

2013, April 13

Saturday History Call

TO LISTEN TO THIS CALL:

- GO TO BBS RADIO 2 & SCROLL DOWN THE SCHEDULE UNTIL YOU REACH SATURDAY.
- CLICK ON "HISTORY OF OUR GALACTIC WORLD & NESARA" & THE INFORMATION PAGE WILL COME UP.
- UNDERNEATH THE PICTURE OF THE GALAXY AND THE LOTUS, YOU WILL SEE A BLUE BOX WITH THE WORDS **PROGRAM ARCHIVES**.
- CLICK ON THAT BOX TO GET TO THE LISTING OF PROGRAM ARCHIVES: latest ones are at the top.
- YOU CAN DOWNLOAD THE PROGRAM TO YOUR OWN COMPUTER OR LISTEN DIRECTLY.

Opening & Meditation: Cheryl

Everyone is invited to Cheryl Croci's Sunday and Monday ascension and activation calls
• 8:45 pm EST/5:45 pm PST • 213-342-3000; PIN 9467441#

Housekeeping: Rainbird

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 - Website: <http://2013rainbowroundtable.ning.com> - scroll down on home page, close to blog page to find the donate button - can indicate whether it's for BBS or T&R

- T & R:**
- Need \$76 for a printer repair + \$ for food, gas
 - Can access the paypal account on home page of 2013 RainbowRose Roundtable
 - Can trade with T & R for readings by Mother Sekhmet

• **Please let them know when you are gifting:**

E-mail: koran999@comcast.net
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Mail: Ram D Berkowitz
1704 B Llano St, # 249
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Or contact MariettaRobert at 317-773-0061

The work we do together, the sharing we do - all of this is important: thank you all for sharing!

Phone Numbers: 530 - 413 - 9537 line 1
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Hard News:

R: Money issues are in St Germain's hip pocket

T: Reno, NV; Las Vegas, NV; Delaware are **free ports**; if you go there and cash in your dinars, that is an incriminating act; you will get a visit and get arrested and you will lose your money

Camp Loveway: Teran played Terrance McKenna's last lecture when he took some ayawaska and walked along the rivers. McKenna also talked about the Inu of Japan, people who grow beards, have kinky hair, and have legends of coming from Sirius and Pleiades - the stories go back to paleolithic times from before the flood;

- TM talked about being fed images at the speed of light - symbols and sigules used by Solomon, AA Michael, the Jinn; using the symbols and sigules invokes their sacred names & you bring in the sacred frequencies and the sacred holy fire of Mother
- R talked about seeing a being that he described as an intergalactic being who looked more like Treebeard - he sat and talked to the giant tree as the redwoods and those kinds of trees are keepers of the planet; also of the sasquatch of the Eva race talking to us more. Every one is here now
- They also talked of Joseph Campbell who went around the planet and gathered the stories of the heroes and the prophets of the planet; we are on duty as it is the 4th turning.
- Teran talked of the increased frequencies since Dec 21 - anomalies showing up in our bodies; some are already moving into 7D; the fairies and elves and dwarves are popping up; the true technologies of nature and nature's god are coming into full resonance, including the technology of the pyramids.
- R went to visit the iron rod in India which brings energies from the earth and sends it to the sky; it also brings frequencies from the sky into the earth; if you lean against it and meditate, it will change your DNA in seconds.

Right Left and Centre: Robert Scheer, Matt Miller, Robert Wolffe [economist] talked of gun issues, sequestration; and Francine Wheeler, Ben Wheeler's mother, who spoke on Obama's weekly address instead of Obama

- Ray McGovern came on to talk about the **Citizens' Conference on Disclosure**: there will be whistleblowers who have never been heard; also 6 members of Congress will be there
- Ray brought up Hillary - won't be running for Pres; brought up the 400 metric tonnes of gold from Libya and where it is: **ONLY ST GERMAIN IS IN CHARGE OF THIS.**

KOS: texted Rama: things approaching by the Ides of April [15th], the 13 families want their pound of flesh from the people [taxes]; the energies are of such proportions, they cannot stand it, and all they have is no money and only fear.

- Kim Jong Un has 5 missiles aimed out - only one has nuclear material on it; **ASHTAR IS IN CONTROL**
- The dinar, the dong - it is still a dog and pony show: as we still have Cheney, Jamie Dimon, Rummy, etc still on the planet - this is a game: they are sending etheric hooks into people who expect to get money yet the Farm Claims have not been paid out. They have lost and the Democrats won with a landslide: BO won and has nothing to lose; **this is about hate and Jim Crow**
- Until the MSNBC overlords are gone, and also the 5 or 6 companies that control the FCC, there will no freedom on the airwaves - brought up in reference to what Rachel said or did not say about the conference on disclosure.

- This is about the blending of many worlds at this present time; we are also witnessing blatant crimes going on at the same time: BBC News had a story about sex workers in Moscow and Kiev; these ones and the ones in Ukraine have HIV which has to do with conditions on the planet; discussion of how these ones were helping other sex workers and addicts by handing out clean needles and medication for the HIV.
 - Putin is talking about closing the only gay bar in Moscow and in another city; people's consciousness is changing as before the Berlin Wall fell - some of the sex workers are so enlightened, they spoke of meeting inter-dimensional beings - they needed help, they asked and the angels came!

Caller: congress names for the conference: Roscoe Bartlett of MD; Merrill Cook of Utah; Darlene Hooley, D-OR; Sen Mick Grazvel D-AK; Rep Caroline Kilpatrick D-Mich; Rep Lynn Woolsey D-Cal.

- There is a list of those who will be at conference: a 30 panel group - astronauts, PhDs in science; former and present military, & so on.
- Possibility of a special guest at the conference; also Edgar Mitchell who went to the moon, knows Ashtar and Sananda, talks about galactics everywhere he goes.
- Dr Jesse Marcel Sr: the military man who in 1947 said it was a weather balloon - believe what we're telling you, folks; now we have the son Jesse Marcel Jr, and Denise Marcel, Jesse Marcel III [grand son and granddaughter of Marcel Sr]
- Nick Pope from UK
- Lt Col Kevin Randell US Air Force, ret'd
- Someone from Uruguay; one from Peru
- Dr Robert Woods + Dr Valoane - specifically about his contact with the Tall Whites - Taoseti is their sun system: they helped in galactic wars & Orion Wars - good guys - were with the Jedi Knights Sayts Sieto - Rama knows of her, lives in NM area; was capt of craft that crashed in Roswell - Caller would like to have her on the program one night; Rama will talk to KOS

www.citizenhearing.org - PLACE TO SIGN UP

T: reminder for everyone to **STAY AWAY FROM ALL PROMISES**, and the idea that the fed gov't and the Fed Reserve will be gone on Tax Day. As for global settlements and distributions - these ones are saying this is going to happen and they/ the banksters and the politicians are getting theirs first - **this IS NOT SO!**

Reading: Take That, Austerity! Outcry and Activism Save 6-Day Mail Delivery [SEE BELOW]

Caller: asking about what was meant by Rachel pooh-poohing the citizens' conference.

T: she is controlled by her overlords & told to make a mockery of this

Caller: isn't Zorra of the Hollow Earth in direct connection with Ashtar?

T: he is compromised because he was taken to Area 51 & is overlorded by Area 51; they are also pushing OTTP, a Black Op of the 13 families

Reading: Why Would Anyone Celebrate the Death of Margaret Thatcher? Ask a Chilean [SEE BELOW]

T: Thatcher and Reagan were lovers, wrecked the economies of both companies in simulcast

- 23,000 people killed in Chile: total is way higher than that!
- Chile was the testing ground for Milton Freidman's economic theories before they were brought to

America and Europe

Reading: [Like Modern GOP, Gilded Age Oligarchs Gerrymandered to Thwart Democracy](#) [SEE BELOW]

T: Talks about what will happen to voting procedures when NESARA is announced.

Reading: **McConnell planned to Attack Judd as "emotionally unbalanced"** [SEE BELOW]

R: "Mother ain't waiting": the shout from the background as Tara is reading about dates and revenue loss.

Reading: **Top 5 Myths about chained-CPI, Debunked** [SEE BELOW]

Audio: Sandy Hook Victim's Mother Calls for Commonsense Gun Responsibility Reforms [SEE BELOW]
Francine Wheeler & David Wheeler from Sandy Hook speak in place of Pres. Obama on **Weekly Address**

Reading: **Balance of "New Era" by Dr M. T. Keshe** [SEE BELOW]

Caller: what was the objective of Sandy Hook if it were Black Ops?

T: to create a distraction to what needs to be paid attention to and pull peoples attention away from that subject; they also get off on killing

Caller: the distraction would be guns?

T: Wayne LaPierre says it's not just guns; let's arm every school in the country; **Caller** doubts it will happen - no, we will get on our high horse and say NO.

T: people will not be losing guns - only assault weapons! As we read this material together ["New Era" by Dr Keshe who she thinks is an aspect of the Mahdi, and a member of the Ashtar command, the White Knights] the energies are going up exponentially; as people begin to experience these energies and are determined to remain negative, their bodies will not last long. Also, the energy of the laws of the land is changing exponentially - she sees it more in other countries than the US: tells the story of a couple in Egypt whose son got out in front of the art museum because it was being destroyed: he was killed & his body was only found 43 days later and was very decomposed. Yet the parents continue to come out in the face of the Morsi government which is only a different face of the same cabal that is here in the US. [She is speaking of the willingness of people around the planet to face oppression and bring in change, no matter what.]

Caller: he's been waiting for a long time for change to happen, yet does not seem to be as fast as he would like T: it took 33 years to stop these guys and lock them down

Caller: what was that about: BO meeting with the 3 bank CEOs? T: report from Thursday night: Citi Corp CEO, JP Morgan Chase CEO Jamie Diamon, Bank of America's CEO - Larry is the reporter [of Larry, Curly and Mo/code names - galactics in human form; their home is the New Jerusalem, part of the Secret Service; they were the guards on duty on the morning of 9/11 -50 stories below the White House & watched Cheney, Rice, Bush Sr ordered 9/11 & all related activities]

- BO put the hammer of Thor down on them: "We all know the banks are too big to exist; we all know they are all too big to fail. What I know is that you folks are not too big to Jail."
- They retorted: "You and whose army are going to jail us?" speaking arrogantly
- BO said "I have friends in high places you don't even know about; one minute you are here; the next you are in shackles or there are organs on the floor." They said arrogantly as they left "Have a nice day, sir!"

T: They are super nervous, trying to push the river: the heads of the dinar calls are in cahoots with these banksters, 100% - the whole thing is a Black Op; those further down the lines working for them are in various stages of delusion regarding who and what they are working for, and those further down the line buying this stuff are in major realms of delusion; these ones are saying the banksters and the politicians and those on the dinar calls will get paid first.

- it's a coup d'etat they are declaring, saying that on Monday, IRS is terminated, the corp. Gov't is terminated; the gold settlements and distributions will begin: they have nothing to do with any of these things: these CEOs think they are running the show: BO called them in to basically tell them they are not running anything.

- Rama went to 3 Santa Fe banks on Friday: Los Alamos National Bank; US Bank, Wells Fargo Bank - the people all know Rama, have for years, & they know what's going on; he shows up regularly when things are going on to ask about the current worth of the dinar. Friday he spoke to the 3 tellers - he took out his Blackberry and showed them: the word is they are going to pay out Farmers Claims; and then the banksters and politicians will be paid out [dinars] at a free port [Las Vegas, Reno, or Delaware]; the rate was \$8

- Tara outlines the process: these ones make an LLC and go to LV, Reno, or Delaware [in the law - only place in the country where you can take your LLC funds and run it off, then you can run it to an offshore trust account where the paper trail can still be seen; then move the 1st off shore a/c which is a pass through a/c to a 2nd off shore account which can not longer be found; there is no where, inside the country, that the a/c owner can be detected.

- She reports on the group of journalists who got together with Anonymous and some others and tapped into 135,000 offshore trusts that were supposed to be hidden - a quatero dezillion dollars - 40 zeros behind it - spread out between all those off shore trusts. Mitt Romney is a multi, multi trillionaire, just him alone! The trust funds is all funny money [paper]; St Germain has the gold which is the real stuff

- BO is a double agent: he put the dark ones in obvious places where their duplicity can be seen; it was planned for last 33 years by the Light to keep these criminals running the show in public, telling their lies to people. When they go, they will be gone in the twinkling of an eye!

- There is a rule: no one in faction 3 who can talk anyone to Faction 2. **The only one who can do this is Rama** because he is a member of Faction 3 since the day he was born as Ashtar's son; the Ashtar Command, the Ascended Masters and all the hosts of heaven are part of the ACIO [Alien Contact Intelligence Organization] and part of the US military inside Faction 3, at 38th level above Pres.

- Tara was told 39 years ago [1974] that nothing would happen piece meal: the secret gov't stuff will be on the news all the days long until the last minute when all would happen at once: we are going to have to catch our family members who think we are nuts as they keel over from shock and surprise! Some might even try to kill themselves. Lots of people have put millions into dinars and are expecting all kinds of millions of dollars coming into their hands through those running the dinars: They will not get one dime! Not through them - every last one of them will be in shackles.

- When Rama went to the banks, they told him is is a rumour about the farm claims and the dinars put out by the overloads of the criminals; there is a whole lot of hanky panky going on at the highest bankster levels; they are not in charge of anything and they are desperate to get some money and stay in power. [this was what the bank staff told R]

Caller: so their arrogance in front of the president was an act

T: their arrogance is always real because it detects them as the criminals they are; behind arrogance, they are terrified because they have overlords who will kill them if they don't do as they are told. Rama got taken to a back room the VP's room & closed the door: they know about KOS, NESARA, etc - "With all due respect, Ram, if these people think they can get some \$ for the dinars, the farm claims, they might be able to pull it off in LV or a free port, but they will get a little visit from Homeland Gestapo with bracelets, called shackles: this can happen at any moment: this is throwing the Rico Act book at them because this is money laundering, fraud, racketeering. I am risking my very life telling you this, Lord Rama."

• **Rama talked to KOS later:** the DOW fell only 8 points; KOS said when Ben Fulford refers to the Sabbateans, he means the Satanists, who are the P2Lodge; the Nazis of the Euro zone [all the heads of European central banks are Nazis]; the Nazis in the US [all the Republicans - the 4th Reich]. They are all trying to pull something up in the last hour: Ap 15 is Tax Day, like a fake alien invasion to cover up the crash of the market: KOS said they are playing with all kinds of distractions: the fake stories about Mr Kim's 5 missiles; the market crash; a fake alien invasion - some sort of global incident that is large enough to focus the media and take away attention from what is really going on

T: the 1919 crash was on purpose - the wealthy royals pulled out their money from the US because of what Noble Drew Ali, the rep of the Moorish people of America - the original people of the US were America - the original people were the Olmecs who were giants - 32' people. The Columbus of the Pinta, Nina, and Santa Maris came looking for gold. The standard story is that the slaves came from Africa, but they didn't: Dark people have always been in North America - the Olmecs who were giants. The pope paid Columbus to come to America in 1492 - he took back the children of these ones [Olmecs and others] to Europe [good looking women and men] and they were mated with the royals and the children were taken to Africa and eventually brought back to the US as "slaves".

• in 1452, the pope created an instrument called **The Doctrine of Discovery:** anyone they sent out to find new land could attack the inhabitants of that land, and take the land and any other thing they wanted. If the people refused to become Catholic, they would be defined as barbarians and could be killed and eaten, like animals - **this law is still in place** [http://ili.nativeweb.org/sdrm_art.html - 500 years of injustice: the legacy of 15th century religious prejudice]

• An "instrument" is a man-made thing; it is not a document or a doctrine. The **Club of Rome is another instrument and re-stated there** that the Vatican owns every square inch of this planet, above and below, the air you breathe, and you, your body and soul. The Vatican has been controlled since the 1500s by a military order called the Jesuits who take an oath: Knights of Columbus, the Knights of Malta, the Blackwater group were made Knights of Malta and also took the oath as Knights of Malta; also the heads of all countries on earth; the oath says they are above all others laws on earth! This is why what Dr Keshe says makes so much sense: the Vatican considers itself a country unto itself and what they say they can do means they, too, need to be taken to The Hague and the same court of justice as everyone else. Inside the oath it says it is just to exterminate, annihilate, anyone who does not go according to our dogma!!! Any leader of any country has to kiss the ring of the black pope/the Jesuit general who wants to go to war has to get permission from the black pope - WWII was ordered by the Vatican; every Nazi took/takes his orders from the black pope, the Jesuit general - this is the 4th Reich in living colour!

