

CONTENTS

	PAGE
PREFACE	ix
CHARTS	
Time Chart of Legal Systems	xvi
The World's Legal Systems	xvii
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	xviii
CHAPTER	
I A CONSPECTUS OF LEGAL SYSTEMS	1
PREHISTORY	2
Instinct, habit and conscious behaviour	2
The individual and the group	4
Magic and religion	5
The emergence of the city	6
THE ANCIENT WORLD	7
Sumeria	8
Egypt	9
India	12
China	14
Greece	17
Rome	19
RELIGION-BASED SYSTEMS	21
Hindu law	21
Buddhism and law	22
Jewish law	24
Canon law	27
Islamic law	30
CUSTOMARY SYSTEMS OF LAW	32
Aboriginal law	32
African law	35
The law of the Pacific	37
MEDIAEVAL EUROPE	39
The barbarian codes	39
The feudal system	40
The unity of mediaeval Christendom — the <i>Respublica Christiana</i>	41
The emergence of national legal systems	42
MAJOR MODERN SYSTEMS	43
The common law	43
The civil law	45
Marxian socialist law	46
European Community law	48
COMMON LAW AND CIVIL LAW SYSTEMS COMPARED	50
THE USES OF COMPARATIVE LAW	52

An Invitation to the Law

CHAPTER	PAGE
2 INTERRELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN LAW AND OTHER FIELDS OF HUMAN KNOWLEDGE	55
Introductory	55
Law and archaeology	55
Law and anthropology	56
Law and philosophy	59
Law and logic	61
Law and linguistics	63
Law and literature	64
Law and theology	66
Law and history	68
Law and economics	69
Law and sociology	71
Law and political science	73
Law and psychology	74
Law and scientific methodology	76
Law and the technological revolution	77
3 THE SOURCES OF LAW	81
Religion	81
Custom	82
Equity	84
Judicial decision	86
Juristic writing	89
Legislation	91
4 THE NATURE AND ENDS OF LAW	96
VIEWS CONCERNING THE NATURE OF LAW	96
Rules divinely ordained or framed within the divine dispensation	96
A reflection of divine reason	98
The embodiment of ancient tradition	98
A crystallisation of reason and commonsense	99
A body of agreements among the members of a society	100
A reflection of the general will	101
The command of the sovereign	101
A reflection of the history, culture and needs of a given society	103
A reconciliation of freewill and general freedom	104
The product of evolutionary forces	105
A hierarchy of normative relations	105
The decisions of the courts	106
The application of freely found principles of justice and equity	107
The rules consolidating the economic interests of the dominant class ..	107
The enterprise of subjecting human conduct to the governance of rules ..	108
The conditions making social existence possible in organised groups ..	108
VIEWS CONCERNING THE ENDS OF LAW	109
To give effect to the divine will	109
To enable the fullest development of the human personality	109
To give everyone his due	110

Contents

CHAPTER	PAGE
To keep the peace	110
To enable the free movement of individuals in society	111
To make possible the greatest happiness of the greatest number	112
To enable the citizen to do his duty	113
To maintain the security of social institutions	114
To achieve equality	115
To achieve the maximum satisfaction of human wants	116
5 LAW IN ITS SOCIAL CONTEXT	118
Is law necessary?	118
Justice	120
Equality	124
The relationship between equality and liberty	126
Law and morality	128
Causes of dissatisfaction with the law	132
Current erosions of legal authority	133
The law in the field and the law in the books	136
The individual and the group	137
Adaptability to change	139
The doctrine of abuse of rights	140
The good samaritan situation	140
The status-contract-status movement	141
6 SOME LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE DEMOCRATIC IDEAL	144
The separation of powers	144
The rule of law	146
Religious freedom	148
Freedom of expression	150
Racial discrimination	153
Privacy	155
7 SOME BASIC LEGAL CONCEPTS	159
Persons	159
Property	160
Ownership	163
Possession	164
Rights and duties	165
Contract	167
Tort	169
Criminal law	171
Liability	173
Procedural and substantive law	174
The concept of sovereignty	175
International law	178
8 THE MACHINERY OF JUSTICE	182
The trial process	182
Early trial procedures	183

An Invitation to the Law

CHAPTER	PAGE
The jury system — the origins	184
The jury system — the merits	184
Adversarial and inquisitorial procedure	186
The role of the bench	187
The role of the bar	190
9 HUMAN RIGHTS	194
Introductory	194
The genesis of the concept	194
The story of natural law	196
The English struggle for individual freedom	198
The eighteenth century philosophers	201
The American revolution	202
The French revolution	203
The American constitution	204
The Charter of the United Nations	206
The Universal Declaration of Human Rights	207
UN human rights activity subsequent to the Declaration	208
Contemporary criticisms of the Universal Declaration	210
New frontiers of human rights	211
10 NEW DIRECTIONS OF THE LAW	214
Introductory	214
Towards interdisciplinary understanding	214
Towards academic participation	215
Towards deformalisation of justice	216
Towards increased judicial creativity	218
Towards a more realistic legal profession	219
Towards less discrimination	221
Towards tolerance of sub-cultures	221
Towards social rights	222
Towards corporate responsibility	223
Towards fostering industrial harmony	224
Towards new concepts of property	225
Towards new concepts of compensation	226
Towards a more understanding family law	228
Towards sexual equality	229
Towards protection of children	230
Towards elimination of poverty	231
Towards open government	232
Towards bills of rights	233
Towards internationalism	234

Contents

	PAGE
APPENDIX	238
A—THE ANCIENT MIDDLE EAST	238
B—HINDU LAW	241
C—BUDDHISM	247
D—CHINESE LAW	251
E—JEWISH LAW	255
F—GREEK LAW AND PHILOSOPHY	260
G—THE CIVIL LAW	265
H—MUSLIM LAW	272
I—ENGLISH CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL DOCUMENTS	276
J—WESTERN LEGAL PHILOSOPHY	285
K—AMERICAN DOCUMENTS	296
L—INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS	317
BIBLIOGRAPHY	317
INDEX	359