

THE LEO/SIRIUS FESTIVAL 2023

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Topics (linked to paragraphs):

A sunny disposition:

Leo in the orthodox

Esoteric Leo

The full moon

Some significant developments

The Leo/Aquarius continuum

Nations and charts

The EU, NATO and Ukraine

Leo working charts

Maps

Ideals and values

A grain of truth

A turning point

Leo and gold

The Zionist question

Jenin and the State of Palestine

Election season

In conclusion

P1

Greetings Everyone!

You may have heard already that it is been an interesting summer here in Italy, as well as in other parts of Mediterranean Europe. Much of Mediterranean Europe – Greece southern Italy, southern France, Spain – have suffered under sweltering heat, often over 40°C for days on end. On the other hand, we here in northern Italy have had a very different summer, with wild storms including heavy rain, hail sometimes the size of tennis balls, high winds which has blown down trees, and widespread crop damage. We already see food prices in the supermarkets trending upwards. We appear to be on the tail end of that weather now, as July tends to be the hottest month in Italy. Here in Rovereto overall, the summer has been rather pleasant, especially compared to last year, when it was quite hot. They keep forecasting rain for us, and we do get some, but not to the extent of the other northern regions of Italy. The northern regions just below us in the Po River plain have seen some of the wildest weather. The mountainous areas to the northwest have also seen severe winds. We saw similar weather a few years back. The musical instrument makers saw a bonanza with some of the trees that were knocked down, because some of those trees, like spruce, are quite valuable in stringed instruments.

Here in Rovereto we live in a microbiome, which protects us from much of the wilder weather. Some of it has been quite interesting. The light shows at night from the tempest passing over the mountains have been quite spectacular. We have a couple of dogs who don't much like the thunder that comes with it, while some of the older dogs are quite deaf and they just sleep through it. But, on the whole the weather here has not been that bad. The local rivers are all full to capacity, brown from the soil washed down from the mountains, and the mountains themselves around here are spectacular in their verdure. We took a drive the other day with the four dogs that are able up to one of the mountain passes and there is not a brown speck to be seen anywhere in the panorama. The cloud formations have been stunning also and it is interesting to watch the winds, often at cross purposes, forming and dispersing these clouds, bringing the rain with them. Of course, we hear all the reports of how the heat in the wild weather is caused by climate change. Whether or not one

believes in the climate change narrative – and opinions seem to be as divided on that matter is anything else – we here at the house seek is much as possible to maintain a sunny disposition in the midst of everything that is happening. Darkness of mood shuts out the light of the soul.

A sunny disposition: Speaking of sunny dispositions, a rather interesting study came to light for me the other day when researching cycles, especially related to the weather. I had known for some time violence in the world tracked with swings in sunspot activity, and we are reaching a peak of such activity over the next two years. Yet, rather than speaking of personalities here we are looking at [the current disposition of the Sun itself. Consider the following:](#) P2

“The activity of the Sun over the last 11,400 years, i.e., back to the end of the last ice age on Earth, has now for the first time been reconstructed quantitatively by an international group of researchers...from the Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research...The scientists have analyzed the radioactive isotopes in trees that lived thousands of years ago. As the scientists from Germany, Finland, and Switzerland report in the current issue of the science journal "Nature" from October 28, **one needs to go back over 8,000 years in order to find a time when the Sun was, on average, as active as in the last 60 years. Based on a statistical study of earlier periods of increased solar activity, the researchers predict that the current level of high solar activity will probably continue *only for a few more decades.***”

Is this ringing any bells? Climate change? Is there a ‘smoking gun’ here? The article ends with the following from the final paragraph:

“The researchers...stress the fact that solar activity has remained on **a roughly constant (high) level since about 1980** - apart from the variations due to the 11-year cycle - while **the global temperature has experienced a strong further increase during that time.** On the other hand, the rather similar trends of solar activity and terrestrial temperature during the last centuries (with the notable exception of the last 20 years) indicates that **the relation between the Sun and climate remains a challenge for further research.**”

It is a challenge for further research, indeed – along with all the other research going into climate change. We wonder if they had to moderate that final comment in light of the fact that people who buck the trending narratives in academia get their funding cut. A few years back (2018) I wrote a piece on climate change in [the Virgo letter for that year](#), which was meant to provoke some thought. [The Virgo letter for the following year](#) addressed the environmental movement and the ongoing arguments about the subject. Then, there was COVID, followed by the Russian SMO in Ukraine, which has brought forward probably the most important considerations for everyone: censorship, the control of the information available to us and facts being suppressed in the effort to control ‘The Narrative’, whatever flavour that might be in the current social milieu, in whatever camp one might find themselves or to which they are told they have to belong. Take your pick these days. Personally, I never was that big on camping. But there is a quote I always remembered regarding the changing cycles, especially the one just upcoming:

“We only need more light, in the esoteric sense, in order to see the soul, and that light will shortly be available and we shall understand the meaning of the words, “And in Thy light shall we see light.” This intensification of the light will continue until A.D. 2025, when **there will come a cycle of relative stability and of steady shining without much augmentation.**”¹

Esoteric and physical light are connected, and the sun literally lights our entire solar system. It is not really much of a stretch to see the connection between the augmentation of solar activity, the increase in heat (esoterically the ‘burning ground’) and the increasing awareness of humanity as to what is taking place under our collective noses. A point to consider here is the period of “a few more decades” referenced one of the quotes above, and the period of “steady shining without much augmentation” in the quote just cited. It is useful to review what was forecast for the year 2025 in that respect and onward every now and then ([The Emerging World Order From 2025](#)). [It would](#)

[appear we are tracking pretty well](#), especially as to the evolution of economic blocs for mutual benefit and the devolution of colonialism and empire, even amongst all the confusion in the world. It will take time.

The effects of solar activity on human consciousness are not taken into account in astrology, by and large, which is why the article from the Max Planck Institute was included here. Of course, from 1940 we had the start of WWII and the amazing changes to the world order that came from that, as well as the technological advancements which evolved in kind, too many to mention here. Now we are seeing the culmination of those changes from WWII and the shifting of the world order once again in ways which are yet to unfold – a sort of settling of accounts. But all this talk of the sun brings us to our current theme, the astrological sign Leo, which of interest is ruled in all three levels (orthodox, esoteric and hierarchical) by the Sun,² the only astrological sign that is thus ruled.

Leo in the orthodox: Just as the sun is the center of our solar system, around which all the planets and planetary bodies revolve, so the world and all its people revolve around the Leo type, or so the Leo would like to believe. Leo is known for its leadership qualities, for its ego, for its presence within a group of people, and for its magnetism. Just as the sun gives vitality to everything in the solar system, so the Leo type, whether Sun-sign or Ascendant, exemplifies that radiance when the Leonine qualities are well expressed. Leo rules the heart and the spine in medical astrology. We are all acquainted with phrases like ‘having the lion’s heart’ and ‘having a spine’, representing courage and the ability to stand against the odds. And Leos often have to overcome serious personal obstacles before they can exemplify the higher Leo traits.

