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Mana Sanskriti (Our Culture)

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Issue: 223

Dr. Sreenivasarao Vepachedu¹
Ms. Krishna Claudia Vepachedu²

ISOLATIONISM & XENOPHOBIA

The ebb and flow of what we now know as globalization and protective bouts of isolation are nothing new in the foreign policy of empires and countries, and are as old as humanity. Nomadic lifestyle and migration have been a tradition for many groups across the world that left their homes and spread across the world,³ while settlements, forts⁴ and military⁵ have been hallmarks of our civilization.

The Persian Royal Road was established during the Achaemenid Empire (500-330 BCE). The



Persian Royal Road ran from Susa in Persia (Iran) to the Mediterranean Sea in Asia Minor (Turkey) and featured postal stations along the route to deliver messages throughout the empire. The Persians maintained the Royal Road which included smaller side roads into the Indian Continent, across Mesopotamia, and into Egypt. Later, this Royal Road became one of the main arteries of the Silk Road, stretched from China through the Indian Continent to Asia Minor, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Africa, Greece, Rome, Britain, Russia and Eastern Europe⁶.

The greatest value of the Silk Road was the exchange of culture. Art, religion, philosophy, technology, language, science, architecture, and every other element of civilization was exchanged through the Silk Road along with the commercial goods the merchants carried from country to country⁷. It is now included in the World Heritage List of UNESCO, with 33 historical sites along the road⁸.



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Globalization may involve wars and invasions, e.g., The British Company Rule. Private British companies set up private commercial concerns and turned to the British government for help, in addition to their own mercenaries and alliances, establishing new colonies for the British Empire. It is the need for cheap labor and raw materials for the businesses that require protection from competing empires and maintenance of a firm control over the so-called colonies, dominions, protectorates, vassals, etc. The logic was that only by directly controlling these regions by setting up colonies under their direct control could the industrial economy work effectively, that colonies were crucial to military power, national security, and nationalism, and “the moral obligation” to civilize the uncivilized by bringing the blessings of Western civilization, including medicine, law, and Christianity because of Social Darwinism (the civilized Westerners were more advanced than the uncivilized rest of the world and it was only natural for them to conquer and destroy the weaker races as nature’s way of improving mankind)⁹.

In the Indian Continent, there have been recorded invasions for over 3 millennia with the rise and



fall of various empires including the British, the Dutch, the French, the Portuguese etc., which ended in the 20th century liberating more than half of the entire world’s population at the time, with the rise of a new democratic empire of the Indian Union and some independent states. Thus, this period of ancient history, including Alexander’s invasion of Persia and Bactria¹⁰ and other Islamic invasions, until the liberation of the continent from the British Empire may be considered globalization of the Indian Continent by military, along with the mercantile globalization through the Persian Royal

Road and the Silk Road.

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There has been a global military-industrial complex¹¹, whose power has been always there as exemplified by the empire expansions undertaken by kings as a matter of a divine duty and necessity,¹² and also for religious and mercantile reasons¹³. The military industrial complex in its nascent state produced spears and bows; Complex spears produced 400,000 years ago and bows around 60,000 years ago are the evidence¹⁴.

As the conflict within the Indian Continent continues, opportunities for the exploitation by the powers from the North and the West of such divide and conflict exist, as seen, for example, in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Despite the existence of such divisions and animosities among the countries in the Indian Continent, the modern Indian Union represents an unparalleled consolidation of about 700 independent states with diverse populations into a union forging a new identity and national unity among diverse Indian populations. It should be noted that with the separation of Pakistan and Bangladesh, and the creation of other states outside the union, such as Afghanistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia etc., partly because of competing European Imperialist Empires¹⁵ such as the British, the French, the Dutch etc. that fell apart; the remaining Indian Union (1.3 billion) carved out of the British Raj represents more than half of the population of the entire Indian Continent (about 2.5 billion), and larger than the current European Union of Western European nations that is falling apart with Brexit¹⁶, due to populist isolationism rampant in the UK and sweeping in the US this election season.

