CONTENTS

Introduction	1
 (1) The two types of democracy, liberal and totalitarian (2) The eighteenth-century origins of political Messianism; t schism 	he
(3) Totalitarianism of the Right and Totalitarianism of the Left (4) Secular and religious Messianism (5) Questions of method	
PART I	
THE EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY ORIGINS OF POLITICAL MESSIANISM	L
CHAP.	
 I. NATURAL ORDER: THE POSTULATE (a) The single principle (b) The secular religion (c) Apriorism and empiricism 	17
II. THE SOCIAL PATTERN AND FREEDOM (HELVETIUS AND HOLBACH) (a) Identity of reason (b) Self-interest (c) The natural order, the Legislator, and the individual	28
III. Totalitarian Democracy (Rousseau) (a) The psychological background (b) The general will and the individual (c) The general will, popular sovereignty, and dictatorship (d) The general will as purpose	38
IV. Property (Morelly and Mably) (a) Premises and conclusions—the discrepancy (b) Morelly, the Communist (c) Mably and ascetic virtue (d) Restrictionist economics ix	50

PART II

THE JACOBIN IMPROVISATION

СНАР.	
orar,	PAG
I. THE REVOLUTION OF 1789—St (a) The Revolutionary attitude (b) Popular sovereignty (c) Property	
II. BALANCE OR REVOLUTIONARY I CONSTITUTIONAL MONAR (a) Legality and the supremach (b) Jacobinism—mental and p (c) The definition of the gene (d) The idea of balance—Sair (e) Robespierre and the Revolution of the people	chy cy of the Revolutionary purpose psychological elements ral will nt-Just
III. Volonté Unb (a) Direct democratic action (b) Liberty as an objective pur (c) The right of opposition; o (d) The theory of Revolutions (e) Jacobin dictatorship	utlawing of parties
IV. ULTIMATE SCHEME (a) The postulate of progress (b) The doctrinaire mentality (c) The reign of virtue (d) Saint-Just's Institutions Re (e) The civil religion and con	^e publicaines
V. THE SOCIAL PROBLEM (a) The inconsistencies (b) Class policy (c) Fundamental questions (d) Economic restrictionism a	149 nd individualism

Notes Index

CHAP.	
PART III	PAGE
THE BABOUVIST CRYSTALLIZATION	
 I. THE LESSONS OF THE REVOLUTION AND OF THERMIDOR (a) The Messianic climate (b) The lessons (c) Babeuf (d) Buonarroti 	167
 II. THE BABOUVIST SOCIAL DOCTRINE (a) Equality and the Social Contract (b) Vision of history as history of class struggle (c) The interpretation of the French Revolution (d) The evolution towards Communism 	179
III. THE STORY OF THE PLOT OF BABEUF (a) The prehistory of the Conspiracy (b) The story of the plot	196
IV. Democracy and Dictatorship (a) The definition of democracy (b) Anti-parliamentary, plebiscitary ideas (c) Can the people be trusted? (d) The idea of the enlightened vanguard (e) The theory of Revolutionary dictatorship	201
V. THE STRUCTURE OF THE CONSPIRACY (a) Organization and propaganda (b) The plan of the insurrection	222
VI. THE ULTIMATE SCHEME (a) Political organization (b) Economic Communism (c) Spiritual cohesion	232
Conclusions	249
Notes	256
Index	3 ² 3