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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.10.47456/en.v15i2.47878>

ESTUDOS NIETZSCHE

VOL. 15 - N. 02 ISSN 2179 - 3441

Nietzsche and Fanon on the Political Breeding of Race and Class as Caste*

Nietzsche e Fanon: sobre a política do cultivo de raça e classe como castas

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Abstract: Nietzsche's *On the Genealogy of Morality* suggests aristocracies inadvertently produce a dangerous "slavish" counter-type of moral agency grounded in resentment and exhibiting a morality of resignation. Throughout the text, he conflates biological and political registers, speaking of human types as "species" (*die Spezies*) and classes as "races" (*die Rassen*), thus implying all human kinds are socially constructed and that their primary cause is political organization. It's in this sense that Nietzsche is a "radical aristocrat." Against the conservative view that social hierarchy mirrors a fixed order in nature, he recognizes hierarchies *create* the types they seek to preserve, precisely against *natural* contingency. This poses a practical dilemma for aristocracies: how maintain an underclass without provoking the slavish psychology and morality that undermine aristocratic values? In other texts, Nietzsche develops an answer with his interpretation of the Hindu law of Manu. Every aristocracy must create the illusion that classes are *natural castes* rather than political constructions. Caste-systems are cultural and ideological institutions designed to protect class-systems by giving class identities the appearance of fixed "species": deeply-internalized forms of psychology and moral agency that reinforce class positions by being more rigidly-defined and easily socially recognized. In *The Wretched of the Earth*, Frantz Fanon subversively redirects this theory away from Nietzsche's