

Foreword

This translation was undertaken in 1997 with permission from the late Mrs. Mou Zongsan. After completing the translation, I was met with questions of copyright. Meanwhile Mrs. Mou Zongsan had died. Following the advice of several scholars familiar with the matter, I put the translation briefly on the internet in 2004. Other scholars who saw it on the internet wrote to me asking for permission to use it in their classrooms. They also asked for permission to help get it published as a book. All the same, the manuscript remained in a drawer for ten years. But because Mou Zongsan has been called the most influential and most seminal philosopher of modern China, and no other book by this great philosopher had been translated into English, I decided to make it available once more on the internet, with the hope that it would be useful to scholars, students, and other readers.

Julie Lee Wei
2014, rev. 2019