## **FASCISM'S RISE IN THE WEST**

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The rise of fascism: Continuing from the first part of the Wesak letter for 2021, we have heard comment in recent years in independent media about creeping fascism across the West. This is lumped in with nationalism and autocracy. But fascism is a familiar phenomenon. It was introduced Pg 1 recently largely by Reagan and Thatcher in the West, being labeled as something else, under the guise of freedom and the need to do away with big government. Government, we were told, was the problem. All we had to do was do away with the regulatory powers of government and the markets would solve our financial woes for us. The ruse worked for a few years, but then people started to notice the erosion of their hard-won gains in the workplace, their buying power and cutbacks in government services. Protections for the public were removed, often by stealth and through misinformation. We have historical examples, as in Italy and Germany at the last quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the turn of the last century. And we are lulled into thinking such a turn of events, as in the return of fascism, cannot happen in our nations, yet it is already upon us. It has a new term now, becoming more known in popular culture: techno-feudalism. In the US, for example, we were warned about the latent fascism of the United States<sup>1</sup>. Here is how it evolved in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and how it is reemerging now:

**Italy and Germany** in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century had social programs that were the envy of the Western world, until WWI came along and took a wrecking ball to Europe. It also wrecked the social programs in those two countries. What did they have, which most Americans and British would like to have today, by the way? They had nationalized basic infrastructure - rail lines, telecom, life insurance - and they had robust workers' rights. Germany had free schooling for children, child labor laws, rent control laws and so forth. In the post-war period, due to the costs of the war and in Germany especially due to the punitive war reparations and money printing in the Weimar Republic, austerity took over. Unemployment was high, inflation rose. Social programs and government were seen to be the problem. Social unrest became extreme. There was not enough money to pay for their programs, so the people were told. Nationalism was on the rise and there were sharp divisions in society. These factors were seized upon and promoted by reactionary forces in Germany and Italy, leading to the rise of Mussolini and Hitler. So, what did they do? They privatized everything, stripped workers of their rights and converted the economies to a war economy. Private corporations took the place of government institutions. Profit became the prime directive. It was far worse in Germany than in Italy, but the actions of the fascists in Italy and Germany have strong reverberations across the West today. There is an article which outlines these events clearly and is well worth reading, but there is one takeaway line from it which explains what the pandemic has displayed in the West in **bold** relief:

"Fascism isn't the merger of corporations and government. That is too vague, and too easy to confuse. Fascism is government functions being replaced by private corporations. Fascism is when the public good is replaced by private profit."

This is what we have seen increasing in the West by stealth over the past few decades privatization of all infrastructure with a resulting decay in services and rising costs, no worker protections, high rental prices, high insurance costs, medical services as big business, working longer hours in a gig economy. There is much more, but perhaps the picture is clear enough. This is most pronounced in the US and the UK. And any move toward reining in corporate power is automatically tarred and branded as communism, or socialism, as well as 'infringement of rights' because tax dollars have to go toward funding those programs - taxes which industry and the wealthy could rightly be said to owe to society. Such a statement would see me branded as a communist or socialist. However, there are alternatives. And we had such under FDR's policies, as did Italy and Germany in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. And just to note, those were capitalist societies, but with mixed economies. That system is also called industrial capitalism. Neither capital

nor labor ruled. People expected the government to provide for certain infrastructure via taxes and protections, while at the same time with people being left to pursue their own wealth and well-being for their own and their family's future.

Financialization of economies, unchecked, ruins states. It also leads to fascism, the growth of a financial aristocracy, oligarchy and the replacement of government by finance and industry. The final nail for the US was driven in under the Clinton administration, although blaming Clinton for it Pg|2 ignores all the people in Congress and the financial interests who were pushing the agenda forward for years. But the financialization of the American economy was ensconced in three acts as the Clinton administration was leaving office: the repeal of Glass-Steagall, the Commodity Futures Modernization Act, and the accession of China to the WTO, the combination of the three acts enabling the industrialists and financiers to ship American manufacturing off to China and other points in the Global South. The rest of the West quickly followed suit. Joe Biden was in the Senate and supported those acts when he was a senator, but then so were many Republicans. There is a 25minute video explaining it all, well worth watching. Again, people want to blame China for buying up property and infrastructure in the West, not knowing the Chinese had to make many concessions to their own economy before being allowed into the WTO. But it was our own politicians, financial and business interests who pushed for the reforms which have made that possible. The financial and banking interests in the US wanted and pushed for China's membership in the WTO, seeing the advantages to them China's membership would bring and thinking they could just as easily pull the same trick with China's economy they tried to do with Russia's in the '90s. They were about to get a big surprise.

