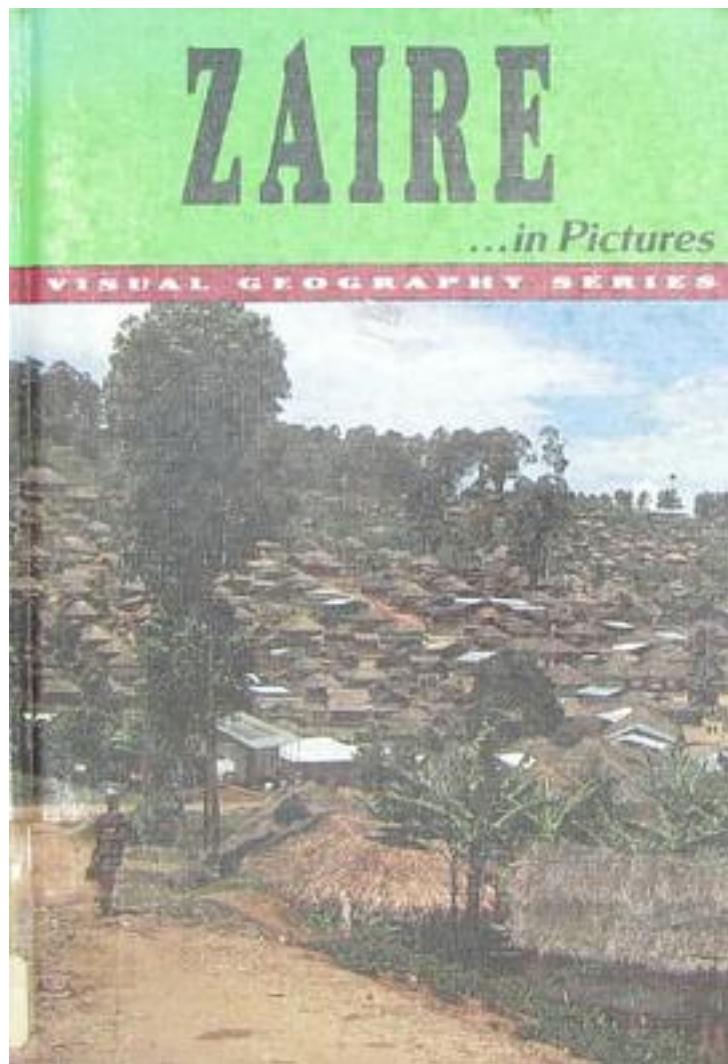


Zaire in Pictures Visual Geography. Second Series



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著者:Lerner Publishing Group

出版者:Lerner Pub Group

出版时间:1993-1

装帧:精装

isbn:9780822518990

Loca .t~/inwest central Africaï¼Œ Zalre is the From the fifteenth to the late nineteenth
continent's third largest country. The na- centuriesï¼Œ many thriving kingdoms evolved
tion has 37.8 million citizens and more in Zalre. Most of the people in these king-
than 200 ethnic groups. Not one of these doms lived in small villages and relied on
Zsirean groupsï¼Œ most of which speak a farmingï¼Œ huntingï¼Œ and fishing for survival.
Bantu languageï¼Œ makes up over 10 percent In the sixteenth centuryï¼Œ slave trading
of the total populationï¼Œ with Europeans became an important eco-
Although they live in a country that has nomic activity for some local leaders.
great mineral wealthï¼Œ most Zalreans do not African brokers who captured villagers
have enough money to feedï¼Œ clotheï¼Œ and ed- and sold them to foreign buyers also prof-
ucate their families. In factï¼Œ if measured ited from the slave trade.
by average income per personï¼Œ Zaire is one In the late 1800sï¼Œ Zaire's vast store of
of the world's poorest nationsï¼Œ minerals attracted Belgium's King Leo-
Zaire's people have been grouped into a pold II. He signed treaties with hundreds
single nation for a relatively short time. of African leaders to mine and sell Zaire's

作者介绍:

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