Globalization is cyclical with intervening periods of decay, isolation, and chaos, as almost all the expanding empires disintegrate into smaller states to make way for new empires; like forests go through a process of maintenance and regeneration through fire¹⁷. The process of globalization is well established and its positive effects are touted by most nations as the driving force behind the cultural and economic development¹⁸.

Globalization and an increasing trend in human migration and mobility make the question of where to live an important one, especially among younger individuals¹⁹, leading to urbanization hand in hand with the growth of larger cities of cosmopolitan nature across the world²⁰. As the societies are interconnected in a global economy, naturally the identity and cultural integrity of each member of the global society is threatened by the same globalization that paves the way for prosperity and cultural diversity.

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A dominant monoculture with the power of mass media and technology stands against local, national and traditional cultures resulting in disintegration of the militarily weaker and economically poorer cultures²¹. At a continental level, with the end of the European empires, the globalization of the Indian Continent began through mass media, especially Bollywood,²² which, of course, cannot compete with Hollywood in dollars²³. Both Bollywood and Hollywood are perceived to be dangerous to the native cultures and languages, as Bollywood creates a pan-Indian culture and language *Hunglishizes* (Hindi + Urdu + English), while Hollywood Americanizes. However, Hollywood's impact is limited to elite, while Bollywood's impact reaches masses in competition with the powerful national linguistic media in each state within the Union²⁴.

Therefore, there is a need for protection of wealth, cultures and languages, resulting in various



protective isolation mechanisms such as building walls²⁵, neutrality, and the License Raj²⁶.

Building walls and forts protect people from invading marauders, as a mechanism of isolation. Hadrian's Wall, built in 122 AD, about 73 miles long and about 10 feet thick, stretched across England to protect northern boundary. The Great Wall of China was constructed during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) to prevent attacks from rival forces. The 96-mile long and 12-foot high Berlin Wall built in 1961 by the communist German Democratic Republic (GDR) divided East Berlin from West Berlin to prevent defection of people to the West until 1989, when the Cold

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War ended²⁷ when Reagan called upon Gorbachev to tear it down to free people and globalize the world²⁸. These walls literally isolate people from invaders and prevent defectors from escaping.

Neutrality is defined as a legal status arising from the abstention of a state from all participation in a war between other states, the maintenance of an attitude of impartiality toward the belligerents, and the recognition by the belligerents of this abstention and impartiality. Under international law, the neutral legal status gives rise to certain rights and duties between the neutral and the belligerents²⁹.

The modern democratic Indian Union's non-alignment with either block during the cold war period is an example of such Neutrality. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)³⁰ is a group of states³¹ which are not formally aligned with or against any major power bloc, having an independent policy based on the coexistence of States with different political and social systems and on non-alignment.

Isolationism is defined as a national policy of avoiding political or economic entanglements with other countries. Isolationism has been a recurrent theme in the history of many countries, and the US history is no exception³². Isolationism as a term is most often used in reference to the American foreign policy which flip-flops between isolation and intervention³³. America entered the World War I³⁴ breaking its neutrality in 1917, with "a war to end all wars" that would "make the world safe for democracy." And then America retreated into its shell of isolation shocked by the devastation, only to be drawn into World War II³⁵.

When America stood alone as the only major Western power that was not significantly damaged in the war, America firmly secured its place in the global politics as the only major power with the implementation of the Marshall Plan³⁶. And there was no turning back from its mission of "a war to end all wars" that would "make the world safe for democracy," no matter how strong the American masses and politicians are pulled into isolation by Alienophobia³⁷ or love of peace³⁸, time and again.



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However, it should be noted that Isolationism was one of the reasons for the fall of the prosperous Ming dynasty in China, which built the Great Wall of China, and adapted a policy of hostility toward trade and foreign travel³⁹.

