

**THE JUNGLE TIMES PODCAST
CLIMBING THE LEADER LADDER, PART 1**

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Musical Intro

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Climbing the Leader Ladder - Part 1

Welcome to The Jungle Times Podcast. I'm Lawrence Poole and this is Episode #7 – called Climbing the Leader Ladder. This is a 2-part series. In the next Episode, I'll tell you how to take your place as an effective leader by climbing a 10-step ladder but in this, Part-1, I'm going to talk to you about Leadership itself.

The definition I like is this: *Leadership is the process by which we influence others to maximize their efforts in the achievement of goals.*

Before going any further, let me point out the 4 elements on which this view of leadership is defined: #1. *Leadership involves social influence, not authority or power over others.* #2. *Leaders direct others to act, even if they don't have to be directed. There is no mention of the gender or other personality traits of those others, nor of their attributes or even titles, but this element does recognize many kinds of leader and the ability to influence others is key.* The 3rd element tells us that leaders have a goal; their influence has an intended outcome. And the last point, #4, tells us that what makes this definition different from strictly academic views is the idea of leadership looking to 'maximize collective effort'.

I'll offer you another reflection: Peter Drucker, the very well-known management guru, suggested that the only real definition of a leader is someone who has followers. His idea is not quite true. For example, think of a new manager appointed to a department with 200 workers. Unless he actualizes the 4 elements I just mentioned, he will not be a good leader. As a manager, he need never leave his office nor utter a single word to his employees. If he works on other projects, his orders will be handed down by subordinates anyway and, by default, his workers will *follow* his orders. But is this what leadership's really about? Management yes, but leadership? I think not. Drucker's definition is much too simplistic for a complex world.

As a contrast - in Episode #5 I spoke to you about living in a state of grace, explaining that we are each called to experience life from a mindset where love is law. That kind of thinking embraces the very definition of leadership that I favour so, in this podcast, I want to

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explore why so many people are not more mindful of Creator's *INTENT*. Statistics show us that only 10% of people are natural leaders. We also know that 10% of the general population are on the other side of the Bell Curve, they are non-adopters who don't care about others. They aren't climbing the leader ladder.

When we ask people who they admire as the world's best leaders, their answers are what we might expect. We choose Mahatma Gandhi for his peaceful activism, Winston Churchill for managing one of the most difficult times in human history, Martin Luther King Jr. as a civil rights activist, Nelson Mandela because he was triumphant over political evil, Albert Einstein for discovering the laws of universe or Mother Teresa because she helped the poor. The popular answers chose people who help others.

It's easy enough to point out good deeds and admire the doers. But I want to expose leadership's true colours. This because the mood of the public trust is changing, and people are calling for a re-examination of leadership and what we should expect from good governance.

The chaos we saw and near insurrection in the American capital – one of the most powerful democracy on Earth - helps us realize just how fragile our self-management systems and institutions really are. You should know that it was totally predictable. Even if failed American President Donald Trump often portrayed himself as saviour of the working man, promising to save their jobs, he couldn't do it!

An analysis shows that, in the years before running for office, Trump was involved in more than 3,500 lawsuits brought against him — and a large number of them involved ordinary citizens who say that he just refused to pay them. Hundreds of liens, judgments and other documents were filed by people who accuse Trump of failing to pay them for work. Among them: A dishwasher in Florida, a glass company in New Jersey, a carpet company, a plumber, painters, waiters and dozens of others at his resorts coast to coast.

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Ironically, even law firms that represented him in these lawsuits were also stiffed. How can you suppose that a man who constantly lies, cheats and mismanages is a leader, much less a saviour?

History shows that we tried to answer the question - *How can we best manage our lives as a society?* – in many ways. What we've found so far can be visited from my website - TheJungleTimes.com. That homepage links you to more than 3 dozen newspapers - like The New York Times, The Asia Times, The Times of London and even The Tico Times - each of them with headlines that tell us about daily conditions, and how leaders are managing them.

