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Autore	Hollander Samuel
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Sommario/riassunto

Samuel Hollander provides the first in-depth study of Malthus's
 achievement as an economist. Malthus's message has been largely
 misrepresented by decades of careless and biased interpretation. In
 this volume, Samuel Hollander re-examines these interpretations and
 presents a full and coherent picture of Malthus's economics. He
 evaluates John Maynard Keynes's famous dichotomy between the
 Ricardian and Malthusian methods, proving that the two were far closer
 to each other than is generally supposed. The relation of Malthus's
 ideas to those of his predecessors is thoroughly examined, for
 example, his roots in the Wealth of Nations are demonstrated and the
 physiocratic and Sraffian dimensions of his work are brought to light.
 Hollander extends his analysis to biographical factors; he discounts the
 textbook perspective on Malthus as a social-welfare pessimist and
 dispels the common notion of Malthus as spokesman of the land-
 owning classes. The standard charges against Malthus of inconsistency
 and intellectual dishonesty are also challenged. Samuel Hollander has
 produced the definitive study of Thomas Robert Malthus. A major
 contribution to the history of economic theory, the study has much
 broader appeal as a portrait of a central figure in early nineteenth-
 century debates over social policy -particularly those having to do with
 the role of government in relation to social welfare, economic growth,
 and trade protection.
