

M. J. JOHN

Totally a self-made author M.J. John avers that his only 'education' is his 10 years of life in the remote coral islands of Lakshadweep in the Arabian Sea, when the place was for the most part untouched by the Industrial Civilization and the inhabitants were largely 'Noble Savages' who helped to enlighten his visions. He found that world an amazing place, full of life and growth. Having remained for long as an off-shore jail for the prisoners banished by the past Indian Kings and rulers about 500 years ago, Lakshadweep is today a virtual paradise on earth—with no much formal education, no jail, no criminals, no beggars, no pollution, no mental or physical diseases and no other curses and crises that are common to the mainstream industrial society on the mainland.

In this book, the author is looking on all issues of mankind within, beyond and even outside civilizations and cultures. That is, this study includes visions from outside the academia and by defying conventional, agreed-upon categories of the knowledge industry. As an ardent observer of human story spanning millions of years, the author is also trying to view human world and its present civilizations from a little afar, as one from another generation, race or culture.

INTELLECTUALS RESPOND

Intellectuals from around the world write in response to various essays (that form part of this book) by M. J. John posted on the internet discussion forums. A few of them are given below:

“John, you articulate the problem admirably. And, your courage to do so is commendable... There’s no doubt that higher-order dialogue is the key in addressing the issues facing humanity today.... Thanks for taking the time and having the courage to raise this matter. It could be the beginning of something which can really make a difference.”

~ **DENNIS**, Metagroup International Inc.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/4DWorldx/message/515>

“Yes John, modern mechanical knowledge, physical knowledge, chemical knowledge, biological knowledge, modern medicine, modern production, ... are destroying life on Earth, even destroying the physical atmosphere, the physics and chemistry of the oceans, and destroying the food producing soil. Absolutely everything that are related to life on Earth are being destroyed by science and science-based technology. The fastest destruction is the irreversible spreading and accumulation of DNA damage, gene damage, and chromosome damage due to worldwide mutagenic pollution.”

~ **NILS K. OEIJORD** (May 6, 2012), author of ‘The

General Genetic Catastrophe’, <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/evolutionary-psychology/message/131556>

“It is a great example of why educated people who actually know what is going on stand up and be counted on the question of climate change, global warming and an impending ecological disaster.”

~ **SCOTT NICHOLAS**, Mon Oct 31, 2005 12:40 pm

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/progressivethinktank/message/499>

“Thank you so much, Mr. John, for this beautiful elucidation. If you do not mind, I would like to use pieces of this message on my website and in my speeches while running for Governor of Maine (U.S.) this next year.”

~ **NANCY ODEN**, Nancy Oden for Governor,

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ecology_gpus/message/5287,
<http://www.cleanearth.net>

“John, simply remember to listen to your inner wisdom. Spirit is guiding you into a new world where everything is respected and nourished.... So long as we allow our spirit to be free, so are we free, regardless of our physical circumstances... so long as there are people such as you walking this earth there is nothing to fear.”

~ **EMILY DALE**,

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pass-greens/message/3490>

LIFE
ON
MELTDOWN

M. J. JOHN

PUBLISHED BY
LAYMAN BOOKS, KOCHI - 34

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LIFE ON MELTDOWN

By

M. J. John

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Cover design by Joshi, *Impact*.

First Edition April 2014

Published by

Layman Books, Ferry Road, Kochi—34

Copies: 1000

Printed at

To

the memory of

LEE KYUNG-HAE, the leader of the Korean Farmers Association, who killed himself by thrusting a knife into his heart for not considering the case of farmers at Cancun WTO ministerial in 2003. Lee, the South Korean farmer, watched as hundreds of his neighbors were driven off their lands and separated from the only livelihood they knew. He spoke eloquently and passionately of the death of hope in the Korean countryside, the sense of impotence and the anger against policies that promoted imports over national production.

So Lee decided to fight that exclusion by going straight to its source.

Earlier, he had staged a one-man hunger strike in front of WTO headquarters in Geneva, in protest against the draft proposals for the Cancun meeting. He was ignored. Seven months later, he joined the march of over 15,000 farmers, indigenous people, and youth in Cancun wearing a sandwich board that read “The WTO Kills Farmers”. When the protesters reached the point where they could go no farther, he plunged a knife into his heart and was soon pronounced dead in a Cancun hospital just miles from where WTO Ministers deliberated on how to promote agri-business that drove Lee, and hundreds more farmers in Korea, India, Brazil and other developing countries, to the tragic end.

Today, Lee’s one-man-crusade against the current global economic system seems to convey us this compassionate message:

“I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.”

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

For the past 30 years, I have had the opportunity to go through a rich and mixed bag of books and publications in the area of history and philosophy, in natural health and wellness, and meet many people who have worked in these areas for many years. In one respect or another, I would like to give credit to all those who have had a love for the truth, and been willing to voice their beliefs and convictions regarding human story through generations.

Whatever errors in the book are solely my responsibility; the virtues I owe to many persons. I would, therefore, like to express my gratitude to all – there are far too many, to take their names and works individually – especially those who have had a direct, immediate influence on my work.

I am grateful to Sonali Majumder (former journalist of Anandabazar Patrika Group, Kolkatta), Saj Mathews (formerly of PTI) and Antony Ooden (formerly of New Indian Express) for their untiring help in editing this book, for their constructive criticism and unbending patience and support in the final preparation of the manuscript.

My heartfelt thanks also goes to **Hon. Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer**, the former Justice of Supreme Court of India, a powerful human right activist and an influential voice and enlightened spirit of Indian civil society, for his generosity in finding time to read the manuscript of this book and writing its FOREWORD. I am equally indebted to the famous writer, scientist, researcher and film director **C. Radhakrishnan** for writing the book's INTRODUCTION, and my deep gratefulness also to **C. R. Neelakandan**, the eminent environmental activist and critic for writing a brief REVIEW of the book.

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FOREWORD

Today humanity is passing through a very critical period of history. If you want to influence events, or even to steer clear of critical problems, you need to be well informed and you need to act. Failure to recognize what is really happening and what is really behind current events is going to cost us our lives and our society.

Actually it seems unnecessary to list the ills our world is suffering from or to prove that these crises are getting worse, or that the measures undertaken by the present world to combat them are increasingly proving ineffective. Climate change is accelerating. Inequality is at historic levels. The financial industry continues to teeter on the brink of collapse, threatening not only the global economy but also every bit of our Nature's wealth that is necessary to maintain the very life form of this planet. And all the while, our political system has proven incapable of effecting the structural transformations necessary to save the life forms and the planet.

We are now indeed at a grave planetary crossroad. We are grossly underestimating the highly catastrophic and suicidal risk on our very present path. Take for example the fast approaching ecological collapse which many prominent scientists, including Stephen Hawking, have come to certify.

