

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, organized citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead

<https://leandroherrero.com/the-missing-word-in-the-famous-margaret-mead-quote/>

DOCUMENT OVERVIEW

- I ACCESS to THE THREE WEEKLY CALLS via the Internet**
- II ACCESS to OTHER CALLS SUPPORTED BY 2013 Rainbow Roundtable**
- III OPENING MEDITATION; HOUSEKEEPING; LINK TO PODCAST**
- IV SATURDAY HISTORY CALL – NOTES, REFERENCE MATERIALS**

I TO ACCESS THE THREE WEEKLY CALLS via the Internet

A BBS RADIO Go To www.bbsradio.com; click on "64K Listen"

* **Thursday: A Night at the Round Table** Hosts: Panel Members
6 pm Pacific / 9 pm Eastern

* **Friday: Friday Night Hard News** Hosts: Tara & Rama
6 pm Pacific / 9 pm Eastern

One Hour conference Call: 1-641-741-1704 - Access Code: 353 863#

* **Saturday: History of our Galactic World & NESARA** Hosts: Tara & Rama
1:30 pm Pacific / 4:30 pm Eastern

One Hour conference Call: 1-720 716 7301 – Access Code: 353 863#

Call to interact / ask questions: Canada & US: STATION 2 1- 888-429-5471
Direct 1- 323-744-4841

C Skype: BBSradio2

D Archives for the 3 Programs listed above:

- Go to *BBSRadio.com*; in first column, LHS, **FIND TALK SHOW**
- Enter **The True History**, press the GO button. You'll be taken directly to the True History call: click on **"Archives"** which takes you to the listing of all program archives, the latest one being at the top.
- You can listen directly or download the program to your own computer.
 - To listen directly, click on the arrow on the black bar.
 - To download, go to **Episode MP3 link**. Then **right click** on the name 'theturehistory **including the date**' and the drop down menu appears. Click on **'save link as'**

E Archives, both written and audio, also exist on the 2013 website:
<http://2013rainbowroundtable.ning.com/> look under the "Archives" tab for **written notes plus audio recordings** of the conference calls plus the entire podcast.

II ACCESS TO OTHER CALLS SUPPORTED BY 2013 Rainbow Roundtable

A Sunday, Mondays: Cheryl Croci's Activation Calls

6 pm Pacific/ 9 pm Eastern

By telephone only: 1 – 605-475-4120; PIN 946 7441#

B Tuesdays

Ashtar on the Road

2nd & 4th Tuesday each month

6 pm Pacific/9 pm Eastern

Host is Fran; various guests

<http://www.ashtarontheroad.com/ashtarteleconferences.html>

by Phone: 1-228-339-7800 or 1-712-832-8330

• Call is free [except for long distance charges]

via HD Conferencing: <https://www.freeconferencecallhd.com/hd-conferencing/>
PIN # 980339 [always the same]

via Skype

Click on the voip button and enter what they ask for:

<https://www.freeconferencecallhd.com/hd-conferencing/>

C Wednesdays:

The Friends of The Aboriginal Moabite Nation Call

7:00 – 9:00 EST

By telephone only: 1-712-432-0900 PIN 666238#

Replay# [good for 1 wk] 1-712-432-0990 PIN 66238#

D Every 2nd Wednesday *The Abundance Call*

5:45 PM Pacific / 8:45 PM Eastern – a 1 hour call

with The Collective, a group of Angelic and Galactic beings,
channeled by Caroline Oceana Ryan

**To be notified: email AscensionTimes@gmail.com with the message
"YES to Abundance!"**

**III OPENING MEDITATION; HOUSEKEEPING; FREEMART WEBSITE; INFORMATION
SOURCES RE: M.T. KESHE AND KESHE FOUNDATION; ACCESS TO PODCAST**

A. Opening Meditation: Cheryl Croci

B. Housekeeping: Rainbird

BBS: • Listener-supported radio programs – Cost is \$300 per week
Need \$300 for this week. Thanks for keeping us up-to-date!

All BBS archives can be accessed for free, including the podcasts for
the Thursday, Friday, Saturday calls, listed above.

• **2013 Rainbow Roundtable has archives, too.**

- Go to BBSradio.com/Station2; find **Hard News** call listing & **Paypal** button
- BBS appreciates getting checks via the mail: no Paypal fees!

• The mailing address for those who do not like paying electronically:

B B S RADIO [Please put "**Attention Don**" on the envelope]
1500 Pleasant Hill RD [Note inside that it's for T & R calls
Lafayette, CA 94549 [& the Thursday call, as well]

Tara, Rama: Their full-time, life-time commitment is to be tuned in to
what is really going on behind the artificial world we see around us.
They don't ask for anything but they do require food, a home, gas

for the car, and access to BBS Radio in order to compile and distribute this information to the world.

- Donations via Paypal button on the **homepage of 2013 Rainbow Roundtable**

FOOD MONEY, BASICS: They need **\$ for food, basics, gas, bills** **\$400**
THE RENT HAS BEEN PAID – thanks for all contributions.

VIA PAYPAL OR GO TO www.rainbowroundtable.net –
where there is a donate button !

- **Please notify T & R if you're sending something:** koran999@comcast.net
EVERY \$5 HELPS **ALL GRATEFULLY RECEIVED**

- Rama's mailing address for cheques, Money orders: Ram D Berkowitz
PO Box 280
Santa Cruz, NM 87567
- **Remember: you can book a session with Mother, as well!**
- To make donations to the **Fresh Produce Fund** for Tara & Rama -

**** go to www.rainbowroundtable.net and find the link to the donation button**

koran9999@hotmail.com is the link to use with Paypal

- Your donation supports an account set up for Tara & Rama with Beneficial Farms Community Supported Agriculture in Santa Fe, NM
- These funds are used exclusively to maintain this weekly account for a steady supply of fresh produce to Tara and Rama.
They and the sponsors are very grateful for your assistance.
- Let Rama know by e-mail that you are sending any donations: koran999@comcast.net

FREEMART: <https://www.shopfreemart.com/tarram> a/c # 7000

- Freemart is a private shoppers club; it's **FREE TO JOIN.**
 - all the products have much to offer, so take a look!
 - check out the headings called **READ MORE** - it's definitely worth the time!

Rama and Tara are being helped by this account: they get their supplements there. **The returns also help 2013 Rainbow Roundtable**

C: INFORMATION SOURCES RELATIVE TO M.T. KESHE AND KESHE FOUNDATION

contact Rainbird with questions: lightenergync@gmail.com

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aLaVutWXju0> **(CHECK THIS OUT)**

One Cup One Life – Production and Application; Prevention and Reversal of CoronaVirus

https://en.kfwiki.org/wiki/One_Cup_One_Life_-_Production_and_Application_-_Prevention_and_Reversal_of_the_Corona_Virus

KF Wiki

<https://www.kfwiki.org>

The free Plasma Cyclopdia of the Keshe Foundation

Keshe Foundation Store

<https://store.keshfoundation.org/store/?alias=store>

Keshe Corona site

www.plasmainnature.com/health/coronavirus-1-cup-1-life-series-protocols-and-other-info/

Keshe Letter to World Leaders about the studies using the plasma technology with covid patients

www.plasmatimes.com

E: ACCESS TO PODCAST: The audio link below allows you to listen to the entire program.

