56
7 Cuba, Havana: page 106

11 Guatemala, San Antonio de Palopó: page 112
12 Haiti, Maitssade: page 154

16 Israel, Tel Aviv: page 244
17 Italy, Pienza: page 108

21 Mexico, Guadalajara: page 144
22 Mexico, Oaxaca: page 144

26 Thailand, Ban Muang Wa: page 184

Mali

MALI

Dirt Poor

The Natoma Family

6:30 A.M., MARCH 27, 1993
KOUAKOUROU, MALI

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PETER MENZEL



KEY TO BIG PICTURE

1. Soumana Natomo, father, 39
2. Pama Kondo, 1st wife, 28
3. Fatouma Niangani Toure, 2nd wife, 26
4. Pai Natomo, 2nd daughter, 11
5. Kontie Natomo, 1st son, 9
6. Mama Natomo, 2nd son, 6
7. Mamadou Natomo, 3rd son, 3
8. Toure Natomo, 1st daughter, 5
9. Fatoumata Natomo, 2nd daughter, 3
10. Mama Natomo, son, 1
11. Cui Niento, wife of father's brother (in blue, with children — not part of household)

OBJECTS IN PHOTO

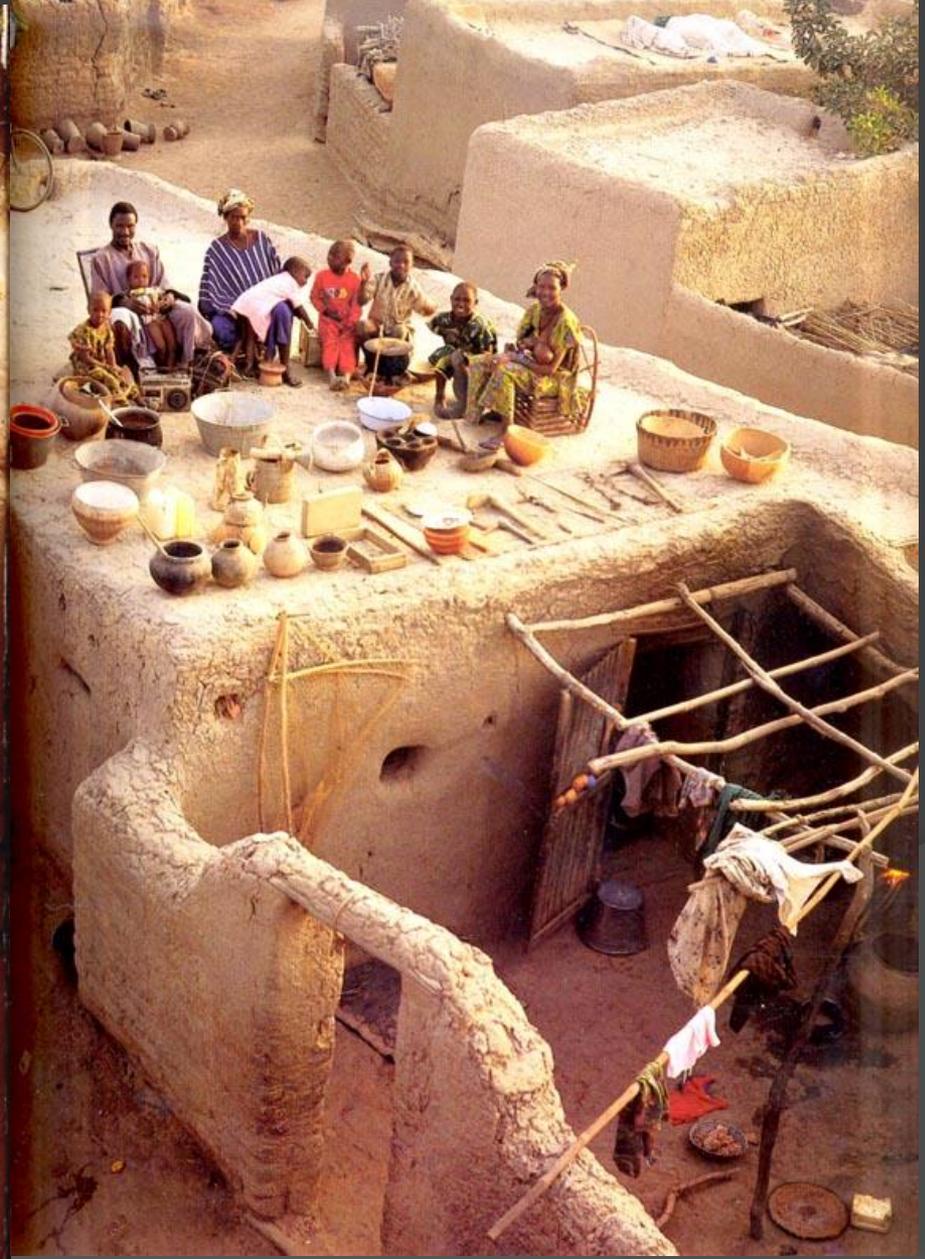
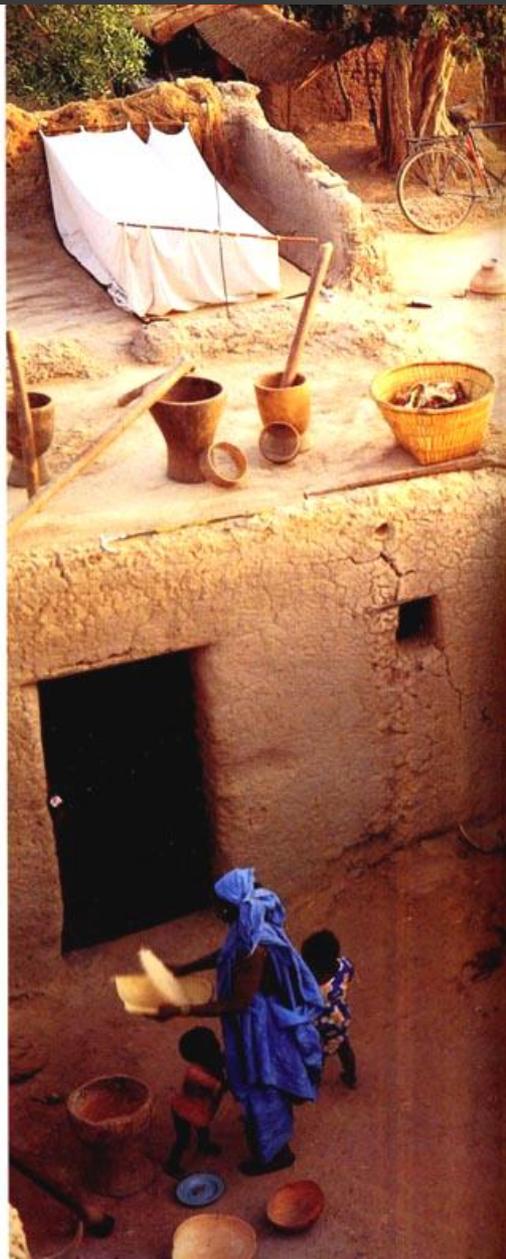
(Roof, left to right)

- Mortars and pestles (3, for pounding grains)
- Sieves for sifting grain (2)
- Ritual cane (at roof edge)
- Musket (broken, inherited from father's father)
- Mosquito netting (covers bed)
- Bicycle
- Broken pot
- Basket (with clothes)
- Washing tubs (5, plastic and aluminum)
- Broken bark basket (with rags, scraps)
- Cooking pot (with ladle)
- Plastic water containers (2)
- Water kettles (2)
- Watering cans (2, one broken)

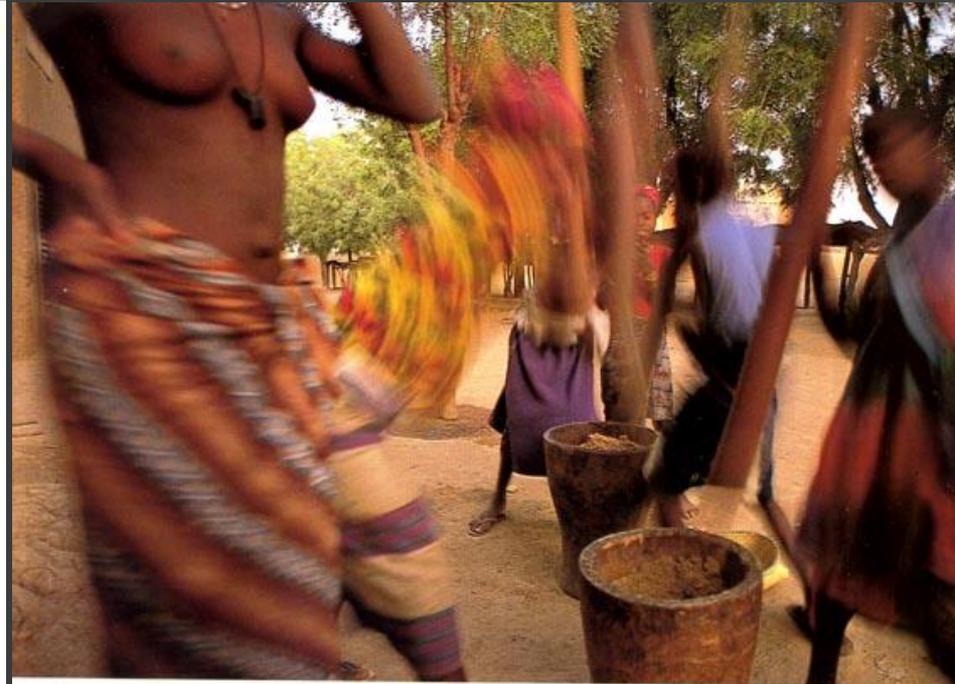
- Rectangular adobe brick mold (with sample brick)
- Battery-powered radio/cassette-tape player
- Folded blanket (between father and 1st wife)
- Sweet rice mush (near children, in cookpot fitted with firepot)
- Wooden condiment container
- Cultivating implements (hoes, shovel, knife, broad axe)