Recent Brexit is an interesting example of isolation of a nation from a union and yet continuing to be part of the larger globalization. In contrast, Ukraine’s attempt to join the European Union and break away from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) (Sodruzhestvo Nezavisimykh Gosudarstv)⁴⁰ is an example of defection which resulted in the war with Russia and annexation of Crimea, and isolation of and sanctions against Russia by the US and the EU.

Another example of isolation is the “License Raj.” In addition to the Neutrality through NAM, modern India also saw a period of isolation called the “License Raj” until liberalization of its economy through the GATT and WTO, with reforms in 1990s. Combined with Neutrality and License Raj, India protected its masses from the foreign influences, with a planned industrialization and widespread development strategy to develop the young democracy. Unfortunately, the fruits of these policies were not impressive, despite the fact that was a significant development, due to corruption and mismanagement which resulted in a meltdown of economy to the brink of bankruptcy. Prime Minister Rao (VenkataNarasimhaRao Pamulaparti) faced with the balance of payment crisis, ushered in reforms liberalizing the economy that opened the door for the globalization of the Indian economy⁴¹, waking up to the reality of globalization pressed forward by Reagan and Thatcher in 80s that became reality in 90s⁴².

The GATT contract was first signed in 1947 by 23 countries and grew into a broad-based multilateral system covering over 90% of world trade⁴³, which then transitioned into a more ambitious system under the WTO⁴⁴, an open, rule-based trading system providing immense opportunities for global growth and prosperity.

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Building walls may not isolate a country from the globalization, but imposing tariffs and restrictions on trade along with it would isolate a country and cripple its economy, as seen time and again. The collapse of various empires in the continents of India, Asia and Europe points in the direction of failed economic policies with isolationism and a touch of nationalism and xenophobia⁴⁵. By targeting and punishing the victims of trafficking⁴⁶ by unscrupled American business the hire people without proper documentation to exploit their vulnerability, the problem remains and festers. To combat trafficking in persons, slavery, and involuntary servitude, Congress passed the “Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000.” Calling these victims “illegal” and punishing them by deporting or detaining goes against the law of the land. In addition, as long as the tax structure is not favorable, American companies will continue to seek new and creative ways to relocate their tax residence to avoid paying taxes in the US⁴⁷.

Walls with xenophobia, isolationism, neutrality and/or trade barriers only exacerbate the problems of the world economy or the national economy.

NOTES AND REFERENCES⁴⁸

¹ Dr. Rao Vepachedu is the founder and president of Vepachedu Educational Foundation Inc., a 501(c) (3) educational foundation, and the Law Offices of Dr. Vepachedu and co-founder of Exciva. For more information visit: www.linkedin.com/in/vepachedu; <http://www.avvo.com/attorneys/60201-il-sreenivasarao-vepachedu-764535.html>, and <http://www.crm-ip.com/vepachedu.html>. Contact: svepachedu@yahoo.com.



² Ms. Krishna Claudia Vepachedu is Junior at Stevenson High School (SHS), class of 2017. She is the Sr. Copy Editor of the Ambassador Yearbook, 2017. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/krishna-vepachedu-90802064>

³ Vepachedu, GLOBALIZATION, Mana Sanskriti, Issue 207, April 2015: <http://www.vepachedu.org/manasanskriti/GLOBALIZATION.pdf>

⁴ A Roman Fort: <http://historylink101.com/2/Rome/roman-army-forts.htm>
 OLD WEST LEGENDS, Forts Across America: <http://www.legendsofamerica.com/we-forts.html>
 Top 10 Great Forts in India: <http://www.walkthroughindia.com/attraction/top-10-great-forts-in-india/>

⁵ Ancient Military History: <http://www.ancientmilitary.com/index.htm>
 The Military of Ancient India: <http://www.ancientmilitary.com/ancient-india-military.htm>

