



SECOND EDITION

MATERIALISM

MORAL AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES

Abdu'l-Missagh Ghadirian, M. D.

Materialism continues to have a devastating impact on societies and individuals throughout the world. Examining psychological, sociological and spiritual perspectives and substantiated by extensive scientific research, this book focus on the moral and social consequences of materialistic mindsets and challenges the view that matter is the centrepiece of life –a view that

denies spirituality, conscience and feeling. It advocates for a sensible balance between the spiritual and material aspects of life as two pillars of an equitable civilization.

Originally published in 2010, this updated and expanded edition (2017) now includes valuable insights on materialism and mental health, bioethics and climate change, in addition to its original challenges to the unbridled accumulation of wealth leading to the inequities, economic injustices and corruption of our modern world. These are not only economic issues; extremes of wealth and poverty are also a moral dilemma. The author discusses the roles of egotism, arrogance and indifference to the plight of millions who die each year from starvation and disease. Such indifference, as well as the deterioration in human behaviour, are rooted in the loss of values and spiritual perspectives on life.

The first edition of this book received the Distinguished Scholarship award of the Association for Bahá'í Studies in 2011.

About the author

Dr Abdu'l-Missagh Ghadirian is a Professor Emeritus of McGill University, Faculty of Medicine, and a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association. As author, educator and researcher, he has published extensively on psychosocial and spiritual issues and spoken at many universities and public events around the world. Among his publications in recent years are *Creative Dimensions of Suffering* (2009) and *Steadfastness in the Covenant: Responding to Tests and Tribulations* (2014). His current interest is the exploration of the interrelationship between religion and science in the advancement of civilization.

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