<https://bbsradio.com/archive-description/audio/listen/255638>

F: THE NEW WEBSITE AND ADDRESS: WWW.RAINBOWROUNDTABLE.NET –

Still under construction, but already in use: take a peek . . . all of Caroline Oceana Ryan’s updates are posted there too

HARD NEWS

Rama, Tara [R, T] • • •

TARA, RAMA: Greetings and thanks to all . . .

- T:** R sent text to the Poppy Lady in Afghanistan at 10 am
- the Taliban and other military groups still negotiating another round of peace talks, yet lots of people still being killed: no peace in Afghanistan a tentative cease fire that is being broken all the time
 - the Dark side has pulled out all the stops – the MAGA HATS, proud boys, boogaloo boys, republican recalcitrant senators have declared war against the democratic process and aligned with fascists

R: She also said: the folks who broke into the capital are being arrested and dealt with – **this is HUGE!** They are trying to plan more of these ‘events’; she said it is being cancelled by Mother and the Forces of Light

- This involves international security; we’re stepping into the realms of his father is taking the next step: no nukes and they mean it (Ashtar) – this is a big deal with what is going on across the planet
- She left it: there’s a new moon this coming week: stay in the high heart and the Violet Flame – they are stirring the pot as they will not concede
- **What R is being told:** the next step comes out of left field – Captain Ashtar knows what to do and R passes him the Talking Stick!

R: This is #1 about fascism and this country: colonization and white supremacy can continue in the US and it’s been cancelled: – when the real stories come out

about the aboriginals and the black folks from Orion and Sirius A, B and C and other places – this story is about unity consciousness: all the colours of the rainbow, no matter the colour of your skin or your fur!

T: Mr Clooney's favourite fragrance is lavender -

R: which brings in St Germain's calming energies – the Lavander Lad – his excitement was about spreading the news of immortality . . .

T: the man on Al Sharpton's program: rather strong in his words!

- He spoke of one who breached the Capitol building and was pepper sprayed; said he'd be back with more weapons

R: lots of people caught up in this story about Q Anon and Cobra and others

- Ben Fulford made death threats against members of Congress – it's treason – and did it on the internet

T: it's a problem for David Wilcock and ET Cory; they are aligned with Fulford and accomplices with that kind of talk

T: refers to the article about Asma el-Assad

[SEE BELOW]

2021-01-08 More War by Other Means: Sanctioning the Wife of Syria's President Makes No Sense to Anyone

More sanctions, by all means. More grief and suffering and more people around the world wondering what exactly the United States is doing.

By [Philip Giraldi](#)

Global Research, January 08, 2021

[Strategic Culture Foundation](#) 7 January 2020

R: the hologram – the Queen – got her jab in the arm today and also Prince Philip

- doesn't know how to explain holograms getting vaccines! ! !
- the only one who knows the complete outcome is St Germain

T: article about Tory Smith – died on July 20, 2016 – for their involvement in accosting children – the Democratic Convention happened later in the fall and Hillary was responsible for murdering 5 people then – and has committed genocide

- Since 1991, HRC has been the head of the Deep State – any number of clones, not sure how many: was seen in 2 places at once during the elections activities
- Mr and Mrs Pence both involved in genocide and child trafficking – and people do what they are told if they don't want to see their families taken out
 - He's been involved in racism, pedophilia, genocide for decades
- Behind the hologram of HRC is Henry Kissinger and his friends: **4 billion people have been removed from this planet in the last 15-18 months**
 - Those of us who are here now – we have great responsibility

R: this is the biggest mission we have ever undertaken as a group of souls!

T: talks of the founder of the BaHai faith – spent 40+ years in prison: he wrote and helped the other prisoners

He was taken into the prison yard to be shot – he disappeared! The guards found him in the prison talking to one of his fellow prisoners and said I'll be with you in a minute; I want to tell my friend this . . .

An Introduction to the Baha'i Faith

<https://www.bl.uk/sacred-texts/articles/an-introduction-to-the-bahai-faith#>

T: Humans are an amazing species!

Reading: **2021-01-08 Why did the Georgia GOP Team up with a Riot Instigator?**

"WE'LL LIGHT THE WHOLE SH*T ON FIRE!"

Greg Palast

AUDIO: POLITICS NATION – Rev Al Sharpton *Tonight's lead: Barbarians at the Gate*

- Last night, Pres Trump was banned from twitter and facebook
- Rev Al's target tonight: the double standard of justice for the white rioters vs black peaceful protesters; tonight some congress people know what it's like to be a target
- Senator Gary Peters - incoming head of the Senate Homeland Security Committee
- Congressman Hank Johnson - incoming head of Judiciary Committee
Rev Al brings up Warnock and Ossa – first black, first jew to the US Senate

AUDIO: the tree of life and the secrets of Immortality – Gregg Braden

Premiered Jan 7, 2021

The Tree of Life and The Secrets of Immortality

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O9FLXYINUhw&ab_channel=GreggBradenOfficial

The tree of life or Axis Mundi is a key concept found in many ancient belief systems. Primarily, it is the central axis upon which the entire world and universe is held aloft. We explore the tree of life, as it is conceptualized in many enduring spiritual traditions, including Abrahamic, Mayan, Vedic and Norse beliefs, to discover that it is much more than a pervasive myth.

AUDIO: [Open Minds with Regina Meredith](#)

Orion: Home of the Gods with Freddy Silva

S 18:Ep1

59 mins

January 7, 2021

<https://www.gaia.com/video/orion-home-gods-freddy-silva>

There are signs of otherworldly beings everywhere in the ancient world. Were these gods or beings from elsewhere? Freddy Silva has studied many of these signs, from ancient Egypt to the Americas. From petroglyphs to standing stones and temples, he explains that the wisdom found with the symbols of serpent people are keys to humanity's ascension. He reveals that the home of these ancient beings may have been the astronomical region we now call Orion.

Instructor/Host: Regina Meredith

Featuring: Freddy Silva

AUDIO: [On Contact: America's existential crisis](#)

2021-01-09

VIDEO: <https://www.rt.com/shows/on-contact/511893-west-america-existential-crisis/>

PODCAST: <https://soundcloud.com/rttv/on-contact-americas-existential-crisis>

On the show this week, Chris Hedges discusses with moral philosopher Dr. Cornel West what we can learn about America's existential crisis after witnessing enraged supporters of Donald Trump storming the Capitol to try and halt Congress's counting of the electoral votes to confirm the victory of President-elect Joe Biden.

Dr. Cornel West, professor of the practice of public philosophy at Harvard University, and the author of numerous books, including 'Race Matters'.



ASTROLOGY **Richard – RI**

Says those who come to the calls should be surprised about last Wednesday – sun was at 16* of Capricorn; to the east of the sun is a host of bodies + Mars rising! And it is square Pluto and Sun was about 7* from Pluto – so it is a focused energy of Sun and Pluto, with Mars rising in the east! All the energies are in the day time sky, pouring down on the US.