• We come with our spiritual peacemaker selves and do not look for someone else to pay us out; BO cut his eye teeth on neighbourhood organization. He helped the parents and family members of the those killed in Sandy Hook to organize: since SH, 3,000 more have been killed. He took the SH people back to DC on Air Force to present their cases to members of the congress, Senate - such a thing has never been done before .

Caller: Justice Roberts went to Malta last year: why? He was in front of a building with the Knights Templar symbol on it **T:** is a member of Opus Dei - they murder for the Jesuit General: Roberts, Scalia and Thomas are all Opus Dei.

Reading: Finishes letter from Dr Keshe

Music

Astrology: Richard

- simple but powerful chart: about Pluto which went retrograde yesterday
- Annual move backwards relative to earth: now we appear to lead Pluto in the orbit around the sun: we have ahead of us 5 months of introspection so issues we have been neglecting like victimhood and other things can be seen for what they are; use this time to look at them; Pluto is the transformer of divine galactic love; works with Venus and Mars
- We are in one of the most potent times of the year: new moon on Wednesday - good case to make that Wed [Ap 10] was New Year's Day; in addition, the moon conjuncted Sun-Mars- Venus on the same day, in a tight group.
- Mercury goes into Aries in about 2 hours: the main energy has a polarity because of the Pluto retrograde nature: divine will the Uranus component transferring downloads of einergy into the solar system with Saturn - about ready for a real electrical kicker; Yes, Scpio is I desire and Aries is I am but they are joined together.

Caller: asking for a reading from Richard - write him at whittrl@gmail.com. Also tells us that Sri Sri Ravi Shankar bought what was formerly a TM centre in the area - caller looking to move east.

Ri: there is also the Gemini effect this weekend - the fire energy continues; air element added through Gemini and the moon until Mon pm; overall theme is a seasonal thing; astrologers have 12 seasons which interact with each other. Last month it was in Pisces and it was electrica; this month it's magnetic

Monday: Venus goes into Taurus - a little ease to moderate the electrical energy

Tuesday: moon into cancer; on the day there is water trine - ends with moon opposite Pluto

Wed: quiet until 8:20 - Sun/Mars conjunction this night: cardinal water, sun conjunct Mars in late Aries and moon in Cancer which is the steamy part.

Thurs: moon goes into Leo and fiery heat is added to the situation

Spring cleaning: do some purging ceremonies

Reading: New Moon in Aries - Light your fire!

Caller: KOS said earlier if we went on a compromised website, we would not be eligible for blessings?

T: no she did not say that. **Caller** has been listening to Hollow Earth and Zara; would the caller be affected? **T:** Zarra is promoting OPPT which is Black Ops of the Ruckerfeller kind; **Caller:** she quit her job - will send them \$ tomorrow; work was hard as she worked in a cleaners and boss was ugly - so she just quit. Moving to Hillsboro via the Housing Authority and will look for a part time job! If N goes through, will be working for KOS!!! **T** reads from something that is entirely appropriate for the caller! **Caller:** feels like it was the right thing to do. **T:** some housing in Idaho Falls is moving to a different kind of heating/ green housing - not really green in Idaho, but someone started this.

Reading: rest of Dr Keshe.

Audio: Bishop Thomas Gumbleton from Chicago; also a survivor of priest sexual abuse. Amy Goodman - **Democracy Now**

As newly elected Pope Francis orders the Vatican to act more decisively on sexual abuse cases, we speak to retired Bishop Thomas Gumbleton of Detroit. A survivor of sexual abuse himself, Gumbleton was forced to resign in 2007 after he spoke out publicly in favor of an Ohio bill to extend the statute of limitations for cases of sexual abuse by clergy. Gumbleton spoke here in New York City last night at a benefit for the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests. Bishop Gumbleton has also been a leading voice for peace, justice and civil rights for decades. He helped found Pax Christi and Bread for the World. We also speak to him about poverty in Detroit, Lori Berenson, war tax resistance, why he challenges the church's position on gay marriage, the anti-nuke movement and liberation theology. **[SEE BELOW]**

Conf Call:

Caller2: calling about an article taken from Katherine Nay's website www.whoneedslight.org & posted on Rainbow Rose: a channelling from Ashtar in which he presents the conditions necessary for disclosure to happen; let the cat out of the bag that the real pope is St Germain. **T:** this person [the channeller] is not where they are; Patti Cota Robles is saying Pope is Kuthumi **Caller:** just thrown by this idea: did not match after hearing the history of Francis I - could not be Ashtar. Discussion about who put the channelling there; This is a social network - the blog spot is for everyone; Rama would not put it up. Penny checked: it was posted by Commander Randy: Rama had already checked with KOS, Katheryn, Tom the Cat - **all of them said "Definitely NOT!" R: No one in the vatican has ever represented the Office of the Christ.** Rama remembers the story from the beginning : Jeshua and Magdalene had to go to Renne-le-Chateau as things got uglier in various places. How can the current church organization stand for peace when it sponsors war, as Dr Keshe asks. As we go into the 5th dimension, we carry only flowers. **T:** Amy Goodman had a Chilean journalist on - he talked about 2 liberation priests who said what was going on was murder and the church was assisting.

Reading: Five Hundred Years of Injustice: The Legacy of Fifteenth Century Religious Prejudice
by Steve Newcombe **[SEE BELOW]**

- The real C. Columbus [St Germain in an earlier incarnation] was a Moorish Greek Sailor and was in NA before the other one came here

Audio: finished Bishop Gumbleton interview

Audio: Secrets Hidden from Mankind: Mind Science Kept Hidden - a documentary

Published on 29 Dec 2012 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Up8pP51xO7U>

The truth is here, not out there <http://TopSecretWorld.com> ! Mind Science Kept Hidden Documentary - The language of quantum communication:

This may be good for us all to keep in mind as we progress in our endeavours - the more science delves into it, the more potential it seems to show what our minds are capable of...

Covers so many topics, from secret research, remote viewing, energy chakras confirmed by Russian experiments, etc...

One guy was creating images on his camera (even when the cover was on!)

We have unlimited potential literally... We have the ability to communicate over almost infinite space... We can have a positive or negative influence on our physical bodies (and

minds)...and on the bodies and minds of other people. Conscious mind exerts a force on other forces... Can penetrate any form of matter... Can transcend space and time.

Has been proven in many scientific experiments to affect ph of water, or change the random numbers on a computer generator... Has been calculated to travel from earth to Sun in 1/347 of a second (faster than speed of light) (secret societies call it "speed of thought")

Because this so clearly convinces me of the reality of this 'conscious energy' in a very odd way it makes it much more easier for me to both believe and understand why there would be evil forces using this too. But wreaking havoc for the sole purpose of disrupting this energy, to use chaos to unbalance everyone else's energy, or energy stealing, creating 'fear campaigns' 'fear porn' propaganda, keeping us all in lower vibrations, separate from our own conscious power potential...

I feel I should add: this video doesn't talk about the "evil forces part - it is all about the positive scientific potential aspect...

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Reading: Magnetization Periods: A Source of Spiritual Energy

[SEE BELOW]

Since the dark days of the fifties, for several periods each year, a massive spacecraft called [Satellite No. 3](#) comes into orbit of our earth. These periods are referred to as "Magnetization Periods" or "Spiritual Pushes."

On board there is a fantastic array of radionic instruments, manned by spiritually evolved extraterrestrials, known as [Cosmic Masters](#). This advanced spacecraft is able to transmit exactly the right energy to each person who is helping humanity in some spiritual way.

This uplifting energy is sent to all people who are engaged in some type of spiritual act, whether directly helping another or working to improve themselves spiritually. It makes no difference what race or religion they may be. It goes to Christians, Hindus, Buddhists, Muslim, Taoists, Jews, all religions, including atheists if they are working for the common good.

During these Magnetization Periods, the karmic effects of each spiritual action are enhanced approximately three thousand times, thereby speeding up the evolution of both the individual and humanity as a whole.

Dates of Orbit:

Satellite No. 3 comes into orbit at set times each year. The dates of these orbits are as follows:

April 18 to May 23

July 5 to August 5

September 3 to October 9

November 4 to December 10

Satellite No. 3 enters and leaves Earth orbit at 12:00 midnight G.M.T.

Tune into this Energy

Everyone can tune into this source of energy from Satellite No. 3, and you will be amazed at the difference this makes to all your spiritual practices and your true service to humanity.

The energy used by Satellite No. 3 comes directly from the Sun. The Sun, as has been known to the metaphysicians and Eastern Masters for centuries, is the source for all prana or spiritual energy on Earth. The Third Satellite virtually magnifies this energy in a safe and highly effective manner, and directs it to those working for the greater good on Earth.

TECHNICAL NOTE: There is a simple reason why this large spacecraft is not seen or detected by radar. A force field protects Satellite No. 3 and is capable of rotating radar and light particles in an arc of 180 degrees rendering it invisible. This is necessary in order to keep its presence a secret from humanity's rather active military forces. The Cosmic Masters prefer to help humanity without interference caused by undue curiosity at this time.

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Reading: "the teachings of the pale ones " from **Voices of Our Ancestors**

Closing: Carolyn

FOLLOWING - PRINTED RESOURCES RELATED TO THE NOTES

<http://www.thenation.com/blog/173782/take-austerity-outcry-activism-saves-6-day-mail-delivery?rel=emailNation#>

A USPS van. (Joseph Barillari)

Can Americans beat the austerity agenda of Wall Street Republicans and compromise-prone Democrats? Can we prevent deep cuts to essential services? Can we preserve the commons in the face of a full-frontal assault from politicians and pundits who are ever at the ready to attack the public sector and public employees on behalf of their crony-capitalist patrons?

Yes, sometimes in the David versus Goliath struggle, David wins.

That happened Wednesday when the board of governors of the US Postal Service abandoned an announced plan to eliminate Saturday delivery of the mail.

"Today's announcement that the USPS has cancelled its plans to end Saturday mail delivery is a victory for our middle class families, our rural communities and our small business owners... who rely on this critical service," declared [Congressman Mark Pocan](#), a Democrat who just two weeks ago rallied in frigid weather outside a Wisconsin post office as part of [the national campaign to block the cut](#).

Pocan's right on every point, except one.

The saving of Saturday delivery is not just "a victory for middle class families, our rural communities and our small business owners." It is an important reminder that it matters to mobilize against the austerity agenda, even when the odds are daunting.

The battle against austerity has many fronts, all of which trace back to the question of whether necessary services will be maintained or diminished. That's certainly the case in the debate about whether to cut Social Security benefits with President Obama's "[chained-CPI](#)" undercutting of cost-of-living increases. The same goes for proposals to means-test Medicare and Medicaid, and of course to implement House Budget Committee chairman [Paul Ryan's voucher scheme](#).

But nowhere has the austerity threat been more evident in recent months than in the attempt by Postal Service managers—and their allies in Congress—to [eliminate Saturday delivery](#). When the Postmaster General announced the move from traditional 6-day service to 5-day service, anyone who knew anything about the USPS knew what was happening. By creating a delivery void that would extend from Friday morning to Monday afternoon, the Postal Service was being rendered so dysfunctional that Americans would turn toward private carriers.

[The American Postal Workers Union](#), [the National Association of Letter Carriers](#) and other unions explained that elimination of Saturday service would so undermine the system that privatization of the most attractive mail services would be virtually inevitable. Communities across the country organized to save post offices, sorting centers and jobs. Small business owners, weekly newspaper publishers, election officials and advocates for the elderly and people with disabilities spoke up for affordable and regular delivery of everything from prescription drugs to absentee ballots.

In late March, they rallied in communities, from New York City to small towns on the Great Plains, as part of a "[National Day of Action](#)" organized by the Letter Carriers and other unions. It was the highest profile protest of a months-long campaign that got Congress—which is charged by the Constitution with maintaining the service—to call for the retention of Saturday delivery. But the Postmaster General kept pushing for the cut, until Wednesday, when the USPS board of governors announced it would "delay this implementation at this time."

This is a big deal. Services will be maintained. Jobs will be saved. Rural communities and urban centers will retain their vital cores.

But what happened Wednesday is not the end of the fight.

Maintaining Saturday delivery is important, arguably vital, to the future of the USPS. But, says Pocan, maintaining 6-day service “does not end the need for comprehensive reform at the USPS.”

The definitional battle is the one to free the postal service from the onerous burdens placed on it by Congress, especially the congressional mandate that the USPS prefund 75 years of future health-care benefits for retirees. In his new budget, President Obama proposes temporary relief for the Postal Service by reducing payments into the funds by \$10.6 billion over the next two years—along with more flexibility so that the service can compete.

That’s a place of beginning for a real discussion about stabilizing the service.

But the Obama budget is not going to be approved anytime soon. And there are immediate threats.

Postal managers continue to hack away at the service. Indeed, [as American Postal Workers Union president Cliff Guffey notes](#), “While Saturday mail delivery has dominated recent discussions, little attention is being paid to other drastic measures the USPS is taking that will significantly delay mail and permanently damage the nation’s mail system. Since 2012, the USPS has closed 114 mail processing plants, one third of the nation’s mail processing capacity... These closures will eliminate jobs, harm communities, and delay mail delivery every day—Monday, through Saturday.”

[Senator Bernie Sanders, I-Vermont](#), who has taken the lead in the anti-austerity struggle—not just as the Postal Service’s stalwart champion but as the most ardent critic of scheming to cut Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid—recognizes that the fight is not finished.

Sanders and Congressman Peter DeFazio, D-Oregon, have introduced legislation to repeal the pre-funding requirement, which they refer to as “the crippling law responsible for 80 percent of the mail system’s funding woes.”

But they and their allies—including Pocan—are not merely dealing with fiscal matters. They’re proposing [a Postal Service Protection Act](#) that would:

- * clear the way for the Postal Service to help customers take advantage of email and Internet services.
- * lift legal bans on services such as notarizing documents.
- * create a commission composed of successful business innovators and representatives from small business and labor to make recommendations on other ways the Postal Service could generate new revenue and thrive in the 21st century.

The Postal Service, like most public services, can survive and thrive in the 21st century. But that will never happen if the austerity agenda is extended. It will only happen if that agenda is challenged—with not just one [“Day of Action”](#) but with days and days and days of activism on behalf of the sound economics and social responsibility that is the opposite of austerity.

2013, Ap 9 [Why Would Anyone Celebrate the Death of Margaret Thatcher? Ask a Chilean](#)
[Dave Zirin](#)

Margaret Thatcher stands in front of an image of Augusto Pinochet at a Conservative Party conference. (Reuters Photo)

Never have I witnessed a gap between the mainstream media and the public quite like the last twenty-four hours since the death of Margaret Thatcher. While both the press and President Obama were uttering tearful remembrances, thousands took to the streets of the UK and beyond to celebrate. Immediately this [drew strong condemnation](#) of what were called "[death parties](#)," described as "tasteless", "horrible" and "beneath all human decency." Yet if the same media praising Thatcher and appalled by the popular response would bother to ask one of the people celebrating, they might get a story that doesn't fit into their narrative, which is probably why they aren't asking at all.

I received a note this morning from a friend of a friend. She lives in the UK, although her family didn't arrive there by choice. They had to flee Chile, like thousands of others, when it was under the thumb of General Augusto Pinochet. If you don't know the details about Pinochet's blood-soaked two-decade reign, you [should read about them](#) but take care not to eat beforehand. He was a merciless overseer of torture, rapes and thousands of political executions. He had [the hands and wrists](#) of the country's greatest folk singer Victor Jara broken in front of a crowd of prisoners before killing him. He had democratically elected Socialist President Salvador Allende shot dead at his desk. His specialty was torturing people in front of their families.