But there has tended to be one activity which has typically brought ruin to such enterprising between the public and the state, and that is war. War ruins nations, too, whether kinetic or hybrid, whether aggressor or recipient. I probably don't need to point out which nation spends more on the military than all nations on Earth combined, and where the words 'socialism' and 'communism' are most feared and hated. And just so you know, I would advocate a return to FDR-style capitalism, otherwise known as industrial capitalism with public protections, but absent the war economy, a.k.a. the military-industrial complex. There are a few nations who practise such a model, and they have featured consistently in these letters in recent years. Yes, we are talking about Russia, China and Iran especially. That being said and repeating, these are not held up as exemplary states, but rather to remind us of what can happen when capital, labor and the state all cooperate. Their rise has been rapid, their infrastructure solid and admirable, their national pride high. This is what we saw in the US, Germany and Italy as outlined previously, when the economies were mixed and the public took a big interest in how their governments were run. And the people were actively educated. Given all the preceding, and the crisis of governance and finance in the West the pandemic has illustrated for us, where does that leave us, what is emerging and what are we being told, or not?

What are we not told?: How many people have heard about the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership of Iran and China, much less what it means? How many have heard about plans for a similar partnership on the cards between Iran and Russia? Have we heard about the low-key and furtive first talks now taking place between Iran and the Saudis and what that would mean? How about the digital yuan and cross-border payments and what that means? What about the recent coup attempt in Jordan, or the recent ballistic missile attack on the region of the Israeli Dimona nuclear facility that Israeli defenses failed to counteract, or the continued advances by the Houthis against the Saudis? Missile strikes on US bases in Iraq and Syria? The Ramadan celebrations taking place in Xinjiang? Navalny receiving treatment in Russia after ending his hunger strike? The large protests taking place increasingly against lockdown measures across the West? Instead, we hear about things like the Great Reset as a way out of our problems. In effect, it is just another form of fascism. It will also fail to even get off the ground.

**The Great Reset**: From what we have seen thus far, a 'great reset' has already just occurred. But it is not the Davos vision of one. *That* so-called 'Great Reset' is a fantasy. What is Davos, really, but a big party for the capitalist elites, where they gather in their private echo chamber, forgetful or incognizant of the world that exists outside of their gated communities, in an Alpine setting, beautiful as it is, where they get to spin yarns with celebrities and throw around their rhetorical and very wishful dreams on how they plan to reshape *our* world? They fantasize themselves to be *un passo dal cielo* – one step from heaven, or so they think – yet they forget they were made from the very same stardust as are we all. Like Tantalus, for eternity tantalized by but never receiving fruit or water, the heaven the Davos crowd seeks forever evades them. And their dreams are about to turn into their very nightmares. So, why is it we should all forget about Schwab's 'Great Reset', and instead work on our own communities and nations? Here are a few points:

Pg|3

- The public in every nation has had quite enough of austerity. They want the 3<sup>rd</sup> freedom returned to them freedom from want and they are starting to organize for it.
- The rich will rarely if ever voluntarily part with their wealth 'for the common good', unless they can see some return in it for them.
- Asia has categorically stated what they think Schwab should do with his Great Reset.
- People find real value in work and accomplishment, and they rightly feel they deserve meaningful and lasting employment instead of constant movement and insecurity.

Probably the most reasonable take I have heard on Schwab and Davos is as follows:

If any real good is ever to come from Davos, it will come only when the gods throw away their badges and come down from their Alpine chalets. In Buddhist folklore, it was only when Prince Siddhartha left his father's palace and saw for the first time poverty, sickness, and death that the way was opened for his awakening. Similarly, the capitalist class will not awaken until they come down from their twilight sanctuaries, their doomed Valhallas, and say, as the Dalai Lama says of himself, "I am no one special." And you know that is never going to happen. The gods are used to placing wagers, and they say, "The world may be burning, an angry mob may be at heaven's gate, but I'll take my chances up here..."

