

Chapter 3 provides the backgrounds to the theoretical approaches employed in this book. Postcolonialism and the Global History approach share common assumptions which can be brought together fruitfully. Both approaches are primarily theoretical, but they are nevertheless perspectives from which certain methods can be derived. In the following, the focus lies on Homi K. Bhabha's ideas on "hybridity" and "hybridization," to which ideas about global connections and entanglements provide important supplements. These will be combined in Chapter 4 to create an analytical tool for approaching the complex discursive field in which Theosophical ideas were developed about stages of initiation as parts of a greater scheme of evolution.

