

*PART ONE:
POWER AND POLITICS FROM STATELESS
SOCIETIES TO GLOBAL CAPITALISM*

COLONIAL RULE

Problems with Colonial Hegemony

1. Anthropology of colonialism:

- evolutionary progress
- domination and exploitation
- struggle and negotiation

2. Uneven, incomplete, non-totalizing:

- Marshall Sahlins, June Nash, John and Jean Comaroff, James Scott
- Ranajit Guha

Colonial Monolith?

John Comaroff: “The image of colonialism as a coherent, monolithic process can no longer be sustained: indeed, the very nature of colonial rule was, and is, often the subject of struggle among colonizers as well as between ruler and ruled....settlers, administrators, and evangelists contested the terms of European domination.”

1. Lack of a unitary, universal colonial project
--state officials, settlers, missionaries

Colonial Monolith?

1. Lack of a unitary, universal colonial project...cont'd

--disagreement over tactics, strategies, visions of European colonial order

--abolitionism

--inter-European contests for hegemony

2. Diverse colonial forms:

--Colonies of Settlement (Canada, US, Aus.)

--Colonies of Conquest (Peru, Mexico)

--Colonies of Exploitation (Caribbean)

Colonial Monolith?

3. Diverse forms of rule:

- Direct Rule
- Indirect Rule

4. Different labour regimes:

- Slave labour
- Peasant labour
- Wage labour

Domination—Resistance

Frantz Fanon (1963: 84): “colonialism...is in fact the organization of a Manichean world, a world divided up into compartments. And when in laying down precise methods the settler asks each member of the oppressing minority to shoot down 30 or 100 or 200 natives, he sees that nobody shows any indignation and that the whole problem is to decide whether it can be done all at once or by stages”

James Scott & Gramscian Hegemony

Domination—Resistance

Comaroff & Comaroff (1991: 20): “Since it is possible, indeed inevitable, for some symbols and meanings not to be hegemonic—and impossible that any hegemony can claim all the signs in the world for its own—culture cannot be subsumed within hegemony, however the terms may be conceived. Meaning may never be innocent, but it is also not merely reducible to the postures of power”

Ranajit Guha, *Dominance without Hegemony*.

Power ← → dominance and subordination

--dominance: coercion & persuasion

--subordination: collaboration & resistance

END OF PART ONE