As Naomi Klein has [written so expertly](#), he then used this period of shock and slaughter to install a nationwide laboratory for neoliberal economics. If Pinochet's friend Milton Friedman had a theory about cutting food subsidies, privatizing social security, slashing wages or outlawing unions, Pinochet would apply it. The results of these experiments became political ammunition for neoliberal economists throughout the world. Seeing Chile-applied economic theory in textbooks always boggles my mind. It would be like if the American Medical Association published a textbook on the results of Dr. Josef Mengele's work in the concentration camps, without any moral judgment about how he accrued his patients.

Pinochet was the General in charge of this human rights catastrophe. He also was someone who Margaret Thatcher called a friend. She stood by the General even when he was in exile, attempting to escape justice for his crimes. As she [said to Pinochet](#), "[Thank you] for bringing democracy to Chile."

Therefore, if I want to know why someone would celebrate the death of Baroness Thatcher, I think asking a Chilean in exile would be a great place to start. My friend of a friend took to the streets of the UK when she heard that the Iron Lady had left her mortal coil. Here is why:

I'm telling [my daughter] all about the Thatcher legacy through her mother's experience, not the media's; especially how the Thatcher government directly supported Pinochet's murderous regime, financially, via military support, even military training (which we know now, took place in Dundee University). Thousands of my people (and members of my family) were tortured and murdered under Pinochet's regime—the fascist beast who was one of Thatcher's closest allies and friend. So all you apologists/those offended [by my celebration]—you can take your moral high ground & shove it. YOU are the ones who don't understand. Those of us celebrating are the ones who suffered deeply under her dictatorship and WE are the ones who cared. We are the ones who protested. We are the

humanitarians who bothered to lift a finger to help all those who suffered under her regime. I am lifting a glass of champagne to mourn, to remember and to honour all the victims of her brutal regime, here AND abroad. And to all those heroes who gave a shit enough to try to do something about it.

I should add here that I lived in Chile in 1995, when Pinochet had been deposed but was still in charge of the armed forces. I became friends with those who were tortured or had their families disappeared, so Thatcher's connection to Chile strikes a personal note with me. I also understand, however, that similar explanations for "why people are celebrating" could be made by those with connections to Argentina, apartheid South Africa, Indonesia, Belfast, Gaza or Baghdad. The case could also be made by those in the UK affected by Thatcher's Pinochet-tested economic dictates who choose not to mourn.

It also matters because the forty-eight hours after a powerful public figure dies is when the halo becomes permanently affixed to their head. When Ronald Reagan passed away, a massive right wing machine went into motion aimed at removing him from all criticism. The Democrats certainly didn't challenge this interpretation of history and now according to polls, [people under 25 would elect Reagan over President Obama](#), even though Reagan's ideas remain deeply unpopular. To put it crudely, the political battle over someone's memory is a political battle over policy. In Thatcher's case, if we gloss over her history of supporting tyrants, we are doomed to repeat them.

As Glenn Greenwald [wrote](#) in *The Guardian*,

There is absolutely nothing wrong with loathing Margaret Thatcher or any other person with political influence and power based upon perceived bad acts, and that doesn't change simply because they die. If anything, it becomes more compelling to commemorate those bad acts upon death as the only antidote against a society erecting a false and jingoistically self-serving history.

Or to put it even more simply, in the words, of David Wearing, "People praising Thatcher's legacy should show some respect for her victims." That would be nice, wouldn't it? Let's please show some respect for Margaret Thatcher's victims. Let's respect those who mourn everyday because of her policies, but choose this one day to wipe away the tears. Then let's organize to make sure that the history she authored does not repeat.

We are all Thatcherites now. [Maria Margaronis](#) explains why.

<http://www.thenation.com/blog/173731/why-would-anyone-celebrate-death-margaret-thatcher-ask-chilean>

2013, Ap 11 [Like Modern GOP, Gilded Age Oligarchs Gerrymandered to Thwart Democracy](#) [Lee Fang](#)

<http://www.thenation.com/blog/173784/modern-gop-gilded-age-oligarchs-gerrymandered-thwart-democracy?rel=emailNation>

John Boehner speaks next to Mitch McConnell and other Republican members of Congress. (AP Photo/Susan Walsh).

Next year, even if voters cast millions more votes for Democratic candidates, it's likely John Boehner will continue as Speaker of the House, and Republicans will still have a firm grip to determine policy in the waning years of the Obama presidency. In the last campaign for the House, Republicans maintained a comfortable hold on the lower chamber of Congress even though Democrats won at least [1.1 million more](#) votes. That's because over the last few years, GOP state legislators—[with help](#) from [corporate backers](#)—radically redrew congressional district lines to disadvantage Democrats in over half a dozen states, making representative democracy impossible until the next census in 2020, essentially. (For more on [this](#), see Sam Wang's "The Great Gerrymander of 2012.")

The dismantling of the 'People's House' into a fiefdom for big business-friendly Republicans isn't necessarily a new development. In the late 19th and early 20th century, oligarchs manipulated the voting districts to repress the will, and the votes, of the people -- much like the gerrymandering we see today. A century ago, it was the U.S. Senate, not the House, that fell victim to such sordid tricks.

The last time America experienced a vast decline in representative democracy was the Gilded Era, a period where both major parties became consumed by a small number of robber barons -- tycoons who monopolized entire industries, bought politicians like cattle, killed striking workers, and manipulated cabinet secretaries and judges alike through a system of graft and petty bribery. In the South, the end of Reconstruction brought a reign of terror against recently enfranchised black citizens, who [lost the right to vote](#) -- and in some cases, faced [re-enslavement](#) -- as railroad and timber industry-financed Redeemer Democrat politicians rewrote state constitutions and began Jim Crow voting restrictions.

Another, less well known aspect of this wave of undemocratic action was in the North concerning town-based state legislative districts. Before the 17th Amendment, state legislators elected U.S. Senators. And in northern states like Rhode Island, Connecticut and New Jersey, state legislative districts were drawn based on counties or towns, not people. As hundreds of thousands of European immigrants arrived in these states, Republicans party chiefs, in a bid to suppress the votes of these new Americans, ruthlessly fought to ensure that legislative districts stayed the same, regardless of population. The immigrants could vote, but their votes wouldn't matter much.

In this era, towns of 565 Republican 'native' voters had the same representation of immigrant towns of 53,230. Despite numerous elections where a majority of voters attempted to send populist Democrats to state legislative office, who in turn would have selected populist U.S. Senators, a rigged system allowed a tiny population of largely wealthy, Protestant Republicans to dominate. This wasn't the exact same as gerrymandering per se, but it had a similar design and effect.

Author Jack Beatty, in his brilliantly researched book, [Age of Betrayal: The Triumph of Money in America, 1865-1900](#), documents this type of voter suppression by way of unfair legislative districts:

Under a Colonial-era system of town-based as opposed to population based voting districts, 14 percent of Connecticut voters could elect a majority of the House of Representatives. Between 1818, when the Connecticut state constitution adopted the town-based standard, and 1910, Hartford's population grew from 6,000 to 98,000, Waterbury's from 2,000 to 73,000, New Haven's from 8,000 to 132,000 -- without additional representation. In 1890 New Haven, population 86,000,

sent the same number of representatives to the state legislature as Union, population 431. New Haven's voters were immigrants and Democrats; Union's "native" and Republican. [...] The national Republican Party depended on its Connecticut "rotten borough." Between the 1870s and the 1890s it sent six Republican senators to Washington, where they cast key votes on the tariff and the currency and enabled the GOP to control four different Congresses. Republican-appointed judges on the state Supreme Court rejected attempts to change the formula of Connecticut's anti-democracy, which in weakened strength lasted until ended by one-man, one-vote court rulings of the early 1960s.

In Rhode Island, the GOP party boss who enforced a similar "anti-democracy" of warped state legislative districts was also the chief counsel for the New Haven Railroad and held stock in the Providence Electric Company, both of which pumped money into the party's vote-buying and immigrant vote-suppressing machinery. Senator Nelson Aldrich, the infamously corrupt Rhode Island senator and powerful chair of the Senate Finance Committee during much of the Gilded Era, was elected through this political system and elevated himself from wealthy New England merchant to robber baron status through lucrative investments in companies he bestowed with generous subsidies and tax loopholes.

During this era, there were other ploys to maintain control of the U.S. Senate. As Beatty notes, the GOP maintained control of Congress by admitting a large number of Republican-leaning territories that did not meet the historical criteria for statehood (West Virginia, Kansas, and Nevada during the war; followed by Nebraska, Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and Washington) in a bid to add additional GOP senators. "Excluding West Virginia, of the eleven states admitted between 1861 and 1869 only six equaled 'the size of an average congressional district (including Colorado), two were roughly half that size, and Nevada was one-sixth the normal size,'" writes Beatty, quoting from a study by Charles Stewart and Barry R. Weingast.

In the modern age, gerrymandering has made a mockery out of representative democracy, creating congressional districts that twist and turn to ensure partisan domination. Pennsylvania, a state that voted for Obama by 5 percentage points in the last election, elected [only 5 Democrats](#) out of 18 congressional districts because of the district lines drawn by Governor Tom Corbett and his allies in the legislature. Ohio, Virginia, Michigan, and Florida are other examples of [dramatically undemocratic](#) lines crafted to allow Republicans to capture more seats than they ordinarily could. According to ThinkProgress, Democrats would have to win [7 percent](#) of the popular vote in order to win a slim majority in the House of Representatives under the current gerrymandered system.

And who can we [thank](#) for casting a shadow over the legitimacy of our Congress? Devon Energy, Altria Group, Wynn Resorts, ETC Capital, Wal-Mart Stores, Citigroup, Koch Industries, AT&T, Comcast, ExxonMobil, Eli Lilly, and other large firms that helped finance the Republican State Leadership Committee, the GOP committee that masterminded the current gerrymander.

Meanwhile, Republican Senator Mitch McConnell's former plan to [smear Ashley Judd's mental health and religion](#) has been exposed, prompting the senator to make a bizarre Watergate analogy.

2013, Ap 9 [McCconnell planned to attack Judd as “emotionally unbalanced”](#)

A secret tape reveals Republicans intended to use the actress' struggles with depression against her

By [Alex Seitz-Wald](#)

▪

Ashley Judd (Credit: Reuters/Lucy Nicholson)

Secret audiotapes [obtained by Mother Jones' David Corn](#) reveal that Mitch McConnell and his team discussed using actress Ashley Judd's childhood thoughts of suicide against her were she to mount a challenge to the Senate minority leader. Judd recently decided to forgo a run, but before she did, McConnell sat down with top staffers to discuss their strategy to fight her.

In addition to portraying her as a Hollywood liberal, the team suggested using her well-known struggles with depression against her, and essentially planned to portray her as an anti-American weirdo. “This sounds extreme, but she is emotionally unbalanced,” the aide leading the meeting told McConnell.

In her 2011 memoir, Judd discussed her past bouts with depression, which included a brief hospitalization and the revelation that she had had thoughts of suicide — in 6th grade. As they went through the material, McConnell's staff laughed heartily at several occasions and mocked Judd's comment about the culture shock she feels upon returning to the U.S. after a stint abroad.

They also discussed using religion against her, with one aide saying, “She is critical of Christianity.” He added that she is “anti-sort-of-traditional American family.”

Judd, for whatever failings as a candidate she may have had, touched some kind of nerve on the right that drove conservatives into an absolutely rabid frenzy. Some Democrats thought the liberal Judd might succeed in conservative Kentucky precisely because of this phenomenon, as it was almost inevitable that some Republican would make derogatory or sexist comments about her and turn the electorate against McConnell, along the lines of what happend with Todd Akin.

On the audiotapes, McConnell remains quiet throughout most of the meeting, but said of Judd and other potential enemies, “I assume most of you have played the, the game Whac-A-Mole? This is the Whac-A-Mole period of the campaign ... when anybody sticks their head up, do them out.” The list of moles in need of whacking included the Louisville Courier-Journal, suggesting McConnell wanted to go to war with the state's paper of record, but he was not specific about why.

UPDATE: McConnell's staff believes their office was bugged and has contacted the FBI, according to [a statement](#).

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2013, Ap 11 [Top 5 Myths About Chained-CPI, Debunked](#) [George Zornick](#)

<http://www.thenation.com/blog/173786/top-5-myths-about-chained-cpi-debunked>

The president's budget proposal includes the expected Chained-CPI cut. (AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta).

President Obama released his proposed 2014 budget Wednesday morning, and it included a hugely controversial provision: a switch to a Chained-CPI formula for calculating inflation.

Many different government programs—most notably Social Security—calculate benefits based on the rate of inflation, so that benefits don't lag behind an increased cost of living. The IRS uses similar formulas to ensure that people aren't pushed into a higher bracket simply because of inflation.

As Dylan Matthews explains [here](#), the government uses several different formulas to do this, and the administration is proposing to unify them all into one formula, called Chained-CPI-U. It purports to be a more accurate measure of inflation by controlling for “substitution effects.”

Current formulas might, for example, rate an increase in the price of beef as inflation, but not consider the fact that people might start buying chicken instead. Chained CPI aims to control for the choices people make in the face of rising prices, and so the inflation it calculates naturally rises more slowly.

Generally this means fewer benefits would be paid out, and people would be pushed into higher tax brackets more quickly—and both result in more money for the government, and thus more deficit reduction. The White House estimates this approach would save \$230 billion over ten years.

Seems sensible: but there are a lot of hidden dangers, both on policy and politics, and the White House and its defenders aren't always forthright about them. Here are the top five myths about Chained-CPI.

1) It's not a benefit cut, nor a tax increase

A recent [briefing paper](#) from the Bowles-Simpson “Moment of Truth” group (citing the economist Robert Greenstein) asserts “this change should not be regarded as a benefit cut or a tax increase. It should be regarded more as a technical change to achieve Congress's stated goal of keeping pace with inflation in as accurate a way as possible.”

Similarly, the White House avers from ever calling this a benefit cut: in Obama's budget, for example, it's depicted as a “more accurate” formula that “will reduce deficits and improve Social Security solvency.”

We'll get to the accuracy argument next, but there's no debating these simple points: Chained-CPI is both a benefit cut and a tax increase.

The average earner retiring at age 65 would lose \$658 each year until they turned 75 under Chained-CPI, and a \$1,147 cut by 85. This really adds up—the cumulative cuts to people on Social Security reach \$28,000 by the time a retiree is 95, as this chart from [Social Security Works](#) shows:

Bowles-Simpson has what's called a “birthday bump” in their Chained-CPI formula: an increase in benefits in the 20th year to help offset the cuts, something the White House endorses. But this still fails to make up for the benefit cuts. Here's Social Security Works again:

Chained CPI also has the effect of raising taxes by pushing people to higher marginal rates. It's not a huge effect, but one that's quite regressive: middle-income earners are hit the hardest. Here's a chart from Dylan Matthews:

Matthews [notes](#) that “[t]he group getting the biggest tax hike is families making between \$30,000 and \$40,000 a year. Their increase is almost six times that faced by millionaires.”

2) It's a more accurate measure of inflation

Proponents of Chained-CPI rebut the benefit cuts by making an accuracy argument—suggesting that beneficiaries are getting an unfair windfall from current inflation formulas that are over-compensating for inflation.

There's no doubt that, economy-wide, Chained-CPI is a more accurate measure of growth in living standards. But that just doesn't hold when applied to seniors on Social Security.

The argument for Chained-CPI is that average consumers replace items in their “basket” of goods when something gets too expensive. But seniors have quite a different basket of goods—namely, a lot of out-of-pocket spending on health care, which outpaces inflation and is also extremely hard to replace. (In fact, even the current formula for calculating Social Security benefits probably understates the real cost of living for seniors.)

