

NEXT CULTURE NEWS



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This newspaper is a bridge between patriarchy and the new culture which is being created around the world. Welcome to Archiarchy, where archetypal women and archetypal men (Archans) work together and things get better.

Governors Warn of 'Martial Law' and Trump 'Invasion' as U.S. Judge Halts Troop Order – for Now

By Jon Queally

Common Dreams: October 6, 2025

A federal judge in Oregon issued a new and broader order on Sunday night to halt President Donald Trump from deploying any National Guard troops – regardless of their state of origin – to Oregon, Illinois, or elsewhere, as Democratic governors resisting the president warned of a frightening escalation in his authoritarian tendencies.

U.S. District Judge Karin J. Immergut, who on Saturday ruled that Trump could not lawfully federalize National Guard troops from California for deployment to Portland, Oregon, issued a second order after the president mobilized 400 National Guard troops out of Texas, with the blessing of Republican Gov. Greg Abbott, to deploy instead.

White House Responds With 'Authoritarian Propaganda' as Judge Blocks National Guard in Portland.

"It seems to me that based on the conduct of the defendants and the now seeking National Guard from Texas to go to Oregon again, I see those as direct contravention of the order [...] issued yesterday," said Immergut, nominated to the federal bench by Trump during his first term.

Oregon Attorney General Dan Rayfield, who brought the



Four local groups organized protest in Portland Saturday; the crowd walked three blocks from Cautheys Park to ICE facility. Photo: Barr/Oregonian

challenge with the request for a temporary restraining order (TRO), explained the ruling and the events leading up to it in a Sunday night video statement at <https://x.com/AGDanRayfield/status/1975054283050746061>.

California's Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom, whose administration had challenged the order to send the California soldiers, applauded the ruling after calling Trump's effort to send the Texas troops "a breathtaking abuse of the law and power by the President of the United States."

"America is on the brink of mar-

tial law," said Newsom. "Do not be silent."

According to the Associated Press: *Approximately 100 California National Guard troops landed in Portland after midnight Sunday and around 100 more arrived by early evening, Alan Gronewold, commander of Oregon's National Guard, said in a court filing before the emergency hearing late Sunday.*

The state of Oregon also included in its filing a memo written by Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth that ordered up to 400 Texas National Guard personnel activated for de-

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Letter from the Editor

Dearhearts,
September 24, 2025: 2:50 am

Turning 80 was frightening for me. I hated turning 30 and hid all my birthday cards, coasted merrily through 40, 50, 60, and 70, but something weird is happening as I face 80.

I have zipped through life, loving it and learning from its lessons along the way, working as hard as I could on my newspapers and treading my own path away from patriarchy; yet, I'm dreading this birthday; 80 seems SO OLD!

I was tired after a year of turmoil and change and I just wanted the summer "off." So, I started withdrawing from extraneous activities with lofty goals to nourish my body and soul, with less emphasis on my mind, as if I could separate these parts of myself.

That didn't last too long; my mind and heart took over and I returned to my newspaper by creating *Next Culture News* and loving it. That was fun and easy, but I was not



doing all the health-promoting, self-care work I thought I was going to do. I started with gusto but the gusto petered out gradually and I basically trashed those plans and did the opposite. All I wanted to do was sleep and sit around reading books.

Well, if you noticed the early hour at which I'm typing this, you can see that isn't working. Last night I finished reading 940 pages of *Anna Karenina* by Leo Tolstoy and came away amazed that a man, yes a man, could write so beautifully about not only male but female feelings and emotions 150 years ago and here I was just discovering

Archiarchy and becoming familiar with my own feelings and emotions. Hello, Iona!

Next I will read Elizabeth Gilbert's (*Eat, Pray, Love* author) *All the Way to the River: Love, Loss, and Liberation about codependence and addictions*. There are eight days until my birthday. The only plan for that day is my tap dancing class Thursday night at 8:45, one party will be Friday, and the full-family party will be on Sunday.

Don't get me wrong, I LOVE birthdays and am really looking forward to celebrating. After the festivities, I will keep working on the things I had hoped to work on during the summer.

It's been a very interesting time and now I'll continue figuring out how to live merrily to 90, 100 or maybe even 102, my original goal. I feel glee because I have no doctor's appointments for the next seven weeks!

Signing off with a smile and love,

Iona

Please Support My Work

Dear Friends,

If you'd like to receive future issues of my newspaper, please email me at grassroots-coalition@pa.net. Also, email me if you have stories and photos you'd like me to consider publishing. I publish a Messages page, so if you want to share your thoughts, please do so.

I'd like this to be a team effort, but we need time to develop this project and figure

out ways to work together.

This is a labor of love but I always appreciate donations, which you can send to: Iona Conner, 157 Chambersbridge Road 4A, Brick, NJ 08723. If you use Zelle or PayPal, money goes directly to my bank account via dosomething@pa.net. Cash is OK, too. Thank you!

For the Earth,

Iona



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<https://copyright.gov/fair-use/more-info.html>



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(1) Purpose and character of the use, including whether the use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes. . . .



ployment to Oregon, Illinois and possibly elsewhere.

Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker, also a Democrat, issued a stark warning about the president's effort to send soldiers to Chicago, where ramped-up immigration enforcement raids have roiled the city and terrorized community members.

"We must now start calling this what it is: Trump's Invasion," said Pritzker. "It started with federal agents, it will soon include deploying federalized members of the Illinois National Guard against our wishes, and it will now involve sending in another state's military troops."

Pritzker called on Abbott to withdraw his support for Trump's deployment, saying, "There is no reason a President should send military troops into a sovereign state without their knowledge, consent, or cooperation."

