

## Contents

ABOUT THE SERIES	xi
EDITOR'S FOREWORD TO THE ENGLISH EDITION	xiii
PREFACE	xv

### INTRODUCTION: *World History of Ethical Systems* 1

§I.1. Origin of the Interregional System: Afro-Bantu Egypt and the Semites of the Middle East 6

§I.2. Cultures without Direct Links to the System: The Mesoamerican and Inca Worlds 9

§I.3. The "Indoeuropean" World: From the Chinese to the Roman Empire 13

§I.4. The Byzantine World, Muslim Hegemony, and the East: The European Medieval Periphery 17

§I.5. Unfolding of the World System: From "Modern" Spain of the Sixteenth Century 26

§I.6. Modernity as "Management" of Planetary Centrality and Its Contemporary Crisis 32

§I.7. The Liberation of Philosophy? 40

### PART I: *Foundation of Ethics* 53

#### I. THE MATERIAL MOMENT OF ETHICS: *Practical Truth* 55

§I.1. The Human Cerebral Cognitive and Affective-Appetitive System 57

§1.2. Utilitarianism	69
§1.3. Communitarianism	77
§1.4. Some Ethics of Content or Material Ethics	85
§1.5. The Criterion and Universal Material Principle of Ethics	92
2. FORMAL MORALITY: <i>Intersubjective Validity</i>	108
§2.1. The Transcendental Morality of Immanuel Kant	110
§2.2. The Neocontractualist Formalism of John Rawls	115
§2.3. The “Discourse Ethics” of Karl-Otto Apel	121
§2.4. The Formal Morality of Jürgen Habermas	128
§2.5. The Criterion of Validity and the Universal, Formal Principle of Morality	141
3. ETHICAL FEASIBILITY AND THE “GOODNESS CLAIM”	158
§3.1. The Pragmatism of Charles S. Peirce	160
§3.2. The Pragmatic Realism of Hilary Putnam	167
§3.3. The Functional or Formal “System” of Niklas Luhmann	175
§3.4. The “Feasibility” of Franz Hinkelammert	181
§3.5. The Criterion and the Ethical Principle of Feasibility	186
PART II: <i>Critical Ethics, Antihegemonic Validity, and the Praxis of Liberation</i>	205
4. THE ETHICAL CRITICISM OF THE PREVAILING SYSTEM: <i>From the Perspective of the Negativity of the Victims</i>	215
§4.1. Marx’s Critique of Political Economics	218
§4.2. The “Negative” and the “Material” in Critical Theory: Horkheimer, Adorno, Marcuse, and Benjamin	234
§4.3. The Dialectics of Drive	250
§4.4. “Sensibility” and “Alterity” in Emmanuel Levinas	268
§4.5. The Critical Criterion and the Material or Ethical-Critical Principle	278
5. THE ANTIHEGEMONIC VALIDITY OF THE COMMUNITY OF VICTIMS	291
§5.1. Rigoberta Menchú	293
§5.2. The Ethical-Critical Process of Paulo Freire	303

§5.3. Functionalist and Critical Paradigms	320
§5.4. The “Principle of Hope” of Ernst Bloch	334
§5.5. The Critical-Discursive Criterion and the Principle of Validity	342
 6. THE LIBERATION PRINCIPLE	 355
§6.1. The “Organization Question”: From Vanguard toward Symmetric Participation—Theory and Praxis?	359
§6.2. The “Issue of the Subject”: Emergence of New Sociohistorical Actors	373
§6.3. The “Reform-Transformation Question”	388
§6.4. The “Question of Violence”: Legitimate Coercion, Violence, and the Praxis of Liberation	399
§6.5. The Critical Criterion of Feasibility and the Liberation Principle	413
 APPENDIX 1. Some Theses in Order of Appearance in the Text	 433
APPENDIX 2. Sais: Capital of Egypt	447
NOTES	453
BIBLIOGRAPHY	655
INDEX	689