Leo is a fixed sign, a fire sign and a sign closely associated with self-development, discipline and discipleship, the latter being its higher calling. Once the Leo type has come to terms with their struggles and has chosen the course of self-development, then the magnetism of Leo begins to show and they become a natural center, a leader within their group, whether family community or nation. Several well-known presidents of the US have been Leo types, for example – Donald Trump, Bill Clinton, Barack Obama, and “W” Bush – and of interest, all of them as leaders of the United States since the fall of the Soviet Union, the one exception now being Joe Biden. All of the Leo presidential types have echoed the sense of American exceptionalism, have sought to place the US at ‘the head of the table’, so to speak, with their campaign rhetoric speaking of the need for peace through strength. Lyndon Johnson also had Leo rising. On the downside, all of the Leo presidents listed presided over large military actions, also. We don’t need to go over that here. But on a side note, one of them received the Nobel Peace Prize, we might say undeservedly. And on another note they have all been involved in some sort of controversy. Leos do love to be the center of attention. But we are not going to focus on personalities here. Issues are far more important. On the whole though, Leos can be a lot of fun, are friendly, are attention seeking, proud and love a good piece of drama. In fact, they like to be the cause of any drama.

Esoteric Leo: Esoterically, the situation for Leo changes because the Leo at that point is not interested in personal aggrandizement. This is one of the hallmarks of the developed Leo. The emphasis for Leo esoterically is purely upon enlightenment, starting with self-enlightenment and culminating in full enlightenment. In this case, instead of looking at the Sun we look at the planets which the Sun veils. For Leo, the Sun veils Neptune and Uranus.³ Neptune rules ‘the heart of the sun’, while Uranus rules the central spiritual sun, which is only registered during the final initiatory process on The Path. The emphasis upon the heart is exhibited through Leo on the path of self-enlightenment. The emphasis on the heart is found often in esoteric Buddhist practices. Leo first becomes a thinker and then in the process transcends thought itself. Through self-mastery, the leadership qualities of Leo are developed. But in the process, great sensitivity is also developed. Neptune rules the development of such sensitivity. The sensitivity is developed in the processes of purification, in which the grosser elements of the personality are figuratively and sometimes

literally burned away, leaving a very open and the sensitized set of energy fields. The fire element of Leo is a signifier of such processes.

In esoteric Buddhism there is a process in the Buddhist sadhanas called ‘taking birth on the path’, wherein one arises as the deity of the sadhana within a mandala, surrounded by its retinue. At that instant [one develops ‘divine pride’](#), in that one realizes the deity as one’s own buddha-nature. In the practice of the sadhana one adopts the attitude of thinking ‘as if’, instead of wondering ‘what if’. P4 There is no doubt, no discussion in such a case about the effects, aftereffects, etc. Instead, one expects and focuses one’s attention on becoming a fully enlightened being. The deity in the sadhana only represents the person’s higher Self, or spiritual Triad. Taking birth onto the path is a vehicle to enlightenment, but it is also exemplary of Leo typology. The Leo sees him or herself as perfected, acting as if they are as they envision themselves. Conversely, there is nothing essentially wrong in thinking or wondering what if, if used as a scientific method, i.e. taking in every possibility in a scientific investigation, as in seeing life as an experiment. That again can be seen in the process of Leo, as one masters some aspect of their being, as shown in one’s horoscope where Leo is prominent and rules. To master something, one must practice as if one already has mastery. Yes, mistakes will be made, but without practice there is no progress. And in that focus, that practice, self-confidence is generated and competition is replaced with ‘personal bests’. With the Leo interval each year we recognize what is needed in the goal of self-perfection, and from there we set to work, all the while knowing that all self-perfection is to be done with the aim of helping those around us to their own goals in like manner. With these thoughts in mind we move on to the full moon and topical matters to this interval.

The full moon takes place on 1 Aug 2023 at 18:31 UT (2 Aug at 4:31 am AEST). The Sabian symbol for the lunar degree is of particular interest to us this festival, considering Leo is so much associated with leadership. The symbol reads as follows:

- A man who had for a time become the embodiment of a popular ideal is made to realize that as a person he is not this ideal (9 – 10 Aquarius)

Aquarius is the opposite pole to Leo, and as such should always be considered along with the Sun sign for any of the solar festivals. We will discuss this shortly. Who, though, in our current social strata, would think so highly of themselves as to be the embodiment of an ideal? Or who among our popular and political leadership would have had that appellation applied to them? Let’s see...Macron, Zelenskyy, Thunberg, Baerbock, Biden, Borrell, Von der Leyen, Trump? Anyone? I can think of a few. Readers can decide on their own favorites. But there is one in particular in our current world affairs who was recently shown he is not, shall we say, ideal: Zelenskyy. Many of our present world leaders would fit the same bill. When Pluto entered Aquarius some months back mention was made of icons falling and so forth, and that applies to people as well as institutions and symbols. Along with the lunar symbol we also have the solar symbol which complements it. It reads as follows:

- Early morning dew sparkles as sunlight floods the field. (9 – 10 Leo)

The ‘sunlight’ of facts are beginning to break through the darkness of the extreme misinformation blitz to which we have been subjected since the start of 2020, first with COVID and now with Ukraine, followed by a host of other real and manufactured crises. The field of our collective consciousness is about to be inundated with a great many facts about which the Western establishments would rather we not know. They will try to cloud our perception and block out the sunlight, but soon enough the truth about a great many matters will be so self-evident as to be undeniable to even the most hardened ideologue. As to why this might be, this will be covered shortly along with the other items just mentioned.

Finishing with the full moon figure, we find Jupiter completing a t-square with the full moon axis, which tends to highlight the hubris of leadership, along with overconfidence. A good deal of pride is associated with Jupiter squares and oppositions to the luminaries, as well as an inability to admit defeat when justifiably challenged. Otherwise such Jupiter squares give great optimism, indulgence even to the point of extravagance, a very easy-going nature and a sunny disposition.

Some significant developments: So, before we get to the main topics to follow, there have been several quite significant events since the last letter. It's long a list, to be sure, but to save pages of explanation, here they are with links: P5

