

1. Time is more commonly referred to as a unit of measurement, one to which we employ in our every day, say for example, to formulate or execute a daily routine or remembering the past, even planning for the future.

Yet, in that same breadth, while the *term* assists the Human comprehension of cycles, the very depth of its essence or influence, remains elusive and out of our scientific understanding. Time's ambiguity inspires a comfortable cognitive dissonance, and the gravity of its importance has had long lasting rippling effects on the collective consciousness throughout our history. One thing is for certain, the concept of Time has challenged the scientific community's theoretical limits. In that same breadth, one critical perspective is often dismissed as it would require reflection, ownership or accountability to the past.

Time is merely Humanity's *Mirror*, a representation of our *Chaos* and reminder of the Universe's inevitable *Order*.

Dr. Artur Nilsson, a researcher in the field of psychology, has been able to eloquently describe a multitude of factors that could shape a person's worldview; one to which is Religion. From the beginning of his TEDx Lund talk, Artur reminds his audience that worldviews don't come without their inherent risks, such as a clouded vision of reality or a distorted sense of judgement. He continues to illustrate the consequences of radicalizing on these notions, using the Norwegian terrorist Anders Behring Breivik as an example (TEDx Talks, 2016, 0:53).

Highlighting the belief systems that drove this particular man, Artur explains that the premeditated murder of seventy-seven innocents, most of which were teenagers, had been driven by what was deemed a heroic act by no one but Breivik himself (TEDx Talks, 2016, 1:07). This terrorist believed it was his duty, a necessary consequence that would inspire Order to the Chaos he perceived the Muslim faith had brought to Norway (TEDx Talks, 2016, 1:08). Admittedly, these types of acts are frequent within our current g, but their commonalities remain deeply rooted by a belief system incubated within echo chambers.

During the Ottoman's battle for Eastern Roman occupied Constantinople, the Ottoman Empire attempted to siege the city's walls for nearly two months. While it is well known that the Romans in Constantinople were of Eastern Orthodox Christianity, it was clear the Ottoman's were of the Muslim faith, but they were to be considered Heathens – no less.

It was on the eve of a Blood Moon that the morality of one army would falter and the other flourish, as superstitions that had been deeply rooted within the culture of either participant, would influence the Military Strategy for both armies. It would be this difference that would mark their decision making and eventually determine the outcome of the Ottoman conquest.

As Eastern Orthodox Christians, it was of their belief that anything with blatant occultist ties to Heathenry, must be a bad omen. Ironically enough, this belief was based on a prophecy provided by the very Oracles they refused to legitimize, only to create a self-fulfilling prophecy built from paranoia...a Karmic cycle.

Whereas Mehmed II consulted with a Chief Astrologer and took the opportunity to embrace his cultural symbolisms that had auspiciously synchronized with his battle plans...forecasting victory for their efforts. For the Ottomans, a Blood Moon was a good omen indeed, but Timing played an undeniable role. Although, the Muslim faith is an omnipotent faith, there are undeniable ties to astrology. So much so, there was a position of high leadership dedicated to providing council and drafting calendars based on Lunar Cycles, unlike the Seeresses of Norse Paganism.

Only a few days later, Constantinople would fall to the Ottoman Empire's wrath entering into the pages of our Timeline as one of the greatest *conquests* of the Ottoman Empire's history. Mehmed II had made it his goal to not disenfranchise the Roman systems that had worked so well, but to add to a system with improvement and provide the people of Constantinople with a refreshing sense of longevity...eventually becoming Istanbul.

In Season Two, episode eleven of the podcast The Conversation (Srivasta, 2021), Host and Producer Vinita Srivasta welcomed two scientists to discuss the impact of Colonialism as an undercurrent to pollution.

Michelle Murphy, a professor of Technoscience Studies and History at the University of Toronto, takes the time to illustrate what questions one needs to ask themselves when considering the importance of understanding the land you intend to affect.

