

research on the emerging agricultural markets of Russia or neighboring countries. After all, without a thorough understanding of the dynamics of these new markets, our aggregate modeling and prognostication will be based on the most questionable assumptions.

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**Masudul Alam Choudhury**, *Comparative Development Studies*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1993.

With this book, the author aims to establish an ethico-economic theory of socio-economic development. He is concerned with global ethics, which includes "the universal human rights charter, sharing of resources, wealth and opportunities on grounds of human solidarity, prohibition of production of such goods that are socially reprehensible and inappropriate in terms both of consumption and production, respect of individual worth and property rights among all human beings, dispensation of social justice to all and so on." Grassroots participatory democracy and the market system can coexist with the result that policies need not be imposed. Rather spontaneous moral responses cause global structural change.

All major views of economic development are critically analyzed including the neoclassical approach. Marxism, basic needs, Schumacher, Chenery's structural transformation concept and the New International Economic Order. They are generally found wanting. Using many diagrams and functional relationships, the ethico-economic paradigm is developed. Particular attention is paid to population growth, technology and the environment.

While recognizing that current thought on economic development leaves much to be desired, that it does not address fundamental concerns of people and society, it is not clear that the paradigm given in this book is the answer. A knowledge-based iterative process has appeal. The stated goals are laudable though not new to the development literature. It is the manner in which this world view, being ethics and human centered with sustainable development, has been rigorously developed which the author considers his contribution. It is debatable whether a substantial improvement in development theory has been achieved though the concerns raised will remain relevant.

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