- [Indian oil refiners started paying for Russian oil in yuan](#) (de-dollarization)
- [Iran received full membership in the SCO](#) (the 'Asian NATO')
- [The Jenin camp incursion by Israeli forces](#), on the last full moon (more on Israel later)
- [The Greek wildfires](#), leading to [the largest evacuation in Greek history](#)
- [The NATO summit](#) in Vilnius, where [Zelenskyy posed for some iconic photo-ops](#). More on the summit in a bit.
- [The ASEAN summit](#) in Indonesia. Lavrov was there representing 'isolated' Russia.
- [China slapped export controls on gallium and germanium](#), essential elements in the production of semiconductors. These are rare earth elements, which China has in abundance. Two can play the sanctions game. Banning chip exports is a bad idea.
- The [Hunter Biden saga widened](#) and now [there are calls for an impeachment enquiry](#). [Hunter's sweetheart deal was thrown out](#) by [an observant judge](#) (a Democrat, appointed by Trump). Joe so worries about his son's addictions. But [he \(Hunter\) will be getting help soon](#), if he complies. Further to that, everyone in the West will want to [watch Galloway's rant on the state of the American republic \(video\)](#). [There is no way out for Hunter](#). [The walls are closing in, \(the irony of it all\)](#) on both him and his dad.
- The Obamas need another cook – Obama-gate, anyone? Obama is not blameless in any of the Biden saga, nor of Ukraine, with all the prequels to this saga happening under his watch. However, keep in mind it *is* election season in the US and both sides of our uni-party system are furiously trying to dig up any hint of dirt on the other. The Obama story smacks of the birth certificate furphy. But then again, who knows? The so-called conservatives are quite amusing themselves with dreams of Obama coming a-cropper. But also keep in mind, US presidents don't do time.
- [Yellen, Blinken](#) and [Kissinger](#) all pay a visit to China. [Kissinger got the red carpet \(He's an old friend\)](#). Yellen and [Blinken](#) had [to keep their heads low](#). (Hint: [It's about the USD 32+ trillion in debt](#))
- [Erdogan betrayed Putin](#) (wait for the Scorpio letter on that one) The Sultan is not in a good place at the moment.
- [Russia temporarily exited the grain deal](#) (story to follow), following up by hitting military supply and infrastructure in all of Ukraine's ports. [Ukraine is blockaded in the Black Sea](#), with routes to Romania remaining open. But the Ukrainian ports on the Ukrainian side of the Danube, just across from Romania, [are being struck by the Russians](#). The Russians [essentially began their 'liberation' of Odessa](#) (Galloway with Larry Johnson).
- [Ukraine attacked the Kerch Strait bridge, again](#). It is a nuisance to Russia, but strategically insignificant. The land bridge is intact and being improved and there are always ferries.
- Putin met with the Russian Security Council and [issued a stern warning to Poland](#). [Putin and Lukashenko met afterward](#), where Lukashenko warned Poland against any intervention in Ukraine. [Wagner is now setting up shop in Belarus](#) and taunting the Poles. Prigozhin wants to go shopping in Warsaw. [Prigozhin is hobnobbing with Africans](#) in St. Petersburg. Old mutineers never die, they just go to Belarus and Africa.
- [Strelkov was arrested](#) on charges of extremism. This is addressed in an update on the Prigozhin blog post. Don't know who Strelkov is? Research MH17. [The man is quite](#)

[unstable](#) and not really of that much importance. He was [falsely convicted along with two others](#) of shooting down Malaysian Airlines flight MH-17. Don't look for the Russians to hand him over to the Dutch. There is a [theory he was arrested to keep him from being abducted and handed over to the Western authorities](#), which would have been a big propaganda win for the West.

- [Shoigu and a Russian military delegation visited North Korea along with Li Hongzhong from China](#), signalling Russia and China stand side-by-side with North Korea. The visit is about future trade, military strategic partnership and the BRI. It is also a very significant hedge against American mischief in the region.
- [The 2nd Russia-Africa Economic and Humanitarian Forum](#) in St. Petersburg. Once again Russia was isolated, with [5 of the 54 African nations not sending delegates](#) to the summit. Actually, [Washington is pretty unhappy](#) (reading between the lines) the ungrateful African leaders are cosyng up to Russia. 17 leaders were present. The old European colonizers are likewise miffed the African upstarts are forging their own future, *sans* Europeans. Worse than that, they are turning to the Russians and Chinese. [Many seeds are being planted there](#) at the summit, and many of [the programs look quite interesting](#). [The potential for growth](#) (translate from Russian) in trade between Russia and Africa is quite high. [There is a good summary of the summit with links](#) at this hyperlink.
- [The Dems censor RFK Jr](#) at which [he schooled them on free speech](#), while the Biden Justice Department is [pouring resources into finding something they can pin on Trump](#) to keep him from running against Biden next year – *anything*. American domestic politics resembles a cheap and tawdry reality TV show.
- [An armed coup in Niger](#), ousting the president and France. The French are leaving. The French have been forced to leave 4 African states within the past year. [The interim government in Niger has voiced support for Russia](#). They have also approached Burkina Faso and Mali for the three to form closer cooperation with Russia and in the fight against terrorism. [ECOWAS has vowed military action](#) if the old government is not restored.

A quick word is in order here. [Africa was once almost wholly colonized by the old European colonial powers](#), largely the UK and France. France dominated the western half of Africa while the UK dominated the eastern half. Belgium, Italy and Germany had minor colonial holdings in Africa. The trend now is for Africans to throw off their old colonial past, which is a hard sell for the old Leo European colonial masters – London, France, and Germany. Italy lost its colonies there at the end of WWII. France, with its Leo personality is taking its gradual expulsion from Africa particularly hard. [Niger happens to be one of France's biggest suppliers of uranium](#), with France relying heavily on nuclear power for electricity. Europe is still by far the largest trading partner with African nations. Russia currently accounts for roughly 1% of African trade turnover. With Russia making inroads into Africa, however slowly, the Europeans and Americans want to quash that very quickly and decisively.

- And lastly, according to Biden and Co., [Russia has lost the war](#). The Dickens you say! The Russians don't seem to have gotten that message. [Wait now for 'The Narrative' to implode](#), whatever that particular narrative in the West might be. (Get ready, because another Saigon/Kabul moment is coming.) Looks like they have a few things to cover up in DC. And just so you know, [the Biden administration has ended cancer](#) as we know it. We may be looking at something like ['a happy ending' in Washington](#) before too long.
- Apparently, [aliens prefer to visit the US and UK](#). The timing around these 'revelations' are suspicious. I believe the truth is out there. Common sense tells us that in the infinite expanse of space and time infinite numbers of other civilizations exist. But still, why the recorded 'visits' almost solely to the US and UK, and why the 'revelations' now?

We recall from the last full moon figure there was the likelihood of ruptures in relationships (Putin-Erdogan, Strelkov, Zelenskyy given his bag of coal at Vilnius, Hunter, China export controls, the

grain deal, RFK censoring, Jenin, and so on). We will only touch on a few of these items here, as most of them are developing stories. See the above bulleted points for further info.