*"...you start where you are. And that means figuring out where are you? Whose territory? What's the histories, what's the presences? What's the jurisdiction? What's the law? Who are you responsible to? And what are you responsible to that you haven't been taught? And that work of figuring out where you are is the first step. You know, and you have to do that in order to begin the process of being in good relation and understanding your responsibilities to colonialism, which is really different across different people, different sites, different lives."* (Srivasta, 2021, 29:36)

The Ottoman Empire fulfilled these obligations to a degree before taking the throne. Contrastingly, the Roman Empire itself did not when they succeeded in their own conquest of Europe a few thousand years prior and with a brutalism that has been seemingly confused as 'necessary'.

The very foundation of the Latin Roman world view was built on polytheistic traditions and rituals. Easter having been developed from the sabbat praising Ishtar, the concept of Death and Resurrection influenced by the Egyptian god Osiris (five thousand years prior to Christianity's inception), and Christmas Day born from Saturnalia or Sol Invictus (to start). Yet the very pages of Time were reimagined by the Victors upon their 'conquering' of not just land, but the minds of those dwelling within the invaded continent. By using fear as a weapon, the Roman Empire effectively employed waves of warfare on the very people they would be attempting to convert without trying to understand them first.

Yet in today's standards, these types of acts would be considered War Crimes, they would prompt swift global responses such as counter aggression, sanctions and isolation from the world stage. Quite frankly, it would be seen as an act of Terror, a Crime Against Humanity, as the genocide, ethnic cleansing, executions, burnings, enslavement, torture and prohibition of 'Left-Handed', Indigenous and Holistic practicing peoples and their values...wouldn't go unnoticed. These acts would ultimately contribute to a system that would continuously find ways of subversion, acting as Judge *and* Jury by inserting itself into judicial systems, governments and schools, all in order to truly *conquer* the people's free thought and reshape the common view of what actually occurred using Time as a tool.

Simply put, the oppression of a thought system, one that had been established and maintained for millennia; threatened the credibility of the Church and its influence among the

people within the lands they intended to rule...

Pagan solidarity threatened the Christian legacy's survivability.

Keeping Michelle Murphy's statement in mind, the Terrorist Breivik and his plights, now, make no logical sense. The land and culture he attempted to martyr, had *already been* 'reduced' by the very culture and religion he postures as organic truth within his Manifesto – *Christianity*.

The Christian faith has *never* been Norway's first religion, that would be Norse Paganism. Yet, within this full circle moment, we see not just the blatant hypocrisy of a delusion, but how an ill-informed, radical worldview can quickly become a nonsensical act of malice based on historical half-truths. This dark day on our Timeline, would act as a shock to the world who would lay witness to just how easy rhetoric pedalled by illegitimate claims of morality and virtue...can become a commonly adopted narrative through the conditioning Time has afforded- a conquering, normalized.

Embracing the sentiment of being one with where you are, the earth, the self, the spirit and the relationships you have with them, is encouraged and nurtured very deeply within Indigenous communities. However, it could be inferred, that this is precisely why these traditions are often the focal point of eradication or of colonialism as a whole – they seek to divide power among many instead of a select few (ie. The Monarchy of the Commonwealth).

While indigenous worldviews recognize energy exchanged between beings both human and non-human – the scientific community emboldens this within Quantum Physics when discussing Entanglement or the Cycle of Life. Yet, it has been these belief systems or communities that have been commonly disenfranchised by hierarchical structures as they threaten societal progression based on capitalism, colonialism and abuses of power.

Truth be told, the very scientific community that upholds the Western World's innovation, was founded by everyday people that were considered 'Alchemists' before 'Scientist' was even within our vocabulary (Crash Course, 2019, 2:46). Not only this, but major contributors to science, were *Pagan first*, their belief systems one with the universe's chaos and order, the very concept Time encompasses. Many Scientists would fear for their lives, such as the great Aristotle who would begin to theorize gravity. Aristotle would flee Athens after being accused of Impiety when Alexander the Great died and Christianity insert itself into Greek culture, creating an unconscious bias.