As of this writing, the Trump administration had not responded to Immergut's latest ruling, but an appeal to a higher court is nearly certain.

Rep. Maxine Dexter (D-Ore.) said while the latest TRO was a vital development, sustained and peaceful protest against Trump's march toward a militarized dictatorship remains essential.

"We cannot rest," said Dexter. "The president is abusing his power, attempting to militarize our cities. The power of the people must remain greater than the people in power. We need to show up in peaceful protest across this nation. Stay Loud!"

In a Saturday statement, in response to Immergut's initial TRO blocking the deployment of the troops from California, Hina Shamsi of the ACLU said it was vital for the court to block Trump's dangerous move.

"As the founders of this country made abundantly clear, turning troops on civilians is an intolerable threat to our liberties," said Shamsi.

"When President Trump is trying his best to imperil our First Amendment rights and scare those protesting his cruel policies into silence," she said, "it's encouraging to see this court ruling based on adherence to law and facts, not the President's fantasies of beautiful, vibrant American cities as hellscapes."

In a similar joint statement, the Not Above the Law coalition warned that Trump's effort to deploy Illinois National Guard troops despite Pritzker's objection "isn't about public safety, it's about testing how far a president can override elected state leaders

and deploy forces against American communities."

"The pattern is clear and dangerous. Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., Portland, and now Illinois – each time against the will of local officials," said the coalition's co-chairs in their statement. "Our armed forces exist to defend the nation and protect our freedoms – not to patrol our own streets. And our nation's brave service

members should not be used as the political pawns of a would-be authoritarian."

The coalition leaders said that lawmakers in Congress, who are nowhere to be seen this weekend due to Republicans in the House holding the chamber in recess, "must act now to prevent any president from weaponizing our National Guard this way. Whether you're a red or a blue state, every American should be alarmed when federal troops are deployed over the objections of local authorities. Americans in every community must speak out now. Stopping this abuse of power is essential to protecting our freedoms and our democracy."

Source: <https://www.common-dreams.org/news/martial-law-trump>

Blanche Says 'Organized' Protesters Could Be Investigated

By Josh Gerstein
[Emphasis added]
Politico: September 16, 2025

Submitted by Allen Hengst
Washington, D.C.

The Justice Department's No. 2 official said Tuesday that people noisily protesting President Donald Trump could face investigation if they're part of broader networks organizing such activities. *"Is it ... sheer **happenstance** that individuals show up at a restaurant where the president is trying to enjoy dinner in Washington, D.C., and accost him with vile words and vile anger?"* Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche said Tuesday on CNN. *"Does it mean it's just completely random that they showed up? Maybe, maybe, but to the extent that it's part of an organized effort to inflict harm and **terror** and damage to the United States, there's potential, potential investigations there."*

As Trump prepared to sit down to dinner during a rare visit to a Washington restaurant last week, several protesters inside the business shouted, *"Free DC! Free Palestine! Trump is the Hitler of our time!"* They were quickly escorted out.

Asked Monday about the protest, Trump suggested Attorney General Pam Bondi should prosecute the participants, who he claimed were paid agitators. *"I've asked Pam to look into that in terms of bringing RICO cases against them – criminal RICO,"* the president said, referring to the Racketeer Influenced & Corrupt Organizations Act.



During the CNN interview Tuesday, Blanche defended the president's comments. He said they did not apply to *"peaceful"* demonstrators and were focused on people or organizations that fund the protests ... *"What the administration is talking about is organized efforts by individuals who are not present at the protest, but they're funding these protests, and they're not protests. They're inflicting damage and harm and actually assaulting officers ... That's the conduct that we're trying to stop,"* the deputy attorney general said.

Blanche spoke as the Justice Department sought to **walk back** Bondi's comments Monday about *"hate speech"*—statements that landed her in hot water with prominent conservative commentators and others. Bondi said on a podcast Monday that, in the wake of conservative activist Charlie Kirk's killing, the department would

pursue people and businesses engaged in *"hate speech."* She later sought to clarify her statement to cover only speech promoting violence ... In explaining the administration's stance, Blanche took a highly unusual tack for a Justice Department official by wading into politics. *"We're not the Democratic Party. That's not what we target,"* Blanche said, referring to speech protected by the First Amendment. Blanche went on to say the GOP is staunchly in favor of free speech. *"The Republican Party and this administration believes in that more than most having been subjected to what we've been subjected to for the last several years,"* he said.

Source: <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/09/16/todd-blanche-pam-bondi-prosecutions-00567898>

Photos pages 3 & 4: Oregon-Live.com

DOJ Deletes Study: 'Far More' Domestic Terrorism Waged by 'Far-Right Extremists'

By Sarah Rumpf [emphasis added]
MEDIAite: September 16, 2025

Submitted by Allen Hengst
Washington, D.C.

Within the past few days, the Department of Justice deleted one of its **own** studies from its website showing that *"far-right extremists have committed far more ideologically motivated homicides than far-left or radical Islamist extremists."*

The timing comes just a few days after Charlie Kirk, the 31-year-old founder of Turning Point USA, was fatally shot while speaking at an event at Utah Valley University on September 10. Tyler Robinson, 22, has been arrested and charged with aggravated murder, felony discharge of a firearm causing serious bodily injury, two counts of obstruction of justice, two counts of witness tampering, and commission of a violent offense in the presence of a child. The state is seeking the **death penalty**.

Kirk was a staunch supporter of President Donald Trump, encouraging the young voters in his organization to vote for Trump during his presidential campaigns and speaking at the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee last year. In the wake of Kirk's death, Trump and other Republicans have **broadly** blamed the *"radical left"* for the shooting.