The Leo/Aquarius continuum: We must begin our wider discussions here by looking at the astrological continuum in terms of the pairs of opposite signs in the zodiac. In this particular incidence we are looking at Leo and Aquarius. The two signs influence each other and are reflexive, figuratively speaking. We see this in the astrological houses as well. For instance the Meridian axis – the 4th and 10th houses – (all the pairs of opposing signs and houses can be seen as axes) must not be analysed in isolation as to the individual houses. The 10th house is public standing and career, while the 4th house is home, property and family. Changes in one or the other of those houses very often affect the affairs of the opposite house. A change of work may bring a change of residence, for instance, or growth or ruptures in family life may prompt a change in career. Problems at home can impinge on work performance, or overwork can adversely affect family life. A better job can mean a bigger home or expanded property is possible, and so on. The opposites wax and wane in influence, as each pole seeks its fullness of expression. Initially these exchanges in influence may seem to be conflicting, but what is actually happening is a movement toward equilibrium. There are astrological meditations where the sign opposite the Sun sign is an essential part of the meditation. Fullness of expression by one pole cannot be had without the influence or at the expense of the other. People advance more quickly in group fashion than they do alone. P7

With Leo and Aquarius we have the ‘social axis’ as it relates to individuals and groups. All human groups (Aquarius) are comprised of individuals (Leo). We in the West have constantly had the ideal of the value of the individual hammered home. Individual property rights are a manifestation of that, for instance. And that sense of individuality has been important in human development. Without the development of the individual the value added to groups remains stagnant at best. Yet, the interaction of the individual within the group spurs the development of the individual. Our friends (Aquarius) are quite important to us, and the tendency in Aquarius is to accumulate friends, acquaintances and contacts by the bucket-load. The worst case scenario for any Leo type is self-isolation, unless for a very specific spiritual practice. Every group involvement by an individual has the capacity to greatly broaden one’s vista and contacts, and vice-versa. And in fact, our involvement in groups very often brings us into contact with the most important people (‘significant others’) for the fulfilment of our destiny. So, our collective environment is as important as is the individual. At the moment the focus in the West is over-much on the individual, whereas the opposite has been the case in the East. Now we are beginning to see a balancing taking place. Dane Rudhyar once stated astrologers should not see the emergence of the Aquarian age in isolation, but the evolution should rather be seen as the Aquarian-Leo age:

“If the spring equinox is in Pisces, then the fall equinox must be in Virgo; and therefore to speak of the Piscean Age is to see only one side of the world-picture. We should always speak of the Pisces-Virgo Age. If I have not done so until now it is so as not to make the picture more complex. What is ahead of us this century is therefore not the Aquarian Age but the Aquarius-Leo Age.”⁴

When we come to consider the astrology of nations, this axis emerges as a prime mover in the evolution of the multipolar world. The nations that have opposing signs as soul and personality rulers are said to be more positive, expressing either equilibrium or consummation, especially if in fixed signs. Of those we know thus far, they are Belgium (Sagittarius and Gemini), Ireland (Virgo and Pisces) and Russia (Leo and Aquarius). Of those three, Russia has achieved a sort of equilibrium at present, tending toward a consummation of its destiny (“I link two ways”), linking Asia and Europe in all areas of human activity, much as the West may not wish to see it. Belgium is tied very strongly to Washington and the US in general, as well as the UK through its rulers. Ireland (noting it is listed separately from Great Britain) is a special case, as its rays are not given, though it is obvious rays 4 and 6 express strongly there. But returning to our theme, the Leo nations are reclaiming their sovereignty and are expressing their individuality, though the West European Leos

are currently under Washington's yoke. Interestingly as it turns out, they are doing so in the context of nations expressing Aquarian energy quite strongly. This is something to keep in mind as we go along here. Western Europe is torn between Russia and the US, but resolution is coming.

Nations and charts: [The astrological influences of nations as given in *The Destiny of the Nations*](#) by Alice Bailey have been oft quoted in these letters. You can refer to the linked web page as we continue here. But there are some ideas that would pay us to parse regarding nations, astrology and charts. To start, it is easy to assume there must be some 'commencement' chart for any nations where the influences are given in Bailey's books, like one would see with a human birth. But then inconsistencies between national charts and astrological *influences* readily appear. Note the difference. From my own perspective what is given in *Destiny of the Nations* are synthetic representations of the astrology of nations. The US national chart is a case in point. The national chart for the US is cast for July 4th, which gives Cancer Sun and Sagittarius rising, the rising sign depending on what time of day independence was declared. There is controversy around the matter of the time of day. Just the same, in *Destiny of the Nations* the astrological influences are listed as Aquarius for the soul of the US and Gemini for its personality.

P8

There are many other inconsistencies we could list between national charts and astrological syntheses. The whole matter of national charts is a vexed matter anyway, with every astrologer who studies the matter having their own interpretations. All opinions are valid and needed on the subject because the debate advances the art. What we are about to examine here are what should rightly be called (in my opinion) intermediary charts for nations, based primarily on their independence days. Another name for such charts are 'working charts' for nations, as those charts describe the events that go on in the present manifestation of every nation, as well as describing the general character of said nations. We won't quibble over the matter here, but instead just lay out a general presentation. People can take the information given as they will, or not. What interests us here in particular are the independence/working charts for nations who express Leo, with one exception, as follows:

The EU, NATO and Ukraine: Speaking of national charts – specifically founding and independence charts – a rather interesting and yet revealing piece of information emerges about the astrological and obvious relationship between NATO and Ukraine, given the relationship has been central to the public information space for the past almost 18 months. Looking at [the synastry between the two entities](#), their Suns are within minutes of a degree of each other in Virgo. NATO (from Nicolas Campion) has Scorpio rising, perhaps unsurprising since it is a 'defensive' alliance. Every time they are confronted about their aggressive nature they defensively declare they are simply a defensive alliance. Enough said. Virgos do like to be precise. There is a lot we could say about the synastry, but for the sake of space we will summarize:

Ukraine was [locked into NATO's planning](#) from the time of Ukraine's independence (Ukraine Mars to NATO Mercury, trine NATO's Jupiter), wherein NATO saw the opportunity for Ukraine to be used militarily as a cudgel against Russia. And NATO from the late 2000s had promised Ukraine NATO membership, which was dealt the death knell at the Vilnius summit this year. Zelenskyy cut a tragic and lonely figure at the summit. NATO has found, much to its surprise and chagrin and despite the rhetoric otherwise, Ukraine has become the proverbial albatross around NATO's neck (Ukraine's Saturn square the NATO horizon). [Zelenskyy angrily called out NATO](#) after the summit for its misgivings, for which he was [castigated by outgoing British Defense Minister Ben Wallace](#) for 'being ungrateful'. We might rightly ask who, in fact, is being ungrateful, given the fact Ukrainian casualties in the conflict (dead and wounded) are [somewhere around one million souls](#), gone for the sake of American and European elitist aims. The ration of wounded to those killed in a conflict is generally seen to be 3:1, respectively. That is an appalling figure, and one the mainstream media assiduously avoids, for avoidance of a public outcry to stop the senseless war. Those same elites care not one jot or tittle for the lives and welfare of Ukrainians, or for their own people for

that matter, one of the basest manifestations of Scorpio. The conflict there in Ukraine is all about money and power and the subjugation of Europe, as was [recently explained by Col. Lawrence Wilkerson](#) (ret.). He should know. He has had to deal with the type in the past. We will have a little bit more on NATO later, but this introduction brings us to the Leo construct, especially regarding Europe, which in its way is drawing out and serving the purposes of the Aquarian souls of Russia and the United States.

Leo working charts: There are several nations as they are currently constructed who express Leo, either through the Sun or their rising signs. Those nations are [Iran](#), the Russian Federation, the EU⁵ and Austria, for the rising sign and from their importance here. For the Sun-sign we have South Korea, [India](#) and [Pakistan](#), the Gaza Strip ([proposed](#)), the Palestinian State ([proclaimed by Yassar Arafat in Algiers](#)) and [Bolivia](#). We should add here, given the Leo/Aquarius polarity, that China has Aquarius rising in its current national chart, connecting the current state with the US and Russia as an intermediate influence as the multipolar order evolves. All of those states just mentioned share certain things in common, as one would expect from Leo: an insistence on independence, centralization of government, overt sense of identity, the ability to rise against the odds even to autarky, the capacity for self-examination (yet to come for the EU) and the desire to be of importance. The organizations with Leo are another matter regarding some of the points just listed, largely due to the fact they are comprised of competing states. The synastry of the EU and NATO is of interest here regarding the last statement.