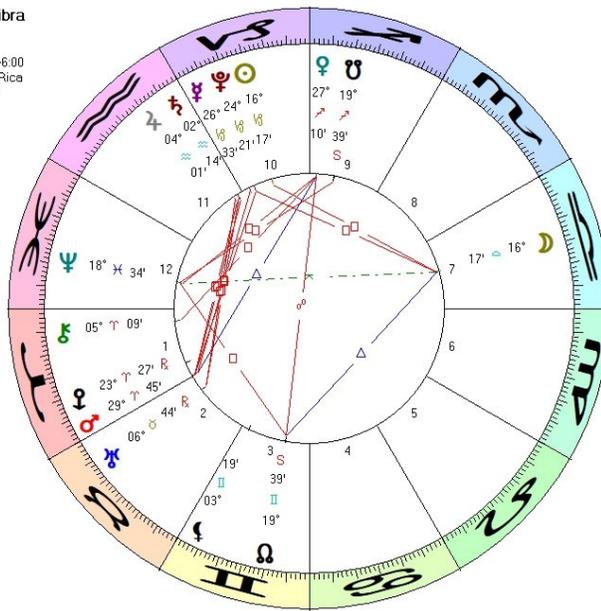
- Neptune also there – a perfect mixture of the complexity to support the actions of a few trouble makers! City was lucky so few were killed.
- Had a feeling of pre-planning and not just by a few! T: agrees with him
- Certain unnamed congress people are pissed off at a certain president; on Monday, they will try and impeach him again – his twitter and FB are removed and he's been put in the corner!
- Apart from the personality of the man, the role he is fulfilling – several years of upset and irritation: Seattle situation, and other cities around the US; the climate situation; the fires in the west
- **Lessons are NOT OVER** – lots of learning going on; karma being neutralized

2021-01-06 [Astrology for the Soul January 6, 2021](#)

https://youtu.be/az1_Q8yNMOM

To listen to the forecast: <https://newparadigmastrology.com/january-6-2021-astrology-forecast/#>

3/4 Moon in Libra
Natal Chart
 Jan 6 2021, Wed
 3:37:15 am CST +6:00
 San Jose, Costa Rica
 09°1'56" 084°W05'
 Geocentric
 Tropical
 0° Aries
 True Node



Hola Initiates!

Welcome to the initiation! No one said initiation is easy. It has always been a test requiring strength, fortitude, steadfastness, will, and courage. In times gone by, only the fittest of the fit survived some of the rituals that allowed candidates access to knowledge of the higher worlds. While today there are few initiation rites still in use, we, as a collective, are being initiated into greater and greater realms of power. **Today's technology forces humanity to grow and mature to use, manage, and benefit rather than hurt, maim, and destroy with the power now being harnessed.**

I write this newsletter as Washington DC is being torn by civil unrest (*with Mars at the critical degree of 29 Aries*). Make no mistake, this civil unrest is not going away. **Saturn is square Uranus all 2021, and the revolts and challenges to authority will continue and may escalate as it draws more exact.**

Through these times, the challenge is to hold to our center, ideals, faith, trust, and hope in ourselves, humanity, and the Divine. To continue to radiate our highest healing frequency ever more potent for those being pulled down into lower realms. It is not so much with words, or at times even deeds, as much as in silent listening, holding and comforting ourselves and others. May each of us be as an oasis in the desert or a fountain of water to the thirsty souls needing refreshment, love, and light. **Our initiation involves keeping our hearts and minds open, developing greater compassion and understanding, and providing the wisdom teachings for those who seek refuge from the madness through the expansion of their consciousness.** Let's remember that humanity will forever seek answers, reasons, and the

meaning behind the events in their lives and that it is the Spirit, the Stars, and the Divine that holds those answers.

My wish is that you remain a source of comfort and love to those in need through these times by staying strong within Spirit!

*It's time to get real and make a plan,
To go forward from here and now.
I will stay grounded, present and clear,
Not get lost with my head in the clouds.*

As mentioned previously, despite 2020 ending, the astrology of our times shows us that we are in a long term initiation process that is far from over. The beginning of any initiation involves removing what has been previously relied upon for sustenance, which induces the need and longing for something new/more. I would say that we are still in a state of "reduction," or loss. It will take us time to collectively move through the stages of grief, which are natural to a human being when they experience loss: Denial, Anger, Bargaining, and Depression finally leading to Acceptance (*Elizabeth Kubler-Ross*).

The challenge now is to continue moving through these stages without getting stuck in any of them too long. Depending on the loss, it can take six to eighteen months (or more) to finally come into acceptance so let's have patience with ourselves and each other.

Secondly, not mentioned in the report is that after Uranus goes direct next week, we have all the planets in direct motion (except a short 3-week Mercury Retro coming early February) until the END OF APRIL! **Hold onto your hats! The pace of change, innovation, and overwhelm for some is going to pick up fast.**

These months will be useful for envisioning, planning, and beginning new projects based on a "new normal" that will have better chances of succeeding due to their grounded, lowered expectations. Jupiter/Saturn contacts have always been associated with limited (Saturn) expansion (Jupiter). Still, it is better to be pleasantly surprised by surpassing your expectations than being let down due to unrealistic expectations.

***So Much Love,
Kaypacha***

AUDIO: Tania Gabrielle

2021-01-09 Ep. 90 – Capricorn New Moon: Be Courageous & Fearless!



A highly significant New Moon begins 2021 with fiery passion. Pluto merges with the Sun and Moon for deep purging of the past, while Saturn (ruler of Capricorn) merges into a stellium that focuses on building a joyful future. Fearlessness and courage are the big themes!

Capricorn NEW MOON [Jan 12-13] Be Courageous and Fearless! Astrology Numerology Forecast

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZpvOH2s_hw&feature=emb_title

CONFERENCE CALL

To access the link to the call, go to

<https://www.rainbowroundtable.net/archives> and look at the audio section for the link which is listed beside today's date: it will also be live.

R: we're at the juncture where everything is coming out

T: we're seeing great minds working with each other
and

- discussion about the flow – and what is the flow? - happening in so many locations
 - for example, between Regina Meredith and Freddy Silva on the previous section of program
 - other great minds
 - with those of us on this conference call
 - on MSNBC – between the various presenters

Randy: and they are afraid of us – they can't do the same kind of communication

- things Like Facebook, Twitter etc set up by others – and now it's being used against them
- he's got a Zoom meeting going on, plus stuff coming through from all kinds of places:
 - he's talking in a Brazil meeting where they are talking of the spiritual war going on – which we have already won and we just have to accept [this truth]
- there are council meetings going on at all levels -on earth, in the galaxy, in the universe
- and the emotions of humans are wide-ranging – we can go to the higher levels

Sonjah: talks about those who believe

- brings up Anna von leitz – someone on the call knows about her stuff; used to be an Alaskan supreme court justice and then retired – upset about the US: thinks she's owed a whole bunch of money, as we all are
- R no longer listens to her: she's connected to Ben Fulford and expecting themselves

So: what is going on in Pakistan?

