

February 2009 NEW RELEASE

Title: *Yuendumu Everyday*

Subtitle: *Contemporary life in remote Aboriginal Australia*

Author: Yasmine Musharbash, Perth

Format: 216x140 mm, pb, illustrated

Extent: 256 pages

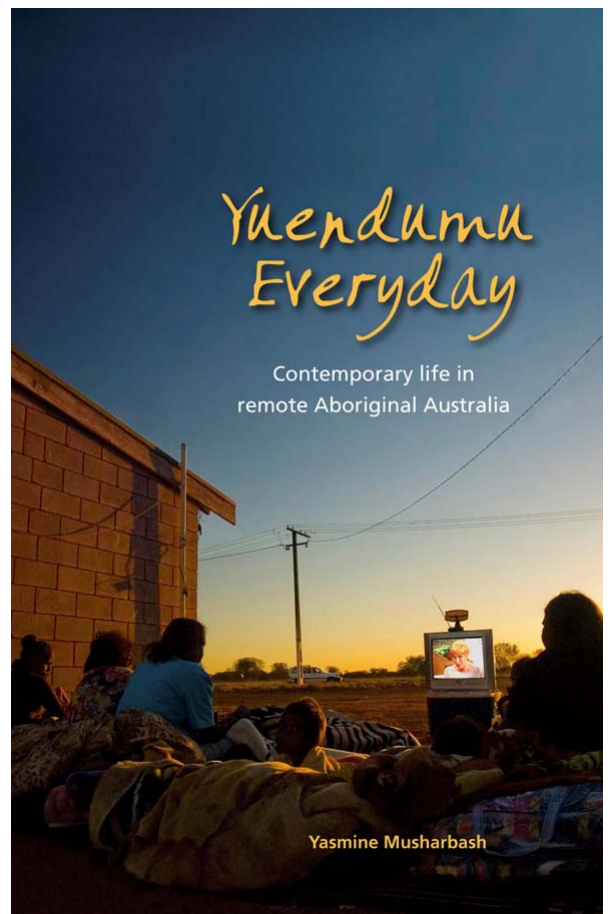
RRP: \$39.95

ISBN: 978 0 85575 661 1

Market: social anthropology/trade (workers in Indigenous communities, and those delivering services to Indigenous communities)

Bookshelf categories: Anthropology, Aboriginal Studies

BIC categories: JMH, JFSL9



Endorsement

Gracefully and cogently, Yasmine Musharbash opens up the world of everyday life of Warlpiri people at Yuendumu, the pressures and satisfactions of a life dominated by the immediacy of others, and the extraordinary mobility of persons making their way through the physical and social spaces of their world.

Fred Myers

Silver Professor of Anthropology, New York University

Book blurb *Yuendumu Everyday* is a highly readable examination of the nature of daily life in a remote Aboriginal community in central Australia. Evocative narratives revolve around five Warlpiri women who present insights into the cultural underpinnings of Indigenous daily life.

Yuendumu Everyday gently takes the reader deep into the contradictory realities of a not-so-distant hunter-gatherer past, and the realities of living in a first-world nation state. Some of the questions that arise are apparently mundane: What is a camp? How does that relate to houses? Who sleeps where, and next to whom? Why does this constantly change? What and where are the public/private boundaries? And most importantly: How do Indigenous people relate to each other in practice?

Employing a refreshingly readable writing style, Musharbash includes rich vignettes and narrative portraits. Her descriptions and analyses transcend the general and illuminate the personal; inviting readers to ponder the questions raised by the book, not just at an abstract level, but as they relate to people's actual lives. In doing so, it expands our understandings of Indigenous Australia.

Diane Belle's *Daughters of the Dreaming* was a ground-breaking work that's remained in print for many years. It was an academic book that crossed over to a general readership. *Yuendumu Everyday* is expected to be just an important a publication. It, too, focuses on the lives of women.

Author Yasmine Musharbash spent three years of participant observation in the Warlpiri camps of Yuendumu, as a postgraduate of the Australian National University, and as a Postdoctoral Fellow with the University of Western Australia. Musharbash is one of a younger generation academics who's highly respected within the discipline.