As with Ukraine and NATO, there is a long discourse we could examine on the astrological relationship between the EU and NATO, but again we will stick with a very brief summary. [The EU and NATO are interlinked astrologically](#), with NATO controlling the EU, shown by the NATO Pluto just behind the EU Ascendant in the 12th house (subterfuge, institutions, hidden enemies, self-undoing, etc.) squaring the EU Sun. NATO bases are dotted across Europe (except for Russia and Belarus, of course) in strategically important places (for the US) – Germany, Italy, the UK, Romania, Poland, etc. Those NATO bases are the reminder to EU leaders as to who pulls the strings. You have to pay Caesar what is due Caesar, you know? [Both the EU and NATO are overshadowed by the US](#), with both of them being US projects, by and large. The NATO Ascendant sits on the EU 4th house, that house representing security concerns, land and infrastructure.

We note the EU has a particularly ‘challenging’ natal t-square (Mars/Pluto opposite the Moon and squared by the Saturn apex), which can be quite brutal in its expression when challenged, as [the Greeks found out](#), along with [Yugoslavia](#), and [the British when they were negotiating Brexit](#). EU nations readily contribute to NATO (American) interests, as we saw with the Iraq war. France was a hold-out then, and they paid dearly for it, [AUKUS being a notable such event](#). Washington holds grudges for a long time. There is no negotiating with that EU t-square, which may be reinforced if it happens that [‘Cookies’ Nuland takes the place of Wendy Sherman](#), who is set to retire. That t-square is favourably aspected by NATO’s Mars and Jupiter, giving the sense of security for Europeans and rendering the EU easy to mobilize militarily and financially when it suits American interests, as we are seeing now. Dissent is not allowed. As Col. Wilkerson stated, though, NATO may be starting to break up over the next few years if the Ukrainian conflict continues for much longer. This is shown in NATO’s astrology, too, which we will have to leave for this post. The same is true for the EU. There is a larger point to these considerations, however: NATO, the EU and Ukraine all fit in with the Leo/Aquarius astrology of Europe as outlined in *The Destiny of the Nations*. We keep these points in mind from here as we move forward with our considerations, especially of Leo as it applies to Europe.

Maps: It helps many people to understand topics better when there are visuals. In that regard and with what follows there is a web page of [Helpful Maps](#) posted on my site to which one can refer when certain organizations are being discussed. Having listed briefly the working charts for nations

and organizations in the news we turn now to the esoteric Leo connections, shown in one of the maps on that page, hereafter denoted by '(map)' if it is to be found on that web page. Certain things stand out: The circled areas on the Leo in Europe map are where Leo is said to be the soul expression. The circle in Switzerland refers to Geneva, one of the synthesizing centers on the planet.⁶ From Geneva flows the force that energizes especially the Leo centers in Europe, both souls and personalities, especially by Leo sympathy of vibration. Aquarius must be included in that, too. The souls of Italy and Romania, along with London are thus stimulated. London is also one of the synthesizing centers on the planet, relative to Europe, via its being the center of the old British Empire and what remains of the British Commonwealth. In this letter and in our current situation, however, we are more concerned with continental Europe and the EU.

Rome is the synthesizing center for the Latin (Romance) nations and as such would be the de facto capital of the Romance economic bloc, deemed to have been preferable⁷ to the current *Pax Americana*. Italy is one of the few nations that expresses Leo as both soul and personality, the soul being Italy as the nation, while the personality is expressed through Rome. We note that Geneva is in the central point of the 'Big Three' Leo centers on the continent in Western Europe (Italy, France and Berlin). When one includes London and Russia in the mix we see the main European belligerents in the two World Wars. There is no accident there. Switzerland via Geneva maintained its neutrality during those wars, but was at the same time [the financial center enabling financing of both sides](#) (Axis and Allies) in those wars. That is one of those inconvenient facts about which we are not informed in historical accounting. [Switzerland is not exactly neutral, either](#), as the current European conflict is showing. Its Aries soul is independent, but its Aquarian personality has served other more nefarious ends at times. We note Davos (meeting place of the WEF) is also in Switzerland along with Geneva, too. And in the current European setting, Austria displayed some sovereignty by proclaiming neutrality after WWII, as shown in the Leo rising of its current national chart. But we return to Italy, as its actions into the future will have a large impact on Europe, as [was beginning to be shown recently](#), until Atlanticist PMs were installed (Draghi and Meloni) due to pressures from abroad and from Brussels. [That is another story](#).

Italy is said to be one of the nations into the future that will host an advanced esoteric school (probably in the mountains in the north), along with Russia (Kamchatka, maybe, or the Urals?).⁸ Southern France is said to eventually host a preparatory school linked with the Italian school, while the preparatory school linked with the Russian one is said to be in Sweden. There is a little work to be done in that latter relationship for obvious reasons at present. We note the Leo connections here, with the exception of Sweden, which may itself (in isolation from Scandinavia) have Leo characteristics prominent. It too was once neutral but now seeks absorption into the NATO blob. With any luck it will remain outside that bloc, for reasons to follow.

Italy is said to be mentally polarized and expressive of world illusion (or was at the time), while Berlin (as representing Germany, Leo personality) is said to be emotionally polarized.⁹ At least that was the situation during the World Wars. Italy is also said to be among the enlightened nations, even though there was fascism here for a time. Of those times (the World Wars) it was stated:

“There is no freedom in Germany or in Japan. In a lesser sense and for a brief time, there was no freedom in Italy, but Italy must be counted among the enlightened nations, for it could not be held in duress.”

We might argue over how much freedom those nations actually have even now, but again, that is another story. However, here we come to the overarching point of the preceding: The working charts for NATO and the EU represent an overlay and overt influence by the United States, however temporarily, over the Leo rulerships within Europe, speaking of Western Europe. Russia is currently resisting the influence of NATO and the EU's vassalage to the US, the latter with certain exceptions. But when it comes to NATO, the UK is also subsumed into that matrix and an integral part of it, while Germany is the main exponent of NATO on the continent. Thereby, the old

antagonists in Europe against Russia in the World Wars are still in such a position, though the people of Germany are slowly beginning to realize that maybe being a part of NATO is not such a good idea after all. Hence we have our current struggles within Europe. All of the EU nations are *de facto* part of the NATO alliance. The Serbs still resist. It would be interesting to know where their Leo expresses. [Campion's working chart for Serbia](#) shows Cancer Sun with Scorpio rising, though with Mars and Uranus in Leo – a most resistant and independent combination. Returning to the cycles and the rays discussed in recent letters we have the following going into the future, as the present lesser cycle of the 4th ray closes and the greater cycle of that ray begins to wax:

“It is interesting to note that the fourth Ray of Harmony or Art, which will begin before long to come into power again *in its major aspect*, is to be found prominent in the destinies of India, Germany, Italy, Austria and Brazil, and it is for this that there is so much **preparatory turmoil** in the three European countries. The sixth ray is potent in Russia, the United States, Italy and Spain. It is the fanatical adherence to an ideal which is responsible also for the potent changes in these four countries; in Germany and Italy, as we have seen, the harmonising power of the fourth ray is also seen. Hence we have in all these countries a process of breaking down, and of destruction of old forms, prior to an adequate responsiveness to the influence of the incoming ray. It should be remembered that as with individuals, so with nations—the reaction to an increasing influence of the egoic ray is ever accompanied by a breaking down period, but this demonstration of destruction is but temporary and preparatory.”

