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978-0-521-45048-5 - The Expansive Moment: The Rise of Social Anthropology in Britain and Africa 1918-1970

Jack Goody

Frontmatter

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The relationship between intellectual life and institutionalism is the grand theme of Jack Goody's new book. His focus is on the development of the discipline of social anthropology in Britain through its key practitioners and how far its concerns interact with the political and ideological debate of the interwar years. As such this is a study of the different ideological and intellectual approaches adopted by the emerging subject of social anthropology and how far these views were incorporated into and defined by the structures and institutions in which they developed. But it is also an analysis of how far the subject was created by its own response to the key issues of the time: colonialism – specifically Africa – anti-Semitism and communism. Goody's approach is characteristically personal: Malinowski dominates the discussion, as well as Fortes, Radcliffe-Brown and Evans-Pritchard, and his own experience, gathered over a varied and wide-ranging life of fieldwork informs the conclusion of the book and the 'whither anthropology?' questions raised by the discussion.

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*The rise of social anthropology
in Britain and Africa 1918-1970*

JACK GOODY

University of Cambridge



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