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⁶ About the Silk Road: <http://en.unesco.org/silkroad/about-silk-road>

⁷ Silk Road: http://www.ancient.eu/Silk_Road/

⁸ Silk Road: <https://www.travelchinaguide.com/silk-road/>

⁹ Rudyard Kipling (1865–1936) in his famous poem, “The White Man’s Burden” expressed this mission in the 1890s when he prodded Europeans to take up “their moral obligation” to civilize the uncivilized. He encouraged them to “Send forth the best ye breed to serve your captives’ need.” Missionaries supported colonization, believing that European control would help them spread Christianity, the true religion, in Asia and Africa.

¹⁰ Bactria was a province of the Persian Empire located in modern Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan. Alexander conquered it with great difficulty between 329-327 BCE, largely with the help of local auxiliary forces. During his stay there, Alexander married a Bactrian woman, Roxanne, to aid his effort of controlling the region. Diodotus, satrap of Bactria, declared independence (about 255 BCE) and conquered Sogdiana, founding the Indo-Greek Kingdom.

¹¹ Eisenhower warns of military-industrial complex: <http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/eisenhower-warns-of-military-industrial-complex>

¹² The Tsarist Prince Chancellor Gorchakov, 1864:

The situation of Russia, is that of all the civilised states which come into contact with nomads who have no well-established state organisation... To provide against their raids and their looting, we must subdue them and bring them under strict control. But there are others further away ... consequently we too must proceed further still.... This is what has befallen France in Africa, the United States in America, England in India. We march forward by necessity as much as by ambition.

Marc Ferro, *Colonization: A Global History*, translated from the French by K. D. Prithipaul (Quebec: World Heritage Press, 1997), pp. 13–14.

Encyclopedia of the Peoples of Africa and the Middle East:

https://books.google.com/books?id=stI97FdyRswC&dq=empire+expansions+indus+sumer&source=gbs_navlinks_s

Around 2600 B.C.E., after what appears to have been 300 years of isolation and stagnation, the region stretching between southern Mesopotamia and the **Indus** River valley entered a new phase of development and state formation.

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Archaeological evidence suggests that Akkadian imperialism, the conquest of city-states in Mesopotamia, began soon after 2400 B.C.E. This evidence consists of a sudden change in the style of pottery being produced to a new form that is distinctly Akkadian, as well as signs of a reorganization of the irrigation necessary for agriculture. Accompanying these changes was a distinctive ideology of heroic warrior-kings that appears to have substantially differed from the preexisting Sumerian ideal of a divine vicar piously administering the city-state.

place between 4500 and 3100 B.C.E. Uruk was a very ancient city to the east of the Euphrates River and close to the site of the present-day capital of Iraq, Baghdad. It is believed to have been one of the first urban centers in human history and appears to have been the center from which early Sumerian civilization spread.

¹³ In addition to the above Sumer and Indus valley examples, there were empires from the South and Eastern Indian Continent that influenced the Indian Continent from the 5th century BC to 10th century AD, e.g., Malay, Cambodia, Java, Sumatra, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, etc., by dynasties such as Maurya, Andhra, Pillava, Pandya, Chola etc., Rais, The Indian Ocean and the Superpowers, pg 16-17 (1987).

Mesopotamian civilization developed over the course of roughly three millennia: political empires and periods of expansion alternated with periods of breakdown, nomadic or semi-nomadic incursions, and times of intense competition and struggle between local, culturally related, but politically autonomous city-states. Individual cities remained the basic building blocks of state formation in Mesopotamia at least through the third and into the second millennia BC. The well-documented example of the old Assyrian trading network in the early second millennium BC (cf. Larsen, this volume) clearly demonstrates how the economic life and prosperity of a city, Assur, depended upon its middleman role in the long distance exchange primarily of silver and gold from Anatolia for tin and textiles from regions to the east and south. This profit-motivated trade extended far beyond the political borders of any state and linked into a single world system