R: the grid went down in the whole country; could have to do with energies from the sun

S: the reporter said he was not a conspiracy theorist but it has certain characteristics . .

RGM: all of Quebec going into serious lockout – from 8 am to 5 pm

SO: same as in Peru

SO: about the Schumann Resonance - and how we cannot rely on the one here in NA

- cumiana [?] graph - from Italy - the one to rely on
- She had a radionics machine she'd been given - but it was not effective
the number of hertz is ???

RGM: Universe doesn't need machines to help - depends on peoples' consciousness

- have to remain neutral and compassionate - [when using / doing radionics] never ask people 'how do you feel?' because that brings the person back to the original situation . . .

SO: seems Biden doesn't agree with Pelosi about impeaching Trump: he wants the country to be united and thinks the impeaching would keep up the division

T: there's nothing written in that sand yet
yet the larger story is what we must hold on to - - he is very ill

SO: speaks of a center near her that is a center for reptilian ritual - and she agrees with T that this is for the galactics to take care of

Pa: thinks Biden reflects what is around him - parts of him seem to radiate at a higher level

T: when she thinks of the diabolical stuff he has done . . . thinks that much of it has to do with HRC

Pa: the way he looks at Obama, can tell how much he realizes what he owes to BO

T: recounts a story of his early time in the presidency when HRC was manipulating the energies . . .

PA: says Cheryl says to blaze the Violet Fire BEFORE YOU TURN ON THE NEWS! ! ! And says it often . . .

- Asks about Salmon Rushdie - born in Pakistan, yet the Iranian gov't won't let him in

R: about S Rushdie - has been on Bill Mayers show; wrote **Satanic Verses**

- doesn't know what to make of him - everyone has a different interpretation of the Koran
- Allah/Mohammad is another one of the Ascended Masters on the planet like Nada, Quan Yin, Sananda etc - connected to the galactic Councils

• Discussion on Freddy Silva - he's transforming the world!

- Sonjah: a chart about Freddy's symbols

T: as for what is happening in Pakistan: it's about creating pain, suffering and death

- the US, CIA and the upper echelons of P's
- Pakistan, India, Iran have nuclear weapons

• has the sense of something on the 17th - the close calls going on behind the scenes owe much to the galactics

• they who stormed the Capitol building literally had plans to hang Pence and Pelosi -
• someone being interviewed on Politics Nation spoke of guillotines [**plural**] and gallows [**plural**]

• Why Pence? Because Pence gave in to the allowing of

• Today, Alex Witt or someone took the pyramid with the elites on the top and reversed it - the weight of what they have created equals a huge karma - attempting to reverse the will of the people

- on Chris Hayes show – people will get their \$2000 if they take the vaccinations – this is one of the last cards . . .

RGM: About telegram – need only user name and phone #

- the keshe meetings will not be on you tube anymore
- can call anyone around the world for free via telegram

Answer to question about the accident in Indonesia: it was an EMP weapon used on the plane

- the plane literally dropped
- the farmers saw an explosion before the plane hit the water
- an EMP weapon completely neutralizes all the equipment in the plane – NO CONTROL

RGM: there are a lot of rare earth minerals in Indonesia and China wants them! ! !

T: brings up 9/11

- THE SCHUMANN RESONANCES are so high, the people are not being told so they might think that the status quo is still in place!
- It was a Boeing 707 that went down

SO: an additional comment to the idea that people are recognizing very quickly now the patterns behind the events of Wednesday, based on the schema used on 9/11

- The photonic light coming in now is a carrier of consciousness AND we have won! ! !

B B S RADIO

Rama's Musical Choices

[George Harrison - Give Me Love - YouTube](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ALGS9yImIIQ>

17 Sep 2010 ... Lyrics: Give me love Give me love Give me peace on earth
Give me light Give me life Keep me free from birth Give me hope Help me cope, with ..

Enya from Avatar

AUDIO: the balance of Tania Gabrielle

AUDIO: the balance of On Contact with Dr Cornel West

AUDIO: The Brazilian Templars Mystery

<https://www.gaia.com/video/brazilian-templars-mystery>

52 mins 2020

The Knights Templar are among the world's most mysterious organizations.

The Brazilian Templars Mystery is the story of researcher Dr. Kathleen Ball's discovery of a cave hidden in a remote area on the outskirts of a small Brazilian town. A cave carved by the Knights Templar.

Kathleen has done extensive research into the history of the Templars and backtracked their trail through Portugal, France, Scotland and England in a search for the true purpose of the order and what that means today. Her ongoing research trips will include Malta, a return to Portugal, the UK and France, Spain, Italy, Jerusalem and Ethiopia.

Featuring: Dr. Kathleen Ball, Freddy Silva, Peter Woodward, Joao Fiandeiro, Luiz Batista Ramos, Luis Salvi, Leonia Saraiva, Liomar

AUDIO: Missing Links with Gregg Braden Stepping into a New Paradigm with Bruce Lipton

S 3: Ep14

28 mins

April 18, 2019

<https://www.gaia.com/video/stepping-new-paradigm-bruce-lipton>

In this very special episode of Missing Links, Gregg Braden and Bruce Lipton come together to share the information they presented when they met with the United Nations. This was an important meeting as they were called upon to discuss the massive changes our planet is facing and assess what we must do about it. As humanity stands upon the edge of a massive paradigm shift, we are being called to tap into the deepest truths of who we are and start applying this knowledge to the world we live in. They share new discoveries that lead the way to a new way of thinking about our bodies, human evolution, and our continued role in the massive changes our planet is facing ecologically, economically and spiritually.

Instructor/Host: Gregg Braden

Featuring: Bruce Lipton

AUDIO: Congresswoman Pramila Jaipal from Washington being interviewed

AUDIO: Keiser Report [Bitcoin beats the money printer go brrrr \(E1643\)](https://www.keiserreport.com/episode/bitcoin-beats-the-money-printer-go-brrrr) 2021-01-09

VIDEO: <https://www.rt.com/shows/keiser-report/511888-bitcoin-money-supply-comparison/>

PODCAST: <https://soundcloud.com/rttv/keiser-report-bitcoin-beats-the-money-printer-go-brrrr>

In this episode of the *Keiser Report*, Max and Stacy look at a chart comparing bitcoin to money supply: bitcoin is keeping up (and then some) with the parabolic rise in new money. They also discuss former Fed chairwoman, Janet Yellen, heading to the Treasury after earning millions for a few speeches at the same banks she is meant to regulate.

In the second half, Max chats to Craig Hemke of [TFMetalsReport.com](https://www.tfm.com) about the fact that bitcoin prices reflect what gold prices would do if price discovery were not overwhelmed by paper.