The deletion of the study from the DOJ website was flagged by Daniel Malmer, a PhD student at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill who is studying *"online extremism, radicalization, and conspiracy beliefs."* The report, "What National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Research Tells Us About Domestic Terrorism," was a project of the, an agency



under DOJ, and based on internet archives, was still available on the DOJ website on September 12 but was **gone** by September 13. The quote about far-right extremists committing *"far more"* deadly acts of domestic terrorism comes from the very first paragraph of the report.

From the text of an archived version of the report:

Militant, nationalistic, white supremacist violent extremism has increased in the United States. In fact, the number of far-right attacks continues to outpace all other types of terrorism and domestic violent extremism. Since 1990, far-right extremists have committed far more ideologically motivated homicides than far-left or radical Islamist extremists, including 227 events that took more than 520 lives. In this same period, far-left extremists committed 42 ideologically motivated attacks that took 78 lives. A recent threat assessment by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security concluded that domestic violent extremists are an acute threat and highlighted a probability that COVID-19 pandemic-related stressors, long-standing

ideological grievances related to immigration, and narratives [fantasies] surrounding electoral fraud will continue to serve as a justification for violent actions.

The DOJ website where this report was previously hosted displayed a message saying the agency was reviewing online content. According to a report by 404 Media, the message originally read, *"The Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs is currently reviewing its websites and materials in accordance with recent Executive Orders and related guidance. During this review, some pages and publications will be unavailable. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause."*

That message has now been updated again to a single sentence: *"The requested page could not be found."*

Source: <https://www.mediaite.com/media/news/doj-deletes-its-own-study-from-website-showing-far-more-domestic-terrorism-committed-by-far-right-extremists/>

Photo from video posted by: Ken Klippenstein (NSPM-7 Compliant) @kenklippenstein



A woman in Nigeria prepares food. Image by KC Nwakalor / USAID via Flickr (CC BY 2.0).

As Climate Change Burdens Grow, Community Mental Health Alarm Bells Ring

By Petro Kotzé
Mongabay: August 14, 2025

Submitted by Bill Boteler
Maryland, USA

- People worldwide are struggling emotionally with the relentless escalation of the climate crisis, and reports show that climate change-related threats to mental health and well-being are increasing. But this story goes beyond statistics to look at the impacts on communities, families, and individuals in the developing world.

- Stories presented here tell of anxiety, depression, anger, and sadness in the face of large-scale changes to communities and personal lives, mostly due to factors out of people's hands, which leave them feeling powerless. The problem is especially acute in poorer vulnerable communities lacking sufficient mental health services.

- The current global capacity to deal with a climate change-induced mental health emergency is inadequate, say experts who are call-

ing for the prioritization of mental health support as an integral part of climate change interventions and mitigation.

- Some local stories offer hope. Examples show how caring, engaged communities and individuals, plus government support, can help create resilience and hope. Coping strategies include culturally-sensitive interventions, mentorship, ongoing mental health assistance, and honest recognition of humanity's climate change plight.

"We are not causing climate change, yet we are the ones heavily affected," says 26-year-old Solomon Islands health worker Matthew Bibao Paikea, as he expresses ongoing frustration over failing crops, rising disease, and an island home slowly succumbing to the sea. "I can't do anything to change this," he notes, with resignation and recognition of the crisis.

In communities worldwide, people like Paikea are grappling with far more than the physical and economic impacts of climate

change. Intensifying climate stressors are also eroding mental health and psychosocial well-being.

According to the 2023 U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Sixth Assessment Report, threats to mental health and well-being are on the upswing as the world warms, while support to deal with these invisible mental and emotional impacts is lagging.

While most research so far has focused on the mental health impacts of acute disasters – think: floods, wildfires, and hurricanes – fewer studies have examined the long-term grinding day-to-day impacts of the slow-moving climate crisis, as ever rising sea levels, extreme heat, extended drought, severe storms, and drastic climate variability negatively impact economies, food security, freshwater availability, health care and sanitation, emergency response, and quality of life.

Mental health risks are especially intense in the world's most vulner-

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Climate change has begun impacting key industries in the Himalayan nation of Bhutan, including agriculture and tourism, while also threatening hydropower. Seen here is the Khamsum Yulley Namgyal Chorten in Punakha Valley, Bhutan, a popular stop on tourist itineraries. Photo: Petro Kotze.

able under-served communities, as at-risk groups and individuals (especially the poor, disabled, very young and very old, and those already suffering mental illness) are battered by the wearing toll.

South Africa: The Weight of Waiting for Rain

Examples of this emotional toll can be found in every nation on Earth in every season. But numerous, too, are hopeful, compassionate responses.

One example comes from a vast arid area in the Northern Cape of South Africa, where farmers grapple with what a liveable future could look like in a climate change-altered world, with some questioning whether they'll survive long enough to make it there.

When I visited the Northern Cape

in 2020, another rainy season had come and gone without a drop, and the town of Kenhardt was in trouble. It was long recognized as the heart of a Dorper sheep farming region, with the animals thriving on local grasses, providing meat and livelihoods despite hot, dry annual conditions.

But after eight years of relentless drought, many sheep were dead or dying.

Farmer Willem Symington, head of disaster management for Agri SA, an agricultural industry organization, told me in a 2020 interview that red meat production in the province had plummeted 50%. Farmers were devastated and communities unraveling. I was there to see a convoy of donated goods arrive, including water, basic

toiletries, and feed for the remaining sheep.

