

# Endgame 2012

## The 28th Amendment - The Abolition of War & Nuclear Weapons



“Aspiring sincerely to an international peace based on justice and order, the American people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes.

(2) To accomplish the aim of the preceding paragraph, land, sea, and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained.

The right of belligerency of the state will not be recognized.”

+ **The Twenty-Eighth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution** +

**A Plan for America - A Plan for World Peace.**

**By JR Scott**



“Unjust laws exist: shall we be content to obey them, or shall we endeavor to amend them, and obey them until we have succeeded or shall we transgress them at once?”

**‘Civil Disobedience’ (1849)**  
**Henry David Thoreau**

## **Notes on the Title Page & Cover Art:**

*“Tank Man, or the Unknown Rebel, is the nickname of an anonymous man who stood in front of a column of Chinese Type 59 tanks the morning after the Chinese military forcibly removed protestors from in and around Beijing’s Tiananmen Square on June 4, 1989. While the image of the lone man in front of the tank has come to symbolize the events at Tiananmen Square in 1989 internationally, it is virtually unknown within China itself, especially among younger Chinese people.”*

+ **The Tank Man - “The Unknown Rebel” of Tiananmen Square**

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tank\\_Man](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tank_Man)

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiananmen\\_Square](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tiananmen_Square)

# **Endgame 2012**

## **The 28th Amendment and the Abolition of War & Nuclear Weapons**

**A Plan for America - A Plan for World Peace**  
**By JR Scott**

“Forty years after the Vietnam War, America’s Peace Movement stands in need of focus, revitalization, and organization to move forward the goals of the Abolition of War & Nuclear Weapons. The Peace Movement needs closure. We need victory. We need to restrain the State from violence at a fundamental level so that it will never be able to wield that power against the people for sectarian reasons again. The resources of the military-industrial complex need to be put to good use - eliminating global poverty, education, health care, environmental restoration & preservation, space exploration, and other noble goals of humanity.”

“In the past, the Peace Movement has acted in a spontaneous and generally disorganized fashion. It reacts to actions of the State with moral outrage and protest, but the force of those collective and individual actions has been unable restrain the State from conducting war & human rights violations. This book promotes a Constitutional Amendment modeled on the 9th Article of the Japanese Constitution to permanently abolish war & nuclear weapons. The author believes the Peace Movement must follow the abolitionist, suffragist, & civil rights examples to enact fundamental reform of the State at a Constitutional level.”

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## **Preface by the Author:**

The inspirations for this book are multiple - twenty years now as an activist in the Peace Movement and my disappointment, a life of study in Comparative Religions, my Teachers, my Family, my disenfranchisement by the State for “Thoughtcrimes,” the absurdity of Power and the crassness of Violence, Compassion, a Desire for Change, Hope, and a need to Communicate, on a human level, Views and Teachings that I consider vitally important. Yet, however diverse the influences may be that brought me to the path of non-violence and anchored me there, permanently, wholly convinced that it is the simple and natural solution to mankind’s problems, I also recognize that all members of the Peace Movement and human society have equally diverse and complex motivations and desires. So, I want to focus on what really drives the force of this book. Closure. Finishing it. Ending the problem so that it never arises again. Victory for the Peace Movement in the United States and Internationally. Not victory in the manner of violence, submission, humiliation, not victory in a manner that increases the cycle of violence, but victory that ends the cycle of violence, ends it finally, ends it in a way that it will not arise again and a new era begins.

After many years of study of various methods of “stopping war,” and anyone who follows current events or who has studied 20th Century human history knows we have been completely ineffective as a Peace Movement in stopping war, I have come to a few fundamental conclusions. One is that the path of non-violence, as taught by Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr., Henry David Thoreau, Nelson Mandela, and many of our other modern heroes is no different than the path taught by the Buddha Shakyamuni, Jesus, and innumerable saints, prophets, realized beings from all of our religious traditions. This is the Soul-Force, Truth-Force, Love-Force of Satyagraha, at the heart of all religions. I will also argue in this book that this non-violence is fundamental

to human morality and actually required, that “Just War” arguments becoming so popular with politicians these days are nothing new, but rather re-packaged sales of the same philosophies that allowed millions of indigenous people to be killed in colonization movements, that these wars against indigenous peoples continue, with atrocities unimaginable to most, with support of the American war machine. The book will also show that the documented US Military budget is an atrocity compared to the good that could be done in helping the poorest of the world, and may even be a fundamental force perpetuating world poverty.

This book will also discuss some of the benefits that would ensue from abolishing war and nuclear weapons, but for most readers, these should be self-evident. Despite the fact that our religions are based on non-violence and our highest religious teachers have taught non-violence and required that behavior of their students, we have continued use of the symbols of religion by the State as a justification for its violence and war. This happens domestically on the police level and internationally through the projection of political / military force - it is, has been, and may continue to be done in the name of “religion” unless it is conclusively shown that it is, in fact, in no way compatible with religion whatsoever. When the individual has that realization and witnesses State violence, he or she immediately and fundamentally knows it is wrong and his or her compassion immediately is given to the victim of violence. This is natural, heart-felt instinct, we need never deny its truth. In the same manner, we need never make ourselves go against our reason in the practice of religion and believe “things” or “ideas” or tenets of faith that go against human logic. It is unnecessary and in fact, ignorant. This book will clearly show, there is absolutely no doubt whatsoever, that violence is contrary to the heart of religion - and whether it is violence committed by the individual, violence committed by the State, or violence committed by a group motivated by some -ism, reason, or emotion, it must be looked upon equally for what it is, and at that time

we also have a moral responsibility to stop it, prevent it from happening, and so must we also work to reach the roots where we eliminate the cause that leads it to grow, and finally it is eradicated. We need to reach the point where it is not only eradicated but never arises again, and its root causes also disappear. Again, never forget, our target is war, nuclear weapons - these are funded, and funded, and funded. They are made from direct human decisions. Few humans ever really take part in that decision making process, and yet the effects of violence are far flung.

This book does not intend to be an exhaustive study of the injustices in American History, though as targeted to the American audience it does encourage all readers to undertake that study on their own. Truthfully, the tragedy of the American Indian is enough to bring tears to even the strongest man's heart. In that moment, in that emotion, there is understanding, there is realization, and that Soul-Force of giving, offering, and solidarity is the heart of any movement that is going to pass the 28th Amendment. It is unforgettable, and so we must also look at world history where other humans are suffering in similar manners, then work to stop it. Tears, recognition, understanding, awareness, these and other terms for realization function on the individual level as a form of self-governance- once I know and understand the heart of non-violence, or Agape, love in the way, or a fraction of the way, a glimpse of the way of how Jesus, Buddha, Gandhi, MLK, or others have taught it, and then seen that reflected in social injustice and terrible suffering, searched for its cause, and found organized political violence, funded by the State, again the pattern repeating across the globe.... understanding that, people search for ways to react, to express outrage, solidarity, then to stop the violence, organize, protest, and so forth. The problem comes where despite the protest the violence of the State rolls on, a new country enters the mind of the President, we know not why, decision making on the Executive level is top secret. The security apparatus operates against its own people as well as abroad with the same impunity and secrecy.

As we know it the government is above the law as they make the law, and they are the judge-jury-execution whose values do not apply to its own behavior. At this point I would like to quote an excellent paper on the end of the Cold War, for as we all know the greatness of example of the American Superpower inevitably overcame the evils of Communism, winning hearts and minds in that struggle.

‘As acclaimed Czech director Milos Forman said “the Beatles brought down the communism... Western music brought down the Iron Curtain.” But Forman maintained it was actually the regime’s criticism of the “fabulous” Beatles that punched a hole in their own credibility. “Suddenly the ideologues are telling you this is decadent, these are four apes escaping from the jungle. I thought I’m not such an idiot that I love this music and suddenly these political ideologues were strangers.”’

+ **‘John Lennon and the Fall of the Soviet Union’ -**

+ [http://beatles.ncf.ca/dave\\_lafontana.html](http://beatles.ncf.ca/dave_lafontana.html)

It is important to consider this from the American perspective. We can look at John Lennon and say, he understood Satyagraha, he understood Christianity as taught by Jesus at the Sermon on the Mount, in Acts, in the Gnostic Gospels, he is consistent and pure in that understanding and his logic and speech are 100% consistent. And so we can listen to Bob Marley and say, he understood Satyagraha, he understood Christianity as taught by Jesus, etc., he is consistent and pure in that understanding and his logic and speech are 100% consistent. And so we can listen to the speeches of Martin Luther King Jr., Nelson Mandela, and other modern political teachers of the path of non-violence, and say similarly, they understood the essence of Satyagraha, etc. and they were pure and consistent. We can look at the history of the “just war” theory and show its direct consequences in the Native Americans, and ask why the Church did this - it is a vital, and legitimate question.

So this book seeks to abolish the “just war” theory 100% by showing there is no basis for the use of violence in the determination of political issues among men & women. Rather war is an abuse of power and authority given to the State by the people. In most instances, it was not “given” but rather seized and enforced by violence, and through this more violence, and through this some benefitted and some suffered. And so we say we must always be on the side of the oppressed and the suffering. It is self-evident. This book will also discuss some aspects of divinity as taught by the Gnostics, Buddhists, Sufis, and other mystics who in my opinion have reached the heart of religion, where truth and love conjoin. While advocating their views, and believing that realization is an important part of understanding compassion, I do not believe that anyone else would have to by right adopt them to support this movement. The logic should be as plain and self-evident that it can be understood by any human of any age, of any creed, religion, or sect. And that is the Golden Rule. It is really fundamental - one rule that rules them all. If every action of any individual, group, nation-state, etc. is judged by that one standard, it will be clear if the action is just & correct, or not. It is really that simple.

So, despite the simplicity of such a teaching, which takes its most profound weight and shows its far-reaching effect in the Sermon on the Mount, we have State violence, war, and nuclear weapons. Again, we are not idiots. We know it is wrong. Somebody benefits, somebody suffers, but every action of the State can be weighed by the Golden Rule in the same manner as the individual. And so it must be. Thus, we are proposing a 28th Amendment to the US Constitution that prohibits the state from war and violence, by proxy outlawing all nuclear weapons. It is finished. Human beings can fund and engage in other activities. We are victorious. This will abide. That is the message of this book, and what follows is a repetition on this theme.



## **Chapter 1:**

### **+ The 28th Amendment to Abolish War & Nuclear Weapons:**

The text of the 28th Amendment, as proposed, is identical to the English translation of Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution.

*“Aspiring sincerely to an international peace based on justice and order, the American people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling international disputes. (2) To accomplish the aim of the preceding paragraph, land, sea, and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained. The right of belligerency of the state will not be recognized.”*

+ International: Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution:

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Article\\_9\\_of\\_the\\_Japanese\\_Constitution](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Article_9_of_the_Japanese_Constitution)

The 9th Article of the Japanese Constitution was enacted following the defeat of Imperial Japan. The defeat of Imperial Japan was accomplished through the dropping of Atomic weapons on Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the United States. Some historians claim the dropping of the Atomic Bombs was not related to the surrender of Japan, which was already conceding defeat, but rather as a show of force to the Soviet Union and the opening salvo of the Cold War. During the Cold War, America used her resources and the moral force of her victory in WWII, the classic “just war” for apologists, to build arguably the most powerful army and nuclear arsenal that has ever established in human history. For what reason does one build armies on such a scale other than to subjugate? Whatever the reason, it is contrary to the heart of religion.

*‘In the most deeply significant of the legends concerning Jesus, we are told how the devil took him up into a high mountain and showed him all*

*all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time; and the devil said unto him: "All this power will I give unto thee, and the glory of them, for that is delivered unto me, and to whomsoever I will, I give it. If thou, therefore, wilt worship me, all shall be thine." Jesus, as we know, answered and said "Get thee behind me, Satan!" And he really meant it; he would have nothing to do with worldly glory, with "temporal power;" he chose the career of a revolutionary agitator, and died the death of a disturber of the peace. And for two or three centuries his church followed in his footsteps, cherishing his proletarian gospel. The early Christians had "all things in common, except women;" they lived as social outcasts, hiding in deserted catacombs, and being thrown to lions and boiled in oil.'*

**¶'The Profits of Religion : An Essay in Economic Interpretation' (1918) - Book Two : The Church of Good Society, "The Canonization of Incompetence" - Upton Sinclair**

+ [http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Upton\\_Sinclair](http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Upton_Sinclair)

This quote by Upton Sinclair, an American social reformer, goes directly to the heart of the issue. Jesus is non-violence. Unequivocally, without exception, Jesus is the heart of non-violence. No one can derive violent teachings from what Jesus directly taught - instead, anyone who reads and reflects on his words must get to the point of non-violence. It is fundamental. It is incorrect to use Jesus' teachings as a basis of war, in any form. Jesus' teachings establish him and his community purely in solidarity with the poorest of the poor, the weakest of the weak, the powerless, and suffering. Anyone who attacks these people - the weak, the poor, the innocent, the suffering, and powerless - is doing the same as attacking Jesus himself. That is how Jesus taught, it is not an ambiguous teaching. Now view the history of a superpower and decide for yourself if those actions are in accord with these teachings.

This non-violence is not exclusive to Jesus' teachings - it is found in all world religions - but it was so radical in the Judaic tradition that we separate the Bible into an "Old" and "New" Testament. This book is not intended to be a Sunday School course in scripture. But, it is undeniable that Christianity is the foundation of morality in America, and as such it should be interpreted properly, and when necessary, its teaching should be defended from usurpation by the State when it seeks to cloak itself in its symbols as a justification for war. For it can not be repeated enough times - there is no way that war and violence can be argued from Jesus' teachings. It is unequivocal & undeniable - it is impossible. So anyone who truly aspires to be a follower of Jesus must consider the consequences of this.

For those who may feel I am overstating this or belaboring an obvious point, consider history. This point can not be repeated enough in light of the wars and deaths, suffering from wars, violence of the 20th Century and our new millennium. The teachings of Jesus are 100% incompatible with war - in fact, they are 100% the opposite of war, they are the teachings of peace. So, for a nation, such as America, whose founders were clear in their invocation of Christianity as their guide in establishing the State, and for a people who follow this tradition by majority, base pledges of allegiance and honesty on this tradition, and who have also so repeatedly violated this essential, fundamental point, it needs to be repeated. The heart of religion is incompatible with war and violence. That is self-evident. For whatever reasons, mistakes, or illusions we may have gone wrong, for however many billions and trillions of dollars wasted, and millions of lives lost, there is a solution and an answer. And that answer is to fundamentally reform the Constitution to abolish war and nuclear weapons, in the exact same manner that the Japanese have in their constitution today and for the last 60 years. The text is what is written in the 28th Amendment as listed above... the 28th amends.

## **Chapter 2:**

### **+ The Christian Doctrine of “Just War” is not Christian:**

One of the main reasons I am writing this book is a train of thought events that arose from the Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech of President Barack Obama. As I and many have written previously, in that speech Obama renounced the teachings of Martin Luther King Jr., Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, and others on non-violence in favor of those espoused by Reinhold Niebuhr, what is known as the “just war” theory. In this way Christians can kill in their own self-interest. And so a massive chain of events unfolds that leads to untold human tragedy, environmental & cultural destruction, atrocious violence, and spiralling hatred as none as just some of the aspects of war. Yes, it is as easy as that, a logical progression. Note, as I have written in chapter one, Christianity and the teachings of Jesus are 100% incompatible with war and violence, that cannot be confused. But the State would like for us to be confused, when it serves its purpose of control. For that reason, I will introduce at the beginning of this chapter one thing to be on guard about - Newspeak, as George Orwell termed it in 1984.

‘The basic idea behind Newspeak is to remove all shades of meaning from language, leaving simple dichotomies (pleasure and pain, happiness and sadness, goodthink and crimethink) which reinforce the total dominance of the State. Similarly, Newspeak root words served as both nouns and verbs, which allowed further reduction in the total number of words; for example, “think” served as both noun and verb, so the word thought was not required and could be abolished.’

+ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newspeak>

Now this is very important because it has been going on with Christianity since Constantine and otherwise there could not have been the atrocities that were committed in the name of the religion.

To be clear, despite studying heavily in Gnosticism and Comparative Religions during my life, I did not entirely grasp how pivotal Constantine was in bringing us to this illusion where Christian teachings can be used by the State as a cover for its violence and fuel for its wars until encountering the above quote by Upton Sinclair. But this story illustrates it precisely:

*“In the year 312 there ruled a Roman Emperor named Maxentius who had taken power illegally. He hated Christians and persecuted them. The proper heir to the throne, Constantine, marched on Rome to save the Empire. Before the two forces met in battle, Constantine saw a vision of a cross in the sky and the words “Conquer under this”. Constantine and his army converted to Christianity and painted the cross on their shields. The next day they defeated the pagans and brought Christianity to Rome.”*

+ **‘The death of paganism: how the Roman Empire converted to Christianity’** | <http://www.gadling.com/2010/09/21/the-death-of-paganism-how-the-roman-empire-converted-to-christi/>

*“The truth is more complex. Maxentius and Constantine were both sons of emperors and thus equally legitimate. Maxentius did not persecute Christians, and the story of Constantine seeing a cross in the sky doesn’t appear in the texts until years after the battle. Constantine did defeat Maxentius and marched into Rome in triumph, bearing his rival’s severed head as a trophy. After the usual celebrations and gladiator spectacles, he built the Arch of Constantine, which has no Christian symbolism but does depict sacrifices to four pagan gods. In later years he built a number of grandiose churches, including the original St. Peter’s, but didn’t get baptized until his deathbed. Paganism remained legal throughout his reign. Constantine gave one great boon to the Christians--he legalized their religion.”*

**Matthew 5:38-39:** *“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ But I say to you, do not resist the evildoer. But whoever strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other to him as well.”*

**Matthew 5:43-48** - *“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor’ and ‘hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemy and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be like your Father in heaven, since he causes the sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Even the tax collectors do the same, don’t they? And if you only greet your brothers, what more do you do? Even the Gentiles do the same, don’t they? So then, be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”*

Unless it not altogether obvious Christianity is not about painting the cross on the shield and cutting the head off of your enemy to seize political power. What is called “Christianity” or the teachings of Jesus are so much more powerful than that. So how did we get to a point where this is / was possible - i.e. the State doing something, namely killing - organized political violence, in the name of the Teachings of Jesus Christ, “Christianity,” when the teachings of Jesus clearly, unequivocally, and undeniably teach the opposite - that is forgiveness, love for one’s enemy, non-violence, and peace? This is not a rhetorical question, it is vital, essential, and 100% to the heart of the issue. How is this possible? This is why I say that Constantine began the translation of the Gospels into Newspeak.