Ideals and values: The primary struggle being faced in Europe today is presented as a struggle for the maintenance of European ideals – Borrell's ‘garden of Europe’, for instance, all the while the real struggle is for dominance and economics, dominance over Europe by the United States in particular. The emotional pull of the rhetoric out of the Western press and leaders regarding our Western ideals is palpable. But the realities are a very different matter. Ideals of inclusiveness, open borders, democracy and on and on are constantly paraded before us, and are in fact *forced* upon our consciousness. If we do not accept or ascribe assiduously to those ideals now, we are cast as outsiders. We are in a period of extremes – in nature, in emotions, in hardened mental attitudes – and this is also in line with the maxima in solar activity we have seen as described above. This is all but what was just described – ‘preparatory turmoil’. This too, shall pass. But ideals are a mental construct, noting the root word, ‘idea’. They are not actually *values*. Because there is another ray that is ending in influence along with the lesser 4th ray, and that is the 6th ray of idealism and fanaticism. In that we have the personality of the US as it struggles to retain its dominance. The Russian 6th ray personality has undergone a transformation in recent years (since the ‘90s) and has rejected certain ideals, having chosen to return to its traditional values. Values rest in the heart and are heart expressions, whereas ideals are primarily of the head. *We feel values, we intuitively know values*. We can think about ideals and get emotional about them, but they are not necessarily values unless we are able apply them to the measure of the heart. Well, we have had our ideals paraded before us recently relevant to the grain deal in Ukraine, ideals which were subverted to more nefarious purposes, instead accusing the Russians of all sorts of sins. Our values say the poor of the world need our help and deserve to be fed and cared for. Here are a few inconvenient truths:

A grain of truth: On 18 July Russia pulled out of the grain deal that was put in place in July of last year. At midnight on 20 July Russia effectively blockaded the ports of Ukraine on the Black Sea. No cargo ship of any type will be able to go to Ukraine now, because no maritime insurer will grant insurance to a vessel traveling to Ukraine. All Russia had to do was to make the threat against cargo ships going to Ukraine. The Western press is all up in arms, along with the UN, with Russia pulling out of the grain deal. In effect, [it is much ado about nothing](#). The grain deal as put forward in July of last year was meant as a humanitarian gesture to get grain to the poor countries the world who were facing a food crisis. That was how it was cast, anyway. It never worked out that way, the reason being that the great bulk of Ukraine's grain was sold to Western Europe, with the Turks making a tidy profit taking the grain into their ports and milling it as an added value prior to shipping it on. A significant portion of the corn and wheat that was sent from Ukraine [went to Spain so they could](#)

[feed it to their pigs](#) (translate from German) in order to make [their famous sausages](#) and [jamon](#). Only 15% of that grain went to Africa. We might wonder how the African nations felt about that. The Spanish paid, Ukraine delivered, something about a war they have to pay for or an oligarch or two they have to pay off. This is all [public record](#). You can look it up. Forgive the cynicism, but this pontificating by the West about the Russians pulling out of the grain deal is the sort of hypocrisy that is turning African nations toward Russia and China and away from the West.

Part of the grain deal involved lifting sanctions on Russia's exports of grain and especially fertilizer, which [the Western powers refused to do](#). Then, [the Ukrainians blew up the ammonia pipeline that ran from Russia](#), two days before [they blew the dam at Kakhovka \(updated report\)](#). That pipeline was the longest ammonia pipeline in the world and ran all the way to the port at Odessa. Ammonia is a key ingredient in nitrate fertilizer, essential for the world's agriculture. There was also the matter of an alternative payment system, since Russia has been shut off from the SWIFT system, regarding which the Western powers had been dragging their feet in implementing. Now Russia is working with developing countries to find alternative ways to get Russian grain and fertilizer to the poorer nations, which [the Russians say they will do free of charge](#). This is also public record. The Western powers, given their economic structure and capitalism, used the grain deal to make money and for domestic politics instead of for humanitarian purposes. The thing is, if there actually was a shortage of grain in European countries that would cause a spike in food prices, which would adversely affect the polling of sitting governments, especially in items like animal feed, bread, baked goods and pasta, etc. But that hasn't happened, precisely because the grain was coming to Europe instead of Africa. Basically, the West has played politics with grain. Here in Italy the price of bread has gone up a little bit since the start of the SMO, but it is not outrageous, reflecting the fact that there is no real shortage. But yet, we are told there is. However, it is telling that the price of bread has shot up slightly that I have observed since Ukraine's ports have been blockaded. There may now be a shortage of grain to Western Europe, but as we have seen with energy prices, the shortfall will likely be made up by more expensive imports from the US, Canada and Australia.

The [price of wheat worldwide has fallen €100/tonne](#) from what it was this time last year, for instance, which goes to show there is no shortage. Yet, the middle men make their profits – capitalism at work. Wheat prices for most of the world barely budged when Russia announced it was withdrawing from the deal. Even *The Economist*, one of the UK's oldest establishment mouthpieces, [admits there have been bumper harvests](#) of wheat from Canada, Australia and Russia, as well as exceptionally high harvests of corn from Brazil. Spanish swineherds will be happy. But Russia is not the only nation unhappy about Ukrainian grain. There is also the matter of [five EU nations who have banned the importation of Ukrainian grain](#) – Poland, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Bulgaria – who are seeking protection for their own farmers after the cheap Ukrainian grain was dumped in their nations. The five nations have sought to extend the ban until September. The EU Five are not against the grain going *through* their territories as it makes its way to ~~Spain~~ Africa, but they do not want it *landing* in their nations. This brings us to a short last bit on Ukraine.

A turning point: There has been a turning point in the conflict, [this cruel war pushed primarily by Washington](#), but also aided by London and Germany. Ukraine is throwing its last lot against the Russian defences – all of their trained reserves instead of the cannon fodder being forcefully dragooned to the front with minimal training, if one can call it that. The richer Ukrainian men fled the country long ago. The men being sent to the front are largely rural, poorer and away from the Lvov and Kiev, where the regime is more active and people have the wherewithal to avoid being commandeered. But the fighting on the front has become very intense, with very heavy Ukrainian losses, all the while the Russian defences still hold. [The Russians sustain losses, too, but more than a tenth less than Ukraine, due to Russian dominance in the air and in artillery](#). Recent polls in Russia point to [a rising number of Russians who would like to see peace talks](#) (mostly women), while there is also a majority of Russians (mostly men) who want to see the war finished in a defeat

of Ukraine. The present Ukrainian push has been called their last gasp, the third and final iteration of their army. The Americans see this and are planning their exit. We know this because the gloss has gone off the ‘Ukraine is winning’ meme. We do not hear that any longer except from a few commentators. Of course, Ukrainian officials still talk about being in Crimea in the spring, but such is their hope and delusion.