The Economic Policy Institute has the numbers [here](#):

In short, the 65-and-older households spend roughly three times what the rest of the population does on health care, measured as a share of total spending. Further, between 1989 and 2007, **prices for health care have risen nearly twice as fast as overall inflation**—growing 100% over that timespan, compared with 53% growth in overall prices of consumption goods.

Seniors spend a lot of money on health care, and just aren't able to buy different, cheaper drugs when the price of their medication goes up—so the Chained CPI argument just doesn't work here. And the price of those drugs is going up much faster than the prices of most consumer goods, and the same is true of Medicare premiums.

EPI concludes that “In short, rising health care costs and falling incomes already provide large pressures on Social Security beneficiaries' incomes as they age. Reducing the [cost-of-living] adjustment would just apply one more economic pressure that grows over their retirement.” They advocate switching not to Chained-CPI-U, but CPI-E, which measures cost-of-living increases among the senior population.

Note, too, that these seniors are the ones bearing most of the brunt from switching to Chained-CPI government-wide: about \$115 billion of the \$230 billion in estimated savings comes from Social Security.

3) We can enact Chained-CPI still protect veterans and the most vulnerable

The White House says that it will insist on protections for the most vulnerable and for veterans under any Chained-CPI plan. (This is, by the way, already a tacit admission that Chained-CPI isn't truly more accurate—if it was, and all it was doing was removing an unnecessary windfall to beneficiaries, why does anyone need protection?)

The administration proposes the aforementioned “birthday bump,” which as we noted still doesn't make up for the benefit cut. They also advocate protecting lowest-income seniors and people with disabilities by exempting Supplemental Security Income from Chained-CPI.

But here's the problem: SSI is already too small, and doesn't reach enough poverty-stricken seniors. In fact, there are [9.4 million](#) poor or near-poor people who receive Social Security, but not SSI—so they still get hit. In addition, there are 2.8 million “dual-eligibles”—people who are on SSI but also receive some Social Security benefits. They'd be hit as well.

While the administration laudably wants to protect various veteran's benefits programs from Chained-CPI, [9.3 million](#) veterans are on Social Security, which is one in five Social Security beneficiaries. So they still won't be totally insulated from the Chained-CPI cuts either.

4) It will help achieve a deal with the GOP

Obama argues that Chained-CPI isn't what he wants, but what he feels he must do to get a deal with the GOP. “I

don't believe that all these ideas are optimal, but I'm willing to accept them as part of a compromise," Obama said in the Rose Garden Wednesday.

But he proposed Chained-CPI during the debt-ceiling talks in 2011, and the GOP did not accept his grand bargain. He proposed them as part of a deal to avert the sequester earlier this year, and the GOP did not accept the deal. Now he's proposing them in his budget. Is the result any different?

Well, no. Paul Ryan rejected the idea that Chained-CPI would make a deal with Obama viable. "I don't see this as fundamental entitlement reform as much as clarifying a statistic which does happen to save money," he [said](#) Wednesday.

No Republicans in the House or Senate have yet said they were interested in Obama's budget, and the prospect of them doing so is non-existent.

In fact, Obama may be unintentionally strengthening the Republican's hand in this debate by *validating* their theory of deficit reduction.

The Obama approach during the 2012 campaign was that the deficit should be addressed by a sensible mix of spending cuts and new revenue, and that the safety net should be protected. These Democratic Party priorities were reflected in the Senate Democrats' budget, which did not contain Chained-CPI. The Republican approach, meanwhile, is that deficit reduction should consist of cuts and cuts only, and "serious entitlement reform."

Instead of battling the GOP on the idea that cutting the safety net is a bad way to reduce deficits—particularly Social Security, which doesn't even contribute to it—Obama has *endorsed* the GOP approach by agreeing to Chained CPI. And don't think they won't point that out—and use it to advance the ball on cutting entitlements.

Here's Mitch McConnell Wednesday, after the Obama budget was released:

"The President seems prepared to finally concede this time that at least something needs to be done to save entitlements from their inevitable slide toward bankruptcy. I'm glad to see him begin to come to grips with the math here. It's well past time for reform, and it's something the President ought to want to do because he presumably cares about saving entitlement programs – not just because he wants yet another excuse to raise taxes."

Here's House Speaker John Boehner:

"[Obama] does deserve some credit for some incremental entitlement reforms that he has outlined in his budget. But I would hope that he would not hold hostage these modest reforms for his demand for bigger tax hikes. Listen, why don't we do what we can agree to do? Why don't we find the common ground that we do have and move on that?"

Think of this phase of the sequestration and budget fight as an election—where each side tries to convince the public that their approach is optimal. Winning means the other side is under the gun of public opinion and comes to the table ready to deal.

Endorsing the other side's ideas during this phase is not terrific strategy. Might Obama have to accept some Republican ideas in the final agreement? Sure, but the GOP has shown absolutely zero desire to reach an agreement, so prematurely endorsing their approach is explicitly counter-productive.

Defenders of the White House strategy theorize this approach is helpful for public opinion because it highlights that the GOP is unwilling to compromise.

But what's the added value of highlighting what virtually everybody in the country who follows this debate understands? As Matthew Yglesias writes: "To any reasonable person, the fact that the GOP ran in 2008 and 2010 and 2012 on a platform of all-cuts deficit reduction makes that clear. If you need further evidence you can look at the GOP's negotiating strategy during the 2011 debt ceiling battle, during the fiscal cliff in the 2012 lame duck session, and all throughout the sequestration controversy. You can ask John Boehner. Or Eric Cantor. Or

Mitch McConnell. There's a lot that's murky in American politics, but it's incredibly clear that the reason we don't have a grand bargain on the budget is that Republicans don't want one.”

5) It won't hurt Democrats in 2014

A key argument against Chained-CPI that progressives have made for months is that Republicans would use it to slam Democrats in the 2014 midterms, just as they did with the Medicare cuts in Obamacare.

And just on cue, the head of the House GOP re-election committee appeared on CNN yesterday and [said](#) that Obama's budget “lays out a shocking attack on seniors.” He continued:

“I'll tell you when you're going after seniors the way he's already done on Obamacare, taken \$700 billion out of Medicare to put into Obamacare and now coming back at seniors again, I think you're crossing that line very quickly here in terms of denying access to seniors for health care in districts like mine certainly and around the country.”

The White House pushback is twofold. First, point out this isn't what Obama really wants. “This is a Republican proposal,” White House press secretary Jay Carney said on Thursday. Actually, it's in Obama's budget, so good luck with that defense.

Meanwhile, senior White House officials ultimately think this line of attack won't be effective in 2014. “The White House...feels it can win any political fight on entitlements...after the successful test case of the 2012 campaign, when Republicans tried to make an issue of the \$700 billion in Medicare savings contained in Obamacare, but didn't land any body blows,” Alex Seitz-Wald [reported](#) after a briefing from administration officials.

That's wrong for a couple reasons. For one, the \$700 billion in Medicare cuts were largely sensible and did not depress the Democratic base nor divide the party, as the push to cut Social Security will. (Every major progressive group has blasted Obama's Chained-CPI approach, gathered petitions, and even [threatened](#) to primary Democrats who vote for it.)

Two, one can't take an extremely reductive approach to the 2012 election: just because Obama won, every attack Romney and Ryan wasn't per se ineffective. The ferocity and frequency with which they attacked the \$700 billion in cuts suggests they had data showing it was costing Obama votes. Just because it didn't cost him *enough* votes doesn't mean it's a bad strategy.

Moreover, [polls show](#) that Chained CPI is horribly unpopular:

The AARP reveals that 70 percent of voters age 50-plus oppose the use of the chained CPI to cut benefits, and two-thirds of them – including 60 percent of Republicans — say they would be “considerably less likely” to support a congressional candidate if he or she backed a new way of calculating consumer prices. And 84 percent of voters over 50 say Social Security has no place in budget-deficit discussions, since it is self-financed.

You can't just brush that off by saying “Obama won in 2012.”

George Zornick last wrote about another new proposal in Washington that has left much of the country disappointed: the [gun control package](#).

Weekly Address: Sandy Hook Victim's Mother Calls for Commonsense Gun Responsibility Reforms

The White House

Remarks of Francine Wheeler The President's Weekly Address

Hi. As you've probably noticed, I'm not the President. I'm just a citizen. And as a citizen, I'm here at the White House today because I want to make a difference and I hope you will join me.

My name is Francine Wheeler. My husband David is with me. We live in Sandy Hook, Connecticut.

David and I have two sons. Our older son Nate, soon to be 10 years old, is a fourth grader at Sandy Hook Elementary School. Our younger son, Ben, age six, was murdered in his first-grade classroom on December 14th, exactly 4 months ago this weekend.

David and I lost our beloved son, but Nate lost his best friend. On what turned out to be the last morning of his life, Ben told me, quite out of the blue, "I still want to be an architect, Mama, but I also want to be a paleontologist, because that's what Nate is going to be and I want to do everything Nate does."

Ben's love of fun and his excitement at the wonders of life were unmatched. His boundless energy kept him running across the soccer field long after the game was over. He couldn't wait to get to school every morning. He sang with perfect pitch and had just played at his third piano recital. Irrepressibly bright and spirited, Ben experienced life at full tilt.

Until that morning. 20 of our children, and 6 of our educators – gone. Out of the blue.

I've heard people say that the tidal wave of anguish our country felt on 12/14 has receded. But not for us. To us, it feels as if it happened just yesterday. And in the four months since we lost our loved ones, thousands of other Americans have died at the end of a gun. Thousands of other families across the United States are also drowning in our grief.

Please help us do something before our tragedy becomes your tragedy.

Sometimes, I close my eyes and all I can remember is that awful day waiting at the Sandy Hook Volunteer Firehouse for the boy who would never come home – the same firehouse that was home to Ben's Tiger Scout Den 6. But other times, I feel Ben's presence filling me with courage for what I have to do – for him and all the others taken from us so violently and too soon.

We have to convince the Senate to come together and pass commonsense gun responsibility reforms that will make our communities safer and prevent more tragedies like the one we never thought would happen to us.

When I packed for Washington on Monday, it looked like the Senate might not act at all. Then, after the President spoke in Hartford, and a dozen of us met with Senators to share our stories, more than two-thirds of the Senate voted to move forward.

But that's only the start. They haven't yet passed any bills that will help keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people. And a lot of people are fighting to make sure they never do.

Now is the time to act. Please join us. You can talk to your Senator, too. Or visit WhiteHouse.gov to find out how you can join the President and get involved.

Help this be the moment when real change begins. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

2013, March 23

New Era

Mehran Tavakoli Keshe

In this letter I write in a simple style so that there are no misunderstandings and there is no need for anyone to interpret the meaning and purpose of releasing this information. This letter has the same meaning for all creatures of the Earth and in the universe, as it is simple enough not to be open to any misinterpretation and needs no headman to translate, elaborate or misuse the information for anyone else. Everyone will take from this letter according to their understanding of how to serve humanity and the universal community.

To achieve peace one has to find the essential causes of conflicts, then to go further one has to eradicate the roots of the problems so that these conflicts never occur again and everlasting peace in the mind, the home, the city, the nation, the planet and in the universe can be maintained.

In this letter as the founder of the Keshe Foundation, secondly as a human being and thirdly as a messenger of peace in these times, I see it as my personal responsibility to reveal the untold truth so that through it we find the main causes of most of the wars in past centuries on this planet. With understanding the causes and the roots of the problems, mankind as a family and collectively as a race moves into a new phase of peace and prosperity.

Let us call this day a new day and a new era for the race of man and make this entry under the title of a NEW DESTINY for mankind.

What does this mean today as on this day of 28 February 2013 the religious leader of one manner of worshipping the Creator known as the Catholic Church as a sect of Christianity and its head known as the Pope is resigning and with this act he is opening the path for the election of a new Pope.

Some men hope that the new Pope will bring a new hope of peace, not as the wish for one part of the human community but as a reality for all the people on this planet.

To start with a clean slate and work towards world peace and a world peace treaty, one has to put on the table all the present and past facts that have caused or instigated wars, and then sincerely do something about them so that no conflict can take root in the race of man ever again to lead to war, or to give anyone the opportunity to use these to start and incite wars of the future.

Otherwise the same misguided acts will repeat themselves and the same wars and conflicts will take hold in the future in different sections of society.

The aim of the New Era is the establishment of everlasting peace and abolition of the causes of war and of the production of tools of war to support these divisions and the claims to superiority of one race or school of thought or belief over another. As one eradicates the causes of war then one finds that there is no need to make the tools of war, and in peace time the energy and the intellect of man can be utilised to serve others and to add to his total knowledge of understanding himself, his environment, the creation and the Creator.

I would like to outline what has been wrong and what has to be corrected and what needs to be done so that the mistakes of the past will not repeat themselves and in the future there will never be among the race of man any ground to start a war on this planet or in the universe.

First of all let's be open and clean the house of the human family and understand the roots of number of past and current wars on this planet among different races, where all races of the man originate from the same mother.

One of the root causes of war on this planet for at least the past 1000 years has been the use of the name of God

and the word Religion.

Wars have been and even today are incited and fought for domination of one sort of religion over another, and in the attempt by the leaders of these so-called religions of God to find out which religion has more followers, so that through greater numbers, one religion can collect more money, assets and power through their various offices under the name of synagogues, mosques, churches, temples and so forth.

In fact, the best organised system among these with one central office has been Christianity, as Islam and Judaism have never achieved centralisation through their own fault of division and in-fighting.

Thus the name of God has been and is used to create division among men to gain more money and prestige for those who call themselves priests, imams, rabbis and so forth, to satisfy their insignificant self-wishes and desires under the pretence of the Holy name of God.

To have peace on earth there is a need to unify man's approach to this path of belief in the Holy name or any house for worship.

What does this mean? This means that from now on, one worships his own soul as he worships his so-called God or the Creator under different names and banners.

One's soul is itself connected to and is part of the soul of the Creator and the soul of other fellow beings on this planet and in the universe.

The soul of man is created through division of the same original source and through the accumulation and integration of the same fields which have been, are and shall be in motion in different strengths and positions in the universe.

From the beginning of time this process has led to the creation of different beings in different parts and times in the universe and neither the process nor time itself shall ever end.

This act of worship of one's own soul will bring about the result that man will not do harm to himself and through it he will not harm others.

Through this manner of living and thinking correctly about one's conduct, one avoids all problems for oneself and one's fellow creatures across this planet and the universe.

The commandment 'Thou shalt not steal' does not only mean physically stealing material things from another man's pocket, it also means robbing from a soul that which it needs to elevate itself to higher levels of perfection in all the realms of creation. Then when one steals from another, this act causes the loss for the soul of the victim too; thus the effect is two things, one physical and one for the soul of the victim.

However the soul is aware of the misconduct of its physical part and in turn the soul's interactions will punish the physical body, even the unseen crimes that are done in secret, as there is nothing hidden from the detached and perfect soul.

Then let us see how the name of the Creator has been used to harm so many people over the centuries in order for some few to attain and maintain privileged lives in the false name of God.

To maintain their position they get involved and they commit theft from other souls who are on the path of serving God, Allah, or any other name that man has chosen to call the original source of existence or the Creator. It is interesting that in different mother tongues the liquid of life man needs to exist has been called water, aqua,

abe, etcetera, and these different sounds that man has chosen to name the same entity do not change the essential life-giving attributes of this substance.

Then why should the name of the Creator of water be different when in essence it gives life to the body and the soul of man?

In recent years, in my banishment, exile and imprisonment in different forms in different parts of the world and by different nations and leaders of countries and religions, I became aware of one point, which is that the leaders of the world, whether religious or political, are not afraid of my knowledge but are afraid of what my knowledge will do in their time in bring their misconduct into the open and make them ashamed of what they have done wrongly to others in the false name of religion and nations.

Let me explain why I titled this part of this letter, **“New Pope, new hope”**.

Why this title?

The answer to this is very simple, since this name and title of Pope is a reminder of how the name of the Creator has been used for centuries through the office of different religions, not only to gather wealth, but to protect the abusers in this house under the name of the Creator.

