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Recent German Literature on the History of Ethnology (Part One)

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I. RECENT GERMAN LITERATURE ON THE HISTORY OF ETHNOLOGY (PART ONE)

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This bibliography covers scholarship published in the last five years and research currently in progress in the Federal Republic of Germany. It is based on responses to a questionnaire sent to the 13 university institutes for ethnology and on articles in major journals. The entries are ordered chronologically according to the period and topics dealt with. The list is not exhaustive; I will include literature on the history of ethnological linguistics, institutions such as museums and associations, and literature in the remaining German-speaking countries in a following issue of the Newsletter.

General Surveys:

Karl Jettmar. "Die anthropologische Aussage der Ethnologie", in H.-G. Gadamer and Paul Vogler, eds., Kulturanthropologie, pp. 63-87, (Stuttgart: Thieme, 1973); discusses the historical relationship between ethnology and neighboring disciplines such as history, philosophical anthropology and ethnology; also the significance of the concept of the equality/inequality of humanity in ethnology.

Brigitte Klein, Free University Berlin, is doing research for a Ph.D. Diss. that will analyze the manner in which non-European religious movements have been interpreted and classified in modern European ethnology.

Lawrence Krader, The Asiatic Mode of Production. (Assen: Van Gorcum, fall 1975); deals with the European reception and criticism of the Asiatic mode since the 17th century.

Klaus E. Müller. Geschichte der antiken Ethnographie und ethnologischen Theoriebildungen. Von den Anfängen bis auf die byzantinischen Historiographen. Vol. 1, (Wiesbaden: Steiner, 1972); ethnography and ethnological theories in Ancient Near Eastern (Babylonian, Egyptian, Israelitish, Phoenician) literature and of 45 Greek writers are outlined and discussed. A second volume (1977) will trace these topics through the Roman, early Christian and medieval era including the Byzantine historians.

Michael Oppitz. Notwendige Beziehungen. Abriß der strukturalen Anthropologie. (Frankfurt: Suhrkamp, 1975); contains broad coverage of the history of modern ethnology from the perspective of present-day structuralism; deals primarily with the history of mythology, concepts of structure and Levi-Strauss' structural analysis and his critics. Oppitz is doing research for a book that will examine the category 'exotic' in ethnographic scholarship, popular ethnology and modern travel literature. He also plans articles on the literary nature of ethnographic writings, Georg Forster's descriptive style and the nature of Marcel Mauss' influence.
Justin Stagl. Kulturanthropologie und Gesellschaft. (München: List, 1974); pp. 11-64 outline the specialization of anthropological and sociological disciplines in Germany since the late 19th century.

Enlightenment:

Brigitta Renzing is completing a book (Mainz, Habilitation Diss., late 1975) on the influence of 18th-century French political theory on modern ethnology.


Wolf Lepenies. Soziologische Anthropologie. (München: Hanser, 1971); pp. 77-114 deal with social criticism in the ethnological writings of Rousseau and Diderot, De Bonald’s critique of Condorcet and Forster’s critique of Kant over the issue of monogenism. "Eine vergessene Tradition der deutschen Anthropologie: Wissenschaft von Menschen und Politik bei Georg Forster", Saeculum. 24(1973):50-78; Forster’s ideas for a science of man are discussed within the context of his political ideas.

Joachim Moebus, Free University Berlin, is doing research for a book that will study the attempts to establish a unified science of man in France and Germany around 1800.

Nineteenth Century:


Annmarie Fiedermutz-Lau. Der Kulturhistorische Gedanke bei Adolf Bastian. (Miesbaden:Steiner, 1970); this intellectual biography deals with Bastian's major ethnological theories; the author argues that throughout his prolific ethnological writings the geographic-historical approach took precedence over a socio-scientific psychology. "Aus der Wissenschaftsgeschichte: Adolf Bastian und die Deszendenztheorie", Paideuma. 16(1970):1-26; summarizes the polemical debate between Bastian and Haeckel over evolutionary and social evolutionary theories.


Fritz Kramer, Free University Berlin, is completing a book dealing with the philologist and archaeologist G. F. Creuzer and his influence on Bachofen, Nietzsche and Flaubert.


Cyril Levitt. Anthropology and Historical Jurisprudence: An Examination of the Major Issues in Marx's Excerpts from H. S. Maine's 'Lectures on the Early History of Institutions'. (Berlin, Ph.D. Diss., 1975); situates the ethnological notebooks of Marx within the context of his other major anthropological writings and examines Marx’s treatment of Maine's theories of kinship, law and the state.


Henning Ritter, Free University Berlin, is completing a Ph.D. Diss. on the ethnological theories of Marcel Mauss. He recently translated and edited (with Wolf Lepenies) a two-volume collection of essays by Mauss including an introduction by Levi-Strauss: M. Mauss, Soziologie und Anthropologie. (München: Hanser, 1974-75).
James Ryding. The Emergence of Ethnology as an Academic Discipline in Germany. (Berlin, Ph.D. Diss., 1976); will trace the treatment of ethnological topics within the university system from the late 18th century until the founding of the discipline around 1870; emphasis on the universal historians of the Göttingen School and the historical geographers in Berlin. "Alternatives in 19th-Century German Ethnology", Sociologus, 1975; discusses some theoretical models in the sociology of science and their application to the development of German ethnology. "Kulturgeschichtschreibung zwischen 1840 and 1860", (with Heinrich Dilly), Ms. 1975; outlines and classifies the numerous cultural histories of the mid-19th century including an attempt by a group of historians to organize the study of German cultural ethnohistory.

Twentieth Century:

Jürgen Hildebrandt. Die Rezeption des Relativismus in der deutschen Ethnologie. (Mainz, M. A. Diss., 1975); an article dealing with the reception of cultural relativism in German ethnology will appear in the Zeitschrift fur Ethnologie. Hildebrandt has begun research for a Ph. D. Diss. on the history of the concept of the family in ethnology and sociology. He has also written an introduction to a new German edition of Morgan's Ancient Society to appear late in 1975.

J. W. Raum. Die Lehren der Neo-Evolutionisten Leslie White, Julian Steward und ihren Schüler in ethnologischer Sicht. (München, Habilitation Diss., 1973); Raum plans to publish this study of the Neo-Evolutionist school of thought in the near future.

II. SOME PUBLICATIONS OF THE LAST DECADE ON THE HISTORY OF MUSEUM ANTHROPOLOGY

William Sturtevant
Smithsonian Institution

Abel, Herbert.

Bell, Whitfield J., Jr. et al

Birket-Smith, Kaj
1968 Fra Kunstkammeret til Ny Vestergade; Traek af Etnografisk Samlings historie. Pp. 27-54 in his Strejftog—arktiske, tropiske ogmidt jællem. (Copenhagen:) Nationalmuseet. (History of the Ethnographical Collections of the Danish National Museum.)

Blackwood, Beatrice