¹⁴ Ancient Weapons: <http://www.ancientmilitary.com/ancient-weapons.htm>

¹⁵ European nations established colonies in the Americas, India, South Africa, and the East Indies, and gained territory along the coasts of Africa and China. Meanwhile, Europe's Commercial Revolution created new needs and desires for wealth and raw materials. Mercantilists maintained that colonies could serve as a source of wealth, while personal motives by rulers, statesmen, explorers, and missionaries supported the imperial belief in "Glory, God, and Gold." . . . From the late 1800s through the early 1900s, Western Europe pursued a policy of imperialism that became known as New Imperialism. . . . The Age of Imperialism (1870–1914): <http://www.tamaqua.k12.pa.us/cms/lib07/PA01000119/Centricity/Domain/119/TheAgeofImperialism.pdf>

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Until the early nineteenth century, the primary purpose of Imperialist policies was to facilitate the acquisition of as much foreign territory as possible, both as a source of raw materials and in order to provide real or potential markets for British manufactures. The mercantilists advocated in theory, and sought in practice, trade monopolies which would insure that Britain's exports would exceed its imports. A profitable balance of trade, it was believed, would provide the wealth necessary to maintain and expand the empire. The British Empire:

<http://www.victorianweb.org/history/empire/Empire.html>

Advocates of Disraeli's imperialist foreign policies justified them by invoking a paternalistic and racist theory (founded in part upon popular but erroneous generalizations derived from Darwin's theory of evolution) which saw Imperialism as a manifestation of what Kipling would refer to as "the white man's burden." The implication, of course, was that the Empire existed not for the benefit — economic or strategic or otherwise — of Britain itself, but in order that primitive peoples, incapable of self-government, could, with British guidance, eventually become civilized and Christianized. <http://www.victorianweb.org/history/empire/Empire.html>

¹⁶ A background guide to "Brexit" from the European Union: <http://www.economist.com/blogs/graphicdetail/2016/02/graphics-britain-s-referendum-eu-membership>

¹⁷ Fire & Regeneration: http://www.forest-education.com/sites/forest-education/files/nfle_1.4_what_is_a_forest-fire_and_regeneration-2.pdf
Fire ecology: <http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/forests/fire-insects-disturbances/fire/13149>

¹⁸ Vepachedu, GLOBALIZATION, Mana Sanskriti, Issue 207, April 2015: <http://www.vepachedu.org/manasanskriti/GLOBALIZATION.pdf>

¹⁹ YOUNG PEOPLE in a GLOBALIZING WORLD: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/ch11.pdf>

²⁰ Globalization and the new Urban Challenge: <http://info.worldbank.org/etools/docs/library/110657/goa/assets/g-yeung-mod00.pdf>

Urbanization and Globalization: <http://www.un.org/ga/Istanbul+5/brochure.pdf>

Globalization and Urbanization: https://people.hofstra.edu/geotrans/eng/ch6en/appl6en/table_globalization_urbanization.html

²¹ Cultural Diversity and Cultural Identity in Globalization: <http://www.wseas.us/e-library/conferences/2013/Chania/AEBDb/AEBDb-21.pdf>

²² Bollywood: India's Film Industry By The Numbers [Infographic]: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/niallmccarthy/2014/09/03/bollywood-indias-film-industry-by-the-numbers-infographic/#498d76ae7bf0>

²³ Bollywood: India's Film Industry By The Numbers [Infographic]: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/niallmccarthy/2014/09/03/bollywood-indias-film-industry-by-the-numbers-infographic/#498d76ae7bf0>

²⁴ The International Journal of Indian Psychology, Volume 3, Issue 4, No. 56:
<https://books.google.com/books?id=25LADAAAQBAJ&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false>

²⁵ History of Border Walls in the US and Around the World: <http://connection.ebscohost.com/world/border-walls/history-border-walls-us-and-around-world>

