# Table of Contents

Foreword .............................................................................................................................................. xv

Preface ................................................................................................................................................ xvii

Acknowledgment ............................................................................................................................... xxvii

Section 1  
**Historical Approaches**

Chapter 1  
China and Europe from Confucius and Aristotle to Now: Old Histories, New Challenges ............... 1  
*Stephen Green, Asia House, London, UK*

Chapter 2  
The Alchemy of Religion: From Inner Illumination to Love and Service in Action......................... 16  
*Edi Bilimoria, Scientific and Medical Network, UK*

Section 2  
**Philosophical Approaches**

Chapter 3  
Rethinking the Fact-Value Split: A Place for Religion in the Public Square? ................................. 63  
*R. Scott Smith, Biola University, USA*

Chapter 4  
Making the Unbearable Bearable through Existential Spirituality .................................................... 81  
*R. Scott Webster, Deakin University, Australia*

Chapter 5  
Offerings: The Metaphysics of Giving ................................................................................................. 99  
*Ana-Maria Pascal, Regent's University London, UK*
Section 3
Theological Approaches

Chapter 6
Religion, Church, and Public Space ................................................................. 136
Gheorghe Petraru, Al. I. Cuza University, Romania

Chapter 7
The Mystical Experience, or the Way to Transformative Union ................. 149
Puiu Ionita, Al. I. Cuza University of Iasi, Romania

Chapter 8
The Passion of Port Talbot: The Sacred Heart of a Secular Narrative .......... 170
Carys Ruth Walsh, St Mellitus College, UK

Chapter 9
Religious Themes in Contemporary Art ......................................................... 188
Codrina Laura Ionita, University of Arts “G. Enescu” Iasi, Romania

Section 4
Economic Approaches: The Church, between Social Economy and Neoliberalism

Chapter 10
Religion and the Social Economy: Elective Affinities .................................. 220
Malcolm David Brown, University of Southern Queensland, Australia

Chapter 11
Great Risk for the Kingdom: Pentecostal-Charismatic Growth Churches, Pastorprenurs, and Neoliberalism ................................................................. 236
Mark Alan Charles Jennings, Murdoch University, Australia

Section 5
Socio-Cultural Approaches: The Challenges of Cultural Specificity

Chapter 12
Women and Religion in the Indian Diaspora ............................................. 250
Annapurna Devi Pandey, University of California, USA

Chapter 13
Literary History as National History: The Sufi Tradition in Iranian Culture and Identity .......... 265
Parisa Shiran, University of Melbourne, Australia

Chapter 14
Struggle for Inclusion: The Narratives of Religious Converts from Pakistan .................................. 282
Ambreen Shahriar, University of Sindh, Pakistan
Section 6
Sociological Approaches: Forms of Exclusion

Chapter 15
Multiculturalism, Morality, and Secondary Secularisation: CoSA or Common Good in Practice..... 297
  Marie Chollier, MMU, UK & CRIR-AVS PACA, France
  Mariateresa Tassinari, European University Viadrina, Germany & CPCM-ME, Italy

Chapter 16
Forgiveness in the Face of Hate................................................................. 315
  Nadine V Wedderburn, SUNY Empire State College, USA
  Robert E Carey, SUNY Empire State College, USA

Chapter 17
Reconciling Homosexuality and Spirituality in Africa as a Heresy and Survival Strategy: A
Critical Study of House of Rainbow (LGBT Church) in Nigeria................................. 331
  Floribert Patrick C. Endong, University of Calabar, Nigeria

Compilation of References ..................................................................................... 354

About the Contributors ......................................................................................... 390

Index....................................................................................................................... 395