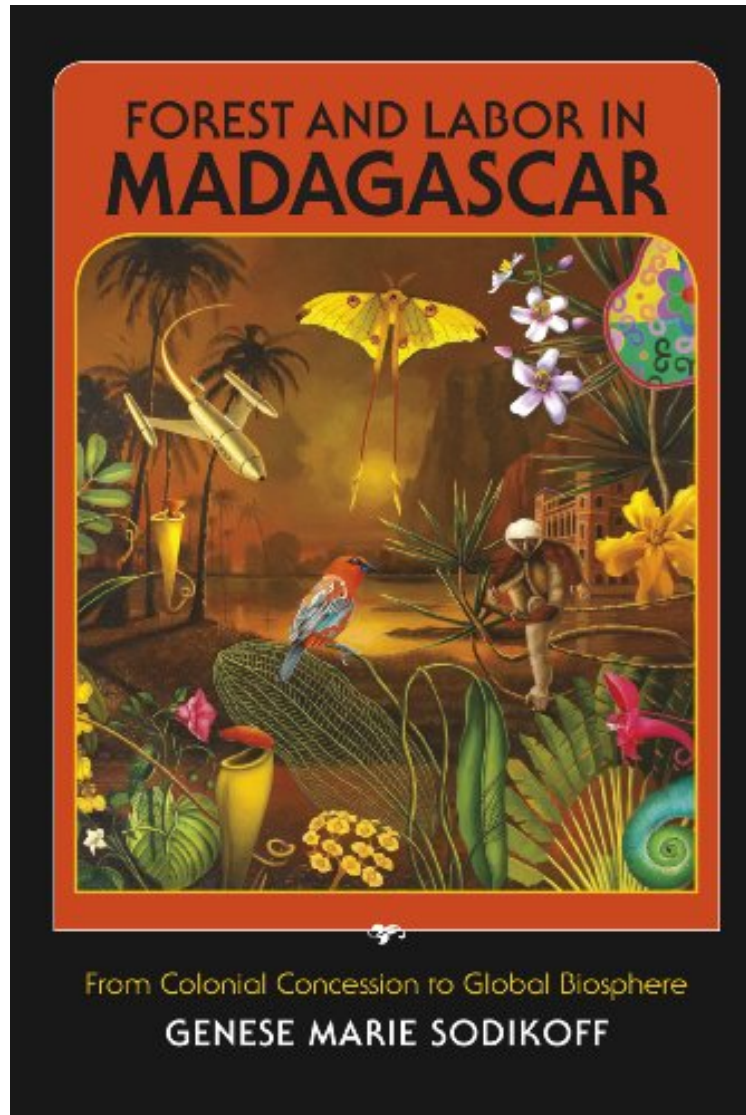


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Forest and Labor in Madagascar: From Colonial Concession to Global Biosphere

Genese Marie Sodikoff

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Genese Marie Sodikoff : Forest and Labor in Madagascar: From Colonial Concession to Global Biosphere before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Forest and Labor in Madagascar: From Colonial Concession to Global Biosphere:

3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Interesting and informative
By Lynne Venart
This book provides a very interesting look at the cultural history of Madagascar, how the people and tribes interact with each other as well as foreigners who are working to protect the environment, and the reasons for possible cultural barriers to this

work. I'm not a scientist, so I appreciate that while the book is academic and in-depth, it is also easy to read and not overly technical. The author's field work in Madagascar highly informs the book, and the author uses a lot of anecdotes to explain her research findings.

Protecting the unique plants and animals that live on Madagascar while fueling economic growth has been a priority for the Malagasy state, international donors, and conservation NGOs since the late 1980s. *Forest and Labor in Madagascar* shows how poor rural workers who must make a living from the forest balance their needs with the desire of the state to earn foreign revenue from ecotourism and forest-based enterprises. Genese Marie Sodikoff examines how the appreciation and protection of Madagascar's biodiversity depend on manual labor. She exposes the moral dilemmas workers face as both conservation representatives and peasant farmers by pointing to the hidden costs of ecological conservation.

"Clearly organized and wonderfully written, [this book] provides invaluable insights on how frontline conservation workers shape (or can't) and fit within (or don't) the convoluted workings of global conservation practice." *Intl Jnl African Historical Studies* "An important and lively contribution to the study of 'green neoliberalism.' An obvious choice for undergraduate teaching on ecology, rights, international political economy, development, and a host of other topics." *David Graeber, University of London* "Through rich and thick ethnographic description, *Forest and Labor in Madagascar* delivers what its title promises: providing the reader with a historically informed and detailed overview of the relations between forest conservation and labour dynamics on the Malagasy Island.... [F]or those interested in a solid, rich, and detailed ethnography of socio-environmental change and those interested in the politics of nature and broader labour issues in Madagascar, this is an excellent read." *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* "[Sodikoff] takes her readers on a wonderful tour along the underbelly of conservation work in order to give them a clear understanding of how labour plays out in a political economy ruled mainly by conservation stakeholders." *Africa* "Throughout the book, it is clear that Sodikoff has both a great knowledge of and a deep respect for the people and the environments of Madagascar. The result is a humane and approachable ethnography that would connect with both undergraduate and graduate students." *American Ethnologist* "Genese Marie Sodikoff takes us deep into the underbelly of conservation in one of the world's biodiversity 'hot-spots.' It is a world of timber barons, logging gangs, corrupt state functionaries, international conservation experts, worker-peasants, and poachers. She paints eastern Madagascar as a frontier of dispossession, exploitation, and violence. The plundering of the Mananara protected area is seen, in a brilliantly original way, from the subaltern vantage point of forest workers and conservation labor. *Forest and Labor* places present day conservation on the larger canvas of a century of forest-based social relations of labor that have entered into the making of what Sodikoff calls neoliberal conservation. It is a magnificently rich historical and ethnographic accounting of what passes as the making of global biosphere reserves. A tour de force." *Michael Watts, University of California, Berkeley* "*Forest and Labor in Madagascar*... is a worthwhile contribution to [the] growing body of scholarship on the social ramifications of conservation efforts." *Anthropology of Work* "Those interested in conservation, tropical rainforest ecology, international political economy, and sustainable development will find *Forest and Labor in Madagascar* an insightful case study." *Choice* "Brings a whole new angle and nuance to the crucial debates over conservation and development. Applicable not just to lush, humid eastern Madagascar, but all around the globe." *Christian Kull, Monash University* "*Forest and Labor in Madagascar* is ethnographically rich, and anthropologists working in the developing South will recognize much that it covers." *American Anthropologist* "*Forest and Labor in Madagascar* is a pertinent and well-timed contribution to the growing literature on green neo-liberalism and its consequences at a time when the term 'salvage frontier' is becoming applicable to ever-greater swathes of this planet." *Journal of Modern African Studies* "An important and lively contribution to the study of 'green neoliberalism.' An obvious choice for undergraduate teaching on ecology, rights, international political economy, development, and a host of other topics." *David Graeber, University of London* (David Graeber, University of London) "Brings a whole new angle and nuance to the crucial debates over conservation and development. 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It is a magnificently rich historical and ethnographic accounting of what passes as the making of global biosphere reserves. A tour de force." *Michael Watts, UC Berkeley* About the Author Genese Marie Sodikoff is Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at Rutgers University, Newark. She is editor of *The Anthropology of*

Extinction: Essays on Culture and Species Death (IUP, 2011).