

# CONTENTS

<i>Foreword</i> by John L. Thornton	vii
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xi
<i>Introduction</i> by Cheng Li	xv
PART I	
RECONSTRUCTING CHINA'S SOCIAL ETHICS	
1 <i>"New Principles": Toward a New Framework of Chinese Social Ethics</i>	3
2 <i>A Chinese Theory of Conscience: The Contemporary Transformation of Traditional Morality</i>	26
PART II	
HISTORICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL ORIGINS OF CHINESE CULTURAL NORMS	
3 <i>The Selection Society</i>	37
4 <i>1905: The End of Traditional Chinese Society</i>	54
5 <i>Three Sources of Chinese Tradition and the Impetus for Cultural Renaissance</i>	72

PART III

THE TRANSFORMATION OF ETHICS AND MORALITY IN THE PRC

- 6 *The Red Guard Generation:  
Manipulated Rebellion and Youth Violence* 83
- 7 *From Mobilized Morality to Demobilized Morality:  
Social and Ethical Changes in Post-Mao China* 97

PART IV

CHINA'S ONGOING MORAL DECAY?

- 8 *Moral Crisis in Chinese Society* 119
- 9 *Chinese People: Why Are You So Angry?* 124
- 10 *"Absurd Bans" and the Need for Minimum Moral Standards* 128

PART V

ETHICAL DISCOURSE IN REFORM ERA CHINA

- 11 *Why Should We Repeatedly Stress the Principle of Life?* 135
- 12 *On Possible Ways to Contain the Corruption of Power* 143
- 13 *Challenging the Death Penalty* 148
- 14 *The Moral, Legal, and Religious Issues of Civil Disobedience* 159
- 15 *Ecological Ethics: Spiritual Resources  
and Philosophical Foundations* 165

PART VI

CHINESE ETHICAL DIALOGUE WITH THE WEST AND THE WORLD

- 16 *The Possibilities and Limits of Moral Philosophy* 189
- 17 *The Intellectual Legacy of John Rawls* 201
- 18 *The Applicability of the Principle of Life to International Politics* 208
- 19 *What Are the Differences? And What Consensus?* 220

*Further Reading: The Writings of He Huaihong, 1983–2013* 231

*Index* 237