(Lower wall and open kitchen)

- Fishing net
- Wooden rack (for shading, drying clothes)
- Cooking fire
- Water (in big clay pot)



MALI



STATS

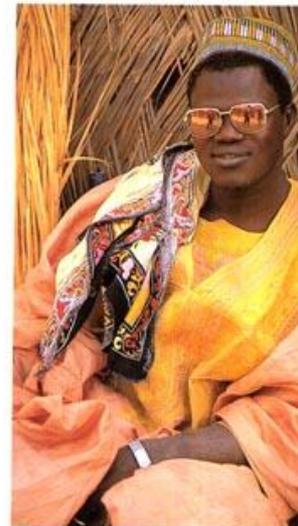
Area	478,841 sq. mi. (1,240,189 sq. km.)
Population	10.8 million
Total fertility rate	7.1 children per woman
Population doubling time	22.2 years
Percentage urban/rural	27% urban, 73% rural
Percentage of forest lost between 1981-90	0.8%
Life expectancy	Female: 50, Male: 47
Infant mortality	159 per 1,000 births
Population per physician	19,450
Literacy rate	Female: 24%, Male: 41%
Rank of affluence among the 183 U.N. members	162

NATOMO FAMILY

Size of household	7 (1st house, including father) 4 (2nd house)
Size of dwelling	540 sq. ft. (50 sq. m.) 1st house 450 sq. ft. (42 sq. m.) 2nd house
Workweek	112 hours (Father) 112 hours (Both mothers — all inside home)
Number of	Radios: 1, Telephones: 0 Televisions: 0, VCRs: 0, Bicycles: 1, Automobiles: 0
Most valued possessions	Bicycle (Father)
Per capita income (\$US)	\$251
Wishes for future	Irrigation system, motorcycle, enclosed garden

ON MARKET DAY

in Kouakourou village. Soumana Natomo goes to purchase rice, which he buys in bulk and later resells. After haggling with the female wholesalers (B), he returns with two sacks of rice to store in the house that he shares with his first wife, Pama. The second, Fatouma, is two years younger than Pama and lives in a small one-bedroom apartment up an alley 250 feet (80 m) away. Returning from the market, Soumana hears the muffled thumping of women pounding grain to make flour (A). Because it is Ramadan, the month when Muslims fast during the daylight hours, everyone is working at a slower pace than usual. Indeed, some men use the occasion to lounge about for hours, dazzling passersby with their most elegant outfits (D). The Natomos dress up, too, expending their yearly clothing budget at this time. Part of the reason is that after the fast ends at sunset, Kouakourou fills with food and music — Ramadan is also the month for weddings, dances (C), and other social activities.



D

Ethiopia

ETHIOPIA

Constant Struggle

The Getu Family

8:30 A.M., FEBRUARY 12, 1994
MOULO, ETHIOPIA

PHOTOGRAPHS BY SHAWN G. HENRY



KEY TO BIG PICTURE

1. Getu Muleta, father, 30
2. Zenebu Tulu, mother, 25
3. Teshome Getu, 1st son, 10
4. Like Getu, 1st daughter, 8
5. Mamoosh Getu, 2nd son, 7
6. Mulu Getu, 2nd daughter, 3
7. Kebebe Getu, 3rd son, 8 months

OBJECTS IN PHOTO

(Foreground, left to right)

- Basket
- Mortar and pestle (for pounding grain)
- Frying pans (2, one on ground next to house)
- Plastic containers (one for coffee beans, one for water)
- Iron frying tool
- Salt (in can)
- Plastic bowl and plate
- Clay cooking pot
- Wooden storage box (with clothes)
- Gourd jar (holds butter)
- Baskets (3, for milk and other food)
- Tin cans (2, for drinking)
- Oxen (2, one with yoke)
- Basket (on low table, full of endod)
- Shallow basket (leaning on table, for serving)
- Clay pot

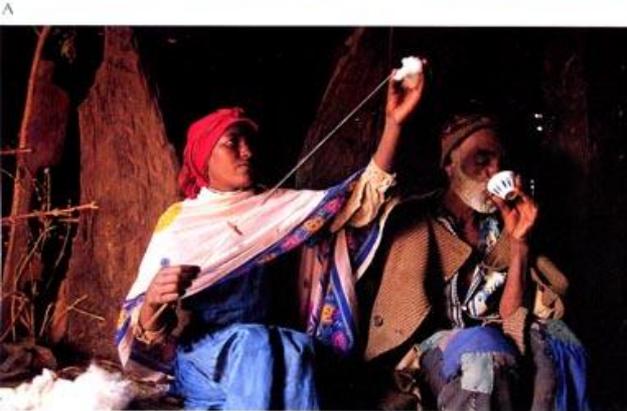
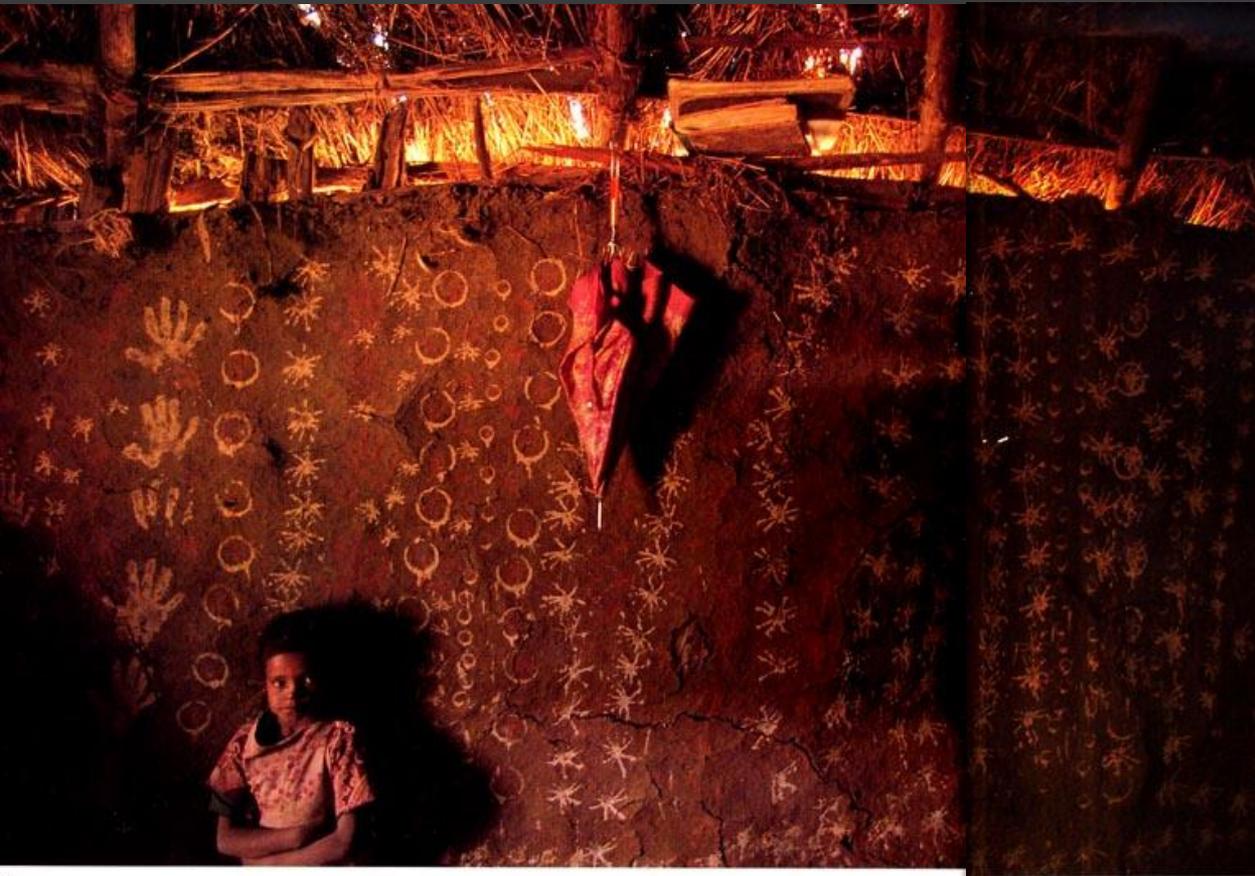
- Halter (for horse)
- Bed (with wool blanket)
- Basket with lid
- Chicken (1 of 8 owned by family)
- Coffee set
- Tea kettle
- Serving tray
- Partially completed basket
- Clay water jar
- Sheep and lamb
- Horse (1 of 3)
- Cowhide (used as cushion)
- Umbrella (hanging from building)