Years back, our great scientist Albert Einstein (philosopher in his later years) had already concluded about the main cause behind the coming of this day of reckoning when he said: "Perfection of means and confusion of ends seem to characterize our age". Suddenly, many scientists have now come in contact with social problems more and more, partly forced to do so by the growth of social science that brought them the new awareness of being in the midst of a human-caused mass-extinction, of being on verge of ecological collapse. Scientists are now talking about the "Anthropocene" – the destructive Era of Man.

Scientists and communities are apparently alarmed: humanity is at the brink of an ecological catastrophe. Objectively, in the last few years, science makes it painfully clear that climate risk has grown sharply, far beyond what 90% of the people realize. Elsewhere, top scientists speak out on the disastrous effects of genetically modified crops and food in a series on GM seeds and food debates.

History has shown that the people can rise to the challenge, but leadership is essential. Well, it is our leaders who are naturally supposed to

take the initiative to solve the problems facing mankind. But many wonder why human leadership in this epoch of history is a mess, although they stop short of probing it further. Most leaders speak of an era in peril but do not provide the leadership needed to change the world's course. Leaders must speak candidly to the public—which yearns for open, honest discussion—explaining that our continued industrial leadership and economic well-being demand drastic changes.

But today our leaders are becoming FOLLOWERS, with their performances highlighted by pollsters! Most leaders are unable to take the lead and call a spade, a spade! They beat around the bush and are worried about political fall-outs, hoping that avoiding tough action might make the issues disappear from the radar, at least for the time being!

Today most people wonder as to where have all the real leaders gone! There are few leaders with the vision to overcome conflicting self-interests and personal prejudices – leaders who operate from a vision that influences others. We know that only the truly great can shape events that will permanently change the course of history.

When we look around where do we see the leaders who can measure up? Where are those leaders whose courage and conviction literally saved a whole people, whose determination changed the course of history?

We have been looking to our dysfunctional governing institutions for leadership and directions, without understanding that, in their present condition, this is not possible. Their operational premises, and the beliefs of their minions, not recognizing and completely ignorant of the nature of existence, make our institutions—including the mainstream political parties—the least likely source of direction. Regardless of the progress they make, these systems maintain fundamental ideas that generate only misdirection and hold humanity bound and helpless in the throes of institutionalized dementia.

All civilizations grow too large to support themselves, and their leaders have little foresight. These civilizations then collapse and are buried in the dust and mud. Modern civilization is no exception, if not still worse. What mankind faces today is not only the fast decline and fall of the most globalized civilization in history but also the fall of everything civilized or infected by this industrial civilization. The present fall is going to be such total and global that it may close that very cycle of life for good. In view of the oft-repeated experience, modern man must look upon this epoch of industrial civilization not as a way of life, but an adventure of suicidal self-degradation and ultimate self-destruction.

In many respects, modern society is in a more pathetic state than, for example, what the ill-fated Titanic experienced upon striking an iceberg. As a classical example of humankind's growing predilection in the denial of stark realities of impending catastrophes, story of the Titanic is being often quoted to explain the growing manifestation of modern man's rising schizoid behavior, dissociation, or divided self.

What ails our society, we all know, but the question is: who will bell the cat—who will come to our rescue? Today man faces a more catastrophic threat than what the Titanic passengers faced when all sane warnings fell on deaf ears; that man, as the most fooled, vulnerable and exploited species in history, faces the situation of the most unjustified trial in history in the court of the reigning global CORPORATE FORCE. This situation can be likened to the trial of the proverbial duck in a court where the jury is the fox.

In the name of development, Mother Earth is currently being violently ‘gang-raped’ by the highly mechanized and market-led modern world for power and profit. Earth’s silent scream is what we can make out in the ongoing agony of billions of her own children—the voiceless men, women and children—who, otherwise, for millions of years lived on this beautiful planet without these catastrophic crises. Who will now speak for them against this wanton destruction of their living environment?

It is a fundamental principle of most moral theories that all human beings have a right to life. The right to be born, the right to have one’s life maintained, the right not to be killed, the right to have one’s life saved are all fundamental rights of every human being. Here no one has the right to destroy the living environment. Here we happen to occupy parts of this lively and wholesome environment only quite temporarily — as a borrower.

Our future generations—our children, grandchildren and great... grandchildren included—are just as much members of human family as ourselves but have no voice to speak for themselves. We take advantage of this and are damaging them irrecoverably by our breach of trust of this environment of which we are only custodians and not owners. Every single citizen is a trustee of Earth. All the more, governments trustees (leaders) bear a special responsibility in this regard.

Today we are in default of our duties if we continue our present destructive modern lifestyles and create more, despite our knowledge of their dreadful consequences. Our generation and particularly those who are specially entrusted with the care of environment will have to answer before the court of history for our default and abuse of trust. Indeed we are committing the gravest possible crime against future generations—and, as is visible, even against ourselves — and are doing so with a full consciousness of the effects of our actions. It is indeed quite unsettling to believe that we have become the most destructive generation in all of human history, regardless of the fact that we are destroying the undoubted birthright of billions of human beings for whom we hold Mother Earth on trust.

In this regard, I have great pleasure to introduce a new book, *Life on Meltdown* by M. J. John, who has taken up this critical case/question before the present world. Here John undertakes a highly revealing study and has effectively tried to answer the crucial question: how has mankind, in our modern civilization, suddenly lost its potential quality for survival?

Coming to the solution part, the study finds that our social and political sectors are dysfunctional systems. Here what we shockingly see, from the

part of the present world mandarins, are SOLUTIONS in DENIAL. Here the world seeks refuge in denial: denial that mankind is in crisis, denial that the life-supporting environment is in crisis, denial that the atrocities and suffering are actually occurring, denial that it is going to get worse, denial that it is our human responsibility to do anything about it, denial that we can do anything about it, and so on.

Thus our market-led world has been in perpetual denial of realities for quite some time now. Meanwhile all the accumulated problems have grown into serious crises and catastrophes that the only solution before the present world is to resort to massive cover ups, day in day out, by engaging scientists, professionals and other wishful thinkers who are trained to contradict realities. Here, even though, pinpointing the source of our problems is the first step in finding true solutions, none of our problems are fixable without reinventing our entire socio-political structure.

But this groundbreaking book provides an up-to-date uncensored description of the dangers faced by mankind today, through a comprehensive and honest source of information about adverse and catastrophic effects of commonly-practiced mechanical life styles, their mortal addictive traits and the highly adverse withdrawal effects that have rendered modern humanity highly passive— as slaves to its own machines and hi-tech market systems.

In non-technical language, the author brings an incredibly important and hardly ever recognized message to people who need to understand the dark side of the market-led modern scientific developments and the mechanical life and how to make possible the practice of back-to-nature approach with a conscience. The book's main import will be to serve as a counter-balance to the myth of some "miracle" scientific solutions. The author deserves credit for the courage he has had to unmask many pseudo-scientific conclusions frequently presented in supposedly scientific literatures.