The Great Reset is not a master plan for reform; it is just another enemy that capitalism has created in its own image and for its own convenience. It likes to be the home team playing the opposition within "friendly confines." **The elaborate moral edifice created by Klaus Schwab is a threat to no one. It is not a preamble to justice or freedom; it is just another "prisonhouse of language,"** in Fredric Jameson's telling phrase. [It amounts to]...Davos and QAnon: weasels fighting in a hole.

Or, to put the matter more succinctly, implementation of some Schwab-esque grand Great Reset <u>comes down to this</u>:

Our elites couldn't 'reset' a wall outlet, let alone the global economy.

There is ample evidence of why the elites are so incompetent. It has especially evident in the mishandling of the pandemic, in foreign policy that does the exact opposite of what those elites desire, in the rising and more fervent discontent against the measures that are being foisted on us across the West and the falling faith in government we see across the West in general. Why dismiss the Great Reset out of hand, then, given all the hysteria around the idea in some quarters? It is very simple, really – If you want to see what will work and how to rebuild an economy, look to places where there is long-term planning, the political will to implement those plans, and most importantly, where the lives of the general populace in those places are improved as a result the implementation of said plans, and where the public feels engaged in outcomes. This latter statement presupposed two things: 1) A government that is not held hostage to short election cycles, those cycles based in how much money a candidate can raise, and 2) an economy that is not based in debt.

**S/he who hath faith**: In <u>a post from a couple of years ago</u> the Dalai Lama is quoted as saying that within five years he thought there would be sweeping changes within China. Some readers may take

that to mean the CPC (Communist Party of China) would be falling, and with some hopefulness. I wouldn't be holding my breath for that, and quite the contrary. And if you want to know why the CPC will probably be quite robust over this decade, have a read <u>on this link about how the Chinese handled the coronavirus</u> in China, their foreign relations, but most especially how the people view their government and their sense of social responsibility. The CPC in China had an approval rating <u>of around 95% in 2016</u> – an astounding figure for faith in government these days. The polling was conducted by a Western outfit over years in China and it is probably still within that range.

The people of the West – we – by contrast and led by the US, have little faith in our governments. This wasn't helped by leaders like Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher standing up and stating it is government that is the problem and that markets have the solution to our problems. Well, we could say it was in fact and in hindsight, their governments who were indeed the problem. Look at who they favored and represented - big business, corporate interests and financiers, who had been lobbying for deregulation for years. Their fortunes skyrocketed after the markets took the reins of power in governments, gave tax cuts to the wealthy and deregulated finance, along with giving political power to the rising aristocracy. As a result, the stock markets have risen sharply, economic bubbles and subsequent crashes have become commonplace, while real wages have stagnated, job security is a thing of the past and industry has been shipped overseas in the name of maintaining high profit margins for stockholders. All the while we are constantly told robust stock market numbers indicate the economy is doing well. How much do you actually have in savings and how much interest is that money drawing? And how interested in that are we? We have been lulled into a false belief that markets determine our financial health. Those market numbers show the wealth of the rich, not us. To quote Carlin again, "It's a big club, and you ain't in it. You and I are not in the Big Club." We may not like the language, but it is behind and expresses a rage that is growing in our societies. How do we fix it? Well, it won't happen until we organize. And in the protests we see across the West and in economically strained nations, we see the beginnings of organized publics. And that has our elites quite worried.

The conflict between East and West, unnecessary as it is, was <u>recently described as a conflict</u> between financial rentier capitalism (neoliberal) and mixed-economy, industrial capitalism:

China and Russia are existential threats to the global expansion of financialized rentier wealth. Today's Cold War 2.0 aims to deter China and potentially other counties from socializing their financial systems, land and natural resources, and keeping infrastructure utilities public to prevent their being monopolized in private hands to siphon off economic rents at the expense of productive investment in economic growth.

The United States hoped that China might be as gullible as the Soviet Union and adopt neoliberal policy permitting its wealth to be privatized and turned into rent-extracting privileges, to be sold off to Americans. "What the free world expected when it welcomed China into the free trade body [the World Trade Organization] in 2001," explained Clyde V. Prestowitz Jr, trade advisor in the Reagan administration, was that, "from the time of Deng Xiaoping's adoption of some market methods in 1979 and especially after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1992 ... increased trade with and investment in China would inevitably lead to the marketization of its economy, the demise of its state-owned enterprises."

