

Back to the future: The possible direction of things to come.

There is much talk in 2012 of the end of the world, while this has nothing to do with the true expression of the Mayan Calendar there is definitely change in the air. But if we set aside the so-called “positives” and “negatives” what is there between the altruism and the totalitarianism? Recently several films have depicted the possible destruction of humanity in years to come, most notably “The Road” in 2009 and also “The Book of Eli” in 2010. Much of this comes from a “Mad Max” (1979) expression of a world either faced by disaster or of humans’ own self-destruction and these have been the staple concern.

Outside of the possibility of being totally annihilated by asteroids or by shifts in planetary-solar alignments etc., what seems most likely on current evidence is that humans will make the world an increasingly uncomfortable and impossible place in which to live. If we look at the situation of the human living or dying there are two possible key areas where a problem can originate, either internally or externally or a mix of the two. The same applies to the planet. If we for a moment consider the things that are external to the global expression, such as impacts from Space or alien-invasion, there is little we can do to avoid/prevent these, and in a sense one can be philosophical about these possibilities.

However, the dis-ease of the human is an internal process and has nothing to do with the climate or anything other than a dis-connection from senses and it is this disconnect which is the fundamental basis of dis-ease. But humans can’t really “do” anything about this, as we know you can’t convince a person of something if they don’t feel it themselves, and also why would you want to convince them? Who does that help? What is “help”? Very often the so-called “healthy people” are telling the so-called “sick-people” they are wrong and “we are right”, and so the whole process of dualism continues ad infinitum. Some people declare “altruism is good for you” because it stimulates the process in the body which makes you feel connected to a cause or to a group. Any kind of belief system will always draw this out, from a belief in the religion of science to a belief in Christ and mother Mary. No matter what the idol is, it’s still an idol. But animals have no idol, they have no beliefs, or altruism or totalitarianism, no veganism or vegetarianism, no sexuality with which they need to label themselves, in fact no requirement for anything at all. Tony Parsons calls this “total poverty” which it absolutely is from the viewpoint of the human onlooker who has “self” and so “has it all”, or even “knows it all”. It is the internal dis-ease of the human I am going to speak about in this article. I’m going to suggest that aside from changes that may affect the planet as a whole, which many will term “natural disasters”, the actual fundamental natural disaster that is already occurring is the nature of the human-condition.

But where this will eventually take us? As it stands there is a very large proportion of people who are so stuck in the sickness of “self” that any alternative seems impossible. This stuckness, which is utterly blameless, is the main staple of the industrial culture. This “individualism” is a focus on aggressive seeking for something that “I need” but of course there is an impossibility of being able to find it. Even so there is a fuel-driven push to find it with the words “SURVIVAL” heavily tattooed across the head. This is nothing to do with the innate sense of the human essence, which is simply a wild-animal or an infant, it just wants to eat and play and

sleep. The nature of the industrial-based-thinking person takes up a huge proportion of the world, probably 90% of the adults. This is therefore a very large proportion of people thinking in a very similar way, not necessarily with a lot of financial backing, in fact some of them live in total poverty. However all have the same mentality and the same dis-ease of being caught in the ideology of fearful “survival” and individualism. This type of energy is born of the city, it is the city energy and the country is a holiday destination only. By the way, much of what we call “alternative medicine” and new-age philosophy actually belongs to this section of people, who in fact are just as much part of the same rat-race ideology, caught up in hierarchical and male-dominated politics and who bring to the table the belief that *“this is just how the world works and we have to eat somehow”*.

The transitionalists are groups with a foot in both camps, who are basically finding it really hard to live with the head only. They know there is something underneath this so have made the “sacrifice” of moving more towards the country and have localized into a town-based community, into a social atmosphere that is often about a very gradual attempt at localization. They are often part of the “system” and have jobs that pay well, but are trying to get out of these, though they don't feel courageous enough or sufficiently able to let go of the ideas of “individualism” to really “go bush”. They love the countryside but also like hot running water. They don't like the idea of a compost toilet or digging the ground for food, because after all not everyone wants to be a farmer! So this is a transition, in a way the brakes of “ambition” or seeking are on but still there is still a move towards acute altruism rather than the totalitarian state. They love the idea of Avatar or the Matrix but also have to deal with tax and the mortgage just like “everyone else”. There may be perhaps 9% of the world adult population within this state a present, which is quite a significant number, considering they are involved in different projects and processes all over the world. These comprise people who are actually quite elderly, who long for a return to the ethos of communities they remember from their younger days, and also those younger people who can feel the stress of the rat-race and don't want to be fully part of it. This is especially true as they are starting to have kids and don't want them to “go through what they went through” and therefore send them to alternative education like Steiner schools and also are very much involved in alternative medicine.