It has taken great courage for John to write this very significant book, for openly speaking the truth. The author has outlined a careful and highly responsible rationale and sound program for society to free itself from faulty systems, and withdraw from the market-led mechanical life. He presents it all within a coherent philosophy of life. Although I may not agree on all the arguments advanced by the author, I strongly believe that his views deserve deep consideration and study, and we can ignore many of these valuable facts only at our own peril.



Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer

Former Judge of the Supreme Court of India

10th March 2014

INTRODUCTION

How can you make sense of the enormous scale of the present human crisis?

In making sense of our civilization in catastrophic crisis, the new book, *Life on Meltdown*, by M. J. John is a concise and very well-written critique of postmodernism. Having read and reviewed his earlier book, *Story of Man – Layman* (1990) I have great delight to introduce to the readers this new study which seems to be a far better book to read on the present crisis.

This book goes where far too few researchers have been willing to go, and it is addressing the basic causes behind the present global multiple crises, including the ongoing global warming that fast changes the climate to be too hot, too cold and too turbulent for us to survive.

Here John has done the entire tough work of reading through the complex, and sometimes nonsensical, ideas of the most influential postmodern philosophers, and making their theories accessible. The book provides a compact insider description of the present mode of human evolution which, according to the author, is actually the progress of a ‘mass ailment’. Due to this mass ailment, the modern world is undergoing the process of global meltdown. In support of his arguments, the author here expounds a theory, a new theory of degeneration, namely, the ‘macro-free radical theory of aging’ that explains the fast spreading immature degeneration of all life forms that threatens the survival of every living thing on the planet, including us humans.

Here, John finds, among many other revelations, the very concept of reductionist science, as it is being conceived and practiced today, is fundamentally erroneous, and maintains that science is swamped by its own artefacts. Here we are creating a society of mindless human ‘robots’ all the way through social control via popular culture, mass media and ideological mechanization.

Actually, as humans, we are analog beings trapped in a digital world, and the worst part is, we did it to ourselves. We humans are biological animals. We have evolved over millions of years to function well in the environment, to survive. In post-modern culture, we are analog devices following biological modes of operation. We are compliant, flexible, and tolerant. Yet we people have constructed a world of machines that requires us to be rigid, fixed, and intolerant. We have devised a technology that requires considerable care and attention that demands it be treated on its own terms, not on ours. We live in a technology-centered world where the technology is not appropriate for people. No wonder we have such difficulties.

It is the very subservience to technology that constitutes an attack on our thinking. It is rather difficult to describe the onslaught on our minds made by the

intrusion of technical thinking. This is so because technology has such contrasting influences. The influence can be a blessing, making us more independent of threatening forces of nature; but in that pretext the tools and the machines – and their owners – have dominated us.

The problem with being digital is that it implies a kind of slavery to accuracy, a requirement that is most unlike the natural workings of the person. The devaluation of the individual human brain, replacing it by mechanical devices like computers, also suggests the totalitarian system for which its citizens are compelled to become more and more the servile tools. The inhuman “system” becomes the aim, a system that is the product of technocracy and dehumanization and which may result in organized brutality and the crushing of any personal morality. In a mechanical society a set of values are forcibly imprinted on the unconscious mind. Our brains then no longer need to serve us or develop the thinking process; machines will do this for us. In technocracy, emphasis is on behaviour free of emotions and creativity. This over-dependence is nothing short of an intellectual suicide. Consequently man’s imagination and creativity have taken a thrashing and collapsed to a paralyzed state.

Breaking free from this prison of information is an excellent way to see the world in a different view. We need to realize that a lot of our information and biases are created by our own definitions of the world and our place in it. Breaking through these biases and information barriers is extremely important for the citizens of modern society in order for us to understand the realities of the problems in the world.

This controversial and thought-provoking book offers hope to peaceful people who are sick of this chaotic, war-filled world and who despise the calculating morons who run it and are frustrated with the brain-washed sheeples who let them. In my opinion, this book and the ideas it contains are extremely important, though I may not fully agree on all its arguments, and I hope many people will read it to see for themselves. It challenges readers with extensive exercises at various levels of difficulty they experience in life.

This book is no doom and gloom affair, and is written in a reader-friendly style with features that enhance human comprehension. Let me happily confess that the author has presented it in immaculate philosophical rationale the essence of what I have been trying to communicate as emotional expression through creative works in various forms. I believe universal harmony is possible if man’s worldview undergoes a paradigm shift which is well within his capability. As the author rightly says, it is now or never!

25th March 2014

C. Radhakrishnan

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REVIEW

(By an Environmentalist)

How many of us remember comrade Lee Kyung-hae? Not very many. He committed suicide by plunging a knife into his heart at Cancun when the WTO ministerial conference-2003 was held there. This Korean Farmers Association leader was a victim of the so-called liberalization which was propagated to be the complete panacea for most problems in the world.

Did his martyrdom improve the situation? Millions of farmers have committed suicide in recent years – about half a million farmers in India alone. Every 30 minutes a farmer in India commits suicide, according to a new study in 2011. But none of our rulers are ready to change their policies.

This tragedy is not limited to farmers alone. Almost the same kind of situation prevails in every human sector today. One truth we all forget: Earth, Nature and all their resources are 'limited', but money is not. However the value of money is decided by the amount of natural resource it can buy. Environmental sustainability is fast losing the ground as this war is being waged by the unlimited money on the 'limited' natural resources, and the rules of the game are being framed according to the requirement of the capital and the market.

The net result of this long war of attrition is not only the wanton vitiation and destruction of environmental and social sectors but also the destabilization of the human society itself. Thus people are on the war path against this destructive corporate policy all over the world.

What is the main issue? Or, are there many issues? As Gandhi's famous quote puts: "There is enough resources to meet all the 'needs' of the people on Earth. But the resources are not enough to meet the 'greed' of one man".

The manifestation of this kind of crises and their why's and wherefores are the subject of a new book 'Life on Meltdown' by M. J. John. In his first book 'Story of Man: Layman' published in 1990, John had argued that humankind is headed for environmental catastrophes and a virtual "free-for-all" that will either eliminate the human species or greatly reduce their numbers. In this new book, John focuses on the imminent breakdown of most organized social orders of modern man, and that it will occur when the ecological crises suddenly happen.

What naturally was happening in Nature since millions of years is not allowed to happen in the highly chemical-drenched world today. For example, DDT, its new forms and other synthetic chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides destroy the environment and threaten everything within the ecological system. Though the

chemical industry would make you believe the levels in use are not harmful, it is a fallacy. They are extremely dangerous chemicals and poisons, which keep on building up over time in human body and on Earth, making them lethal, sooner or later.