The house of God has become the sanctuary for those who have been harming their fellow men with their misconduct, however this house or others like it may be named and however their abuse of the name of the Creator might be named or described.

Today, 28 February 2013, one of these wrongdoers of man is resigning under the cover of being unable to perform his duty as the leader of one of the houses of worship; but what is the truth about this sudden unprecedented resignation of the Pope?

Let us open the book of current world affairs, not for the leaders of the world but for humanity, and then we will look at the wrongs of the past later on in this letter.

The current Pope who is resigning today has been associated with a number of wrongdoings, mainly through the same supposed men of God who he has been in league with to rob and steal from the souls of others with their misconduct, and this should not be so.

Let me explain. The current Pope had to resign due to several facts which have been hidden from the public: first his name is directly associated with a number of individual and collective paedophilia cases in the USA, Canada and Ireland.

These indictments for arrest and conviction are on clear evidence in cases of priests who have been arrested and imprisoned by the authorities in different parts of the world and accused by the followers of these false men of God of being involved in inhumane treatment and abuse of boys and girls who were under their protection for the development of their souls.

The other point which is not known to the public is that the Popes have used all the money and the wealth that has been collected in past centuries in the name of God under the protection of priests in the houses of God to wage open and hidden wars on other religions and creeds, through encouraging and financing and waging wars using different nations over which they have influence, in order to keep the financial dominance of one religion over others.

Taking as example the war in the Middle East between Jews and Muslims in the recent past, these continuous

wars have been and are creating division between two religions that have lived peacefully for centuries alongside and among each other.

The Catholic Church has financed and incited wars so that during the fighting among two of its competitors, the house of worship of the Popes can show itself to the eye of the weak and common man as better than the other two and thus can gather more followers and consequently more income from those new followers.

These new followers will think that the house of the Pope is the best of the three and thus it can accumulate more wealth and power, through inciting conflict and financing these false wars using religion among the creatures of the Creator on this planet.

At the same time one can see how the same church has created a peaceful environment in the European Community, which the ex-president of France said was a Christian organization.

Thus if the Vatican can bring peace to its followers in Europe, why does it not use the same effort to bring peace to the rest of humanity, if the name of God is to be used in the right way?

Why should the European community of Christians be the cause of war between Muslims and Christians and Jews in other continents, by the European nations being the biggest producer of war machines and tools of war?

This pattern of behaviour and conduct has been used by the same house as it has accumulated more followers and wealth in Africa and South America and central Asia, where wars between religions initiated in the so-called name of achieving peace and the name of God have been financed by religious money from Vatican, under the banner and use of the USA, UK and other nations of the same belief.

At the same time, this superiority of world power through the Vatican and Christianity has been used in the context of nuclear technology in the recent past too, where, except for China and non-Christian India, the rest of the Christian nuclear powers nations have used their self-given rights of veto and false United Nations structure to stop any Islamic nation from attaining nuclear power, and they have made it to be the biggest crime if anyone except the Christian nations develops nuclear technology.

This is done in order to keep the exclusivity of nuclear power in the hands of the Vatican and its operating nations, and any attempt by any non-religious and non-Christian nation like Iran is declared to be a threat to world peace.

But in fact it is a threat to the power of the so-called the office of the Pope.

It is only threatening to equalize the balance of power if Iran and other nations achieve nuclear power technology.

Why do these Christian and nuclear club nations not use the same scientists and expertise to make the tools of peace and promote peaceful activity?

Why did a British Government figure travelling with a full team of several hundred military and arms experts recently make a special trip just to sell the tools of war to another nation in Middle East, only to the benefit the British workforce and no one else, while promoting itself as a peace-loving nation?

Why should a man ever touch these tools made by another man's effort that can end the life of another being, be it of man on Earth or other creatures of God in the universe?

Why has arms manufacturing become the fashionable exclusivity of mainly Christian nations, when it has been

said clearly, "Thou shall not kill".

Christians make tools of war and encourage others to use them to kill others so that in turn they can create profit for their nations out of the loss of life of others.

This is another type of murder and against the rules of God.

Why do the new Pope and other religious leaders of the Earth not organize a religious peace conference and enforce peace as the one and the only religious obligation?

Interestingly enough, why have Europeans nations taken the borders out of Europe in the past twenty years, so that there is no need for large armies and they are dismantling their armies, and meanwhile these nations encourage the sale of arms to others by promoting the protection of their borders?

In fact, there should be no borders, and the new technology we have released guarantees the abolition of borders.

National security has to be in the hands of a nation's police force and the name of the army has to be erased from man's vocabulary and language.

The word 'army' has to be buried in the grave of history along with the violent men of the past.

The word 'army' has to be deleted from the tools of peace, and arms manufacturing has to be abolished and be a punishable offence under every law in every land on Earth and beyond.

One of the facts not commonly known is that under the banner of a peaceful nation Switzerland was the biggest supplier of tools of war to the German army in the Second World War.

This so-called peaceful nation is the biggest arms manufacturer and supplier of the most horrendous war weapons that man has ever seen on this planet, and the red cross in its flag is the true colour of the blood this nation has adorned itself with from the deaths it has caused by supplying arms to kill others in that war.

The behaviour of this pretend peaceful nation brings shame to its name and embarrassment to the word 'peace'.

These acts of deception in manufacturing and creating tools of war and causing war among men of the same planet and in the universe have to come to an end.

This dishonest production of arms has to be stopped and replaced with peaceful activities, at once and not over a period of time.

In any case the new technology which we have released has made the present nuclear technology and the most advanced man-made technology of war obsolete, and if nations would like to see the power of this technology we are ready to display its power for total annihilation of all the arms that man has made over the centuries.

We will allow the nations that have the USB stick to show how amateur the current and the most advanced weapons technology and defence technology of the West have become, compared to the new spaceship program space defence technology developed for protecting man in space from its natural hazards.

This power has been shown several times in the past two years by governments that are peaceful by capturing the most advanced aircraft from sky like a falcon catching a fly in mid-flight.

With this new technology and by the use of one system alone, all borders, land and sea connections of any nation can be closed in order to keep out any shipping or air supply or land cargo of arms.

The economy of a country like the UK or USA can be brought to a full standstill of exporting or importing if one unit of the new technology is used to fly over the borders of these nations, as one can electronically disable all engines and communication modes of any ship, in the sea, aircraft in air and cars on land respectively.

Let's think and talk peace and act peacefully, and let the religious and political leaders of the world use their power and position to make arms manufacturing the most heinous crime that man can participate in, if they are true men and followers of the true God.

Killing is forbidden in all religions and from now on the man who manufactures the tools for killing another man under the banner of war, defence and retaliation has to be the most sinful man that ever existed.

Let us see who would like to be sent to the darkest points of the universe for thinking, designing, manufacturing and using weapons of war to kill another man.

In reality there should be no nuclear weapon technology in the hand of any nation or religion or its agencies under the banner of one nation or the human race.

How come that all the bad guys are Muslims and Jews while other followers of God in the name of Christian nations are the saviours, by selling arms to them to kill each other and staining their chosen tradition of worshipping the Creator.

Why should a nation pride itself on having the biggest financial income from the sale of arms, and be in competition to see who sells more arms to those who do not need them?

Once the tools of war are made, they have to be used, and this leads to more death and suffering and more damage to the souls of others.

In fact, the nations producing weapons have to incite more wars so that they can keep up their factories and employment.

So arms manufacturing needs wars to feed and keep it going, and this in turn brings more suffering to the one who uses them by killing someone's child or someone's father.

From now on the instigators of wars and producers of the tools of war bear part of the punishment for the killing and the same punishment in the eye of the Creator as the man who pulled the trigger to kill another man and disturb his soul.

Thus the crime of the manufacturers carries the same punishment as the crime of the one who pulls the trigger.

Similarly the punishment for the man who pulls the trigger to kill a man or his child is the same for the whole nation of manufacturing the arms and the tool which the killing is done with, because the income from selling the weapons goes to benefit that nation and its citizens.

Shame on the man, the organization and the nation that thinks, benefits, manufactures and pulls the trigger to kill another being.

Then let there be no more war, because one day the same intentions of killing others may cause an attack on the nation that produced the arms to start with.

Now that man has been warned of his wrongdoing in inciting conflict and manufacturing the tools of war, those children and beneficiaries who inherit the physical wealth created by these wrong actions shall also inherit the

punishment of their fathers' wrongdoing.

If the men of greed wish to leave a good name for their bloodline, they should consider that the same glory and the same shame will be inherited by their offspring and their souls.

So let us see who would like to put his dearest into the same turmoil of never-lasting peace of their soul in all the realms of creation through their physical thoughts and actions during their time of physicality on this planet.

Man needs to live, think and conduct himself correctly from birth to the physical grave, and has to teach himself correct behaviour, not only so that he himself does not fall for everlasting into the lowest levels of creation, but to make sure that the same shall not befall his fathers and his offspring.

Then there shall be no soul harmed or deprived by the wrongdoings of others for its natural progression to reach the highest levels to meet its Creator and, at the same time, as no one stirs up conflict, no one needs to create tools of war to harm others.

From now on, pride will come from being a true servant to all creation and not from being the biggest arms manufacturer in the world.

Similarly; those whose money is used to finance the shares of arms manufacturing companies and defence technology will sit on the same seat as the man who pulls the trigger to kill, since the shareholders benefit from the company's sales and dividends that they invested in for their income, whether through pension funds or as individuals.

Walking away from war has to become the habit of man, not for fear of punishment but out of pleasure in being able to elevate one's soul and others to higher levels by receiving the blessing of their soul.

Let this be a lesson for those who try to justify inciting war and making the tools of war.

Then again why does the Vatican not use its influence for bringing peace by being and inciting peace in accordance with the thoughts, the actions and work of the blessed Christ (the peace of God be on his soul)?
***** [where Tara ended on April 11]

In the eyes of the eighty percent of the Earth's population who are not followers of Christ, Christians are mainly involved in arms manufacturing and promoting their sale; hence, Christians under the banner of whichever sect are known as "the merchants of death".

This is exactly opposite to why the Christ (blessed be his name) gave and sacrificed his life. It is the responsibility of the new Pope to change the operation of the Christian community in being the merchants of death, if he is to fulfil the wish of his prophet the Christ (most holy be his name).

Thus the title of "New Pope, New hope".

I do not need to write about the abuse of the name of Mohammed (God's peace be on his soul) as this has been well recorded in the pages of history of the past centuries.

Even his name is used to incite more killing as if it is man's right to kill in his name.

Where he only brought about the destruction of statues so that man would worship only one creator, then the man of greed and power used this thought of destroying statues to kill other men.

Mohammed (peace be on his soul) has said that the punishment of thief is the amputation of his finger and hand, then what is the punishment for killing another man in the name of the same prophet?

Nowadays killing in his name has become rewarded by a plastic key to the gates of heaven, and this is the gate of which God?

The God that has promoted peace and unity, the God that has given the life of a son to bring peace to this animal nature of man who looks for different ways to prove and emphasis his personal ego in the name of himself, his nation and his religion, though in fact he serves no other man and GOD but himself.

Now it is Muslims who are always the wrongdoers, before it was the Jews and before that it was the Communists and so on.

So in fact the wars of the past centuries and the recent past have been because of religions wanting superiority in gathering more wealth through donations from people who thought that their contributions every day of the week and the year were to be used for the good of fellow men and for bringing peace to them.

But in fact their contribution has bought more weapons and financed more wars than any other source on this planet.

The fact is that the message of 'new Pope, new hope' is applicable not only to the followers of God in the name of Christianity, this should be the same behaviour with all religions and sects and their leaders on this planet.

In actual fact there is no money left in the vaults of the Vatican Bank, and again only through an act of the same Pope who has resigned under suspicious circumstances.

When the German Cardinal became Pope seven years ago, in one of his first acts he made himself the head of the Vatican Bank, and immediately transferred all the reserves of the second biggest bank in the world to the central bank of Germany, as the same central bank transfers to Germany were done by the so-called European Union treaty as a pre-condition to start off the Euro as a currency.

But this time the Vatican money was used to support the losses of the western Christian governments that have lost everything in recent years through the market and bank failures.

This was done to preserve the superiority of the so-called Christian European governments in the present financial troubles in Europe and the USA.

The initial reason for the transfer of the Vatican's wealth to the central bank of Germany in the first days of the new Pope coming into power was to avoid paying the large claims in the court cases in the United States and Ireland and around the world for the priests who have abused children.

So when the international court claims were served on the Vatican to pay these heavy penalties for the wrongdoing of its priests there were no physical funds left to pay them. Because of the deception the money was already gone out of the bank and it never came back, and now it is totally lost in supporting other wars and governments and its and their financial failures in the banking systems.

In fact, the only assets left for the Vatican on paper are nothing more than a few lands that have not been already borrowed on to the hilt to run the affairs of broken systems. But in reality the finance of the church is hidden under the banner of a bigger war to come.

Thus new and extensive wars are needed to create more followers and wealth for the new Pope to maintain his

power.

By our consent, this war shall not be allowed to happen and if they start it then there will be an end to the love of God for this sector of men. As Mohammed (Holy be his name) banished the Jews for their crime against Christ (blessed be his soul), then there shall be a worse punishment for the Christians if they wage another war or incite war as they have done and as we explained above.

It took the Jews centuries to regain their freedom and this time there shall be none if the path of war is chosen by any nation and religion, be it Christian, Muslim, Jew, Communist, or any other way of worshipping oneself in materialist separation of school of thought.

Thus the Pope's resignation announced in February is a protection building procedure so that no one can be blamed.

This man has taken refuge in another house of God and according to him he will not see anyone and will not talk to anyone anymore, so supposedly he cannot be asked about the truth.

My call is simple: for a fair, equal and lasting peace among men of the planet. If an African president could be taken from the seat of presidency to the international court tribunal in the Netherlands for trial for crimes against humanity and using child soldiers for killing and raping and looting, the crime of a man in the robe of God is more heinous than that of this president.

Thus the man has to be investigated who has committed a crime when he was trusted by people leaving their children and fiancés in his hands and those of his priests, and he has to be punished in the same court and be judged by other followers of other ways of worship in the world and not be judged by his own followers in these courts.

The Hague should not become the court of the white skin for shaming the followers of other religions and races, it has to take action against all men of wrongdoing in every realm of power, be it political, military or religious.

Put the man on trial, like the African president and the central European leaders of the late nineties who were sent to the same international court, and if all evidence clears him then let him be set free.

Otherwise shackle this man to the walls of the prison until the last breath and erase his name from the list of the Popes after the true men of service like John Paul, the last real Pope seven years ago, who served man in the name of God.

The problem is that the atrocities committed in the name of religion have given strength to the abusers and followers of the religions too, and as they see the leaders of their so-called belief doing wrong and getting away with all wrongdoing, so they follow the same misconduct, thinking that they will never be caught.

This means that there are leaders and kings who have done wrong and have had their religion and religious apparatus to protect them.

These leaders and kings under cover of political or diplomatic protection have to be subjected to the same laws as everyone else.

This means that if they have the duty to protect their nationals and in this process they have abused their position, by killing, raping (boys or girls), killing children for their personal ego and sexual pleasures, as some have done and still are doing, these leaders and kings have to stand in the court of The Hague immediately so that they do not even get a chance to escape or commit false suicide.

These leaders and kings have to be put on trial in The Hague and treated like other men and if they are found to have committed these crimes, then they should be punished more harshly than normal people in the street.

If the father of a family kills or rapes his children for whom he is responsible, nowadays and in the past such a father has been beheaded or imprisoned. So it should be no different with the father of a church, mosque or synagogue, a president or king or queen who abuses their position to harm the body or the soul of a child or another fellow creature.

Let me explain a few of these cases. One of the reasons why the Keshe Foundation has been under such pressure in Belgium has not been so much from the political sector, but from those who use the political apparatus to enrich themselves and fill their pockets. But these people have had the protection of a man who is the most criminal man on earth.

