

Contents

Preface ix

Introduction 1

- 1 On Culture 5**
 - Social Equilibria 6
 - Nature and Nurture 8
 - Different Social Equilibria 11
 - Individualism and Communalism 12
 - The Emotions: Shame and Guilt 12
 - The Anthropological Record 14
 - Cosmology, Polity, Economy 16
- 2 The Ancient Civilizations I: Egypt, Mesopotamia, Judea 19**
 - Smithian and Promethean Growth 19
 - Agriculture, Civilization, and Nomads 21
 - The Ancient Near East 23
- 3 The Ancient Civilizations II: India and China 27**
 - India 27
 - China 39
- 4 Islam 49**
 - The Rise of the Arabs 49
 - Muslim Conquest and Retreat 52
 - Material Factors 53
 - Cosmological Beliefs 56
 - The Polity 59
 - Law, Society, Economy 62

| | | |
|-----------|---|------------|
| | The Closing of the Muslim Mind | 63 |
| | Islam and the Economy | 65 |
| 5 | The Rise of the West | 69 |
| | The Materialist Base | 70 |
| | The Institutional Base | 71 |
| | The Rise of Christian Europe and Individualism | 75 |
| | The Nuclear Family and the Rise of the West | 86 |
| | Love, Sex, Sin, and Guilt | 89 |
| | The Greek Orthodox Church and Russia | 95 |
| 6 | The Course of Individualism | 99 |
| | The Course of Augustine's <i>City of God</i> | 103 |
| | The Rise and Fall and Rise of Economic Liberalism | 111 |
| | The Present Situation | 123 |
| 7 | India and China in Modern Times | 127 |
| | Dirigisme | 127 |
| | Reform | 130 |
| | Future | 131 |
| 8 | The Far East | 137 |
| | The East Asian "Miracle" Economies | 137 |
| | Japan | 142 |
| 9 | The West and the Rest | 153 |
| | Manners, Shame, and Guilt | 153 |
| | The Welfare State | 158 |
| 10 | Conclusions | 173 |
| | Appendix | 179 |
| | The Boserup Process | 179 |
| | The Model of the Predatory State | 181 |
| | Dual Preferences and Changes in Public Opinion | 190 |
| | Factor Proportions and Agrarian Structure | 191 |
| | Notes | 197 |
| | References | 251 |
| | Index | 277 |