(Background, left to right)

- Corral with cattle (5)
- House of father's brother
- Brother's cook house
- Family house
- Father's parents' house

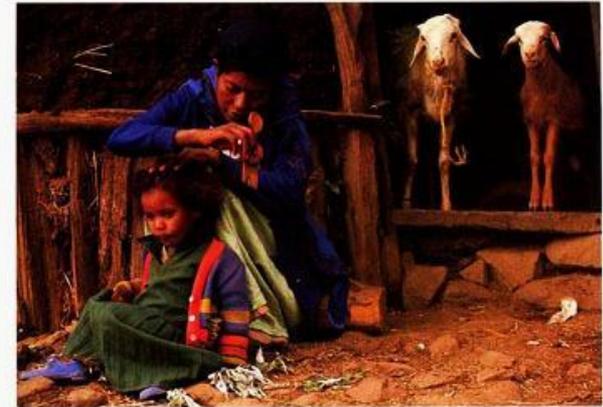


Ethiopia-2



IN A SITUATION with few resources, the peas depend heavily on cattle dung. Every morning, mebu collects fresh dung from the corral and mixes it with raw into a paste. Some of the paste is used to plaster the walls of the house (A, decorations printed with a mixture of *fat and water*). She flattens the rest into wide patties that are not broken into pieces, and used for fuel. At other times mebu scavenges the fields and bring home dried dung (C). Working with dung takes up much of Zerebu's time. Other sis include attending to the children (B, *combing daughter's hair*) and preparing coffee for the men. The latter may open several times a day. Three times a day, relatives congregate at each other's houses, having a bit of coffee in a coffee ceremony (D, *Geta's father, Millita, having a cup of Geta's use, while his sister, Bezu, threads cotton*). With good reason: the strong, richly flavored coffee of Ethiopia is celebrated by the aficionados — the province of Kaffa in southwestern region is reputed to be its birthplace.

ETHIOPIA



ETHIOPIA ETIYOP'IYA

STATS

Area	471,815 sq. mi. (1,221,991 sq. km.)
Population	58.0 million
Total fertility rate	7.0 children per woman
Percentage of couples using contraception	4.0%
Population doubling time	23.1 years
Percentage urban/rural	13% urban, 87% rural
Government debt as percentage of GNP	51%
Ratio of people to automobiles	875 to 1
Ratio of people to cattle	2 to 1
Life expectancy	Female: 50, Male: 47
Percentage of rural population without safe drinking water	89%
Rank of people per physician among the 183 U.N. members	183
Rank of affluence among the 183 U.N. members	183

A home to humankind for at least 1.5 million years, Ethiopia is the only African nation never ruled by foreigners (except for a brief, chaotic incursion by Italy, 1935-41). Its history made it into a proud emblem of African independence, with the Organization of African Unity having its headquarters in Addis Ababa, the capital. In recent years, though, Ethiopia has become a symbol of civil strife and ecological devastation. A famine from 1972 to 1974 led to a coup that ended the almost-50-year reign of Emperor Haile Selassie. The new dictator, Lieut. Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam, waged war for years on many fronts: within Ethiopia, against rebel groups; in the south, against Somalia; and especially in Eritrea, a northern area annexed illegally in 1962. Economically, he followed the Soviet model. In the 1980s his government forcibly resettled 500,000 farmers and used food as a weapon against areas with rebels. Added to a series of droughts, these policies led to famines that consumed 2 million lives. The collapse of Communism coincided with the victory of rebels in Eritrea and within Ethiopia. Mengistu was overthrown in 1991. A coalition government took the reins, letting Ethiopians return to their homes and trying to restart the economy. Many troubles remain. Use of wood as fuel and the nation's abundance of livestock have caused some of the world's worst deforestation and erosion. As a result, this ancient place will simultaneously have to become more prosperous and transform its relationship to the environment — a daunting prospect.

Bhutan

BHUTAN

Resisting Cultural Change

The Namgay Family

4 P.M., JUNE 7, 1993
SHINKA, BHUTAN

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PETER MENZEL



KEY TO BIG PICTURE

1. Namgay, father, 50
2. Nalim, mother, 47
3. Kinley, 1st son, 17
4. Bangum, 2nd daughter, 14
5. Zekom, 2, 3rd daughter
6. Sangaym, 29, 1st daughter
7. Sangay Khandu, 33, her husband (their children listed next)
8. Choeda, 9, their 1st daughter
9. Chato Namgay, 7, their 1st son
10. Sangay Zam, 5, 2nd daughter (on porch, near steps)
11. Chato Gyeltshen, 3, 2nd son
12. Tandin Gyeltshen, 2, 3rd son
13. Kinley Dorji, 61, mother's brother (unmarried)
14. Kado, 27, father's cousin, (visiting monk, on ground)

OBJECTS IN PHOTO

(Foreground, left to right)

- Bumpas (2, with peacock feathers, hold water in purification rituals)
- Jeles (2, double-reeded ceremonial clarinets)
- Choeps (14, metal bowls for water offerings)
- Book of Buddhist teachings
- Chodrom (table used by visiting religious functionaries)
- Troe (on chodrom, cast bronze ceremonial vessel)
- Statue of Namtose, god of wealth (on chodrom)
- Lamp (on chodrom, uses butter as fuel)
- Shakyamuni Buddha statue with silk robe (on chodrom)

(Left of family)

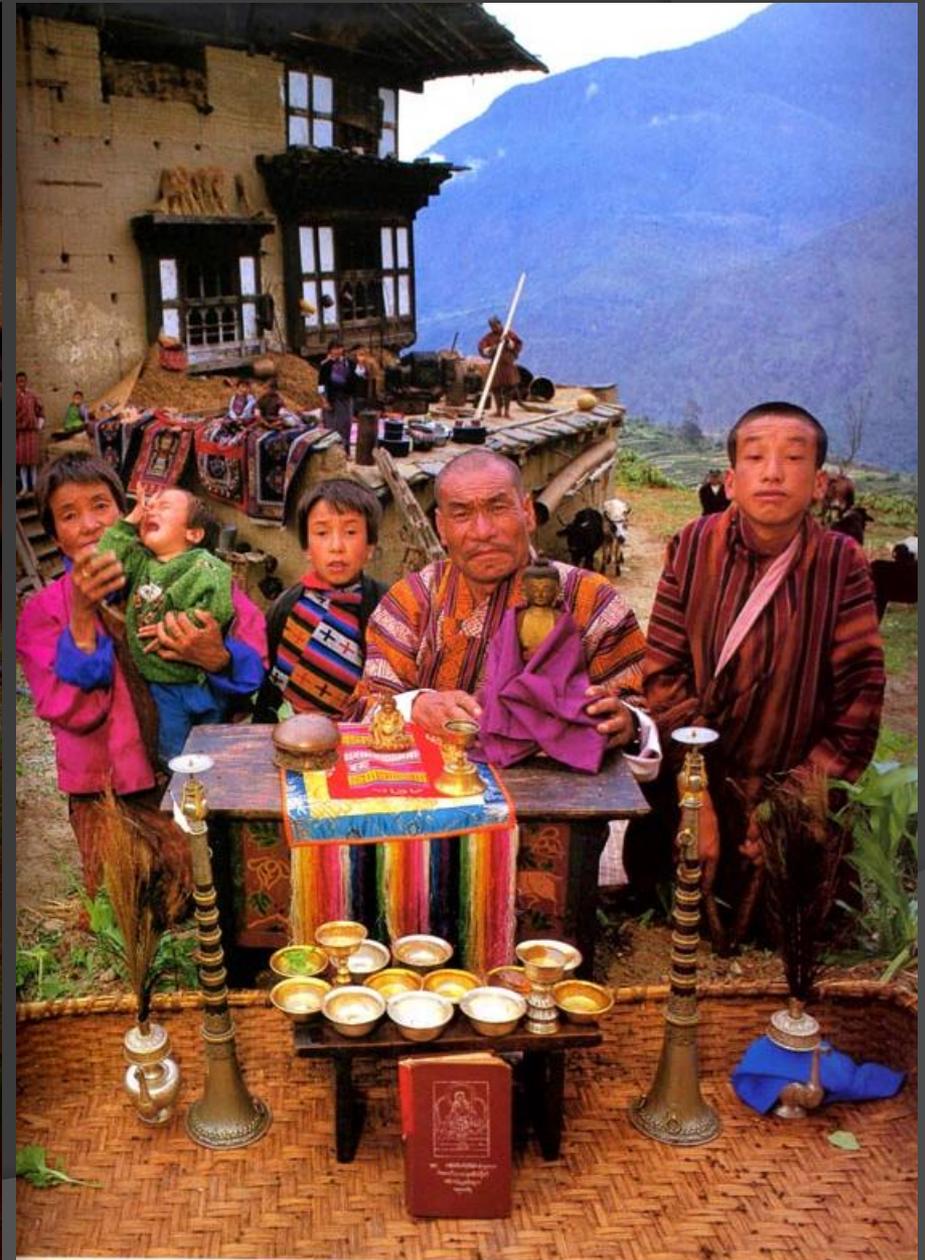
- Corn plants
- Hoes and cultivators (9)
- Basket for winnowing grain (with drying red peppers)

(Ledge on house, left to right)

