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## SYNOPSIS

The contributions in this volume are, as mentioned elsewhere, a response to a specific issue. Each response reflects in its own individual way differing areas of interest, perspectives, approaches, and methods of dealing with a chosen topic.

It would be a pity to lose sight of the fact that, although they vary widely, the separate topics all form part of a response to a common question. We therefore would like to provide a synopsis showing which major aspects within the framework of the overall theme are touched upon by individual contributions. Such a synopsis we find important also with regard to the fact that we did not wish to group the contributions into clear-cut categories. An article, for instance, dealing with business structures may provide highly important insights into questions of personality or history, and an article on literature may provide equally important insights into the areas of economy or social structure.

The sequence of the articles in the present volume, therefore, is in keeping with this journal's rule of arranging them in alphabetical order. However, the following synopsis should help the reader to find areas of specific interest and also to discover clusters of related aspects and topics among the relatively large number of contributions.

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