



The Liquidation of Exile
Studies in the Intellectual Emigration of the 1930s
David Kettler

Pub Date: July 2011
Binding: Hardback
Price: £60 / \$99
ISBN: 9780857287939

Category: SOCIAL SCIENCE /
Sociology / General
BISAC code: SOC026000
BIC code: JFFN

Extent: 220 pages
Size: 229 x 152mm; 9 x 6

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Description

A fascinating study into the multiple, complex and changing negotiating processes and bargaining structures constitutive of the intellectual exile of the 1930s.

'No one among our contemporaries has thought more deeply about exile than David Kettler. His new book illuminates its historical modes, its cultural impact and its personal cost. Humane without being mawkish, analytical without being cold, 'The Liquidation of Exile' instructs and inspires the reader in equal measure. Those of us fortunate enough to have lived peaceful lives in quieter times can only gasp in amazement at what these refugee intellectuals endured – and achieved.' —*Professor Peter Baehr, Lingnan University*

'David Kettler has written a fascinating and thoughtfully accessible account of one of the most devastating and intriguing periods of modern intellectual history.' —*Professor Gerhard Lauer, University of Göttingen*

Through a series of focused studies, this volume seeks to explore and define the condition of intellectual exile in relation to the event that has generated the richest literature in exile studies: the emigration of intellectuals from Nazi Germany. By examining his own experiences along with those of other intellectual émigrés, David Kettler argues that intellectual exile is a difficult, dependent and fluid condition, whose achievements are dearly bought, and whose endings rarely fulfill the missions informing their beginnings. Building on many years of inquiry into the sociology of intellectuals, ***The Liquidation of Exile*** proposes how we should define the study of intellectual exile, and reflects upon the nature and outcome of the condition, the affinities it creates, and the conflict that arises between the experience of exclusion and the prospect of return.

Readership: Scholars and students in the fields of sociology, political theory, cultural studies and intellectual history. Its lively narrative cases and absence of technical terminology in the theoretical framework also make it suitable for the interested general reader.

Contents

Preface; 1. The Study of Intellectual Exile: A Paradigm; 2. Self-Knowledge and Sociology: Nina Rubinstein's Exile Studies; 3. A German Subject to Recall: Hans Mayer as Internationalist, Cosmopolitan, Outsider, and/or Exile; 4. Exile as Process: The Case of Franz L. Neumann; 5. The Symbolic Uses of Exile: Erich Kahler at Ohio State; 6. First Letters: The Liquidation of Exile? 7. The Second Wave: An Autobiographical Exercise; Notes; Bibliography; Index

About the Author

David Kettler was born in Leipzig, Germany in 1930, and moved to the USA in 1940 as a member of the "second wave" generation of refugees from Nazi Germany. His publications extend across the fields of political theory, law and society, sociology, cultural studies and intellectual history. He is Research Professor in Social Studies at Bard College in New York, as well as Professor Emeritus in Political Studies and Cultural Studies at Trent University in Ontario.

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