

The Lie of World Politics

By David Jamison

WORLD POLITICS IS a dangerous game being played on two levels. On the bright side is civic statesmanship, military security, and communal organization. We call this side “nation-states,” and it currently dominates the course of human events. On the flip side is the black-market world of extralegal dealings and backroom warlords. This is known as “the criminal underworld,” which is a very appropriate name because it operates in symmetry and collusion with the statehood apparatus. In Zoroastrian mythology, the sky-god Ahura Mazda waged an endless war with evil, Aingra Mainyu. His victory or defeat depended on how many humans lived rightly, thereby giving him the strength he needed to conquer the forces of darkness. This concept has mutated and germinated in our cultural consciousness to the degree that almost every religion and creed since has adopted the notion of a battle between good and evil. The civic apparatus has it that they are Mazda, waging an eternal battle with the underworld. But this interpretation of reality is a lie, friends and family, and I urge you to reject it flat-out and foremost.

It has become quite clear that there is no eternal struggle. The spotlight of contemporary mass media has illuminated the fact that presidents and generals operate in BOTH theaters of battle: In the

one, they make with the crowd waves and gladhands, brandishing copies of international law and innate human ethics; in the other, they make shady deals and pacts of nonaggression with thugs, justifying their crimes in the name of the Greater Good and brandishing weakness and fear like mighty tridents. Now we have instead Mazda fighting evil with one hand while putting money in Satan's pocket with the other.

And we are told that we need civilization to keep these drug-dealers and mafiosos and vampires from walking into our living rooms and luring our children into the darkness with mellifluous pipings of candy and toys. They have it that the men of the underworld are evil because of their very "underworldness" and that legitimate institutions – corporations, the broadcast media, and such – are actually forces of light, making our lives richer and more steeped in promise. Furthermore, they have the audacity to tell us "that's just the way it is" and that we must just accept it, as if national boundaries weren't wholly a creation of old men who conspired to hoard and subjugate; but rather that really somewhere, deep in the dirt, the soil KNOWS ITSELF as Pakistan, or Canada, or Surinam, and has only been waiting for man to recognize it as such. And so we go on, generations living and dying under the lie that it is in our best interests to give up our identities as citizens of the earth and align ourselves with a polity no matter what harm may come to the planet or ourselves.

This lie is corrosive and insidious by virtue of the fact that it runs right against the very reason that urban centers were developed in the first place. Cities and civilization were created about 10,000 years ago to give humans a greater sense of security, to centralize food distribution, and to serve as centers of religious worship. In practically every tribal society that rose on the banks of the earth's oceans, citizens divided themselves into three classes to oversee these arenas: (1) Priests (the church); (2) Warriors (kings); and (3) Farmers (you and I). For many years, priests ruled the world, inspiring and terrorizing with, alternately, philosophical maxims and visions of divine retribution. But always running underneath it was the worm of corruption, inspiring things like the buying of church offices, warmongering, simony, and religious persecution. Popes made deals with neighborhood thugs (then known as Visigoths) to keep the peace and restore the flow of commerce, and would it hurt you to say a "Hail Mary" now and then? When the Republic of Venice encroached on land owned by the church, Pope Julius even suited up in armor and rode at the head of papal military forces to put them down. During its 800-1200 Golden Age, the Muslim empire was run by Turkish thugs, emancipated slaves who turned the spiritual leaders into puppets through military might.

And though the common knowledge was that the church was the only way for people to forge a relationship with God, it was always

really a disempowerment tool, a system designed to teach people to stop relying on themselves and start relying on the civic centers. Now, instead of learning how to fish, or read, or build a house, the system will do these things for you, create a medium called money, and allow you to buy the fruits of these labors. Slowly people lost any sight of their inner selves and became dependant on the city and its divinely inspired sense of social organization.