You soon discover that most humans don't see leadership in the same way that Nature does. This because, in Nature, *there are no followers*. In the jungle, everyone must lead his and her life – *Each of us must Do or Die!*

We might say a *lion king* or a *queen bee* and thus give animals human traits that they don't really have. In fact, a queen bee's task is simple: Lay eggs. This will allow the entire hive to come together and prosper. Other bees support this effort by doing their own tasks. If an egg-layer can no longer do that job, it is soon replaced by another, more capable bee.

To assure the survival of the whole, Nature encourages every member of every species to adapt to constantly changing conditions. I explained in Episode #4 how Nature equips us with the tools and strategies we need to do adjust. I said that our brain-circuitry is wired so we can prosper from playing 5 strategic roles: We must be Stalkers of information, Dreamers of possibilities, Seers of opportunity, Leaders in action (to adjust) and persuasive Communicators.

Unfortunately, I also explained a study by Dr Carlo Cipolla of UCLA Berkeley who wrote an essay that explored of 3 patterns of behaviour people are engaged in. He told us how these patterns are manifest in society, and he described specific laws that we can attribute to them.

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Professor Cipolla studied - Good people - who generally act with altruistic self-interest (*my brother as myself*), Bad people - who generally act selfishly even if it is to the detriment of others (“*Me first and to hell with others...*”), and Stupid people - who act to the detriment of others even if it's to their own detriment as well. Stupid people limit their thinking to – (“*I don't care who ...as long as it's not you!*”).

Cipolla calculates that even if Bad people are selfish and ego-centric, they are not as dangerous to society as stupid people. To explain, he wrote five fundamental principles of stupidity:

1. *Everyone underestimates the number of stupid people in circulation at any particular time.*
2. *The probability that a person is stupid remains independent of any other characteristic that person may possess.*
3. *A stupid person causes loss to another - or to a group - while not necessarily deriving gain, and even possibly incurring loss.*
4. *Non-stupid people always underestimate the damaging potential of stupid individuals. In particular non-stupid people constantly forget that - at all times, in every place and under any circumstance - dealing with and/or associating with stupid people always turns out to be a costly mistake.*
5. *A stupid person is the most dangerous type of person in society.*

As is evident with his 3rd principle, Cipolla identifies 2 factors that must be considered in order to assess individual behaviour: The benefit that the individual *acquires*, and the loss that the individual *causes to others*.

Cipolla described “Good people” as those *intelligent citizens* who contribute to society and who know how to leverage their contribution into reciprocal benefits. They can also be *altruists* who consciously accept to be good for moral or ethical reasons. And they can be *naïve people* who contribute good from a sense of duty ...and who most often taken advantage of by *bandits*.

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His study found that Bad people those bandits who pursue selfish interests only. They can also be psychopaths or sociopaths who have no agenda except to inflict hurt on others, or on society as a whole

Stupid people are counterproductive to both their own interests, and to those of other people. Cipolla refined his ideas about "*Bandits*" by noting that they harm the general welfare based on the gains or losses they incur.

In his book *The Tempest*, Shakespeare writes: "*Misery acquaints a man with strange bedfellows.*" That quote was reworded to now say - "*Politics makes strange bedfellows.*"

The literal meaning of the saying is that people with little in common often come together because of a few shared political interests. At this point, you should know that, in order to rule this world, Bad and Stupid people have joined forces. That why we'll see a mob quickly go crazy and get destructive.

You should also know that many people – *you'll find a symbol on the back of the American One-dollar bill* – put themselves above the eye of God. The symbol shows us how the world is divided into pyramids of power.

Ever since the Pharaohs of Egypt – God/Man - we've known that, as management structures go, pyramids contain and focus energy.

I explained a little about this when I spoke about Nature managing complex situations in Episode #3. Pyramids are formed by connecting a base to a point above that base, called the apex. Several kinds of pyramid exist, and these depend on the shape of their base which can be square, rectangular, hexagonal and more. A square based pyramid has 4 sides that are right-angled triangles and these join at the apex.

Thousands of years ago, we discovered how the pyramid form – its structure or shape - causes energy within it to rise to the apex as a spiral ascent. Since then - our leadership structures have been based on that flow of energy. Even nature suggests we can manage complex

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situations by climbing to the apex. There, we can control the ascent and flow of energy.

So then - *we the people*... are managed in pyramid structures. Think of it – top management up around the apex, then middle-management, then workers at the base.

