



Philosophy and Anthropology
Border Crossing and Transformations
Edited by Ananta Kumar Giri and John Clammer

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Description

This original compilation of essays engages the largely unaddressed issue of the relationship between philosophy and anthropology over time with an innovative flair.

Anthropology and philosophy have long been intellectual companions; the borders between the two disciplines have always been permeable. For example, anthropologies inspired by Durkheim are ultimately indebted to Kant; Evans-Pritchard's ideas are stamped with R. G. Collingwood's Hegelian philosophy; Gluckman was stimulated by Whitehead's process philosophy; and Bourdieu drew inspiration from Wittgenstein and Pascal, amongst others. Yet the fuller history and implications of philosophical influences in anthropology are largely unaddressed.

In this volume, the contributors address the shifting effect philosophy has on anthropology. They investigate the impact of the philosophical presuppositions of anthropology, as well as the presuppositions themselves, using a comparative-cultural point of view – ethnography. Furthermore, by considering anthropologies in conjunction with philosophies and philosophies with anthropologies, the volume helps illuminate the present trajectories of thought in post-colonialist, non-ethnocentric and creative directions, which were previously ignored by the contemporary social sciences. As a cross-disciplinary study, the volume questions both the rigidity of intellectual and disciplinary boundaries and attempts to evade it by encouraging many different voices and perspectives to create a thought-provoking dialogue.

The original essays in *Philosophy and Anthropology: Border Crossings and Transformations* discuss the three-fold division within the anthropological engagement with philosophy, the sources and history of philosophical anthropology, and its current applications and links with other contemporary intellectual movements. This volume seeks to engage with real social and humanitarian issues of the current age and create an innovative discipline: philosophical anthropology.

Readership: This book will benefit scholars, teachers, students and practitioners of anthropology and philosophy, as well as anyone interested in cross-disciplinary work involving the subjects and their current social issues.

About the Editors

Ananta Kumar Giri has taught in various universities in India, the USA, Denmark and Germany, and has written numerous books on social movements, cultural change, criticism, culture and society, and ethics in management and development. Giri is currently an associate professor at the Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai, India.

John Clammer is currently a professor of sociology in the Institute of Sustainability and Peace at the United Nations University, Tokyo, Japan. His work ranges from economics, anthropology and ethnicity to identity and development, and focuses on the relationships between Western social theory, the realities of the Asian societies and the links between culture and development.

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