AUDIO: Economic Update: Working Class Power

2020-12-14

VIDEO: https://www.democracyatwork.info/eu_working_class_power

YouTube: **Working Class Power** <https://youtu.be/q4AiTSXjxio>

PODCAST - Direct Download:

https://traffic.libsyn.com/secure/economicupdate/Econ_Update_2020.12.10.S10E48.mp3

TRANSCRIPT: **See transcript below.**

On this week's show, Prof. Wolff discusses Biden's 'new economic team,' big US banks falling short in key stress tests, India's 250-million-strong general strike, and lastly, huge chunk of US relief funds aimed at small and medium businesses grabbed instead by big business. The second half of the show features an interview with Flight Attendants Union President Sara Nelson.

AUDIO: Thom Hartmann – reading about **Unsettling Truths: The Doctrine of Discovery**

Reads from **Chapter 1**

Music:

Closing: **Rainbird**

It's been a year since she played – It was Messiah last December
[plays clarinet; penny flute for Irish music]

Rama's Choices

Alan Watts - what is it to see?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hCOJnIysQ1A>

PEACE be with You ~ Shaina Noll ~ Song for the inner Child

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmpPg8vug8E>

INFORMATION RELATED TO THE NOTES

2021-01-08 More War by Other Means: Sanctioning the Wife of Syria's President Makes No Sense to Anyone

More sanctions, by all means. More grief and suffering and more people around the world wondering what exactly the United States is doing.

By [Philip Giraldi](#)

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<https://www.globalresearch.ca/more-war-other-means-sanctioning-wife-syria-president-makes-no-sense-anyone/5733890>



I am a recipient of regular, usual weekly, emails from the Department of the Treasury providing an "Update to OFAC's list of Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) and Blocked Persons." OFAC is the Office of Foreign Assets Control, which is tasked with both identifying and managing the financial punishments meted out to those individuals and groups that have been sanctioned by the United States government.

A recent update, on November 10th, included "Non-Proliferation Designations; Iran-related Designations." There were [ten items](#) on the list, names of Chinese and Iranian individuals and companies. Those who are "Specially Designated" on the list are subject to having their assets blocked if located in the United States and are also not allowed to engage in any financial transactions that go through U.S. banking channels. As many international banks respect U.S. Treasury "designations" lest they themselves be subjected to secondary sanctions that often means, in effect, that the individual or group cannot move money in a large part of the global financial marketplace.

The [complete SDN list](#) is hundreds of pages long. The Treasury Department defines and justifies OFAC's mission "As part of its enforcement efforts, OFAC publishes a list of individuals and companies owned or controlled by, or acting for or on behalf of, targeted countries. It also lists individuals, groups, and entities, such as terrorists and narcotics traffickers designated under programs that are not country-specific. Collectively, such individuals and companies are called 'Specially Designated Nationals' or 'SDNs.' Their assets are blocked and U.S. persons are generally prohibited from dealing with them."

In reality, of course, OFAC's sanctions are highly political. They are clearly a form of economic warfare, particularly when entire sectors of a nation's economy are blocked or a part of a government itself is listed, as has been the case with the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Force. Wave after wave of "maximum pressure" sanctions on Iran have made it difficult for the country to sell its only major marketable resource, oil, and it has been locked out of most normal financial networks, making it difficult or even impossible to buy food and medicines.

In many cases, sanctions have no practical effect but are rather intended to send a message. There have been new sanctions directed against Moscow and Russian government officials [which] have been sanctioned due to their alleged involvement in activities that the United States does not approve of. The sanctions are imposed even though those "specially designated" have no assets in the U.S. and do not engage in any international financial transactions that could be blocked or disrupted. In those cases, the federal government is sending a message to whomever has been sanctioned to warn them that they are being watched and their behaviour has become a matter of record. It is basically a form of intimidation.

Whether sanctions actually work is debatable. The example of Cuba, which was sanctioned by the U.S. for nearly sixty years, would suggest not. Some would argue that, on the contrary, countries with totalitarian regimes would actually improve their behaviour if their citizens could travel freely and welcome visitors, providing evidence that foreigners do not pose a threat justifying a police state.

Within the United States government, it is largely accepted that the most powerful advocate of the sanctions regime is Secretary of State Michael Pompeo, who has been the driving force behind recent sanctions directed against both China and Iran. If that is so, he might well be challenged on one of the most bizarre and basically pointless applications of sanctions in recent years, [targeting Asma](#) the wife of Syrian **President Bashar al-Assad** as well as her family that lives in London and are British citizens. Per [Pompeo's statement on the new sanctions](#) "The Department of State today is imposing sanctions on Asma al-Assad, the wife of Bashar al-Assad, for impeding efforts to promote a political resolution of the Syrian conflict pursuant to Section 2(a)(i)(D) of Executive Order 13894... Asma al-Assad has spearheaded efforts on behalf of the regime to consolidate economic and political power, including by using her so-called charities and civil society organizations."

But the real kicker in Pompeo's condemnation of Asma, of Syrian origin but English born and raised, is how he involves her family. Her father-in-law Fawaz is a renowned cardiologist at Cromwell Hospital in South Kensington who was educated in England and has lived there for decades. "In addition, we are sanctioning several members of Asma al-Assad's immediate family, including Fawaz Akhras, Sahar Otri Akhras, Firas al Akhras, and Eyad Akhras as per Section 2(a)(ii) of EO 13894. The Assad and Akhras families have accumulated their ill-gotten riches at the expense of the Syrian people through their control over an extensive, illicit network with links in Europe, the Gulf, and elsewhere."

Inevitably, no evidence is provided to support any of the allegations about Asma al-Assad and her English family. Asma's charities are for real in her war-torn country and she is highly respected and admired by those who know her and are not influenced by U.S. and Israeli propaganda.

In reality, the United States has been trying hard to overthrow the Syrian government since 2004 when the Syria Accountability Act was passed. Much of the heat in Congress behind the passage

of the act was generated by the Israel Lobby, which wanted to weaken the regime and reduce its ability to represent a viable military force possibly capable of regaining the occupied Golan Heights. Be that as it may, the United States has been hostile to the country's government and has frequently called for regime change. To bring that about, the U.S. [supported al-Qaeda linked terrorist groups](#) operating against Damascus, and American soldiers continue to occupy Syrian oil fields in the southeast portion of the country. The Syrians have also been subjected to waves of sanctions that have done grave damage to their economy. American and Israeli concerns have sometimes been linked to the presence of Damascus' allies Hezbollah and Iran, both of whom have military units based inside Syria, but the simple fact is that neither Iranians nor Lebanese in any way threaten the vastly superior American and Israeli forces present in the region.

One has to ask why, given the realpolitik playing out in the Middle East, Washington and Pompeo feel compelled to go after Asma al-Assad and her family, apparently to include absurdly blaming relatives living for many years outside of Syria for fueling the war. More sanctions, by all means. More grief and suffering and more people around the world wondering what exactly the United States is doing.

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**2021-01-08 Why did the Georgia GOP Team up with a Riot Instigator?
"WE'LL LIGHT THE WHOLE SH*T ON FIRE!"**

by Greg Palast in Atlanta

[Atlanta] The star of the GOP's get-out-the-vote door-knocking program in the Georgia Senate run-off, standing next to Alex Jones, was blasting his threat through a megaphone in front of the Governor's home. "We'll light the whole sh*t on fire!"