Apply the idea to corporations – The CEO, Vice-presidents/Directors, then Supervisors, and then Workers. Governments work that way – President and/or Prime Minister, Senate and Congress or Parliament, etcetera down to citizens. Pyramids contain a spiral ascent of energy which is condensed at the apex to then trickle-down as power.

We like to think we live in a democracy where everyone's opinion is given equal opportunity – but that isn't even a pipe dream. Here in Canada for example, my many years in politics on behalf of the rights of disabled persons have taught me that casting a vote doesn't mean democracy.

When the 80,000 voters in my electoral district have an opinion, we must first convince our local Representative, who'll take our concern to his Party's Caucus; it answers to the PMO – the Prime Minister's Office – who has 33 million other opinions to deal with before he decides, and then his decision trickles back down to "*we the people*". One at the top decides for the 80,000 below.

The Planet's management system includes countless small pyramids of power - *but the form itself* (PYRAMID) does not serve us well ...this because it divides every issue into «*We at the top -vs- Them at the bottom* » kind of thinking.

In fact, pyramids are not a natural form. Half of an octahedron – or 2 pyramids joined at the base – a pyramid is only a part of the infinite energy grid that is the world. Ancient alchemists believed the pyramid is an unholy structure because of how it forces energy into that spiral ascent.

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Pyramids reflect the command-and-control mentality that defines armies, monarchies, corporations and oligarchies. But you should know that pyramids work well in command-and-control structures and they have dominated all competitors by controlling a rigid hierarchy.

For several decades now, management has explored viable alternatives because progressive leaders know the pyramid is out of date. It no longer suits a fast-moving market economy or a changing national agenda, nor does it suit today's employee temperament and values. Its rigid hierarchy hinders agility, dedication and engagement.

This is why many organizations are looking for alternatives. Rigid pyramids can be turned into more robust structures by empowering teams. A more flexible approach can stimulate employees with responsibility and personal growth. The pyramid belongs on the rubbish heap... but how do we create a more progressive organization? How do we change the way we manage ourselves?

The basic idea is to flatten the pyramid. In most organizations, people who do similar tasks are grouped together and managed in a traditional hierarchy. The advantage of this allows for quick decision-making and easy communication. Members can also learn from each other and since they possess complementary skill sets and similar interests, they can grow.

To restructure, companies should seek to group workers into teams focused on filling customer needs. The division of labor in the new flatter structure recognizes that, by seeing each other as clients, workers achieve more efficiency and higher outputs.

A flatter organization can combine elements of both the functional and hierarchical management models but can handle more complexity. By grouping people into functional units, you can easily separate them to work on specific projects with complimentary responsibilities.

In a flat structure, team-members have more autonomy and can take on more responsibility. This kind of matrix increases

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productivity of teams, fosters greater innovation and creativity and allows managers to solve decision-making problems through group interaction. The transformation takes planning and effort, but it can work marvels in large companies with the resources to manage a complex framework.

A flatter organization will disrupt a traditional top-down management system. Management is decentralized so there is no “boss” per se. Every employee becomes his or her own boss - and can thus eliminate red tape and improve communications in his or her own workplace. For example, employees with creative ideas needn’t wade through levels of manager to get that idea to one person making decisions. They simply communicate directly with a target, and this on a colleague-to-colleague level.

Fortunately, the new paradigm pioneers have marked out the path. They’ve explored a 5-step process to Invert the pyramid.

The 1st step to a more progressive management structure should examine the inverted pyramid model because employees are an integral part of a structure’s client capital; they are its real value.

In an inverted structure, employees might perform the same tasks, but the rest of the organization is focused on supporting them. Managers still make most of the decisions, but they do so out of the need to serve the workers — not the other way around. Leaders become servants.

#2. Empower the management team. The second step is to introduce empowerment programs in key parts of the organization. This should start with top management as they must support any change program.

Workers need tools to work as teams so management must give them the flexibility and agility to acquire them and adjust. Key employees with far-reaching responsibilities should determine their own way of working.

#3. Flatten the organization by empowering key contributors. The third step is to smash the whole pyramid, chopping it up into many empowered teams. For some organizations, this is difficult so they

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should work towards a flatter organization, removing as many management layers as they can.

