

WONDERFUL HOUSES AROUND THE WORLD



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Illustrated by Akira Nishiyama



China

Living Together in a Circle

DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS, there is a round earthen building called a *tulou*. It is surrounded by a thick dirt wall. It looks as if a huge flying saucer has landed. It is in the Fujian province of China.

There are as many as three hundred people living in this tulou. Entering through the gate in the wall, you will find it is very lively inside. Take a few steps, and here and there you will hear people calling to you to stop for tea. In the middle is the hall for ancestor worship. Looking up, you can see a round circle of sky.



Who lives here?

300 people!



FOURTH FLOOR

THIRD FLOOR

SECOND FLOOR

FIRST FLOOR

STAIRS

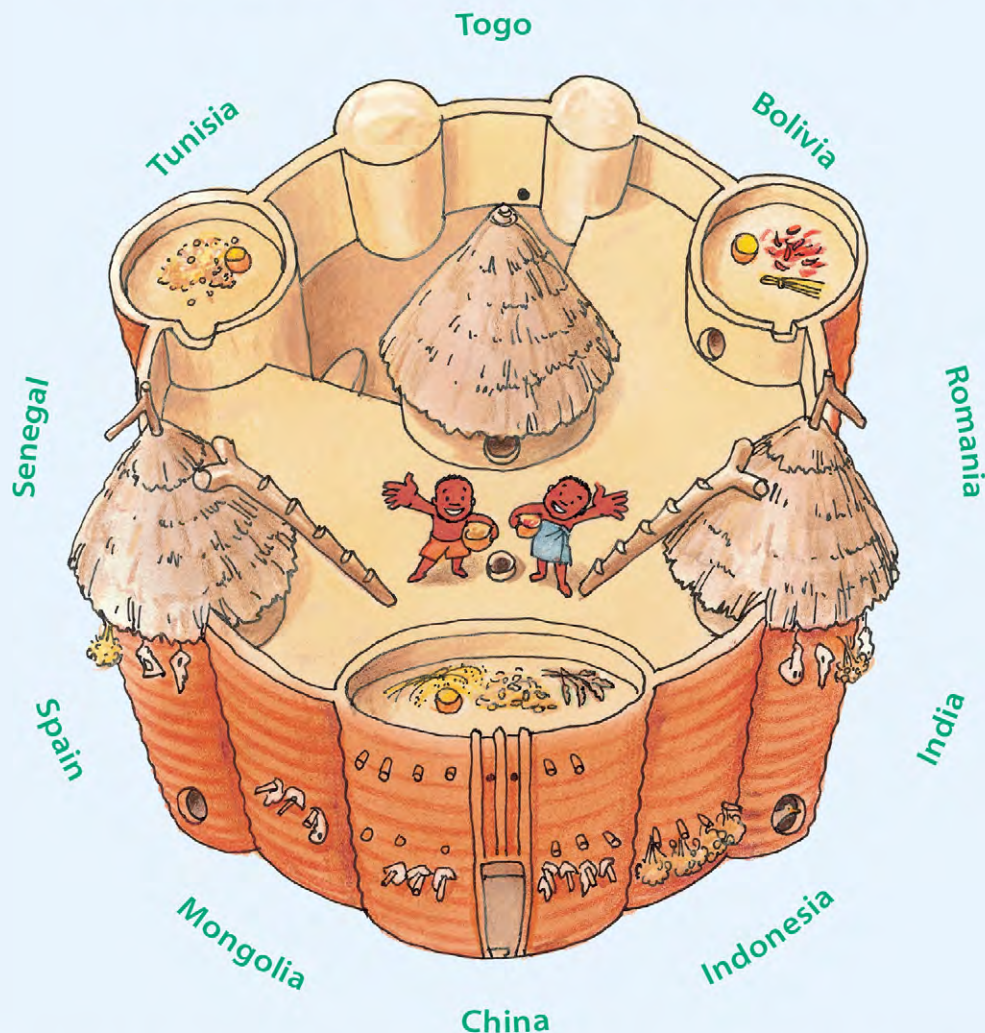
THE TULOI HAS FOUR FLOORS. THERE ARE FOUR COMMUNAL STAIRCASES, AND MORE THAN 200 ROOMS OF THE SAME SIZE. ON THE FIRST FLOOR THERE ARE KITCHENS ALL IN A ROW. ALONG THE CORRIDOR THERE ARE ALSO OUTDOOR COOKING STOVES, WHERE PEOPLE CAN STAND AND EAT CASUALLY. ON THE INSIDE OF THE CORRIDOR IS WHERE PIGS, RABBITS, CHICKENS, AND DUCKS ARE KEPT. (SEE PAGE ON RIGHT.) THE SECOND FLOOR HAS THE WAREHOUSES, WHERE THE HARVEST AND THE FARM TOOLS ARE KEPT. THE LONG HALL IS WHERE THE CHILDREN PLAY. (SEE BELOW.) THE THIRD AND FOURTH FLOORS HAVE BEDROOMS THAT ARE ALSO USED FOR STUDY. PARENTS AND CHILDREN SHARE ONE ROOM. (SEE LEFT.)





WONDERFUL HOUSES AROUND THE WORLD

Come along with photographer Yoshio Komatsu and visit children in ten different countries of the world.



See photos of their unique houses, all built out of natural materials—earth, wood, thatch, sod, bamboo and stone. Then step inside and meet the children and their parents and learn about their everyday activities: food gathering and processing, cooking, sleeping, working, and playing.

Although this is a children's book, it will inform and delight people of all ages.



Shelter
www.shelterpub.com

ISBN-13: 978-0-936070-34-6



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