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Nota di contenuto	Front Cover; Political Systems and the Distribution of Power; Copyright Page; Contents; Introduction:Max Gluckman and Fred Eggan; Decisions by Consensus in Councils and Committees: with special Reference to Village and Local Government in India: F. G. Bailey; The factor of size; The mystique of consensus; The 'face-to-face' hypothesis; Sanctions and task; Elite and arena Councils; External relationships; Summary; Traditional panchayats in India; Statutory village panchayats; Notes; References; Factions: a Comparative Analysis: Ralph W. Nicholas; I. A sociological definition of faction (i) A wandering Pygmy band(ii) A village-dwelling African tribe; (iii) An overseas Indian community; (iv) An Indian peasant village; (v) The

Japanese political parties; 1. Factions are conflict groups; 2. Factions are political groups; 3. Factions are not corporate groups; 4. Faction members are recruited by a leader; 5. Faction members are recruited on diverse principles; II. The social organization of factions; Govindapur village; Fifty years of social conflict in Govindapur; The panchayat election; Recruitment to factions; Analysis; 1. Factions are conflict groups

2. Factions are political groups; 3. Factions are not corporate groups; 4. Faction members are recruited by a leader; 5. Faction members are recruited on diverse principles; III. Factions and political change; Aboriginal Iroquois politics; Early contact political cleavages; The reservation period; Contemporary factional politics; (i) The 'Progressive' faction; (ii) The Longhouse faction; (iii) The Lower Cayuga Longhouse; (iv) The Mohawk Workers; Factions and social change; Notes; References; The Political Structure of African Kingdoms: An Exploratory Model: Peter C. Lloyd; Existing classifications

The complexity of African kingdoms; The nature of government; Policy-making; Administration; The nature of political conflict; Centralization; A model; Bases for the model; Other variables; 1. The royal lineage; 2. The rights in land; 3. The control of physical force; 4. The preservation of individual rights; Factors of change; 1. Demography; 2. Conquest and trade: the redistribution of wealth; 3. The decline of descent groups; Three variants; 1. Open: representative government; 2. Open: government by political association; 3. Closed: government by royal aristocracy

The application of the models; Notes; References; A Critique of the Typology of States and Political Systems: Aidan Southall; I. Typology and generalization; II. The range of political action; III. The means of generalization; Comparative, diachronic, structural-functional analysis; Notes; References; Notes on Contributors

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## Sommario/riassunto

Modern political anthropology began in 1940 with the first systematic comparative studies of how primitive societies maintained law and order. The focus was on government and the presence or absence of state institutions. Recently, interest has shifted to the study of power, to examining the manipulation of political relations, and to the task of elaborating a classification of governmental systems that will throw light on the important problems for research. First published in 1965.

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