SESSION 1

PART I: PROBLEMS IN POLITICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

- What is Political?
- 1930s-1950s: British Colonial Anthropology and the Structural-Functionalist Approach to Politics
- 1950s-1960s: British Anthropology in Africa and Processual Approaches
- 1960s: British Anthropology in Africa and Conflict Studies, Dynamic Processes
- 1970s/1980s—present: Marxism, Political-Economy, Liberalism
- Is There a State?
- The Weight of the Enlightenment
What is Political?
→ Separating politics from other domains of social and cultural life

1930s-1950s: British Colonial Anthropology and the Structural-Functionalist Approach to Politics
→ *African Political Systems* (1940)
→ A.R. Radcliffe-Brown
→ Meyer Fortes and E.E. Evans-Pritchard
→ Max Gluckman
1950s-1960s: British Anthropology in Africa and Processual Approaches

→ Isaac Schapera
→ M.G. Smith
Marc J. Swartz, Victor W. Turner, and Arthur Tuden:

“The study of politics, then, is the study of the processes involved in determining and implementing public goals and in the differential achievement and use of power by the members of the group concerned with those goals”
1970s/1980s—present: Marxism, Political-Economy, Liberalism

Is There a State?

Radcliffe-Brown on the state:

The Weight of the Enlightenment

Joan Vincent:
References, Additional Sources