The book further alerts the world to the environmental and human dangers of indiscriminate use of most chemicals, including pesticides that cause revolutionary changes in the natural systems, adversely affecting our air, land, and water. The book also tackles the controversial and increasingly urgent subject of global warming and about the consequences of dramatic climate change which, the book concludes, is the net effects of the ongoing industrial civilization that is today at the brink of imminent collapse.

The author concludes that the “pond of life” is highly polluted. Modern society is a highly vitiated and corrupted “pond” in which almost all life forms, including humans, are at an advanced stage of decay—mentally and physically—and the process goes on throwing up almost all the problems and diseases mankind faces today. A clear and evident case is the massive acidification of environment and the soil. In our day the Gaia and human evolutionary tree has contracted a highly massive disease – DEGENERATION – which is at a chronic stage today. Almost 90% of the present 6.5 billion people are sick the treatment of which cannot be undertaken individually nor can it be depended on the so-called doctors who are only part of the disease or part of the problem.

The book forthrightly addresses all the significant topics of our lives. This thought-provoking book helps us recognize the actual planet we presently live upon. It is an intellectual story of how we’ve come to understand the concept of extinction, and more recently, how we’ve come to recognize our role in it. Chances are that this book may fundamentally change our view of this world.

The author’s vision is simultaneously local and global, individual and general. This integration of local and individual aspects of developments and trends into more global ones is an integral feature of his vision. This intercultural mindset enables John to have an analytical and universal vision on most issues facing mankind.

As a concerned environmentalist and having walked through the villages of India with a leading Indian politician S. CHANDRA SHEKHAR (he later became the Indian Prime Minister in 1990) in his 6-month long ‘Padyathra’ (travel on foot) from the South to the North of India in 1983, and being an active participant in many environmental-sustainability campaigns and conventions, John is writing from life, from ground realities. So this is not just another book but a great handiwork, and it will be a very good reference book for generations to come.

PREFACE

Associated Press, on February 28, 2012, reported about a unique bill aimed at helping American citizens of Wyoming State in the event of economic or political collapse. Lawmakers of Wyoming state however shot down the so-called doomsday bill, a proposal that would have resulted in the creation of an emergency task force and plan of action in case of a nationwide crisis that may, in turn, trigger other catastrophic societal meltdowns. “The Wyoming House of Representatives on February 28 narrowly voted down legislation to launch a study into what the state should do in the event of a COMPLETE ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL COLLAPSE IN THE UNITED STATES. House Bill 85, which has received national media attention in those days, was rejected 30-27 in a final House vote”, the report added.

There was an interesting comment that followed the report: “Day One after the collapse – sheer panic. Day Two – all politicians have flown or swum to Switzerland to withdraw their money from banks, only to find the withdrawn paper money WORTHLESS in Europe too!!!

DOOMSDAY CYCLE seems to become central to the present global economic system. America, Japan and the Euro zone look like the triple threat next in the line of fire, in danger of collapsing, thanks to a doomsday plan where global political and financial systems appear to have aligned to build these dangers rather than suppress them.

Three years earlier to the drafting of this so-called doomsday bill there was the first warning about what many concerned economists had anticipated: “The Doomsday Cycle.” Since then came two bestsellers by Peter Boone, a research associate at the London School of Economics, and co-authored by Simon Johnson, former IMF chief economist, which published their doomsday warnings in their books titled: 13 Bankers: The Wall Street Takeover and the Next Financial Meltdown, and recently, White House Burning. In the first book, Johnson and Boone warned:

Over the last 30 years, we have built a financial system that threatens to topple our global economic order, we have let an unsustainable and crazy ‘doomsday cycle’ infiltrate our economic system. This doomsday cycle will not run forever ... The destructive power of the down-cycle will overwhelm the restorative ability of the government, just like it did in 1929-31. America has ignored the lessons of the 2008 meltdown even though coming remarkably close to another Great Depression. Next time, we may not be

so lucky.....First, the risks shifted from emerging nations to big developed nations. The “next time” syndrome is accelerating, because the Americans are distracted by election drama, that it can’t see the oncoming train.

Are these authors alarmists crying wolf? Cassandras? No, they do see the collapse coming; it is driven by a plan of “political and financial systems” that will not act “until it is too late. So in this new warning, they ask: “Who’s Next?”

A financial collapse is as much a threat to one’s family’s safety and well-being as a big storm or a major earthquake. If suddenly the money you’ve “safely” stored away, either in a bank account, or a pension, or even in a coffee can in your cupboard, become unavailable to you, or become worthless, what would you do? What could you do?

Your life savings could be reduced to nothing almost overnight. After the US had gone into a tailspin financial burst in September 2008, leaving a corporate-led-fed American society literally stressed out and running helter-skelter for cover, the American Psychological Association had observed that more than 80 percent of Americans reportedly said the economy is causing them significant stress and trauma.

Today if the plug is pulled from the world wide casino called Wall Street that controls the US government, the world will have Third World War in zero time; it’s going to be nuclear and conventional simultaneously and this time nobody will be left alive on the planet!

Up to the year 2010, hardly anyone knew of any survivalist movement. Now it is such a growing phenomenon that there is a regular TV series on it in the National Geographic Channel and another on the Discovery Channel. Providing bunker-like underground shelters and food that can be stored for months, even years, has become big business.

It is thus hardly surprising that the booming DOOMSDAY BUNKER business has become a growth industry in the West since around 2010. Today doomsday bunker business is a real growth industry with thousands of wealthy Americans shelling out millions to build their own doomsday shelters. The Apocalypse is not only a popular Bible reference to the end times on Earth, but also the real science that looks at the end of civilization due to catastrophes such as nuclear warfare, a health pandemic, cyber-war, or simply another ecological disaster such as the recent earthquake, tsunami and nuclear reactor crisis in Japan, and all that.

Everyone knows the end is near, but there’s still time to find awesome accommodations for Armageddon. While most of the US housing market has suffered through its biggest downturn in modern times, doomsday business is one segment that’s booming. Doomsday bunker builders are reporting exponential growth in recent years.

The recent May 9 edition of Forbes Magazine – a publication that’s well-known for its lists of the richest Americans (the Forbes 400) and its list of billionaires – is sharing a “trend” where “successful private enterprises” that are building and selling doomsday shelters around the US as fears of the Apocalypse has evidence manifest with recent tornadoes, violent storms,

earthquakes, tsunamis, global warming, new terrorism and nuke threats.

In the famous documentary film in 2007, *The 11th Hour – The Last Hour We Have before the Total Destruction* – the premise is that the future of humanity is in jeopardy because of catastrophic crises created by the industrial civilization. With contributions from over 50 politicians, scientists, and environmental activists, including former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, physicist Stephen Hawking, Nobel Prize winner Wangari Maathai, and journalist Paul Hawken, the film documents grave problems facing the planet's life systems. Global warming, deforestation, mass species extinction, and depletion of the oceans' habitats are all addressed.