#4. Network the empowered teams. Organizations that flatten their pyramid structure should then organize into networks of independent teams. These networks can be served by a small, but very efficient, headquarters. Teams can be grouped by region, product, service, responsibility or customers served. They should determine their own way of working as they'll be held responsible for achieving results.

Empowered teams should be multidisciplinary but not exceed 15 people or so. Organizations should install a system that allows all the workers to communicate with each other at every level. Many organizations provide coaches to help teams if they need it. Coaches should not have decision-making authority – otherwise things will quickly degrade back into an old hierarchical model.

Companies want workers to be more entrepreneurial so they should encourage healthy competition between teams, letting them share in the success or failure of the whole team, and the organization as a whole.

#5. An ecosystem of small companies. Go one step further by creating a network of empowered teams by offering team-members ownership in their team. Teams can then become independent companies. A good example is the Chinese company Haier Group, a multinational home appliances and consumer electronics company headquartered in Qingdao, China.

Globally, Haier is the number one brand of major appliance for 12 consecutive years including 2020. The role of senior managers at Haier Group has changed radically. They still determine overall strategy, but their primary concern is the small companies who need their investment advice. This dynamic ensures that teams who add value to the company survive in the long run.

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As Haier Group's management model has such incredible promise, why isn't it more widely adopted? I'll tell you about that after this short break...

INTERLUDE

The challenge of the pyramid management system is the incredible menace that self-serving leaders represent when they reach the apex, the top of the heap. The leader ladder is thus filled with fascist thinkers and their minions. In fact, fascist thinkers manage so many pyramid structures today, that they control the world's resources.

Try to wrap your mind around the fact that 1% of people control 82% of Earth's resources. The illusion is that those resources are evenly distributed among that 1%. The fact is - if you have 4,210\$USD to your name, you are richer than 50% of the world's citizens.

So then - the math shows that the bulk of the world's wealth is controlled by a very few people. That narrow focus on acquiring material resources traps the primitive part of our central nervous system - the reptilian brain circuit which is cold-blooded – into closed loop thinking. Reptilians think “...*more of the same... for me!*”

People are waking to the harsh reality that the Trillionaires and Billionaires who rule this world's pyramids of power don't give a shit about ordinary folks. In fact, regardless of its content, the pyramid management context only recognizes 2 rules - 1. *If you are not a part of our pyramid, your opinions don't matter... so fuck you!* And 2. - *If you are a part of our pyramid, get in line, there are others above you on the path to our apex.*

Believe it or not, apex predators are conspiring to control our lives, to control the resources we all need to live. These reptilians need slaves. And don't miss the difference – *a Trillionaire has one thousand billion.*

I'll bet most of you are not aware that fascists try to rule the world from their 3 centers of power - *Vatican City, London City and Washington DC.*

Did you also know that these are totally independent jurisdictions? The **Vatican**, for example, is an enclave within the city of Rome, Italy, but not a part of it. Vatican City has been independent since

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1929. It is considered a distinct territory under (I quote) "...*the full ownership, exclusive dominion and sovereign authority of the Papal See*".

The Papal See is the name given to the *jurisdiction* of the Catholic Church. It is also a sovereign entity under international law. As it's only 120 acres in size and has a population of only 825, Vatican City is the smallest sovereign state of Earth, and yet it has held authority over Earth's citizens for many hundreds of years.

And did you know that - like Vatican City - *London City* doesn't refer to the sprawling city of London England? London City is a much smaller area that was officially created in 1888.

It is not a borough of a larger London either, as that status is reserved for the 32 districts that comprise the greater area. Rather, *London City* is a totally independent enclave within Greater London. Usually referred to as *The City*, it's little over 1-square mile in area and totally independent from greater London.

Its authority - called the *City of London Corporation* - is unique in the United Kingdom. Listed at the top of the Centres of Commerce index, the London City Corporation is a meeting point for world business and it even has its own independent police force. Its resident population is less than 10,000 people but more 500,000 are employed by its financial services and insurance sectors and, in a given work week, 1 million people will be there.