No sane person goes to war with Russia. NATO will never come to Ukraine’s defense:

“...Ukraine—without NATO membership—would be left to its own devices, fighting and dying while the murder industries in the US made a killing. In other words, Ukraine is only useful without Article 5: its assigned role is to die for NATO, not vice versa. It was not only Russia that fell into NATO’s trap; so did Ukraine. (Albeit, Russia fell in wittingly; it had no better option.)” The Europeans fell into the trap as well, now being bled financially and in terms of military equipment. Being NATO members, they will be expected to replace said equipment with overly expensive and less reliable American equipment, adding even more expense to already suffering public coffers. Now the West is paying the price for setting the trap, otherwise known as blowback. There is a reason, and a big one, the war has gone so slowly: The Russians have been very deliberate and careful not to escalate tensions quickly, so as to avoid NATO’s direct military involvement on the ground in Ukraine. The Russians were ill-prepared at the start in February of last year. But they have reformed their military and established a robust military industrial base. If need be now, they could take on NATO and prevail. It is forecast by the end of this year Ukraine will be all but finished.

The Russians are advancing in the north, slowly and deliberately, toward the encirclement of Kharkov. Odessa is blocked now and at some point the Russians will move there. They are not in a hurry. There are two scenarios that might call for a quicker resolution – Russian elections in the spring of next year and the possibility of Polish and Baltic intervention in the west of Ukraine. The presence of nuclear weapons in Belarus and the Wagner group being on the Polish border are causing the Poles and Baltic states to rethink the matter. Prigozhin may have had his fit with the Russian General Staff, but he still features in the conflict, this time *in estero* from Russia. There is also [quite an informative video that has been posted about Belarus](#), an interview with the Belarusian ambassador, for those who are interested. It is one of those nations about which we know very little, but which would pay us to learn. It will feature increasingly as a future transport hub once the conflict is resolved and they have had promising talks with China, Belarus is also a member of the Russo-Belarus Union State and an EAEU member (map), the latter about to clinch a free trade deal with the ASEAN economic bloc. This brings us to a few thoughts on Leo and gold.

Leo and gold: I once heard there’s a lady who’s sure all that glitters is gold, and she’s buying a stairway to heaven. There is an ancient group who thought along those lines¹⁰, not to name names, but we aren’t talking about rock-and-roll band, though that particular one is getting on in years. Anyway, one cannot buy one’s way to heaven. The Tower of Babel only caused people to lose their sense of each other and as to stairways, well, heaven is not a locale. It is not someplace one goes. It is within our very being. OK, so what is the point, you may be asking? The world outside the West has had enough of fiat currencies. What is been rumbling through independent media and among financial circles is [the creation of gold backed currencies](#). This would remove us from the fiat system, ending neoliberalism. That one event would be as good as gold. But it would do something else: It would also put a stop to much of the militarism that has been going on since the end of the Bretton Woods system.

The United States singularly took the world away from gold backed currencies, primarily through its control over post-World War II Europe and thereby through the old financial control mechanisms put in place during the colonial era. That system is currently controlled through the IMF, the World Bank, the SWIFT system and so forth. Now the Russians, with their Leo-Aquarius polarity, are spearheading the movement for a return to gold-backed commodity-based currencies,

under the mentoring of Sergei Glazyev. We may possibly see such a system in place in Asia by the end of this decade. I would expect to see concrete results in 2026, with the Saturn/Neptune conjunction at 0° of Aries. It is of no small consequence, therefore, African nations and to a lesser extent South American nations are turning toward China and Russia, as the old colonies throw off the last vestiges of their colonial past. What we can expect going into the future, over the next years of this decade, is the implementation of such a system of gold backed, central bank controlled currencies, controlled by each sovereign nation instead of the hegemon, which in turn will end the dominance of the West of the world trade. The French have already sensed the glimmer of light in that direction, where Macron tried to get a seat at the upcoming BRICS conference. He was knocked back, perhaps unsurprisingly. Speaking of ancient groups at the start of this topic, this brings us to the current troubles in Israel – Israelis being an ancient group, once defunct and currently rehashed – which will have major effects in geopolitical shifts over the next few years.

The Zionist question: One of the more important developments leading on from the Saudi-Iranian rapprochement a few months ago is the situation with Israel. The national chart of Israel shows a Taurus Sun, and thereby a Taurus personality. From past letters here we know Israel was set up as a Western outpost at the mouth of the Suez Canal and as a military outpost for control of the vast oil reserves of West Asia. Israel's future looks increasingly grim. It would appear [the time of reckoning with the Zionist regime](#) there is at hand. The recent developments in the region and internally within Israel would suggest the Israelis, meaning the Zionists there, have only one of two choices – either make peace with all of their neighbors and with the Palestinians, or go for broke and hope (against hope) for the best. The blog post at the preceding link goes into a basic analysis of the situation in Israel.

Israel's Taurus Sun is square to natal Mars in Leo, marking for a highly nervous and militant tension anyway. With Bibi Netanyahu back in power, however tenuously, those tensions are only increased. Perhaps he is in office now to see an end to the Zionist regime. [One ominous prediction is the Zionist regime may not last until its 80th year](#) (2028), given current internal tensions. Who can say? But for all the talk of the [Abraham Accords](#) when Trump was in office and hopes of corralling Iran, all that has flown out the proverbial window. Regarding the Accords, Bibi had this to say, the added bolding bits being the most important:

“We want normalization and peace with Saudi Arabia,” Netanyahu reiterated. “This agreement could have monumental consequences, historic consequences both for Israel, for Saudi Arabia, for the region and for the world.” But **those are delusions. The Saudi interest in “peace” with Israel peaked when Riyadh felt most vulnerable and needed to shore up its relationship with the US. Now that the kingdom is pursuing a multipolar strategy, what is the rush?**

The Saudis with their vast oil wealth will always have something to offer other countries, and therefore other options. What can Israel offer? Its spy technologies and overhyped hi-tech may be useful to some regimes but are hardly unique.

Israel has a [tiny and uncompetitive manufacturing industry](#) and isn't a major energy producer. It is, rather, a toxic settler-colonial project of the West that is **only becoming more horrifying and extreme.** It has little prospect of finding another sponsor as devoted and generous as the United States. That means that **as US power continues to recede regionally and globally, so will Israel's.** At the same time, no one should be under the illusion that the Saudi regime has any principled objection to embracing Israel and Zionism. It has already demonstrated that it is more than willing to do so if it suits regime interests.