The latest near-term extinction events that have happened in January 2014 in many parts of the world and the steadily increasing extreme weather events, including the several all-time temperature records, only reinforced the above warnings. Extreme weather events included several all-time temperature records steadily registering in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014—on the ascending order.

Almost there are 64 Reported Mass Death Events in over 24 Countries as the Event Summary for January 2014. In 2014 January, while North America got frozen under record polar temperatures, the southern hemisphere was experiencing the opposite extreme as heat records are being set in Australia and Brazil after the hottest year ever, with hundreds of thousands of dead bats and parrots raining down on Australia drop dead, even as kangaroos and other animal life there were collapsing. Rising temperatures could be bad news also for humans, especially with bad lungs.

There are animals dying all over the world today in huge numbers, due to the polluted state of the land, sea and air. Millions of fish and massive numbers of whales and dolphins are washing ashore dead due to the sudden aquatic ecosystem crash. Birds are falling dead out of the sky, and millions of poultry are dying from avian flu. The animals of the land like cattle are also dying in large numbers from disease. Although animals and fish have been dying all throughout history, we have not seen the massive consistent numbers that we are seeing today.

Across America, abnormally devastating weather – deadlier storms, multi-state flooding, excessive drought, and harder-to-control wildfires – is wreaking havoc on the economy and lives of millions of people. Those who survive must pick up the pieces of shattered lives – homes destroyed or ruined – businesses destroyed – livelihoods gone – loved ones dying, with some never found. Many of these kinds of catastrophic reports are coming from prominent media like New York Times, USA Today, Reuters and the like. In many of these events people from all walks of life are saying that they have “never seen anything like this before”.

People the world over are recognizing that extreme weather is becoming normal. Today's storms are more intense and more frequent—and more widespread. Nature is exploding with violent weather – droughts, floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, storms and wildfires – all of which are causing increasing death tolls and financial loss. Disastrous weather worldwide has caused many to ask: What is happening?

As mankind spirals towards its own self-manufactured demise, what is clearly visible is the inevitable COLLAPSE OF INDUSTRIAL CIVILIZATION.

Today there is a deep groundswell towards a strong and cynic awareness that the world is fast heading towards a no-win-situation from which it simply has no escape. Many see it as having already started the end without even knowing it. It is on account of a number of symptoms, not just one. They seem to convey the message that the world is un-savable, and that the worst is yet to come. The top votaries on these lines of thinking constitute the top corporate technocrats among others. It is only that they consider it as an open secret and an opportunity to plunder the 'sinking ship'. The ongoing rat race in the booming doomsday bunkers business seems to be part of this futile escape bid which, on many counts, amounts to be more irrational, and even suicidal, than facing the reality head on.

Hunt for the most secure, sensible, lasting and cheap 'doomsday bunker' for all: The high fragility of even the mightiest and the 'safest'-claiming doomsday bunker may be visible in any free-for-all ridden global crisis, be it any Nature-made catastrophe (like the extreme and calamitous weather conditions due to global warming) or plainly in a man-made all out war that may trigger a free-for-all. Take, for example, the growing dilemma regarding the security of the highly radioactive uranium stockpile in the world and the steadily growing of the highly catastrophic nuclear spent fuel dumps. Today there are over 440 operating nuclear reactors and 450 odd under water sites of nuclear spent fuel dumps worldwide (apart from many onshore dumps in concrete buildings or metal containers) that require continuous cooling for thousands of years – any failure in continuous cooling can set the fragile planet in radiation 'fire' for several years. These are the most long-lived radioactive wastes, including spent nuclear fuel, potentially radioactive for up to 1,000,000 years.

Even the tiniest mistake during an operation/calamity could surely lead to a series of cascading failures with an apocalyptic outcome. The first thing to happen, among a few apparent ones and many unknown crises, is that the emergency fuel supply to the diesel generators that circulate cooling water around the world's 440 operating nuclear reactors and over 450 spent fuel dumps worldwide would run out. After that, the reactors would overheat burn, melt and in some cases explode. Several hundred Chernobyl/Fukushima like disasters would play out, simultaneously, across the deserted world. Huge quantities of radio-active material would be released into the air, rivers and oceans. The disappearance of humanity will be very dramatic and destructive. This is a mortal reminder that is no less ominous than many other cataclysms like the fast spreading genetic pollution. (Many such ominous scenarios of our 'progress' are being explained in the coming chapters).

If *Doomsday Preppers*, the highest-rated show on the National Geographic Channel is any indication, the general public seems to be getting ready for some sort of societal collapse. Today even many well-respected scientists and journalists have come to many sane-sounding and obvious conclusions

about the threat, like human-induced climate change, poses to the survival of human species.

Today, when doomsday cycle seems to become central to every present global system, including economy, industry, health, wealth and life itself, what I am suggesting, through this study, is a new type of survivalist movement – a new type of DOOMSDAY BUNKER – that will not only save the life of everyone of this planet and but also will let them lead their life for another million years.

The basic problem is that today hardly any people think, feel or act like humans. Or rather, nobody has the freedom to feel, think and act like the real human species. By extending our bodies and functions, during these mechanical ages, and thus having mechanized and mentally degenerated to the core, modern humans, especially the ruling elites, think, feel and act like the mechanized life forms, a la the semi-broiler chickens. Here, how can you understand the problems of mankind, let alone solve its problem, when you cannot feel, think or act like the real, pristine or normal humans?

As a social analyst and critic, I was very much swayed by these kinds of developments, including the impending catastrophic crises, since long. As a permanent solution to these catastrophic problems of mankind, I had advocated the extreme imperatives of empowering the LAYMAN, and foresaw the growing prospect of the LAYMAN REGIME in the world through my first book *Story of Man—Layman* in 1990. As part of free Nature, Layman is full of potential if he is given the full freedom in society, and it will go a long way in readily finding solutions to all the crises the world confronts.

Actually, most of us are LAYMAN and most of us would agree that being a layman is no small deal. Only layman or common man – French revolutionary philosopher Rousseau called him the “Noble Savage” – represents the uncorrupted and natural inheritance and lineage of human species. It is the industrial civilization that temporarily corrupted and contaminated us. It is in this context Sir Kenneth Clark wrote in *Civilization*, “Machines, from the Maxim gun to the computer, are for the most part means by which a minority can keep free men in subjection.” Layman indeed signifies freedom and lives freely in free world. Layman, as a silent spectator of marching time, represents the silent billions of the world.

