

# Pathways of Power

*Building an Anthropology  
of the Modern World*

Eric R. Wolf

*with Sydel Silverman*

FOREWORD BY

Aram A. Yengoyan

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PRESS

Berkeley · Los Angeles · London

# Contents

Foreword: Culture and Power in the Writings of Eric R. Wolf, by Aram A. Yengoyan	vii
Preface	xix
Introduction: An Intellectual Autobiography	i
 PART I. ANTHROPOLOGY	 II
1. American Anthropologists and American Society	13
2. Kroeber Revisited	23
3. Remarks on <i>The People of Puerto Rico</i>	38
4. On Fieldwork and Theory	49
5. Anthropology among the Powers	63
 PART II. CONNECTIONS	 81
6. Building the Nation	83
7. The Social Organization of Mecca and the Origins of Islam	100
8. Aspects of Group Relations in a Complex Society: Mexico	124

9. The Virgin of Guadalupe: A Mexican National Symbol	139
10. Closed Corporate Peasant Communities in Mesoamerica and Central Java	147
11. The Vicissitudes of the Closed Corporate Peasant Community	160
12. Kinship, Friendship, and Patron-Client Relations in Complex Societies	166
13. Ethnicity and Nationhood	184
 PART III. PEASANTS	 191
14. Types of Latin American Peasantry: A Preliminary Discussion	193
15. Specific Aspects of Plantation Systems in the New World: Community Subcultures and Social Classes	215
16. Peasants and Revolution	230
17. Phases of Rural Protest in Latin America	241
18. Is the "Peasantry" a Class?	252
19. On Peasant Rent	260
20. The Second Serfdom in Eastern Europe and Latin America	272
21. Peasant Nationalism in an Alpine Valley	289
 PART IV. CONCEPTS	 305
22. Culture: Panacea or Problem?	307
23. Inventing Society	320
24. The Mills of Inequality: A Marxian Approach	335
25. Incorporation and Identity in the Making of the Modern World	353
26. Ideas and Power	370
27. Facing Power—Old Insights, New Questions	383
28. Perilous Ideas: Race, Culture, People	398
 References	 413
Index	447