...the major conflict between the United States and China has been the role of government support for industry. American industry grew strong in the 19th century by government support, just as China is now providing. That was the doctrine of industrial capitalism, after all.

The conflict has nothing to do with human rights at all, yet we are told these industrial economies routinely violate human rights, are autocratic and are constantly up to no good, spreading 'malign influence' everywhere. And people just accept the media propaganda as gospel. Here's a clue: If we had the sorts of economies that invested in people, industry and infrastructure, we wouldn't be

concerned with China or people like Bill Gates or other oligarchs, because there would be very few of the latter. We would have had the infrastructure and financing in place to deal with the pandemic and would not have had to endure the sorts of measures we have faced and still do in the West. The more fascistic economies, like Ukraine and India, have had a very harsh time with the pandemic and still do. And Europe still flounders about, unsure of where to turn next. So, do we really need to worry about China or Russia? Yanis Varoufakis recently schooled a typical uninformed liberal on the matter and on Chinese trade practices, telling that person there was no need to worry about China, much to their astonishment. He ought to know. He has had to deal directly with the Chinese. So, we have covered a lot of background here. Where does it leave us?

Pg| 5

**The inception of the path**: In the Taurus letter last year mention was made of Taurus having a connection with the inception of the Path. Taurus is said to "forge the instruments of constructive living". It is also said that the influence of Taurus is very pronounced in humanity at this time, leading many people to a fiery aspiration to forge a more spiritual way forward for our planet. Taurus also, "…forges the chains which bind or creates the key which unlocks the mystery of life; it is this forging process, with its consequent clamour, which is going on at this time in a most potent manner. Vulcan controls the anvil-like processes of time and strikes the blow which shapes the metal into that which is desired, and this is true today as never before."<sup>2</sup> Though the words were written decades ago, they are still very much in evidence today.

Poland, Great Britain and Rome: China and Poland, both with Taurean souls, went through terrible destruction last century. Moscow, the head center of Russia, also saw European Russia almost totally overrun by the Nazis, and then saw the collapse of the Soviet Union. Then the neoliberals, Western and Russian, almost brought Russia to its knees. The collective suffering of the Poles, Russians and Chinese has been immense, not to leave out other nations who suffered similar fates. But we are speaking here of nations with Taurean influence. The UK, too, has borne its share of suffering at various times. Such suffering also draws out the souls of people and nations. And both Moscow and China have moved to secure their land, their people and to give their people freedom from want, having learned some very difficult, painful and valuable lessons under Vulcan's hammer. Their experience has toughened them, given them resoluteness and determination and given them a long outlook. And because they have rejected our 'rules-based order', our elites do everything in their power to undermine them. All it has done instead is to push them into ever-closer synergy. Our foreign policy is run by elites who live in their own echo chamber, believing what they tell themselves, but disconnected from the reality that is the wider world, yet failing to believe or even look the their world view is at fault, and that Russia and China just want to be left in peace, with any nation who chooses to cooperate with them on shared interests and on common ground. In sympathy or antagonism with them are the other three places who we are told are influenced by Taurus – Poland, Great Britain and Rome.

Poland's soul has yet to awake, from appearances, still mired in its Gemini personality, which links it to the US and UK, torn between the West, the Gemini personality of the US and soul of Great Britain, and with the latter two currently antagonistic toward Poland's fellow soul in Moscow. Poland's soul motto was not given, implying its work lies into the future. The Polish people, if they could realize it, are in an impossible quandary, being tied to the EU and UK, with <u>the 5<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world to its east</u>, and growing, much as we are told Russia is collapsing. The Poles must soon decide their path, which is likely to become painfully obvious over the next few years. When NATO finally fades to irrelevance, where will Poland stand? Will it try to hold to the Gemini of the US and UK, or will it begin to heed the call of its soul?