There is then the alternative movement, and these people are again not specific to economic status, who are basically slowing down the process of seeking, they have let go of the idea of ambition and are gradually becoming what some will call hippies, others may call “bums”. These people are sensing that the current process and mentality of the world is fundamentally impaired and they somehow want to shift things to revert back to a more tribal-based society, so they try to form groups who will do this and are particularly ignoring the massive majority of what is going on around them. Very often these people are seen as radical, but they are not altruists or populists of any kind, actually they have stepped out of the wheel of “advertising” altogether, eschewing any requirement for institutions, schools or methodologies for learning, essentially they are beginning to slow down or stop. Some of this group are actually people sitting on park benches, not because they “choose” to do so because there is actually no “choice”. It just seems the most obvious thing to do, because there simply isn't anything else they “want to achieve”, the whole idea of achievement or “saving the world” or “passing on the message” seems alien. They seem unable to ignore the senses the body and are drawn inwards to the deeply local sense of the

body. This can also involve those who struggle with addictions like alcoholism or drugs with severe depression, but for no “reasonable” cause, simply because they realise that life doesn't need to be so goal-orientated, their processes are in a way a rejection of everything they have been used to in society and a movement towards a sensory bodily experience, even if this is quite aggressive or severe. This is a kind of anarchism. This section of people is perhaps 0.9% of the adult population. (Please see the brilliant “La Belle Verte” / “The Beautiful Green” by Coline Serreau <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-yIZNXnd6Y&feature=related>)

It's very difficult to tell how rare this last group is, but these people probably comprise about 0.1% of the world's adult population. We could describe their expressions as being within those of the human-animal or the human-infant. These people include the indigenous or tribal peoples still remaining today and the few within the Western populations from which the “self” has simply let-go, (see Tony Parson's at <http://www.theopensecret.com>). Because they have let go the sense of “self” this group is no longer sensing a state of being “individuals” and in a certain way can't really be called “people”. This allows for a situation of *being*, without dis-ease. This occurs very likely with peoples in the deepest jungles of the Amazon who have no concept of “self” and within that very different form of language which is subtly beyond the muffled senses of the modern human, words such as “time” or “space” simply do not exist. Please note that there are possibly 2 billion children in the world, which is a massive percentage of the world total population, but it is the adults who are the issue here, which is why I have not counted the children. However the children are part the above group, or at least the children under the age of 3, after this age they quickly gather and follow the adult momentum as a general rule, but before 3 they are completely natural.

The situation therefore is that fundamentally 90% of the world's adults (these are true “adults” energetically in the perception they have of themselves), are reliant on oil as its main fuel and this is required to perpetuate its ambition and dis-ease of seeking. However this process for certain cannot go on for much longer. With oil running low it is likely for the high proportion of the world with the mind-set of survival of “self” beyond anything else, there are going to be huge problems when this fuel runs out. The dis-ease is like a fire and the process of either totalitarianism of power or an altruism of power, be it the fascist revolution or the communist revolution of the far right or far left, becomes all about politics. This is fuelled by the “self” wanting to make things “better” for “me”, even if the word “everyone” takes the place of the word “me”, which for many altruists, it does.

This 90% will live out an existence akin to the “Mad Max” experience or the expression of “The Road”, this bleak outlook is about the difficulty of things not being as they were when oil was plentiful, but rather about a situation where all this runs out and yet the mentality of the dis-ease stays exactly the same, nothing shifts. So this could well be the problem for 90% of the world's adult population and many of them will form the kind of “kill or be killed” attitude now expressed in some of the more militaristic ideas that are increasingly popular in America, such as CollapseNet, so when the collapse comes “I'll be ready!” It is an extremely threatening world that these 90% live in and have always known, with or without oil this is a living hell, in fact very similar to that which is depicted in “Mad Max” and “The Road”. For a large percentage of the population there will very likely be starvation, civil war and

conflicts and numerous related scenarios, all associated with seizing power and control of resources that are inexorably dwindling.

However outside of this the 9% of adults (we might call them “youthful adults” energetically) in the transitionist movement will have formed some kind of community, although their whole process of transition may be far too slow and will likely be deeply affected if not completely derailed by the huge surge of difficulties of the 90%. It really depends how long the fuel lasts before “crisis” sets in.