So how did it happen, I don’t know frankly... I am researching it somewhat but the historical records are truly scarce. Upton Sinclair describes the scene thus:

*”But the devil is a subtle worm; he does not give up at one defeat, for*

*he knows human nature, and the strength of the forces which battle for him. He failed to get Jesus, but he came again, to get Jesus' church. He came when, through the power of the new revolutionary idea, the Church had won a position of tremendous power in the decaying Roman Empire; and the subtle worm assumed the guise or no less a person than the Emperor himself, suggesting that he should become a convert to the new faith, so that the Church and he might work together for the greater glory of God. The bishops and fathers of the Church, ambitious for their organization, fell for this scheme, and Satan went off laughing to himself. He had got everything he had asked from Jesus three hundred years before; he had got the world's greatest religion."*

¶**The Profits of Religion : An Essay in Economic Interpretation' (1918) - Book Two : The Church of Good Society, "The Canonization of Incompetence" - Upton Sinclair**  
+ [http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Upton\\_Sinclair](http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Upton_Sinclair)

At any rate, however it happened, I am not quoting Sinclair to be anti-Catholic, because I truly love the Catholic saints, monks & nuns, who have realized through the tradition of Christ. Good people will do good even when mired in a terrible or corrupt system. I quote Sinclair rather to point to the essential paradox of how we could have killing in the name of Christianity, which is a terrible aspect of history that includes European Wars, Forced Conversions, Crusades, Indoctrination, Inquisition, Colonization, Imperialism, New World Genocide, and other aspects of cruelty, violence, and human horror show. I did not make it up, nor do I do any justice to the enormity of the problem by generalizing it as such, but most of us know some terrible things were done in the name of religion, and it included the conquest and murder of "the New World" by the Europeans. So why was Sinclair so vehement in his description? Because before the Church and Empire joined the early Christians were so perfect, pure, and true to the teachings of Jesus. They were not "Conquerors under the Cross" nor did they paint crosses on their shields and roll out to fight.

The early Christians were leading a life of non-violence and asceticism, the poorest of the poor, and persecuted by the violence of the State and Empire in the same manner of Jesus. They had a canon of teachings far more extensive than we preserved in the New Testament as the Four Gospels. The “Christian” teachings were “whittled down” from innumerable eye-witness accounts, secret and public teachings from the actual life and times of Christ, to just a few that were considered “orthodox” and acceptable to Constantine’s state. This is the time when Christianity became a static “creed” that could be blindly recited and used as identity, rather than a free flowing wisdom, realization, and understanding. This too, is vital.

*“In Gnostic tradition, Sophia is a feminine figure, analogous to the human soul but also simultaneously one of the feminine aspects of God. Gnostics held that she was the syzygy of Jesus Christ (i.e. the Bride of Christ), and Holy Spirit of the Trinity. In the Nag Hammadi texts, Sophia is the lowest Aeon, or anthropic expression of the emanation of the light of God. She is considered to have fallen from grace in some way, in so doing creating or helping to create the material world. For the Gnostics, the drama of the redemption of the Sophia through Christ or the Logos is the central drama of the universe. The Sophia resides in all of us as the Divine Spark.”*

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sophia\\_\(wisdom\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sophia_(wisdom))

One way to explain it - Sophia is Wisdom, Wisdom is the Holy Spirit.

Another way: Sophia=Wisdom=Shakti=Tao=Natural Mystic=Holy Spirit=Synchronicity=Prajna

This is also known in Buddhism as “Rangjung Yeshe” - Primordial, Self-Arisen Wisdom - or - Our “Buddha Nature.”

Again, so this is important, it is fundamental, it is actually the heart of the world's religions - it is Wisdom, and at the same time, Love, and at the same time, Truth, and attribute after attribute, it is Compassion, Understanding, etc. Let us posit this - if you have that understanding, call it Sophia, the Heart of Christ, etc. - then you have non-violence and you would never, under any circumstances kill for political reasons or make political violence. You would try to transcend political sectarianism and love and respect all people like a brother, like a good neighbor. So what is the root of this, the Golden Rule. Just and always - "do unto others as you would have them do unto you." No matter what being in the universe, from smallest microbe to highest God, any kind of being, human, animal, can understand this, at any age... it is just so true. And from that non-violence, pure and simple. There is really no need for further discussion, all human rights are present there, all humanitarianism, vegetarianism, and compassion. The individual and nation-state can both apply the same standard equally - that is why it is the Golden Rule and the heart of all world religions and morality.

Another point I have made is that the Golden Rule and Golden Mean are related to being, karma, and behavior - imagine, for example, karma as progressing algorithmically and the Golden Mean as a centering and balancing path - behavior, as defined by good conduct as related to the Golden Rule, along that frequency can be aligned repeatedly as a path to Enlightenment. On the basis of giving, charity, realization of the nature of mind, etc. So, it is important to be in touch with "Wisdom" and the fundamental aspect of Wisdom would be the Golden Rule, and as we do unto others, so we realize the fundamental importance of non-violence. Anything further is essentially, this teacher taught in this way to that audience, as Alan Watts would say it is a "perennial wisdom," it comes back the same way to all of us. So let's establish the vital point: non-violence is the heart of religion, because Wisdom-Love-Awareness is a living understanding of Truth.

Thus we establish that religion, from its heart essence, is love, tolerance, understanding, forgiveness, our highest values, none of which are compatible with war and violence. Then let us state clearly - we cannot have a house divided, that is serving two masters... i.e. we cannot be genocidal armies under the banner of Christ, that should be self-evident. And yet, history teaches us otherwise and... to get back to the point at hand, we want a social movement that abolishes war and nuclear weapons, now and immediately, primarily and fundamentally because we realize these essential points. The lawyer, let us say, can argue either side of the law depending on who is paying the bill. We cannot do like this when it comes to issues like war and state violence, organized political violence. And from that a social movement. It is required.

It is not me who requires, but going back "*The Sophia resides in all of us as the Divine Spark. Sophia is analogous to the human soul but also simultaneously one of the aspects of God. Sophia is Wisdom, Wisdom is the Holy Spirit.*" From this wisdom, from this divine spark, from the human "soul" we receive our conscience - this is our connection to "God". And from this basis we reject, and from this basis resist, and from this basis we can abolish war and nuclear weapons from the planet forever. Because this force is infinitely strong, it is the power of the human imagination. We dream, bringing whole realities to life while we sleep, that vanish instantly into nothingness. So too our old values, laws, and institutions can change and evolve into new forms. Everything is impermanent, change is life, times change, we must go on. But why should we tolerate such things as the billions spent for war, the imprisonment of millions for thoughtcrime, the coercion, and pillage of resources. Do we have a choice? Do we have a duty? If so to what and who decides? In most cases it is the conscience as insight into the soul. So from this basis the individual can resist any tyranny or fascism, even if it means his or her death. This is Jesus & Thoreau, no difference.

*["The First Council of Nicaea was a council of Christian bishops convened in Nicaea in Bithynia (present-day İznik in Turkey) by the Roman Emperor Constantine I in A.D. 325. The Council was the first effort to attain consensus in the church through an assembly representing all of Christendom."*

+ The First Council of Nicaea:

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First\\_Council\\_of\\_Nicaea](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Council_of_Nicaea)

*["The purpose of a creed is to act as a yardstick of correct belief. The creeds of Christianity have been drawn up at times of conflict about doctrine: acceptance or rejection of a creed served to distinguish believers and deniers of a particular doctrine or set of doctrines. For that reason a creed was called in Greek a σύμβολον, a word that meant half of a broken object which, when placed together with the other half, verified the bearer's identity. The Greek word passed through Latin "symbolum" into English "symbol", which only later took on the meaning of an outward sign of something.'*

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicene\\_Creed](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicene_Creed)

We are searching to the answer of the question, how did humans get so far away from the understanding of the Gospels where they can believe that the State has the right to kill politically or can even believe themselves to be Christians while killing their enemies or hating their neighbors, etc. And we see that Constantine favored reducing "Christianity" to a three line "creed," declaring all but 4 of the innumerable teachings of Jesus recorded and transmitted by the early disciples as heretical, incorporating "Pagan" art and the symbols of Paganism into the observances, adding all the wealth and pageantry of the empire to the religion of the poor. What is left is an empty shell if you miss the wisdom essence, so we need to start there for any kind of movement.

Again, there will be some who say I am overstating the point or being anti-Catholic, which I have no intent of whatsoever, as I love the Catholic religion as I have seen it practiced so many times, and the stories of its saints, such as Mother Theresa and St. Martin de Porres. But if I also hear stories of Inquisition or Papal Line of Demarcation, and all of Conquistadors and Crusades, I have to say wait, please... something is wrong, there is a contradiction, let's return to the text and the teachings and remember - it is not like that, not at all. Because it is exactly the same today, and that is what we are "fighting" against even if we are doing it 100% non-violently. There is an opponent and it is based in this misinterpretation, if it is a form of ignorance, then it can be eliminated through understanding. If it is a conscious decision to do evil then it is different than simply being unaware or ignorant of the problem. The life of the Tibetan Saint Milarepa is filled with examples of him teaching people from all walks of life to wake up essentially from their ignorant views. The life and teaching of Jesus is the same, as he says, "*So then, be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*"

Let us posit then that a pure, non-violent, love & wisdom based life such as Shakyamuni Buddha, Jesus Christ, St. Martin de Porres, or Mother Theresa is something of the "human ideal." *So then, be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.* Well, we cannot be perfect, we are human, constantly making mistakes and minds generally flooded with all manner of conflicting desires and interests. Nevertheless, as HH the Dalai Lama says, we have to try... we have to never give up. We are not perfect today but we recognize our mistakes, correct them, and try to do better the next time. Jesus teaches we are forgiven, but we still must give up our "sins". Sins are essentially "missing the mark" - we shot our arrow of intentionality or Will, and we missed the target. We practice, again the Path, and we hone our skill so that we are more on mark. This is not to slaughter our enemies, it is allegorical - our goal or target is a perfect peace of non-violent, love, and wisdom being.

Thus, our holy teachers are not seeking followers for their own personal power, ego needs, riches, or political power, they are looking for students who want to follow the path to perfection. Whether the path ends in “enlightenment” or “the kingdom of heaven” - we are striving to perfect our minds, our activities, our lives to be in tune with the higher frequencies of natural wisdom of our teachers and what they point to, beyond. When we “join”, or “follow,” a religion, essentially what we are doing is becoming students of the teachers of that tradition, and seeking to live our lives on the archetypes of their own life example and wisdom. Often, we seek not only our own happiness, but to be a betterment to others, those that we care about, and others in civil society more or less fortunate in different ways than ourselves. So, it should be self-evident the importance of living a good life and progressing in this manner, again it is basic, everyone has been doing as such since before history began. From this then we need to also see how we can improve our government by applying the same standards which we understand to be true and vital to its operation. And this means protections of innocents from harm, assisting the poor, helping, healing, sharing, feeding people, following the examples of our holy teachers in government as well as in our daily lives, they should not be separate, each can reform.

For to be sure the State forces its punishments and demands for service upon the individual while never bearing any lashes for its own behavior. This should not be surprising, the State does not exist, it cannot exist, it is merely a thought, an idea, a belief in the minds of men. As quickly as a thought or belief can change, so to the State, and so it is but an excuse for behavior only, and otherwise an extortion racket and mafia serving its own interest rather than any altruistic goals for the most part. Let's return then to an example of how the State conjoined with Religion “makes laws” - such as international laws which recognize State “killing” during war as different from murder, and “Religious Decrees” which justify murder & violence committed by the State.

First, it must be clear how the train of events develops. For example, we start with: *“Constantine saw a vision of a cross in the sky and the words ‘Conquer under this’. Constantine and his army converted to Christianity and painted the cross on their shields. The next day they defeated the pagans and brought Christianity to Rome.”* For the previous three centuries, “Christianity” was a non-violent, gnostic, ascetic religion - after joining with the State and the Roman Empire it became a different Church, and it condoned and practiced violence under the banner of the Cross, something surely anathema to Jesus, who preached entirely the opposite. While not going into depth on all the issues involved, this is established - it should be clear and understood. What then does this change lead to? The most obvious answer would be - the Crusades to conquer Palestine and the Middle East, and the Northern Crusades to conquer Scandinavia. Readers with historical interest can research and wonder, how could all this have been done in Jesus’ name, but we are interested in the modern situation, while tracing only briefly the roots of the problem. But because it has been going on for so long, and the State has performed kind of a Newspeak brainwashing on discourse, what is wrong is right and war is peace and love is violence and so forth. Perhaps the most important thing to remember in how Constantine orchestrated this was through the creed, and the Newspeak of irrelevance to the free flowing love-wisdom understanding. But we are tracing the roots of the problem not only to see the chain of events, but also how the pattern repeats in modern experience.

¶*“The School of Salamanca, which gathered theologians such as Francisco de Vitoria (1480-1546) or Francisco Suárez (1548-1617), argued in favor of the existence of natural law, which thus gave some rights to indigenous people. However, while the School of Salamanca limited Charles V’s imperial powers over colonized people, they also legitimized the conquest, defining the conditions of “Just War”. For example, these theologians admitted the existence of the right for indigenous*

*people to reject religious conversion, which was a novelty for Western philosophical thought. However, Suárez also conceived many particular cases — a casuistry — in which conquest was legitimized. Hence, war was justified if the indigenous people refused free transit and commerce to the Europeans; if they forced converts to return to idolatry; if there come to be a sufficient number of Christians in the newly discovered land that they wish to receive from the Pope a Christian government; if the indigenous people lacked just laws, magistrates, agricultural techniques, etc. In any case, title taken according to this principle must be exercised with Christian charity, warned Suárez, and for the advantage of the Indians. Henceforth, the School of Salamanca legitimized the conquest while at the same time limiting the absolute power of the sovereign, which was celebrated in others parts of Europe under the notion of the divine right of kings.”*

+ **First European colonization wave (15th century–19th century)** - <http://goo.gl/r3M0>

To summarize, we go from a pure teaching, a pure community, and a pure religion, a Gnostic faith to a static creed aligned with the army & imperialism of the State. That was the problem from Constantine on, and we see in the Council of Salamanca how the theologians are happy to build a legal framework which justifies murder and theft in indigenous areas of the New World. But do we really realize how terrible the consequences really were, how unconscionable, how genocidal, and how insane when compared to the Gospels, how the creed fuels a forced baptism but how “the native,” the Native American preserves the original free flowing wisdom? Unfortunately, “love thy neighbor” was lost and with it innumerable treasures of religious texts and teachings of the indigenous peoples. To be honest, I cannot tell the story in the space here and it is beyond the intent of this book, for those who are interested it is Eduardo Galeano and “The Open Veins of Latin America” that is the best starting point but there are many.

But Galeano unifies and brings us back to the task at hand - we must see the train-wreck of events that unfolds from the failure to resist the demonization of Jesus' teachings by paid agents of the Church-State fusion. This, of course, is Medieval, in the sense of "Pulp Fiction". It is 100% modern and contemporary and happening today. Except who is the current Apologist, it is not the Council of Nicea or Salamanca but Reinhold Niebuhr, and ironically from there we find the story of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Barack Obama, the Empire, and the Doctrine of "Just War" wound together again.

*"In recent months alone, John McCain (in a book) celebrated Niebuhr as a paragon of clarity about the costs of a good war; New York Governor Eliot Spitzer (at the Chautauqua Institution) invoked Niebuhr as a model of the humility lacking in the White House; and Barack Obama (leaving the Senate floor) called Niebuhr "one of [his] favorite philosophers" for his account of "the compelling idea that there's serious evil in the world."*

**A Man for All Reasons - Magazine - The Atlantic**

+ <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2007/11/a-man-for-all-reasons/6337/>

So, let's be clear, there is little difference between the Republicans and Democrats as far as this movement is concerned. They are two sides of the same coin, they are both pushing the rise of the military industrial complex and the prison industrial complex to levels never seen before in history, not even in the worst aspects of the Soviet reign of terror in Eastern Europe. The US electorate is giving them around 99% of the vote, smaller "3rd Parties" receive less than 1% collectively on average. The Democrats and Republicans are interchangeable, mindlessly chatter on about trivialities, while they are plundering the people and lining the pockets of a very few, though who knows who? Both sides love Niebuhr and his "Just War" - remembering that Salamanca led to New

World Genocide, and Nicea justified both the Northern & Holy Land Crusades, what can we expect from the fusion of the modern advocate of the “Just War” theory and the Neo-Empire America? The answer as we know is Iraq & Afghanistan, Abu-Ghraib & Guantanamo, the Patriot Act, Wiretapping, Extraordinary Rendition, Waterboarding, & the Like. Obama and McCain both go to the same minister on the issues and it is Niebuhr, so let’s analyze what Niebuhr is really saying and why it is so attractive to the State post-Salamanca.

*‘Niebuhr’s critique of pacifism is set forth in ‘Why the Church Is Not Pacifist.’ Originally published in 1939, Niebuhr’s thesis is that ‘the refusal of the Christian Church to espouse pacifism is not apostasy and that most modern forms of pacifism are heresy.’ The heretical form of pacifism was held by his liberal Protestant contemporaries, who have ‘reinterpreted the Christian Gospel in terms of the Renaissance faith in man. Modern pacifism is merely a final fruit of this Renaissance spirit, which has pervaded the whole of modern Protestantism. We have interpreted world history as a gradual ascent to the Kingdom of God which waits for the final triumph only upon the willingness of Christians “to take Christ seriously.”’*”

+ **“Reinhold Niebuhr, Christian Realism, and Just War Theory - A Critique” by Keith Pavlischek**

+ [http://www.eppc.org/docLib/20080205\\_palpatterson03.pdf](http://www.eppc.org/docLib/20080205_palpatterson03.pdf)

[www.eppc.org](http://www.eppc.org)

So, Pacifism - the central teaching of the Sermon on the Mount, the vital essence, non-violence of Jesus’ teachings - this is heresy. Truly the lightning is roaring with laughter. If you say, 1600 years of brainwashing, shuffle on down to Pennsylvania Avenue, you are beginning to get the idea. Niebuhr is so WRONG WRONG WRONG on every aspect of his interpretation it would be laughable, were it not that his being a “paid shill” is justifying war & human rights violations worldwide!

I am vehement about this because it goes to the heart of everything that is so important, in fact were it not for Obama invoking Niebuhr at his Nobel speech, I doubt I would be writing this at all. But we established in the preceding how 1) Constantine + Nicea leads to death, war, violence, death - just absurdities to be associating Jesus' teachings with war, and 2) how this evolved further from the Northern and Holy Land Crusades to the next version which justified the "Just War" against the indigenous of the "New World," conquest & colonization. So missing the point here has enormous consequences in terms of human suffering and injustice. It is not just "hot air" - it has happened, it is history, it is fact. Niebuhr is the great triumph of Newspeak, he is the speechwriter for Himmler or Rumsfeld, interchangeable. Kissinger donates heavily to his Church. In return, the press releases and book returns a philosophy fitting for a Superpower. In case the reader think I am again exaggerating my point, I will give a few more examples to illustrate.