The night of our arrival, grateful local farmers plied volunteers with mutton chops around a braai (barbecue) fire. But hidden beneath that affability was a growing sense of desperation. "Many spent everything they had to feed their animals," remembers Kobus van Tonder, a Dutch Reformed Church minister in Vanzylsrus municipality.

Estie Botha, a social worker for Caritas Community Focus, an NGO, recalls how farmworkers in the deepening emergency were the first to call a drought helpline in distress over their futures on the farms. But soon, it was the farmers' wives, their children at faraway boarding schools, and extended

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family members phoning for support.

“We saw farmers fall into total depression,” van Tonder says. Everybody suffered, but the elderly, unable to relocate or change livelihoods, seemed to suffer most. They spent their pensions to keep sheep alive. When offered aid, some only asked for dog food. “Only the sheep dogs were left to help run a formidably demanding farm,” he remembers.

When I call Symington this year, he tells me the rains returned briefly in 2021, then vanished. In the town of Williston, in the Northern Cape, annual livestock production has dropped from 100,000 animals to under 15,000. The local economy, once built around 100 farms, now limps along with just 40. As farms fail, so do shops, hairdressers, mechanics. “The whole network of income disappears,” Symington says.

“This time, people’s resilience is gone,” he observes, with anxiety and depression common symptoms of the extended drought that has crippled farm communities.

Sensitivity to Climate Change and Culture

Whether Northern Cape’s drought is directly linked to climate change is still being debated. But a key feature of South Africa’s projected climate change is rising temperatures, placing a strain on agriculture and water security. Van Tonder references a 2020 study that points to an increase in suicides for each degree rise in temperature.

To best help community members, he has learned to broach the topic of mental health in a culturally sensitive and roundabout way: You don’t ask people right out how they’re feeling but instead ask about the condition of the veld and



A sheep carcass on a livestock farm in Kenhardt, South Africa, in 2020, eight years into an extended drought that ravaged community economies and the mental health of residents. Photo: Petro Kotze.

livestock. Once he understood how to reach out with sensitivity and compassion, he says, “[T]he floodgates opened.”

Experts stress the importance of understanding local cultures when addressing the stress of climate change. Prednison Morales, the mental health and psychosocial support coordinator for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the Asia Pacific region, explains that the strength of their mental health approach lies in its foundation in the local cultures of the countries in which it operates.

“Our network of volunteers on the ground knows the culture and how to deliver the message in a way that the people can understand,” Morales says.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the most effective community-based programs recognize people impacted by emergencies, not as passive recipients of external aid or support, but as active participants

and leaders in their own efforts to improve individual and collective mental health and well-being.

Stories of adaptation in Northern Cape communities offer glimmers of hope. Botha and van Tonder get excited when they mention a farmer’s wife who launched a soap business and others who have shifted to growing saffron, raising quail, or ecotourism.

“Those stories bring hope,” Botha says.

But for communities to fully benefit, they need more trained mentors to help empower individuals to create alternative futures for themselves, van Tonder says. Botha emphasizes the value of interactive support. Isolation can be deadly, she says. “The hardest-hit farmers were the ones cut off from their communities.” Government support is also integral.

But Symington admits to not knowing what the worsening climate change future holds. “That,” he says, “is the million-dollar question.”

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Nigeria: The Gendered Toll

As drought wears down South African communities, climate extremes in Nigeria illustrate the outsized mental and emotional consequences on women and children. Climate change projections for Nigeria include rising temperatures, increased rainfall, and floods.

Psychologist Aisha Bubah, founder of Idimma, an NGO offering mental health services in Nigeria, says the climate crisis has intensified family stress, with a growing number of women and children seeking help from the NGO. “Every single day we provide trauma care and psychosocial support to more and more women and girls after sexual and gender-based violence,” she says. “And still, we can’t reach everyone.”

In 2022, the country experienced its worst flooding in more than a decade, displacing 2 million people. The floods were caused by heavier rainfall attributed to climate change, along with the need to release excess water from the Lagdo Dam.



A farmer shows a photo of how his farmland looked before the onset of drought in the Northern Cape province of South Africa. As climate change rapidly alters and degrades Earth landscapes, people can be overwhelmed by a sense of loss and powerlessness. Photo: Petro Kotze.

Many storm survivors now live in displacement camps, where Idimma offers “psychological first aid” to those who lost homes or loved ones.

Like so many victims of climate change, these Nigerian families

were already vulnerable. Bubah lays out a complex story, explaining how the drying of Lake Chad fueled the Boko Haram insurgency. Then, as arable land and water supplies shrank, hunger and poverty rose. The government failed to stem the crisis, as violence and forced displacement followed, with the homeless even more vulnerable to violent weather.

Bubah calls it “a vicious cycle” in which families and communities unravel. Men go elsewhere to find work, while women take menial jobs, often leaving children unprotected. Gender-based violence (GBV), substance abuse and suicide risk are common, she says.

The mental health toll of climate change on women has been well documented. Depression, anxiety, and obstetric complications increase after weather disasters. As family resources are allocated elsewhere, women are more likely to die or face reduced life expectancy. Rising climate stress correlates with increased child mar-

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A community member helps to offload donated water in the small town of Kenhardt, South Africa, in 2020. While charity can greatly benefit people during extreme weather events, long-term government support is needed to weather the long-term physical and mental stressors of ongoing global warming. Photo: Petro Kotze.

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A group of mothers winnowing grain in Zaria, Nigeria. A single crop failure can bring misery to a rural economy, but climate change can bring year-after-year of failed crops leading to community-wide anxiety and despair. Photo: Wisdom Ezechi / Global Landscapes Forum via Flickr (CC BY-NC-SA 2.0).

riages, adolescent pregnancies, barriers to clean water and fuel, and more unpaid care work.

