



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

## Guide to the Thomas Stauffer films, circa 1964

Human Studies Film Archives  
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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Scope and Contents.....	1
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	3

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Human Studies Film Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Thomas Stauffer films
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1959-1964
<b>Identifier:</b>	HSFA.2004.09
<b>Creator:</b>	Stauffer, Thomas Reynolds, 1935-
<b>Extent:</b>	Film reels (color silent; 16,000 feet) Sound recordings
<b>Language:</b>	Supplementary materials are in English; moving image materials are silent.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Received from Thomas R. Stauffer in 2004.

### Preferred Citation

Thomas Stauffer films, Human Studies Film Archives, Smithsonian Institution

### Restrictions

The collection is open for research. Please contact the archives for information on availability of access copies of audiovisual recordings. Original audiovisual material in the Human Studies Film Archives may not be played.

### Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

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## Scope and Contents

Footage and audiotapes of Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan recorded between 1959 and 1964.

Legacy keywords: Sheep ; Animal husbandry ; Cookery ; Musical instruments ; Dance ; Domestic life ; Nomads

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or Anthropology Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

Qashqā'ī (Turkic people)

### Types of Materials:

silent films

### Places:

Afghanistan

Asia

Pakistan

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## Container Listing

### [Black Tents: Nomadism in Southern Iran, circa 1964](#)

2 Film reels (color silent; 2,347 feet; 16mm)

Sound recordings

Notes: Edited film shot by Thomas Stauffer documenting nomadic life in southern Iran. First film reel captures daily life including: herding and tending sheep; making butter from goat's milk; washing clothes and livestock; hunting on horseback; men cleaning and cooking game, women cooking flatbread and rice; sharing a meal; making carpets and weaving on large scale (including carding sheepskin and spinning thread); men stick dancing and playing music; women dancing with scarves in large circle. Second reel captures the transportation and settlement of a camp, including: packing, loading livestock with belongings, the journey itself, and the setup of a new camp. Once settled, footage captures adults at leisure (drinking tea, smoking, playing games) and children in school (writing and performing math equations in a mixed-gender class). Footage is of men, women, and children and does not tend to follow specific individuals. Setting is arid valley surrounded by mountains; map depicting southern Iran is used to trace typical nomadic pathways through the Zagros Mountains.

Supplementary materials: 2004 sound annotation by Thomas Stauffer

HSFA 2004.9.1