- Basket and bag of rice (2)
- Ladder to attic (hewn from tree)
- Clay pot for water
- Pantry cabinet (left of door)
- Wind socks for temple decoration (3, hanging from rapel)
- Storage chests (3, for clothes)
- Blankets (3, folded)
- Sewing machine (treadle type)
- Pig (tied under steps)

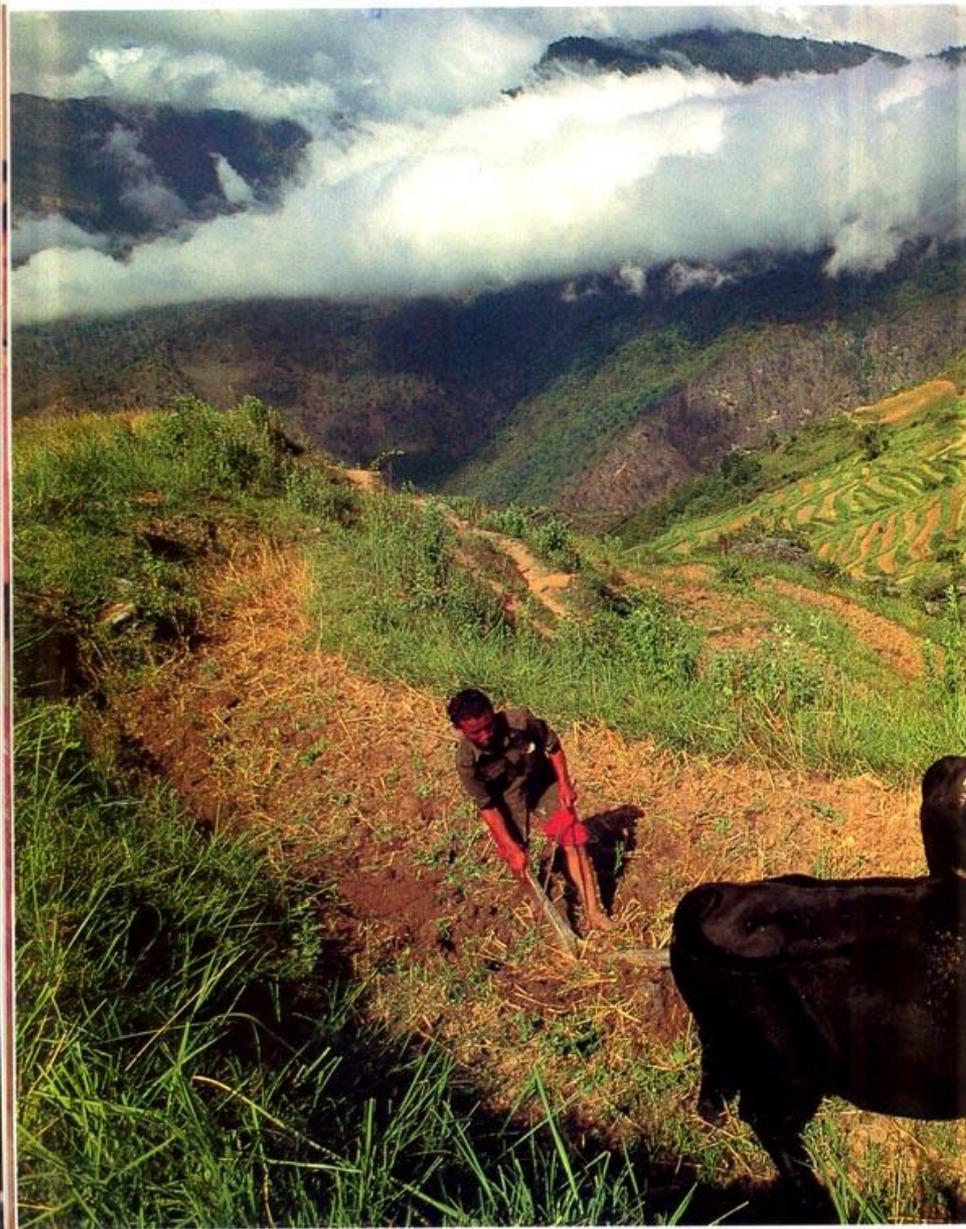
Porch (behind family, left to right)

- Rugs (5, for altar room)
- Wheat (for making bread and alcohol)
- Pitch fork (wooden)
- Butter churn and cooking pots (by 1st daughter)
- Storage baskets (11)
- Wood (being hewn with adz into yoke for bulls)
- Pumpkin

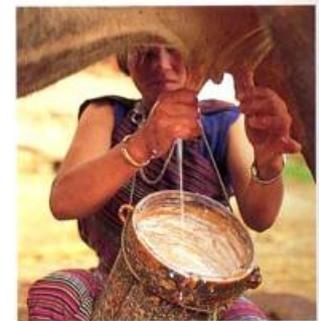
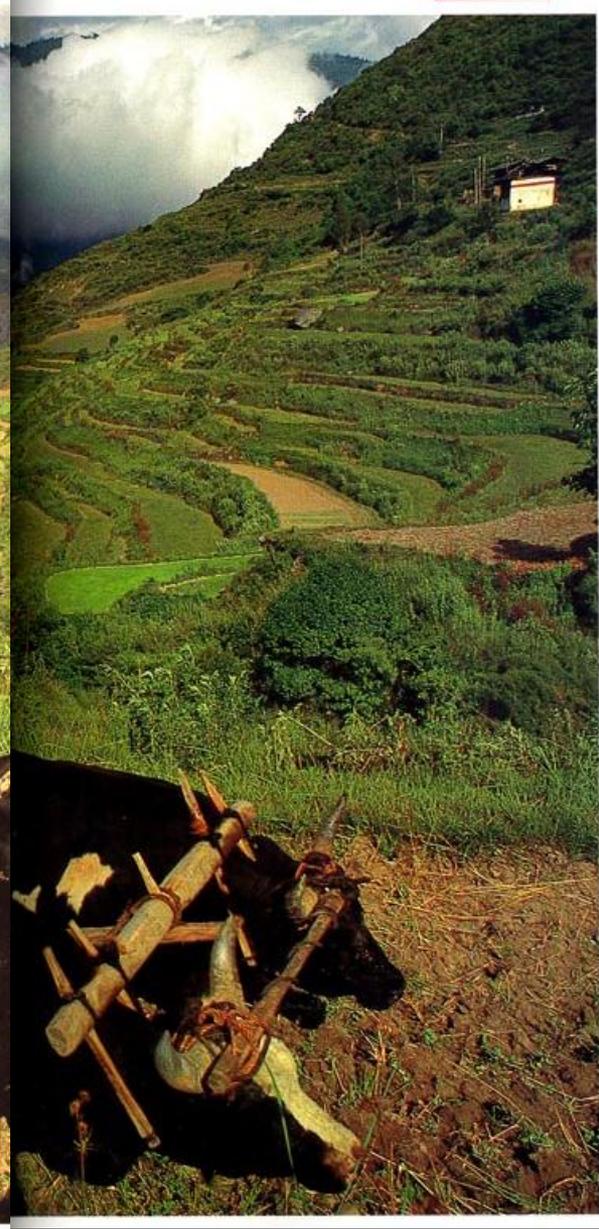


Bhutan-2

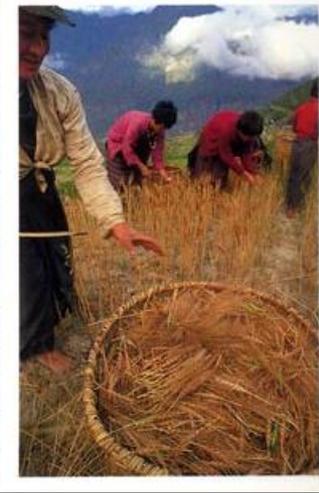
BHUTAN



BHUTAN



HUSBAND AND WIFE, Sangay Khanda and Sangaym, spend much of their day with the family cattle. One of Sangaym's morning duties is milking the cows into a wooden bucket (B). Sangay Khanda uses the bulls to plow the field, readying it for rice planting (A). He moves gingerly around the beasts, which are notoriously bad tempered. The Nangay household owns 5 acres (2 ha.) of land, scattered in terraced strips through the hills, each strip being devoted to one crop: wheat, rice, chilies, or potatoes. The wheat harvest (C), now in full swing, is assigned to the women. They take two long, dowel like sticks, pinch a fistful of wheat heads between them, and then pull up, snapping off the heads. For long-term storage, they cut the whole stalk, bind it into elegant sheaves, and store the result in the attic, from where it is threshed little by little, as the family needs it.