It is for Poland to recognize the Russian Federation is not the Soviet Union, nor is Russia out to get them. Neither the US nor NATO would stand behind Poland against Russia anyway if a war were to break out in Europe. And it would not be the Russians who would instigate hostilities. They have no intention of invading Ukraine for instance, instead preferring to leave the EU to deal with the Nazi problem, where there was just <u>a march in Kiev dedicated the Waffen SS Division Galicia</u>, and the broken state it has created. Russia has been rather passive and reactive militarily, actually, and really wants only security and peace, truth be known. But they have protected themselves and will state in no uncertain terms the outcome should such madness be instigated, as we have just seen in Ukraine. And yet, John Bull (UK) is amenable to doing just that, sending advisors to train Ukrainian troops and the latest jaunt by the British Navy to the Black Sea.

Then, there is Rome. Rome has good relations with both China and Moscow on the whole, whenever the Atlanticist factions there get out of the way. The US has six military bases in Italy, the largest being the naval base at Napoli. Italy has close relations with the US and Australia in general, with the largest voluntary emigration of any nation in documented history. The biggest diaspora are in Brazil, Argentina and the US. Looking at the diaspora of various nations gives a clue as the ray and astrological qualities of nations not listed in Alice Bailey's Destiny of the Nations. Italy also has large diaspora across virtually all of South America, Canada and France. The reason for the two largest waves of emigration was economic. That brings up a window into the future: Where will Italy turn when neoliberalism collapses and NATO becomes redundant? The answer would appear to be rather obvious. Italy has recently signed on to China's BRI. It has a large Chinese diaspora in the northern industrial regions of Italy, with busy personal and economic traffic back and forth. The latter is one of the reasons why the pandemic had its start in those two nations, regardless of the origins of the virus. Italy has significant business interests in Russia. San Marino, the tiny republic in the heart of Italy, has large numbers of Russians as tourists every year, and has business ties with Moscow. If the US and UK can ever get over their hatred of Russia, Italy should do quite well trading with both West and East. Otherwise, Italy will be constantly pressured by the other Western powers to shun Eastern investment and trade. The Sputnik vaccine was used extensively in San Marino, with nearby regions also requesting it.

**Canada** has its own problems with mixed emotions regarding the West and the East. Having the same astrological rulers as China, it has a large Chinese diaspora, over 1.3 million, in fact. The biggest Chinese diaspora is in the US and Southeast Asia. Myanmar has a Chinese diaspora on the order of that of Canada. Australia's Chinese diaspora is somewhat less than that of Canada, but still large. Canada also has quite a significant Russian diaspora. These diaspora cannot be discounted in the current world polarization. Sometimes they side with their parent nation, other times they are antagonistic. Yet, the natives of the host nations are often antagonistic to the diaspora, regardless. The US has quite a large Russian diaspora. Canada also has a long history with Ukrainian immigration. Since the start of this century, Canada's relations with Russia and China have taken a downward slide, now at their lowest point in years. This is partly due to Canada's relations with its neighbor directly to the south and its relationship with the UK. Liberal governments have a tendency to be more antagonistic to Russia and China, ostensibly for human rights concerns, but actually more about economic realities. Canadians, like the Italians and the Poles, find themselves being pulled in two directions. Business leaders in all these Western Taurean-based nations want good relations with the East, with the exception maybe of Poland. But even that is changing. All of the aforementioned Taurean outposts will be an important factor in the immediate way forward as the multipolar world continues to take shape.

**In summary**, given all the background of the preceding, what are we likely to see in the few years immediately ahead? We have had to cover all this background in order to understand what will emerge as the path forward for international relations, which will lead into the next letter, the Goodwill letter. We have the following, most having become evident since the last letter:

• The Russian and Chinese tightening synergy and their announcements they will no longer be spoken to from a perceived position of strength by the Western powers. In other words, the

Western powers will from here on be getting a taste of their own medicine. This will lead to a temporary collapse of dialog politically, with both of the Eastern powers turning to address their own internal development. This will leave the West to deal with its own problems. Perhaps this is needed in this immediate period.