Ali Alexander's threat in December would become all too real when he repeated his performance on January 6 in Washington, DC.

In the US Capitol that day, looking over the scene of screams, teargas, and mayhem, Alexander said, "I warned you this would happen."

GOP Operative: "We'll light the whole sh*t on fire!"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3vCSIEUkuK4&feature=youtu.be>

Yes, he did. Nevertheless, the Georgia Republican Party's Metro Atlanta Field Director Kevin Mason was more than happy to team up with Alexander. With his huge reach within the Alt-Right, Alexander could bring in a swarm of volunteers for the door-knocking campaign they desperately needed to hold back the looming Democratic victory in the US Senate run-offs.

The far-right celebrity was the magnet to draw scores of young enthusiasts to a January 3 training session at the DoubleTree Hotel in Roswell, an Atlanta suburb. The Palast Investigative Fund's photojournalist, Zach D. Roberts, a specialist in white fringe violence who'd been tracking Alexander's pitch for mayhem across the nation, signed up.

Roberts, who joined up through Alexander's website, StopTheSteal.US, was quite surprised to receive instructions, not from the right-wing group, but from Daniel George of the National Republican Senate Committee.

Why would the GOP team up with Alexander, a leader of the Stop the Steal extremists, especially

after his well-broadcast warning of violence? The threat was not out of character. There are widely circulated films of **Alexander with Proud Boys founder Gavin McInnes**. And there is a video chat with Alexander yucking it up with a right-wing jokester holding up a giant flag with a Nazi Swastika flag.

Alexander in an online chat with a right-wing chum holding up a Swastika flag.



That is, if "Alexander" is his real name. He adopted it after his reported conviction for a felony crime under the name "Ali Akbar."

Alexander is a shapeshifter, sometimes the eye-swiveling crazy, sometimes the dapper guest for Alt-Right podcasts. We cannot link to his most incendiary outlets such as WildProtest.com because they've been taken down for inciting violence.

Yet, you can see him in this photo at a door-knocking training seminar run by the Georgia Republican Party surrounded by grinning young Georgia volunteers.

Alexander (circled) a training seminar run by the Georgia Republican Party.



Curious, I called both the Georgia Republican Party's Field Director, who worked with Alexander, as well as the National Republican Senate Committee to ask why they'd join forces with a known Neo-Fascist instigator of violence. So far, my calls have gone un-returned.

In Georgia, with Alex Jones and Nick Fuentes, a known white nationalist, Alexander hid nothing of his hopes for Washington on January 6. "Either they take Trump, prove that they won or they're not going to hand them back the country again. We'll light the whole sh*t on fire!"

Alexander in Georgia
with Alex Jones and Nick
Fuentes. Photo: Zach D.
Roberts, © 2020



Looking down on the Capitol, as the mayhem unfolded, he told his Twitter audience, "I don't disavow this," but later insisted, without evidence, that the Capitol violence was committed by slyly disguised Antifa rioters.

To fire up its base, the GOP is apparently willing to cavort with the violence-threatening fringe. The Grand Old Party dismissed Alexander's warnings. And they also forgot John Kennedy's warning that "Those who ride the tail of the tiger soon end up inside."

2020-12-14 Economic Update: Working Class Power

On this week's show, Prof. Wolff discusses

- Biden's 'new economic team,'
- big US banks falling short in key stress tests,
- India's 250-million-strong general strike, and lastly,
- huge chunk of US relief funds aimed at small and medium businesses grabbed instead by big business.

The second half of the show features an interview with **Flight Attendants Union President Sara Nelson**.

Sara Nelson is the International President of the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, AFL-CIO. She played a key role in helping to end the government shutdown in 2019, and she worked closely with Chairman Peter DeFazio to secure federal payroll grants to keep aviation workers employed and connected to healthcare during the coronavirus pandemic while banning stock buybacks and capping executive compensation. Sara became a union Flight Attendant at United Airlines in 1996, but the events of 9/11 and the economic pain that followed informed her calling to fight for worker safety, secure jobs with good wages and benefits. Sara has led major campaigns to ban knives on planes, increase Flight Attendant federal rest requirements, fight on-board sexual harassment and assault, create mandatory training for Flight Attendants to recognize and report human trafficking and much more.

Transcript has been edited for clarity.

Welcome, friends, to another edition of Economic Update, a weekly program devoted to the economic dimensions of our lives: jobs, incomes, debts — ours, our children's. I'm your host, Richard Wolff.

I want to begin today's program with a comment that many of you have asked me to make about the economic team that has now been announced by President-elect Biden. And I'm going to comment honestly, because that's the purpose of the program. This is best described as the same old, same old. Some of the people named are literally people held over from the Obama or previous administrations, such as Janet Yellen, the new designated secretary of the treasury. Others were in the Obama administration or come from the same circles, with the same perspectives. They seem to believe that a return to the pre-Trump normal is a reasonable objective for what they plan to do.

I don't see or hear of any dramatic plans for changing the inequality that afflicts this country, for changing the business cycle instability that afflicts this country — I don't see any of it. And I don't hear it. And these people have no history of doing anything like that or even speaking about it, in anything other than the usual liberal tones of concern.

So what am I saying? I'm saying to you that this is an economic team that probably will reconstruct what existed before Trump. And what is that? Neoliberal, government minimum intervention, globalization, telling the American people that helping corporations is the best way to help everybody else. You know; you're familiar with it. It's what happened under Clinton; it's what happened under Obama; it is the same old, same old.

But here's the problem: It was exactly neoliberal economics, laissez-faire, let the private sector govern, globalization — all those things led to the creation of the base and movement that brought Mr. Trump to power. And here's my honest opinion: If you do with this team what it looks like you're doing, you're recreating the conditions that produced Mr. Trump. Only you have a grave risk that the next Mr. Trump, or whoever replicates what he did, will be less crude, less gross, less offensive, and thereby all the more effective than Mr. Trump was able to be.

Could I be wrong? Of course. Is it possible that somehow after the 20th of January, once these people are in power, they will change and become willing and able to make the economic changes that the depth of our current crisis requires? It's possible, but I don't expect it. Why not? Because the comparison with the 1930s, when that happened, has a fundamental flaw. What existed in the 1930s that made the government step up after Franklin Roosevelt was elected — so that he would become much more progressive than he had ever

been before — was a movement from below: the greatest unionizing drive in the history of America, the CIO; very strong socialist parties, two of them; and a communist party — all working together, mobilizing millions of working-class Americans.

They made that happen. I don't see Mr. Biden's team of moderates (and I'm being polite) doing anything comparable — nor Mr. Biden, given his history — because there isn't yet that kind of pressure from below. If that were to emerge, if the Bernies and the Ocasio-Cortezes and the DSA, and the labor movement, etc., etc. — if they got together, if they mobilized, then who knows. But other than that, no. This team is a remarkable failure to come to grips with — to even admit — how serious the crisis and the divisions of this country are.