Women in both the Global North and South are impacted. In Canada, for example, police reports showed a 46% surge in GBV cases following the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens, (while not a climate event, the eruption blanketed communities with rains of toxic ash). During the record North American ice storm of January 1998, a quarter of all emergency calls received by police in Montreal, Canada were related to gender-based violence.

Unfortunately, mental health support remains underfunded worldwide and out of reach for many. Nigeria's psychiatrist-to-population ratio is alarmingly low, with just one psychiatrist per 700,000 people. Idimma now trains lay counsellors

to fill the gap, but it's not enough.

Hope, Bubah says, lies in re-thinking funding, systems, and responses. "Mental health," she argues, "must be designed into climate response from day one, not [addressed] as an afterthought."

Solomon Islands: Sinking Hopes

The effects of failed global climate action are apparent to public health workers in the Solomon Islands, where the archipelago's frustrated youth watch their homes and futures vanish slowly beneath an ever-rising Pacific Ocean.

For Paikea, a youth volunteer with the Solomon Islands Red Cross Society, global warming isn't an abstraction. "Climate change is not coming for us," he says. "It is here, and it will stay."

The Solomons are being slammed by worsening tropical cyclones, erratic rainfall, and sea-level rise, bringing mental anguish. Add to this the resentment felt by youth toward the world's wealthiest nations and their refusal to curb fossil fuel burning. "In the Western world, you call us third world, right?" he says. "But it's not us who are causing this."

Paikea grew up with his grandparents on Bellona (Mungiki) island in the Solomons. As a child, the family harvested bountiful cassava – enough for 20-25 bicycle-loads. Now, he harvests barely three or four bikes-full. Fish catch has declined too. Expensive processed foods have become a fallback, leading to an outbreak of Western diseases like diabetes in Solo-

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Climate change is impacting the Solomon Islands, leaving young people there feeling angry and frustrated at the lack of action to address their plight. Here, Solomon Islands Red Cross staff and volunteers assess people's needs at Mile Six Camp, near Gizo town on Ghizo Island after the April 2007 tsunami. While aid and donations generally flood in after major disasters, long-term mental health services can be lacking for the day-to-day challenges posed by deepening climate change. Photo: Courtesy of IFRC/Rosemarie North.

mon Island communities. Paikea's grandmother is among those affected. "I know how hard-working she is," he says. "It's really frustrating to see these changes."

This frustration is widespread, says Eliza Yee Lai Cheung, a clinical psychologist with the Hong Kong Red Cross. She has seen firsthand the anxiety, disappointment, vexation, and anger, especially among youth affected by climate change. "We encourage people to speak and seek help, to have a positive support system, someone they trust and talk to about things happening to them," she says.

When asked what helps most in

easing debilitating symptoms, she points to positive collective climate action – even on a small local scale. Real-world action empowers people, reduces climate anxiety and psychological distress, she explains.

Bhutan: Meeting an Uncertain Future with Resilience

In the mountainous Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan, social cohesion has served as a powerful buffer against climate change-induced mental stress.

Bhutan, a landlocked Himalayan nation, faces rising climate-related threats, including floods, landslides, and glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs), which are starting

to impact the country's hydropower and core industries of agriculture and tourism.

Tandin Wangmo, a volunteer with the Bhutan Red Cross Society, lives in Chukha, a town nestled in a valley along the Wang Chu River. In recent years, she's witnessed big changes. "The weather has become less predictable," she says. Monsoon rains come heavier. Winters aren't as cold, summers are hotter. "When I was small, we could see snow on the mountains. Now, even in winter, sometimes there's none. This year, there was no snowfall at all."

Her father has worked at the lo-

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Red Cross volunteer Jay Hong conducts assessments at Paramata village on Vella Lavella Island in the Solomon Islands after the April 2007 tsunami (not a climate change event). Although research has examined the mental health impact of disasters, including extreme weather events, fewer studies have investigated the psychosocial needs of individuals affected by slow-onset climate change. Photo: Courtesy of IFRC/Rosemarie North.

cal hydropower plant for more than 30 years, but he worries that as the region gets drier, it will no longer be able to generate power.

Wangmo recalls the cataclysmic GLOF from the Lugge Tsho (lake) in 2015. During the night, her friend's grandfather woke the family, which was living in the Punakha area, in time to evacuate. Bhutan's leader, King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, visited soon after the disaster and followed up with initiatives to reduce the risk of such events, including community awareness programs and the installation of early warning systems.

"He will look after the people," Wangmo says. "He's always done that, and he will do so in the future."

Not only does she "guarantee 100%" that the government will support people in any crisis, but that the nation's people will help each other.

"Helping each other without excuses is in our genes," she says.

Other nations offer examples of climate resilience. The WHO points to the Philippines, which rebuilt and improved mental health services after Typhoon Haiyan slammed the islands in 2013. Likewise: India, where the WHO says a government project has scaled up countrywide disaster risk reduction while also preparing cities to respond to climate threats – that includes addressing mental health and psychosocial needs.

Bubah says an increased focus on

mental health over and above people's physical needs is integral. "If a person is mentally broken," physical emergency relief may not help. "It is like pouring water into a basket; nothing else holds," she says.

"There is no health without mental health," Bubah states.

The widespread mental health impacts of climate change in vulnerable communities can be expressed in statistics, but numbers don't tell the story, says Paikea. The world's people and governments need to viscerally understand the plight being endured.

