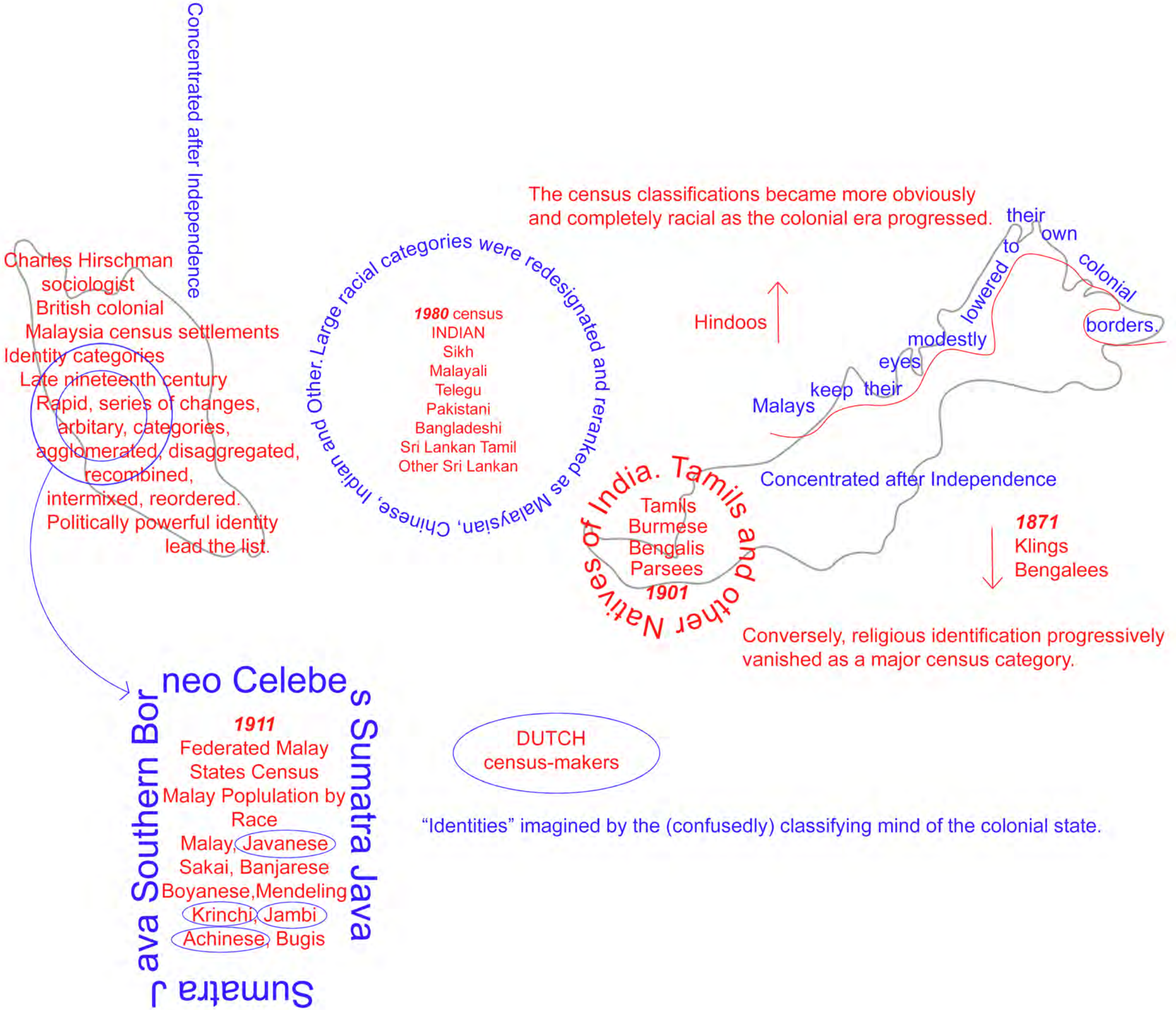
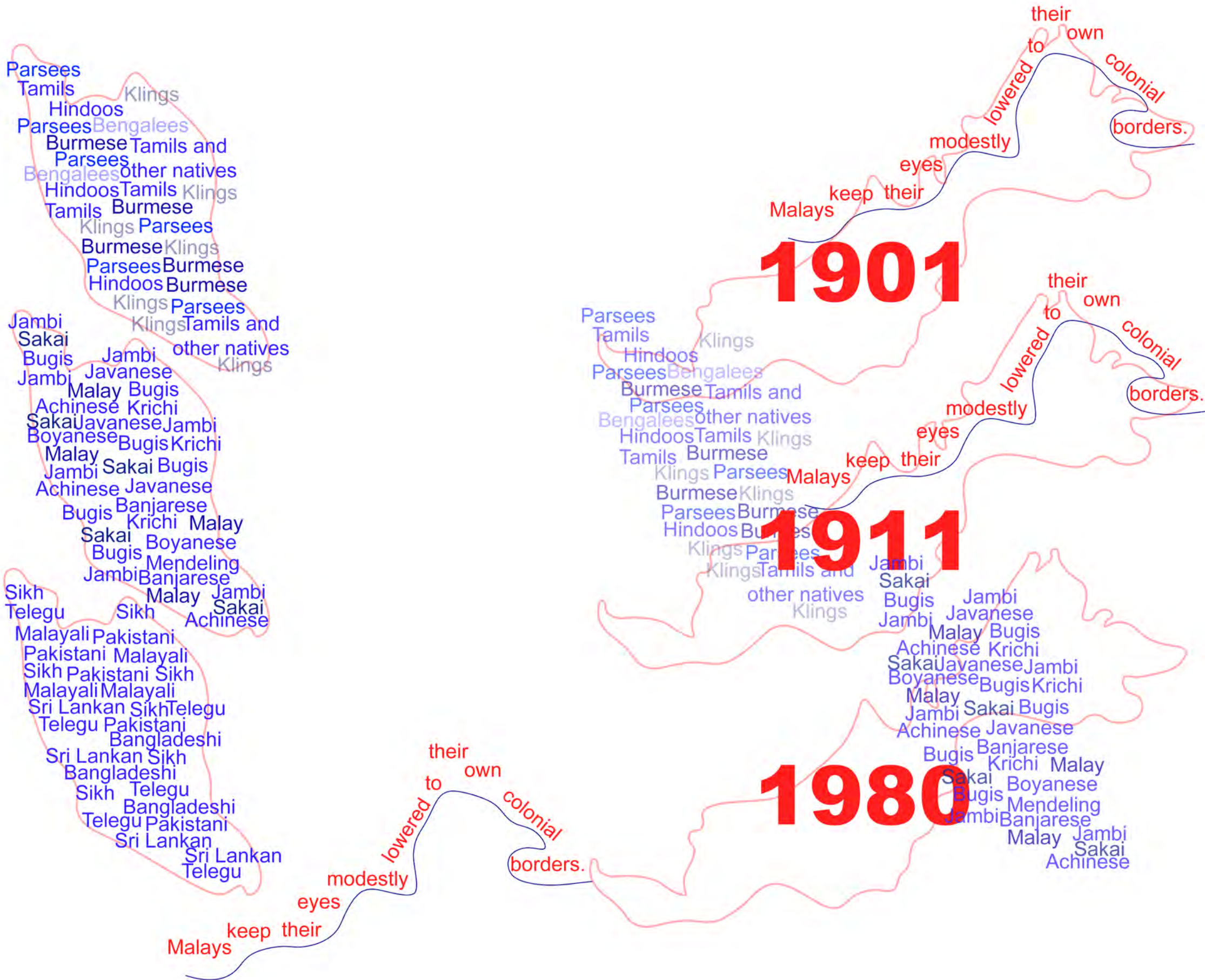