My next update has to do with an overlooked document. The National Bureau of Economic Research, one of the most respected economic think tanks in the country, issued a paper in November of 2020, authored by a well-respected bank specialist, Laurence Ball. B-A-L-L, for those of you who might look beyond. This paper looked at whether or not the biggest banks in America were adequately covered with capital, could handle a crisis. And he looked at the six largest US banks, in terms of the stress tests that they are subjected to and that have been reported.

If I had more time, I'd go through his paper, but I want to just present you with the conclusion. Based on his research covering the fourth quarter of 2019, the tests he thinks would have to be made now, under current conditions, to see if the banks could handle a crisis suggest — and I'm now quoting from the abstract of that paper — “It is unlikely that any of the six biggest banks in America would survive a liquidity crisis for 30 days. This negative finding is most clear-cut for Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley.” Those are the two biggest banks in the country. They couldn't survive for 30 days if we had a crisis of the dimensions we have now. That was a finding last month. When you are told that our government has its financial house in order, please keep this in mind.

My next update — I want to take my hat off to the people of India. And I want to tell you about what happened on November 26th in India, because the coverage in the mainstream media of the United States was somewhere between laughable and abominable. Two hundred and fifty million people went on a general strike. That's three quarters of the American population, 250 million. They mobilized 250 million farmers and workers together, many farmers organizations, many labor-union federations. The only union federation that didn't participate was the one allied to the Modi government, and that's not a surprise because the Modi government was the target of the general strike. Wow.

The government had been using, said the strikers, the covid catastrophe (which they have mismanaged; India is ravaged by covid) as an excuse to attack labor protection, labor regulations, and labor rights. So they made a demonstration against all of this, protesting the Indian economic catastrophe, the Indian COVID-19 catastrophe, and a government not responding to those catastrophes but in fact attacking. And of course they were furious at the effort of the Modi government to deflect, upset, by having war with China on the border, and particularly demonizing — yeah, you guessed it — Muslims. Again. A convenient scapegoat.

What did the protesters want? Here's the interesting thing I want to read to you — some of the demands of this general strike, which was stunningly successful: a direct cash transfer of 7,500 rupees to every family below the poverty-income cutoff; 10 kilograms free food ration per person every month to all in need [wow]; expansion of the Rural Employment Guarantee Act, to provide jobs from the current 100 days to 200 days, in both rural and urban areas; withdrawal of all anti-worker labor-code changes, and likewise anti-farmer laws; stop privatization of public-sector corporations; withdraw the draconian forced premature retirement of government and public-service employees; and provide a pension to all, restoring earlier pension cuts.

Wow. Across-the-board transformation, focused on the mass of the Indian people. I bring it to your attention, basically to ask one question with you: Why has nothing like that been done here? Why is our labor movement — AFL, CIO, and others — not demanding jobs for the unemployed, ending of anti-labor and anti-farmer regulations, ending use of the covid disaster as a cover for doing damage to existing labor laws? We have more unemployment than any other advanced country in the world, as our way of, quote, “dealing with the crisis,” and yet our labor movement does not stand up and say — and it would get the support of

the American people — we don't want millions of our fellow workers to be unemployed. That's not an acceptable way to handle a health crisis and a capitalist crash. Who would oppose a protest march making that point? Where is the comparable energy, imagination, and focus? Look what the people of India have been able to achieve.

My last update I call "how capitalism handles a crisis of capitalism." The New York Times on the 2nd of December carried the reports of a study made by the Small Business Administration in Washington, the administration that focuses government support for small businesses. And what the SBA, Small Business Administration, did was to study the more than 5.2 million companies that received loans from the Paycheck Protection Program. This is the first full accounting of who got that money. And by the way, a hefty chunk, \$523 billion, was distributed already by the Paycheck Protection Program.

Here's what the SBA found: More than 25 percent of that \$523 billion — that is, more than a quarter of the money — went to one percent of the borrowers. That's right, big business screwed medium and small business out of the help designed for medium and small businesses. That's how capitalism usually works. And what I want you to understand is it extends to when the government is trying to help a society beset by an economic crash and a public health failure of gargantuan proportions. It never stops — the unfairness, the inequality, and the injustice. Capitalism is the sickness that needs a cure.

We've come to the end of the first part of today's show. Before we proceed, our new book, *The Sickness Is the System: When Capitalism Fails to Save Us from Pandemics or Itself*, is now out and available at democracyatwork.info/books. I want to thank our Patreon community for their invaluable support. And if you haven't already, go to patreon.com/economicupdate. Please sign up, and you will get access to exclusive content and more. Please stay with us; we'll be right back with our special guest, Sara Nelson.

WOLFF: Welcome back, friends, to the second half of today's Economic Update. I am proud and pleased to welcome to our microphones and our camera Sara Nelson, the International President of the Association of Flight Attendants CWA and AFL-CIO. Sara Nelson is that president, as I've said, and she played a key role in helping to end the government shutdown in 2019, and to secure federal payroll grants to keep aviation workers employed and connected to health care during the coronavirus pandemic, while also making sure that they did not engage in stock buybacks and also in capping executive compensation. She began this phase of her life as a union flight attendant at United Airlines in 1996. Sara, welcome very much to Economic Update.

NELSON: Thank you. I'm happy to be here.

WOLFF: All right, let's jump right in. Your name, for better or worse, has been associated with the notion of using the labor strategy of a general strike, something that we a couple of weeks ago saw used in India when they were able to mobilize 250 million people in a general strike to confront the Modi government there — the Modi government having been characterized often in India as "Trump Light." But, in any case, I want to know what you think about the use of that particular weapon of the labor movement, both in the past and whether you can imagine uses for it with the new administration.

NELSON: Well, look, let's be really clear. In this country, and around the world, we have shied away from saying the word "strike." And if we could just get back to a place of actually saying the word "strike," embracing that, embracing the fact that this is labor's power, this is working people's power, to change our workplaces, to change the political dynamic. It all comes down to defining the problem, defining the urgency around fixing it (so that's making clear our demands), and then defining what we're willing to do to fix it.

So we've got to be able to talk about a general strike at any time, but frankly, we've got to be able to talk about a strike, in the workplace. You have to have people thinking about labor's power. Too often, we outsource our power to relationships, to thinking of unions as HR solutions, as opposed to who unions really are, and that's the working people who make up the union. Where does our power come from? If you're not talking about the strike, if you're not talking about the willingness to withhold your labor when things are not going right for working people, then we're not really accomplishing what we need to for working people. So I

think it's bigger than just a general strike; people have not been using the word "strike" at all. People have not been talking about labor's power.

And, you know, in recent years we have seen real solutions take place when working people rise up together. Take the West Virginia teachers strike, for example. All 55 counties striking together. And when the teachers were deciding whether or not to strike, the bus drivers said to them, well, you guys decide what you want to, those buses will not be driving to the schools. That's the idea of solidarity. And what happened in that strike was, not only did the teachers have better contracts for themselves, but they raised the standards for all public employees.

So this is about getting results. And we can get results as working people very, very quickly if we understand where our power comes from. So we've got to be able to talk about the strike as the means to get to a resolution in collective bargaining and to wrap our arms around the idea that collective bargaining is really the way to get the best solutions, because you bring every voice to the table, and you don't allow capital to just run away with all the ideas, all the cash, all the control.

