

॥ स्वायत्सत्र प्रमाणं स्यात् ॥



National Law University Delhi

A Student Reader
Introducing

DAS KAPITAL

Vol. I

ANSHUMAN SINGH

॥ न्यायस्तत्र प्रमाणं स्यात् ॥



National Law University Delhi

A STUDENT READER
INTRODUCING

DAS KAPITAL VOL. I

ANSHUMAN SINGH

First published 2013 India
by NLUD Press
National Law University Delhi, Sector – 14
Dwarka, New Delhi – 110 078

© 2013 Anshuman Singh
Printed and bound in India by
Avantika Printers Private Limited
194/2, Ramesh Market, Garhi, East of Kailash
New Delhi 110 078

All Rights Reserved.
ISBN : 978-81-923638-9-9

Acknowledgments

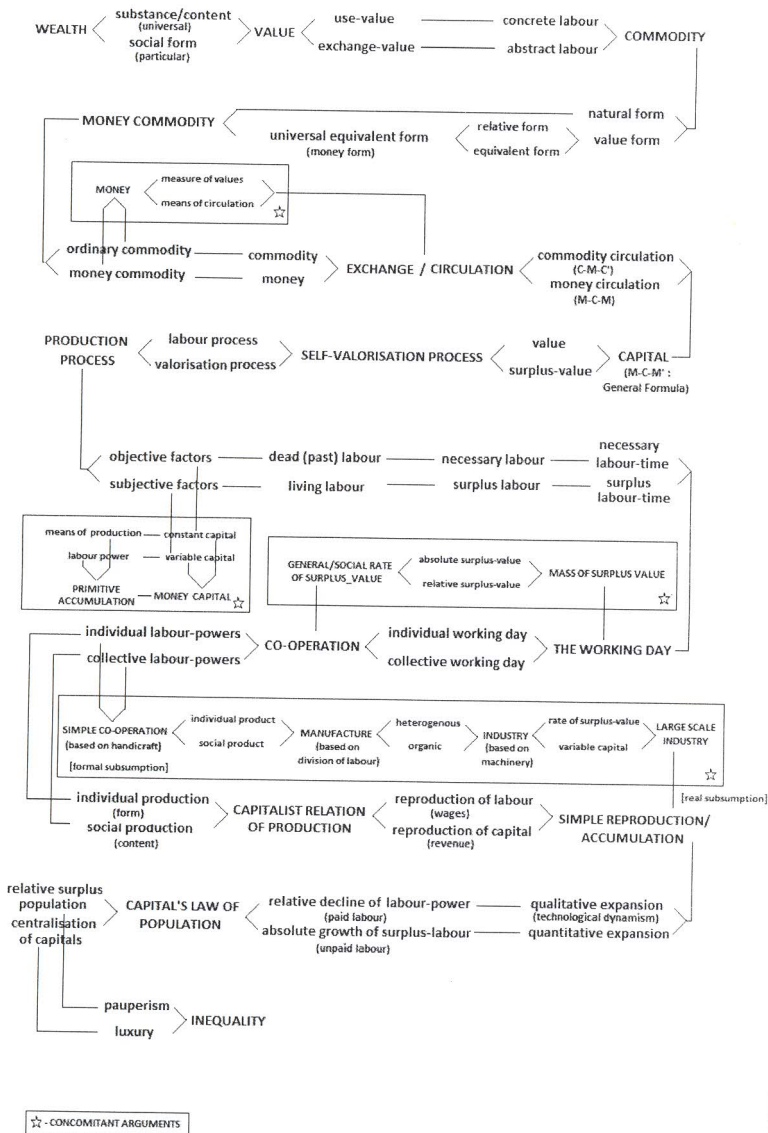
It is impossible to imagine how this idea could have materialised without the constant support and guidance of Prof. Babu Mathew, Prof. Sitharamam Kakarala, Prof. Amar Singh and my parents. I thank Kanika for our long (and hopefully not entirely tedious) conversations on the subject. Countless exchanges with John, Nikita, Subhro, Purushottam and Utkarsh were instrumental in understanding as well as articulating key arguments.

I must especially thank Prof. Ranbir Singh and Prof. S.K.D Rao for bringing this out as a University Publication.

Dedicated to the memory of

Nanaji

THE CAPITALIST MODE OF PRODUCTION



Contents

Preface

I - MARX'S THEORY OF VALUE	1-25
- The Peculiarity of <i>Capital</i>	2
- What is Wealth?	6
- Value and the Quality-Quantity Duality	11
- Labour: Concrete and Abstract	17
- Commodity: Natural-Form and Value-Form	23
II - WHAT IS MONEY?	26-64
- Brief Recapitulation	27
- Value-Form: Relative and Equivalent Forms	28
- Exchange Relation	32
- Money-Form (or Universal Equivalent-Form)	37
- Circulation of Commodities	48
- The Birth of 'Capital'	58
III - THE SECRET OF PROFIT	65-104
- Brief Recapitulation	66
- Elements of the Production Process (Subjective and Objective Factors)	68
- The Value of Labour?	71
- Production of Surplus-Value	77

-	The Historical Preconditions of Capitalism	80
-	The Production Process and its Contradictions	88
-	Constant Capital and Variable Capital	95
IV - THE PRODUCTIVITY RACE		105-188
-	Brief Recapitulation	106
-	The Working Day and the Rate of Surplus-Value	114
-	Limits of the Working Day	117
-	Class Struggle	121
-	Mass of Surplus-Value	128
-	Relative Surplus-Value	132
-	Co-operation	145
-	The Three Phases of Co-operation	155
V - CAPITALISTIC GROWTH: DYNAMICS AND CONSEQUENCES		189-224
-	Brief Recapitulation	190
-	Capitalist Relation of Production	196
-	Simple Reproduction/Accumulation	199
-	Capital's Law of Population	205
-	Increasing Inequality: The Fundamental Truth of Capitalistic Growth?	220
Conclusion: A Post-Marxist World?		245