

## The Nature and Scope of Anthropology

A somewhat farther field is linguistics, a branch of ethnology that concentrates on the study of language. Here too we find both historical and non-historical research. One set of problems concerns the origin and development of language, another concerns the structural description of the many hundreds of languages spoken in the world today. In linguistic studies, as in the ethnological, much is done with languages of non-literates, the little known idioms of peoples such as the Australian aborigines, the Eskimo, the Bantu-speaking peoples of Africa, and the Indians of North and South America.

Finally, it should be mentioned that anthropologists, like other scientists, have put their knowledge to work in the solution of practical problems. In many frontier regions, anthropologists work with governing officials to find answers to problems of social control, education, and public welfare. Within many urbanized communities in various parts of the world, anthropologists apply their special techniques to interracial and intercultural problems, child training, personality growth, questions of national character, and even the complex and important problems of industrial relations, the training of administrators to aid once-isolated peoples to adjust to living in the modern world, and the organization and training of specialized units of the armed forces.