

MARXIST PERSPECTIVES ON THE TERMS OF ANTHROPOLOGICAL  
DISCOURSE CONCERNING THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES

by

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Anthropological concerns are especially crucial to Third World countries, for anthropology, the study of mankind, had its beginnings as the study of Western Europeans of peoples of Africa, Asia and America over whom they established and maintained political, economic and social domination. As these formerly subject peoples have regained their independence and power of self-determination from European powers, they have together constituted a distinct socio-political universe. Thus it is now generally accepted that there exist "three main sources of economic, political, and social power in the world today: the First World of the United States and its Western Allies, the Second World of the Soviet Union and its Eastern Bloc Allies, and the Third World of non-aligned, but variously committed nations of Latin America, Asia and Africa" (Horowitz 1966: vii). For Third World peoples the reclamation of territory is only one of the aspects of national liberation. An important aim yet to be achieved is complete intellectual emancipation from their former overloads and full recognition of their rightful status as equals in the family of humanity.