

## From the Editor - Climate change and destruction of the planet



“Our Future is not yours to sell” - Australian children march for action on Climate Change in December 2018

It is time that deliberately and wantonly destroying our planet and our ecosphere is called what it is – a crime against humanity.

The biggest political excuse for not taking action against Climate Change is lacking in both moral and economic judgment. Such Governments plead that it will interfere with ‘economic growth’. There is not much economic growth on a dead planet and with species starved to extinction. Their response is purely based on greed and personal advantage, at the expense of all people and all sense.

Indeed those decrying climate change measures, be they industry groups or political groups, are only those who have a vested interest in maintaining the status quo – destruction of the planet for base motivations of greed and power and to a lesser degree, loss of privilege for individuals exploiting the riches that bad climate management affords them.

In most cases the cry for a proper response comes from the 99% of the human population who have very little vested economic interest e.g. the ‘gilets jaune’ in France and now Taiwan, but while they should also be doing their share there is some justification for their complaint in that it is the 1% who own most of the planet who are those not doing their part or paying their share, or indeed paying anything at all. Rather it is the same 1% that has rampantly destroyed the planet for personal wealth.

I could not imagine being given the gift of life and being born into a universe with great troubles and injustices and not

wanting to make your universe and planetary life better, and not doing everything you could possibly do to have such evil and brutality never happen again. Otherwise this great gift of life is wasted on humankind.

Yet the predominantly brutal classes that currently rule much of the planet use their gift of life to commit endless crimes and to perpetuate their own vanities and have kept other humans in slavery, poverty, famine, powerlessness, homelessness and hopelessness. If we cannot stop them, let us at least label them so they know themselves, what they are.

All such detritus should be charged with crimes against humanity. It is not only a crime against those currently living here, it is also a crime against all humans who may yet suffer to be born. Those countries polluting the planet and the psychological and physical health of their own people, are also destroying the health of everyone. We are now in a war for our very survival as a species and for the continuation of other species we love and that we rely on for our own survival.

If we cannot have our world organisations and justice systems deal with them as they deserve (imprisonment and disempowerment) we should use our collective bargaining power and our right of choice, to attack the only thing these people and their institutions care about – personal wealth. Global consumers should boycott the products of those companies and countries not meeting their climate change and human rights commitments.

China and the US are the world's two biggest polluters - and they do it in the name of economics/money for a handful of powerful individuals. If they cannot be persuaded to do the right thing, then they, their goods and services produced via such filthy and lazy means, must be highly taxed, preferably, totally boycotted.

Horrifyingly, the fate of humanity and the world is too often in the hands of the most ignorant and evil miscreants in our midst. It is not surprising that most countries where injustice prevails are ruled by money focused dictatorships or would-be dictators and certainly represent the moneyed classes and not the ordinary people who they have nothing but contempt for. If they do not exercise proper judgement in their own countries and respect the rights of the populace they are certainly not going to be good global citizens either. They should be dealt with as the bullies they are. Sadly there are many political bullies and they try to form gangs, as such bullies do. It does not stop us from speaking the truth about them however. Equally, the ordinary people of these countries are not fooled by the threats and lies that their leaders use to perpetuate their reign and deny their culpability. They see the situation very clearly.

The old colonialists and the neo colonialists take advantage of poor countries and the corrupt small league dictators, giving them modern day 'beads and mirrors', such as empty buildings and roads that lead nowhere, to enslave them in debt. They take advantage of the gullible - as do all colonialists - while robbing them of their natural resources and economically enslaving them. They help to 'develop developing nations' so they can steal their resources or own their resources and sell them back to the local people who owned them in the first place. Is this too difficult to see?

At the same time they are doing this to everyone on the planet, and their dirty practices that are polluting our land, skies and our oceans are also at risk of polluting our hearts and minds.

How heinous an act is it to destroy an entire planet and all that live on it purely for ridiculous amounts of personal wealth and power in one lifetime/generation. It seems it is time for the ordinary, decent people of the planet to educate their masters. History will name them correctly - if there is to be any left on this planet. There is still the history of the universe however and their ugly story will be recorded for eternity in the dead bones of planet earth; their evil, bloated faces will stay in the memory of the living and the dead. And that is how it should be.

### **Planetary destruction as the source of global famines, injustice and inequity**

The Hunger Games were not just a series of recent excellent science fiction movies. The Hunger Games have been around for millions of humans for millennia. Of course that is only apparent to those who are perpetually hungry. Slavery is not a thing of the past; currently slavery affects at least 45 million people (33 % of slaves are children; 49 %, nearly

half, are women) and if you count in those who are forced into a life of endless labour to survive and keep a roof over their heads and feed their children - arguably most humans are enslaved.

And of course recently the world has finally heard of new crimes such as grand scale theft of intellectual property and commercial property, theft of privacy and human rights, of hearts, bodies and souls. There is nothing much left for the miscreants and the mad to steal, other than life on earth itself, and they are now working on that - building their bigger and more powerful nuclear missiles, their spy networks and their missions for the obscenely rich to move onto other planets once they have taken all they can from planet earth - yes, these follies are all facts. Do they realise that is what the pyramids were built for - for the greedy elite to escape to somewhere better. Such madness has long existed on this planet. The insane ramblings of despots, dictators and other detritus are not new. An endless parade of such fools has led us down  
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this awful path that we still seem to be forced to tread. It is almost an insane joke, that the madness and vanity of some men has been an astonishing and constantly repeated truth on this planet.