WOLFF: All right, wonderful. Thank you for the clarity of what you've just said. Let me jump to the other side of this same basic coin. The labor movement — I think it's fair to say, and please correct me if you disagree — but the labor movement has been remarkably quiet over the last four years of Mr. Trump's administration, and particularly over the last nine months of this combination of public health catastrophe and a crash of our economic system happening together and worsening one another. Why is that? Why has the labor movement been — if you agree with that assessment — why has it been relatively quiet?

NELSON: So, I don't agree with it in aviation. And in aviation we're 80 percent unionized. And we are at the table in everything, in every aspect of safety and health in aviation. We don't always get exactly what we want, but we're integrated into that, both in terms of how we're working with our airlines — we have contracts that require the airlines to have to work with us on these things — and also in terms of federal regulation. We're at the table. We're at the table because we have that kind of political power. And we have made real changes. We got relaxed sick-leave policies; we got covered pay for quarantine; we got certain rules, like people having to wear masks in our workplaces, and enforcement around that even when the government wasn't acting. We've been able to also step up and call out the government on not taking action here and speak up.

The main thing that we did, though, was when coronavirus came crashing down and you have public health colliding with the economic catastrophe that came with it, we said, we are not going to approach this moment in time as though labor has a list of priorities on the side that we're hoping can be included in any sort of relief bill. No, no, no. If there's going to be relief for the airline industry —

We know what it's like. We know what crisis looks like when capital takes control. We've been through the bankruptcies. We know what it's like when they turn the tables and they use this opportunity to squeeze us like we've never been squeezed before. We lost our pensions; we lost 30 to 40 percent of our pay. They gained a lot of our productivity, so that in order to run the airlines, just like any other industry today, if they don't have those overtime hours, they can't make it work. So workers are working more to make more, rather than getting a fair pay for a full-time job.

And so when coronavirus hit, immediately what happened was, aviation workers, and many other workers, took a hit right away because our hours were dropped. We no longer had access to those overtime hours, and so we took a hit in pay right away. But we said, if we're going to have relief here for the airline industry, it has to be focused on the workers.

And so we went to Congress with a plan. Luckily, we have a chairman of the Transportation Infrastructure Committee (which was the committee of jurisdiction over relief for the airline industry), Peter Defazio. And he said to the airlines, I'm not going to talk to you until you talk to labor. And so we had negotiations outside of the legislative process. And we said to the airlines, the public doesn't like you. You've squeezed us, you've

squeezed them, and you have no good will. And so you're going to have to come to our plan if there's going to be any relief.

And we got them to agree that the relief from the government would go in the form of a payroll support. It could only be spent on workers' pay and benefits. And, in addition, they were going to have to agree to cap their pay for two years, even after the relief expires, and ban stock buybacks and dividends for a year after the relief expires, so it couldn't be funneled in that way. And then they would have to agree to no cuts in hourly rates, continued jobs for everyone, keeping us connected to our health care, and continued service to all of our communities so there's a jobs and infrastructure plan.

And that was the trunk of the relief. We built that relief from the ground up, for the workers. It was the first ever in United States history that was actually a workers-first relief plan, not a corporate bailout. And so we had that power to be able to do that.

In terms of your question — back to your full question, though, about the Trump administration — don't forget that when, in the first few days, with the Muslim ban, that was in our workplace. And we pushed back on that. We were a part of pushing back at the same time those court cases were happening. When the family separations happened, it was flight attendants who stood up and said, we're not going to work those flights. And within 48 hours we had them backing off of that. When coronavirus happened and they wanted to put people on our commercial jets who were coming from the cruise lines where there had been infections of coronavirus, we said we weren't going to work those flights either. And we got a change in CDC policy within 36 hours, and we kept them off our flights.

So where you have workers organized in their workplace, who can push back, and actually push back on capital — and let me give you one more example: LGBTQ rights. We negotiated some of those rights in our contracts before they were in any city ordinance, before they were in any state law, before there was any decision from the Supreme Court. And what we did was, we negotiated the United Airlines contract domestic-partner benefits. And then we testified in San Francisco, and we got the first city ordinance for domestic-partner benefits. And guess who we brought with us: We brought United Airlines to the table on that, arguing that other businesses should have to comply with this too because now all of a sudden they didn't want to have to compete on an uneven scale.

So when workers organize in their workplace, have clear demands, and get those contract improvements, that's about improving public policy. And social issues are tied up directly with economic issues. That's a prime example. There are examples all through the Trump presidency where aviation workers pushed back, where aviation workers made things better, where aviation workers took a stand on what looked like social issues for everyone but were in our workplace and we had a way to push back.

It was aviation workers who ended the government shutdown, because we defined what was at stake for us, and for the whole public, and what we were willing to do about it. And think about that — a few flights started to stop in LaGuardia, and all of a sudden Capitol Hill had a deal, after 35 days of not having one, and the day before voting against the solution that they voted for that day to approve, when a few flights just started to stop. Because we had explained that we were willing to stop the whole system. They didn't want us to get a taste of our power as workers, and that's why that deal came together faster than anything you've seen before. Because if that had gone on much longer, and the public had had an opportunity to really take in and understand the power that working people have in putting our hands in our pockets, the whole thing would have been over. And they know that.

So I want to push back a little bit on labor being quiet here. Where we have made advances, it has been when labor has stood up. And we've got to do a lot more of that. And it shows the potential of what the labor movement could be. And it shows the potential of what we can do now on a different playing field, because let's face it: Biden's rhetoric around labor unions is some of the best that we've heard in 100 years. But if we're not organized, and working to make the most out of it, we're not going to get anything out of this. No politician is going to do this for us. We have to be organized, clear about our demands, and work in solidarity to get it done.

WOLFF: All right, let me push back at you a tiny bit. Do you see this kind of attitude that you've just articulated very clearly; is this spreading in the labor movement? Are other unions picking up this attitude, this view? Do you see that happening in the near future?

NELSON: Look, I think that what I'm seeing is that this next generation understands very clearly that collective action is the only way that we're going to improve things. So we have two things going for us: We have a generation of workers who are starting to understand the value of being organized, the value of standing with the people next to them. And we have, coming out of coronavirus, a shared experience that we can organize around. If we simply think that we're going to have the labor movement as it exists today change the political narrative here, it's not going to happen. It is going to require organizing in mass numbers. It is going to require spreading this good message that there's actually power to be had in the labor movement, not just thinking of ourselves as a part of the political process, but actually understanding our power in the workplace, where we can come together and be the only place where we are not a self-selecting organization, but people from all different backgrounds, where we can come together, build consensus, and have real power.

WOLFF: Sara Nelson, thank you very, very much for sharing your time and your perspective. And as someone who has admired your activities already, this is very wonderful to hear and gives me a sense that we're ending a difficult year, maybe looking up. And so I commend you for what you've done. Thanks to Sara, thanks to you, and I look forward to speaking with you again next week.

Transcript by Marilou Baughman

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