*"At the outbreak of World War II, the pacifist component of his liberalism was challenged. Niebuhr began to distance himself from the pacifism of his more liberal colleagues and became a staunch advocate for the war. Niebuhr soon left the Fellowship of Reconciliation, a peace-oriented group of theologians and ministers, and became one of their harshest critics. This departure from his peers evolved into a movement known as Christian Realism. Niebuhr is widely considered to have been its primary advocate."*

+[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reinhold\\_Niebuhr](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reinhold_Niebuhr)

*"That is, Niebuhr simply accepted the liberal Protestant (pacifist) understanding of the Sermon on the Mount, namely, that Jesus radically denounced all resort to force violence and coercion and expected his disciples to follow his example. For the Christian pacifist, the teaching and example of Jesus precludes Christians from the profession of arms*

*and from participation in war. Niebuhr and his disciples conceded that the Gospel ethic, or the ethic of Jesus, is a pure ethic of love and non-violence, but concluded that the perfect morality modeled by Jesus (and expected of his disciples) is not practical in human society and thus must be moderated by a pragmatic or realistic ethic of responsibility that requires a choice of lesser or necessary evils on behalf of the community”*

**+ “Reinhold Niebuhr, Christian Realism, and Just War Theory - A Critique” by Keith Pavlischek**

+ [http://www.eppc.org/docLib/20080205\\_palpatterson03.pdf](http://www.eppc.org/docLib/20080205_palpatterson03.pdf)

Again, we need to follow the progress of Newspeak to follow the logic, which is - “yes, we admit, Jesus taught a perfect path of love and non-violence, but alas, it is too difficult for men to follow, thus we must make war, condone violence, even create violence if required by the realities of every day life, for we are mere men.” Compare to “*O then, be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*” and

+ *Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

+ *Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.*

+ *Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.*

+ *Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.*

+ *Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.*

+ *Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.*

+ *Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.*

+ *Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

**+ From: “The Sermon on the Mount” - Direct Teachings of Jesus Christ**

It is essential for me to link Niebuhr and his teachings to two related concepts, the first is that of “being wrong” and on the losing side of the debate, that must be clear, and the second is “1984”. Because if you can see through the 1984-speak or Niebuhr-ian speechwriting, then war is not peace and violence is not non-violence and killing is not “Christian” war is not justified. Here is where it is happening again, on the rhetorical level and it is masking a war machine that consumes \$1 trillion US dollars every year - a rough equivalent of the annual income of the world’s 3 billion poorest people. It is a mask for thousands of nuclear weapons, innumerable chemical weapons, bombs, bunker busters, smart bombs, cluster bombs, landmines, tanks, artillery, and so many weapons and machines created with one intention and task, to kill, destroy, wound, maim, without regard to woman, child, or soldier, man or monk, priest or nun. Weapons that just kill indiscriminately and on a massive scale and do nothing else. And a trillion dollars every year, just wasted, poured away on that. Christ teaching when you serve the poorest you serve me, directly - Jesus dying with only a slingshot and a pair of sandals. When a person can see clearly this injustice, then the work is done, the understanding is clear, it is not compatible, nor logical and then something must be done, something must change, and immediately.

Again, I must resort to quotes from Upton Sinclair:

*“It is difficult to get a man to understand something, when his salary depends upon his not understanding it!”*

+ Upton Sinclair, ‘I, Candidate for Governor: And How I Got Licked’ (1935)

*“Fascism is capitalism plus murder.”*

+ Upton Sinclair, ‘Presidential Agent II’ (1944)

+ [http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Upton\\_Sinclair](http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Upton_Sinclair)

Related to this, a quote from the immortal Voltaire:

*“Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities.”*

+ **Voltaire** - <http://www.quotationspage.com/quotes/Voltaire>

Again, I do not see any reason why studying and practicing the teachings of Jesus should force anyone to sacrifice their intelligence or logic. Why should one believe absurdities when we know quite clearly what Jesus taught, and it is non-violence, and resistance to war and violence with non-violence. This is the Golden Rule. If we can accept Jesus as a pure pacifist and teacher of non-violent love-wisdom, we never have to surrender any aspect of material science nor see any incompatibility between science and religion. But the same people that would like to force other people to believe absurdities, are actually the same factions leading the atrocities. So, it is clear that historical cycles repeat, that is why I am repeating that the “Just War” hypothesis is false - it is based on a wrong interpretation of scripture. And to those who challenge this and suggest that is wrong, I will quote Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. who’s views on non-violence and their relation to Christianity are unequivocal.

*“Modern psychology has a word that is probably used more than any other word. It is the word ‘maladjusted.’ Now we all should seek to live a well—adjusted life in order to avoid neurotic and schizophrenic personalities. But there are some things within our social order to which I am proud to be maladjusted and to which I call upon you to be maladjusted. I never intend to adjust myself to segregation and discrimination. I never intend to adjust myself to mob rule. I never intend to adjust myself to the tragic effects of the methods of physical violence and to tragic militarism. I call upon you to be maladjusted to such things. I call upon you to be as maladjusted to such things.”*

+ **The Power of Non-violence by Martin Luther King, Jr.**

This is so vital that it needs to be repeated:

*“But there are some things within our social order to which I am proud to be maladjusted and to which I call upon you to be maladjusted. I never intend to adjust myself to segregation and discrimination. I never intend to adjust myself to mob rule. **I never intend to adjust myself to the tragic effects of the methods of physical violence and to tragic militarism.** I call upon you to be maladjusted to such things. I call upon you to be as maladjusted to such things.”*

+ **The Power of Non-violence by Martin Luther King, Jr.**

+ <http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/index.asp?document=1131>

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. opposed the Vietnam War - he was a pacifist, and he was highly influenced by Gandhi's writings on Satyagraha. In my opinion, so should we all be in our studies and practice - this is the right view, it goes to the heart of all religions, it is so important to keep us on the right path, and if we lose it we will go astray with terrible consequences, especially on the level of a governmental superpower. Does the government have any power at all outside of a man's mind? I have seen innumerable times in countries around the world, soldiers put down their arms and refuse to fire, to refuse to take the life of their own countrymen. We research, who is selling weapons, who profits from war around the world, we know the companies receiving the largest contracts from the Pentagon, and fine, most humans would like to have more money because money buys most things in today's world, but we really don't have any idea who is profiting from these trillions, because it is all top secret and behind layers of obfuscation. It is not hard to know what is just because we simply apply the Golden Rule.

So, MLK is as obstinate as Churchill - he will never surrender non-violence, he will never surrender Satyagraha, Truth or Love.

We return then to Barack Obama, our President, Nobel Peace Prize winner, Professor, Expert on Constitutional Law, Commander in Chief. To many, Obama's election was a massive civil rights victory in America, he is America's "First Black President." From Slavery, to Abolition of Slavery, from Jim Crow to the Civil Rights Movement of Dr. King, Obama's election is the crown, he has proven full equality, full participation, full enjoyment, full respect, full power and authority are able to be wielded by "black" and "white" alike in America. It is really fantastic, and most people are glad about this aspect of the election, but after it occurs, it has passed, and then governance and leadership. I have posters and pictures of Obama painted on murals across America, hand-painted by humble and anonymous supporters, of Obama and Dr. King - they are a civil rights movement, a continuum, Obama got elected on this, and Shepard Fairey iconized it in his art of propaganda. We know from Obama's writings that he studied Satyagraha and Gandhi's teachings to some extent, and he gives a sort of token respect to them. As I previously wrote in my blog:

*First time Obama lost me: support for the FISA Amendments Act: "The U.S. Senate overwhelmingly voted... to grant retroactive amnesty to the telecoms that aided the President Bush's five-year secret, warrantless wiretapping of Americans, and to expand the government's authority to sift through U.S. communications, handing a key victory to the Bush administration."*

+ <http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2008/07/senate-approv-1/>

*"Second time Obama lost me: Naming Rahm Emmanuel Chief of staff the day after winning the election - Choosing Emanuel was one of Obama's first decisions after becoming president-elect in Tuesday's election."*

+ <http://www.haaretz.com/news/obama-says-rahm-emmanuel-accepts-chief-of-staff-position-1.285436>

*“The Third time Obama lost me: choosing Reinhold Niebuhr over Mahatma Gandhi & MLK in his Nobel Prize Acceptance Speech.”*  
+ <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34360743/>

When I say “he lost me,” I mean, “he lost my support.” The third is critical because obviously this is my great hope, we can have a US President who understands Satyagraha and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s teachings on non-violence, and he can stay true to them and bring American policy to ground, to accordance with this. A great orator, he can explain the reasoning to the people drawing upon a rich knowledge of history. Instead we get Reinhold Niebuhr and “Just War”. Does it matter, is it dangerous, am I being too critical? Remember that we previously traced the chain of events from Salamanca’s “Just War” to “New World” Genocide. It is a direct linkage of events, unequivocal.

*“The Uruguayan writer Eduardo Galeano criticized the Nobel Prize for Peace at the U.S. president, Barack Obama, in a BBC interview, played today by the portal Espectador.com.” It was a bad joke. But there is nothing unusual, given that a century ago, Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Teddy Roosevelt, a lover of war,” said Galeano.”*

+ <http://goo.gl/prmR>

*TR: “I don’t go so far as to think that the only good Indians are dead Indians, but I believe nine out of ten are, and I shouldn’t like to inquire too closely into the case of the tenth.”*

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theodore\\_Roosevelt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theodore_Roosevelt)

+ [http://nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/peace/laureates/1906/roosevelt-bio.html](http://nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1906/roosevelt-bio.html)

*'According to Ward Churchill, a professor of ethnic studies at the University of Colorado, the reduction of the North American Indian population from an estimated 12 million in 1500 to barely 237,000 in 1900 represents a "vast genocide... the most sustained on record."'*

+ <http://hnn.us/articles/7302.html>

We can see how a "Just War" theory from Salamanca enabled the Spanish and Portuguese colonial efforts, surely Roosevelt had his own religious leaders who told him, "yes, it's ok" what you are doing, but stories like this still shock me:

*"The Indian was thought as less than human and worthy only of extermination. We did shoot down defenseless men, and women and children at places like Camp Grant, Sand Creek, and Wounded Knee. We did feed strychnine to red warriors. We did set whole villages of people out naked to freeze in the iron cold of Montana winters. And we did confine thousands in what amounted to concentration camps."*

+ Wellman, Paul (1934). "Preface". The Indian Wars of the West.

*"TR's religious views were basically mainline Protestant, and he did receive communion in the Reformed churches he went to and at Christ Church, Oyster Bay. He took part in the ritual, loudly singing the hymns. Doctrine or abstract theology did not interest him. This is perhaps not surprising since formal philosophy as such also did not interest him in the least. He was ecumenical in his views. He thought churches should not fight with each other, and he was quite content to attend services in any church. He was four square against religious prejudice or persecution, and he counted Roman Catholics (including priests, bishops, and nuns) and Jews among his friends. He had many friends in the clergy."* - <http://www.theodoreroosevelt.org/life/Religion.htm>

My point is how are these guys going to Church every Sunday and listening to what and reading what that they do not or did not understand the first points of love your neighbor as you love yourself, blessed are the peacemakers, blessed are the poor, blessed are the meek, the Golden Rule, and so forth. It is just incredible to me in many ways, because I know also people like the Quakers and Amish for example were also purely non-violent throughout American history. So we find this:

¶ *"HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION" - 'This hymn was sung at the funerals of American presidents Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson. On his death-bed the warrior and statesman Andrew Jackson called for it. It was the favorite of Gen. Robert E. Lee, and was sung at his funeral. The American love and familiar preference for the remarkable hymn was never more strikingly illustrated than when on Christmas Eve, 1898, a whole corps of the United States Army Northern and Southern, encamped on the Quemados hills, near Havana [Cuba], took up the sacred tune and words.'*

+ <http://www.cyberhymnal.org/htm/h/f/hfirmafo.htm>

¶ *"How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
What more can He say than to you He hath said,  
You, who unto Jesus for refuge have fled?"*

Again, as the hymn says - *"What more can He say than to you He hath said"* ***"Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God"***

***"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"***

On the question of leadership, imagine this: FDR and MLK ran on the ticket rather than FDR and Truman. When FDR passed, Dr. MLK became President. Do you think he would have or would not have made the same decisions as Truman with regard to the conduct of the war, the Japanese Invasion, and the dropping of Atomic Bombs. We could vote - how many people believe Dr. King would have acted in the same manner of Truman? Would Dr. King have been able to take another course than Cold War with the Soviet block? If you say no, whatever happened in human history is fixed, it can never change, we are imperfect, we must have war when we are the leading superpower, I think the point is missed. Dr. King very well could have charted a vastly different course than Truman, were he unexpectedly thrown into the Presidency at the end of WWII. That is, leadership, and philosophy of leadership can make a huge difference, if there is real choice, real debate, and not a joker's choice of two sides of the same coin. Would the course Dr. King took have been able to preserve America in such a situation, Barack Obama feels that it would not have been sufficient.

*'I make this statement mindful of what Martin Luther King said in this same ceremony years ago - "Violence never brings permanent peace. It solves no social problem: it merely creates new and more complicated ones." As someone who stands here as a direct consequence of Dr. King's life's work, I am living testimony to the moral force of non-violence. I know there is nothing weak -nothing passive - nothing naïve - in the creed and lives of Gandhi and King. But as a head of state sworn to protect and defend my nation, I cannot be guided by their examples alone. I face the world as it is, and cannot stand idle in the face of threats to the American people. For make no mistake: evil does exist in the world. A non-violent movement could not have halted Hitler's armies. Negotiations cannot convince al Qaeda's leaders to lay down their arms. To say that force is sometimes necessary is not a call to cynicism - it is a recognition of history; the imperfections of man and the limits of reason.'*

## +Nobel peace Prize Acceptance Speech - President Barack Obama

+ <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/34360743/>

The first aspect of strangeness is apparently Gandhi and MLK do not see the world “the way it is” according to Obama, apparently only he has that view. To me, the way a man or woman defines human nature is nothing more than a projection of their own mind, a definition of their self, not an absolute or actual description of that reality. *“For make no mistake: evil does exist in the world. A non-violent movement could not have halted Hitler’s armies. Negotiations cannot convince al Qaeda’s leaders to lay down their arms. To say that force is sometimes necessary is not a call to cynicism - it is a recognition of history; the imperfections of man and the limits of reason.”*

This is wrong, one man’s view and rejected by most spiritual teachers.

Compare this to Nelson Mandela:

*“In a world driven by violence and strife, Gandhi’s message of peace and non-violence holds the key to human survival in the 21st century. He rightly believed in the efficacy of pitting the Soul-Force of the Satyagraha against the brute force of the oppressor and in effect converting the oppressor to the right and moral point.”*

<http://www.commondreams.org/headlines07/0129-01.htm>

So, as many saw immediately, Obama is giving us pure Newspeak here with Niebuhr as his speechwriter, and it is WRONG WRONG WRONG - it is a wrong interpretation of scripture - MLK & Gandhi, Jesus & Buddha are right, it is unequivocal and that is why Dr. King repeats it: “I call upon you to be maladjusted to such things.” Always, forever, because Christ is in the poor and repressed always & forever.

If you think Obama and Niebuhr are just joking, that their play with philosophy has no real consequences, or consequences any different from Salamanca, consider:

*“The Guatemalan Civil War ended in 1996 with a peace accord between the guerrillas and the government, negotiated by the United Nations through intense brokerage by nations such as Norway and Spain. The guerrilla fighters disarmed and received land to work. According to the U.N.-sponsored truth commission the (“Commission for Historical Clarification”), government forces and state-sponsored paramilitaries were responsible for over 93% of the human rights violations during the war.”*

*¶”During the first ten years, the victims of the state-sponsored terror were primarily students, workers, professionals, and opposition figures, but in the last years they were thousands of mostly rural Mayan farmers and non-combatants. More than 450 Mayan villages were destroyed and over 1 million people became displaced within Guatemala or refugees. Over 200,000 people, mostly Mayan, were killed during the civil war.”*

*¶”In 1999, U.S. president Bill Clinton stated that the United States was wrong to have provided support to Guatemalan military forces that took part in the brutal civilian killings.”*

+ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guatemala>

So, yes the “Just War” against the indigenous continues today, 500 years after Columbus and the “Just War” argument continues today just as it did at Salamanca and Nicea, with Niebuhr just a salesman recruited at discount to mouth the words required by the state, and this is WRONG WRONG WRONG and so because of consequences like Guatemala & “collateral damage” we need to change the system and restrain the State so it cannot under any circumstances commit violence.

### **Chapter 3 - "A Social Movement" - A Midnight Election Day Chat with Noam Chomsky**

This rant against Niebuhr I will lay to rest for now, if anyone other than Obama and McCain will support his view as higher than Gandhi's and MLK's, well I just wouldn't believe it but the police state and the steady stream of wars America parades across the TV screen year after year need a justification. People will take money to do and say just about anything, sadly this motive drives the system contrary to individual conscience and altruism - so be perfect! At least strive to it rather than the lesser of two evils, this is so important. Would anyone elevate Niebuhr over Mandela - Niebuhr is a shill for Apartheid. People consider this overexaggeration until the chain of events is made clear. Niebuhr would have no problem with Vietnam, MLK would resist - let's start our movement there. In my opinion, the best way to advance the 28th Amendment movement is to graft it onto the platform of the "Green New Deal."

I read about the "Green New Deal" during the 2010 Elections. While I am personally disenfranchised, "stripped" of my right to vote at age 22, essentially for life as I understand it, I still follow politics actively from the perspective of the Peace Movement. I have been looking for solutions for 20 years. I have visited the White House and Congress, worked for its candidates. I have protested in front of the White House and Congress with Anarchists. I have joined Human Rights campaigns such as Amnesty International and others, and have suffered direct human violations by the police state which no agency has prevented. I have worked against police violence and been the victim of police violence. I have worked for nuclear arms abolition movements such as Proposition One and Abolition 2000, but we have been unable to achieve any real victories. I have educated and advocated for the protection of human rights granted under the Universal Declaration for the free practice of religion to those who use entheogens or holy plants as part of a spiritual path or religious practice, and performed civil disobedience for this end.

None of my work in activism, from street protests, to organization participation, to civil disobedience, to prayer, to visualization, to hope, to raising fists, or traveling to Mexico to join a revolution - none of this has really resulted in the kind of change that I want, and none of it has produced any victory that I can claim, rather a string of bitter, vicious, and painful defeats. Disappointment. I have spent the last 9 years, since 9/11, living in Nepal and India primarily studying religion. That is my academic background and personal interest, path... I have an active interest against the drug war and for human freedom, just as I have against the military war machine and the repression of the peaceful right to self-determination in the world. With logic, there is no need but to apply the principles equally to all agents who are involved in the struggle. To be clear, if there is no repression there is little need to act. If the injustice is severe, the moral imperative becomes even more intense. And so we see this in the peace movement, the hearts of people so good, who care so much, and yet can never see their goals realized. The 28th Amendment and the Abolition of War & Nuclear Weapons is meant to change this finally, and completely.