There are more than fifty cases of child abuse and killing of children in international courts in his personal name, but he is protected by the Vatican, and at the same time shunned by other royal families of Europe for his conduct.

He has not been seen at any royal functions in Europe for years and the people who have protected him are using his weakness to fill their pockets with the wealth of the nation.

I do not mention his name as writing it would bring shame to my pen of truth, but if you want to know him and his cronies, please read the Belgium press between 15-18 January 2012 and full pictures and full four pages of it.

He has been to public functions only twice in the whole of 2011 as the other members of the European royal families and political leaders of the West are aware of his conduct of rape and killing and keep themselves and their children away from his presence.

In fact what I have written earlier is not far from reality for the Jewish tribe too, who should have learned from their suffering of the centuries and specially the last century. In being given a land to call home, instead of making a home with friends in Palestine, they chose the name of God to create more wars and killing among their neighbouring countries.

Our hope was that they would have learned what it means to be banished from home and have your life savings confiscated, as was done to them in the Second World War.

We thought that this would have shown them to be correct and to not do what you do not like to be done to you.

But on the contrary we have seen nothing but the worst done by this tribe to others and to neighbouring countries as was done to them in the last centuries.

Thus again those who use the name of God do so to cause more suffering for their own benefit, as has been said.

We have seen these too openly in the news of past years and it is too shameful to repeat the atrocity using the holy name of Mohammed and his teachings, just as has been done by followers of Moses and Christ. The same can be said about the followers of Mohammed (blessed be his name), those who have used his name and teachings for their own financial gain, in killing and looting other believers' property and lives under the Holy name of Allah.

We have seen these too openly in the news of the past years and too ashamed to repeat the atrocity using the holly name of Mohammed and his teachings, the same as has been done by followers of Moses and Christ.

One faith is not lesser than the other in inflicting suffering on their own followers and others.

Abuse by man of his fellow men has been the same over the centuries under different names and banners, and all have brought suffering to the physical body of man, but not to his soul.

The soul of man is born pure and everlasting; it needs no ties and no affiliation to the Creator as it is part of the Creator and the created, the link between the tangible and extra-dimensional; it exists in eternal tranquillity, abundance, enlightenment and peace.

Finding everlasting peace is only attainable for man in a single way and manner, and that is by the name of the Creator becoming the focus of unity of the race and not of the division of souls.

The opportunity for peace as it is in hand now has not arisen by chance, it marks the moment when the intelligence of the majority of this planet's inhabitants has reached the level where they can not only support themselves but can assist, aid and give time to teaching their fellow men to reach a new level of collective comprehension of the totality of the world of existence, and not be limited to the life of a hermit race of man on this beautiful island of Earth in the ocean of the joyful life of the universe.

Service to mankind and others comes from and with the comfort of thoughts and peace for the body and the soul, and now that we have opened the gates of universal knowledge to man, it is time for man to take the leap of trust in his soul, the Creator and himself, and to release himself from the shackles of materialistic life, which is not worth it and does not last.

The call to the sons of Adam is simple: gather in unison and take the flight of reunion in the realms of creation, as this time is destined, not by your choice but by divine grace, to release you from the pains of self-inflicted earthly bondage.

The ones who call yourselves rulers and kings and religious peers, you have lost your seats unless you have taken the seat to serve the good of man, as has been promised.

The time has come when you the wrongdoers and misusers of the trust of man shall face your destiny and there shall be no mercy, whatever you have thought of your actions.

You know within yourselves and in time your own souls shall bring you to the level where you deserve to exist in the realm of creation.

Thus from now on there shall not be punishment by man or God, but self-regulation of one's greed and desires, which will allow service and creation of peace for all creations of God in all realms of creation in all dimensions of the universe.

The time of fire and hell is over, but the time of fear of one's self not reaching the ultimate unity of souls and the Creator is the new Earth order, and in fact is the universal law of existence.

Blessed are those who understand the hand of knowledge and the oceans of abundance of the food of the soul, and are not afraid of the unknown; as the unknown is part of one's own fear of being just and fair to himself and others in the realms of physicality or of intangibility.

My call is simple to the men of power and to the destitute alike: assist each other so that in unified physicality you reach the unification of your souls, and thus as one flower you can ascend to new levels of understanding the truth about yourself, your unified soul and the Creator of the universe and universal cosmos.

Man has spent enough time fighting for water, for pleasure, for blocks of dust of the Earth and for position,

status and wealth, which are nothing but the dust of this smallest of all planets and speck of dust of the universe called home.

Unify in serving each other and through this you shall find the key to the mysteries of creation and open the door that has kept you away from reunion with others of the same in the realms of the soul and the intangible.

My call from my physical form and the new paradise of freedom is simple: to free you from the bondage of physicality and you shall find peace in serving the souls of others.

My call to the new Pope, Islamic religious leaders, Jewish rabbis and other leaders of faith, tradition and world leaders is simple: please sign your faith and your followers and your nations, not on paper, but in action and deeds for everlasting world peace and the world peace treaty, and in turn we shall open the door of abundance, peace and tranquillity to your followers as we shall do and have done to other men and creatures of the universe.

This same call goes to the other leaders of religions and beliefs and paths of enlightenment on Earth: put aside your hierarchy of golden palaces and temples which in the name of the Creator serves the creator of the shadows of nothing.

Ask your flocks to think all the same way and in the same manner, to serve and not to look for returns and payment, as the service will bring the souls to assist the physicality to find peace and through it to free man from the physical shackles of needs to satisfy his self-love, self-satisfaction and self-gratification.

I am servant to all in all dimensions of creation and not only to man, and in truth the true believers of service in all realms of creation shall understand the position and height of closeness I have offered this tribe of man to reach, if he decides to unify in serving his fellow men and others in the universe.

Let us take an example of a land and the maturity of its people. Iran used to be an empire and through that it learned that war is not the solution for its subjects. Thus the Iranians have stayed away from the war machine for over three hundred years, but they have defended their fellow countrymen with collective unity even though they belong to many tribes and cultures.

Now it is time to take the example of Iran and Iranians and bring the same to the human race.

The other causes of conflicts in the past and present time:

The other main cause of the wars on this planet has been pride in one's colour of skin, tribe and race. The false thinking that one race is better than the other just because of the colour of their skin has been used to enforce their so-called superiority, which has caused long term resentment and conflicts in the race of man.

In reality all men have come from one mother and one seed, and all have dispersed to secure their existence in the environment of the Earth according to where they live.

Being black and moving from the warmth of Africa has made man's skin change colour to white as he has moved away from the equator.

This change of colour has not made any difference to his internal organs and way of operating his physicality.

As with the earlier example of water and religion, why should the colour of skin or the language be the cause of prejudice and hate and wars and conflict?

The whole of the human race is from one source and in future we shall show the process of its creation from the

essence and origin. We as a race are from one seed and one mother, so what is the point of this racism unless one is ignorant of one's own creation and not proud to be a human?

People in the West and around the world go and buy different flowers to adorn their homes with bouquets of different colours, shapes and scents of these beauties of the Earth, so how come they do not see the beauty in the variation and culture of their own race?

Shame, shame and shame to those most feeble in mind who manifest this prejudice of race.

Let these prejudices go as soon you will cling to the smallest signs of man in the vast ocean of creeds and races of the universe with their most beautiful source and shapes and colours. Be proud to be from the race of man, and be known not for separation and division, but as the ones who know how to love and adore each other and all of the universe's creation.

A further point to clarify:

It has been raised in private and in public and on the forum of the Foundation if I am the prophet or a promised one and if my peace treaty document about the status of scientists makes me a prophet.

My answer to these questions, which have been raised among my family and by close friends for years and now public, is very simple.

The answer clearly and irrevocably is: Yes. I am a messenger and a messenger of science and through its power a messenger of peace.

In the passage of time the prophets of the past appeared at a time when the human race needed to attain a new understanding of what was to come.

Their Holinesses Mohammed, Christ, Moses and the rest all appointed the time of the return of the promised one as the time of peace and milk and honey.

In fact the time of the prophets of Earth had come to its end long before the time when I declared my position, as the prophets they promised have been prophets for the race of man and his time on Earth which was fulfilled long before this time in the last century.

My job and mission is guiding and teaching man so that he can finally join the rest of the creations of the Creator in the universe.

Our jobs as prophet of the man and messengers of universe are clearly separate and have different criteria and objectives. The prophets of man never spoke of the reunion of man with the universal community as this was not their appointed duty. Even though they were aware of the existence of both dimensions, man at their time was not ready for such a transformation and knowledge.

Now that man is ready, it is our clear job and duty as the universal messengers with full knowledge of the working of the universe and its society to guide man through this narrow channel, full of opportunities for things to go wrong: one being in opening of the universe to man and the other in guiding the man with the interaction of man with the universal community.

It is our job as universal messengers to prepare man for the unification in an orderly and correct manner even though not all men will understand this initial stage.

For this reason we have started to correct the mistakes of science in the books released initially, and now we are ready to take you through to the universal community.

But the universe is a peaceful place and there is no room for aggression and war.

So the nations of Earth have to find peace among themselves and then enter the universal community as mature people.

This is the responsibility that I have accepted in my soul. My physical body has no importance to me, as my wish and thoughts shall be carried through. Peace on earth shall become a reality in a short time, and if need be we have the knowledge and the power to enforce it if the world leaders and religions would like to see the power of our will.

Those who would like to see to believe, have to stand the pain of its power too.

The prophet of man is for the guidance of earthly beings and earthly knowledge, but as the duty of a universal prophet my job is the unification of all the races in the universe.

As universal prophets we are more informed about the total structure of the working of the universe and universal coexistence, and as guardians it is our job to see that all creatures of the Creator are served and reach the same level of understanding of their creation and science, so that one race cannot abuse another due to its lack of knowledge.

Thus as I have started the true basic teaching of the correct science, in due course and already I have started teaching of the soul and of the correct conduct of man in the universal community as we prepare man for this imminent event when he takes wing into space beyond Earth and in the universe with the rest of the universal community.

Some of the men who have been open to this message have already understood and started to behave correctly so that in the future their conduct in the universe will be appropriate.

The promised Day of Judgement is a matter of one's daily behaviour and the consequence of the balance of the souls who are affected by the conduct of the physicality.

In the earthly religions of the past, the day of judgement was seen to be the ultimate time and in truth the time of departure and separation of the soul from its body or the time of physical death, where in reality the only point left for the soul at the time of death is to find its position according to the physical behaviour of its counter-body in the time of its physical life in the realms of other entities in the universe.

So the man who has conducted himself correctly and received more of the blessing or parts of souls of others will have a higher position and stronger fields that enable his soul to interact with the higher level and more effective souls that serve in the rest of the universal community.

In the act of giving one's blessing, this is the act of giving a part of one's own existence, as blessing comes from thoughts and thoughts are energy based.

Thus there shall be no hell and no heaven, but a clear station where one's soul will be positioned and operate in the universal order.

That is why we say pray for our parents up on their passing to guide their souls to higher elevation than when they were here on earth, as the existence of the soul has no time and dimension and their soul still can receive

part of our soul through our prayers.

This is like the birth of a child from a mother, where the child born to a mother in the slums will live with the same and the child born in a palace will live in a similar community with nobles in physical life.

To go from one society to another is still possible in the realms of the soul, as one can attain enough through receiving blessing from others from serving humanity so that, at the time of passing, the soul of the man in a slum can and will attain a higher position than the sum of the souls of all princes and kings in the sinful palaces of the kingdoms.

Thus my mission is clear, and that is not to create division among men as they have done enough of that by themselves, but to make ready and create the conditions where man can soon rejoin the universal community for the final time in an orderly and correct manner with correct conduct and behaviour and knowledge.

Blessed are those souls who understand, comprehend and become part of the peaceful universal community, for the creation of greater peace in the universe and not a lesser peace only on this planet.

Has ever been and shall ever be.

Mehran Tavakoli Keshe

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2013, April 12 Bishop Thomas Gumbleton Speaks Out For Sexual Abuse Victims; Reflects on Lifetime of Activism

Guests: [Bishop Thomas Gumbleton](#), former auxiliary bishop of the Detroit Archdiocese.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: We begin today's show by looking at the ongoing sexual abuse scandal plaguing the Catholic Church. Newly elected Pope Francis recently made his first public statement on the issue. The pope ordered the Vatican to, quote, "act decisively as far as cases of sexual abuse are concerned, promoting, above all, measures to protect minors, help for those who have suffered such violence in the past (and) the necessary procedures against those who are guilty."

But outside groups, including the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests, have questioned the pope's actions. While serving as cardinal in Argentina, Pope Francis was criticized for failing to meet with abuse victims.

Just in the past week, a number of new revelations about sexual abuse in the church emerged. On Sunday, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia permanently removed three priests from the ministry, including one whose accuser killed himself after his allegation was dismissed by church officials. Meanwhile in Austria, authorities have charged a defrocked priest with sexually abusing 15 children as head of a Catholic boarding school.

AMY GOODMAN: We're joined now by Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, the former auxiliary bishop of the Detroit Archdiocese. He's been a vocal supporter of victims of sexual abuse within the Catholic Church. In 2006, he revealed he was sexually abused by a priest as an adolescent while in the seminary. Last night, Bishop Gumbleton spoke here in New York at a benefit for SNAP, the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests.

Bishop Gumbleton has also been a leading voice for peace, justice and civil rights for decades. Bishop Gumbleton is a founding member and past president of Pax Christi USA and a founder and former president of Bread for the World. Since becoming a bishop in 1968, he has traveled throughout the world calling for an end to war and the abolition of nuclear weapons.

Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, welcome to *Democracy Now!*

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Thank you very—thank you very much.

AMY GOODMAN: It's great to have you with us. You spoke last night here in a church in New York not far from where we're sitting right now, and you said you daresay a Catholic church would not have allowed you to speak there.

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Yes, and that because, ordinarily, SNAP, or the Survivors Network, is not welcome in Catholic churches, on Catholic premises, which I think is wrong, obviously. There are people who have been victimized in very cruel ways within the church, and instead of pushing them away, I think bishops and church leaders should draw them in and welcome them and truly listen to them. From the very beginning of this crisis, I think the Catholic bishops made a huge mistake in turning it into a legal situation, going to their lawyers right away, because that immediately becomes adversarial. That's the way our justice system works. So, the victims now become the enemy. And instead of dealing with them in a pastoral, loving, welcoming way and trying to help heal what's happened to them, they get pushed away. And that gets carried out in something like being not allowed to speak on Catholic premises.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: Bishop, I'd like to ask you, in terms of the impact of this almost unending series of revelations about abuse in the church, it has to be the biggest crisis in Christianity since Martin Luther launched the Protestant reformation, in terms of the overall impact on the entire institution of the church. I'd like to ask you, first, what's been the impact on ordinary parishioners and Catholics, how they see the institution, and also the enormous economic toll that this has taken on the entire church, as you see Catholic schools closing in parish after parish, and properties being sold off, while the church pays off these huge settlements?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, the impact, I think, most of all, has been a sense of—on the part of

the Catholic people, the general—the people who come to church every Sunday, is, first of all, they've lost a sense of confidence in church leadership, and so the moral credibility of the Catholic bishops has diminished a great deal. And so, that means that when they speak on other issues, the impact of their statements is far less than it might have been if they were accepted more as clear, authentic moral leaders. And it's also contributed to the fact that so many people have walked away from active participation in the Catholic community. Thirty million is a number that one research group has put forward that have left active participation. They don't consider themselves as not being Catholic any longer, but they're not there every Sunday anymore. They're not quite so willing to listen to the bishop or the pope when either speaks. And that's a big loss for the church.

As far as economics are concerned, the closing of Catholic schools, I don't think, is impacted by this. There are so many other reasons why that's happening. But the Catholic Church has not been wanting for funds for a long time. And I'm not concerned about the fact that because of the way this whole crisis has been handled, the church is having to pay out huge sums of money. That's not good, but a good part of it is covered by insurance, too. So, when the bishops speak about not having any funds to cover their social programs and so on, that isn't a reality. So many of those programs actually are funded by government sources, too. So, that doesn't ring true to me that we're going to not be able to do what we're supposed to do. The church doesn't need to be a rich, very wealthy, corporate type of institution.

