



The Social Contract and the Discourses

By Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Alan Ryan, G. D. H. Cole

Everyman. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Social Contract and the Discourses, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Alan Ryan, G. D. H. Cole, THE SOCIAL CONTRACT is one of three most influential treatises ever written (the others being PLATO's REPUBLIC and Marx's DAS KAPITAL) Of the three it is safe to say that only THE SOCIAL CONTRACT is much read in its entirety today, and it continues to exert a direct influence on contemporary political thought. In it - and in the three DISCOURSES here printed with it - Rousseau discusses the nature of liberty, human rights and the state; the origins of private property the function of education; the economic structure of society; and the relationship between individuals and the community. This revised re-issue of G. D. H. Cole's celebrated translation, long published by Everyman, includes sections from the manuscript draft of the text and is accompanied by an extensive new introduction, chronology and bibliography prepared by Professor Alan Ryan.



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The Social Contract, then, may be regarded either as a document of the French Revolution, or as one of the greatest books dealing with political philosophy. It is in the second capacity, as a work of permanent value containing truth, that it finds a place among the world's great books. It is in that capacity also that it will be treated in this introduction. The second Discourse represents a second stage in his political thought: the opposition between the state of nature and the state of society is still presented in naked contrast; but the picture of the former has already filled out, and it only remains for Rousseau to take a nearer view of the fundamental implications of the state of society for his thought to reach maturity. Translated from the French. Previously published: London : J.M. Dent, c1973. Reset, with updated bibliography. "First included in Everyman's library 1913. New edition 1973"--T.p. verso. Includes bibliographical references (p. lii-liv) and index. A discourse on the arts and sciences -- A discourse on the origin of inequality -- A discourse on political economy -- The general society of the human race -- The social contract. The Social Contract, or Principles of Political Right " he main work of Rousseau dealing with political issues, in which he substantiate the principle of sovereignty of the people's rule. Rousseau's The Social Contract is cited from the translation of G.D.H.Cole. Emile Lambert. Sculptures of Voltaire and Rousseau in the Castle of Ferney. We are grateful to the Centre of National Monuments in France (Centre des Monuments Nationaux, France) for the photograph. Voltaire's note: "The unfortunate Jean-Jacques, whose diseases are well known, the poor who has barely escaped from a bad illness, do not you know that the latter came from the savages". "This is not true, all the arts have come from tropical countries". "A savage is fierce as much as a hu