²⁶ Licence Raj: <http://financial-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/License+raj>

²⁷ History of Border Walls in the US and Around the World: <http://connection.ebscohost.com/world/border-walls/history-border-walls-us-and-around-world>

²⁸ Reagan challenges Gorbachev: <http://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/reagan-challenges-gorbachev>
20 Years After "Tear Down This Wall": <http://content.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1631828,00.html>

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²⁹ Neutrality INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: <https://www.britannica.com/topic/neutrality>

³⁰ The Non-Aligned Movement: Description and History: <http://www.nam.gov.za/background/history.htm>

³¹ Membership: <http://www.nti.org/learn/treaties-and-regimes/non-aligned-movement-nam/>

³² American Isolationism in the 1930s: <https://history.state.gov/milestones/1937-1945/american-isolationism>

³³ In a general trend that traces its roots all the way back to George Washington, America has historically been reluctant to involve itself in global conflict, instead tending to remain a neutral nation that watched from the sidelines as the countries of Europe clashed. In fact, after its ill-advised entry into the war of 1812, America as a whole preferred not to get involved at all. This trend continued until the American Imperialism (also called Interventionism) of Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson. After WWI and its devastating consequences, America again fell into a period of isolationism which lasted through the Great Depression and ended with WWII and Franklin Delano Roosevelt's presidency. Although initially reluctant to engage in another global conflict, by the end of WWII America had emerged as a global leader-- if only because of its rather unusual position of being the only country not completely or at least partially wrecked -- economically, socially, politically, and even physically-- by war. With the implementation of the Marshall Plan which granted aid to countries rebuilding after the war, America cemented its role as a leader. With the end of WWII also came a new threat, that of the Soviet Union which, although also greatly suffering from the aftermath of WWII, managed to be the United States' sole contender. Thus began the Cold War, and with the Cold War came the Korean and Vietnam Wars, which established America's now-familiar self-appointed role as the global police.

In his farewell address, along with a warning to avoid political parties and the discord they were sure to cause, Washington also urged against forming any long-term alliances with foreign nations. This sentiment would drive American foreign policy for over a century-- America did indeed refrain from making any long-term alliances until well into the twentieth century. <https://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=true&doc=15>

Theodore Roosevelt's Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine was one of the first major steps towards American Imperialism, and heralded the coming end of American Isolationism. While the Monroe Doctrine, which was created during the presidency of James Monroe (1817-1825), simply stated America's claim to the rest of North America and forbid any European nations from attempting to colonize anywhere else on the continent, the Roosevelt Corollary was far more aggressive. The Roosevelt Corollary said America was justified in exercising a policing power to end and prevent unrest in the Western Hemisphere. This was entirely in line with Roosevelt's "Big Stick Diplomacy", which was to "speak softly, and carry a big stick."

Woodrow Wilson, president during WWI, was a firm believer in America's moral superiority and its consequent obligation to act as a beacon of righteousness to all other nations. It was his Fourteen Points-- a plan which outlined an end to WWI and what would come after-- which first brought up the idea of a League of Nations. Ultimately, the idea failed, in no small part due to Wilson's stubborn refusal to compromise in the face of Senate opposition to further involvement in global politics. Even despite the slowly evolving trend of interventionism, the American public was still largely wary of involving itself in the historically volatile politics of Europe. When the Senate refused to ratify the Fourteen Points, the idea of a League of Nations fell apart, but it served as the predecessor to other alliances, such as NATO, that would come in the aftermath of WWII.

³⁴ WWI was the first example of modern warfare, and the aftermath was chilling. Many nations lost over 10% of their active male population. The next generation of children were born without fathers. The death toll, civilian and military, was over 17 million people and there were over 38 million casualties. Almost 2 million soldiers died simply of disease. The 1918 influenza pandemic further intensified the horrors of the war. Over 500 million people were infected worldwide, resulting in the deaths of about 3-5% of the world's total population (50-100 million people); it was one of the deadliest natural disasters in all of human history.

