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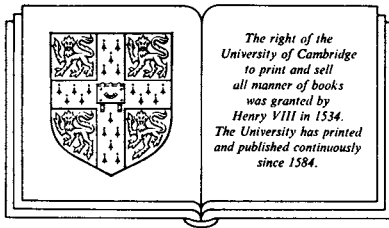
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# Mind, body and culture

Anthropology and the  
biological interface

Geoffrey Samuel

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*In memory of*

Dr Sydney Herbert Samuel

(1912–1982)

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## Preface

The origins of this book go back to 1981–2, when I spent nine months as a research associate at the Anthropology Department of the University of California at Berkeley. Most of it was completed in 1987 when I was at the Department of Social Anthropology at Manchester University. I doubt that I would have written it without the hospitality and the intellectual stimulation I received during these two periods of leave, and I am deeply grateful to Professor Nelson Graburn, Professor Marilyn Strathern, and to the staff of the two departments for their support and assistance. I would also like to thank the University of Newcastle, New South Wales, for making these two visits possible.

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Many more people have helped me with the Tibetan research which underlies the short section on Tibetan society in chapter 10. I hope to acknowledge them individually in a forthcoming full-length treatment of religion and society in Tibet.

I first encountered anthropology as a graduate student at Cambridge, and I owe particular thanks to Professor Meyer Fortes for enabling me to move from theoretical physics to social anthropology and for his subsequent



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I owe a particular debt of gratitude to my two editors at Cambridge University Press, Susan Allen-Mills and Wendy Guise, for their support and encouragement, and to Michael Fischer and Ward Goodenough, who read the manuscript for Cambridge University Press. The book has been much improved by their generous and detailed comments.

Elvira Sprogis provided encouragement, tolerance and understanding throughout the completion of this book, as well as a careful and greatly appreciated reading of the final text.

The book is dedicated to the memory of my father. He would probably have disagreed with much of what I say in it. Its underlying purpose nevertheless owes much to his example.