"I'm hoping articles like this [one] tell the world stories about us, the people who face the reality of climate change," Paikea adds that

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vulnerable people are already trying their best. Now, they want the apathy to stop. ***“Please listen to us.”***

Source: <https://news.mongabay.com/2025/08/as-climate-change-burdens-grow-community-mental-health-alarm-bells-ring/>

(right) In April 2020, Category 5 Tropical Cyclone Harold brought heavy rains and flooding, causing widespread destruction across parts of the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji, and Tonga, and the Red Cross mobilized volunteers and emergency response teams. Approximately 200,000 people across the four countries were impacted. While the cyclone has long passed, the mental health impacts of such events can linger for years. Photo: Courtesy Solomon Islands Red Cross Society.



The Paro Taktsang is a sacred Himalayan Buddhist site located precariously on a cliff of the Upper Paro Valley in Bhutan. Climate change, with its extreme precipitation events, is now causing landslides in mountainous regions the world over. If a religious site like this one were washed away, the loss could add to community mental anguish. Photo: Petro Kotze.



Fossil Fuels Uniting for a brighter future! SADC People's Summit delegates gather to shape the region's development and promote sustainable growth.

Fossil Fuels Campaign Makes Waves at Ramsar COP15 and SADC People's Summit

*By Jussa Nhari Kudherezera
Zimbabwe: August 29, 2025*

The Fossil Fuels Non-Proliferation Treaty campaign, led by Manica Youth Assembly's team leader, Jussa Nhari Kudherezera in Zimbabwe, has made a significant impact through recent participation in two major global events: the Ramsar COP15 and the SADC People's Summit 2025 in Antsirabe, Madagascar. Our aim is to engage local, national, and regional government endorsements, transition to renewable energy and sustainable practices, implement the African Youth Resolution, and continue collaborative work with partners to protect wetlands and

promote sustainable development.

Ramsar COP15: Promoting Renewable Energy and Wetland Conservation

The Ramsar Convention's COP15, themed "Protecting Wetlands for our Common Future," was a pivotal moment for global stakeholders to come together and address the pressing issue of wetland conservation. Manica Youth Assembly's participation in the event was instrumental in promoting renewable energy initiatives that benefit local communities, enhancing social equity, and environmental protection. Our participation aimed to raise awareness about the importance of transitioning to

renewable energy, support youth- and women-led eco-initiatives, and align with sustainable development initiatives in Zimbabwe.

Through our efforts, we were able to showcase successful renewable energy projects and best practices, promoting knowledge sharing and collaboration among stakeholders. This experience has strengthened our resolve to continue promoting a just transition to renewable energy and protecting the environment for future generations.

Read more about this in different Media Publications Links:

1. <https://matebelelandpulse.co.zw/2025/08/03/southern-africa->
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calls-for-holistic-approach-to-wetland-conservation-at-ramsar-cop15/

2. <https://theobserverzim.co.zw/2025/08/01/cop15-youths-call-for-phase-out-of-fossil-fuels-and-the-protection-of-wetlands/>

3. <https://matebelelandpulse.co.zw/2025/07/25/cop15-zimbabwe-wetlands-fossil-fuels/>

4. <https://thewasupost.co.zw/index.php/2025/07/31/youth-leader-urges-fossil-fuel-phase-out-at-cop15-in-victoria-falls/>

5. <https://postonsunday.co.zw/2025/08/02/youth-leader-at-ramsar-cop15-links-wetland-protection-to-fossil-fuel-phase-out/>

SADC People's Summit 2025: Demanding

Radical Transformation

The SADC People's Summit 2025, held in Antsirabe, Madagascar, brought together civil society, social movements, and rural communities from across the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region and beyond. The theme, "Reclaiming Sovereign Economics, Advancing Debt Justice, and Amplifying People's Power in the face of Climate Injustice and Neocolonialism," resonated deeply with participants.

The summit critically interrogated SADC leadership's 2025 agenda, exposing the foundations of the SADC development agenda as a false solution that reinforces a toxic, extractivist model serving elite and corporate interests. Participants demanded a radical transformation, rooted in a decolonial feminist, ecological, and redistributive justice approach that centers people over profit, planet over plunder, and sovereignty over subjugation.



MAYA's Ramsar Campaign flyer at COP15! Championing wetland conservation and sustainable development.

Key Demands and Takeaways

The SADC People's Summit 2025 emphasized the need for a just transition to renewable energy, climate reparations, and a moratorium on fossil fuels. Participants also demanded:

- Full compensation for ecological debt,
- Support for agro-ecology and local food sovereignty,
- Feminist and just climate financing,
- An immediate moratorium on new fossil fuel projects, and
- Recognition of the Rights of Nature.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/thembelihle-mhlanga-b32b2778_manica-youth-assembly-participates-in-sadc-activity-363298616452558848-ZBL1?utm_source=social_share_send&utm_medium=android_app&rcm=A CoAADDCqFABSVZE6rMGZaIzX8d8-NGaPzc_HMM&utm_campaign=copy_link

Continuing the Impact

Participation in these landmark events has strengthened our resolve to promote a just transition to renewable energy and protect the environment for future generations. The impact of the Fossil Fuels campaign will continue through ongoing efforts to:

- Engage local, national, and regional governments in endorsing sustainable practices;
- Facilitate transition to renewable energy and sustainable development pathways;
- Implement the African Youth Resolution; and
- Collaborate with partners to protect wetlands and promote sustainable development.

By continuing these efforts, we aim to create a more sustainable and equitable future where people and the planet are prioritized over profit and plunder and continue the Fossil Fuels campaign's momentum.