In my opinion, what we are lacking as a peace movement is an actual goal. We say “nuclear disarmament” but then we wait and hope for some revision to the years of nuclear treaties, their arcane insanity and bureaucracy, we wait for those in power to act on demands and appeals to reason. The Movement reacts retroactively to wars, attacks, and human rights violations, but has no power to actively prevent them and watches helplessly as they continue. The State has trillions of dollars in paid personnel and arsenal, whereas the average peacenik is poor and weaponless, organizing from the position of a good heart or conscience. In many protests, the members may be spontaneous people who never resisted or demonstrated before but simply could not keep quiet and had to express public dissent over State violence committed in horrific manner. We must all become the Tiananmen man who stopped the tanks.

So, again, I am proposing the 28th amendment as an exact model and copy of Article 9 of the Japanese constitution, for just as Japan has enacted it, so can America, and just as America, so all states in the Americas, all states in Europe Africa, and all Continents, in short, all countries and nation states can enact the same Amendment and text to their national constitutions, and we can see real peace, real world peace, dawn. The beautiful part is that it is an equal movement - as the Amendment has been successful in restraining the Japanese state from war, so too can it restrain the American, British, French, or Israeli, and we have a movement with a precise goal, and ending. It can be clearly and exactly related to the abolition of slavery movement. In that instance, there is a goal - to make slavery illegal, not just unconscionable and objectional to some, but permitted, but a recognition of a fundamental human rights violation and a complete and total abolition. In America, and around the world, anti-slavery campaigners had an exact goal - "the elimination of slavery" - and they achieved it, in most countries, universally and worldwide, through reform of national constitutions and international law. I am not a legalist, I am more interested in self-governance, but the important part is the abolitionists achieved victory.

In the same way, so did the woman suffragists, who sought equality in the right to vote. Around the world, the movement led to changes in national constitutions, legislation, and international law. When civil rights activists organized with Dr. King in the South, their non-violent movement also had a goal, a fundamental reform, and a moment of victory. The Peace Movement must move beyond after-the-fact outrage and demonstration as a main tactic to organization around a precise means to bind the State completely so that it is unable to organize political violence of any kind. And we must be honest, all US military projection since Vietnam is simply organized political violence that prevents the peaceful self-determination of peoples worldwide - how many wars have Costa Rica, Switzerland, or any of the non-aligned nations made

in that same timespan. So as in the case with the MLK & Truman example, leadership does matter. The structural issues of American Democracy do matter also, and are fundamentally important to address. But I want to bring first and foremost, and absolutely clear, that the peace movement must have a precise means to solve the problem of State violence and that means a direct way to restrain the State apparatus from producing organized violence, hyper-technological violence, insane mass-produced, McDonald-ized violence. It must be stopped and completely. We can pray for the Second Coming of Jesus AND work for a Constitutional Amendment abolishing war and nuclear weapons. International law does not restrain and has never restrained the United States. It has always acted on how it has perceived its best interests. But its past history is no longer able to be completely forgotten, and its recent history has destroyed its credibility. The world is intelligent and connected enough now we need the final push to move beyond war and political violence. It is no longer the time when war is a possible solution for political problems, so we must de-escalate and disarm in all countries.

America should lead this - the Japanese are a fine and leading example. Article 9 works in Japan - the government is severely limited to make war and has not in 50 years. If we can achieve this in America the benefit is so great. During the 2010 election I read and agreed with the "Green New Deal"-

*"Of the 109 Green candidates who have endorsed the "Green New Deal," ten are running for governor, eight for U.S. Senate and 35 for U.S. House of Representatives. These are the ten planks of the Green New Deal:*

- 1. Cut military spending at least 70 percent*
- 2. Create millions of green union jobs through massive public investment in renewable energy, mass transit and conservation*

3. *Set ambitious, science-based greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, and enact a revenue-neutral carbon tax to meet them*
4. *Establish single-payer “Medicare for all” health care*
5. *Provide tuition-free public higher education*
6. *Change trade agreements to improve labor, environmental, consumer, health and safety standards*
7. *End counterproductive prohibition policies and legalize marijuana*
8. *Enact tough limits on credit interest and lending rates, progressive tax reform and strict financial regulation*
9. *Amend the U.S. Constitution to abolish corporate personhood*
10. *Pass sweeping electoral, campaign finance and anti-corruption reforms*

*Green Change is a national political organization based in San Rafael, Calif. Its aim to build the Green political and cultural movement in the United States. For more information, see <http://www.greenchange.org/>.”*

It immediately struck me how ridiculous to amend the constitution to “abolish corporate personhood” when if putting the same effort into amending the constitution to abolish war and nuclear weapons we would completely be solving the problem from the point of view of the Greens and the Peace Movement. It also became clear to me at that moment that Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution is the real answer to restraining State power, drawing upon the best aspects of the reform movements of the past, and offering a solution to what I feel is the Peace Movement’s lack of a concrete and achievable goal. In summary, passing the 28th Amendment to abolish war & nuclear weapons solves everything... and it can be part of an international campaign in solidarity with every nation to enact a similar amendment in their national constitutions. That is also a finite task, when that is complete, there is required vigilance and patience, but the problem is solved and a truly new era can begin.

Most of this is related to Proposition One, and my work with the Prop 1 movement in California to start a voter initiative. But whereas Proposition One is more of a general declaration, the 28th Amendment is very precise and exact. It accomplishes the aims of Abolition 2000, albeit in this instance we are targeting 2012. That gives us two years to build a campaign and get it passed, huge social momentum is required. Recognizing this, the easiest way to bring the 28th Amendment to the forefront is to amend the “Green New Deal” plank #9 and actually adopt that as the Green Party Platform for 2012. Then there is the organization of candidates and getting the word out, building popular support. I truly believe the time is right for this movement, for the Peace Movement has been growing since the 60’s and even the most hawkish neo-cons can see quite clearly that war is hyper-violent idiocy even if they manufacture and profit from it. So, how much convincing for people to abolish war, is required, it is fundamental and easy for most people, we love Bob Marley and John Lennon, so we understand it even as babies, peace and love.

So, again, to the “Green New Deal” we propose 1 amendment and 2 additional planks:

- 1. Cut military spending at least 70 percent*
- 2. Create millions of green union jobs through massive public investment in renewable energy, mass transit and conservation*
- 3. Set ambitious, science-based greenhouse gas emission reduction targets, and enact a revenue-neutral carbon tax to meet them*
- 4. Establish single-payer “Medicare for all” health care*
- 5. Provide tuition-free public higher education*
- 6. Change trade agreements to improve labor, environmental, consumer, health and safety standards*
- 7. End counterproductive prohibition policies and legalize marijuana*
- 8. Enact tough limits on credit interest and lending rates, progressive tax*

- 9. Amend the U.S. Constitution to abolish War & Nuclear Weapons.*
- 10. Pass sweeping electoral, campaign finance and anti-corruption reforms*
- 11. Increase efforts to eradicate global poverty and its root causes through international solidarity & direct assistance to those in need.*
- 12. Build cooperative agreements with all nations to put 100,000 humans into Space by the year 20XX, by constructing habitats on Mars, the Moon, and in orbiting satellite communities.*

I see no reason to waste time with “corporate personhood” when the serious issues of war and nuclear disarmament need to be addressed much more acutely. Furthermore, a 28th Amendment abolishing war and nuclear weapons provides the legal basis and foundation for the type of defence cuts the Greens are proposing, and it is such a huge victory for the Peace Movement, truly the world can never imagine a more amazing moment than the world’s largest superpower renouncing war and state violence, once and forever. I have added the 11th plank because I see no understanding or interest at all generally from American political movements to address the issue of world poverty on a solidarity basis. The 12th plank is hopeful, a full homage to all our science fiction writers, but also cynical, as it is a crass attempt to buy off the military industrial complex. I am not naive nor Eisenhower to know that the profit motive drives the war game in modern times in a way only the perfection of mass-production of arms can really do - as in a way that makes terrorization of populations and their control easily accessible to all who control the halls of power. Chomsky makes it clear - militaries operate from their domestic power base and no other - the US will not recognize international law. Only from the basis of amending the domestic constitution can war and nuclear weapons be prohibited to the state fundamentally, absolutely, and in a way that has also been proven effective for 50 years in Japan.

Convinced of this solution as the answer to what I had been looking for for 20 years personally - a political solution to restrain the State from war, what is the next step? Again, I believe the Green Party is the best way to carry this forward politically in America. In fact, it simply astounds me that the Green and Libertarian Parties combined only poll around half of 1% in national elections in the USA. But if the Green's have a New Deal and an interest in constitutional amendments, the 28th Amendment to abolish war & nuclear weapons should be an easy position to argue to Greens... anyone can see the urgency of the problem and efficacy of the solution. While not being naive about the difficulty of what is being proposed nor ignoring the massive effort of organization required, it seemed to me, as a political strategist, the next step is to find an amazingly strong candidate who could actually lead the Green Party to victory in 2012 and who would at the same time support the 28th Amendment to abolish war and nuclear weapons not only as part of the Green Party Platform but to the Houses, State Legislatures, to the Congress, and Senate - in short, a candidate who would be able to bring this amendment to passage. So, I decided to contact Professor Noam Chomsky of MIT on election night of 2010 to ask him point blankly to run for President of the United States in 2012 on the Green Party ticket, and to support this amendment to passage.

My result was disappointment, as I said, disappointment is normal for the disenfranchised and oppressed. But I want to record the conversation with Professor Chomsky as how the 28th Amendment attempted to find its first candidate.

### **Election Day 2010 - Midnight Chat with Noam Chomsky:**

When asked if he would support a movement for the 28th Amendment to the US Constitution abolishing war and nuclear weapons on election day 2010, Professor Noam Chomsky replied:

*“I certainly approve of the sentiment, but unless a popular movement is organized that is dedicated to this aim, I don’t see how this initiative could achieve very much. Personally, I am not much interested in statements and declarations. Rather, in trying to organize people to support what can be done in the foreseeable future. I’m not expressing a value judgment. Just my own priorities. A constitutional amendment would doubtless be important. But the step from a statement to an amendment is huge. What’s lies between is an immense organizing effort.”*

When asked if he would be willing to run on the Green Party ticket for President in 2012, under a banner of the Green New Deal and the 28th Amendment to abolish war & nuclear weapons, Chomsky replied:

*“I understand very well what you are proposing, and I think it is a wonderful goal. I wouldn’t run on the platform, however. Rightly or wrongly, I think I can do a lot more good elsewhere. I don’t think the problem is finding candidates, but organizing the movement that can carry them forward. There are a great many goals, short-term and long-term. I’ve written extensively about what I think they should be, and why. Each calls for its own choices of action.”*

This is the condensed version, I will also reprint the full conversation:

*I attended Critical Resistance 1998 in Berkeley, and 12 years later I have seen no change. Can you get behind this:*

*The Twenty-Eighth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution:  
+ “The Abolition of War & Nuclear Weapons.”*

*“Aspiring sincerely to an international peace based on justice and order, the American people forever renounce war as a sovereign right of the nation and the threat or use of force as means of settling interna-*

*putes. (2) To accomplish the aim of the preceding paragraph, land, sea, and air forces, as well as other war potential, will never be maintained. The right of belligerency of the state will not be recognized.”*

*+ International: Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Article\\_9\\_of\\_the\\_Japanese\\_Constitution](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Article_9_of_the_Japanese_Constitution)  
+ May it be enacted swiftly.*

*<http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-28th-Amendment-The-Abolition-of-War-Nuclear-Weapons/165589583465754>*

*Proposition One: <http://prop1.org/>*

*Sign the petition online: <http://www.petitiononline.com/LOVE2012/petition.html>*

*Can you give me one essay or blog post supporting this solution?  
Thanks.*

*Jeffrey Scott  
TypeHost Web Development  
<http://typehost.com/>*

+++++

*¶“I certainly approve of the sentiment, but unless a popular movement is organized that is dedicated to this aim, I don’t see how this initiative could achieve very much.”*

*+ Noam Chomsky - Election Day, Nov. 2nd, 2010*

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*I would like to know your view on “closure” - as in: what steps are necessary to take to eliminate the problems we care so much about - i.e. war, militarism, state violence, human rights violations, social injustice, inequality, etc. - what “finally” solves the problem so that it no longer arises. For the individual, there can be a spiritual awakening, understanding, intellectual realization, conscience, wisdom, etc. that leads him/her to a point of steadfastness where he/she no longer acts with violence, accepts it, or thinks with injustice. Our intellectual and spiritual leadership can teach and counsel on that “frequency” and change minds, increase understanding, build a base for social movements. But this teaching and counselling has gone on since the beginning of history and still we can only poll less than 1% democratically of people who support our view politically in the USA.*

*With the abolitionists, with the suffragists, and even with the civil rights movements - there was a goal, and a reform, and so also a point in time where victory could be exclaimed - what was sought achieved and “problem solved”. Even if not always black & white, even still requiring vigilance, something was achieved socially - usually legislation that reformed the State on a fundamental level. So, with the anti-war movement, which I have participated in for 20 years - we have a need for something that provides this type of closure - it is finished.*

*Like when Thoreau says, I am not asking for no government today but better government now & immediately - what does the peace movement really have as a plan? Spontaneous demonstrations after the fact, a type of moral outrage, and “free talking” --> what is concrete and able to restrain the beast of military power? I am searching and I can only really find Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution as a real and effective method.*

*I would like to ask you personally, out of respect, what is your vision of*

*closure for the peace movement - the way we finally solve the problem of State militarism so it no longer arises again? And also, could you give me some text more inspiring than the previous quote I could use were I to try to build a website to raise some kind of social consciousness for a 28th Amendment & the abolition of war / nuclear weapons?*

*Note: I have proposed that “Amend the constitution to abolish war & nuclear weapons” replace the 9th plank of the “Green New Deal” - which proposes amending the constitution to outlaw “corporate personhood”. If going to the effort to amend the constitution, why not for something really meaningful? So, in a sense, it would be only as simple as that to graft a 28th Amendment movement onto existing social movements & political parties. Last question, do you support the Green Party and the “Green New Deal” proposed during this last election? Thanks.*

*<http://www.facebook.com/topic.php?uid=165589583465754&topic=187>*

*Jeffrey Scott  
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”Personally, I am not much interested in statements and declarations. Rather, in trying to organize people to support what can be done in the foreseeable future. I’m not expressing a value judgment. Just my own priorities. - NC”

+ Noam Chomsky - Election Day, Nov. 2nd, 2010

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*“There are statements & declarations ---> and then there is an Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Whereas statements and declarations cannot and have not restrained the state from violence, Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution has been successful in that. Therefore a 28th Amendment based upon that text, and an international movement to have it adopted by all nations. This is my current argument.”*

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¶“A constitutional amendment would doubtless be important. But the step from a statement to an amendment is huge. What’s lies between is an immense organizing effort.”

+ Noam Chomsky - Election Day, Nov. 2nd, 2010

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*Endgame 2012 - The Green New Deal & the 28th Amendment - “a social movement” - This is important to me - I want to be clear about what I am proposing.*

*1. The 2012 Election - Green Party Platform & Ticket:*

*The Green Party needs a platform and ticket for this election - the world needs peace. Peace can only be achieved through the dismantling of the US war machine & its budget. The Green Party has a platform “the Green New Deal” - it is generally good, I support most of it. It has proposed as plank #9 to amend to constitution to abolish “corporate personhood” - we propose changing this plank to support for the 28th Amendment based on Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution. This provides a constitutional basis for the proposed military spending cuts that fund the Green programs, and represents an amazing change in American politics. It is a victory for the peace movement started during the time of the Vietnam War. It is combined with an initiative to put 100,000*

*in space, from all countries, and with an effort to encourage all nations to ratify amendments similar to the 28th in their national constitutions - that, and global poverty reduction, environmental preservation & restoration become the foreign policy of the government.*

## *2. Candidates for a “Social Movement”:*

*Under proposed scenario, the Green Party needs national candidates to change the Green Party platform to support the 28th Amendment and Abolition of War & Nuclear Weapons. The Green Party needs a Presidential Candidate who can advocate forcefully with intellect but also compassionately with heart understanding...*

*So I am asking.... Mr. Chomsky, would you be willing to run for President as a candidate under the Green Party platform as amended - Green New Deal + 28th Amendment???*

*Who really can lead this on a national level, as you say, as “a social movement”? Obviously Angela Davis is strong, I love her & her work - but she is unelectable from my perspective. You are, in my opinion, a leading dissident in America, honest in your path and writings for innumerable years in articulating the type of social justice that is necessary in American politics... who better to lead this social movement politically? So, I ask again, would you run as a candidate for President under such circumstances?*

*I am disenfranchised since about 6 months after my college graduation from Thomas Jefferson’s university, ostensibly for the practice of Transpersonal Psychology and research into Comparative Religions - that is my academic & personal background. I have been living in India and Nepal for the last 9 years so, maybe I have no understanding of the current political situation in America. But I know what the force of the war machine has done during that time internationally, and as you say, I*

*do want a social movement to enact something like the 28th Amendment that ends it completely. So I will ask one more time - will you run as a candidate for the Green Party in the 2012 Presidential election and support the 28th Amendment?*

*Jeffrey Scott  
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“I understand very well what you are proposing, and I think it is a wonderful goal. I wouldn’t run on the platform, however. Rightly or wrongly, I think I can do a lot more good elsewhere. I don’t think the problem is finding candidates, but organizing the movement that can carry them forward.”

+ Noam Chomsky - Election Day, Nov. 2nd, 2010

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¶”Thanks for the quick replies... can you give me a summary then on what the movement does and what or goal should be? The Abolitionists had a goal, suffragists - a goal, civil rights - a goal... what is the goal of our movement (to me - “world peace”) and how should it be achieved, in your view?”

+++++

“There are a great many goals, short-term and long-term. I’ve written extensively about what I think they should be, and why. Each calls for its own choices of action.”

+ Noam Chomsky - Election Day, Nov. 2nd, 2010

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There are several consequences of this interchange. The first is that on election day 2010, I completely eliminated any hope of Professor Chomsky running on the Green Ticket and supporting the 28th Amendment in 2012. To me he would be the first choice of a candidate and the one I truly believe would be able to communicate it to the public with honesty and integrity and get the 28th Amendment passed. He could win, and do a great job. The second consequence of the interchange is also obvious, organization. Going beyond hot air and empty rhetoric and actually passing a constitutional amendment abolishing war & nuclear weapons. Massive organization, rigged and corrupt political system, people effectively marginalized, given an illusion of participation via elections but soft money rules and buys the legislation, people generally clueless and disgusted by what goes on in Congress, sausage-making. Chomsky is out as a candidate, 2 year countdown, and Green Party actually fighting just to maintain “ballot access”. Rather than polling station as “carnival of information & issues” - no one is allowed to distribute literature at the polls, or even wear a t-shirt with a political “overtone” to the election polling station. Elections are basically a sham and what / why / or how would we be able to overcome a historical shut out for third parties in American elections. Please do not confuse with the Tea Party less the Tea Party actually support the text of the 28th Amendment as listed. Do you really think you will find a champion in Ron Paul, would Libertarians adopt this as a platform, mainstream Republicans and Democrats? Say what you may, be it 2 years or 20 years, I can see no better solution for America, the Peace Movement, and “World Peace”.

