The Cancer Stage of Capitalism

Description: In this bold look at the uncontrolled spread of global capitalism, John McMurtry, professor of philosophy at the University of Guelph, develops the metaphor of modern capitalism as a cancer. Its invasive growth, he argues, threatens to break down our society’s immune system and--if not soon restrained--could reverse all the progress that has been made toward social equity and stability.

John McMurtry traces the causes of this global disorder back to the mutating assumptions of market theory that now govern the world’s economy. He diagnoses the malaise as a pathologist would a biological cancer, tracking the delinked circuits of the global system’s monetised growth as a carcinogenic disorder at the social level of life-organization. In the wide-lensed tradition of Adam Smith, Marx and Keynes, McMurtry cuts across academic disciplines and boundaries to penetrate the inner logic of the system’s problems.

Far from pessimistic, he argues that the way out of the global crisis is to be found in an evolving substructure of history which provides a common ground of resolution across ethnic and national divisions.

Contents:

1. The Ancient Taboo
2. The Pathologisation of the Market Model
3. The Social Immune System and the Cancer Stage of Capitalism
4. The Life Code versus the Money code: The paradigm Shift
5. The Great Vehicle of the Civil Commons

Notes
Index

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