That Desert is Our Country: Tuareg Rebellions and Competing Nationalisms in Contemporary Mali (1946-1996)

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Citation for published version (APA):
List of terminology

French and Tamassheq when unindicated, Arabic: (Ar.), Songhay: (Son.), Bambara (Bam.) masculin singular: (m.s.) masculin plural: (m.pl.) feminin singular (f.s.) feminin plural (f.pl.) only used to indicate people.

- **aboubash** (m.s.) iboubashen (m.pl.)
- **tababasht** (f.s.) tiboubashen (f.pl.) - cross cousins
- **adagh** - mountain area in northern Mali
- **aggiwin** - praise singers, bards
- **'aid al-'adhâ** (Ar.) - feast of the sacrifice
- **'aid al-fitr** (Ar.) - celebration at the end of Ramadan
- **akafl** - warfare without rules
- **akal** - earth, ground, country, territory
- **Alfaqi** - specialist in fiqh or Muslim law
- **Alfellaga** - first Tamassheq rebellion in Mali
- **al-Guitara** (Ar.) - musical genre of the teshumara
- **al-Jaish li Takhrîr al-Maghrebiyya** (Ar.) - Moroccan Liberation Army
- **al-Jebha** (Ar.) - 'the front', the second rebellion and the movement preparing it
- **al-Jebha li Takhrîr ash-Shimâl al-Malî** (Ar.) - the Liberation Front of Northern Mali
- **al-Maghreb al-Aksâ** (Ar.) - the far west, Greater Morocco
- **amashegh** (m.s.) imousagh (m.pl.) tamashheq (f.s.) timushaq (f.pl.) - noble
- **amenokal** (m.s.) - 'owner of the land', leader of a federation or ettebel
- **amghid** (m.s.) imghad (m.pl.) tamghid (f.s.) timghaden (f.pl.) - free non-noble
- **annetma** - mother's brother
- **aqqa** - attack to restore or gain honour
- **Araben** - Arabs
- **aran meddan** - male patrilineal parallel cousins
- **aran tîdodên** - male and female matrilineal parallel cousins
- **at-tarîkh** (Ar.) - History, in Tamassheq written history
- **ath-Thawra** (Ar.) - The revolution
- **Azawad** - wadi in south-eastern Mali, Tamassheq country in rebel discourse
- **bella** - (former) slaves
- **bilâd es-Sudân** (Ar.) - sub-Saharan Africa
- **boubou** - male Muslim dress
- **Brigade de Vigilance** - para military movement under the Keita regime
- **Canton** - administrative unit in AOF
- **Cercle** - administrative unit in AOF and Mali
- **cheick** (Ar.) - leader among the Moors
- **Commandant de Cercle** - administrative head of a Cercle
- **Communauté Française** - French colonial Common Wealth
- **Conseil de Fraction** - fraction council
- **djammuzu** (Bam.) - patronyms
- **egha** - hatred and revenge
- **eghewid** - male turban and veil
- **ellelu** (m.s.) illelan (m.pl.)
- **telêl** (f.s.) tilélan (f.pl.) - free, strong or noble status
- **entoutcas** - nickname of the Tamassheq intellectuals by the ishumar
- **eshik** - honour, restraint
ettembel - drum, symbol of power of the federation, also called ettembel

exode - annual seasonal migration from the countryside to the cities in search of work

fasobara (Bam.) - forced labour

fiqh (Ar.) - Muslim law

FLN - Forces de Libération Nationale, Algerian National Liberation Army

fraction - nomad administrative unit

Ganda Koy (Son.) - 'Masters of the land', Songhay and Bellah vigilante brigade

gandoura (Ar.) - thin burnous

goum - camel mounted military police force

goumier - military policeman

Gourma - Niger Bend

Hajj (Ar.) - pilgrimage to Mecca

Haratin (Ar.) - Moorish (former) slaves

ifulagen (m.pl.) afuleg (m.s.) - a fighter in Alfellaga, the first Tamashq rebellion

Ihaten - Songhay people

iklan (m.pl.) akli (m.s.) taklit (f.s.) tiklatin (f.pl.) - slave

Iklan n eguef - 'slaves of the dunes', sedentary slave communities

Ikufar (m.pl.) Akafer (m.s.)

Takafert (f.s.) Tikufar in (f.pl.) - 'infidels', 'Westerners' (Takafert, also French language)

imelen - white, not used to indicate 'white people'

inadan (m.pl.) enad (m.s.) tenad (f.s.) tinaden (f.pl.) - casted craftspersons

ineslemen (m.pl.) aneslim (m.s.)

tanesliin (f.s.) tineslemen (f.pl.) - persons of religious standing and occupation

ishumar (m.pl.) ashamor (m.s.)

tashamort (f.s.) tishumarin (f.pl.) - 'unemployed', those of the teshumara subculture

jähîl (Ar.) - ignorant, anarchist

Jihad (Ar.) - holy war

kokadfâ (Bam.) - term to describe 'ethnic' cleansing

koul - black, also used in Tamashq to indicate 'black' people

Malinke - Mande language

Mande - culture area in West Africa

Marabout - Muslim mystic or religious specialist

mazbut (m.s.) mazbuten (m.pl.) - colloquial Ar. 'OK', nickname given to the ishumar

Milice Populaire - para military brigade under the Keita regime

Mauri âniyya (Ar.) - Mauritanian Renaissance Party

ouled (Ar.) - son of

ouled - daughter of

senankuya (Bam.) - joking relationship

sattef - 'greenish black', also used in Tamashq to indicate people of that particular 'colour'

sefham - to make understand

Service Civique - conscription alternative to military service under the Keita regime

shaggaran - red, 'white' people

shorfa (Ar.) - descendant from the prophet Muhammad

sous fraction - administrative unit

Subdivision - colonial administrative

Takaraket - (knowledge of) shame

talaqiw (s.) tilaqiw (pl.) - poor, weak

tanekra - 'the uprising', movement preparing the second Tamashq rebellion
tanyatin - female paternal parallel cousins
tefoghessa - 'being Ifoghas', Ifoghas culture
Targui - singular of Tuareg
tayite - intelligence, understanding
tegzetege - pelvis, confederation, sister's children, relation between mother's brother and sister's children
temet - placenta, lineage, genealogy
temushaghatemushagha - 'being amashegh', culture of the imoushagh
temust / tumast - social identity, nation
tenere - emptiness, 'desert', 'fatherland'
tengelt - allusive language
Territoire des Oasis - colonial administrative region in Southern Algeria
teshumara - 'being unemployed', Tamasheq youth culture of the Maghreb cities
tewet - attack to gain booty
tewsit - descent group, fictive kin group, clan, tribe
teylell - followsome behaviour
tifinagh - Tamasheq alphabet
tikonin - nonsense
timgheda - 'being imghad', imghad culture
tindé - drum, musical genre
tinfusen (pl.) tanfust (s.) - oral history, story
tisiway (pl.) tasawit (s.) - (oral) poetry
tô (Bam.) - millet porridge
tonw (Bam. pl.) - village associations
Touat - Region in South-West Algeria
zahuten - ishumar parties
zawiya - Lodge of a sufi brotherhood