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Richard Westra

Periodizing Capitalism and Capitalist Extinction

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Praise for *Periodizing Capitalism and Capitalist Extinction*

“In his new book, Richard Westra takes up two long-standing and crucial questions in the study of capitalism. How do we conceptualize and periodize the different historical phases of capitalist development in general and this long period of neoliberal globalization in particular? What are the signs of a fundamental impasse in capitalism’s dynamics of accumulation, its terminal crisis, and the emergent political conditions pointing toward a social transformation? There are few texts that take these issues up, and Westra provides a timely and important map to these debates. In a conjuncture in world politics where social forces on the right are taking an authoritarian turn and new movements on the left are beginning to surface, this book is written with the right temper of careful assessment and necessary sense of political urgency.”

—Greg Albo, *York University, Canada*

“After systematically critiquing alternative accounts presented over the last 150 years, Westra develops his own explanation of the discontinuities in continuity of capitalism. His book will appeal to all those with a theoretical, historical, and practical interest in the nature, trajectory, and crisis-tendencies of capitalism up the current stage of consumerism.”

—Bob Jessop, *Lancaster University, UK*

“Many analysts have sought to identify and analyze distinct periods in capitalist history, from Marx, Hilferding, and Lenin, through recent examinations of neoliberalism, globalization, and financialization. Richard Westra fills a gap in this literature by offering a comprehensive account, along with a critique, of those efforts. He offers a gloomy conclusion, that the current stage is not a stage of capitalism at all but a period of disintegration of its foundations.”

—David M. Kotz, *University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA*

“Determining the historical periods of capitalist development is one of the most complex problems faced by Marxist political economy. Richard Westra reviews the relevant literature with great skill, and discusses novel approaches that draw on Uno School Marxism. His book is a powerful contribution that will serve as reference point.”

—Costas Lapavistas, *SOAS University of London, UK*

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