How are religious ideas represented, acquired and transmitted? Confronted with religious practices, anthropologists have typically been content with sociological generalisations, informed by vague, intuitive models of cognitive processes. Yet modern cognitive theories promise a fresh understanding of how religious ideas are learnt; and if the same cognitive processes can be shown to underlie all religious ideologies, then the comparative study of religions will be placed on a wholly new footing. The present book is a contribution to this ambitious programme. In closely focused essays, a group of anthropologists debate the particular nature of religious concepts and categories, and begin to specify the cognitive constraints on cultural acquisition and transmission.
Cognitive aspects of religious symbolism
Cognitive aspects of religious symbolism

edited by
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Contents

List of contributors  ix

I Cognitive processes and cultural representations 1

1 Cognitive aspects of religious symbolism 4
   Pascal Boyer

2 Whither ‘ethnoscience’? 48
   Scott Atran

II The structure of religious categories 71

3 Computational complexity in the cognitive modelling of cosmological ideas 74
   J. D. Keller and F. K. Lehman (U Chit Hlaing)

4 ‘Earth’ and ‘path’ as complex categories: semantics and symbolism in Kwaio culture 93
   Roger Keesing

5 Domain-specificity, living kinds and symbolism 111
   Maurice Bloch

6 Pseudo-natural kinds 121
   Pascal Boyer

III Acquisition and belief fixation 143

7 Sign into symbol, symbol as sign: cognitive aspects of a social process 147
   Christina Toren

8 Talking about souls: the pragmatic construction of meaning in Cuna ritual language 165
   Carlo Severi
Contents

IV The structure of ritual action 183

9 Cognitive categories, cultural forms and ritual structures 188
   E. Thomas Lawson

10 The interactive basis of ritual effectiveness in a male initiation rite 207
   Michael Houseman

References 225
Index of names 241
Subject Index 245
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