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Mana Sanskriti (Our Culture)

Chief Editor: Dr. Sreenivasarao Vepachedu, Esq.

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³⁵ During WWII, in the span of 6 years, an estimated number of 70,000,000-85,000,000 people died. 48,000,000-58,500,000 of those deaths were civilian casualties, whether directly caused by military activity or because of other war-related factors such as famine and disease. 3.0-3.7% of the world's total population perished in total.

³⁶ Europe was devastated by years of conflict during World War II. Millions of people had been killed or wounded. Industrial and residential centers in England, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Belgium and elsewhere lay in ruins. Much of Europe was on the brink of famine as agricultural production had been disrupted by war. Transportation infrastructure was in shambles. The only major power in the world that was not significantly damaged was the United States. HISTORY OF THE MARSHALL PLAN: <http://marshallfoundation.org/marshall/the-marshall-plan/history-marshall-plan/>

³⁷ Irrational fear of aliens.
Donald Trump says illegal immigration is at a record high. He's wrong: <http://www.latimes.com/politics/la-na-trump-immigration-20160427-story.html>
16 Facts which Support Donald Trump's View on Illegal Immigration: <http://freedomoutpost.com/16-facts-which-support-donald-trumps-view-on-illegal-immigration/>
IMMIGRATION MYTHS AND FACTS: <https://www.aclu.org/immigration-myths-and-facts>
5 Facts about illegal immigration in the US: <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/11/19/5-facts-about-illegal-immigration-in-the-u-s/>

³⁸ Roughly 10 million to 15 million people (estimates vary widely) assembled and marched in more than 600 cities: as many as 3 million flooded the streets of Rome; more than a million massed in London and Barcelona; an estimated 200,000 rallied in San Francisco and New York City. From Auckland to Vancouver — and everywhere in between — tens of thousands came out, joining their voices in one simple, global message: no to the Iraq war, on Feb. 15, 2003. Why Was the Biggest Protest in World History Ignored? <http://world.time.com/2013/02/15/viewpoint-why-was-the-biggest-protest-in-world-history-ignored/>

³⁹ One big reason the Ming stagnated was probably isolationism; the Ming government periodically banned private shipping, burning privately owned ships and forcibly relocating coastal populations away from the sea. Though the policy was ostensibly to curb piracy (which it failed to do), the Ming shipping ban was part of a larger policy of hostility toward trade and foreign travel that grew over time and carried over into the later Qing dynasty." What the collapse of the Ming Dynasty can tell us about American decline: <http://theweek.com/articles/450002/what-collapse-ming-dynasty-tell-about-american-decline>

⁴⁰ Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS): <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Commonwealth-of-Independent-States>

⁴¹ Licence raj gone. Now, get rid of permission raj: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/sunday-times/deep-focus/Licence-raj-gone-Now-get-rid-of-permission-raj/articleshow/53358257.cms>

⁴² Vepachedu, GIANT SUCKING SOUND OF INVERSION, The Andhra Journal of Industrial News, Issue 144: <http://www.vepachedu.org/AJIN/AJIN-144.pdf>

⁴³ No alternative to new initiatives in trade Liberalization: Director-General pays tribute to role of GATT: https://www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres95_e/pr035_e.htm

⁴⁴ "How Can the WTO Help Harness Globalization? https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/public_forum07_e.pdf

⁴⁵ America's Changing Religious Landscape: <http://www.pewforum.org/2015/05/12/americas-changing-religious-landscape/>

"Hindus in America 2.3 million" So, How Many Hindus Are There in the US?