Contact: manicayouthassembly@gmail.com +263772351138



Vic Barrett (left) and Xiuhtezcatl Tonatiuh Martinez are two of the former plaintiffs in the climate case *Juliana v. United States* who filed a new petition with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. Credit: Our Children's Trust

Climate Activists Thwarted in U.S. Courts Are Headed to an International Tribunal for Review

By Dana Drugmand
Our Children's Trust
September 29, 2025

Young climate activists who brought a landmark constitutional lawsuit against the U.S. government 10 years ago are taking their quest for justice to an international tribunal.

The nonprofit law firm, Our Children's Trust, and 15 of the original 21 plaintiffs in the case *Juliana et al. v. United States* filed a petition September 23 with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights that accuses the United States government of violating international law through its perpetuation of

a fossil fuel-based energy system and requests an investigation.

"For over 50 years, the U.S. government has knowingly endangered our lives by driving the fossil fuel system that is destroying our climate. This is not neglect — it is deliberate harm," said petitioner Levi Draheim, now 18, in a release provided by Our Children's Trust. "The government's long-standing actions have violated our rights to life, health, and dignity, and young people like me are paying the price."

The petition comes after a pair of historic advisory opinions on climate change issued in July by the Inter-American Court on Hu-

man Rights and the International Court of Justice, and a similarly groundbreaking climate opinion from the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea in 2024 that recognize climate change as an "existential" threat to humanity and ecosystems.

All the opinions stated that countries have legal obligations under international law to address it in accordance with climate science. The Inter-American Court opinion declared, for the first time at the international level, that there is a right to a healthy climate, and the International Court of Justice said

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that governments that fail to regulate emissions from private actors and that continue to promote fossil fuels could be committing internationally wrongful acts.

While the advisory opinions do not call out any specific country by name, they do clarify the legal obligations of countries under existing sources of international law, such as human rights treaties and U.N. legal instruments as well as customary international law. The Our Children's Trust legal team say it is clear that the international bodies indicate that the United States, the largest cumulative emitter of greenhouse gases and largest oil and gas producer in the world, is in breach of its legal obligations on climate change.

"The advisory opinions have come out and basically said that this behavior by the U.S. has been a violation of existing law. It's been a violation of international human rights law. It's been a violation of customary international law. So, what the government has been doing for five decades is illegal," Kelly Matheson, deputy director of global strategy for Our Children's Trust, told *Inside Climate News*.

The U.S. Department of Justice declined to comment.

The petition by young activists, many of whom are now in their 20s, to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights is the first legal action of its kind to arise following the climate advisory opinions issued this summer, and it is the first case seeking to apply those rulings to hold accountable a major-emitting state. It argues that the United States, which is responsible for over a quarter of global carbon dioxide emissions from 1850 to 2012, has not just contributed to climate change but has "played a leading role" in causing it.

And though the petition focuses



Petitioner Levi Draheim, now 18, holds a photo of himself from when he was 8 years old. Photo: Robin Loznak/Our Children's Trust

on the historical conduct of the federal government over the past five decades, lawyers for the youth petitioners said recent actions of the current Trump administration on climate and energy make their case even more salient and urgent. On the same day the activists' petition was filed, President Trump doubled down on his rhetoric deny-

ing the reality of climate change and attacking renewable energy in a rambling address at the U.N. General Assembly in New York.

Trump falsely claimed that climate change is the "greatest con job ever perpetrated on the world" and that wind and solar energy is a "green energy scam."

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"If ever there was a time to hold the United States federal government responsible for its outsized culpability in causing climate change and peddling fossil fuel pollution around the world, it is now," Julia Olson, chief legal counsel for Our Children's Trust, which is based in Oregon, said in a press release. "If there's a scam here, it's the White House pushing fossil fuels while denying science and endangering the lives of children."

The 130-page petition asserts that the United States, for more than half a century, has knowingly perpetuated a fossil fuel-based energy system that is substantially contributing to the climate emergency, which disproportionately burdens children and young people. "Every young person bringing this action was born into the climate emergency and lives each day unable to fully enjoy the right to a healthy climate, and the many rights that depend on it," the petition states.

The action alleges the United States is violating international human rights law, particularly the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man – a foundational instrument adopted in 1948 of the Inter-American human rights system. The United States, as a member of the Organization of American States, is bound by that declaration.

Somewhat broader than the suit in the United States, the claim before the international tribunal specifically alleges infringements on the rights to life, health, equality, private and family life, home and property, cultural life, special protections for children, access to justice and effective remedies, dignity, and a healthy climate.

Juliana v. United States was filed in 2015 and argued that the U.S. government was violating the con-

stitutional rights of young people through its systemic policies and actions promoting fossil fuels and worsening climate change. The case ended earlier this year when the Supreme Court declined to hear the case.

Lawyers for the youth said the federal government filed seven emergency pre-trial petitions – known as petitions for *writ of mandamus* – to block the case, which they said were more "than in any other case in U.S. history."

"The U.S. Department of Justice used extraordinary measures to deny these young people access to justice," Matheson said.

This new filing is an opportunity, she added, for the next generation to be heard and to present the science before a quasi-judicial body.

"The big ask is to have a public hearing," James May, a law professor at Washburn University and one of the petition's authors, told *Inside Climate News*. "That's a proxy for what [the Juliana plaintiffs] didn't get in their 10-year-long journey in American courts."

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, headquartered in Washington, D.C., can refer cases to the Inter-American Court on Human Rights. The U.S. government, however, does not recognize that court's jurisdiction so in this case the youths' petition would start and end with the commission.

The youth are asking the commission to conduct an investigation including public hearings and a country site visit. They want the commission to declare that the United States has violated petitioners' rights, issue recommendations to remedy the violations and to monitor compliance. They have also requested that the court makes the case a top priority.