Today when I read the books like, *Europe is Dying* by Stephen Mosher in 2011, *The Death of the West* by prominent U.S. conservative Pat Buchanan in 2011, or when I happen to watch the famous documentary film in 2007, *The 11th Hour – The Last Hour We Have before the Total Destruction*, I am not at all surprised by their new apocalyptic revelations. *Story of Man—Layman* (1990) not only had predicted and examined these kinds of later developments but also had spelt out the root cause behind them in 1990. Of course, there was certain basic difference in approaching and analyzing these problems.

The book was a portrayal of the impending doomsday scenario which literally pointed out the coming of a ‘Western Revolution’ to be followed by a ‘free-for-all’. “After the East European revolution, a Western revolution is

very much in the pipeline”... “after having kept the world in a ‘knocked-down’ condition for long, the West itself is fast becoming sick” ... “the world is all about to let loose all diverse and centrifugal forces, ensuring a virtual FREE-FOR-ALL”, reads pages 113, 123 and 124 of *Story of Man – Layman*. It revealed not only most of the later global developments, but also discovered the basic cause behind these catastrophic developments, proving and targeting the scientific community itself being the one among the chief offenders.

Incidentally, what is now intensifying sporadically all over globe is the LAYMAN REVOLUTION or People’s Revolution which is manifesting itself as the Arab Spring during 2010 in Tunisia, Egypt, Syria, Yemen, Bahrain and other Arab states, as the Occupy Wall Street movement during 2011-12 in New York, and millions demonstrating in Turkey and Brazil, and now as an upstart party, the literal Layman Party—AAM AADMI PARTY—coming to power in Indian capital state of Delhi in 2013. History was made on a global level on December 28, 2013, when Arvind Kejriwal, 45, the leader of India’s upstart “AAM AADMI PARTY” (layman party) took oath as Delhi’s seventh chief minister. Taking power in New Delhi, this layman leader, with his down-to-earth image, began to talk of LAYMAN REVOLUTION.

Layman is online today everywhere and talks of revolution. Layman Revolution or People’s Revolution is carried out by the massive and active participation of layman or common man. This revolution is basically designed to save man and his environment by totally changing the highly corrupt and destructive modern systems.

By the way, the upcoming collapse and the resultant devastation seem to be far more frightening and unimaginable, in terms of the present systems. The nearest event, though only remotely comparable to this in all European civilization’s experience, occurred in the 14th Century, with the general collapse, called a “New Dark Age,” in which the entire system of Europe collapsed. The number of villages collapsed by one-half, the population of Europe collapsed by one-third, and it took several decades before even the beginning of civilization returned. Our highly globalized society is so fragile, so dependent on the interworking of things to provide us with the goods and services that it doesn’t need any nuclear warfare to fragment and wipe out us any more than the Romans needed it to cause their eventual downfall.

In the present book, I found myself compelled to make ruthless investigation of all the underpinnings and tight spots of the following questions: Where are we going? Why is humanity taking a giant leap – in the wrong direction? How and why is man’s universe misshapen? Why is science swamped by its own artifacts? Why and how has modern man’s world taken an abrupt break with its millions of year-long evolution? Why does modern man indulge in such kind of life, which he calls modern lifestyles, that literally amount to torturing himself, at times to breaking point? Is there anything as a technologically mature civilization when the very concept of modern science-driven technology is itself immature and faulty? How long can we

width (the sort of the much hyped Higgs Boson hunt), we must ask whether we have studied ourselves – human species – fully. It is lately been reported that, of the some odd 15,000 human rare diseases identified as having caused by human gene damage only some 7,000 are reportedly even named, and many are yet to be identified.

In the name of looking for truth and realities and in finding solutions to problems, modern science has unleashed several million chemicals since the Industrial Revolution which are in common and “uncommon” use in the world today. Among these perhaps as much as about 1,000,000 are causing gene damage (mutations) about which we are largely ignorant even though these chemicals are millions of times bigger than the so-called Higgs Boson. It has been estimated that more than 50,000 chemicals are in common use in the United States alone. At this very moment, many of these chemicals are working in our cells – including the cells of the man-on-the-street to the cells of the very scientists, Presidents, Prime Ministers, Nobel Laureates, the religious heads and so on – and causing different sorts of degeneration diseases.

There has been a lot of hype about the new technological magic bullet that will suddenly ‘provide’ all solutions. The scientists insisted they were creating a better world. “Better living through chemistry,” they said a few decades ago. And now, a generation later, we are dealing with a collapse of life on our planet so large and so disastrous that it is being called the sixth great extinction of life on our planet. The world of “science” has given us atomic weapons, GMOs, vaccines, toxic synthetic chemicals, pesticides and psychiatric drugs. It has used innocent people in deadly medical experiments and unleashed widespread genetic pollution on our world through the careless proliferation of genetically modified organisms. Science has, as for a few cases of examples, irradiated our bodies, drugged our children and polluted our spaces with spent uranium nuclear waste, electromagnetic cell phone broadcasts, among many others, which impoverished our genetic future with the incessant burden of DNA-damaging chemical contamination.

What is it with us, the modern humans? Unfortunately, no one wants to think it can happen to them. The law of entropy tells us everything will eventually run down and die – human civilization is no exception. In our time, we think our technical civilization is the pinnacle to which everything in human history has been building or evolving. It is conceit and vanity. We’re just the latest trend in a cycle of man’s achievements, most of which are clearly proving to be systems of self-destruction. The only thing different about our world is the present feebleness of human constitution which has seen man design machines and computers to do what the body and mind could achieve with relative ease during the ancient times.

This study has proved that scientific thinking, as a product of collective stupidity, is a particular symptom of mental illness. But on a deep reckoning, it is increasingly becoming clear that modern mankind is badly caught in this

'technology' trap of its own making. Like a monkey in a trap holding a banana refusing to let go to free itself, modern humanity, long addicted and trapped in reductionist science and technology, is doomed by its own stupidity. It is the old monkey trap story of how hunters in Africa trapped monkeys by putting bananas in a bottle. As the monkey with a bottle stuck on its hand, mankind is fearful of any change today: it fears failure and it fears success. The monkey keeps its hand doubled up in the bottle holding on to the banana, just as modern man is holding on to the highly consumerist and pollution-ridden technology despite the fast unfolding fact that this industrialism is out to destroy mankind soon. Because, like the monkey refuses to open its hand and free itself, modern man too refuses to let loose his hold on technology and let go the industrialism, he can't go free and think of alternate methods in the world in which human species lived for millions of years without modern technology of industrialism.

The story of modern society thus ends up as a self-evolving mechanism that is fast deteriorating human society. Sure, we have made new discoveries and progress and come up with 'wonderful' and 'instant' medical cures, but that is not really going to matter when we are practically destroying the livability of our planet completely. I believe the best way to judge a society comes from an old saying, "a chain is as strong as its weakest link." This adage becomes more pronounced when we live in modern society that literally is a highly globalized and hi-tech racketeering-like mechanism which has many weak links and holes. An unnoticed small hole is enough to sink a giant ship and the fact is that this 'spaceship' or technosphere today has thousands of weak links and holes, most of which are highly incomprehensible even to the so-called service providers of modern society, namely, the experts and scientists who 'know more about less and less'.

