Contents

	List of maps and	figures	vii
	Acknowledgements		ix
	A note on orthography		xiii
	Interlude		XV
1	Introduction		1
	Dipo in Ghana		4
	Female initiation		8
	Imagining culture		12
	Researching dipo		
2	Mountain dwellers in the plains		29
	The setting: 'Under the Odum tree'		33
	Politics and economic development	S	40
	Social and kinship structures		45
	Multiple religious spaces and practi	ces	55
	Back to the mountain		63
3	'A mighty obstacle to the gospel ¹		
	Basel missionaries and paganising	g dipo	71
	Priestly rule and chieftaincy	<u>-</u>	74
	Dipo on Krobo Mountain		86
	'A swamp of immorality and wickedness':		
	Missionaries encounter dipo		
	'A mighty obstacle to the gospel':		
	Dipo and the problems of conversion		
	Heathendom versus Christianity		
4	A break with 'the past'?		
	The eviction from the mountain h	ome and criminalising	<i>dipo</i> 113
	Dipo and other obstacles to 'civilisation'		
	The destruction of 'Satan's bulwarks		124
	Dressing dipo gi	rls: ⁱ Boburri ^{>}	142
	Drafter 1917		147

5	'Every year around Easter'	
	The dynamics of Krobo religion	157
	Performing religion	159
	'If I don't serve her, she will kill me': The call of the gods	168
	'May the year go and come again': Calendrical rituals	175
	The dynamics of Krobo religion	190
6	'First the custom, then baptise'	
	Life cycle rituals, Christianity and personhood	193
	Ideas about the self, the person and the (invisible) world	
	Introduction and incorporation into the physical world	199
	Male circumcision	
	Becoming a woman	205
	Competing demands: Christian ceremonies	213
	Marriage	222
	Death and funeral rites	233
	Personhood in a complex world	234
7	'A pure Krobo'	
	Proudly performing dipo	241
	Preparations: divination and cleansing	242
	Separation	252
	Ritual cleansing	258
	The climax	265
	Bold and beautiful: The final rites	274
	'A pure Krobo': Ritual and belonging	279
8	Debating dipo	
	Discourses of culture in Ghana	285
	'Dipo is pagan': Christian discourses	288
	'Dipo is kusumV: Culture as custom	297
	'Culture for development': Dipo and the state	304
	Performing culture: Tourism	312
	The limits of discursive space	316
9	Conclusion	319
	Glossary	327
	Abbreviations	330
	Appendix: Krobo texts	331
	References	335