CONTENTS

	List of Illustrations	vii
	Acknowledgements	viii
Chapter 1	Introduction	1
_	The geographic and social setting	9
Chapter 2	The historical constitution of a multi-ethnic society	16
	The Fulbe conquest of Adamawa	16
	The major Gbaya movements into the Mbere region	28
	The Mbororo arrival in the Mbere region	29
	Early colonial rule and the creation of the Meiganga	
	Arrondissement	32
	Colonial political economy in the Meiganga Arrondissement: 1929–1960	35
	National independence and post-colonial developments	38
	Conclusion	42
Chapter 3	The Fulbe ethnic category and its incorporative	
	potential	43
	Colonial and post-colonial modifications of Fulbe ethnic identity	46
	Islam and Fulbe ethnic status in northern Cameroon	48
	Sociolinguistic aspects of Fulfulde speech in northern	
	Cameroon	51
	Cultural consensus in Fulbe interactional contexts	53
	The Fulbe category in the Mbere Department today	56
	Assimilation and stratification in the Fulbe ethnic category	67
Chapter 4	The Gbaya ethnic category: peripheralisation or	
	political mobilisation?	70
	Whence Gbaya ethnic identity?	70

	The Gbaya within the multi-ethnic society of the Mbere Department today	77
	The contribution of the missionary factor to Gbaya ethnic	
	consciousness	85
	Gbaya political mobilisation and leadership in the post- independence period	91
	The changing character of Gbaya ethnic identity	91 94
Chapter 5	The Mbororo ethnic category: distinction and	
	exclusion?	96
	Ethnic terminology and Mbororo migratory group	
	structure	97
	Jafun political leadership in the Mbere Department	100
	The Fulbeisation of the Jafun Mbororo	105
	Jafun marriage and ethnic boundaries	109
	Mbororo identity: the cultural logic of a pastoral lifestyle	114
Chapter 6	Situation, agency and structure in inter-ethnic	
	relations	117
	A wedding celebration	118
	Strategies and uncertainties: interpretations and structures	122
	The Mbororo and the Cameroon state	129
Chapter 7	Violence and the politics of difference in global and	
	local perspective	133
	Present political trajectories in the Mbere Department	138
	Global versus local perspectives in political practice	142
	Regional reorientation of elites and national political	144
	processes	144 147
	Islam and religious pluralism in northern Cameroon An emerging regional culture for northern Cameroon?	150
	The chiefging regional culture for northern cameroon:	150
Chapter 8	An epilogue on ethnicity	154
	Ethnicity, colonialism and the state	158
	Ethnicity, history and the cultural structures of meaning	161
	Conclusion	168
	Notes	172
	Glossary	184
	Bibliography	188
	Index	199