But this book, I believe, would remind that the disintegration of our society is far advanced, that the time allowed us for action is too short. For example, this book veers round the concept that modern mankind forms the diseased part of Nature. As a highly unnatural foreign body on this planet, modern man has become an unhealthy cell within a functioning body. Maybe Earth senses an imbalance like we are a cancerous growth within its body. Perhaps, Earth has a natural defense to its illnesses and can cleanse itself when sick.

My purpose is to expose this mechanical vitiation in modern man and his systems so that mankind may survive in an age of growing enlightenment. Here, my only concern is to give the reader an idea about the many suicidal and other highly catastrophic developments that are brewing and affecting us all – here and now. And this is also an attempt to establish the fact that the present civilization is highly fictitious and mechanically limiting, and that any society built on concept or thesis of fiction will not work for long, however efficiently – 'scientifically' – we try.

Modern science, as it is being explained in the coming chapters, understands only the surface of the verifiable seen or unseen matter and even then it can

understand them only very partially. Science misses out on 95 to 99% of the functioning, laws, and principles of existence. In practical terms, modern science is filtering down to be an ideology of self-delusion and self-destruction. Thus science, as the basic cause, lies behind the dualistic thinking that misleadingly regards Nature as wholly knowable, technologically manageable and accurately replaceable, which is a fundamentally flawed theory that turned evolution as devolution, leading to the consequential ecological and social crises of contemporary modern society. Incidentally science is rapidly reaching its limit and has degenerated to a system that is less about *understanding* and more about *manipulating*, and hence the evolution of a 'culture of denial'.

About this author: As an author, I am new here, and this will not perhaps help me to win many friends, I am sure. I know well that I am no specialist, and I soon realized that in this specialist age no man – not even any scientist, let alone a layman like me – could make a synthesis, even of scientific findings, which anyone would consider significant; and that any attempt to cull, not only from science but from religion and history as well, the materials for shaping a wisdom about life would be as foolish as it would be impossible. However experience has taught me that concentration in a discipline often makes for a narrowness of vision, and an inability to see beyond the limits of one's assumptions.

In this book, I am looking on all issues within, beyond and even outside civilizations and cultures. That is, this study also includes visions from outside the academia and by defying conventional, agreed-upon categories of the knowledge industry. As an ardent observer of human story spanning millions of years, I am also trying to view human world and its present civilizations from a little far, as one from another generation, race or culture.

Incidentally, I consider myself as having lived and experienced two historical epochs - ancient and modern. I was born in a remote and tribal village in Kerala before India became independent and had a somewhat pre-modern childhood. Later my brief initiation to modern education, a two year study for Catholic priesthood, a 10-year long job with Indian Postal Department, another 10-year service in Indian Army, followed by assuming the profession of a photographer for some years helped me to cover the many social and political events of the time.

But the most awakening occasion, in later years, was a rare opportunity that exposed me to the wonderful experience of the pristine organic pre-modern life in the remote coral islands of Lakshadweep for a period of ten years and my attempt to familiarize and study the two worlds – the pre-modern society in the Lakshadweep islands and the post-modern society on the Indian mainland that existed side by side.

Those 10 years of my life in Lakshadweep, the tiny group of coral islands in Arabian Sea, stretching out as part of the South-western Indian Territory, from 1991 to 2001, only reinforced my conclusions. Actually Lakshadweep was fast becoming a tourist destination when I first landed there in 1990. Long remaining as an off-shore jail for the prisoners banished by the past Indian Kings and rulers about 500 years ago, the outside world today is surprised to find Lakshadweep to

be a virtual paradise on earth with no jail, no criminals, no beggars, no pollution, no mental or physical diseases and no other curses and crises that are common to the mainstream industrial society in the mainland. And the sole reason for these particular characteristics of this splendid culture was its total remoteness to the outside world – especially modern civilization – and thus its inaccessibility to the evils of mechanization. This gave me an instant comparative experience and view of the pre-modern world and the post-modern world existing side by side, by a tiny separation of a mere 440 KM (from the mainland).

Well, my interest in comparing the two worlds – pre-modern and post-modern – that I used to experience simultaneously, by trotting over the two intermittently, and as the increasingly pouring of apocalyptic news and catastrophic developments in modern world today, one thing started to become clear in my mind: the development of modern education and expertise have virtually malformed the increasingly mechanizing modern society into a mega bomb-like structure that is all set to go off at any time now.

In doing this study, I was indeed performing a hide and seek game with the modern life process: living inside it and sometimes trying to live outside it; looking at it compartmentally and then, sometimes, trying to look to have an integrated and wholesome look and vision by linking it as a very minute part of the millions of year long human and other life forms and also trying to give it a continuity. Here, I see man in the collective. I have tried to not only scientifically know, but to intuitively feel that we are creatures of this Earth. And as such, one cannot help but take an interest in biology, medicine, the life sciences, and the Earth itself.

It was the reading and self-education I did on health and diseases of both mind and body that got me into this venture and the robust self confidence that drives me. I focused only on success – success stories of people and other species that keep themselves out of disease and unnecessary problems, people who lived the longest and healthiest, people who had travelled and observed human beings all over the world. I did not focus on the standard scientific or medical dogma, because that has all been a failure and there are more diseases, sickness, and misery in modern society than ever before in human history.

Everyone's life consists in large part of the accumulation of lessons learned from many other people and from life. My case is no different. Availing an opportunity to walk through the villages of India with a leading Indian politician CHANDRA SHEKHAR – he later became the Indian Prime Minister in 1990 – in his 6-month long 'Padyathra' (travel on foot) from the South to the North of India on foot in 1983, I found myself with a drastically changed mindset. Later for the rest of my life, the best of my free time has gone into seeking honest answers to my inquiries and dilemmas. Nothing has been taboo. No doors were closed. My long years of membership in the American and former Soviet Union libraries in Delhi during the hottest period of the cold war years have all helped me a lot in having a somewhat hands-on experience with the live diverse world, with an unbiased and unprejudiced mindset. I could draw any conclusions; the evidence seemed to support and to call for.

The story of man, whether it is told in one paragraph or in several volumes, is highly incomplete if it does not take into account about the various

sectors/areas through which it has evolved since millions of years and which still keeps the species evolving. The hindrance here is that we have made too many studies and too little generalization, integration or synthesis because of our over-compartmentalized and over-specialized studies in thousands of diverse sectors with no much relation or integration among them that left us to remain isolated and clueless. But this is no excuse for not undertaking a sweeping correction process simply because of the fact that it is we, the modern mankind, that have taken charge of our own evolution by creating our own environment. By the way, in this study, mankind from fifteenth century is generally assumed as modern humans for many distinct rationales.