But if and when Saudi-Israeli normalization does arrive, it will much more likely be because the Israelis, not the Saudis, are desperately seeking a lifeline wherever they can out of a permanent, existential crisis: **Without massive external support, the Zionist settler-colony in Palestine faces a grim future.”**

One might doubt, given the costs to the West of the war in Ukraine, that any such massive external support would be forthcoming. If there is one area in West Asia that needs watching and resolution, it is the Zionist element in what is now Israel. The entire region needs healing, which would be a very fruitful avenue of effort for the healers of the world.

Jenin and the State of Palestine: To add to this story, and given our look at working charts for groups and nations, [the recent Israeli military action](#) in the [Jenin camp](#) is clearly shown in the chart for the State of Palestine (Algerian pronouncement by Arafat). There is not the space for the analysis here, but it brings up a point: [The Jenin Brigades](#) are an armed response to years of Israeli violence and repression of Palestinians in the West Bank, reflecting the Leo rising and Scorpio Sun of the State of Palestine. There is also a Mars square to the Saturn/Uranus conjunction in the natal chart, marking the periodic violence, resistance and separatist attitude of the State. They have chosen the path of armed resistance rather than capitulation to the Palestinian Authority (an Israeli colonial government) and the Israeli defence forces. The Palestinian forces are bolstered and supported by [the Axis of Resistance](#) across West Asia. The Israelis, seeing all that is happening around them and at home, have chosen to double down on settlements and the removal of Palestinians from Israel's borders. In response to Russian and Syrian pressures against American (illegal) military bases and oil theft from the Syrians, are placing more troops in Syria, along with fighter aircraft in the region. They, too, are doubling down. The Iranians, along with the entire Axis of Resistance do not seem to be the least concerned, and have warned the Israelis against further violence. So, it is not enough for NATO to face off against Russia and then try to go up against China. Why not a three front war? Well, it is a supremely bad idea, but such is the mind-set of the neocon infestation in Washington. And that brings us to the final topic, a few points on the US and its leadership.

Election season: We need to step back and take a look especially at RFK Jr. this election cycle. What follows may be unpalatable for some readers, but hear this out. If there is one area [RFK Jr. needs to be held to account, it is on his stance on Israel](#), which rivals that of Donald Trump. Now, we do not know if he really believes the things he says about his undying and unconditional support for Israel and his negative views on the Palestinians, or if he feels he has to say them to make any kind of showing in the US elections. Either way it puts many people in serious doubt about him. For instance, would there be war with Iran if he would happen to be elected? Something smells of fish here, in terms of who is being put forward for the election. War with Iran would be another unwinnable American/NATO war, as [they would be unable to establish air superiority over Iran](#). Meanwhile American bases and Israel would be bombarded from several directions, not to mention the dire effects such a war would have on the world economy, because it would disrupt shipping through the Suez Canal and stop oil flowing out of the Persian Gulf. But this mention of RFK Jr. does further highlight the foundation charts for Gaza and the Palestinian State, both of which feature Leo, and which show their ability to resist against Israeli aggression. We would face much the same scenario with Trump regarding Iran, were he to be reelected.

The problem here is Americans do not chose their presidents, as in the people's desired candidates. The candidates are vetted beforehand by the corporate donors and the American aristocracy (the top 5% economically). We get to choose between the vetted candidates in what has become the lesser of two evils lately (or so we think) or choose instead not to choose, in which case we are stuck with whoever gets elected. It is much the same across the Anglosphere (map). IF there is an election next year and IF the inauguration takes place at the appointed time (noon on 20 Jan) – and those are Big 'IFs', given our current mood and trajectory in the nation – we will see either an inspired leader who will begin to restore confidence in our leadership and lead America out of its current morass, or we will see a deceiver and autocrat.

An inspired leader will end the wars, work to reset the broken economy, work to overhaul and restore the original intention of the balance of power in the US, restore truth in media, end Washington's belligerence and bring the money we need to rebuild back home. An autocrat will wave the flag, carry the Bible and say all the things people want to hear but take us deeper into debt and war. It has been a common theme in the past for wars to 'save' the American economy and stimulate industry and growth, but wars also sharply increase debt and worsen people's lot. As for the rest of the world, outside The West (map) they have had enough of Washington's mischief and are starting to move on from American and 'Western values'. Biden has not been the man to 'save America' (never look for a savior), and given the powerful interests at the back of American politics, no one president will 'save' America. As for Biden, it is [looking more and more as though he will not finish his term](#). Resignation may well be in the cards, or at the very least dropping out of the race, which at the moment would leave RFK Jr and Trump. But then, it has been said a week is a long time in politics. Given all the items listed in the bullet points since the last full moon, anything can happen between now and January of 2025. Better that we develop ourselves and show leadership at the community/grassroots level as much as possible. It is there the Western world will begin to be restored. In the Aquarius-Leo age, self-enlightenment contributes to group initiation.

In conclusion: All of us have Leo ruling one of the 12 sectors in our charts. In those areas of our life where Leo is prominent, we have the opportunity to develop all the Leo qualities described at the first of this letter – self-examination, developing leadership, developing self-confidence, acting as if, and so on. These days call for that sort of activity, and it will become increasingly so as we move into the Aquarian age, wherein Leo becomes prominent as well. So, we move not into the Aquarian age, but instead into the Aquarius-Leo age, where we increasingly develop ourselves spiritually, to advance along our respective paths, and thus contribute to the groups and nations in which we find ourselves. As the world evolves and changes from 2025 onwards, as the Western world comes to recognize that it is not the exception but instead only a minority in the greater world, we are called upon to show a greater Leo characteristic – humility combined with exemplary performance, for the greatest gift of Leo is that quiet magnetism that stands as an example for others to follow. The heart, which Leo rules, draws us close to people and other people close to us. Let us show the positive expressions of heart and spine in these days. Militarism must give way to the radiance that pulls us all into cooperation. As the sun rises and sets, as our lives come and go, as the cycles chart the evolution of our societies, so Leo will become ever more important as these next centuries pass. Of course, we are all up to the task, as we act 'as if' our world will continue to prosper and evolve, that peace will ensue, that our spirituality will overcome and surpass the gross materialism we now see around us.

Leo blessings, all,

Malvin

31 Jul 2023

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These letters are sent as a service. If you wish to be added to or deleted from the mailing list, let me know. If you feel inspired, feel free to pass these along, but do so without charge or alteration.

¹ Bailey, Alice A., *Esoteric Psychology I*, Lucis Publishing, NY. NY, p. 104

² Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, p.68

³ Ibid, p. 296

⁴ Rudhyar, Dane, [Astrological Timing: The Transition to the New Age](#), chapter 8

⁵ The chart for the implementation of the Maastricht Treaty, which is the foundation document for the EU political structure, which became effective at midnight on 1 Nov 1993 in Brussels. Maastricht is just next door anyway and is the de facto capital of the EU..

⁶ Bailey, *The Destiny of the Nations*, p. 68: Darjeeling, Geneva, London, New York, Tokyo

⁷ Bailey, *The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*, p. 200

⁸ Bailey, *Letters on Occult Meditation*, p. 308

⁹ Bailey, *Glamour, A World Problem*, p. 163

¹⁰ Bailey, *The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*, pp. 76, 77