

RACISM AND COLONIALISM

edited by
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In this book the central question addressed is the relationship between ideology and social practice with particular reference to one of the most crucial cases in modern history, namely the racist system of thought that developed in nineteenth century Europe and the colonial societies under European domination from the same period. It is the sustained comparative nature of the investigation of this interaction between ideas and social reality that is the distinctive feature of the work. Therefore it contains a long section on the growth of this ideology within Europe and on its European application from the seventeenth century on. The relationship between this ideology and the development of modern imperialism is examined with particular regard to antisemitism. Thereafter the work is concerned with the establishment of racially defined systems of social stratification in various parts of the colonised world and, in one of the most novel parts of the book, with the extent to which the ideas brought in from Europe were accepted, modified, rejected or utilised by the colonised peoples themselves. In so doing it tests the applicability not only of the conceptual distinction between ideology and social reality, but also of such concepts as "estate" and "class" in the context of colonial societies.

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Compiled by

Drs J.A. de Moor

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