The book forms a meeting place of some importance between what is written in it and the scientific facts, although this study is rather against the scientific method. But you won't find much "Research Source Proof" in this book. If you read this and get the big idea, you will realize that you won't need such a proof because common sense and logic will be all the proof you need. Don't let the lack of sources of scientific support in this book trick you into presuming what is said isn't true. Once you understand the natural system, you won't need such proof, but it is available should you want it. It seeks to inspire people to question themselves, to look at their world and our accumulated knowledge in a fresh way and see if it makes sense. Although it doesn't use proof as a weapon it encourages people to try and disprove what it says so long as they understand what it is they are trying to object to; because by doing so they will put the ideas to test from many different angles and also come to understand things in more detail, perhaps ultimately verifying it for themselves; however it does not seek to impose ideas on minds that are not yet ready. It doesn't want people to believe but to find out for themselves and to develop their own understanding.

It seemed to me that at every turn of my search, I learned something that contradicted what I thought I knew. The history of man is the history of his gaining self-consciousness through his interaction with the objective world surrounding him. The task of an author is to absorb, incorporate, and transform the knowledge and emotional currents of his own epoch and to present them in his own personal way, enriched by his own experiences. These ideas represent a force of resistance against enormous odds in the present market-science-led world. May be, they are in strong contrast to public opinion and the majority views and wishes of this time. Some may even think that this philosophy is extreme. There was a time when everyone who thought the world was round was thought to be extreme – even insane. The greatest and most enduring successes in history are those which were least understood and least publicly accepted in the beginning. Today, regarding the ideas of modern science, I think the clearest indication is that modern science will not survive an open debate, independent scrutiny, or public accountability. It is in this critical context, this author attempts an open debate through this book.

This book, however, isn't going to be another scholastic, scientific collection of so called facts. It is only an attempt to clear the fog that prevents man from looking at his real problems and their solution. What I have tried to

do is to converse plainly, simply, using simple analogies, stories and concepts to dismantle the cloak of invisibility that seems to surround the modern knowledge process and its “experts” wise sayings. I am not here to attack anyone, condemn actions, or to promote anything except what I believe to be simple, basic, provable and scientific “natural” facts, and to present possibilities and concepts as food for thought.

I am indebted to all those ideas I have been able to borrow, especially the ideas and propositions of hundreds of great people, past and present, as they seemed helpful in explaining my views, even as they inspired me to write down my own thoughts. Opinions and thoughts have been adapted, edited, corrected, combined, added to, re-edited and re-corrected as nearly all opinions and thoughts have been throughout time but have done so in the spirit of the original writer with the intent of making his or her thoughts and opinions clearer and relevant to the reader in the present time. If I have missed any of them in acknowledging their reference individually, it was solely due to reasons beyond my control. I have taken this privilege on the provisions of “fair use” in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues.

Readers need to take note of the fact that any of my studies do not represent my final view on any of the issues raised. It may be treated as ‘the works in progress’. Indeed, I take all the knowledge that mankind has acquired over the ages in history as only work of knowledge in progress – never as any final word. And, I am leaving this mission incomplete, not because of the feeling that it is un-accomplishable but because of the feeling that it is easily possible through a joint effort. Today it is absolutely impossible to individually practice what I put forward as solutions, but they are only possible through joint efforts, for our fates hang together.

Apart from the natural limitation of language (at least when it comes to expressing thought, mainly because language is essentially linear, ambiguous and does not provide words for all concepts) I hope the readers to forgive me for any possible language errors as English is a foreign language to me. The book is written as simply as any layman may understand. Very little technical or scientific terminology is used. The reader, however, will find that the content is somewhat unusual because the historical and scientific research on which it is based, as well as the conclusions reached, in some respects depart from the tenets and assumptions of mainstream thinking. It was deemed important that the reader be afforded with a wide diversity of viewpoints crossing multiple disciplines and sectors, all of which has been integrated into a traditional indigenous worldview. In taking this approach it is well understood and anticipated that not everyone will readily agree with all of the observations and conclusions presented.

The book may be read critically. Take nothing for granted. Never allow any concept or viewpoint to become sacrosanct, neither mine, your own or that of an institution or society. Using the rules of best evidence, logic and objective reason, you should always be the final judge. Accept nothing unquestioned. Let no individual, organization or government usurp your natural right to final

judgment. Submit your mind only to objective evidence, evidence based not on modern science alone but also on ground reality.

Therefore, no part of the book stands alone; a person wishing to understand fully any part must try to understand all parts until the pattern is complete. In general there is much in each chapter that, if it is to be rightly understood and its spirit fully sensed, must be read in the light of all that has gone before. Incidentally, in order to make certain points/ideas clearer, repetitions of some quotes and reasoning have become unavoidable. Repetitions have been resorted to wherever I felt it necessary to create a sense of rhythm that helps to convey the message clearly. The best way to perceive the pattern is to read through the book quickly without getting “bogged down” to details or to some particular commentaries in the book. For example, it is only because America is the most regimented and studied society in the world today, and also because the data on the American society come more authoritative and handy, I have chosen to present these facts about the American society in support of most of my arguments, especially in the case of health and degeneration in modern society on the whole. This does not mean the rest of the world is different. In a highly globalized scenario, the case of the rest of the world may be worse. Further, it is the sort of magnanimity of freedom and courage exhibited by the writings and other intellectual pursuit of the real Americans – and I can see this noble quality in 99% Americans – which has made this book possible. And I will remain ever indebted to their ingenuity and goodwill.

This book establishes that the problems mankind faces and their solutions are as simple and analogous as this: if a person walked up to you and said, “Every time I pour kerosene all over my house and light it with a match, my house catches fire. How do I stop my house from burning?” You would say “Stop dousing your house with kerosene and putting a match to it”. At this juncture and in a wider picture, I am sure that our solutions are this much simple. Here the only clue may be that we must be able to demystify our problems from their present complexities. But the core of the key problem that the world faces today is that it is unable to state or define its problems simply and objectively. The book is a direct attempt to address this dilemma.

In short, this attempt is an appeal for a moral awakening that touches not only the social and the political but the very essence of humanity that can only come from our own hearts and spirits and which will enable everyone to see the big picture and to become the spark of a new age. This book is an attempt in that direction and it is born out of my anxiety to be alive spiritually and feel the ultimate concern of existence within the trivial apprehensions of everyday life.

Let us accept the truth while we are in a position to do something about it, and not when we have become totally helpless and I hope we are not in such a state, already. But we don’t have much time. We are already starting to see the early signs of total ecological and social collapse, and although this collapse is unlikely to reach a head in a year or two – it could take a couple of decades – we may already be too late to start action to prevent it.