And while you must surely know that *Washington, D.C.* is the capital of the United States of America, the District of Columbia is an important *world capital* too. An Act of Congress approved the creation of this capital city decreeing that it be located along the Potomac River and then the Constitution provided for a separate district to be created under the jurisdiction of Congress.

Washington DC is *not a part of any U.S. state*. It is a completely independent territory. The state of Maryland donated land to form an independent federal district that serves as the United States Capital. All the branches of the federal government are centered there, but

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Washington DC is also the home of 177 independent embassies and to the headquarters of many international organizations - including the World Bank, International

Monetary Fund, Organization of American States, American Association for Retired Persons and the Red Cross –all of which are sovereign entities.

Washington is managed by an independent 13-member council and an elected mayor. Its residents also elect a non-voting congressional delegate to the House of Reps but have no representation in the US Senate.

Voters choose a *presidential delegate* in accordance with a Constitutional Amendment agreed to in 1961 - but otherwise they have no ballot. The regular population of Washington is 700,000+ citizens making it the 20th most populated city in the US, but the citizens from surrounding areas raise the working population to more than one million people a day.

In the fascist world order, Vatican City is mandated to govern us morally, London City rules us economically, and Washington DC is charged with policing us militarily.

A major problem with this «world order» – aside from the fact its management structure is a pyramid – is that other pyramids - like Chinese communists, Russian oligarchs, oil-producing cartels, organized crime families and terrorists of every stripe –have their eyes on the exact same prize: Power and all the gold it provides.

Those other pyramids have said *f**k you* to the New World Order and its Euro-American fascists.

The fact of the matter is the pyramid structure lends itself perfectly to exploiting people and resources. Explained as «*the golden pyramid scam*» - that crime is a lot more profitable than any Ponzi game or other scams.

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The Golden Pyramid allows an apex predator or a CEO to control the flow of energy, of organizational resources –material and human – within his pyramid. He or she can dictate the ways and means to dispose of the organization’s structural capital.

Downsizing, outsourcing jobs, selling off assets and refinancing a company is the prize in a golden pyramid scam. Everything gets translated into liquid gold in its spiral ascent to then be syphoned off in the name of increasing the shareholder value.

In the last few years, we’ve seen this done by so many companies and institutions, that world economies faltered. Does anyone remember the bank bailouts in 2008? Belying numbers tossed about at the time, the Levy Economics Institute has produced a detailed study that says \$29 TRILLION dollars changed hands, from the Federal Reserve to *Banksters* involved in that scam.

The Levy Institute was founded at Bard College in 1986 as a non-profit, nonpartisan, independently funded research organization devoted to public service.

Friends, the problems we all face require real solutions, and this means that important decisions have to be made. This is a complex world and even if you think it is mismanaged by fallible humans, that means we have a desperate need to recognize who the real leaders are!

The world has become a dismal place because *Bad and Stupid people* have spoiled the atmosphere of trust needed to determine and apply real solutions. We have to understand our need for good leadership first.

Here is what we can expect in the foreseeable future: As bad as 2020 might have been, there are many indicators that suggest that 2021 will be worse.

As you may know, we don’t yet have a grip on the Covid19 pandemic - even if vaccines are being distributed. These vaccines are largely unproven and, as yet, we haven’t even been told what they’ll actually

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do. What are the downsides? You have to wonder though - can we really trust products created at warp speed by Big Pharma? This when governments have assured them that they are free of any responsibility for mistakes?

We are really living in Jungle Times. An indicator of that is how many people refuse to protect themselves - and others - by obeying a few simple recommendations from health professionals? As the virus is airborne, we are asked to wear masks, respect safe distances and keep our environment clean. It seems people would rather believe crazy-ass conspiracies than buy-in to scientific evidence or good sense.

Already, millions have died, and so many have suffered job loss and those indicators will only increase in the foreseeable future. Without income, many folks face eviction and homelessness. And if travel continues to be restricted, business that rely on tourism and hospitality falter. A slowdown will also threaten people with food shortages and that can lead to a hunger pandemic.

These and other hardships are raising stress levels, and this can be difficult to manage. High stress invariably leads to mental health issues like depression, and these cause people to self-medicate with drugs and alcohol. So - add more crime and more violence into the challenge.

