



HABERLAND, EIKE FRIEDRICH GEORG (*1924; †1992)

Eike Haberland grew up in Nauen and Potsdam, where he finished school in 1942. Due to his interest in non-European countries and illiterate cultures, he studied anthropology, ancient philology, ancient history and oriental studies at the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt am Main. In addition, he attended courses on religious studies and African linguistics. In 1950, under the supervision of Professor Adolf Ellegard Jensen, Haberland completed his PhD thesis, *Das Gada-System der südabessinischen Völker* [*The Gada system of south Abyssinian people*]. In the following years he was employed as a research assistant at the Frobenius Institute. Throughout his appointment

at the Frobenius Institute, he carried out intensive field research, especially on the ethno-history of southern Ethiopia. He completed his habilitation thesis in 1962 and was appointed as professor in the Department of Anthropology and African Studies at the University of Mainz in 1965.

Three years later he returned to Frankfurt where he took up a professorship in the Department of Historical Anthropology and became the director of the Frobenius Institute. In the early 1970s he continued to carry out research on Ethiopia and received the Haile Selassie prize for Ethiopian Studies in 1971. When the socialist regime took power in Ethiopia shortly after, he shifted more and more of his attention to Burkina Faso, its loam architecture and its material culture. Knowledge of indigenous languages, the intensive study of societies' material culture, and collaboration with other sciences, especially archeology, were all of great importance to him. Haberland died in 1992.