# METADATA

## THE CENSUS



**METADATA**  
*THE CENSUS*



## Metadata

Date: November 3, 2023

Data: Benedict Anderson, *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*, 2006  
Chapter: Census, Map, Museum  
Theme: Nation building

I broke the text down into its constituent parts using fragmented composition, mapped the words and dates according to their time and place, and then organised the words to depict a specific historical evidence of the census.

The initial set of metadata attempts to offer a thorough synopsis of the snippet by segmenting the text into distinct subjects and ideas.

It refers to a methodical process of arranging racial and religious groupings according to the time periods in which they have settled and are documented in census records. In addition to the groups, it also represents the traits of these classes, how they were constituted into boundaries and groups, how minor ethnic groups were mistakenly classified during the recording of the censuses, how particular religious identities were more visible and less prevalent, etc.

The second piece of metadata is a more straightforward mind map that uses an actual map to place the various racial and religious groupings around the continent at the time the census was taken.

“In terms of most communication theories and common sense, a map is a scientific abstraction of reality. A map merely represents something which already exists objectively there, [...]”. (Anderson, p.121, 2006). Upon reading through the following reference, I structured interpretive information about the history of the native people of Malaysia from the 1911 Federated Malay States Census on how they maintain a humble gaze, focused on their own colonial boundaries, and over the course of time, all different communities have settled in and have recognised themselves under the same label.

The choice of colour also represents the emergence and waning of particular racial and religious groups. I took the liberty of removing “others” from the censuses recording and combined them with the named and classified groups and races as the censuses recorded them as changing blurred identities, as later the census's deception is that it includes everyone and gives each person their unique identity in the country.

## Reference list

Anderson, B.(2006) *Imagined Communities: Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Nationalism*.London: Verso