As a result of all this, as the Covid19 pandemic continues, governments will want to further restrict our freedoms, and then they'll want to monitor our behavior. This opens the door to despots of every stripe.

In Episode 5 of this podcast – called « Love is Magic! » - I explained how emotions help make up our mind. When we love, our thymus gland releases the positive hormones that help us reach a state of grace; then we see the world is a wondrous place. When we fear, our adrenals stimulate aggression. From the negative mindset, it's easy to imagine the world as a dangerous place. Whether we see it as positive or as negative through, our different *mindsets* are perceiving the same real world.

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We know that the fear of **chaos** is a powerful - if a negative motivator. Plenty of people subscribe to fascist memes though. Who doesn't long for order, for good governance? But understand this: Fascism is not a political institution.

If fascists wore brown shirts and jackboots, they'd be easy enough to recognize but *fascism begins as a WAY of thinking*. When people react to fear, their body releases its *fight-or-flight* hormones and then they are very easy to manipulate by anyone who promises to protect them.

Fascist thinking is how people react when need to be protected. If you understand the process, you can easily separate good leaders from bad ones. You can just check their promises. Do they incite to aggression or to good will? We say of our great leaders – *He kept his head when all around him others were losing theirs...*

As a reaction to fear, people crave order and authority. We want to believe that having some measure of control over others will help us feel safe.

T. W. Adorno, a German psychologist and philosopher, introduced social sciences to what he described as *the "F-scale"* - F for fascism as far back as 1950. Since we've had a way to measure **the need for authority** in people. That need - for leaders who impose authority - is the seed.

Along with the description to this podcast, I'll put a link to a website ([Take the test](#)) where you can take the F-scale test for yourself. You can then see just how fascist your values really are. It'll let you see how millions of Germans citizens became demented Nazis, and why they followed a madman into a World War. And it'll also give you a look into the state of politics today.

Adorno described how certain personalities make for dogmatic and prejudiced leaders. He wrote: *"Authoritarian people demand loyalty from others as they want to impose their way of seeing the world on them. Fascist thinking is therefore intolerant of ambiguity and differences; it has an exaggerated need to dispense its sense of 'order' at the world."*

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People who fit this authoritarian profile tend to be attracted to ideologies and causes that demand submission to authority - like political parties, religions, sectarian cults, the military and big business.

I've explained how Nature's law is *altruistic self-interest*. I've also explained that we can't break the law... even if we can break ourselves against it. We'll try to break the law whenever we insist a little too vigorously on our own interests *first*.

Think about this – The more you think in selfish terms like “Me first”, the more *you are to the Right of the political spectrum*. If you prize altruism, *you lean to the political Left*.

Nature's law is at the absolute centre, while the political Right is more Conservative, and the Left is more Liberal. The farther Right you are, the more you embrace a view wherein order and hierarchy are inevitable, natural, normal and even desirable. These are accepted as the results of traditional social differences and competition in a free-market economy.

The Left-wing supports social equality, often in opposition to hierarchy. Left-wing politics typically include concern for those in society who are disadvantaged, with a belief that unjustified inequalities have to be abolished. Left-wing supporters claim that human development flourishes when people are engaged in cooperative and respectful relations, and that we thrive when excessive differences in status, power, and wealth are eliminated.

Of course - both the extreme Left and the extreme Right are fascists as soon as they try to impose their views on others. Both highbrow thinkers and lesser intellects can be fascist, whether people are from privilege or poverty, if they are educated or not. Every race, religion and nationality harbours fascist thinkers - who can be both young or old, man and woman, nice or not, gainfully employed or on the dole.

Fascist leaders are poised to capitalize on every crisis. They often create the problems that they then promise to solve. I'll tell you more about this after this short break...

INTERLUDE

When fascist thinking is shared, it becomes part of an ideological movement that allows full-blown regimes to emerge... When crisis or chaos give a fascist regime an entry point, leaders first look to control a political system. They don't care if it leans Left or Right... even if the Right and its "me-first" ideology are easier to manipulate.

