

**READER IN
COMPARATIVE
RELIGION** *An*
*Anthropological
Approach*

THIRD EDITION

William A. Lessa

Professor Emeritus

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Evon Z. Vogt

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Sondersammelgebiet
Volks- & Völkerkunde
in Zusammenarbeit mit der BFG



HARPER & ROW, PUBLISHERS

New York Evanston San Francisco London

CONTENTS

Foreword *ix*
Acknowledgment *xi*

General Introduction 1

1. The Origin and Development of Religion 7

Introduction 7
TYLOR, Animism 9
KROEBER, Totem and Taboo: An Ethnologic Psychoanalysis 20
KROEBER, Totem and Taboo in Retrospect 24
DURKHEIM, The Elementary Forms of the Religious Life 28
BELLAH, Religious Evolution 36

2. The Function of Religion in Human Society 51

Introduction 51
FUSTEL DE COULANGES, The Ancient City 52
MALINOWSKI, The Role of Magic and Religion 63
RADCLIFFE-BROWN, Taboo 72
HOMANS, Anxiety and Ritual: The Theories of Malinowski and
Radcliffe-Brown 83
PARSONS, Religious Perspectives in Sociology and Social Psychology 88
KLUCKHOHN, Myths and Rituals: A General Theory 93

3. Symbolism 106

Introduction 106
LEACH, Two Essays Concerning the Symbolic Representation of Time
108
CUNNINGHAM, Order in the Atoni House 116
GOSSEN, Temporal and Spatial Equivalents in Chamula Ritual
Symbolism 135
WOLF, The Virgin of Guadalupe: A Mexican National Symbol 149
TURNER, Planes of Classification in a Ritual of Life and Death 153
GEERTZ, Religion as a Cultural System 167

4. Symbolic Classification 179

Introduction 179
LÉVI-STRAUSS, The Bear and the Barber 181
DUMONT, A Structural Definition of a Folk Deity of Tamil Nad:
Aiyandar, the Lord 189
DOUGLAS, Pollution 196
DOUGLAS, The Abominations of Leviticus 202
LEACH, Anthropological Aspects of Language: Animal Categories and
Verbal Abuse 206

- FRAKE, A Structural Description of Subanun "Religious Behavior" 220
 VOGT, Structural and Conceptual Replication in Zinacantan Culture 231
 RIGBY, Some Gogo Rituals of "Purification": An Essay on Social and Moral Categories 238

5. *Myth* 248

- Introduction 248
 LESSA, "Discoverer-of-the-Sun" 251
 STANNER, The Dreaming 269
 DUNDES, Earth-Diver: Creation of the Mythopoeic Male 278
 LÉVI-STRAUSS, The Structural Study of Myth 289
 LEACH, Pulleyar and the Lord Buddha: An Aspect of Religious Syncretism in Ceylon 302
 WILLIS, The Head and the Loins: Lévi-Strauss and Beyond 313

6. *Ritual* 323

- Introduction 323
 FIRTH, Offering and Sacrifice: Problems of Organization 324
 LEACH, Ritualization in Man in Relation to Conceptual and Social Development 333
 TURNER, Betwixt and Between: The Liminal Period in *Rites de Passage* 338
 HORTON, Ritual Man in Africa 347
 ROSALDO, Metaphors of Hierarchy in a Mayan Ritual 359
 LOWIE, The Vision Quest Among the North American Indians 369
 WILSON, The Zuni Shalako Ceremony 372

7. *Shamanism* 381

- Introduction 381
 BOGORAS, Shamanistic Performance in the Inner Room 382
 RASMUSSEN, A Shaman's Journey to the Sea Spirit 388
 NEEDHAM, Percussion and Transition 391
 METZGER AND WILLIAMS, Tenejapa Medicine I: The Curer 398
 SHWEDER, Aspects of Cognition in Zinacanteco Shamans: Experimental Results 407

8. *Magic, Witchcraft, and Divination* 413

- Introduction 413
 FRAZER, Sympathetic Magic 415
 TITIEV, A Fresh Approach to the Problem of Magic and Religion 430
 CANNON, "Voodoo" Death 433
 EVANS-PRITCHARD, Witchcraft Explains Unfortunate Events 440
 TREVOR-ROPER, The European Witch-Craze of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries 444
 VOGT, Water Witching: An Interpretation of a Ritual Pattern in a Rural American Community 449
 MOORE, Divination—A New Perspective 462

9. *Death, Ghosts, and Ancestor Worship* 466

- Introduction 466
 OPLER, An Interpretation of Ambivalence of Two American Indian Tribes 468
 SPIRO, Ghosts, Ifaluk, and Teleological Functionalism 479
 COLSON, Ancestral Spirits and Social Structure Among the Plateau Tonga 483
 MIDDLETON, The Cult of the Dead: Ancestors and Ghosts 487
 BUNZEL, The Nature of Katcinas 493

10. *Dynamics in Religion* 496

- Introduction 496
 LINTON, Nativistic Movements 497
 WALLACE, Revitalization Movements 503

BARBER, Acculturation and Messianic Movements	512
HILL, The Navaho Indians and the Ghost Dance of 1890	516
SLOTKIN, The Peyote Way	519
BELSHAW, The Significance of Modern Cults in Melanesian Development	523
ABERLE, A Note on Relative Deprivation Theory as Applied to Millenarian and Other Cult Movements	527
GEERTZ, Ritual and Social Change: A Javanese Example	531
Biographies of Authors	545
Selected Monographs on Non-Western Religious Systems	552
References Cited	559
Index of Authors and Titles	571