Iceland

ICELAND

Fire and Ice

The Thoroddsen Family

4:00 P.M., DECEMBER 15, 1993
HAFNARFJÖRDUR, ICELAND

BIG PICTURE BY PETER MENZEL

DAILY LIFE PHOTOGRAPHS
BY MIGUEL LUIS FAIRBANKS



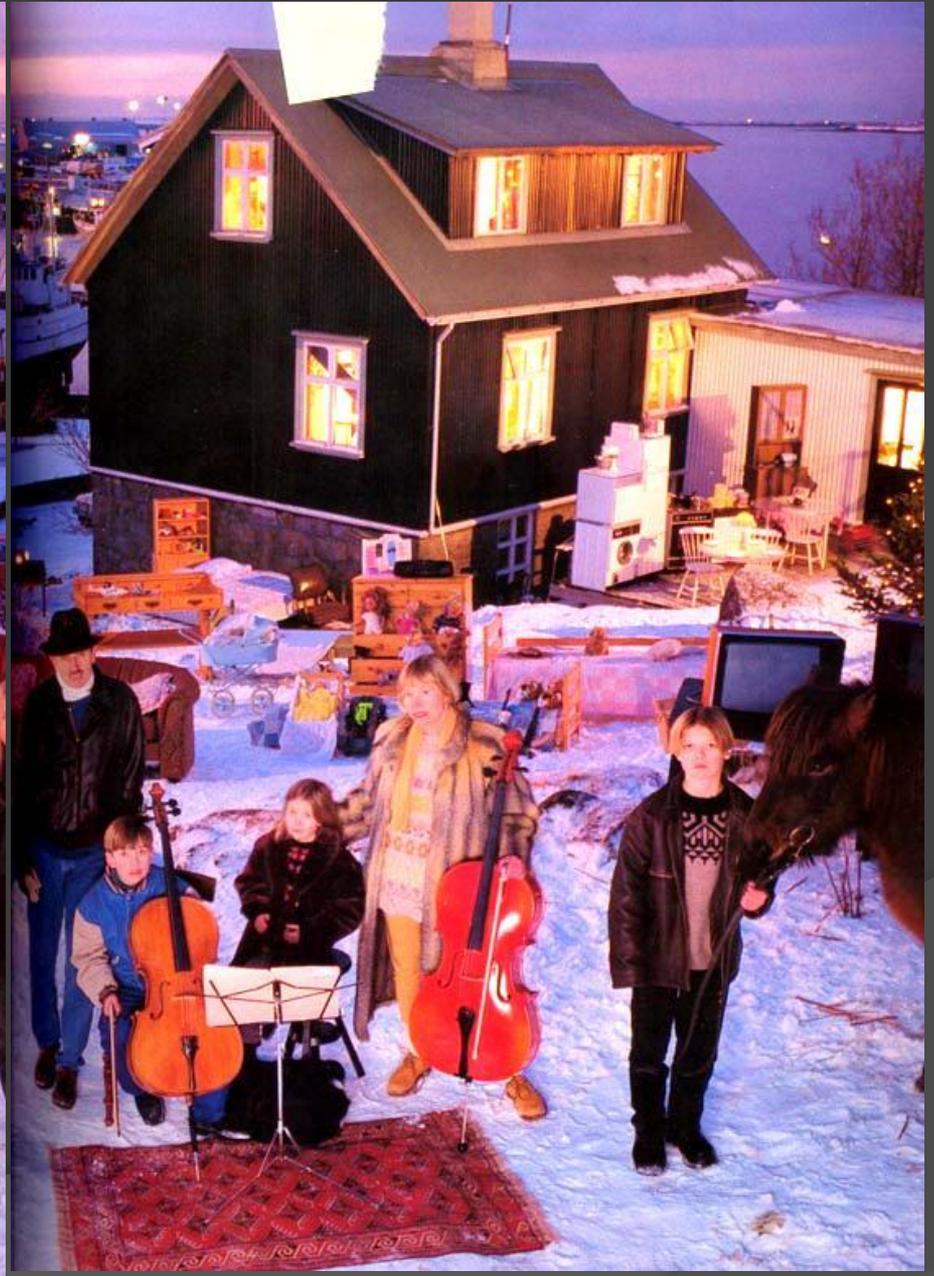
KEY TO BIG PICTURE

1. Björn Thoroddsen, father, 57
2. Margret Gunnlaugsdóttir, mother, 42
3. Sif Hauksdóttir, daughter from mother's 1st marriage, 18
4. Gunnlaugur Björnsson, son, 13
5. Gestur Björnsson, son, 11
6. Þóris Björnisdóttir, daughter, 7

OBJECTS IN PHOTO

(Left to right)

- Icelandic-breed horses (2 of 4 owned by mother)
- Rug (obsured by horse)
- 150-year-old desk
- Loveseat, chair, and sofa (matching set)
- Damascus-style table
- Swivel chairs (2, one by corner of house)
- 2nd sofa (behind 1st sofa)
- Cars (BMW and Citroën, lights on)
- 2nd desk (for children)
- Toy airplane and helicopter (on 2nd desk)
- Tall shelves with knickknacks
- Parents' bed (queen-size)
- Stroller (not currently in use)
- Cellos (2, with music stand and sheet music)
- 2nd rug (beneath cellos)
- Antique chair (beneath boy)
- Music stool (beneath girl)
- Chest of drawers filled with toys, stuffed animals
- Portable cassette tape player, pink plastic doll house (on chest)
- Children's beds (3, around chest of drawers)
- Doll, doll bed, big black toy truck (leaning on foot of nearest bed)
- Toy guns (2), Tony the Tiger bedroom slippers (leaning on head of nearest bed)
- Washing machine, dryer, refrigerator, mixer, toaster, food processor (on patio)
- Stove/oven, pots and pans
- Dishwasher, storage tins
- Storage cabinet
- Eating tables (2, one with lamp and crockery)
- Kitchen chairs (3)
- Tool chest (red)
- Televisions (2, on TV stands)
- VCR and stereo (under right TV)
- Christmas tree
- Shovel (behind tree)
- Bicycles (3, at rear)
- Clothesline with clothes



Iceland-2

ICELAND



A

ICELAND ISLAND

STATS

Area	39,758 sq. mi. (102,972 sq. km.)
Population	0.26 million
Population density	6.5 per sq. mi. (2.5 per sq. km.)
Total fertility rate	2.2 children per woman
Population doubling time	67 years
Percentage urban/rural	92% urban, 8% rural
Rank of per capita electricity use among world nations	2
Rank of fish consumption among world nations	1
Rank of per capita health-care spending among world nations	1
Rank of life expectancy among world nations	2
Rank of affluence among the 183 U.N. members	8

Iceland meets almost all of its energy needs by tapping the heat of its 200 vol- canoes and the flow of the rivers on their slopes. Partly as a result, its people enjoy one of the world's highest standards of living while breathing some of its clean- est air. Historically, this state of affairs is a change. Norway and Denmark occu- pied Iceland for 600 years and kept it in penury. Only in the 20th century could it create a real fishing industry, which became the mainstay of its economy. Independence occurred in 1944, fol- lowed by a relatively stable coalition gov- ernment. Recently a national preoc- cupation has been protecting the fisheries. Extending territorial waters to a 200-mile limit provoked the "cod war" of 1975, in which Britain severed diplomatic rela- tions. Although mediation resolved the dispute, Iceland and its neighbors will now have to face a larger issue: overfish- ing. The same fisheries technology that accounts for one-seventh of Iceland's gross national product is wiping out the harvest, and the nation faces a sharp con- flict between its long-term and short-term interests.



B



ICELAND



THE COCKPIT of an Icelandair 757, Björn (A) readies for take- off to Orlando, Florida. Because he spends so much time either in- or on the ground in other nations, the majority of the housework and the care of the children falls to Margret, who balances the chores with a thriving business as a millinery. In winter, Margret, like many of her neighbors, seldom goes outside without her furs (D, at a mall store 15 minutes from their home). An exception takes place during a weekend expedition to the hot springs in Hvalnarfjörður, the family's town, which is 5 miles (8 km) from Reykjavik. Scampering in the snow at the water's edge, 7- year-old Thórdís grins at her daring (B). Afterward, Gestur, her 11-year-old son, spends some time with his Super Mario Brothers video game (C). The view through the windows is the briny clutter of the boats and the fish- ing plant about 250 feet away.



Mongolia

MONGOLIA

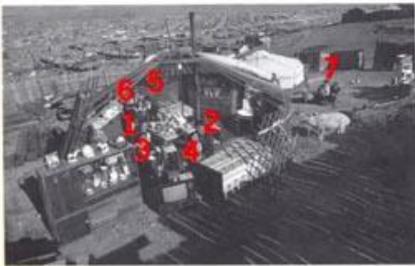
Reconstruction

The Regzen Family

4:00 P.M., SEPTEMBER 28, 1993
ULAANBAATAR, MONGOLIA

BIG PICTURE BY LEONG KA TAI
AND PETER MENZEL

DAILY LIFE PHOTOGRAPHS
BY LEONG KA TAI



KEY TO BIG PICTURE

1. Regzen Batsuury, father, 37
2. Lkhamsuren Oyuntsetseg, mother, 31
3. Batsuury Khorloo, daughter, 9
4. Batsuury Batbileg, son, 5
5. Oyuujargal, father's sister, 33
6. Yenuultzul, her daughter, 12
7. Mother's sister with husband and son (seated on bed, next to their ger)

OBJECTS IN PHOTO

(Clockwise from left)

- China cabinet with stickers of Chip 'n' Dale Rescue Rangers cartoon characters
- Family portraits (2), ceramic horses (2), ceramic Buddha (atop cabinet)
- Tea sets (2), small bronze Buddha (in cabinet)
- Poles used to form structure of ger, family dwelling
- Dresser with alarm clock and vanity mirror
- Twin bed with woven coverlet, extra bedding (folded)
- Dining table
- Tomatoes, hard cheese, teapot, jar of preserves, figurines (2), soft drinks (6 bottles), bowls of cookies, condiments, and candy (7) (atop dining table)
- Electric hot plate, electric kettle (on table to right)
- Fluorescent light fixture, incandescent bulb (hanging from peak of ger)
- 2nd china cabinet
- Trays (2), teapots (2), china statuery (in cabinet)
- Washbasin (white, on wooden box)
- Photograph
- 2nd twin bed with coverlet
- Television (black-and-white, with Chip 'n' Dale Rescue Rangers sticker)
- Incense holder, carved wooden Buddha in glass case (on television)

