

Syncretism/Anti-syncretism

The politics of religious synthesis

Edited by

Charles Stewart and Rosalind Shaw



London and New York

Contents

<i>Notes on contributors</i>	vii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
Introduction: problematizing syncretism <i>Rosalind Shaw and Charles Stewart</i>	1
1 What ‘Alhaji Airplane’ saw in Mecca, and what happened when he came home: ritual transformation in a Mende community (Sierra Leone) <i>Mariane Ferme</i>	27
2 Beyond syncretism: translation and diabolization in the appropriation of Protestantism in Africa <i>Birgit Meyer</i>	45
3 Variation on a Christian theme: the healing synthesis of Zulu Zionism <i>Jim Kiernan</i>	69
4 The politics of religious synthesis: Roman Catholicism and Hindu village society in Tamil Nadu, India <i>David Mosse</i>	85
5 Ritual, power and colonial domination: male initiation among the Ngaing of Papua New Guinea <i>Wolfgang Kempf</i>	108
6 Syncretism as a dimension of nationalist discourse in modern Greece <i>Charles Stewart</i>	127
7 Syncretic inventions: ‘Indianness’ and the Day of the Monkey <i>David M. Guss</i>	145

8 Manipulated identities: syncretism and uniqueness of tradition in modern Japanese discourse	161
<i>Klaus-Peter Koeping</i>	
9 Are fireworks Islamic? Towards an understanding of Turkish migrants and Islam in Germany	178
<i>Lale Yalçın-Heckmann</i>	
10 Syncretism, multiculturalism and the discourse of tolerance	196
<i>Peter van der Veer</i>	
Afterword	212
<i>Richard Werbner</i>	
<i>Name index</i>	216
<i>Subject index</i>	219