
Citation: COMITAS, LAMBROS / Professor of Anthropology and Education, Teachers College, Columbia University, and Director, Research Institute for the Study of Man, New York. **ETHNOLOGY: West Indies.**

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Essay: IN THIS VOLUME OF HLAS, I have annotated publications in social and cultural anthropology or other closely related disciplines. They cover 29 distinct Caribbean territories: Antigua, Aruba, Barbados, Barbuda, Belize, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grand Cayman, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, Nevis, Panama, Puerto Rico, Saba, St. Barthelemy, St. John, St. Kitts, St. Vincent, Surinam, Tobago, Trinidad, and Venezuela. Also included are some 36 annotations of publications that deal generally with the Caribbean region, the Commonwealth Caribbean, or with units such as the US Virgin Islands. The territory receiving by far the most attention from researchers during this two-year report period has been Jamaica followed by Haiti and then by Belize and Surinam. As in the past, the cited publications cover a wide range of subject matter, methodological approaches, and theoretical perspectives. Numerically, however, the foci of scholarly inquiry for Caribbeanists during this period have been the subjects of religion and magic, and ethnicity. In the first category, interest in Rastafarianism is particularly marked (item [1018](#)), with various researchers probing such diverse dimensions of that religio-political movement as personal discovery and conversion (item [1055](#)), its history and belief structure (item [1025](#)), dread talk (item [1105](#)), musical style (item [1094](#)), and cultural identity (item [1117](#)). For the moment, it appears that the Rastafarian phenomenon is in anthropological fashion. Other specialists on aspects of religion and magic deal with Jamaican Kumina (item [1020](#)), Spiritual Baptists in Trinidad (item [1061](#)), Gagá in the Dominican Republic (item [1119](#)) as well as salve music in that country (item [1041](#)), the Jonestown tragedy (item [1026](#)), Voodoo (item [1086](#)) as well as zombie phenomena in Haiti (items [1040](#), [1045](#), [1047](#), and [1123](#)), Surinamese religious specialists (item [1145](#)), and Bush Negro religious movements in Surinam during the late 19th and early 20th centuries (item [1139a](#)). Ethnicity in the Caribbean, as a general topic, is well represented largely by a special issue of Ethnic Groups (6:2/3). Its eight articles cover ethnicity in Cuba and Puerto Rico in the 18th and 19th centuries (item [1049](#)), race and ethnicity in the US Virgin Islands (item [1007](#)), differential expressions of Chinese ethnicity in the British West Indies (item [1125](#)), ethnic participation in rural Belizean economic development (item [1022](#)), Carib structural position in Dominica (item [1081](#)) as well as with two broader discussions of "new ethnicity" (item [1075](#)) and the meaning of ethnicity in the Caribbean (item [1062](#)). Other publications on this theme center on Belizean mating patterns (item [1033](#)), ethnic references in Haitian folktales (item [1043](#)), schooling in the

US Virgin Islands (item 1057), and on the relationship of economy and revolt to ethnicity in Haiti (item [1099](#)). Anthropological interest remains high for specific ethnic groups — particularly those most removed, geographically and culturally, from the mainstream of West Indian life. For example, eight articles cited in this section (items [1039](#), [1064](#), [1065](#), [1069](#), [1073](#), [1074](#), [1100](#), and [1101](#)) deal with the Black Caribs or Garifuna (several of these appear in the collection *Black Caribs: a case study of biocultural adaptation*, edited by Michael H. Crawford for Plenum Press). The Bush Negroes of Surinam have received even more attention: Richard and Sally Price have contributed five publications, including three books, on Saramaka Maroon ethnohistory and contemporary life (items [1107-1111](#)); a festschrift in honor of Silvia de Groot, noted specialist on the Djuka, includes a number of articles by her colleagues on Surinamese Maroons (item [1135](#)); and, as already noted, several others have published on Bush Negro religious activities. During this report period, only a scattering of publications have appeared on Amerindians in Guyana or on East Indians (items [1023a](#), [1035](#), [1088](#), [1095](#), and [1126](#)). This may well be due to difficult research conditions in present-day Guyana. Other topics of numerically smaller representation but of lasting interest to Caribbeanists include social stratification, socioeconomic behavior, sociocultural change, problems of identity, effects of migration on the sending societies, applied studies on language and health, and folklore and aesthetics. Given the recent upsurge in women's studies, this genre of research has made a significant appearance on the list. The organized impetus for women's studies in the region has come principally from a multidisciplinary project entitled "Women in the Caribbean" sponsored by the Institute of Social and Economic Research (Eastern Caribbean) of the Univ. of the West Indies. To date, this group has produced a number of research monographs on such themes as perceptions and stereotypes of Caribbean women (item [1023](#)), women and politics in Barbados (item [1050](#)), women, work, and development (item [1058](#)), the demographics of employed women in Barbados (item [1084](#)), women and education (item [1148](#)), and women and the family (item [1149](#)). Other publications in this rubric although not part of the project publication series deal with female household heads (item [1085](#)), female status, the family, and male dominance (item [1093](#)), and the role of women in the Caribbean (item [1106](#)). The development of women's studies is both promising and welcome. Not already covered and deserving special mention are a number of books and monographs, among them, Roger Abrahams's collection on the role of the verbal performer (item [1005](#)), Diane Austin's study of culture and class ideology in two Kingston neighborhoods (item [1011](#)), Lawrence Fisher's exploration of "madness" and the Barbadian social order (item [1054](#)), Paget Henry's study of peripheral capitalism in Antigua (item [1071](#)), Michel Laguerre's study of a Haitian urban community (item [1079](#)), Paulette Pierce's analysis of the struggle to nationalize the Guyanese sugar industry (item [1103](#)), Richard Price's collection of Saramaka oral history (item [1107](#)), Sally Price's account of Saramaka social and artistic life (item [1109](#)), the first English translation of Price-Mars's classic *Ainsi parla l'oncle* (item [1112](#)), and M.G. Smith's long essay on the literature on culture, race, and class in the Caribbean and pluralism in theoretical and territorial context (item [1127](#)). The death in Feb. 1985 of Dr. Vera Rubin is sadly noted. Founder and long-time Director of the Research Institute for the Study of Man, an institution devoted to Caribbean social science, her contributions to the advancement of our knowledge of Caribbean culture and society and to our

understanding of the human dimensions of West Indian life were profound. She will be missed. I am indebted to Dr. Ansley Hamid for his valuable contribution to the preparation of this section.