(Outside ger)

- Sheep (tethered to right)
- Ger and bed of mother's sister's family
- Icebox, barrel, water containers
- Outhouse (left of gate)



Vietnam

VIETNAM

Communist Free Market

The Nguyen Family

2:30 P.M., NOVEMBER 10, 1993
VIET DOAN, VIETNAM

PHOTOGRAPHS BY LEONG KA TAI



KEY TO BIG PICTURE

1. Nguyen Duy Ha, father, 33
2. Nguyen Thi Canh, mother, 31
3. Nguyen Thi Huong, daughter, 9
4. Nguyen Duy Hung, son, 7
5. Nguyen Thi Hai, daughter, 3 (trying unsuccessfully to blow up balloon)
6. Extended family (4 aunts, 4 uncles, grandparents, various children)

OBJECTS IN PHOTO

(Clockwise from bottom left)

- Bicycles (2, 1 Vietnamese, 1 Czech)
- Pith helmet (on low wall)
- Insecticide pump sprayer
- Kettle (on wall by sprayer)
- Beds (2)
- Pigs (2), chicken, rooster
- Haystack (behind left bed)
- Bedding (on left bed)
- Slippers (2 pair, below bed)
- Wheels for cart
- Earthenware urn
- Tall metal pot
- Chair (partly obscured by fan blade)
- House (built by grandparents, land still owned by them)
- Desk with Huong and Hung's books (along house)
- Hoes, rakes, other farm implements
- Attached kitchen (directly behind the Nguyen family)
- Bamboo bench (family sitting on it)
- Sideboard with china behind glass doors
- Thermos (on sideboard, Chinese-made)
- Tea set (on sideboard)
- Electric fan (on sideboard, base wrapped in plastic)
- Ceiling fan (on sideboard, Chinese-made)
- Basket of miscellaneous china (behind fan)
- Serving trays (leaning against sideboard)
- Basket of pots, pans, and bowls
- Stools (2, one behind trays)



Argentina



ARGENTINA

Stability — At a Price

The Carballo Family

2:30 P.M., NOVEMBER 27, 1993
SALTA, ARGENTINA

BIG PICTURE BY PETER GINTER

DAILY LIFE PHOTOGRAPHS
BY DIEGO GOLDBERG



KEY TO BIG PICTURE

1. Juan Carlos Carballo, father, 42
2. Marta Ekzabeth Iniguez, mother, 31
3. Nahuel Carballo, son, 9
4. Maria Belen Carballo, daughter, 8
5. Maria Pia Carballo, daughter, 6

OBJECTS IN PHOTO

(Foreground, left to right)

- Houseplants (8, most just behind family)
- Dining tables (2, 2nd far left behind plants)
- Silver tea set (atop 1st dining table)
- Miscellaneous chairs (3, around table)
- Shoes (20 pairs)
- Sewing machine and table

(Background, left to right)

- Office-style desk (far left, directly behind plants)
- Beds (3, behind desk)
- Floor lamp
- Tableware (atop 2nd dining table)
- Chairs (4, around 2nd dining table)
- Curio shelf
- Armoire and clothes
- Dresser
- Stereo and TV (atop dresser)
- Refrigerator
- Washing machine (on casters)
- Stereo speakers (right of washing machine)
- Piano
- Photo-portrait (by Juan Carlos)
- Dining chairs (6)
- Dolls and stuffed animals (on chairs, bear in center is youngest daughter's favorite possession)
- End table (in front of chairs)
- Rug (under end table)
- Home (yellow building, family occupies semi-separate apartment)
- Sideboard for china (against building)
- Couch (against building)
- Cabinet for glassware (against building)

(Rear)

- Catholic church (adjacent to family residence)

Germany



GERMANY DEUTSCHLAND

STATS

- Area**
137,838 sq. mi.
(356,998 sq. km.)
- Population**
81.3 million
- Population density**
589.8 per sq. mi.
(227.7 per sq. km.)
- Total fertility rate**
1.5 children per woman
- Population doubling time**
158 years
- Percentage urban/rural**
87% urban, 13% rural
- Population per television**
2.7 persons per set
- Annual per capita consumption of beer**
152 quarts (144 liters)
- Percentage of native freshwater fish that are extinct or threatened**
72%
- Percentage of trees with more than 1/4 of leaves lost to acid rain and pollution**
25.2%
- Number of people seeking asylum in Germany**
536,000 (1992)
- Life expectancy**
Female: 79, Male: 73
- Infant mortality**
7 per 1,000 births
- Rank of affluence**

Europe's biggest, most powerful nation, Germany has been at the uncomfortable center of European politics since Otto von Bismarck oversaw its unification in 1871. Seemingly overnight, city-states that had squabbled for centuries became a powerful force — technologically, commercially, imperially. Tensions led to the almost accidental flare-up of World War I. When Germany lost, the vengeful Allies imposed a humiliating peace treaty that led to vast inflation and social turmoil. Capitalizing on popular anger, a deranged, anti-Semitic agitator managed to seize power, launch a war, and oversee the extermination of Germany's Jews. When Germany lost again, the vengeful Allies divided it. Moscow controlled the smaller eastern part; the bigger western part was tied to its western neighbors. West Germany rebuilt its war-torn cities and became an economic behemoth. Indeed, it became so rich that when Communism fell most "westies" believed that they could easily absorb the "easties." Instead the eastern economy collapsed, and the west couldn't prop it up — leading to the kind of nationalist discontent that Germany's neighbors have learned to fear. At the same time, the country faces ecological limits. The east has some of the world's worst pollution, and the west has acid rain and water contamination. As a result, Germany finds itself once again in the center of the European mosaic.

GERMANY

Uneasy Unity

The Pfitzner Family

1:30 P.M., FEBRUARY 13, 1994
COLOGNE, GERMANY

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PETER GINTER



KEY TO BIG PICTURE

- Bernhard Pfitzner, father, 38
- Brigitte Klose-Pfitzner, mother, 36
- Manuel Pfitzner, son, 7
- Christian Pfitzner, son, 4

OBJECTS IN PHOTO

- (Clockwise from center left)
- Bookshelf for picture books
 - Video-cassette recorder (below bookshelf)
 - Stereo and tape recorder (on bookshelf)
 - Television, turntable, speakers (behind bookshelf)
 - Dining table with chairs and 4 place settings
 - Tripod with video camera (hooked up to TV, live image is of photographer from *Material World*)
 - Bookshelf with books
 - Anbuque cupboard for china and glassware
 - Painting (through window of Pfitzners' apartment)
 - Armoire (with clothes for parents and children)
 - Corner sofa
 - Kitchen cupboard (for china, spices, utensils)
 - Potted plants (4, on entry to
 - Ceramic statuery (on hutch)
 - Desk (for boys, with lamp, clock, pencil jar, etc.)
 - Toy shelves with toys
 - Kitchen table and chair (behind desk)
 - Plastic castle, little trucks, miniature dinosaurs (on table)
 - Loft beds (2, for boys)
 - Bookshelf (between beds)
 - Station wagon (behind beds)
 - Stove/oven with pots
 - Dishwasher (full of dishes)
 - Microwave (on dishwasher)
 - Refrigerator (with stickers)
 - Cabinet
 - Dresser
 - 2nd toy castle (on dresser)
 - Parents' bed
 - Bicycles (4, one behind 3rd bookshelf)
 - Father's motorcycle
 - Basket filled with items from family's history
 - Sheepskin and pillows



Japan

JAPAN

Paradoxical Affluence

The Ukita Family

10:30 P.M., DECEMBER 16, 1992
TOKYO, JAPAN

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PETER MENZEL



BIG PICTURE

1. Father, 45
2. Daughter, 9

IN PHOTO

1. Toys, left to right)

2. Books, dolls, pogo
3. Miscellaneous

4. Basket for toys
5. (2) with back

6. (3) with books,

7. Hanging on carport)

8. Chair (with stuffed
9. (minivan)

10. (2, atop car)

11. (1) player (on small

12. Trophies (2, on

13. (no and bench

14. (behind piano)