Fascist appropriate those nationalistic ideas that are prized by individuals – like our flags, anthems and fight songs. With them, they create disinformation and appropriate the culture of the nation, to then shape its history and collective memory with a metaphysical glue that binds people to their vision and political agenda.

Aware of it or not, our emotional attachment to a view can be manipulated.

Understanding how metaphysical ideas nourish physical life is part of new science called Epigenetics. Slogans like «*Black Lives Matter*» or «*Me too...*» will galvanize an entire movement. These are even political memes drafted by major political parties who use them to manipulate public opinion. MAGA hats and clever sayings on tee-shirts are used to separate *us from them*. A good source of revenue, *memes* give power to the leadership hierarchy.

Fascism relies on our willingness to surrender our individuality to group-thought. We do this so we can band together against a perceived threat – threats that are generated from both inside and outside our group.

Fascists rally round an agenda that gives importance and value to the beliefs we all share as a group. Fascists gain power by reading media polls that supply them with our concerns, and media that allow them to spread propaganda and describe their solution to our needs. They cause chaos because they will benefit from uncertainty, confusion and our desire for change.

You know friends - before the 18th century, people gave their loyalty to the royals – those Lords who made decisions based on the needs of a lifetime. Then, borders changed without an outcry from we the people; we were the rabble. No one protested "... *the violation of our*

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national integrity" back then. We did whatever his Lordship told us to do. We followed our chiefs into battle.

Later, nationalist sentiments were politicized, and the common man began thinking for himself and not as the property of a king and court. If everyone has a right to be protected from the Barbarians, we should better organize ourselves.

Overt manipulation of the nationalist sentiment began with the French revolution. At first, the French fought for *Liberty, Equality and Fraternity* but soon they turned against "*foreign aggressors*" as defined by their rulers. Napoleon began empire-building when he imposed "French culture" on the great unwashed masses.

Other nations naturally fought back to preserve their own identity - also defined by their elite few – and so we the many fought world wars.

From Spain to Russia, the masses rose in defense of their home team, defending us against those "*imperialist others and their new ideas*".

In this century the globalization of fascism followed the international workers' movement. After communists took over Russia, it promised liberation for working classes *everywhere*. *Fascist gulags* quickly changed the communist sentiment from hope to fear.

Italian fascists introduced the idea of *imposed liberation* as a political strategy, and then Germany introduced us to the excesses of a fascist mindset *when they tried to destroy resistance to their authority and replace good order with evil intent*.

Fascists are anti-Christ, behaving on Luciferian principles. Various forms of *their evil ideology* have been promoted in recent years, and today fascism is becoming a full-fledged possibility in the USA. Fascist thinkers have taken over the GOPs right-wing agenda. Can you say conspiracy? *I knew you could ; -o)*

In "Free Enquiry Magazine", author Laurence W. Britt lists 14 common threads that draw fascist thinkers into patterns of behaviour. These 14 ways of being are more prevalent and intense in

some places than they are in others, but all fascists share at least some of them as their *modus operandi*.

See how many you can spot in your own community:

1. Fascists hide behind *nationalism and tradition*: Using select historical memory as *fact*, fascists mask their intent under a mystique that links them to an imagined better past. Fascists promise to bring back *the good old future*. God and history gave them authority that must be obeyed. Fascists will see that their loyalty is secured, and to do this they appropriate national symbols like flags and events to then manipulate followers.

2. Fascists unify believers by identifying *common enemies*. The most significant of their shared ideology is having a scapegoat who can divert attention from real problems. Fascist thinking blame-shifts for failures in the system and focuses frustration on others. Their method of choice - disinformation - is very effective. Fascists demonize enemies and label competitive tactics as evil, while their own use of identical tactics is seen as necessary and good. Opponents of their methods are labeled *traitors to be despised* and dealt with accordingly.

3. Fascists disregard human rights. Fascists consider democratic rights and social rules to be a hindrance to realizing their objectives. With clever use of propaganda, they marginalize and even demonize select groups until we accept their abuse. When their abuse of human rights is blatant, their tactics become secrecy, denial, personal attack, moral ambiguity and disinformation to shame their victims.