## **Chapter 4 - No Candidate, No Party - One Amendment to Rule Them All**

The title more or less says it all - "The 28th Amendment to Abolish War & Nuclear Weapons" - it is perfect. It already exists as legislation in Japan, and has been effective, perfectly, for 50+ years. For me achieving clarity on a solution is paramount - as such my business has been web design for 15 years. When Chomsky says we need organization, we can start with the internet and do online information exchange. It is a free community online for the most part, if there is popular support it can easily arise for this amendment. But where I differ somewhat with Chomsky I am sure as to approach, what has always been of interest to me is metanoia, or "mind change". This is psychedelic in the American tradition going back to Huxley and "The Doors of Perception". This is Leary and his aspect of the 60's. This is John Lilly & the Scientist, Stan Grof, Transpersonal Psychology, and the Velvet Revolution to me. The psychedelic is not really the metanoia I am talking about exclusively anymore, however. Really what I am talking about is Satyagraha, the Soul-Force / Truth-Force / Love-Force that will really solve the problems, completely, for our planet and community. I have used psychedelics extensively to deprogram & advocate for the complete freedom of conscience when it comes to inquiry into the nature of consciousness. I was dis-enfranchised for this reason, and feel strongly about the need to agitate on it. In some ways, 20 years after being disenfranchised - I reached kind of a Rosa Parks personal moment, where it is so ridiculous - America, the land of freedom or whatever, has stripped me of the right to vote from the age of 22 simply because of my peaceful choices of self-determination. It is fundamentally wrong, and I suffered so many absurd human rights violations during the course of the situation, I lost any real faith in human rights or its agencies as a solution. Not only that, but I saw the same thing happen repeatedly to my friends in the peace community and the poorest of the poor in America, from what I can see there is also racial injustice that lingers in the prison system.

The drug war and the cold war, the war on terror and the war on the next and next is all coming from the same source, it is a type of unified foreign and domestic policy with military projecting violent force abroad and police projecting violent force domestically. The intent and goal is the same: control. The rhetoric is the same and the parties are the same, Republican and Democrat. For years it has gone on and gotten worse, the disparity between what is spent on the military and services for the poorest is incredible, the waste, the pointlessness of a trillion dollars in collective resources when that money could go to put 100,00 humans from all nations, united into space. Peace, environmental restoration, disarmament, global unity - all of these things are possible, and we are very close to achieving them on a global level. But we need closure - of Martin Luther King Jr.'s and Mahatma Gandhi's vision of non-violence and how it transforms society. Of the Dalai Lama's vision for Satyagraha - these are my heroes and teachers and I never want to abandon that tradition. So, when considering the best way I can organize on Chomsky's call but still be true to the force I feel needs establishing, which is Satyagraha, I have decided the best thing I can do is educate, generally, on the teachings of non-violence and the methods our great teachers have given us to retain steadfastness on the path.

Along with this we can build websites, share information, organize online, send petitions & emails, all the normal political get out the vote which would be essential, but even before all of that I would encourage each and every human being to study, from the most fundamental religious level, the teachings of Satyagraha and non-violence, for Americans from the perspective that "you are still living members of Dr, Martin Luther King Jr.'s own living thriving political, moral, and social community." From that basis you can never forget and accomplish anything. I do not believe in the "Just War" and I do not believe that violence, especially organized violence at one trillion dollars per year cost is anything near the social vision of Dr. King, Gandhi, or any other believer in Wisdom.

## Chapter 5 - Inspirational Quotes on Non-Violence:

**HHDL:** *“I would like to take this opportunity to explain the Zone of Ahimsa or peace sanctuary concept, which is the central element of the Five-Point Peace Plan. I am convinced that it is of great importance not only for Tibet, but for peace and stability in Asia. It is my dream that the entire Tibetan plateau should become a free refuge where humanity and nature can live in peace and in harmonious balance. It would be a place where people from all over the world could come to seek the true meaning of peace within themselves, away from the tensions and pressures of much of the rest of the world. Tibet could indeed become a creative center for the promotion and development of peace.”*

*“The following are key elements of the proposed Zone of Ahimsa:*

- + The entire Tibetan plateau would be demilitarized;*
- + The manufacture, testing, and stockpiling of nuclear weapons and other armaments on the Tibetan plateau would be prohibited;*
- + The Tibetan plateau would be transformed into the world’s largest natural park or biosphere. Strict laws would be enforced to protect wild-life and plant life; the exploitation of natural resources would be carefully regulated so as not to damage relevant ecosystems; and a policy of sustainable development would be adopted in populated areas;*
- + The manufacture and use of nuclear power and other technologies which produce hazardous waste would be prohibited;*
- + National resources and policy would be directed towards the active promotion of peace and environmental protection. Organisations dedicated to the furtherance of peace and to the protection of all forms of life would find a hospitable home in Tibet;*
- + The establishment of international and regional organisations for the promotion and protection of human rights would be encouraged in Tibet.”*

*“Tibet’s height and size (the size of the European Community), as well as its unique history and profound spiritual heritage makes it ideally suited to fulfill the role of a sanctuary of peace in the strategic heart of Asia. It would also be in keeping with Tibet’s historical role as a peaceful Buddhist nation and buffer region separating the Asian continent’s great and often rival powers.”*

*“In order to reduce existing tensions in Asia, the President of the Soviet Union, Mr. Gorbachev, proposed the demilitarisation of Soviet-Chinese borders and their transformation into “a frontier of peace and good-neighborliness”. The Nepal government had earlier proposed that the Himalayan country of Nepal, bordering on Tibet, should become a zone of peace, although that proposal did not include demilitarisation of the country.”*

**+ “A Zone of Ahimsa” - HH the Dalai Lama of Tibet, Nobel Lecture, December 11, 1989**

+ [http://nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/peace/laureates/1989/lama-lecture.html](http://nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1989/lama-lecture.html)

*“The Greek language uses three words for love. It talks about eros. Eros is a sort of aesthetic love. It has come to us to be a sort of romantic love and it stands with all of its beauty. But when we speak of loving those who oppose us we’re not talking about eros.”*

*“The Greek language talks about philia and this is a sort of reciprocal love between personal friends. This is a vital, valuable love. But when we talk of loving those who oppose you and those who seek to defeat you we are not talking about eros or philia. The Greek language comes out with another word and it is agape.”*

*“Agape is understanding, creative, redemptive good will for all men.*

*Biblical theologians would say it is the love of God working in the minds of men. It is an overflowing love which seeks nothing in return.”*

*“And when you come to love on this level you begin to love men not because they are likeable, not because they do things that attract us, but because God loves them and here we love the person who does the evil deed while hating the deed that the person does. It is the type of love that stands at the center of the movement that we are trying to carry on in the Southland—agape.”*

*“Another thing that we had to get over was the fact that the nonviolent resister does not seek to humiliate or defeat the opponent but to win his friendship and understanding. This was always a cry that we had to set before people that our aim is not to defeat the white community, not to humiliate the white community, but to win the friendship of all of the persons who had perpetrated this system in the past. The end of violence or the aftermath of violence is bitterness. The aftermath of nonviolence is reconciliation and the creation of a beloved community. A boycott is never an end within itself. It is merely a means to awaken a sense of shame within the oppressor but the end is reconciliation, the end is redemption.”*

+ **‘The Power of Non-violence’ - Martin Luther King, Jr. June 4, 1957**

+ <http://teachingamericanhistory.org/library/index.asp?document=1131>

*“Chomsky argues that since the end of the Cold War (1945–91), anti-communism was replaced by the “War on Terror”, as the major social control mechanism.”*

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manufacturing\\_Consent:\\_The\\_Political\\_Economy\\_of\\_the\\_Mass\\_Media](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manufacturing_Consent:_The_Political_Economy_of_the_Mass_Media)

¶”Using the propaganda model, Manufacturing Consent posits that corporate-owned news mass communication media—print, radio, television—are businesses subject to commercial competition for advertising revenue and profit. As such, their distortion (editorial bias) of news reportage—i.e. what types of news, which items, and how they are reported—is a consequence of the profit motive that requires establishing a stable, profitable business; therefore, news businesses favoring profit over the public interest succeed, while those favoring reportorial accuracy over profits fail, and are relegated to the margins of their markets (low sales and ratings).”

¶”Editorial distortion is aggravated by the news media’s dependence upon private and governmental news sources. If a given newspaper, television station, magazine, etc., incurs governmental disfavor, it is subtly excluded from access to information. Consequently, it loses readers or viewers, and ultimately, advertisers. To minimize such financial danger, news media businesses editorially distort their reporting to favor government and corporate policies in order to stay in business.”

### **+ Manufacturing Consent: The Political Economy of the Mass Media - Professor Noam Chomsky, MIT**

“Chomsky has described himself as a ‘fellow traveller’ to the anarchist tradition, and refers to himself as a libertarian socialist, a political philosophy he summarizes as challenging all forms of authority and attempting to eliminate them if they are unjustified for which the burden of proof is solely upon those who attempt to exert power.”

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noam\\_Chomsky's\\_political\\_views](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noam_Chomsky's_political_views)

*“The term Passive Resistance does not fit the activity of the Indian community during the past eight years. Its equivalent in the vernacular rendered into English means ‘Truth-Force’. I think Tolstoy called it also ‘Soul-Force’ or ‘Love-Force’, and so it is. Carried out to its utmost limit, this force is independent of pecuniary or other material assistance: certainly, even in its elementary form, of physical force or violence. Indeed, violence is the negation of this great spiritual force which can only be cultivated or wielded by those who will entirely eschew violence. It is a force that may be used by individuals as well as by communities. It may be used as well in political as in domestic affairs. Its universal applicability is a demonstration of its permanence and invincibility. It can be used alike by men, women and children.”*

#### **+ Mahatma Gandhi - Life & Struggle**

+ <http://www.mkgandhi.org/sfgbook/fifteenth.htm>

*“At the individual level Swaraj is vitally connected with the capacity for dispassionate self-assessment, ceaseless self-purification and growing self-reliance”. Politically swaraj is self-government and not good government (for Gandhi, good government is no substitute for self government) and it means a continuous effort to be independent of government control, whether it is foreign government or whether it is national. In other words, it is sovereignty of the people based on pure moral authority.”*

*“Swaraj is a kind of Individualist Anarchism. It warrants a stateless society as according to Gandhi the overall impact of the state on the people is harmful. He called the state a “soulless machine” which, ultimately, does the greatest harm to mankind.”*

+ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swaraj>

*“A satyagrahi (one who practices satyagraha) must be willing to shoulder any sacrifice which is occasioned by the struggle which they have initiated, rather than pushing such sacrifice or suffering onto their opponent, lest the opponent become alienated and access to their portion of the truth become lost. The satyagrahi must always provide a face-saving ‘way out’ for the opponents. The goal is to discover a wider vista of truth and justice, not to achieve victory over the opponent.”*

### **+ Basic Concepts of Satyagraha - Mahatma Gandhi**

+ <http://www.dfong.com/nonviol/basicsat.html>

*‘No better symbol exists of the pain and suffering of ‘the Trail Where They Cried’ than the Cherokee Rose. The mothers of the Cherokee grieved so much that the chiefs prayed for a sign to lift the mother’s spirits and give them strength to care for their children. From that day forward, a beautiful new flower, a rose, grew wherever a mother’s tear fell to the ground. The rose is white, for the mother’s tears. It has a gold center, for the gold taken from the Cherokee lands, and seven leaves on each stem that represent the seven Cherokee clans that made the journey. To this day, the Cherokee Rose prospers along the route of the ‘Trail of Tears’. The Cherokee Rose is now the official flower of the State of Georgia.’*

### **+ The Trail of Tears - Cherokee Indians forcibly removed from North Georgia**

+ <http://ngeorgia.com/history/nghisttt.html>

*“Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities.” - Voltaire*

+ <http://www.quotationspage.com/quotes/Voltaire>

*“Of all the enemies to public liberty war is, perhaps, the most to be dreaded because it comprises and develops the germ of every other. War is the parent of armies; from these proceed debts and taxes ... known instruments for bringing the many under the domination of the few. ... No nation could preserve its freedom in the midst of continual warfare.”*

+ James Madison, “Political Observations”, 1795

+ <http://www.globalissues.org/article/75/world-military-spending#WorldMilitarySpending>

*‘For the 2010 fiscal year, the President’s base budget of the Department of Defense rose to \$533.8 billion. Adding spending on “overseas contingency operations” brings the sum to \$663.8 billion.’*

*‘When the budget was signed into law on October 28, 2009, the final size of the Department of Defense’s budget was \$680 billion, \$16 billion more than President Obama had requested. An additional \$37 billion supplemental bill to support the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan was expected to pass in the spring of 2010, but has been delayed by the House of Representatives after passing the Senate.’*

*‘Defense-related expenditures outside of the Department of Defense constitute between \$216 billion and \$361 billion in additional spending, bringing the total for defense spending to between \$880 billion and \$1.03 trillion in fiscal year 2010.’*

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military\\_budget\\_of\\_the\\_United\\_States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_budget_of_the_United_States)

*‘Almost half the world — over three billion people — live on less than \$2.50 a day. At least 80% of humanity lives on less than \$10 a day.’*

+ <http://www.urbanministry.org/wiki/global-poverty-statistics>

*¶“The poorest 40 percent of the world’s population accounts for 5 percent of global income. The richest 20 percent accounts for three-quarters of world income.”*

*¶According to UNICEF, 26,500-30,000 children die each day due to poverty. And they “die quietly in some of the poorest villages on earth, far removed from the scrutiny and the conscience of the world. Being meek and weak in life makes these dying multitudes even more invisible in death.”*

*¶“Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”*

*¶“Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth”*

*¶“Less than one per cent of what the world spent every year on weapons was needed to put every child into school by the year 2000 and yet it didn’t happen.”*

*¶“Approximately 790 million people in the developing world are still chronically undernourished, almost two-thirds of whom reside in Asia and the Pacific.”*

*¶“Some 1.1 billion people in developing countries have inadequate access to water, and 2.6 billion lack basic sanitation.”*

*¶“A mere 12 percent of the world’s population uses 85 percent of its water, and these 12 percent do not live in the Third World.”*

*¶“In 2005, the wealthiest 20% of the world accounted for 76.6% of total private consumption. The poorest fifth just 1.5%”*

+ <http://www.urbanministry.org/wiki/global-poverty-statistics>

¶ *”Critical Resistance seeks to build an international movement to end the Prison Industrial Complex by challenging the belief that caging and controlling people makes us safe. We believe that basic necessities such as food, shelter, and freedom are what really make our communities secure. As such, our work is part of global struggles against inequality and powerlessness.”*

+ **Critical Resistance:** <http://www.criticalresistance.org>

¶ *”At the young age of fifteen, His Holiness the Dalai Lama was on 17 November 1950 officially enthroned as the temporal leader of Tibet in a ceremony held at the Norbulingka Palace. To mark the occasion of his ascension to power, His Holiness granted general amnesty whereby all the prisoners were set free.”*

+ <http://www.dalailama.com/biography/from-birth-to-exile>

¶ *”In an open letter to US President George W. Bush today, Amnesty International said that abuses allegedly committed by US agents in the Abu Ghraib facility in Baghdad were war crimes and called on the administration to fully investigate them to ensure that there is no impunity for anyone found responsible regardless of position or rank.”*

+ <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/AMR51/077/2004/en/52b7f594-d5d9-11dd-bb24-1fb85fe8fa05/amr510772004en.html>

*“We hang the petty thieves and appoint the great ones to public office.”*

+ Aesop (620-564 BC): <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aesop>

*“The most shocking of the revelations in the current batch of leaked Iraq war logs is that most of the acts of torture and murder were committed in the open. They weren’t secret. They were tolerated, sanitised – justified, even. In summer 2005, ( Peter Beaumont, guardian.co.uk) described the operation of the torture squads. Human rights organisations prepared their own reports. But nothing very much happened, except excuses... Yes, there were things we didn’t know: about the US order not to investigate allegations of murder and torture; the evidence of collaboration. And yes, an inquiry is an absolute necessity. But why now, not then? For who in Iraq did not know about the killing and torture? About the police death squads? About nothing ever really happening to halt it when we had a chance? Investigate, by all means – but it is too late.”*

+ <http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/oct/25/iraq-torture-no-secret>

*“In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus tells us that when we meet those in need, we meet Him, and that when we serve those in need, we serve Him. Blessed Teresa is a living witness to the truth of Jesus’ words, and to their power. The Christ she meet in the Eucharist each day revealed to her His presence in the poor.”*

+ OSV | Blessed Mother Teresa | “I Love Him In The Poor”

+ <http://www.osv.com/OSV4MeNav/BlessedMotherTeresa/ILoveHimIn-thePoor/tabid/3142/Default.aspx>

*“The Wall Street Bailout Cost table is produced and updated monthly by the Real Economy Project of the Center for Media and Democracy  
GRAND TOTAL: \$4.72 TRILLION DISBURSED, \$13.86 TRILLION  
MAX. AT-RISK, \$1.93 TRILLION OUTSTANDING.”*

+ [http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php?title=Total\\_Wall\\_Street\\_BailouCost](http://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php?title=Total_Wall_Street_BailouCost)

*“In the Eucharist, I see Christ in the appearance of the bread. In the slums, I see Christ in the ... poor. Sometimes we meet Jesus rejected and covered in filth in the gutter. Sometimes we find Jesus stuffed into a drain, or moaning with pain from sores or rotting with gangrene, or even screaming from the agony of a broken back. The most distressing disguise calls for even more love from us.”*

*“We can find Calcutta all over the world, if you have eyes to see. Everywhere, wherever you go, you find people who are unwanted, unloved, uncared for, just rejected by the society -- completely forgotten, completely left alone. That is the greatest poverty of the rich countries.”*

† **“I love Him in the poor” - Excerpt from Lessons for Living: Blessed Mother Teresa:** <http://www.osv.com/OSV4MeNav/Blessed-MotherTeresa/ILoveHimInThePoor/tabid/3142/Default.aspx>

*“The Muslim Jesus is an ascetic, a man of voluntary poverty, humility and long-suffering. He literally turns the other cheek, allowing his face to be slapped twice in order to protect two of his disciples. He teaches the return of good for evil: “Jesus used to say, ‘Charity does not mean doing good to him who does good to you . . . Charity means that you should do good to him who does you harm.’ “ He loves the poor and embraces poverty: “The day Jesus was raised to heaven, he left behind nothing but a woollen garment, a slingshot and two sandals.” He preaches against attachment to worldly things: “Jesus said, ‘He who seeks worldly things is like the man who drinks sea water: the more he drinks, the more thirsty he becomes, until it kills him.’ “*

