Passing culture on between generations

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Read each theme, then answer in your own words.

1. Initiation

Rites that bring young people into adulthood: the Sara yondo, the Massa guru walla, Moundang boys' initiation. They teach rules, language and duties to the group.

In your family or neighbourhood, how is this passed on?

2. Griots, genealogies and oral history

Clan genealogies among the Toubou and Arabs, memory of the Ouaddaï and Kanem sultanates, songs and poetry: history is recited before it is written.

In your family or neighbourhood, how is this passed on?

3. Crafts within families

Blacksmithing among the Haddad, fishing and canoes among the Buduma and Kotoko, herding among the Daza, Zaghawa and Mbororo: skills are learned by working alongside elders.

In your family or neighbourhood, how is this passed on?

4. Religion, spirits and authority

The margai cult among the Hadjeraï, the sacred kingship of Léré, the derde of Tibesti, the alifa of Mao, Quranic school: these institutions keep and pass on the social order.

In your family or neighbourhood, how is this passed on?

5. Names and marriage

Clan, lineage and alliances between families shape marriage and naming in most of the societies described. Details vary widely: we publish them only when a specific source documents them.

In your family or neighbourhood, how is this passed on?

6. Passing on languages

Over a hundred languages are spoken in Chad (Ethnologue). At home children often learn the group's language; at school, French and Arabic; in town, Chadian Arabic. The Beria alphabet shows an oral language can also be written.

In your family or neighbourhood, how is this passed on?

7. City and village

In villages, rites, chieftaincy and collective work remain close at hand. In towns (N'Djaména, Moundou, Abéché, Sarh), school, world religions, media and the mixing of peoples change practices; associations, music and festivals become new places of transmission.

In your family or neighbourhood, how is this passed on?

Activity

Inquiry: interview a parent or elder about a tradition and compare with the page.

Source: tchad-culture.vercel.app