- The Iran-China strategic partnership will lead to large development of Central Asia and expansion of the BRI. That partnership has already signaled a change of face in the rivalries of the Gulf States. The Saudis and Iranians have begun to sort out their differences. Whereas Trump had tried to build a kind of 'Arab NATO' against Iran, the reality of China's inroads to West Asia have instead brought the two main Sunni and Shia powers to the table for talks. As stated in the article, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step". If true to form, the US and UK will do everything they can to interfere with the Saudi-Iranian rapprochement. There will be sweeping changes in the Middle East over the next few years, with waning Western influence and a breakout in peace. That will also force existential questioning for Israel.
- <u>The rollout of the digital yuan</u>, currently in its testing phase, will be the end of US hegemony in world trade and control of financial transactions. That yuan will be used for cross-border payments for participants in the BRI, not so much for domestic payments in China. This is the single biggest thing that <u>has Washington mightily alarmed</u>. Digital currency is coming. Prepare yourselves. In fact, it is already under our noses.
- <u>The missile strike near Dimona</u> and the military factory explosion in Israel have sent a clear and sobering message to the Israelis: Desist in your strikes on our territories or suffer the consequences from here on. The entire <u>'Axis of Resistance' is now on war alert</u>. Iran is holding firm in the JCPOA talks in Vienna. The US re-entering the JCPOA, if it happens, will be incentive to the Saudis, Israelis and other Gulf States to make peace with Iran. It will also reignite a search for a solution to the Palestinian impasse with Israel. Along with that strike there are increasing attacks against American forces in Iraq and Syria.
- The <u>coming Iran-Russia comprehensive strategic agreement</u>. This is pretty much a *fait accompli*, one which will raise serious issues and choices for India, the Caucasus region and NATO in general. Effectively, such an agreement will secure Asia militarily and greatly enhance its development, along with Iran's agreement with China. Such agreements also largely nullify US and European sanctions on Iran over the long term.
- Biden's apparent pullout from Afghanistan by 9/11 this year. Many commentators doubt it will happen, given Afghanistan's proximity to China. But what else can the US do, in reality? The Taliban will take over the country again. Iran and Pakistan, meaning also China, will make inroads. Russia has interests there, too. Afghanistan needs peace and development, desperately. The nation has been destroyed by NATO intervention. It is time for the West to go, especially seeing that there have been no real gains and quite a lot of wasted blood and treasure. The US has no hope of any long term influence in Afghanistan.

What all the preceding points to is the solidifying of Asia's rise and development, at the same time shutting out Western meddling in Asian affairs. And why shouldn't Asia rise, according to its own customs and means? It has been home of some of the poorest and most backwards regions on Earth, along with Africa. The peoples of the nations of Asia have known little freedom in the past few centuries. Roosevelt's 3<sup>rd</sup> Freedom is the bedrock of the other three. Watch for very great changes throughout Asia in the years ahead, with an increase in all their freedoms, as well as their growing prosperity. But those freedoms will come on their terms, in their own time and may appear to be different than ours on the face of it. Taurus is exerting a strong influence in that region of the world, giving Asians a vision of new paths forward, and has been for many decades now. We may see many of the nations there as autocratic, but that will change, both in our perceptions and in the realities of the peoples there.

A prosperous and educated, well-informed populace will demand their freedoms in all respects. As we see ours on the wane in the West, we watch those of Asia rise. At some point, maybe not in our lifetimes, a balance will be achieved, in line with the waxing Libran influence as we enter fully into the Aquarian age. Libra governs the balance between the East and the West, governs the rule of law rather than the rules-based order, and the former is consistently invoked by Russia and China in international relations. Libra rules China's personality anyway, as well as those of Canada and London, and in that too, we see the conflict, a litigious attitude and also connections between London, Canada and China. Along with the waxing influence of Libra, we are reminded there is no need for real anxiety on the turning of world affairs. As Varoufakis stated in a previous link, we should not worry about China, or Russia for that matter, much as we are told they are grave threats to 'our security'. Well, with regard to letting go of anxiety, I have stated many times we should not be worried about war, with all I have investigated in that respect, and with every passing event in recent years, we see the statement about Libra and losing our anxiety increasingly confirmed. So long as better sense prevails in our Western leadership, we will eventually find our balance with Asia without any dire consequences.