+ **“The Muslim Jesus” - by John Casey**

+ <http://www.islamfortoday.com/jesus02.htm>

*['Jesus, or Isa, as he is known in Arabic, is deemed by Islam to be a Muslim prophet rather than the Son of God, or God incarnate. He is referred to by name in as many as 25 different verses of the Quran and six times with the title of "Messiah" (or "Christ", depending on which Quranic translation is being used). He is also referred to as the "Messenger" and the "Prophet" but, perhaps above all else, as the "Word" and the "Spirit" of God. No other prophet in the Quran, not even Muhammad, is given this particular honour. In fact, among the 124,000 prophets said to be recognised by Islam - a figure that includes all of the Jewish prophets of the Old Testament - Jesus is considered second only to Muhammad, and is believed to be the precursor to the Prophet of Islam.]'*

+ <http://www.newstatesman.com/religion/2009/12/jesus-islam-muslims-prophet>

*['The Sufi philosopher al-Ghazali described Jesus as "the prophet of the soul" and the Sufi master Ibn Arabi called him "the seal of saints". The Jesus of Islamic Sufism, as Khalidi notes, is a figure "not easily distinguished" from the Jesus of the Gospels.]'*

*"Isa ibn Maryam (Jesus son of Mary), peace be upon his blessed soul - to the Muslims universally - is a Divine Messenger (Rasul), Sign (Ayat), Word and Spirit of Allah (Ruhu'Llah). Just as every verse of the Quran is called Ayah (Sign); before the earthly unveiling of the Quran, in the previous cycle of messengership, Jesus himself was 'a Sign' embodied. For the Sufis, the Mystics of Islam - the station of Jesus is adorned as the Seal of Saintly Station, the Great Guide of Hearts (Murshid al-Akbar fil Qulub) and Teacher of the Sacred (Mu'allim al-Muqaddas)."*

+ <http://www.mysticsaint.info/2010/07/sufi-reading-of-jesus-teaching-parables.html>

¶ *“In the language of Islamic Sufism, waqt (time) denotes the time when the Divine gifts pour on a traveler to the Truth in accordance with one’s nearness to Him. These gifts invade the inner world with their Divine quality according to one’s capacity to receive them in the frequencies particular to them.”*

+ <http://en.mfethullahgulen.biz/sufism-2/2389-waqt-time.html>

*“As the nation looked to the West for more land, this agency participated in the ethnic cleansing that befell the western tribes. War necessarily begets tragedy; the war for the West was no exception. Yet in these more enlightened times, it must be acknowledged that the deliberate spread of disease, the decimation of the mighty bison herds, the use of the poison alcohol to destroy mind and body, and the cowardly killing of women and children made for tragedy on a scale so ghastly that it cannot be dismissed as merely the inevitable consequence of the clash of competing ways of life... Nor did the consequences of war have to include the futile and destructive efforts to annihilate Indian cultures. After the devastation of tribal economies and the deliberate creation of tribal dependence on the services provided by this agency, this agency set out to destroy all things Indian.” And while the BIA employees of today did not commit these wrongs, we acknowledge that the institution we serve did. We accept this inheritance, this legacy of racism and inhumanity. And by accepting this legacy, we accept also the moral responsibility of putting things right.’*

**+ Remarks of Kevin Gover, Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs  
Department of the Interior at the Ceremony Acknowledging the  
175th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Bureau of Indian Affairs,  
(September 8, 2000)**

+ <http://www.tahtonka.com/apology.html>

*¶"The message of Jesus as I understand it," said Gandhi, "is contained in the Sermon on the Mount unadulterated and taken as a whole... If then I had to face only the Sermon on the Mount and my own interpretation of it, I should not hesitate to say, 'Oh, yes, I am a Christian.' But negatively I can tell you that in my humble opinion, what passes as Christianity is a negation of the Sermon on the Mount... I am speaking of the Christian belief, of Christianity as it is understood in the west."*

**+ Mahatma Gandhi:**

+ <http://robtshepherd.tripod.com/gandhi.html>

¶**Matthew 5:9:** "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called children of God"

**Matthew 5:10:** "Blessed are those persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven"

**Matthew 5:38-39:** "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, do not resist the evildoer. But whoever strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other to him as well."

**Matthew 5:43-48:** "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor' and 'hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemy and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be like your Father in heaven, since he causes the sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Even the tax collectors do the same, don't they? And if you only greet your brothers, what more do you do? Even the Gentiles do the same, don't they? So then, be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

*["The year is 1945. At the foot of a cliff along the Nile River, near the city of Nag Hammadi, an Egyptian peasant unearths a large storage jar containing ancient manuscripts. The discovery turns out to be one of the greatest archaeological discoveries of the past century. A treasure of fourth-century texts, the manuscripts are the scriptures of the ancient mystical tradition commonly called Gnosticism, from the Greek gnosis, that is, secret knowledge. It is a discovery that challenges everything we thought we knew about the early Christian church, ancient Judaism, and Greco-Roman religions."]*

### + The Nag Hammadi Scriptures

["Gnosis was a knowledge or insight into the infinite, divine and uncreated in all and above all, rather than knowledge strictly into the finite, natural or material world. Gnosis is a transcendental as well as mature understanding. It indicates direct spiritual experiential knowledge and intuitive knowledge, mystic rather than that from rational or reasoned thinking. Gnosis itself is obtained through understanding at which one can arrive via inner experience or contemplation such as an internal epiphany of intuition and external epiphany such as the Theophany."]

+ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gnosis>

‘Gnosticism’s Christian form grew to prominence in the 2nd century A.D. Ultimately denounced as heretical by the early church, Gnosticism proposed a revealed knowledge of God (“gnosis” meaning “knowledge” in Greek), held as a secret tradition of the apostles. In *The Gnostic Gospels*, author Elaine Pagels suggests that Christianity could have developed quite differently if Gnostic texts had become part of the Christian canon. Without a doubt: Gnosticism celebrates God as both Mother and Father, shows a very human Jesus’s relationship to Mary Magdalene, suggests the Resurrection is better understood symbolically, and speaks to self-knowledge as the route to union with God. Pagels argues that

*Christian orthodoxy grew out of the political considerations of the day, serving to legitimize and consolidate early church leadership. ’*

+ <http://www.amazon.com/Gnostic-Gospels-Elaine-Pagels/dp/0679724532>

*“Stephan Hoeller explains that these Christians held a ‘conviction that direct, personal and absolute knowledge of the authentic truths of existence is accessible to human beings, and, moreover, that the attainment of such knowledge must always constitute the supreme achievement of human life.’”*

+ **Gnosis** - <http://www.gnosis.org/naghamm/nhlcodex.html>

*“In Buddhism, bodhicitta is the wish to attain complete enlightenment (that is, Buddhahood) in order to be of benefit to all sentient beings trapped in cyclic existence (samsāra) who have not yet reached Buddhahood. One who has bodhicitta as the primary motivation for all of his or her activities is called a bodhisattva.”*

+ **Bodhicitta** - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bodhicitta>

*¶”Manjushri’s sword of discriminating wisdom is tipped with flames to show that it severs all notions of duality. It can cut away delusion, aversion and longing, to reveal understanding, equanimity and compassion.”*

+ **Manjushri** - [http://www.khandro.net/deity\\_manjushri.htm](http://www.khandro.net/deity_manjushri.htm)

*¶”By 1872, the U.S. Army pursued a policy to exterminate all Native Americans unless or until they agreed to surrender and live on reservations “where they could be taught Christianity and agriculture.”*

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Native\\_Americans\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Native_Americans_in_the_United_States)

*¶David Brooks, The Weekly Standard, concluded that what America needed was a new, Niebuhrian “hawkish left ... a left suspicious of power but willing to use it to defend freedom.” He got his wish. But the speed date between liberal pundits and massive military force came with unintended consequences.’*

*¶Having rejected pacifism, Niebuhr made his case for Christian participation in war by distinguishing between “non-resistance” and “non-violent resistance.” He argued that because Jesus counseled nonresistance (urging his followers to turn the other cheek), nonviolent resistance was no more faithful to the Gospel than violence—after all, it did resist.’*

*Niebuhr was famously quoted as saying: “The emancipation of the Negro race in America probably waits upon the adequate development of this kind of social and political strategy ... The white race in America will not admit the Negro to equal rights if it is not forced to do so. Upon that point one may speak with a dogmatism which all history justifies.”*

*¶In jail in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963, King drew on the passage from memory in his open letter to eight of the city’s white clergymen, recalling: “As Reinhold Niebuhr has reminded us, groups tend to be more immoral than individuals. We know through painful experience that freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed.” In a striking paradox, King had identified the philosopher of armed conflict with the cause of nonviolence.’*

+ <http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2007/11/a-man-for-all-reasons/6337/4/>

*“It is difficult to get a man to understand something, when his salary depends upon his not understanding it!”*

+ **Upton Sinclair, ‘I, Candidate for Governor: And How I Got Licked’ (1935)**

*“Fascism is capitalism plus murder.”*

+ **Upton Sinclair, ‘Presidential Agent II’ (1944)**

+ [http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Upton\\_Sinclair](http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Upton_Sinclair)

*“According to a report published 2002 in the journal Science, between 22 and 47 percent of the world’s plants are endangered. Although the total number of plants worldwide remains unknown (estimates range from 310,000 to 422,000 species), their calculations show that between 94,000 and 144,000 species are at risk of dying out.”*

+ **Global Estimate of Endangered Plant Species Triples: Scientific American** - <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=global-estimate-of-endang>

*“When the Native Americans got to what we now call America some 40,000 to 10,000 years ago, they came upon what is now considered a legendary sight - the vast herds of buffalo which roamed the Plains. There are no accurate figures for the number of buffalo then but anthropologists have put the figure between 30 and 60 million animals.”*

+ <http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/buffalo.htm>

*“According to the National Bison Association there are only 350,000 buffalos in North America today.”* - <http://answers.google.com/answers/threadview/id/3.html>

*“Bison were hunted almost to extinction in the 19th century and were reduced to a few hundred by the mid-1880s. The US Army sanctioned and actively endorsed the wholesale slaughter of bison herds. The US Federal government promoted bison hunting for various reasons, to allow ranchers to range their cattle without competition from other bovines, and primarily to weaken the North American Indian popula-*

*by removing their main food source and to pressure them onto the reservations. Without the bison, native people of the plains were forced either to leave the land or starve to death. Recent genetic studies of privately owned herds of bison show that many of them include animals with genes from domestic cattle.”*

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American\\_Bison](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_Bison)

*["The Amish keep themselves apart from the communities around them in several ways: they wear distinctive clothes; straw hats, dark shirts and trousers with braces for men and plain and modest dresses with bonnets or caps for women. They are pacifists and don't serve in the military -- guns are used only for hunting. They don't swear oaths or hold elective office, and usually don't vote. They don't go to law because that is seen as too confrontational. They don't own modern technology. They don't accept any state benefits or use insurance. They have their own education system. They speak a German dialect among themselves. They marry among their community. Although the Amish separate themselves from the mainstream communities around them, they aren't exclusive and do business with their neighbours.”*

+ **BBC - Religions - Christianity: The Amish**

+ [http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/subdivisions/amish\\_1.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/subdivisions/amish_1.shtml)

*["I heartily accept the motto, "That government is best which governs least"; and I should like to see it acted up to more rapidly and systematically. Carried out, it finally amounts to this, which also I believe— "That government is best which governs not at all"; and when men are prepared for it, that will be the kind of government which they will have. To speak practically and as a citizen, unlike those who call themselves no-government men, I ask for, not at once no government, but at once a better government. Let every man make known what kind of government*

*“I heartily accept the motto, “That government is best which governs least”; and I should like to see it acted up to more rapidly and systematically. Carried out, it finally amounts to this, which also I believe— “That government is best which governs not at all”; and when men are prepared for it, that will be the kind of government which they will have. To speak practically and as a citizen, unlike those who call themselves no-government men, I ask for, not at once no government, but at once a better government. Let every man make known what kind of government would command his respect, and that will be one step toward obtaining it.’*

*“All voting is a sort of gaming, like checkers or backgammon, with a slight moral tinge to it, a playing with right and wrong, with moral questions; and betting naturally accompanies it. The character of the voters is not staked. I cast my vote, perchance, as I think right; but I am not vitally concerned that that right should prevail. I am willing to leave it to the majority. Its obligation, therefore, never exceeds that of expediency. Even voting for the right is doing nothing for it. It is only expressing to men feebly your desire that it should prevail. A wise man will not leave the right to the mercy of chance, nor wish it to prevail through the power of the majority.”*

*“Is a democracy, such as we know it, the last improvement possible in government? Is it not possible to take a step further towards recognizing and organizing the rights of man? There will never be a really free and enlightened State until the State comes to recognize the individual as a higher and independent power, from which all its own power and authority are derived, and treats him accordingly. I please myself with imagining a State at least which can afford to be just to all men, and to treat the individual with respect as a neighbor; which even would not think it inconsistent with its own repose if a few were to live aloof from it, not meddling with it, nor embraced by it, who fulfilled all the duties of*

*of neighbors and fellow-men. A State which bore this kind of fruit, and suffered it to drop off as fast as it ripened, would prepare the way for a still more perfect and glorious State, which also I have imagined, but not yet anywhere seen. Paying taxes is one way in which otherwise well-meaning people collaborate in injustice. People who proclaim that the war in Mexico is wrong and that it is wrong to enforce slavery contradict themselves if they fund both things by paying taxes. Thoreau points out that the same people who applaud soldiers for refusing to fight an unjust war are not themselves willing to refuse to fund the government that started the war.”*

+ **“Civil Disobedience - Henry David Thoreau (1849)**

+ [http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Civil\\_Disobedience\\_\(Thoreau\)](http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Civil_Disobedience_(Thoreau))

*“Civil disobedience is the active, professed refusal to obey certain laws, demands, and commands of a government, or of an occupying international power. Civil disobedience is commonly, though not always, defined as being nonviolent resistance. In its most nonviolent form (in India, known as ahimsa or satyagraha) it could be said that it is compassion in the form of respectful disagreement. One of its earliest massive implementations was brought about by Egyptians against the British occupation in the nonviolent 1919 Revolution. Civil disobedience is one of the many ways people have rebelled against what they deem to be unfair laws. It has been used in many well-documented nonviolent resistance movements in India (Gandhi’s campaigns for independence from the British Empire), in Czechoslovakia’s Velvet Revolution and in East Germany to oust their communist governments, in South Africa in the fight against apartheid, in the American Civil Rights Movement, in the Singing Revolution to bring independence to the Baltic countries from the Soviet Union, recently with the 2003 Rose Revolution in Georgia and the 2004 Orange Revolution in Ukraine, among other various movements worldwide.” - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil\\_Disobedience](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Civil_Disobedience)*

*According to Amnesty International: “the USA PATRIOT Act threatens the rights protected in the U.S. Constitution and international documents, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the Convention against Torture, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.”*

+ <http://www.amnestyusa.org/war-on-terror/civil-rights/page.do?id=1108209>

“The U.S. Senate overwhelmingly voted... to grant retroactive amnesty to the telecoms that aided the President Bush’s five-year secret, warrantless wiretapping of Americans, and to expand the government’s authority to sift through U.S. communications, handing a key victory to the Bush administration.”

+ <http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2008/07/senate-approv-1/>

**Christian Realism** - *“Coded references to New Testament Bible passages about Jesus Christ are inscribed on high-powered rifle sights provided to the U.S. military by a Michigan company, an ABC News investigation has found. The sights are used by U.S. troops in Iraq and Afghanistan and in the training of Iraqi and Afghan soldiers.”*

¶*One of the citations on the gun sights, 2COR4:6, is an apparent reference to Second Corinthians 4:6 of the New Testament, which reads: “For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”*”

+ <http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/us-military-weapons-inscribed-secret-jesus-bible-codes/story?id=9575794>

*“At the end of the scope’s model number, you can read “JN8:12”, which is a reference to the New Testament book of John, Chapter 8, Verse 12, which reads: “Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.” (King James Version) (ABC News)”*

+ <http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/slideshow?id=9580847>

*“The Imam Ali Mosque is housed in a grand structure with a gold gilded dome and many precious objects in the walls. Nearby is the Wadi-us-Salaam cemetery, reputed to be the largest in the world.[12] It contains the tombs of several prophets and many of the devout from around the world aspire to be buried here, to be raised from the dead with Imām Alī on Judgement Day. The Najaf seminary is one of the most important teaching centres in the Islamic world.”*

*“In August 2004, heavy fighting broke out again between American troops of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, Special Operations Capable (SOC), the 1st Cavalry Division’s 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment and 2nd Battalion, 7th US Cavalry Regiment, 15th Forward Support Battalion and Al-Sadr’s Mahdi Army. The battle, which was mostly centered around Wādī’ as-Salām Cemetery and the southwestern portion of the city, lasted three weeks and ended when senior Iraqi cleric Grand Ayatollah Alī Al-Sīstānī negotiated an end to the fighting.”*

*“The evening before Al-Sistani arrived in the city, two F-16’s, flying out of Balad, dropped four two-thousand pound JDAMs (Joint Direct Attack Munitions) on two hotels in close proximity to the Imam Ali Shrine. The success of this airstrike dealt a devastating blow to the Mahdi Army soldiers holed up in one of the holiest shrines in the Islamic faith.”*

+ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Najaf>

¶"The Velvet Revolution would not have been possible were it not for the monumental events unfolding in the other Communist Bloc countries. The Estonian Singing Revolution was well on its way in Estonia, not to mention the election of Solidarity members to Poland's government. On August 23rd, 1989, two million people from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania joined hands along a 600km stretch of road between Tallinn, Riga and Vilnius. Finally, November 9th, 1989 brought the fall of the infamous Berlin Wall. Also, on December 4th the border to Austria was opened, effectively ending the Iron Curtain division of East and West."