The position of the 0.9% of radical adults (we might call them energetic “teenagers”)/ alternative people will likely be clearer, they will possibly be more in touch with understanding how to live and communicate together as tribes or groups and have a sense of the optimal size these groups need to be in order to function. They will have no altruistic goal to achieve and will have localized down to a scale which allows them to deal with what they need. However these people may also find themselves caught up in and unable to deal with the conflicts of the other 99% of the adult population of the world because their expression is not necessarily one of attack or aggression and just as wild animals have been colonially hunted down so the process of destruction of the gentlest expression of humans may also go this way.

The last group of the very few 0.1% of the adult population (these are energetically “children” or “infants”) which are simply more animal-like or infant-like and for whom there is no struggle can live comfortably in any situation but will likely and instinctively try to find areas that are more covert, instinctively seeking out situations where they can live out an existence which is simply hidden and not publicized or expressed as making a statement. They live because they can navigate around things rather than fall into direct conflict with things or be in the way of things. This is how the tribal peoples of the world have survived colonial intervention for centuries and some still exist, simply because they stayed out of the way or hid amongst the trees. This is the most clearly logical thing to do especially when faced with problems on such a large scale. Therefore the uncontacted tribes of the Amazon and the other indigenous peoples of the world and those people for whom “self” is no longer an issue live in Eden and as such simply respond to what’s going on instinctively and appropriately.

Dylan said in his prophetic “The times they are a-changin” - “...and the loser now will later win....” In fact there are no winners or losers here but there is a counter-balance, and the position is that those people who are connected to the 5-senses and have localized to the body rather than the ideal, know instinct rather than what they have been taught, they know life itself rather than only the dream of “me”. These people are the expression of health and very little of this expression actually exists in the world, it is only a very, very few who are actually without dis-ease.

At the end of many altruistic books there is often the statement: “*the decision is yours*”, or “*life or death hang in the balance*”, but actually there is no decision, nature is in control of the whole thing. Nature is not involved in altruism or totalitarianism, it grows the way it does and it’s just what it is. When humans by nature come to this realisation then this is clear because something has awoken within, this occurs by-nature not by an act of intention. The whole point is that humans can’t fix this, they have to see that nature doesn't need “fixing” and that it can

provide and express all that is required, actually there isn't anything for the human to "do". We don't need to convince each other of anything, nor do we need to change the environment to "make it better" or change the diet to make it "healthier" what is more intrinsic than any of these things is what comes simply in every moment. There are 5-senses constantly occurring right now. When these become interesting and are felt naturally all the rest falls into place, all there is, is what is happening and sensed right now. This is in itself a direction which no-one is directing, it's just happening (see the work of Douglas Harding <http://www.headless.org>).

Ancient medicine and understanding originates from a point of "I don't know" and is based therefore on pure observational and sensory data. In modern science the point or premise is actually "I know" (although they will try to convince you otherwise) and that "knowing" is all about dualism in the background which skews all the results to see the wood but not the trees. That ancient knowledge as far as agriculture goes is expressed in modern times as permaculture and this expression almost beyond all others is the realization of the modern human that sustainable agriculture only occurs when we don't "do" anything to make it work but rather that we find what there is and use it. We let go of nature or of trying to control it, like a water droplet trying to control the sea, instead an acceptance occurs and then there is just flow. Instinct isn't an option, it is all that we are, it isn't something we get to choose, we don't choose the expression that comes forth from the body, or life or death, right or wrong, all of this is a mental game. When the arrogance of "self" dies down a little the deeper realization is that there is no "survival", there is just simply living.

The problem however is that the 99.9% of adults is a large percentage and the tidal wave of their discomfort and difficulty may kill off huge sections of the population. Those who are left will be the ones who need to be free and alive, who have health and feel connected to the earth and these will be the indigenous populations of the world. There will be a few scattered hidden pockets of people who are instinctive and non-cerebral who will "inherit the earth". Just as Christopher Ryan author of the brilliant book "Sex at Dawn" explains to us, there is no answer to the difficulties of relationship between people today because simply it is non-instinctual and a very cerebral-based connection, so too is the nature of all of life today, *there is no answer*. For those who read this and get a sense that because it's not telling you what to "do" and it's "pessimistic" and who feel that in fact there is something important to "do" about the state of the world, they will continue striving to "do" this. Those who feel there is "no point in being ambitious" will not, and also those who are living in connection to nature will never read this and anyway would have absolutely no interest in it.ok... ok... you don't need to be "natural" for that!

David Nassim
24/ 4/ 2012