<http://www.hinduismtoday.com/modules/smartsection/item.php?itemid=1584>

A Hindu American Soldier's Identity Crisis: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rajiv-srinivasan/hindu-american-soldier-identity-crisis_b_858008.html

A military support network for Hindu soldiers in the US Armed Forces: <http://www.americanbazaaronline.com/2013/10/25/military-support-network-hindu-soldiers-us-armed-forces/>

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Military's first Hindu chaplain brings a diverse background: <http://www.stripes.com/news/military-s-first-hindu-chaplain-brings-a-diverse-background-1.145455>

According to the Pentagon, there are more than 5,000 of Muslims in the military. <http://abcnews.go.com/US/5000-muslims-serving-us-military-pentagon/story?id=35654904>

⁴⁶ Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000: <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/laws/61124.htm>

⁴⁷ Vepachedu, GIANT SUCKING SOUND OF INVERSION, The Andhra Journal of Industrial News, Issue 144: <http://www.vepachedu.org/AJIN/AJIN-144.pdf>

⁴⁸ In addition to the primary sources cited above, additional references include: New York Times, Washington Post, Mercury News, Bayarea.com, Deccan Chronicle, the Hindu, Hindustan Times, Times of India, AP, Reuters, AFP, The Guardian, Pravda, Spiegel, Connexion, etc.

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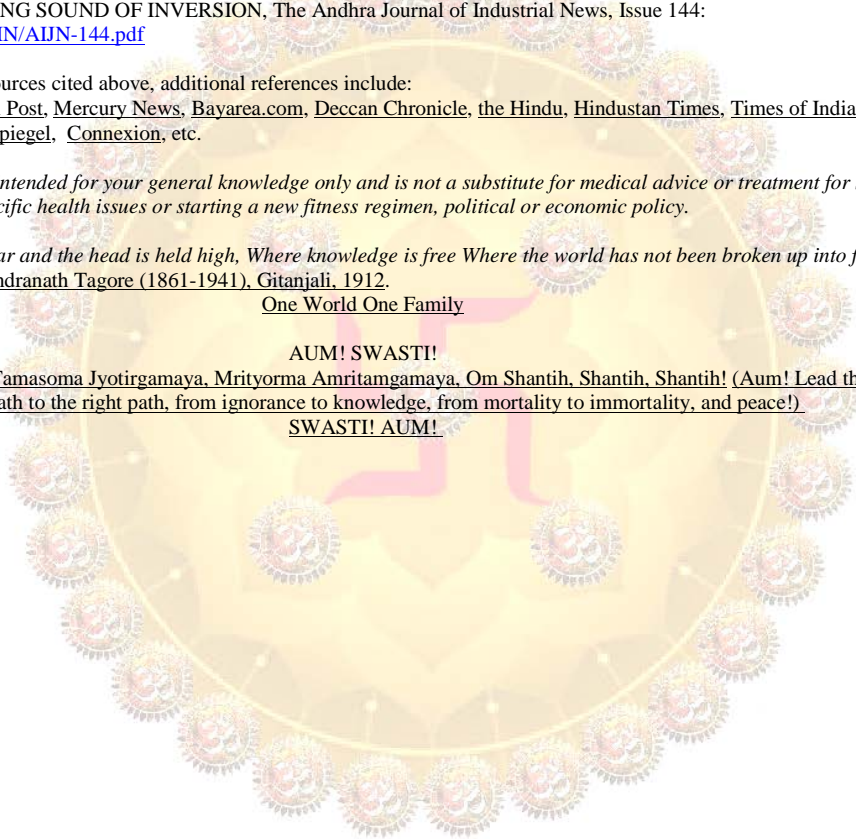
"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high, Where knowledge is free Where the world has not been broken up into fragments, By narrow domestic walls." Rabindranath Tagore (1861-1941), Gitanjali, 1912.

One World One Family

AUM! SWASTI!

Om! Asatoma Sadgamaya, Tamasoma Jyotirgamaya, Mrityorma Amritamgamaya, Om Shantih, Shantih, Shantih! (Aum! Lead the world from wrong path to the right path, from ignorance to knowledge, from mortality to immortality, and peace!)

SWASTI! AUM!



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