Instead of China or Russia, we in the West must deal with our oligarch problem as well as our elites. That has been made abundantly clear in the last year and a bit. The elites have lost touch with the public, and would rather not deal with it. They need to be reminded. We also have to deal with our Big Tech problem, too, but that goes back to the oligarch problem. The latter controls the tech and the media. They also hold the reins of government to a large degree. The rise of fascism in the West is not a conspiracy. It is fact. In the past it has led to war between nations. Now it is leading to class war. We no longer have the industrial capacity within our own borders to be able to prosecute a war in the time frame needed to effectively win one against a near peer rival. And why would we want that anyway? Well, we don't. This isn't the 20<sup>th</sup> century. We no longer have the efficiency or the political will in the West, at least by appearances, to build industrial capacity like we had in our nations in the last centuries. We have shipped a large part of it overseas. And people are tired of war. There has to be another way to return real prosperity to Main Street, and it will mean things like taxing wealth, rent controls, government intervention in finance and banking, and so forth. Do we think it will happen soon? Probably not, and <u>Republicans may just sweep the midterm elections</u> in the US, given the new census and gerrymandering. There is no easy path forward for the United States, nor for the UK given the overwhelming Tory majority in Parliament. And those two nations are the seats of the neoliberal order. There is no viable true left in either nation, of the type that would ensure the changes needed to advance the cause of Roosevelt's 3<sup>rd</sup> Freedom in the US and UK. Unless the Democrats in the US push through their programs now, as in the stimulus and infrastructure plans, the future is not so sunny.

The past decades are leaving us wanting. <u>Our infrastructure gets low marks from the civil engineers</u> these days. We need to strongly 'suggest' to government that the oligarchy and corporate interests be made to pay into state coffers. They will not do it voluntarily. We are going to see big fights in politics about taxes and entitlements across the West in the immediate future. We may even see a 'Western spring', as in a wave of revolution. Government is not the problem. It is part of the solution. But we need good governance. We are obviously not getting it from Etonian and Harvard/Yale graduates. Just because a person comes with an Ivy League diploma doesn't mean they are smart or have good sense. Just look at <u>wallpaper-gate and Boris Johnson in the UK, his</u> 'Marie Antoinette moment'. These days it more often than not means the elites are highly indoctrinated and feel they are entitled to positions of power and influence. We see this all the time in foreign policy decisions where real skill in diplomacy is replaced with barking about human rights and ideals and pointing fingers. Where are all the statesmen these days? In the East? Our real statesmen have been consigned to independent media, like some of the banned ones mentioned at the start of this piece. What we get instead in media are 'experts' who really have no idea what is going on in the real world. I don't think I am being harsh. Such people seem to have no other vision

than what has been parroted to them. But the encouraging thing for the future is the people out in the streets, who no longer believe the mainstream media or the government narratives about other nations or about their domestic policies.

The Great Rebalancing: In closing, what we are witnessing is a long-needed rebalancing in world affairs. There is nothing to fear in it. If there is to be fairness and adherence to the rule of law, as outlined in the UN Charter, then errant states must be called to account, or they will be pulled into Pg 9 compliance kicking and screaming. Three guesses who the errant states are. The pandemic will be gone in another year or so, and what then? People have short memories. If we go back to 'normal', nothing much will change. The powers that be are counting on that. But ideas like vaccine passports, seasonal lockdowns and some sort of Great Reset in the West simply will not fly. People will not accept those things over the long term, as we see now, because they represent austerity and restriction of freedoms. The lost income for airlines and the tourist industries worldwide will see the cancelling of plans for required vaccination for this virus before travel, for instance. Governments will have to cave on such programs, as we just saw here in Italy. There were big protests in Rome recently over restaurant shutdowns. A week later the restrictions were lifted.

Economics determine election outcomes, and therein is a saving grace for the Western public. Human nature shows us that people can only be manipulated along any line for just so long before they wake up to it – until the next catastrophe comes along. And as for all the ignorant dogs in our legislatures barking for war, tax cuts, increases in 'defense' spending and 'pushing back' against soand-so, howling about threats to our security, it would be best for us to wash them out of power at the next election, take a cold shower and have a sober look at who really is threatening us. The answer is found within. Interpret that any way you like. When we organize, we overcome. Let us find our common vision and set aside non-essentials. Our way together is not so hard. When we are divided we open ourselves to abuse from those in power. That applies to nations as well as people. We need goodwill between nations if we are to face our more pressing problems, as in food security, climate challenges, military spending, health challenges, misinformation, censorship and so on. Most of all, we need to live our lives with purpose, and with the fire in our hearts needed to build toward what we know is possible, based in past experience but with our eye to the future. Stay safe, stay well and stay focused.

Wishing you all a purposeful year, Malvin 29 April 2021 malvin@malvinartley.com

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Bailey, *Esoteric Healing*, p. 662

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, p. 375