

Notes on Dialectics, probably the key work in the development of C.L.R. James's thinking, was written in 1948, and though its influence has been deeply felt through privately circulated mimeographed editions, this is its first publication in book form, with a new introduction by the author.

James aims at making Hegel's Logic – a thorough study of which Lenin saw as essential for understanding Marx's Capital – 'a part of our marxist thinking today'. Close textual and explanatory reference to the Science of Logic itself, and to Marx's and Lenin's use of 'dialectic', provide a conceptual framework for examining the history of the workers' movement and the Internationals; and James concludes that Trotsky's marxism, that of the Fourth International, was inadequate for the post-war world.

This book's central and prophetic concerns – the revolutionary nature of the proletariat, the state and the party – are just as important in the present world crisis as they were when it was first written.

'C.L.R. James is one of those rare individuals whom history proves right. It is more than a misjudgment to think of him as a black professor, as a black historian, or indeed as the premier intellectual product of the West Indies. To think of him as such is to circumscribe and to limit the achievements of one of the marxist thinkers of our time who has kept the thread of the marxist science weaving through the internationalist concerns of a lifetime'

– Race Today

'One of this century's most genuine Socialists'

– Labour Weekly

# NOTES ON DIALECTICS

HEGEL ~ MARX ~ LENIN

C.L.R. James