+ **Velvet Revolution in Prague Czechoslovakia**

+ <http://www.prague-life.com/prague/velvet-revolution>

*"States are violent to the extent that they have the power to act in the interests of those with domestic power."*

+ **Noam Chomsky, 'Language and Politics', June 13, 1983**

*"In an open letter to US President George W. Bush today, Amnesty International said that abuses allegedly committed by US agents in the Abu Ghraib facility in Baghdad were war crimes and called on the administration to fully investigate them to ensure that there is no impunity for anyone found responsible regardless of position or rank. Amnesty International said that it has documented a pattern of abuse by US agents against detainees, including in Iraq and Afghanistan, stretching back over the past two years."*

+ **DOCUMENT - USA: PATTERN OF BRUTALITY AND CRUELTY -- WAR CRIMES AT ABU GHRAIB**

+ <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/AMR51/077/2004/en/52b7f594-d5d9-11dd-bb24-1fb85fe8fa05/amr510772004en.html>

*Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: “Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.”*

**+ The Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

- <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml>

*The authorities began holding daily hourlong patriotic education classes, in which the monks were forced to read tracts denouncing the Dalai Lama and pledge loyalty to the Communist Party.’*

*“As a Buddhist monk who believes in the Dalai Lama as our foundation, it was unbearable to read this,” Lobsang said.*

*“We have no human rights now,” one monk told reporters in Chinese.*

+ <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/21/world/asia/21tibet.html>

*“A Tibetan lama, Phurbu Rinpoche from Kham, has been sentenced to eight and a half years in prison. It is the first sentence known to have been handed down to an important religious teacher in Tibet since protests broke out across the plateau in March, 2008. Due to his religious status, Phurbu Rinpoche’s concern for his country and people generated a sincere sense of responsibility. He once told me that it was in order to fulfill his urge to do something for his people that he established a small nunnery that would give renewed luster to his century-old lineage and the thousand-year old religious culture of Tibet. Thanks to private donations and support from the local populace, he finally built the Pangri nunnery in Singo village just outside Kardze town.”*

*‘The same scholar said that while Rinpoche was deeply concerned about changes in Tibet and Tibetan culture, “He never attacked nor criticized the Chinese government or the local authorities with whom he has always tried to maintain a healthy and mutually respectful dialogue. He has always been interested in finding compromises rather than aiming at harsh and aggressive resolutions.”’*

+ <http://www.savetibet.org/media-center/ict-news-reports/influential-tibetan-lama-sentenced-eight-and-half-years-prison>

*“I think the importance of doing activist work is precisely because it allows you to give back and to consider yourself not as a single individual who may have achieved whatever but to be a part of an ongoing historical movement... Radical simply means ‘grasping things at the root’.”*

+ **Angela Davis** - [http://blackhistorydaily.com/black\\_quotes/angela\\_davis\\_quotes.html](http://blackhistorydaily.com/black_quotes/angela_davis_quotes.html)

*“Gedhun Choekyi Nyima (born April 25, 1989) is, according to the majority of Tibetan refugees and other Buddhists, the eleventh Panchen Lama of Tibetan Buddhism. He was born in Lhari County, Tibet. On May 14, 1995, Gedhun Choekyi Nyima was named the 11th Panchen Lama by the 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso. After he was named Panchen Lama, Chinese authorities placed Gedhun Choekyi Nyima into forced seclusion. He has not been seen in public since May 17, 1995. Gyancaïn Norbu was later named as Panchen Lama by the People’s Republic of China.”*

+ **The Panchen Lama:** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panchen\\_Lama](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panchen_Lama)  
+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gedhun\\_Choekyi\\_Nyima](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gedhun_Choekyi_Nyima)

*“Take, say, a word like ‘terrorism,’ for example. Like most terms of political discourse it has two meanings: there’s a literal meaning and if you want to know what that is you can look up the official U.S. code or army manuals, they’ll tell you what terrorism is. And it’s what you would think, terrorism is ‘the calculated use of violence against civilians to intimidate, induce fear, often to kill, for some political, religious, or other end.’”*

*“That’s terrorism, according to its official definition...”*

**+ The Fifth Freedom, Noam Chomsky interviewed by Stephen Marshall - [www.chomsky.info](http://www.chomsky.info)**

*“But that definition can’t be used. Because if that definition is used, you get all the wrong consequences. For one thing, that definition turns out to be almost the same as the definition of official U.S. policy. Except, when it’s U.S. policy, it’s called ‘counter-insurgency’ or ‘low-intensity conflict’ or some other name. But, in fact, if you look at the definition, it’s essentially terrorism. In fact, almost a paraphrase. Furthermore, if you apply the literal definition, you conclude that the U.S. is a leading terrorist state because it engages in these practices all the time. It’s the only state, in fact, which has been condemned by the World Court and the Security Council for terrorism, in this sense. And the same is true of its allies. So, right now, they’re putting together what they call a ‘coalition against terror’, for the ‘war on terror’, and if you run down the list, every one of them is a leading terrorist state.”*

**+ ‘The Fifth Freedom’ - Noam Chomsky - 2001**

**+ <http://www.chomsky.info/interviews/200111--04.htm>**

*“Last week the National Bureau of Economic Research published a report on the effect of civilian casualties in Afghanistan and Iraq that confirmed what critics of our foreign policy have been saying for years: the killing of civilians, although unintentional, angers other civilians and prompts them to seek revenge. This should be self-evident”*

*“The Central Intelligence Agency has long acknowledged and analyzed the concept of blowback in our foreign policy. It still amazes me that so many think that attacks against our soldiers occupying hostile foreign lands are motivated by hatred toward our system of government at home or by the religion of the attackers. In fact, most of the anger towards us is rooted in reactions towards seeing their mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers and other loved ones being killed by a foreign army. No matter our intentions, the violence of our militarism in foreign lands causes those residents to seek revenge if innocents are killed. One does not have to be Muslim to react this way, just human.”*

*“We have done enough damage in Afghanistan, both to the Afghan people, and to ourselves. It’s time to re-evaluate the situation. It’s time to come home.”*

+ <http://www.thedailybell.com/1281/Ron-Paul-The-Cycle-of-Violence-in-Afghanistan.html>

*“Various names have been applied to the conflict. Vietnam War is the most commonly used name in English. It has also been called the Second Indochina War, and the Vietnam Conflict. As there have been so many conflicts in Indochina, this conflict is known by the name of their chief opponent to distinguish it from the others. Thus, in Vietnamese, the war is known as Chiến tranh Việt Nam (The Vietnam War), or as Kháng chiến chống Mỹ (Resistance War Against America), loosely translated as the American War.” - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vietnam\\_War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vietnam_War)*

¶*“In 1995, the Vietnamese government reported that its military forces, including the NLF, suffered 1.1 million dead and 600,000 wounded during Hanoi’s conflict with the United States. Civilian deaths were put at two million in the North and South, and economic reparations were expected. Hanoi concealed the figures during the war to avoid demoralizing the population.”*

*The law of war is a body of law concerning acceptable justifications to engage in war (jus ad bellum) and the limits to acceptable wartime conduct (jus in bello). The law of war is considered an aspect of public international law (the law of nations) and is distinguished from other bodies of law, such as the domestic law of a particular belligerent to a conflict, that may also provide legal limits to the conduct or justification of war. Among other issues, modern laws of war address declarations of war, acceptance of surrender and the treatment of prisoners of war, military necessity along with distinction and proportionality, and the prohibition of certain weapons that may cause unnecessary suffering.*

+ **Laws of War:** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laws\\_of\\_war](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laws_of_war)

*“A moral imperative is a principle originating inside a person’s mind that compels that person to act. It is a kind of categorical imperative, as defined by Immanuel Kant. Kant took the imperative to be a dictate of pure reason, in its practical aspect. Not following the moral law was seen to be self-defeating and thus contrary to reason. Later thinkers took the imperative to originate in conscience, as the divine voice speaking through the human spirit. The dictates of conscience are simply right and often resist further justification. Looked at another way, the experience of conscience is the basic experience of encountering the right.”*

+ **Moral Imperative:** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moral\\_imperative](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moral_imperative)

*'A conscientious objector (CO) is an "individual [who has] claimed the right to refuse to perform military service" on the grounds of freedom of thought, conscience, or religion. In some countries, conscientious objectors are assigned to an alternative civilian service as a substitute for conscription or military service. Some conscientious objectors consider themselves pacifist, non-interventionist, non-resistant, or antimilitarist. The international definition of conscientious objection officially broadened on March 8, 1995 when the UN Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/83 stated that "persons performing military service should not be excluded from the right to have conscientious objections to military service." That definition was re-affirmed in 1998, when the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights document called "Conscientious objection to military service, United Nations Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/77" officially recognized that "persons [already] performing military service may develop conscientious objections."'*

+ **Conscientious Objection:** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conscientious\\_objector](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conscientious_objector)

*'The "war on drugs" is simply a propaganda ploy, a legitimizing story for the American public. We were briefed by the Public Affairs Officers that counter-narcotics was a cover story for curious journalists, friends, and family that our mission, in fact, was to further develop Colombians' capacity for counterinsurgency operations'*

+ Stan Goff, retired U.S. Army Special Forces officer and former military advisor to Colombia

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War\\_on\\_Drugs](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War_on_Drugs)

*'According to the Drug War Clock, the amount of money spent by the US Govt on the War On Drugs this Year is over \$42 billion dollars.'*

+ <http://www.drugsense.org/cms/wodclock>

*“They came first for the Communists,  
and I didn’t speak up because I wasn’t a Communist.  
Then they came for the trade unionists,  
and I didn’t speak up because I wasn’t a trade unionist.  
Then they came for the Jews,  
and I didn’t speak up because I wasn’t a Jew.  
Then they came for me  
and by that time no one was left to speak up.”*

+ **Statement attributed to Pastor Martin Niemöller (1892–1984)**  
about the inactivity of German intellectuals following the Nazi rise to  
power and the purging of their chosen targets, group after group.  
+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First\\_they\\_came...](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_they_came...)

*“During the 25 years of its existence, the “War on Drugs” has trans-  
formed the criminal justice system, to the point where the imperatives  
of drug law enforcement now drive many of the broader legislative, law  
enforcement, and corrections policies in counterproductive ways. One  
significant impetus for this transformation has been the enactment of  
forfeiture laws which allow law enforcement agencies to keep the lion’s  
share of the drug-related assets they seize.”*

+ <http://www.fear.org/chicago.html>

*“A UN report said the global drug trade generated an estimated  
US\$321.6 billion in 2003. With a world GDP of US\$36 trillion in the  
same year, the illegal drug trade may be estimated as slightly less than  
1% of total global commerce.”*

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Illegal\\_drug\\_trade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Illegal_drug_trade)

¶"Led by the hoopoe, the birds of the world set forth in search of their king, Simurgh. Their quest takes them through seven valleys in the first of which a hundred difficulties assail them. They undergo many trials as they try to free themselves of what is precious to them and change their state. Once successful and filled with longing, they ask for wine to dull the effects of dogma, belief, and unbelief on their lives. In the second valley, the birds give up reason for love and, with a thousand hearts to sacrifice, continue their quest for discovering the Simurgh. The third valley confounds the birds, especially when they discover that their worldly knowledge has become completely useless and their understanding has become ambivalent. There are different ways of crossing this Valley, and all birds do not fly alike. Understanding can be arrived at variously—some have found the Mihrab, others the idol. The fourth valley is introduced as the valley of detachment, i.e., detachment from desire to possess and the wish to discover. The birds begin to feel that they have become part of a universe that is detached from their physical recognizable reality. In their new world, the planets are as minute as sparks of dust and elephants are not distinguishable from ants. It is not until they enter the fifth valley that they realize that unity and multiplicity are the same. And as they have become entities in a vacuum with no sense of eternity. More importantly, they realize that God is beyond unity, multiplicity, and eternity. Stepping into the sixth valley, the birds become astonished at the beauty of the Beloved. Experiencing extreme sadness and dejection, they feel that they know nothing, understand nothing. They are not even aware of themselves. Only thirty birds reach the abode of the Simurgh. But there is no Simurgh anywhere to see. Simurgh's chamberlain keeps them waiting for Simurgh long enough for the birds to figure out that they themselves are the si (thirty) murgh (bird). The seventh valley is the valley of deprivation, forgetfulness, dumbness, deafness, and death. The present and future lives of the thirty successful birds become shadows chased by the celestial Sun. And themselves, lost in the Sea of His existence, are the Simurgh."

+ ‘**Abū Hamīd bin Abū Bakr Ibrāhīm** (Persian: رکب و با ن با دی م ح و با (مى ه ا ر با) (born 1145-46 in Nishapur Iran - died c. 1221), much better known by his pen-names Farīd ud-Dīn (ن ی د ل ا د ی ر ف) and ‘Attār (ر ا ط ع - the pharmacist), was a Persian Muslim poet, theoretician of Sufism, and hagiographer from Nīshāpūr who left an everlasting influence on Persian poetry and Sufism.’

+ [http://wapedia.mobi/en/Farid\\_al-Din\\_Attar](http://wapedia.mobi/en/Farid_al-Din_Attar)

*“U.S. Senator Phil Gramm (R-Texas) has sputtered confidently that America needs to stop “building prisons like Holiday Inns.” In the 1996 Republican presidential primary race, he said, “I want to take out the color TVs and the weight rooms.” So, what did Gramm advocate to replace the “good life” inmates were living? Turn prisons into industrial parks: “I want them to make prisoners work 10 hours a day, six days a week.... I want to enter into contracts with major manufacturers so that we can produce component parts in prisons now being produced in places like Mexico, China, Taiwan, and Korea.”*”

+ Ken Sullivan, “Gramm vows to renew prison reform efforts,” Cedar Rapids Gazette, February 9, 1996.

+ <http://www.isreview.org/issues/21/prisons.shtml>

*“Pay scale for federal prisoners who work outside of UNICOR in prison maintenance, in dollars per hour: \$0.12-\$0.40 Percent of federal prisoner-workers who work for UNICOR rather than in prison maintenance: 25% Minimum UNICOR wage, in dollars per hour: \$0.23 UNICOR 2001 sales: \$583.5 million. Amount purchased from UNICOR in 2001 by the Department of Defense: \$388 million. Lowest wage reported, in dollars per day, for prisoners working in private industry: \$0.16”*

+ <http://www.prisonpolicy.org/prisonindex/prisonlabor.html>

¶ *“Orphism originally taught of the Causeless Cause on which all speculation is impossible; the periodical appearance and disappearance of all things, from atom to universe; reimpodiment; cyclic law; the essential divinity of all beings and things; and the duality in manifestation of the universe. It postulated seven emanations from the Boundless: aether (spirit) and chaos (matter), from which two spring the world egg, out of which is born Phanes, the First Logos; then Uranus (and Gaia) the Second Logos, with Kronos (and Rhea, mother of the Olympian gods) a later phase of the Second Logos; and Zeus, the Third Logos or Demiurge -- who starts a minor sevenfold hierarchy of emanation by begetting Zagreus-Dionysos the god-man, the divine son.”*

*“The most celebrated Mysteries in Greece were those of Eleusis pertaining to Demeter and Persephone, which gave rise to many branches and influenced schools of older foundation. Others were those of Samothrace, the Orphic Mysteries, and the Festivals devoted to Dionysos. Schools like that of Pythagoras diffused their influence, as did Academies such as that of Plato. The history of Greece furnishes notable examples of great men who had been initiated into such Mysteries. The Mysteries came into Greece from India and Egypt, and their origin goes back to Atlantean times. They were in historic times, what remained of the means whereby man’s divine ancestors communicated truths concerning the mysteries of cosmos and of human nature and of the communion divinity and man.”*

+ [http://www.experiencefestival.com/orphic\\_mysteries](http://www.experiencefestival.com/orphic_mysteries)

¶ *“The International Criminal Court (French: Cour Pénale Internationale; commonly referred to as the ICC or ICCT) is a permanent tribunal to prosecute individuals for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression (although it cannot currently exercise jurisdiction over the crime of aggression).’*

*“The court came into being on 1 July 2002—the date its founding treaty, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, entered into force—and it can only prosecute crimes committed on or after that date. The official seat of the court is in The Hague, Netherlands, but its proceedings may take place anywhere. As of October 2010, 114 states are members of the Court.”*

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International\\_Criminal\\_Court](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Criminal_Court)

*¶“The United States is not a member of the International Criminal Court (ICC). Moreover, the Bush Administration actively pursued a policy of hostility towards the court in its international relations.”*

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_and\\_the\\_International\\_Criminal\\_Court](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_and_the_International_Criminal_Court)

*“As early as World War I, American historians offered themselves to President Woodrow Wilson to carry out a task they called ‘historical engineering,’ by which they meant designing the facts of history so that they would serve state policy. In this instance, the U.S. government wanted to silence opposition to the war. This represents a version of Orwell’s 1984, even before Orwell was writing.”*

+ [http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Noam\\_Chomsky](http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Noam_Chomsky)

*“The smart way to keep people passive and obedient is to strictly limit the spectrum of acceptable opinion, but allow very lively debate within that spectrum - even encourage the more critical and dissident views. That gives people the sense that there’s free thinking going on, while all the time the presuppositions of the system are being reinforced by the limits put on the range of the debate.”*

+ **Noam Chomsky, 'The Common Good', 1998**

+ [http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Noam\\_Chomsky](http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Noam_Chomsky)

*“One is the fact that terrorism works. It doesn't fail. It works. Violence usually works. That's world history. Secondly, it's a very serious analytic error to say, as is commonly done, that terrorism is the weapon of the weak. Like other means of violence, it's primarily a weapon of the strong, overwhelmingly, in fact. It is held to be a weapon of the weak because the strong also control the doctrinal systems and their terror doesn't count as terror. Now that's close to universal. I can't think of a historical exception;”*

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noam\\_Chomsky's\\_political\\_views](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noam_Chomsky's_political_views)

*“Instead of going to war because the gods have been arguing among themselves, we go because of 'secret plots' and sinister combinations, because of political slogans elevated to the dignity of metaphysical absolutes: 'our political universe is peopled with myths and monsters—we know nothing there but absolutes.' We shed blood for high-sounding words spelled out in capital letters. We seek to impart content to them by destroying other men who believe in enemy-words, also in capital letters. But how can men really be brought to kill each other for what is objectively void? The nothingness of national, class, or racial myth must receive an apparent substance, not from intelligible content but from the will to destroy and be destroyed.”*

+ **THE ANSWER OF MINERVA:**

**PACIFISM AND RESISTANCE IN SIMONE WEIL**

**by Thomas Merton**

+ <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~engl5vr/Merton.html>

*¶"Since June 3, 1981, eight years to the day (EST) before tanks rolled into Tiananmen Square, signs calling for "Wisdom and Honesty," justice and nuclear disarmament have stood every day and night in front of the White House. To those who maintain perhaps the longest continuous vigil in human history, the signs represent the ancient right -- Thomas Jefferson may have termed it 'the duty' -- of people in a democracy to voice opinions on issues of broad public concern. According to National Park Service figures the signs have been seen by nearly fifty million people. Lafayette Park (Peace Park) is America's premier, historic location for individuals and organizations to bring grievances before the president and the public. This section contains information on People, Protests and the Current Situation in Lafayette Park."*

**+ 1601 Pennsylvania Avenue - <http://prop1.org>**

*¶"When framing the Constitution for a democratic society, there were diverse opinions as to the actual wording of the document. Many felt that "Government," as Tom Paine said, "has of itself no rights; they are all together duties" ("The Rights of Man", Part II, chap. 4). James Madison, who introduced what became the "Bill of Rights" in the First Session of Congress, probably thought he answered all objections by the language of the Fourth Resolution, which became the Ninth Amendment..."The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people." (Annals, 1st Cong., 1st sess., I, 456). 'Many people felt that they already had the rights before they were written down, and writing them down gave those rights no more authority than already conveyed naturally. Over time, the Constitution has been shadowed by numerous regulations which seem to deny or threaten the individual rights our framers tried to protect.'*

**+ <http://prop1.org/1601intr.htm#Prop1>**

*“You do not become a ‘dissident’ just because you decide one day to take up this most unusual career. You are thrown into it by your personal sense of responsibility, combined with a complex set of external circumstances. You are cast out of the existing structures and placed in a position of conflict with them. It begins as an attempt to do your work well, and ends with being branded an enemy of society.”*

+ **Vaclav Havel** - [http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Vaclav\\_Havel](http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Vaclav_Havel)

*¶In “You Say You Want a Revolution,” Safonov writes “the more the authorities fought the corrupting influence of the Beatles - or ‘Bugs’ as they were nicknamed by the Soviet media (the word has negative connotations in Russian) - the more we resented this authority, and questioned the official ideology drummed into us from childhood...the history of the Beatles’ persecution in the Soviet Union is the history of the self-exposure of the idiocy of Brezhnev’s rule. The more they persecuted something the world had already fallen in love with, the more they exposed the falsehood and hypocrisy of Soviet ideology.”*

+ **‘John Lennon and the Fall of the Soviet Union’** - [http://beatles.ncf.ca/dave\\_lafontana.html](http://beatles.ncf.ca/dave_lafontana.html)

*¶Tracks such as “Zimbabwe”, “Africa Unite”, “Wake Up and Live”, and “Survival” reflected Marley’s support for the struggles of Africans. His appearance at the Amandla Festival in Boston in July 1979 showed his strong opposition to South African apartheid, which he already had shown in his song “War” in 1976. In early 1980, he was invited to perform at the 17 April celebration of Zimbabwe’s Independence Day. Uprising (1980) was Bob Marley’s final studio album, and is one of his most religious productions; it included “Redemption Song” and “Forever Loving Jah”.’ - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bob\\_Marley](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bob_Marley)*

¶”The Prague Spring began on 5 January 1968, when reformist Slovak Alexander Dubček came to power, and continued until 21 August when the Soviet Union and members of its Warsaw Pact allies invaded the country to halt the reforms. The Prague Spring deepened the disillusionment of many Western leftists with Marxist-Leninist views. It contributed to the growth of Eurocommunist ideas in Western communist parties, which sought greater distance from the Soviet Union, and eventually led to the dissolution of many of these groups. A decade later, a period of Chinese political liberalization became known as the Beijing Spring. It also partly influenced the Croatian Spring in Yugoslavia. In a 1993 Czech survey, 60% of those surveyed had a personal memory linked to the Prague Spring while another 30% were familiar with the events in some other form.”

