

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910829601403321
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Titolo	Colonialism, Capitalism and Racism : A Postcolonial Chronicle of Dutch and Belgian Practice // Jan Breman
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam : , : Amsterdam University Press, , [2024] ©2024
ISBN	1-04-079774-1 1-04-078141-1 1-003-69280-X 90-485-5992-8
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (432 p.)
Disciplina	325.32
Soggetti	HISTORY / Asia / Southeast Asia
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Table of Contents -- List of Figures and Tables -- Acknowledgements -- Foreword -- Prologue: The Formative Impact of Childhood : Life Experiences in a Comparative Setting of Time and Space -- Part I Imperialism, Its Ideology and Practice of Racial Inequality -- 1 Colonialism and Racism -- 2 Alexis de Tocqueville on Class and Race -- Part II The Coolie Scandal on Sumatra's East Coast -- 3 Dutch Colonialism and Its Racist Impact -- 4 Coolie Labour and Colonial Capitalism in Asia -- 5 'A Crafty Lawyer of Shady Deals' -- Part III Civilization and Racism -- 6 Primitive Racism in a Colonial Setting -- 7 Colonial Development -- 8 Early Whistle-blowers on Belgian Colonialism -- Part IV Political Advocacy of the Multinational State -- 9 The Colour Bar as the Crux of Colonial Rule -- 10 The Religious Fervour of Ethical Politics -- 11 The Capitalist Imperative of Colonialism -- 12 The Denial of Freedom and Its Impact on Indonesia's Early Statecraft -- Part V Development Aid as the Postcolonial Codex of Globalized Capitalism -- 13 Spreading Dutch Welfarism in the Global South -- 14 Development Aid Abandoned, Mission Achieved -- 15 W.F. Wertheim: A Sociological Chronicler of Revolutionary Change -- Epilogue: A World in Disorder -- Name Index

For a long time, Europe's colonizing powers justified their urge for expansion with the conviction that they were 'bringing civilization to territories where civilization was lacking.' This doctrine of white superiority and indigenous inferiority was accompanied by a boundless exploitation of local labor. Under colonial rule, the ideology that later became known as neoliberalism was free to subject labor to a capitalism tainted by racialized policies. This political economy has now become dominant in the Western world, too, and has reversed the trend towards equality. In *Colonialism, Capitalism and Racism*, Jan Breman shows how racial favoritism is no longer contained to 'faraway, indigenous peoples,' but has become a source of polarization within Western societies as well.

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