4. Fascists are militaristic. Fascists identify closely with the military apparatus and the corporate infrastructures that support it. A disproportionate share of national resources is allocated to the military, even if domestic needs are acute. The military is seen as an expression of nationalism and is used to assert national goals, to intimidate other trading nations, and to increase the power and prestige of the ruling elite.

5. Fascists are sexist. Other than the fact that a fascist culture is male-centric, it views women as second-class citizens and thereby

wants to manage human procreation. Fascists are adamantly anti-choice and homophobic. Their attitudes are being codified into laws and enjoy support from right-wing conservatives and Judeo-Christian religious leaders who give them legitimacy by supporting their human rights abuses and their anti-Christ activities.

6. Fascists want to control the media. With fascist regimes, mass media come under the control of an elite few, so that the message does not stray from the party line. *The zeitgeist* they project onto the world reflects how the mainstream media is fake news because it does not project their view of culture and truth. Some regimes have subtle and not-so-subtle ways of ensuring media orthodoxy. We'll remember that the Saudis assassinated Jamal Khashoggi for his dissenting journalism.

7. Fascists are obsessed with national security. Often an instrument of oppression that operates in secret and beyond human constraints, the national security apparatus of a country soon falls under the control of the fascist elite. Their criminal actions are justified under the guise of protecting "national security," by questioning the activities of others and portraying them as unpatriotic or even treasonous. Things get rather *demonic* when fascists act in secret.

8. Fascists have a conservative religious agenda. Unlike the communists, fascist and proto-fascist thinkers are not godless. In fact, fascist regimes attach themselves to the most right-wing religion of the territory, and then portray themselves to be defenders of that cult. Common perception is shaped to show that opposing the elite and their religious power is tantamount to an attack on God.

9. Fascists protect corporate capitalism. Fascist thinkers give corporations more rights than citizens. Although the personal life of citizens is under stricter control, the ability of corporations to operate in relative freedom is not compromised. The fascist see how corporate capital supplies them with military power and is a means of financial and therefore social control.

10. In the name of good governance, fascists try to suppress working class people. Since organized labour is seen as a power center that can challenge their political agenda, and the finances of

their corporate allies, the labour class is inevitably despised, crushed and made powerless. The poor are an underclass viewed with suspicion and contempt. For some, like the prosperity preachers, being poor is akin to having a vice.

11. Fascists have a disdain for liberals and intellectuals of every stripe (even their own). Intellectual pursuit and the inherent free exchange of ideas are anathema to fascist regimes. So are artistic expression and the people associated with them. Intellectual and academics are thought to be subversives who are contrary to national security and patriotic ideals. *You don't think... you just OBEY!*

12. Fascists are obsessed with crime and punishment. Most fascist regimes maintain draconian systems of criminal justice. They have huge prison populations who are often housed under the direst conditions. The police are often glorified or have unchecked power which leads to rampant abuse. Hatred of criminals, or terrorists or "traitors" is widely promoted to the population as an excuse for needing more power. *Dragons be there too.*

13. Fascists are anti-democratic and work to falsify elections. Where elections with *legitimate* candidates are held, they are often perverted by fascist thinkers to fashion a desired result. Elections in the form of plebiscites or public opinion polls are often bogus. Common methods of fraud include maintaining control of the election districts, of the machinery, by intimidating and disenfranchising opposition voters, by destroying or disallowing legal votes, and, as a last resort, by turning to a judiciary who is beholden to the power elite to claim voter-fraud.

14. Fascist hierarchy is rampant with cronyism and corruption. Are you surprised? Promise to share the wealth... *and watch the rats gather.* Do you know that business types and their political wannabees become unnatural bedfellows who - *not mysteriously* –use their positions and connections to further enrich themselves.

It never surprises me that people sell their soul... but it always shocks me to discover just how cheaply they sold it for! If only they had an idea of its real worth.

Lawrence Poole ©

Do any of the above traits ring an alarm bell for you? So tell me - who did you vote for?

Think about it, I'll talk to you again in Part 2 of Climbing the Leader Ladder.

Look for Episode#8, when I'll tell you about 5 forces in Nature that contributed to our fascist tendencies. I'll also explain the steps we must climb up the leader ladder to answer Creator's *INTENT*... so you'll want to tune in for that.

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Thanks again... Until next time... *Adios*.