If this is a bit dramatic and a bit direct, I am sorry. Someone has to stand up and speak the truth. Someone has to tell these wicked 'emperors' that their disgusting persons are totally naked and their evil is transparent and the revulsion the planet has for them is totally real. Step away from your sycophants and lap dogs and see stark reality.

Robbing, murdering and torturing is easy – doing something decent, constructive, creative, compassionate and just, with courage, intelligence and foresight, is true power. If they aspire to some prehistoric grab for power and wealth using brute force and ignorance, then they are merely ignorant brutes and do not seem to even have the basic faculties to understand what they are doing. They would deserve our pity if their deeds were not so terrible and base.

### **The case and means for mass financial reparation for crimes against humanity**

Can we rely on governments peopled or held sway by the criminal classes to act to save the planet for a while longer? Probably not. But we can stop supporting them and buying their products. All decent countries should add hundreds of percent in the form of a 'pollution tax' to the price of their wares, with the money raised put toward cleaning up the mess made of this planet – if not we just don't buy anything from polluters at all.

The political miscreants whitewash their culpability at the basest level, with attacks against free speech and free press and labelling the truth as 'fake news' while dispersing their lies as real news. But we have all become immune to their lies and are totally disillusioned with those who claim to represent us politically; with those who assume we are that stupid that we believe what comes out of their mouths.

Often those who support such dictators just want to stay alive a bit longer and lack the courage to stand up against them, or worse, hope to get some of the crumbs that fall from their slobbering mouths. It is time we all developed courage, the dictating and the dictated to.

### **COP 24 – a 'success' or a 'cop put'**

COP24 is the informal name for the 24th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change held in Poland in December 2018.

It was a follow up to the Paris Climate Agreement in December 2015, where parties to the UNFCCC reached a landmark agreement to combat climate change and to accelerate and intensify the actions and investments needed for a sustainable low carbon future. The Paris Agreement was built upon the

Convention of 1992 built itself upon the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, 1985. In these events both political and scientific groups were recognised.

The Poland Convention was for the 194 countries and regions participating to agree on rules and guidelines for carrying out their commitments.

The 'elephants in the room' however were that Donald Trump announced in June 2017 that the United States would withdraw from the Paris Agreement in November 2020 – the soonest that any nation can actually do so. Secondly, although the countries responsible for 97 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions had pledged to make cuts, the initial reductions suggested were not enough to keep global warming below two degrees Celsius.

In other words, one of the two greatest emitters of greenhouse gases had refused to take part and those countries left in the pact were not doing enough nor in a timely fashion.

A delegation from the Harvard Project on Climate Agreements at the conference, however advised that there were significant gains in two key areas.

Nations agreed on uniform rules for measuring and reporting their own performance in cutting emissions. There also were intensive discussions of how to connect reduction efforts across regions, nations and sub-national areas, which offer many economic and other benefits.

With the above losses the convention's aim has essentially been 'white anted' and the withdrawal of one of the biggest global polluters will provide excuse for other countries to withdraw.

The reduction of targets also puts into jeopardy any great advances by the group of nations.

While tiny Pacific countries that are gradually being eaten away by rising sea levels seem to be aware of the problem it seems humanity may have not suffered sufficient economic losses, fires, hurricanes, floods, crop failures etc to contribute positively to proper solutions.

Based on the concept of 'I'll only do it if you do it first' a small step forward was an agreement on uniform treatment, essential for addressing the threat of climate change, because increases in emissions are mainly coming from the large emerging economies: China, India, Brazil, Korea, South Africa, Mexico and Indonesia. And some of these countries are not as economically robust as many other nations.

A lot of moving around of figures and paperwork and various schemes were also evaluated but they are not very helpful unless there is a cut in real emissions and this fact seems to have been missed by those saying advances were made on some issues. The only sign of success will be a complete dropping of emissions, a lowering of sea levels and an increase in the size of Arctic and Antarctic ice sheets.

Fixing 'global warming' is also rather useless if we still pollute the land and the seas and deplete the biosphere. Otherwise it is just a choice of means of planetary destruction.

A successful outcome would have been a unilateral decision to not only fix carbon emissions but positive steps to restore the entire ecosphere of the planet.

The next meeting now will take place in Santiago, Chile as after climate change skeptic Jair Bolsonaro was elected president, Brazil reversed its plans to host the next UN climate conference in 2019.

This highlights the greatest danger to Climate change – we are still subject to the whims and vanities and economic aims of people, particularly politicians who in many cases arguably are not fit to lead their countries. If we cannot organise fit and proper and intelligent and fair leadership to remedy the damage done to our precious home planet then it does not really matter what was or wasn't agreed. The next buffoon in power will see the ready market place for what was outlawed.

Ironically, the conference being held in Katowice, the coal capital of Poland, which is itself the most coal-dependent country in Europe and among the most polluted really shows more about the mentality of politicians and political leaders than anything else.

Surely the future of the planet should be in the hands of anyone but the politicians. While some industries do adhere to national emission standards, a colleague has suggested that all industries globally should be graded as to their emissions and pollution levels and those products and services not meeting new emissions standards and whose life cycle chain results in gross pollution, should simply not be manufactured or sold. This will provide easily recognisable guidelines for global companies, the majority of which do try to do the right thing. It will also encourage and provide groundwork for innovative solutions to current problem industries.

Those breathing in the fumes in Katowic Poland of course, and those suffering elsewhere on the planet due to emissions causing climate change may have been the BEST people to attend the conference – not those who are sheltered and immune from the realities of life on planet earth in 2019.

Can all the politicians stay home next time and scientists and engineers attend who can then advise the politicians what needs to be done. More representation of those who will inherit our mess would also be wise. Those who will suffer the consequences are liable to act far more decisively.

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