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the thinkers of the century of genius that urated modern philosophy, none lived an ectual life more rich and varied than ried Wilhelm Leibniz (1646-1716). Trained ırist and employed as a counsellor, librarian, istorian, he made famous contributions to mathematics, physics, and metaphysics, yet d his own aspirations as ultimately ethical heological, and married these theoretical erns with politics, diplomacy, and an equally l range of practical reforms: juridical, omic, administrative, technological, medical, cclesiastical.

a Rosa Antognazza's pioneering biography nly surveys the full breadth and depth of theoretical interests and practical activities; o weaves them together for the first time into fied portrait of this unique thinker and the d from which he came.

e centre of the huge range of Leibniz's rently miscellaneous endeavours, gnazza reveals a single master project ng unity to his extraordinarily multifaceted work. Throughout the vicissitudes of his life, Leibniz tenaciously pursued the dream systematic reform and advancement of all the ices, to be undertaken as a collaborative prise supported by an enlightened ruler. e theoretical pursuits were, in turn, nately grounded in a practical goal: the ovement of the human condition and the oration thereby of the glory of God in His ion.

ell as tracing the threads of continuity that nd these theoretical and practical activities to all-embracing plan, this illuminating study follows these threads back to the intellectual tions of the Holy Roman Empire in which niz lived and throughout the broader lectual networks that linked him to patrons ountries as distant as Russia and to espondents as far afield as China.

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