“Loss of Culturally Vital Cattle Leaves the Dinka Tribe Adrift in Refugee Camps”

Class Notes: October 8, 2014

**Gist Statements for each Paragraph of Article:**

Paragraph 1:

People are being loud and dancing crazily.

At 7:25 people start celebrating.

Paragraph 2:

Dowry celebration – no cattle given by boy

Dinka dowry ritual celebration

Paragraph 3:

Husband cannot give cattle until later because of the war

Husband pays for wife with cattle, but because of war, there is no cattle

Paragraph 4:

The war took everything away

Paragraphs 5 – 6:

Cattle are the reason to marry

Giving things (cows/cattle) to the girl’s family is part of tradition

The Sudanese (Dinka) marry young

Paragraphs 7-8:

Because of the war, they lost everything that means something to them and the ceremonies and traditions are changing.

Without the cattle, the Dinka feel very sad and empty.

**Full Gist Statement for Excerpt 1:**

Cattle are important and weddings can’t be properly done without them.

The Dinka tribe used to use cows to marry young people but the war stopped that tradition.

The war changed both the Dinka and the Nuer, destroying their traditions and cattle.

The Dinka use cattle as dowry to celebrate weddings, but since the Dinka have no land and have no cattle because of the war, they can only make promises to give cattle in the future.

Vocab:

Institutions - a society or organization founded for a religious, educational, social, or similar purpose.

Displaced - force (someone) to leave their home, typically because of war, persecution, or natural disaster.

Woe – great sorrow or distress

Dismay - cause (someone) to feel consternation and distress.

Governing - conduct the policy, actions, and affairs of (a state, organization, or people)