There is no end to how Time effects corruption, capitalism and colonialism. Whether it is by utilizing Time to effectively deploy smoke and mirrors or manipulate the truth with fabrications or half-truths; Time has become both a weapon and an assist.

Society is so quick to accept the majority opinion developed over Time, but the very definition of common is the majority and in order to create and innovate effectively, colonialism itself must be cleansed of archaic and toxic approaches to power that has been yielding abundance throughout the centuries. Negative thought patterns and behaviours that directly and indirectly contribute to the degradation of the overall health of the collective consciousness, have to be consciously addressed. However, as stated previously that would require Time to not just regale its history *correctly*, but for Humanity to re-evaluate how that history came to be, look into the Mirror and understand how we deal with bias (Srivasta, 2021, 2:30), and recalibrate the lens to which we view what we have become and what kind of history we truly do want to leave behind.

2. The Anthropocene Epoch is an unofficial term recognizing the era to which Humanity's existence began to directly contribute to the health and wellbeing of the planet and its organic systems. It's very clear to me that the Anthropocene era has been here for the entirety of my life. It is also very clear to me that the Earth has been attempting to fight our presence off like an infection on the brink of turning septic, for all Thirty-Two years of it. That's petrifying, and we are so consumed with conquering land, harvesting, over producing, polluting, super-Sizing our food, sympathising with Influencer culture and murdering one another; to actually stop and fathom the idea of *how long* this behaviour has been normalized for.

The Anthropocene is most commonly referred to as beginning at or near the same time we began creating nuclear weapons and testing them in the 1950's (Nature, 2022). Again, this simply illustrates the blind Ego driven efforts to prove one country is better than the other, more powerful or more threatening with an unchecked or unconscious bias (Srivastava, 2022). Sure, Humanity got to witness how many tons of dynamite it would take to annihilate one another. Yet most only began considering the hardships of a Nuclear Winter after having already done irreversible damage to the Earth. This damage is further illustrated by the methods to which an era is determined via particulates and sediment that have embedded into the strata of the Earth (Nature, 2022). When radioactive materials and industrialization began to take its toll on the planet, geologists would later set out to measure this impact using carefully selected peak locations (Nature, 2022).

Yet, here we are, in 2023, where we are in the midst of history repeating itself, but for some reason, Time seems to have dampened the seriousness of war or nuclear threats. That is exemplified while Humanity is being threatened with Nuclear War; a dangling consequence for assisting Ukraine against an illegal invasion. The very same invasion where war crimes and genocide are occurring every single day for all to witness... under the guise of a religious narrative, for conquest, colonialism and personal legacy.

The Anthropocene era is effecting my every day because I am in the middle of an appendage measuring contest. Where over reliance on industrialization, international trade and corrupt government officials lay waste to my quality of life while calling it protection. It can be seen in the vector transmissions of COVID-19, where poor disposal practices created a sickness, that began in one country and, by way of flight, changed our personal atmospheres for forever. This irresponsibility changed the routines, lives, sense of Time, biochemical composition, our immune systems, relationships, ability to have control over our body's, and now...our ability to eat and afford rent.

For me, any era following Modern industrialization would be a very good time period to begin evaluating the devastation Humanity has inflicted on the Earth. From my observations, history dictates that every one hundred and fifty years or so, a pandemic is followed by a recession, which is followed by War to fix the recession. I am a Millennial, I have grown up my entire life with war in the periphery and having had to survive a minimum of two recessions as a result. Whether it was Desert Rose, the crash of 2008 or its Russia's War of Aggression, I have done my due diligence to understand that I am viewed as a pawn...by people who refuse to acknowledge that the retirement age still applies to them and being a Nepotism child, isn't a qualification of political fortitude.

I am not bitter, I am not angry, *I am numb* to the idea that maybe one day my voice will be heard. That... we might all be able to understand what it feels like to breathe clean air and

swim in a living ocean while symbiotically existing with Terra.

So yes, I would say the Anthropocene era is here and it has been our reality since the moment we took our first, polluted, breath.