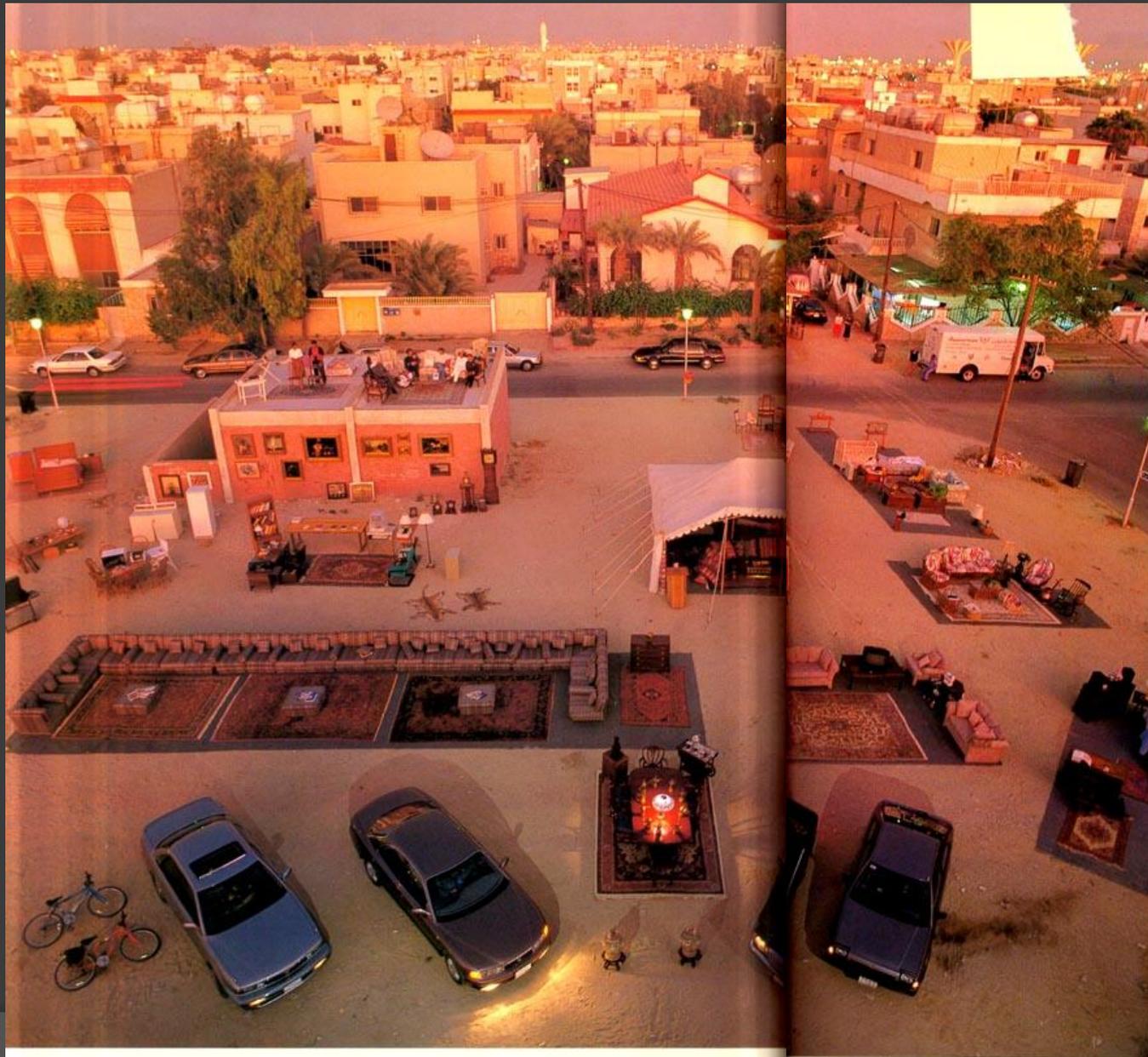
15. (pairs)

3. Sayo Ukita, mother, 43
4. Maya Ukita, daughter, 6

- Pots and pans (on end table)
- China cabinet (with china, microwave oven, toaster oven, liquor bottles)
- Paper-mâché animal (on cabinet, school project)
- Bed (behind table cabinet)
- Dressing table with mirror (behind bed)
- Umbrellas (by dressing table)
- Dining table (with family)
- Fire extinguisher (on wall)
- Dog house (on steps)
- Dog (named Izumaru)
- Bunk beds (with blankets, video cassettes, toys)
- Clothes rack (with woman's suit)
- Entrance gate (right half, black metal, with mail slot)
- Butcher block table (with cooking utensils)
- Food-storage unit (by washer)
- Electric washer/dryer
- Cleaning supplies (in basket, on plastic shelf unit)
- Tub toys (by bathmat)
- Skateboards (2, leaning on shell)
- Bicycle (13, in far right back)



Kuwait



KUWAIT

Oil Rich, Worker Poor

The Abdulla Family

5:30 P.M., DECEMBER 10, 1993
KUWAIT CITY, KUWAIT

BIG PICTURE BY PETER MENZEL

DAILY LIFE PHOTOGRAPHS
BY PETER ESSICK



KEY TO BIG PICTURE

1. Saif Abdulla, father, 52
 2. Zainab Abdulla, mother, 44
 3. Lubna Abdulla, daughter, 29
 4. Lail Abdulla, daughter, 26
 5. Abia Abdulla, daughter, 16
 6. Ali Abdulla, son, 2
 7. Agnes Fernandes, servant, 25
 8. Xavier Fernandes, servant, 30
- H. Family home (with refrigerator in entry, satellite dish)

OBJECTS IN PHOTO

(Selected items, clockwise from left)

- 45-foot-long sofa (from basement)
- Glass-topped coffee tables (3, with magazines)
- Carpets (4, beneath sofa, chest)
- Gas barbecue grill
- Low table (with fishing poles, various sporting equipment)
- Kitchen table (with microwave oven, toaster oven, high chair, 6 chairs)
- Bedroom set
- Washer and dryer
- Refrigerator
- Home-office furniture (includes telephone, fax machine, computer, printer, 2 leopard skins, 2 lamps)
- Oil paintings, stained-glass windows (on wall of municipal pumping station)
- Duck decoys (3)
- Antique clocks (6)
- Ironing board, iron, end table, radio, chairs (2), twin bed, carpet (on roof of pumping station, used by servants)
- Sofa, chairs (6), coffee table, jumbo jet tricycle (on roof, near family)
- Lectern, carpets (2), cushions, coffee pot collection (in family tent)
- Living room sets (3, two with color televisions)
- Bedroom sets (3, one with vanity, one with crib, one with long basketball trophy ribbons and guitar)
- Cars (4: 1992 Mazda, 1989 Mercedes Benz, 1990 Honda, 1992 Mitsubishi)
- Antique Chinese vases (2)
- Dining room table with chairs (6)
- Tiffany lamp, collection of antique coffee pots (on table)
- Silver tea set (on tea cart)
- End table with statue

The Cavin family of American Canyon, Calif.,



Toilets of the World

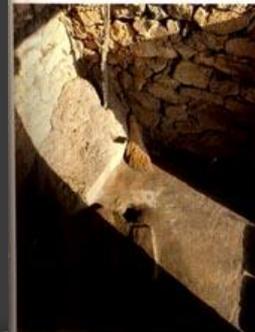
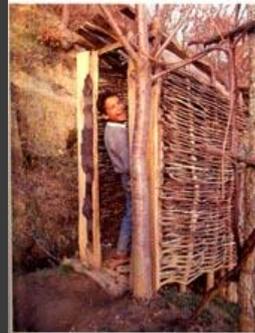
TOILETS OF THE WORLD



KUWAIT
THAILAND
JAPAN
SOUTH AFRICA

MEXICO
GERMANY
ETHIOPIA
CUBA

TOILETS OF THE WORLD



GUATEMALA
ALBANIA
VIETNAM

MALI
WESTERN SAMOA
GREAT BRITAIN

BHUTAN
UZBEKISTAN
MONGOLIA

Televisions of the World

TELEVISIONS OF THE WORLD



IRAQ
THAILAND
ALBANIA
GREAT BRITAIN

KUWAIT
BRAZIL
JAPAN
MEXICO

TELEVISIONS OF THE WORLD



VIETNAM
ITALY
RUSSIA
BOSNIA

SOUTH AFRICA
SPAIN
MONGOLIA
KUWAIT

A Hungry Planet: What the World Eats

- In 2000, photographer Peter Menzel and writer Faith D'Aluisio read a fact that changed their lives: the same number of people in the world were overfed as underfed.
- Over the next 5 years, the couple visited families in 24 countries, investigating what kind of food, and how much, a typical clan consumes. They photographed each family with an entire week's supply, collecting the images in their book *Hungry Planet: What the World Eats*.
- Initial findings:
 - ✓ More people on the planet are **overfed** than underfed
 - ✓ As a society's wealth grows, its citizens do too, thanks to diets higher in protein, sugar, and fat.
 - ✓ China is on the cusp of this phenomenon. it's possible to **eat themselves to death**," D'Aluisio says. She also singles out
 - ✓ Mexico, which she says has all the bad eating habits of the United States, "without access to the good ones,"
 - ✓ Kuwait, which has **higher obesity and diabetes rates** than any Western country.
 - ✓ Eating habits are formed at an early age, so "**you eat what your parents eat.**"
 - ✓ Highly processed foods vs. natural/organic foods

Fattest Countries in the World

- More than 1.6 billion people in the world are either overweight or obese, according to a recent study by the World Health Organization.
- Top 20 countries with the highest percent of overweight adults (people age 15 and over). People are considered overweight if their [body mass index \(BMI\)](#) is 25 or higher and obese with a BMI or 30 or higher.

