About the authors

Jean Baechler is Professor of Sociology at Sorbonne University, Paris. His books include *Les phénomènes révolutionnaires* (Presses Universitaires, 1970), *Les origines du capitalisme* (Gallimard, 1971), *La solution indienne* (Presses Universitaires, 1988), *Le capitalisme* (Gallimard, 1995) and *Esquisse d'une histoire universelle* (Fayard, 2002).

Peter Bernholz is Professor of Economics, Emeritus, at Universität Basel, Switzerland. He is Research Fellow of the Center of Public Choice, George Mason University, and a corresponding member of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences. He has been President of the European Public Choice Society. He is author of *The International Game of Power* (Mouton, 1985), *Democracy and Capitalism* (Journal of Evolutionary Economics, 2000) and co-editor of *Political Competition, Innovation and Growth: A Historical Analysis* (Springer, 1998) which focuses on European experiences.

Michael Cook is Cleveland E. Dodge Professor of Near Eastern Studies at Princeton University. Prior to his move to Princeton in 1986, he taught at the School of Oriental and African Studies in the University of London. His publications include *Population Pressure in Rural Anatolia, 1450–1600* (Oxford University Press, 1972), *The Koran*, in the Very Short Introductions series (Oxford University Press, 2000) and *Commanding Right and Forbidding Wrong in Islamic Thought* (Cambridge University Press, 2000).

Günther Distelrath is Privatdozent at Forschungsstelle Modernes Japan, Universität Bonn, Germany. His main research subjects are the social and economic history of Japan and the development of the social sciences in the twentieth century. He is author of the book *Die japanische Produktionsweise: Zur wissenschaftlichen Genese einer stereotypen Sicht der japanischen Wirtschaft* (Iudicum, 1996).

Mark Elvin is Professor of Chinese History at the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies in the Australian National University. His doctorate is from Cambridge University, and he was Harkness-Commonwealth Fellow at Harvard University. He is an Emeritus Fellow of St Anthony's College Oxford and a Fellow of the Academy of the Humanities of Australia. He is best known for *The Pattern of the Chinese Past* (Stanford University Press, 1975) and as the co-author of the *Cultural Atlas of China* (Facts on File, 1983/1998).

Toby E. Huff is Chancellor Professor of Sociology at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. He is author of *The Rise of Early Modern Science: Islam, China and the West* (Cambridge University Press, 1993) and co-editor of *Max Weber and Islam* (Transaction Books, 1999). A revised second edition of *The Rise of Modern Science* is published in 2003 with a new epilogue.

R. Stephen Humphreys is Professor of History and King Abdul Azis Al Saud Professor of Islamic Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He received his doctorate from the University of Michigan. His books include *Islamic History: A Framework for Inquiry* (Princeton University Press, 1991) and *Between Memory and Desire: The Middle East in a Troubled Age* (University of California Press, 1999).

Eric Jones is Emeritus Professor of La Trobe University, Professorial Fellow at Melbourne Business School, University of Melbourne, and Visiting Professor, Graduate Centre of International Business, University of Reading. His books include *The European Miracle: Environments, Economies and Geopolitics in the History of Europe and Asia* (Cambridge University Press, 3rd edn 2003), *Growth Recurring: Economic Change in World History* (University of Michigan Press, 2nd edn 2000), and *The Record of Global Economic Development* (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2002).

Timur Kuran is Professor of Economics and Law, and King Faisal Professor of Islamic Thought and Culture at the University of Southern California. Among his published works is *Private Truths, Public Lies: The Social Consequences of Preference Falsification* (Harvard University Press, 1995), which has also appeared in German, Swedish and Turkish. He edits an interdisciplinary book series for the University of Michigan Press. He has been a member of the Institute of Advanced Study in Princeton and has held the John Ohlin Visiting Professorship at the Graduate School of Business, University of Chicago.

Deepak Lal is James S. Coleman Professor of International Development Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles, and Professor Emeritus of Political Economy at University College, London. He was educated in India and at Jesus College, Oxford. He has been Lecturer at Jesus College and Christ Church College as well as Research Fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford. During 1983–87 he was an Economic Advisor and then Research Administrator at the World Bank, on leave from University College, London. His books include *The Hindu Equilibrium* (2 vols, Clarendon Press, 1988/89), *Unintended Consequences* (MIT Press, 1998) and *Unfinished Business* (Oxford University Press, 1999).

Pak Hung Mo is Professor of Economics at Hongkong Baptist University. His doctorate is from the University of Washington. He has published *inter*

alia, on Chinese economic history and development (for example in *Kyklos*, 1995) and on consumer theory.

John Powelson is Professor of Economics, Emeritus, at the University of Colorado. He has also taught at the universities of Pittsburgh, Johns Hopkins, Pennsylvania, George Washington and Harvard. He is author of *Centuries of Economic Endeavour* (1992) and *The Moral Economy* (1998), both University of Michigan Press.

Dietmar Rothermund is Professor of South Asian History, Emeritus, at Universität Heidelberg. He studied history and philosophy at the Universities of Marburg and Munich and received his doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania. He is chairman of the European Association of South Asian Studies. His books include *Government, Landlord and Peasant in India* (Steiner, 1978), *India and the Great Depression, 1929–1939* (Manohar, 1992) and *A History of India* (with H. Kulke, 3rd edn, Routledge, 1998).

Dean Keith Simonton is Professor of Psychology at the University of California, Davis. He received his PhD in Social Psychology from Harvard University. He has authored eight books, including *Genius, Creativity, and Leadership* (Harvard University Press, 1984), *Scientific Genius* (Cambridge University Press, 1988), *Psychology, Science and History* (Yale University Press, 1990) and *Origins of Genius* (Oxford University Press, 1999).

Ken'ichi Tomobe is Professor of Japanese Economic History at Keio University, Graduate School of Economics, Tokyo.

Roland Vaubel is Professor of Economics at Universität Mannheim, Germany. He received a BA in Philosophy, Politics and Economics from the University of Oxford and an MA from Columbia University, New York. He has been Visiting Professor in International Economics at the Graduate School of Business, University of Chicago. He is author of *The Centralization of Western Europe* (Institute of Economic Affairs, 1995) and co-editor of *The Political Economy of International Organization* (with Thomas D. Willett, Westview Press, 1991) and *Political Competition, Innovation and Growth: A Historical Analysis* (Springer, 1998).

Erich Weede is Professor of Sociology at Universität Bonn, Germany. Previously, he was professor at Universität Köln and Visiting Professor of International Relations at the Bologna Center of Johns Hopkins University. His two most recent books are *Economic Development, Social Order and World Politics* (Lynne Rienner, 1996) and *Asien und der Westen* (Nomos, 2002).