AMY GOODMAN: We're going to go to break. When we come back, I want to ask you about Pope Francis, the direction he will go in, and also talk about why Bishop Gumbleton is no longer a bishop, not even a parish priest, how he was forced out. This is *Democracy Now!*, democracynow.org, *The War and Peace Report*. Back in a minute.

[break]

AMY GOODMAN: "Cristo Redentor (Christ the Redeemer)," the legendary jazz trumpeter Donald Byrd. He died in February. This is *Democracy Now!*, democracynow.org, *The War and Peace Report*. I'm Amy Goodman, with Juan González.

The group Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests, or SNAP, has questioned Pope Francis's commitment to addressing clerical sex abuse of minors. In a statement, the group said, quote, "Actions speak louder than words. And one of the first actions Pope Francis took was to visit perhaps the most high-profile corrupt prelate on the planet, Cardinal Bernard Law, who remains a powerful church official despite having been drummed out of Boston for hiding and enabling crimes by hundreds of child molesting clerics." Again, that was the statement of the group SNAP.

Our guest is Bishop Thomas Gumbleton. Your thoughts on this first action of Pope Francis and overall what he

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, first of all, I didn't quite catch what that was.

AMY GOODMAN: This was a statement of SNAP. They were deeply concerned that one of the first actions of Pope Francis was to visit Cardinal Bernard Law.

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Oh. Well, I would agree with them that that was not a very good thing to do if he's deeply concerned about the sex abuse crisis. But I feel that we still have to give him a bit more time to see how he will handle it. Once he's read the reports that have been put together by the committee of cardinals that were to investigate what has been going on in the curia, and once he becomes more fully aware of the universal situation rather than what he dealt with in Argentina alone, I hope and definitely pray that he will be much more forthright in trying to deal with the root causes of this crisis, which that has not been done up to this point in any diocese that I'm aware of or in the universal church.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: And I'm wondering if you could talk some about your own personal experience in terms of, one, coming to grips with how deep the crisis was in the church over sexual abuse, and the resistance of the leadership of the church to dealing with it directly.

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, what really opened my eyes was when a friend of mine—in fact,

the person who started SNAP—came to me and asked me to intervene with the local bishop, because the priest who had abused her, and who had also abused other people that she was aware of, was still functioning. And I said, "That's impossible."

AMY GOODMAN: You were the bishop of Detroit, and he was in Toledo.

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, I was an auxiliary bishop in Detroit. But I was a friend of Barbara Blaine, the founder of SNAP, from decades—for decades. And when she came to me and told me this, I said, "Well, I'll go see the bishop, and I'll talk to him, and I'm sure he's not going to continue to keep this covered up." Well, I went to see him, and he assured me, "I'll do something about it. I'll take care of it." So I took him at his word, but nothing ever happened. And so, that made me realize that some of the, well, best bishops around were not dealing with this issue the way it needed to be dealt with. I mean, it just was terribly wrong to allow a priest to continue to function in a situation where he could abuse other children. And it turned out he was still abusing other people. And so, that—

AMY GOODMAN: The priest was.

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Yes, and the bishop was allowing this to go on. And I just found that totally reprehensible and incomprehensible. It just didn't seem to me to be how we needed to act. And so, I became very adamant in the determination to try to do what I could within the bishops' conference to change this and to support people like the survivors who belong to SNAP and all other survivors besides.

AMY GOODMAN: So talk about what led to your ultimate ouster?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, now I'm still a bishop, not—but I have no administrative authority. And I was technically, at this time, still the recognized auxiliary bishop of Detroit. But when I spoke before the Ohio Legislature to support a bill that would allow for what's come to be called a window of opportunity in regard to the statute of limitations, the bishops of Ohio were very, very angry and went to the papal nuncio to report me, in a sense, because I had publicly spoken out against the policy that was their policy, and I'm an outsider coming from Michigan and speaking in Ohio, although I don't think boundary lines like one diocese or another would prevent anyone from speaking about issues that affect the whole church. I mean, I don't think that you should be barred from speaking in one diocese or another. But they were very angry about it.

And so, within a week, I had received word from Rome—the nuncio went to Rome—and that I must immediately resign as an auxiliary bishop and/or they would resign me, force me out. And so, I accepted that, because I was already a year past the normal age, 75, and I had no hesitation in resigning that. But I did not want to give up my parish, where I had been pastor for 23 years, and—but that was added in. And I still do not understand why someone in Rome, the head of a curial office, should be able to tell the archbishop of Detroit who may or may not serve as pastor in the archdiocese. But the archbishop accepted this directive from Rome and forced me to resign from the parish also.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: And when you say you reached the normal age of 75, the church has regulations, much like the federal courts do, that when you reach a certain age, you have to—you retire, unless you're given permission to continue to function in certain—

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, yes. The canon law says a bishop at the age of 75 will request to resign. But it doesn't say "must." It says that would be the the normal thing. So, I had not done it, and it was over a year, so at that point I felt there's no sense in trying to struggle to stay on, because it didn't—wouldn't change my ministry much as a bishop, anyway, because I was not serving in an administrative function within the diocese. And so, I was doing pastoral ministry, and still do, and celebrating sacraments with people, including confirmation, which is normally a sacrament celebrated by the bishop. And I still do that, but I do not have any administrative responsibilities.

AMY GOODMAN: So you testified before the Legislature to extend the—

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, actually, they didn't hold the hearing that day, but I had prepared a statement, and the statement went out to the media. And, of course, it got circulated. And in it, what really caught

attention, it was the first time I had spoken about my own experience of being abused. And the reason I brought that out, not that I was looking for some kind of sympathy or anything, but only because I wanted to let the legislators know that victims simply cannot immediately come forward. Well, there may be a few, but generally speaking, you're so overwhelmed by it, and there's always the possibility of feeling maybe it was my fault and, you know, that he was a good priest; why would he do something evil? Well—and also just embarrassment, confusion. You can't speak about it.

AMY GOODMAN: What happened to you? What did you describe?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, it was a typical thing. The priest took me and another classmate to his cottage.

AMY GOODMAN: How old were you?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: I was 15. I would have been in the beginning of the 10th grade, I think. And I'd just turned 15. And he tried to attack me. But he—you know, I was able to fight it off, but it was still a very difficult situation to experience a priest trying to do something sexually wrong, you know, against a person like myself.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: I'd like to ask you also—you have been outspoken over the decades on issues of war and peace and the role of the—of our own government in the world. Could you talk about how your decisions to be so outspoken and such an advocate against nuclear weapons, against the war in Vietnam?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, when I became active regarding the nuclear weapons issue, that was in the period of the early 1980s, late '70s, early '80s, when the nuclear freeze movement was happening in this country. And there was outrage around the world against nuclear weapons. So, it wasn't something unique that I, as a bishop, would be part of that, because it was common. And even within our bishops' conference, there were many other bishops at that time. And as a result of that, the fact that so many were opposed, that's when we wrote a pastoral letter called "The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response." And it was a pastoral letter that was promulgated in 1983 in May and actually caught attention from the media around the world. And so, I was, at that point, part of a mainstream effort on that issue, especially.

Now, on the Vietnam War issue, which I had become an opponent of a bit earlier, in the late '60s and early '70s, there were a large number of Catholic bishops that were opposed there, too. And so it wasn't so extraordinary that I was speaking out. In fact, in 1971, we passed a resolution in the U.S. Catholic Conference of Bishops which stated, "Whatever good we hope to achieve by this war in Vietnam, that good has been surpassed by the evil that we're doing," which that—that's one of the criteria for a just war. So we were in fact saying, "This war is not just." And that was 1971, kind of late in the day, but still, we did make that statement.

And I've continued to feel very strongly about the need to speak out against war and violence. And here again, I feel I'm, in a sense, in the mainstream, at least as far as on this issue. Pope John Paul II has issued—or did issue statements that I use, time and time again, that are as strong and as clear against nuclear war, but even conventional warfare. He said at Hiroshima, when he visited there, that has to become a part of the past, the tragic past of human history. In other words, we can never let this happen again. And he's spoken clearly on that. At the end of the first Persian Gulf War, he wrote a document that's one of the most authoritative teaching documents in the church, in which he says, "I, myself, on the occasion of the recent war in the Persian Gulf, repeated the cry, 'Never again war!'" He goes on in that document to say why we have to say no to war today. And so, I feel, on those issues, I'm very much in line with the official teaching of the church.

AMY GOODMAN: Bishop Gumbleton, Monday is Tax Day, April 15th. What do you think of war tax refusal, war tax resistance, refusing to pay taxes that go to war?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: I feel strongly that that would be one of the things that people should try to do. Now—and, in fact, for the most part, I haven't been paying federal taxes for a number of years. But I can do it because I don't need much income, and so I can stay under the level where I'm taxed.

AMY GOODMAN: You haven't paid federal taxes because?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Because I feel a good portion of those taxes goes to our war budget, which is our so-called defense budget, but it's really a war budget. It's the largest of any nation in the world. And years ago, Pope Paul VI said the arms race—and that's what we are doing with our defense budget—is, in itself, an act of aggression against the poor. Using that money for weapons and strategies to use them is taking money away from the poor and causing them to starve. We should be using our natural resources and our wealth to promote development and to promote justice in the world. When you have a world where there's such a gap between the rich and the poor, and such huge numbers suffering because of that, the church has a real responsibility to use whatever income it can bring to—I mean, our nation has a responsibility to use its income to help development happen, because that's the basis for peace.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: And one area where you're not necessarily in the mainstream of Catholic doctrine is on the issue of homosexuality and the church's attitude toward gay marriage. Could you talk about that, as well?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, first of all, I understand what the church's teaching is. And when I speak about the issue, I always make clear what the church's teaching is, that—and it's spelled out in a document that we published back in the 1990s, the Catholic bishops of the U.S., called "Always Our Children," and where we were trying to reach out to the homosexual community and say, "You're part of us. We want you to be part of our church," and also to speak out to their parents and families, who were sometimes having great difficulty knowing how to interact with their own children. So we published that document trying to say that—you know, the fact that homosexuality is not something chosen, that this is part of the person, who the person is, and therefore, you can't talk about these people as being intrinsically disordered. And even Cardinal Dolan recently said about homosexual people, "You're part of us. You're made in the image and likeness of God." And yet we draw the line at homosexual activity.

But there, something else can come into play. And that is, no one can judge the conscience of any other person. And homosexual people have to deal with who they are, how they express intimacy and love. And I am sure, based on the teaching of the church, also that, before anything else, a person's own individual conscience gives guidance to how that person must act, and no one can interfere with that. And that's teaching that goes right back to the beginning of the church. And a few years ago, before he was Pope Benedict, Cardinal Ratzinger made a statement that said that primacy of conscience can ever be violated and that no one can say to another person, "You have sinned." That's within that person's conscience. It's between the person and God, and no one else can interfere with that. So, people who discover themselves to be homosexual have to grapple with this and try to determine how their sexuality enters into their personhood and how they integrate who they are as a person with what they realize is their sexual tendencies. And when they come to their own clear, conscientious decision—and that isn't, you know, you just do whatever you feel like doing. To make a conscientious—a decision of conscience like this, it requires a deep reflection, prayer, entering into communion with God, listening to the Scriptures, listening to church teaching, and also developing a relationship with a spiritual guide, who helps you to determine what God is saying to you in your conscience. And so, it's a process that people take very—need to take seriously, but then once they've done that, someone else can't say, "You're wrong." That's their conscience decision, and it's between each person and God. And no one—and that's church teaching. And so, how individuals deal with their homosexuality is something that we have to respect.

AMY GOODMAN: Bishop Gumbleton, your brother is gay?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Yes, yeah, right. And that was a very difficult thing, when he came out.

AMY GOODMAN: Is he your younger or older brother?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: He's my youngest brother. There were nine of us in the family. I'm number six, and he was number nine. But the thing I remember about that, you know, trying to deal with it, is, when he came out, it was very troubling to my mother. My father was already deceased, but my mother was having a very difficult—great difficulty with it, although I wasn't sensitive enough to be aware of it. And she was in her eighties at that time, mid-eighties. And so, she was concerned. And one night when I was home and she was talking to me, she asked, with great, well, difficulty—I mean, I could see she was deeply troubled—and she said to, "Is Dan going to hell?" And that's what was troubling her. She—because of what she had heard from

the church all these years. And that's—you know, she couldn't—I know, would not have died in peace if she was convinced he was going to hell. And so, that's a terrible thing to do to a parent. And it's not necessary.

AMY GOODMAN: What did you tell her?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Pardon?

AMY GOODMAN: What did you tell your mother.

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: I said, "No, he's not. God made Dan the way Dan is. It's not something Dan chose. And so, God is not going to send Dan to hell because he's a gay man." And I'm convinced that's the truth.

AMY GOODMAN: How do you deal with the Catholic Church taking such strident positions on homosexuality, on women's reproductive rights, women's right to choose, and yet hiding the ongoing international pedophilia scandal?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Their credibility on these other issues is damaged and greatly diminished because they have this deep wound within the church that has not been dealt with adequately and is far from being healed. And so, the church has to do much more to try to understand more deeply the whole question of sexual integration and personhood and how sexuality works within every person and so on. We're not experts in that field, and so we need to learn and to bring a deeper awareness of the complexity of the whole thing, before we make definitive statements in regard to homosexuality.

AMY GOODMAN: What—go ahead, Juan.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: Well, I was going to ask you, in terms of a whole other issue, is of the—we now have a new pope who comes from the Third World, from Latin America. You've traveled to Latin America on many occasions over the years. And one of, of course, the much-debated issues in the church in Latin America has been the role of liberation theology and of the role of the church in the social movements that developed and the progressive movements that developed in Latin America. Your sense of liberation theology and the conflict that priests who were advocates of liberation theology had with the church institution as a whole?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, some priests did. There were many bishops that also were very involved in the liberation theology movement and continue to struggle to have that be accepted within the church. And—excuse me—ultimately, liberation theology was not condemned in an outright fashion. There was one document that was published, but then bishops in Latin America went to Rome and debated the subject with officials in the Roman Curia and with the pope, and a second document then was published that agreed that liberation theology could certainly be followed within the church.

But the main concern of Pope John Paul II, and Cardinal Ratzinger at the time, was that it not become a Marxist ideology. And liberation theologians are not Marxists, but sometimes they use Marxist analysis to try to understand the socioeconomic situation of their people, just the way Thomas Aquinas used Aristotelianism to understand or to articulate some Catholic teachings on the basis of that philosophy. He didn't say, "I'm an Aristotelian," but he used those ideas to articulate Catholic teaching. So liberal theologians use sometimes Marxist analysis to help them describe what is happening to the people who are suffering because of the economic situation in which they find themselves.

AMY GOODMAN: You visited Lori Berenson a number of times in Peru with her parents, a young American peace activist who was charged with conspiracy around terror issues, a charge she totally denied, charged—convicted in a hooded court. She remains on parole in Peru, can't leave until 2015 to leave the country permanently, Peru. Why is that issue important to you? Why did you go down to visit her in prison?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, her parents asked me to go. And she had been active in El Salvador in the struggles there, and I had met her in El Salvador when I was also becoming more involved with the situation of the civil war that was going on there. And it was—I went down there to be on the side of the theologians and the pastors and the bishops, like Archbishop Romero himself, who were on the side of the poor. And she was there for that reason, also. And that's where I first met her.

So when she then later was working in Peru and she connected with one of the guerrilla movements—and insists that she never was a member of it, but she did work with them and interact with them. And I'm not sure whether she actually did commit a crime or not, but she was being treated in a very harsh way and did not seem to have had a fair trial. And so I went with her parents to try to—well, just like Pope Francis went to visit the people in jail a couple of weeks ago, well, you go to visit people in jail, and you try to understand their situation and help them in whatever pastoral way you can. So that's what I was doing with Lori Berenson, and hoping that there could be another trial and that she would be vindicated. But she's still under parole situation now.