USA	Overweight ¹ and obesity in the USA			Obesity in the US ²		
	1960–1962	1988–1994	1999–2000	1960–1962	1988–1994	1999–2000
M & W	44.8%	56.0%	<u>64.5%</u>	13.3%	23.3%	<u>30.9%</u>

Rank	Country	% Overweight or obese
1.	Nauru	94.5
2.	Federated States of Micronesia	91.1
3.	Cook Islands	90.9
4.	Tonga	90.8
5.	Niue	81.7
6.	Samoa	80.4
7.	Palau	78.4
8.	Kuwait	74.2
9.	United States	74.1
10.	Kiribati	73.6
11.	Dominica	71.0
12.	Barbados	69.7
13.	Argentina	69.4
14.	Egypt	69.4
15.	Malta	68.7
16.	Greece	68.5
17.	New Zealand	68.4
18.	United Arab Emirates	68.3
19.	Mexico	68.1
20.	Trinidad and Tobago	67.9

Italy



- **PALERMO, ITALY — THE MANZO FAMILY:**
Giuseppe, 31, Piera Marretta, 30, Maurizio, 2, Pietro, 9, and Domenico, 7

Giuseppe is a fishmonger, and the Manzos live above the Capo Market in Sicily, where some of the world's tastiest fresh fish can be found. But Piera Marretta doesn't like fresh fish, so the seafood of choice in the household is frozen fish sticks. Pietro's favourite food is hot dogs.

EXPENDITURE: **\$295**

China



- **WEITAIWU, CHINA** — THE CUI FAMILY: Haiwang, 33, Jinxian, 31, and (from left) Haiwang's father, Lianyou, 59, mother, Xianglian, 61, and grandmother, Wu, 79, and the couple's son, Yuqi, 6

The Cui family has a small plot of land outside their village, and they also grow tomatoes, cabbage, squash, and cucumbers in their courtyard. Because the government has granted them smaller plots of land in recent years, the family needs to purchase 90 percent of the food they eat.

EXPENDITURE: **\$65**

Mali



- **KOUAKOUROU, MALI** — THE NATOMO FAMILY: Soumana, 46 (in blue), with his two wives, Pama, 35 (immediate left), and Fatoumata, 33 (immediate right), their children, and members of the extended family

Asked about their favourite foods, the family says that they don't think in terms of favourites. All of their meals centre on a millet porridge called tô, which is eaten with various soups and sauces.

- EXPENDITURE: \$30

Egypt



CAIRO, EGYPT — THE AHMED FAMILY: Mamdouh, 35 (wearing glasses), and Nadia, 36 (with dark-brown head scarf), their three children (far left), six members of Nadia's extended family, and a family friend

The Ahmed home is often crowded for meals because many members of the extended family live either in or near the Ahmeds' apartment building. Generally the women in the families cook together. A favourite Ahmed family recipe is Nadia's tajine, a slow-cooked stew with okra and mutton.

EXPENDITURE: **\$78**

Bhutan



- **BHUTAN:** The Namgay family of Shingkey Village
- **FAMILY RECIPE:** Mushroom, cheese and pork
- **FOOD EXPENDITURE FOR ONE WEEK:** 224.93 ngultrum or **\$5.03**

Cuba



- **HAVABA, CUBA — THE COSTA FAMILY:** Lisandra, 16, Ramón Costa Allouis, 39, Sandra Raymond Mundi, 38, and Fabio, 6

In the early 1990s, the Costas, like many Cuban families, raised pigs in their courtyard, but nowadays meat is more readily available in Havana. Government food rations vary according to availability — a pound or two of protein and often coffee, sugar, salt, bread, beans, rice, and oil.

EXPENDITURE: **\$64**

Germany



- **BARGTHEIDE, GERMANY** — THE MELANDER FAMILY: Kjell, 10, Susanne, 43, Jörg, 45, and Finn, 14

Susanne tries to ensure that the Melanders eat nutritious foods and take supplements, though Jörg notes that his favourite dish is fried potatoes with onions, bacon, and herring. Susanne would like to buy only organic food, but it's simply too expensive.

EXPENDITURE: **\$568**

India



- **UJJAIN, INDIA** -- THE PATKAR FAMILY: Neha, 19, Akshay, 15, Jayant, 48, and Sangeeta, 42

Like most devout Hindus, the Patkars are vegetarians. A typical breakfast includes thinly sliced potatoes, onions, and chili peppers fried in vegetable oil and mustard seed, served with rice and chopped cilantro. Sangeeta notes that the Patkars are more flexible about their vegetarianism than her family was when she was growing up. Akshay, for one, says that he has eaten chicken and likes it.

EXPENDITURE: **\$45**

Mexico



- **MEXICO:** The Casales family of Cuernavaca
- **FAVORITE FOODS:** pizza, crab, pasta, chicken
- **FOOD EXPENDITURE FOR ONE WEEK:** 1,862.78 Mexican Pesos or **\$189.09**

Mongolia



- **MONGOLIA:** The Batsuuri family of Ulaanbaatar
- **FAMILY RECIPE:** Mutton dumplings
- **FOOD EXPENDITURE FOR ONE WEEK:** 41,985.85 togrogs or **\$40.02**

Ecuador



- **TINGO, ECUADOR-THE AYME FAMILY:** Orlando, 35, and Ermelinda, 37 (at right), with seven of their eight children (not shown is the couple's five-year-old daughter, who lives with their grandparents)

The Ayme family live for most of the year on food that they grow themselves. If they can afford it, on market days Orlando and Ermelinda indulge the family's sweet tooth by buying some brown cane sugar for everyone to nibble on during the week. Orlando's favorite food is pea-flour porridge with potatoes.

EXPENDITURE: **\$36**

Japan



- **KODAIRA CITY, JAPAN** — THE UKITA FAMILY: Maya, 14, Sayo, 51, Kazuo, 53, and Mio, 17

In any given week, the Ukita family will eat at least a dozen types of fish and shellfish and three varieties of seaweed. Like many families in urban Japan, they eat out often. Kazuo's favourite food is sashimi; Maya's is potato chips. Only 2 percent of Japanese adults are obese.

EXPENDITURE: **\$361**

What the World Eats



United States



China



Mali



England

USA



- **UNITED STATES:** The Caven family of California
FOOD EXPENDITURE FOR ONE WEEK: \$159.18
- **FAVORITE FOODS:** beef stew, berry yogurt sundae, clam chowder, ice cream

Kuwait



KUWAIT CITY - KUWAIT - THE AL-HAGGAN FAMILY: Wafaa Abdul Aziz, 37 (with beige head scarf), Saleh Hamad 42 (at right), the couple's four children, and the family's two Nepali servants

A typical breakfast for the family consists of olives, tomatoes, cucumbers, eggs, feta, Kraft and Laughing Cow cheeses, and flatbread. Because of poor soil and lack of water, most food in Kuwait is imported. Forty nine percent of Kuwaiti women and thirty percent of Kuwaiti men are obese.

EXPENDITURE: **\$252**

Poland



- **POLAND:** The Sobczynscy family of Konstancin-Jeziorna
- **FAMILY RECIPE:** Pig's knuckles with carrots, celery and parsnips
- **FOOD EXPENDITURE FOR ONE WEEK:** 582.48 Zlotys or **\$151.27**

Chad



- **CHAD:** The Aboubakar family of Breidjing Camp
- **FAVORITE FOODS:** soup with fresh sheep meat
- **FOOD EXPENDITURE FOR ONE WEEK:** 685 CFA Francs or **\$1.23**

Great Britain



- **GREAT BRITAIN:** The Bainton family of Cllingbourne Ducis

FOOD EXPENDITURE FOR ONE WEEK: 155.54 British Pounds or \$253.15

FAVORITE FOODS: avocado, mayonnaise sandwich, prawn cocktail, chocolate fudge cake with cream

USA



- RALEIGH, USA — THE REVIS FAMILY: Brandon, 16, Tyrone, 14, Rosemary, 40, and Ronald, 39

The Revis family has struggled to lose weight at times, and Brandon and Tyrone, Rosemary's sons from a previous marriage, expressed shock at seeing the amount of food that everyone had consumed in a week. The family has since begun a new exercise program.

EXPENDITURE: \$389

Bosnia



SARAJEVO, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA — THE DUDO FAMILY: Ensada, 32, Ibrahim, 8, Emina, 3, Amila, 6, and Rasim, 36

Despite Ensada's busy schedule, she does not rely on prepackaged foods. A typical dinner for the Dudos might consist of chicken stew served with ajvar (a preserved eggplant-and-red pepper spread) on slices of crusty bread. The children love to finish the meal with one of Ensada's homemade desserts, although they are just as happy with a store bought Kinder Surprise Egg.

EXPENDITURE: \$90

Canada



- **GATINEAU, CANADA** — THE FINKEN FAMILY: Kirk, 43, Danielle, 50, Anna, 11, and Coco Simone, 16

The Finkens try to eat locally produced organic fruit and vegetables and also grow vegetables in their front yard. The children are particularly fond of Indian food-Anna lists her favourite food as matar paneer, and Coco, who recently became a vegetarian, likes spiced lentils and chapatis.

EXPENDITURE: \$158

What I Eat Daily? ([Link](#))

20-year-old US Army soldier, 6 feet 5 inches tall, 195 lbs, typical daily caloric intake: 4,000 calories. Food staples: Mostly instant ready-to-eat meals.



Other Books/Works

- Material Worlds: A Global Family Portrait
- Hungry Planet: What the World Eats
- Women in the Material World.
- Man Eating Bugs: The Art and Science of Eating Insects and
- Robo Sapiens: Evolution of a New Species.