

legitimation that were fundamentally different from those in the pre-capitalist, pre-industrial societies.

This stimulating collection of essays provides much insight into the tricky topic of political legitimation of state structures and activities. It becomes clear in reading these essays, however, that the question of how the legitimation of social inequality came about and operated in states cannot be completely answered without addressing the distinction between individual vs. structural motivation. Few of the papers deal with this question directly; most imply that the state, as a socio-political structure, promotes its own legitimacy, while at the same time recognizing that it is individual rulers, nobles, commoners and so forth, who make the decisions that create or undermine legitimacy. The small number of élites who control the state constantly seek to promote their own individual legitimacy as well as the legitimacy of the political order itself. It is clear that individuals, then, have the most to lose by failing to establish or maintain legitimacy while the state, not itself being a sentient entity, can have nothing to lose because "it" has nothing. The studies in this volume show that rulers from Hammurabi's time to the present understood this process all too well, and often with disastrous consequences for those they ruled.

The Making of a Transnational Community: Migration, Development, and Cultural Change in the Dominican Republic

Eugenia Georges

New York: Columbia University Press, 1990. xi + 270 pp. \$37.50 (cloth)

Reviewer: Raymond E. Wiest
University of Manitoba

This book presents yet another community study of the impact of migration, but it is one with a difference: Georges contributes significantly to the linkage of micro and macro phenomena by attending to Dominican historical processes stimulating migration. Recipient of the Columbia University Bancroft Dissertation Award, Georges offers a thoroughgoing, well-written, and theoretically informed analysis of migration from a forested, agricultural region of the Dominican Republic to the United States. The 1980-81 field study focusses on a village with a high incidence of migration to the U.S., but also draws comparisons from a smaller village in the same region from which few people migrate internationally.

A concise evaluation of two major orientations to migration studies—equilibrium and historical-structural models—sets the analytic expectation. The latter approach is favoured, but the author argues that it only yields good results when one looks at "intermediate processes operating on the ground: the organization of households, the composition of networks, and the local formation of classes and class segments" (pp. 9-10). In several chapters, Georges establishes the peripheral nature of development in the Dominican Republic, treats the history of the study village (with attention to the Trujillato), unfolds the historical development of international migration from the village and the migration strategies adopted by people from Los Pinos, and discusses the impacts of migration on the local econ-

omy and social structure. A final chapter offers comparison with other studies on thematic points.

There are no surprising findings (which says something positive for precursors of this work), but the skilful presentation of the complex of forces affecting people and social systems is humanly sensitive. The author weaves together the intricate tapestry shaping both institutions and individual decisions, perhaps best exemplified in discussion of the "transnational" character of family and kindred. The work clearly illustrates that "migration is always only one of a complex of pressures affecting agriculture in sending areas" (p. 171). Critique of Meillassoux's model—a recurrent and overemphasized issue in the monograph—is predicated upon the relatively high incidence of women migrating from the Dominican Republic, and on evidence that Dominican migration eventually relocates family members who are unproductive, thus transferring reproduction costs from the sending community to capital.

A short review cannot attend to the many positive points of this book, but they are self-evident. Shortcomings may be less so, however. Of the three "intermediate processes" set out in the introduction, household organization is treated reasonably well. Network composition is not analyzed, but cases of family and kin connections involved in migration decisions are replete. And local class formation enters the analysis only superficially, limited to cultural criteria and devoid of dynamic and of the theoretical rigor expected of a political-economy approach. No mention is made of local reaction to recruitment of Haitian workers at half the going wage! "Local" impact of remittance and return migration is difficult to evaluate because Los Pinos and Santiago (destination of many return migrants) are not effectively differentiated. Confused expression of manioc production (Table 5.1, and p. 173) disturbs an otherwise effective analysis of agricultural production. A glossary would greatly assist readers unfamiliar with Spanish.

Despite a few annoyances, and the fact that the work does not fully live up to the objectives set in the introduction, this book merits attention of anyone concerned with international labour migration.

Social Anthropology and Public Policy in Northern Ireland

Hastings Donnan and Graham McFarlane

Brookfield, Vermont: Gower, 1989. xii + 152 pp. \$42.95 (cloth)

Reviewer: Marilyn Silverman

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The relationship between anthropology and public policy is receiving increasing attention in research and teaching. This reflects not only a relatively conservative political economy in Western society and a very tight job market in the discipline, but also a new wave of concern with "relevance" and so-called applied approaches. In this context, the present volume is of particular interest. It is a collection of six cases which illustrate links between social anthropology and policy by using a range of topics (unemployment, gender relations, housing, community care-giving and government subsidies) gleaned from research which ran the gamut