

Arthur Charles Beaton (b. 1904), the author of the grammar of the Fur language reproduced here, was educated in Leeds and at Oxford. He served in the Sudan Political Service from 1927 to 1954, retiring as Permanent Under-Secretary, Ministry of the Interior. He served in Darfur, mainly in Zalingei, between 1935-38.

In addition to the grammar given here, he wrote a number of very informative articles on the Fur which were published in Sudan Notes and Records. He also published Equatoria Province Handbook, 1936-1948, 1950, and with A Paul, A Grammar and Vocabulary of the Tigri Language, 1954.

When I met him in London in 1966, he was a senior official in the British National Coal Board. I have been unable to trace the date of his death.