+ **Prague Spring:** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prague\\_Spring](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prague_Spring)

¶*‘We did not give it up’*

+ **The Velvet Revolution: stories of the 20th century:**

+ <http://goo.gl/q8Hu>

*“In one of my early books I suggested that the potential significance of LSD and other psychedelics for psychiatry and psychology was comparable to the value the microscope has for biology or the telescope has for astronomy. My later experience with psychedelics only confirmed this initial impression.”*

+ **Stanislav Grof:** [http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Stanislav\\_Grof](http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Stanislav_Grof)

*“The mind, according to Grof, is essentially ‘holotropic,’ that is, like a hologram wherein the whole can be reconstructed from a tiny part. The book’s first part analyzes memories of life in the womb and the painful process of birth. This is largely a rehash of Grof’s ‘Realms of the Human Unconscious’. The rest of the book is given to a discussion of our “infinite transpersonal consciousness,” wherein we can transcend not only the time-space continuum but even visit other dimensions and parallel universes.”* - <http://www.amazon.com/Holotropic-Mind-Three-Levels-Consciousness/dp/0062506595>

*["'Realms of the Human Unconscious: Observations from LSD Research' (Condor Books) is Stanislav Grof's first book, and since all his books build on the previous ones, this one is the foundation for all the rest. For example, its descriptions of psychedelic-induced states, such as the experience of cosmic unity, are more detailed here than in any of his later books. Hence, REALMS... may be the best of Grof's books to start with."]* + <http://www.amazon.com/Realms-Human-Unconscious-Observations-Research/dp/0285648829>

*["'Stanislav Grof, M.D., is a psychiatrist with over fifty years experience researching non-ordinary states of consciousness. He was born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, where he also received his scientific training - an M.D. degree from the Charles University School of Medicine and a Ph.D. (Doctor of Philosophy in Medicine) from the Czechoslovakian Academy of Sciences. His early research was in the clinical uses of psychoactive drugs, conducted at the Psychiatric Research Institute in Prague, There he was Principal Investigator of a program systematically exploring the heuristic and therapeutic potential of LSD and other psychedelic substances.'"]*

+ **Stanislav Grof:** [http://www.holotropic.com/bio\\_stan-grof.shtml](http://www.holotropic.com/bio_stan-grof.shtml)

“What makes the Anthropic Principle and the Gaia Hypothesis so inspiring? One simple thing: Both remind us, in modern language, of what we have long suspected, of what we have long projected into our forgotten myths and perhaps what has always lain dormant within us as archetypes. That is, the awareness of our being anchored in the earth and the universe, the awareness that we are not here alone nor for ourselves alone, but that we are an integral part of higher, mysterious entities against whom it is not advisable to blaspheme. This forgotten awareness is encoded in all religions. All cultures anticipate it in various forms. It is one of the things that form the basis of man’s understanding of himself, of his place in the world, and ultimately of the world as such.”

+ **Vaclav Havel:** [http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Vaclav\\_Havel](http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Vaclav_Havel)

*“Psychiatry is a modern day belief system not dissimilar to the religious structures of the Spanish Inquisition. The psychiatrists are the High Priests, they tolerate no criticisms, will never alter their views despite all evidence to the contrary, and will fight relentlessly to maintain their positions of power and authority. What makes it worse though is that psychiatric theories, parading as “science”, have insinuated themselves in nearly all aspects of modern society - government, law, medicine, sociology, social services, and education.”*

+ <http://www.sntp.net/drugs/thorazine.htm>

*“On February 16, 1976, U.S. News and World Report quoted another Russian dissident who had been forced to take neuroleptics, in this case Haldol, “I was horrified to see how I deteriorated intellectually, morally and emotionally from day to day. My interest in political problems quickly disappeared, then my interest in scientific problems, and then my interest in my wife and children”.* ‘

+ **Chemical Lobotomies:** <http://www.sntp.net/drugs/thorazine.htm>

¶ *“How the military increases the killing rate of soldiers in combat is instructive, because our culture today is doing the same thing to our children. The training methods militaries use are brutalization, classical conditioning, operant conditioning, and role modeling.”*

+ [http://www.killology.com/art\\_trained\\_methods.htm](http://www.killology.com/art_trained_methods.htm)

¶ *“... celebrities have displaced other role models. When people (especially young people) adopt idols today, these idols come from the world of celebrities, rather from the world of traditional authority.”*

+ [http://works.bepress.com/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1006&context=john\\_brigham](http://works.bepress.com/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1006&context=john_brigham)

¶ *“The Guatemalan Civil War ended in 1996 with a peace accord between the guerrillas and the government, negotiated by the United Nations through intense brokerage by nations such as Norway and Spain. The guerrilla fighters disarmed and received land to work. According to the U.N.-sponsored truth commission the (“Commission for Historical Clarification”), government forces and state-sponsored paramilitaries were responsible for over 93% of the human rights violations during the war.”*

¶ *“During the first ten years, the victims of the state-sponsored terror were primarily students, workers, professionals, and opposition figures, but in the last years they were thousands of mostly rural Mayan farmers and non-combatants. More than 450 Mayan villages were destroyed and over 1 million people became displaced within Guatemala or refugees. Over 200,000 people, mostly Mayan, were killed during the civil war.”*

+ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guatemala>

*¶"In 1999, U.S. president Bill Clinton stated that the United States was wrong to have provided support to Guatemalan military forces that took part in the brutal civilian killings."*

+ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guatemala>

*"Sadhus emulate the most extreme characteristics of Lord Shiva as the Conqueror of Death: his favourite haunt is the cremation-grounds; he bathes in cremation-ashes; he wears a garland of skulls and bones; he keeps spirits and ghosts for company; he is continuously intoxicated;"*

+ <http://www.adolphus.nl/sadhus/shiva.html>

*¶"When I asked the guys at my ashram, they said sadhus are considered "dead" to most Indian people. the sadhus themselves have decided to relinquish life. Not just dead as in no life, but no opinions, no likes or dislikes, no aspirations, no expectations, nothing.'*

+ <http://www.indiamike.com/india/yoga-spirituality-and-religion-in-india-f54/sadhus-and-their-soul-t70366/>

*Many Muslim scholars in his time, and many after his time, said that Bayazid al-Bistami was the first one to spread the Reality of Annihilation (fana')*

+ <http://www.naqshbandi.org/chain/6.htm>

*¶"I don't have a day and I don't have a night, because day and night are for those who have characteristics of creation. I have shed my self the way the snake sheds its skin."*

+ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bayazid\\_Bastami](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bayazid_Bastami)

*“Why is it that even though the First Amendment states that “congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...” some are still persecuted for pursuing spiritual practices?”*

**+ Support the Spiritual Use of Entheogens**

+ <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2210632980>

*“en-theo·gen [god within; god- or spirit-facilitating] a psychoactive sacramental; a plant or chemical substance taken to occasion primary religious experience. Example: peyote cactus as used in the Native American Church.”*

**+ Entheogens:** <http://csp.org/practices/entheogens/entheogens.html>

*“Mescaline raises all colors to a higher power and makes the percipient aware of innumerable fine shades of difference, to which, at ordinary times, he is completely blind. It would seem that, for Mind at Large, the so-called secondary characters of things are primary.”*

**+ Aldus Huxley:** <http://mescaline.com/huxley.htm>

*“I could talk about homeostasis, chemical equilibrium, disequilibrium, Daisyworld, the albedo effect, glacials, interglacials, the Milankovich effect, global warming, climate change, greenhouse gases, defining life, neo-darwin evolution, Gaian evolution and other facts and theories that James Lovelock has woven together to create a compelling picture of the Earth’s life. All I want to do is introduce one aspect of it from which other aspects can be explored. My reference for this is James Lovelock’s ‘Healing Gaia’.”*

+ <http://thegroveofquotes.wordpress.com/2009/06/09/gaia-hypothesis/>

*["First formulated by Lovelock during the 1960s as a result of work for NASA concerned with detecting life on Mars, the Gaia hypothesis proposes that living and non-living parts of the earth form a complex interacting system that can be thought of as a single organism. Named after the Greek goddess Gaia at the suggestion of novelist William Golding, the hypothesis postulates that the biosphere has a regulatory effect on the Earth's environment that acts to sustain life."]*

+ **Gaia:** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_Lovelock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Lovelock)

+ <http://www.amazon.com/Healing-Gaia-Practical-Medicine-Planet/dp/0517578484>

*["The religion of Santo Daime, which is a syncretism associating christianity with shamanism, came into existence in 1930 at the borders of the Amazonian rainforest in Brazil, and brings a message of Harmony, Love, Truth and Justice to the whole world. For thousands of years, Santo Daime has been used by the native people of the Amazonian forest in both religious ceremonies as shamanistic and therapeutic practices. The brown colored and bitter tasting tea is known under many names: yagé, nepe, kabi, natema, hoasca, and ayahuasca. This last name comes from the ancient Quechua language and means 'vine of the soul'."]*

+ **Santo Daime | the Doctrine of the Rainforest**

+ <http://www.santodaime.be>

*["The Santo Daime sect got another boost in international recognition during the 1992 Earth Summit. In 1992, Mapia was made the center of a million acre ecological preserve, through the help of the international group Friends of the Amazon, and there are also efforts underway to create an international center there which will offer workshops in traditional healing, ecology, and consciousness studies. (Beyran, 1995.) During the Summit, Santo Daime members joined an inter-faith religious*

*pavilion area, and set up their own tent where 600 people (observers and faithful alike) took part in their all-night ceremonies of tea drinking, rhythmic dancing, and singing hymns for the protection of the rainforest. One of those participants was Domingo Bernardo de Silva, head of CONFEN (the Brazilian Drug Council), who used the occasion to pronounce that “altered states of perception do not necessarily signify a harmful situation.”*

+ <http://www.tpub.com/religion/religions/santodaime/>

*“One day he found on the street a poor Indian, bleeding to death from a dagger wound, and took him to his own room until he could transport him to his sister’s hospice. The superior, when he heard of this, reprimanded his subject for disobedience. He was extremely edified by his reply: “Forgive my error, and please instruct me, for I did not know that the precept of obedience took precedence over that of charity.” The superior gave him liberty thereafter to follow his inspirations in the exercise of mercy.’*

+ **Martin de Porres** - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin\\_de\\_Porres](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_de_Porres)

*“We haven’t proposed socialism,” but said the Indigenous people and campesinos of Mexico “only want the fulfillment of the 10 points we have stated. We want democracy and elections without fraud, independence, land for all the campesinos, work, and housing. We want to have health care, justice, education--but not the kind to keep us stupid; that they stop killing the Indians, that they treat us like humans, that we eat not only pozol, but meat, like people elsewhere. These are very simple points,” he explains vehemently in his rough Spanish.*

+ <http://govt.eserver.org/about-the-zapatistas/09-chapter.03-cease.fire.txt>

¶ *“Martin de Porres joined the Dominican Order of Preachers as a donado (lay helper or tertiary). The donados were the lowest-ranking Dominicans, performing the heaviest chores in the Order. He was eventually elevated to brother but never did become a full priest. Martin often challenged his brother Dominicans on their racial attitudes. He noted that a group of Indians were treated different than some whites who were provided food without having to work for it. Martin himself insisted on performing hard and menial tasks as caring for the Order’s horses in the evenings, even when informed that servants were available for these chores. He extended his healing gifts, visiting their quarters and treating their ailments. Martin’s spiritual practices were rather harsh: he fasted for extensive periods on bread and water. There were all-night vigils in which he prayed in the position of the crucified, and sometimes kneeling a foot or more off the floor. He scourged himself with chains--three times a day: for the souls in Purgatory, for unrepentant sinners, for his own soul. Martin had a great love for animals. They came to him and they understood him and he healed them as well. After his death, Martin because of his lifelong became the patron saint of social justice. Martin fed, sheltered and doctored hundreds of families. In addition he established the Orphanage and School of the Holy Cross which took in boys and girls of all classes and taught them trades or homemaking skills. He insisted that the workers of the orphanage be well-paid and respected for their service.”*

+ **Martin de Porres** - <http://www.nathanielturner.com>

¶ *“Martin loved animals, and like St. Francis of Assisi considered them children of God. He cared for them with the same tenderness and reverence with which he treated his human charges, mixing herbal formulas for them and performing surgery when necessary. As with St. Francis, his tenderness for animals was well known; passersby would see him*

walking along the streets of Lima with a following of animals who were magnetized by his loving radiance. He never passed by a sick or suffering animal, but took each home with him. He would lovingly nurse their wounds with herbs and their spirits with prayers. He eventually opened a hospital for sick and injured animals in the home of his sister, an amazing thing to do in his time. Declared a saint in 1962, his festival day being November 3, he remains today one of the most beloved saints of the Americas. Statues and pictures of him often include at his feet a cat, bird, and mouse all eating from one plate.”

+ **Martin de Porres:** <http://www.vegetarianfriends.net/issue37.html>

¶”On one occasion, his Priory became overrun with rats scavenging the food supplies, and the Prior ordered Martin to put down poison to eradicate them. Martin, out of holy obedience, complied; but then he went out into the garden and softly called the rats to a meeting. He reprimanded them for stealing food from the Priory, and warned them about the poison. But he said he realised that they were hungry, and promised that if they stopped annoying the Prior, he would feed them in the garden every day. The rats agreed, and never bothered the Priory again.”

+ **Martin de Porres:** <http://bethanytwins.wordpress.com/2008/11/03/saint-martin-de-purrs/>

¶”In the 1920s, Mahatma Gandhi proclaimed himself a Buddhist, saying that Buddhism was rooted in Hinduism and represented its essence. During his visit to Sri Lanka in 1927, Gandhi had no hesitation in declaring that he was a “Buddhist” because he saw Buddhism as cleansed Hinduism.’

+ **Mahatma Gandhi:** <http://www.phayul.com/news/article.aspx?id=12881&t=0>

¶ For Gandhi Jesus was the true satyagrahist who passed the test of non-violence even if he seemed to be otherwise a failure. “The virtues of mercy, non-violence, love and truth in any man can be truly tested when they are pitted against ruthlessness, violence, hate and untruth... This is the true test of Ahimsa ... He who when being killed bears no anger against his murderer and even asks God to forgive him is truly non-violent. History relates this of Jesus Christ. With his dying breath on the Cross, he is reported to have said, “Father, forgive them for they know not what to do.” ‘

+ **Mahatma Gandhi:** <http://robtshpherd.tripod.com/gandhi.html>

¶ Gandhi once said that the Buddha was the greatest teacher of ahimsa (non-violence) and that he “taught us to defy appearances and trust in the final triumph of Truth and Love.” Albert Schweitzer once said that “Gandhi continues what the Buddha began. In the Buddha the spirit of love sets itself the task of creating different spiritual conditions in the world; in Gandhi it undertakes to transform all worldly conditions.” Raghavan Iyer concurs: “Gandhi was, in fact, following in the footsteps of the Buddha in showing the connection between the service of suffering humanity and the process of self-purification.””

+ **Mahatma Gandhi:** <http://www.class.uidaho.edu/ngier/gb.htm>

*“As the legend goes, one day after the war was over, Ashoka ventured out to roam the city and all he could see were burnt houses and scattered corpses. This sight made him sick and he cried the famous monologue:”*

*“What have I done? If this is a victory, what’s a defeat then? Is this a victory or a defeat? Is this justice or injustice? Is it gallantry or a rout? Is it valor to kill innocent children and women? Do I do it to widen the empire and for prosperity or to destroy the other’s kingdom and splen-*

*dor? One has lost her husband, someone else a father, someone a child, someone an unborn infant.... What's this debris of the corpses? Are these marks of victory or defeat? Are these vultures, crows, eagles the messengers of death or evil?"*

*"He is acclaimed for constructing hospitals for animals and renovating major roads throughout India. After this transformation, Ashoka came to be known as Dhammashoka (Sanskrit), meaning Ashoka, the follower of Dharma. Ashoka defined the main principles of dharma (dhamma) as nonviolence, tolerance of all sects and opinions, obedience to parents, respect for the Brahmans and other religious teachers and priests, liberality towards friends, humane treatment of servants, and generosity towards all. These principles suggest a general ethic of behaviour to which no religious or social group could object."*

+ **Ashoka** - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ashoka>

*"Many people ask: How can any nation be defended if all of its people adopt nonviolence? It is rather difficult to answer this hypothetical question. However, an emperor ruled over India with nonviolence and compassion in the third century B.C. Ashoka was the emperor - emperor of peace and social justice. He did not rule by force or by accumulating goods and means of comfort for himself or by pomp and show. He ruled by sacrificing material comforts and by treating all his subjects equal and with justice. His example can guide us, rulers and administrators, politicians and civil servants, religious leaders and laymen, to establish peace, justice and harmony in present-day world."*

+ **Sh. Duli Chandra Jain and Ms. Sunita Jain in Ashoka - Emperor Or Monk.**

+ <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ashoka>