During the European Enlightenment of the 17th Century, also known as the Age of Reason, countries like France, England, Sweden, and Germany finally got hip to how they were being played by the church and how it stifled intellectual prosperity. They soon got notions of separating church and state, and proceeded to convince the farmers that their allegiance should be with kings and government rather than with the church. Bizarrely, the Enlightenment was preceded by another age that doesn't have a catchy title because it was one of widespread genocide and opportunism. I call it the Age of Expansion (1487-whenver you convince yourself into thinking that it's over) and it came with the Western effort to circumvent the Muslim empire and find a new route to the Orient. This age saw the subjection of massive civilizations in the Americas, the Far East, Oceania, and Africa to either European suzerainty or vassalage.

It only takes a cursory glance at a map to see what happened next. Since many of the enlightened countries had recently expanded into and conquered much of the known world in the name of Christianity and trade, (or, as I like to call it, the Greater Good), the state soon conquered the church the world over. We now had a map dominated not by religious partitions, but by political ones, the warriors now doling out gifts and security to all good men. The only exception was the Muslim Empire, but the West dispensed of it during WWI, carving the Ottomans up like a Thanksgiving turkey. The allies created nation-states there too, despite the fact that no one there really wanted them and they were demoralized by having been the recently humiliated losers of a great war. We see the ramifications of this effort in glaringly horrifying detail today.

The kings didn't do things any differently than the popes. When Ferdinand and Isabella needed people to explore and find resources not connected to Ottomans, who do you think they went to? Civil administrators and judges? Philosophers and diplomats? No, they sent criminals. Gangstas like Columbus and da Gama whom they knew wouldn't be too touchy feely to kick a little tale and lay down some good Christian law. When colonial America was drunk with the dream of Manifest Destiny, who do you think they relied on to forge the frontiers and shove aside native American populations? Fur traders and prospectors did the dirty work, imploring congress to

draft bogus treaties until they finally eliminated the middle man and coronated badass Andrew Jackson the Indian Slayer.

CEOS make like they work within the parameters of the law, but what's the difference between them and the common drug lord? The product? The only reason drug lords sell drugs is because they never had the education and breaks to get a cushy office jobs. Many of them just as savvy as your run-of-the-mill business-school grad, they sell contraband because that's a market for which they need no baccalaureate degree. Their country clubs are strip joints; their police forces are street soldiers. If sugared chocolates were illegal and there was demand, there'd sho nuff be some cocoa kings out there. The social fabric of laws creates the underbelly upon which vipers and parasites feed.

But it only takes a cursory glance into your sense of reason to realize that nothing has changed. Ziggurats and temples have been replaced by White Houses and parliaments, but they are still the centers of our identity. We worship the words and wisdom of the kings now as if they spoke the Truth from God. We entrust to them our lives, liberty, security, and self-reliance because we believe that only they can protect us from the forces that they are conversely working in collusion with. We have told ourselves that nation-states are better, despite the documented millions of lives that have been destroyed or

lost in their wake, just like with the church in ancient history. This is the fiction under which we are all laboring.

The result of geopolitics is a further degradation of human self-determinism. We have lost the will to change this phenomenon, because it simply replaced the institution we were dependent on before. We are the global battered wife, telling ourselves that soon the victimization will end, soon the blows to our dignity will stop. And it is not the kings themselves that are victimizing us but rather the fiction we have surrounded them with. World leaders grow into the system, adopting the Son of Heaven mandate because we allow them to. How many times have you told your child, fictional or real, that bullies thrive on the power you give them? Is not the microcosm true in the macrocosm? We tell physicians heal thyselfes, and then go on bleeding. I wish no more to suckle the sword, please. I am the boss of me. Furthermore, I reject the implication that the boss of me is someone who steals and kills in my interests, in my name, invested with the rights I gave him when I gave up my identity as a free-thinking child of God. The world has no map. It has only beautiful trees, flowers, and rivers. Geopolitics are a fiction, and we are using this fiction to destroy ourselves for the Greater Good. They call this process evolution, but I say it's devolution. I will take my world back now please, with all its wonders and gifts intact. I hereby demand the right to determine my own interests, with interest. Cash my check with posterity.