

PLANETARY DETOX

The experience of recent decades has perhaps made some of us who have a bit of esoteric understanding of this importance of this turning point in planetary history, wonder what it would take to capture the attention of a humanity seemingly caught up in distractions? Perhaps some kind of breakthrough could be possible through something as challenging as the present pandemic, when people are forced for a time at least to step back from the ordinary routines and have somewhat of a pause from the normal conditions. Surely one of the lessons of the present situation will be to demonstrate the many ways in which we and the planet itself have become out of balance with the rhythms and cycles of the natural world.

The timing of this situation has been quite interesting--following as it has upon the heels of the Festival Week period which included a powerful solar eclipse and a major alignment of planets in the sign of Capricorn, followed by the very rare alignment of two first ray planets--Saturn and Pluto, at the time of the subsequent Capricorn full moon. During these alignments spiritual groups everywhere were coming together and surely together we did evoke a measure of the spiritual will-to-good as a result. And preceding this time of invocative appeal we also witnessed a mass mobilisation and ardent appeal by young climate activists everywhere throughout the world taking to the streets in droves, demanding that adults wake up and listen and change the system. A wise person I knew once said that we should be careful what we wish for because we might get it! And so perhaps on some level what we are seeing in some measure is the result of the impact of these invocative appeals for the release of light in response to the cry of the planet.

For despite the terrible suffering and disruption that the pandemic is inflicting on so many--particularly the most marginalized in our societies--who would have thought that in a few brief months our collective carbon footprint would have been so dramatically lowered. And as a result we see the earth itself responding quickly and dramatically as a result. It's said, for example, that people in some parts of China are seeing blue skies for the first time in their lives; dolphins and swans have appeared in the canals in Venice,, the CO2 emission in major cities throughout the world are dropping precipitously, animals are coming down from the hills, perhaps feeling safer as a new found quiet has descended upon the towns and cities of the world.

The climate crisis and the pandemic are of course interrelated. The virus we might say is a reflection that the planet's immune system and humanity's as well, are seriously compromised by the toxicity in our air, our water, our food, and also within our consciousness itself. The last pandemic in 1918 occurred on the heels of the ceasefire of World War I. In a certain sense a war is one way in which humanity seeks to address situations that have become stagnant and crystallized and diseased and, on the other hand when situations have become out of control and the astral and lower mental plane climates are raging. War is an aspect of change and change is an evolutionary tool that contributes to forward movement. When a diseased condition rises to the surface it is a clear indication that the body is trying to heal itself. Often a

detox , brings a rash to the surface of the physical body, as a reflection of the body's attempt to rid itself of the toxic overload. Perhaps the present situation is another reflection of a similar cleansing that is taking place on Earth in response to the condition of glamour in our planet that has become so thick.

Hopefully we will respond adequately to this situation, not by going back to the old ways and attempting to bandage up the old system, but rather by working towards deep, structural changes that will help restore our health and the health of all living beings. Through such measures this virus can act as a springboard to show us the many ways in which we have been living out of balance and provide an opening into how we can begin to live in greater harmony.

Kathy Newburn