AMY GOODMAN: We have to break, but when we come back, I want to ask you about what's happening in your own city, in Detroit, the issue of poverty in America, also ask you about women's right to choose and your reflections on your—on the Catholic Church and where you want to see it going, what you think the pope should be doing.

We will be doing an interview after the show to talk about what's happening in Guantánamo, and we'll post that at democracynow.org. This is *Democracy Now!* We'll be back in a minute.

[break]

AMY GOODMAN: This is *Democracy Now!*, democracynow.org, *The War and Peace Report*. I'm Amy Goodman, with Juan González. Our guest for the hour is Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, the former auxiliary bishop of the Detroit Archdiocese and a leading voice for peace, justice and civil rights in the United States, founding member and past president of Pax Christi USA, the American Catholic peace movement, also a founder and former president of Bread for the World, traveled throughout the world calling for an end to war and the abolition of nuclear weapons. A survivor of child sexual abuse, he's spoken out on behalf of victims of sexual abuse within the Catholic Church.

You've also, Bishop Gumbleton, advocated for the full participation of women in the church. I wanted to ask about the "Nuns on the Bus," those who are calling for reform of the church, and also ask you about women's reproductive rights. Your view on contraception and abortion, Bishop Gumbleton?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, on abortion, I certainly stand with the idea that it's evil and immoral, a crime to kill an infant, even in the womb. And the killing of any human person, I am convinced, is evil and wrong. I believe in what Eileen Egan, a peace activist who helped Dorothy Day at the Catholic Worker, developed the idea of a spectrum, a seamless garment. If you're going to be against violence, you have to be against all violence. And so, if abortion is an attempt to bring about a violent solution to a very complicated problem, I don't think a violent solution is the right solution.

AMY GOODMAN: And the woman who makes that decision, does that make her evil?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, again, I can't judge the conscience of another person. And here, too, you have complications about exactly when does a fetus become a human person. And the Catholic teaching is that we really don't know, but you have to take the safer course. Now, someone might feel that in certain circumstances, because you don't know, the safer course might not be the right course. But I would not make—and, you know, as a man, I don't really have, you know, the kind of insight into all of this that women would have, and so I can't speak definitively.

AMY GOODMAN: And contraception?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, there, you know, in 1968, in a pastoral letter, the Catholic bishops of the U.S. published a statement that was called "Human Life in Our Day." And in it, we appealed again to conscience and that people might see that contraception is—the guilt of it is diminished to the point where there is no guilt, because of the circumstances. And again, we were appealing to the need to allow people to make their own conscientious decisions in this regard.

JUAN GONZÁLEZ: Bishop, I'd like to ask you also—your parish, for many years, was in inner-city—is in inner-city Detroit, and so much of the black community in the state of Michigan now are in municipalities or localities that have been brought under state control, and essentially all the democratic rule has been stripped

away from them. Detroit itself is now in a form of receivership with the state. Could—

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: Well, we have what the state law calls an emergency financial manager. But that person has almost dictatorial powers, because he can determine how money is going to be, well, raised, but also spent, and in fact change contracts for—this is one of the reasons labor unions wanted not to have this happen, but to have more negotiation, because he can actually just change contracts and lower wages, and that does seem to me to be wrong and anti-democratic. And the mayor does not really have authority any longer, City Council, people who were elected by the citizens. Now it all revolves around this one person.

AMY GOODMAN: Bishop Gumbleton, we only have a minute. Continuing from Juan's question, 35 percent of Detroit households get food stamps, just as one example. One in three residents live in poverty. In this last minute, your statement on the issue of poverty in the world?

BISHOP THOMAS GUMBLETON: It's not necessary. That's my number one point. People do not have to be poor. We could build an economically just system whereby we could bring about a better distribution of the wealth within our country, within any city. But we really have to work at that, and we have to be open to some new ideas and ways of—well, if I use the word, people will be upset, but redistribution of wealth, that has to happen. We have to move the wealth from the rich to the poor and not allow a situation where the rich get richer all the time and the poor get poorer. That's wrong.

AMY GOODMAN: I want to thank you very much for being on this show, for your life service, Bishop Gumbleton. Bishop Thomas Gumbleton, former auxiliary bishop of the Detroit Archdiocese and leading voice for peace, justice and civil rights in the United States.

That does it for the show. I'll be at—in [New York University tonight](#), NYU Cantor Film Center at 6:00 with *Democracy Now!*'s Sharif Abdel Kouddous and *Egypt Independent's* Lina Attalah, for a discussion about the current state of affairs in Egypt.

2013, Ap 13 **Five Hundred Years of Injustice~ The Legacy of Fifteenth Century Religious Prejudice**

by Steve Newcomb

When Christopher Columbus first set foot on the white sands of Guanahani island, he performed a ceremony to "take possession" of the land for the king and queen of Spain, acting under the international laws of Western Christendom. Although the story of Columbus' "discovery" has taken on mythological proportions in most of the Western world, few people are aware that his act of "possession" was based on a religious doctrine now known in history as the Doctrine of Discovery. Even fewer people realize that today - five centuries later - the United States government still uses this archaic Judeo-Christian doctrine to deny the rights of Native American Indians.

Origins of the Doctrine of Discovery

To understand the connection between Christendom's principle of discovery and the laws of the United States, we need to begin by examining a papal document issued forty years before Columbus' historic voyage. In 1452, Pope Nicholas V issued to King Alfonso V of Portugal the bull *Romanus Pontifex*, declaring war against all non-Christians throughout the world, and specifically sanctioning and promoting the conquest, colonization, and exploitation of non-Christian nations and their territories.

Under various theological and legal doctrines formulated during and after the Crusades, non-Christians were considered enemies of the Catholic faith and, as such, less than human. Accordingly, in the bull of 1452, Pope Nicholas directed King Alfonso to "capture, vanquish, and subdue the saracens, pagans, and other enemies of Christ," to "put them into perpetual slavery," and "to take all their possessions and property." [Davenport: 20-26] Acting on this papal privilege, Portugal continued to traffic in African slaves, and expanded its royal dominions by making "discoveries" along the western coast of Africa, claiming those lands as Portuguese territory.

Thus, when Columbus sailed west across the Sea of Darkness in 1492 - with the express understanding that he was authorized to "take possession" of any lands he "discovered" that were "not under the dominion of any Christian rulers" - he and the Spanish sovereigns of Aragon and Castile were following an already well-established tradition of "discovery" and conquest. [Thacher:96] Indeed, after Columbus returned to Europe, Pope Alexander VI issued a papal document, the bull *Inter Cetera* of May 3, 1493, "granting" to Spain - at the request of Ferdinand and Isabella - the right to conquer the lands which Columbus had already found, as well as any lands which Spain might "discover" in the future.

In the *Inter Cetera* document, Pope Alexander stated his desire that the "discovered" people be "subjugated and brought to the faith itself." [Davenport:61] By this means, said the pope, the "Christian Empire" would be propagated. [Thacher:127] When Portugal protested this concession to Spain, Pope Alexander stipulated in a subsequent bull - issued May 4, 1493 - that Spain must not attempt to establish its dominion over lands which had already "come into the possession of any Christian lords." [Davenport:68] Then, to placate the two rival monarchs, the pope drew a line of demarcation between the two poles, giving Spain rights of conquest and dominion over one side of the globe, and Portugal over the other.

During this quincennial of Columbus' journey to the Americas, it is important to recognize that the grim acts of genocide and conquest committed by Columbus and his men against the peaceful Native people of the Caribbean were sanctioned by the abovementioned documents of the Catholic Church. Indeed, these papal documents were frequently used by Christian European conquerors in the Americas to justify an incredibly brutal system of colonization - which dehumanized the indigenous people by regarding their territories as being "inhabited only by brute animals." [Story:135-6]

The lesson to be learned is that the papal bulls of 1452 and 1493 are but two clear examples of how the "Christian Powers," or "different States of Christendom," viewed indigenous peoples as "the lawful spoil and prey of their civilized conquerors." [Wheaton:270-1] In fact, the Christian "Law of Nations" asserted that

Christian nations had a divine right, based on the Bible, to claim absolute title to and ultimate authority over any newly "discovered" Non-Christian inhabitants and their lands. Over the next several centuries, these beliefs gave rise to the Doctrine of Discovery used by Spain, Portugal, England, France, and Holland - all Christian nations.

The Doctrine of Discovery in U.S. Law

In 1823, the Christian Doctrine of Discovery was quietly adopted into U.S. law by the Supreme Court in the celebrated case, *Johnson v. McIntosh* (8 Wheat., 543). Writing for a unanimous court, Chief Justice John Marshall observed that Christian European nations had assumed "ultimate dominion" over the lands of America during the Age of Discovery, and that - upon "discovery" - the Indians had lost "their rights to complete sovereignty, as independent nations," and only retained a right of "occupancy" in their lands. In other words, Indians nations were subject to the ultimate authority of the first nation of Christendom to claim possession of a given region of Indian lands. [Johnson:574; Wheaton:270-1]

According to Marshall, the United States - upon winning its independence in 1776 - became a successor nation to the right of "discovery" and acquired the power of "dominion" from Great Britain. [Johnson:587-9] Of course, when Marshall first defined the principle of "discovery," he used language phrased in such a way that it drew attention away from its religious bias, stating that "discovery gave title to the government, by whose subject, or by whose authority, the discovery was made, against all other European governments." [Johnson:573-4] However, when discussing legal precedent to support the court's findings, Marshall specifically cited the English charter issued to the explorer John Cabot, in order to document England's "complete recognition" of the Doctrine of Discovery. [Johnson:576] Then, paraphrasing the language of the charter, Marshall noted that Cabot was authorized to take possession of lands, "notwithstanding the occupancy of the natives, who were heathens, and, at the same time, admitting the prior title of any Christian people who may have made a previous discovery." [Johnson:577]

In other words, the Court affirmed that United States law was based on a fundamental rule of the "Law of Nations" - that it was permissible to virtually ignore the most basic rights of indigenous "heathens," and to claim that the "unoccupied lands" of America rightfully belonged to discovering Christian European nations. Of course, it's important to understand that, as Benjamin Munn Ziegler pointed out in *The International Law of John Marshall*, the term "unoccupied lands" referred to "the lands in America which, when discovered, were 'occupied by Indians' but 'unoccupied' by Christians." [Ziegler:46]

Ironically, the same year that the *Johnson v. McIntosh* decision was handed down, founding father James Madison wrote: "Religion is not in the purview of human government. Religion is essentially distinct from civil government, and exempt from its cognizance; a connection between them is injurious to both."

Most of us have been brought up to believe that the United States Constitution was designed to keep church and state apart. Unfortunately, with the Johnson decision, the Christian Doctrine of Discovery was not only written into U.S. law but also became the cornerstone of U.S. Indian policy over the next century.

From Doctrine of Discovery to Domestic Dependent Nations

Using the principle of "discovery" as its premise, the Supreme Court stated in 1831 that the Cherokee Nation (and, by implication, all Indian nations) was not fully sovereign, but "may, perhaps," be deemed a "domestic dependent nation." [Cherokee Nation v. Georgia] The federal government took this to mean that treaties made with Indian nations did not recognize Indian nations as free of U.S. control. According to the U.S. government, Indian nations were "domestic dependent nations" subject to the federal government's absolute legislative authority - known in the law as "plenary power." Thus, the ancient doctrine of Christian discovery and its subjugation of "heathen" Indians were extended by the federal government into a mythical doctrine that the U.S. Constitution allows for governmental authority over Indian nations and their lands. [Savage:59-60]

The myth of U.S. "plenary power" over Indians - a power, by the way, that was never intended by the authors of

the Constitution [Savage:115-17] - has been used by the United States to:

- a. Circumvent the terms of solemn treaties that the U.S. entered into with Indian nations, despite the fact that all such treaties are "supreme Law of the Land, anything in the Constitution notwithstanding."
- b. Steal the homelands of Indian peoples living east of the Mississippi River, by removing them from their traditional ancestral homelands through the Indian Removal Act of 1835.
- c. Use a congressional statute, known as the General Allotment Act of 1887, to divest Indian people of some 90 million acres of their lands. This act, explained John Collier (Commissioner of Indian Affairs) was "an indirect method - peacefully under the forms of law - of taking away the land that we were determined to take away but did not want to take it openly by breaking the treaties."
- d. Steal the sacred Black Hills from the Great Sioux nation in violation of the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie which recognized the Sioux Nation's exclusive and absolute possession of their lands.
- e. Pay the Secretary of the Interior \$26 million for 24 million acres of Western Shoshone lands, because the Western Shoshone people have steadfastly refused to sell the land and refused to accept the money. Although the Western Shoshone Nation's sovereignty and territorial boundaries were clearly recognized by the federal government in the 1863 Ruby Valley Treaty, the government now claims that paying itself on behalf of the Western Shoshone has extinguished the Western Shoshone's title to their lands.

The above cases are just a few examples of how the United States government has used the *Johnson v. McIntosh* and *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia* decisions to callously disregard the human rights of Native peoples. Indeed, countless U.S. Indian policies have been based on the underlying, hidden rationale of "Christian discovery" - a rationale which holds that the "heathen" indigenous peoples of the Americas are "subordinate to the first Christian discoverer," or its successor. [Wheaton:271]

As Thomas Jefferson once observed, when the state uses church doctrine as a coercive tool, the result is "hypocrisy and meanness." Unfortunately, the United States Supreme Court's use of the ancient Christian Doctrine of Discovery - to circumvent the Constitution as a means of taking Indian lands and placing Indian nations under U.S. control - has proven Madison and Jefferson right.

Bringing an End to Five Hundred Years of Injustice to Indigenous Peoples

In a country set up to maintain a strict separation of church and state, the Doctrine of Discovery should have long ago been declared unconstitutional because it is based on a prejudicial treatment of Native American people simply because they were not Christians at the time of European arrival. By penalizing Native people on the basis of their non-Christian religious beliefs and ceremonial practices, stripping them of most of their lands and most of their sovereignty, the *Johnson v. McIntosh* ruling stands as a monumental violation of the "natural rights" of humankind, as well as the most fundamental human rights of indigenous peoples.

As we move beyond the quincentennial of Columbus' invasion of the Americas, it is high time to formally renounce and put an end to the religious prejudice that was written into U.S. law by Chief Justice John Marshall. Whether or not the American people - especially the Christian right - prove willing to assist Native people in getting the Johnson ruling overturned will say a lot to the world community about just how seriously the United States takes its own foundational principles of liberty, justice, and religious freedom.

As we approach the 500th anniversary of the *Inter Cetera* bulls on May 3 and 4 of 1493, it is important to keep in mind that the Doctrine of Discovery is still being used by countries throughout the Americas to deny the rights of indigenous peoples, and to perpetuate colonization throughout the Western Hemisphere. To begin to bring that system of colonization to an end, and to move away from a cultural and spiritual tradition of subjugation, we must overturn the doctrine at its roots. Therefore, I propose that non-Native people - especially Christians - unite in solidarity with indigenous peoples of the Western Hemisphere to impress upon Pope John Paul II how important it is for him to revoke, in a formal ceremony with indigenous people, the *Inter Cetera* bulls of 1493.

Revoking those papal documents and overturning the *Johnson v. McIntosh* decision are two important first steps toward correcting the injustices that have been inflicted on indigenous peoples over the past five hundred years. They are also spiritually significant steps toward creating a way of life that is no longer based on greed and subjugation. Perhaps then we will be able to use our newfound solidarity to begin to create a lifestyle based on the first indigenous principle: "Respect the Earth and have a Sacred Regard for All Living Things."

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Steve Newcomb is an American Indian of Shawnee & Lenape ancestry. For over a decade, he has studied the origins of United States federal Indian law and international law dating back to the early days of Christendom. He is currently completing a book on his findings titled, *Pagans In the Promised Land: Religion, Law, and the American Indian*.

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