The Inter-American Commission's recommendations are not

legally binding. But legal experts said they could be influential guidance for other courts, and perhaps for U.S. policymakers and future administrations.

May told *Inside Climate News* he thinks this action "has the potential to be the most significant climate case that's ever been brought."

"It's giving an international tribunal the opportunity to provide a playbook for a country to take responsible steps to address the climate crisis, and that playbook would be written for the country that's most responsible for the climate emergency," he explained. "And so, from there it could be a blueprint of sorts for tribunals and courts at international and national levels."

May added, "Those two advisory opinions, they're screaming that the house is on fire, and that someone should call the fire department. And that's what we just did."

Matheson said this latest legal effort was taken to establish facts on the ground and remedies now. "Under the Trump administration it may not make a difference. But under future administrations, it could," she said.

"If we get strong recommendations, then those can be leveraged for implementation," Matheson said. "And whether the Trump administration listens or not, you have a legal victory and you have a moral victory, and you can continue to use those victories to push the advocacy forward."

Matheson noted that, with the climate change advisory opinions, "[T]he law has finally caught up to the science."

Source: <https://insideclimatenews.org/news/29092025/juliana-youth-climate-activists-head-to-inter-american-commission-on-human-rights/>

Thunberg Confirms Abuse by Israeli Abductors, But Urges World to Focus on Gaza Genocide

“This genocide and other genocides are being enabled and fueled by our own governments, our institutions, our media, and companies. It is our responsibility to end that complicity.”

By Brett Wilkins

Common Dreams: October 6, 2025

While confirming that she and other Global Sumud Flotilla members were abused by Israeli forces who abducted and jailed them, Swedish climate and human rights activist Greta Thunberg on Monday implored humanity to focus on the genocide in Gaza as it enters its third year.

“I could talk for a very, very long time about our mistreatment and abuses in our imprisonment. Trust me, but that is not the story,” Thunberg said during a press conference at Athens Eleftherios Venizelos International Airport in Greece, where she and other flotilla participants released by Israel were greeted by a cheering crowd.

“What happened here is that Israel, while continuing to worsen and escalate their genocide and mass destruction with genocidal intent, attempting to erase an entire population, an entire nation in front of our very eyes, they once again violated international law by preventing humanitarian aid from getting into Gaza while people are being starved,” she continued.

“This genocide and other genocides are being enabled and fueled by our own governments, our institutions, our media, and companies. It is our responsibility to end that complicity... to use our privileges, our platforms, to take a stance



against this, that is in every way unjustifiable,” Thunberg asserted.

“I will never, ever comprehend how humans can be so evil that you would deliberately starve millions of people living trapped under an illegal siege as a continuation of decades and decades of suffocating oppression, apartheid, occupation,” she added.

Thunberg’s remarks came as Israeli forces continued their bombing and invasion of Gaza with the objective of conquering, occupying, and ethnically cleansing Palestinians from the strip. Israeli airstrikes – which have reportedly killed nearly 100 Palestinians over the

past two days – continued despite U.S. President Donald Trump’s Friday exhortation to “immediately stop” bombing the embattled strip, citing Hamas’ willingness to conditionally release the remaining Israeli and other hostages it has held since October 7, 2023.

Trump urged negotiators to “move fast” toward a ceasefire agreement ahead of Monday’s indirect peace talks between Israel and Hamas in Egypt.

Since launching the assault and “complete siege” of Gaza following the October 7, 2023 Hamas-led attack, Israeli forces have killed at least 67,139 Palestinians, according to the Gaza Health Ministry – whose figures are widely believed to be a vast undercount. Most of those killed have been women and children.

Over 169,500 Palestinians have also been wounded in Gaza and thousands more are missing and presumed dead and buried beneath rubble. Most of Gaza’s more than 2 million people have also been forcibly displaced, often multiple times, while hundreds of thousands of others are starving in an engineered famine that officials say has killed at least 460 people.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant are wanted by the International Criminal Court in The Hague for alleged crimes against humanity and war crimes in Gaza including murder and forced starvation. Just under two miles away at the International Court of Justice, tribunal members are weighing a genocide case against Israel brought by South Africa and supported by around two dozen nations and regional blocs.

Thunberg and more than 400

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other Global Sumud Flotilla members were intercepted last week by Israeli forces in international waters before being taken to Israel and jailed. Thunberg told Swedish officials Saturday that she had been “subjected to harsh treatment in Israeli custody.”

“She informed of dehydration,” a Swedish Foreign Ministry email noted. “She has received insufficient amounts of both water and food. She also stated that she had developed rashes which she suspects were caused by bedbugs. She spoke of harsh treatment and said she had been sitting for long periods on hard surfaces.”

Turkish flotilla activist Ersin Çelik said he witnessed Israelis abusing Thunberg.

“They dragged little Greta by her hair before our eyes, beat her, and forced her to kiss the Israeli flag,” Çelik said. “They did everything imaginable to her, as a warning to others.”

Italian journalist and flotilla member Lorenzo D’Agostino said that Thunberg was “wrapped in the Israeli flag and paraded like a trophy.”

Abducted flotilla members said they were humiliated by Israelis, including National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, who called them “terrorists.” This, from a man who in 2007 was convicted of incite-

ment to racism and supporting the Kahanist terrorist group Kach.

D’Agostino told CNN Monday that “we were shocked by the level of humiliation and gratuitous cruelty that these people used on us.”

“The way we were treated was... pushing the mistreatment and the humiliation to the limit that they could afford,” he said, explaining that his captors “knew that they couldn’t harm us physically” if activists were from countries like Italy.

“People coming from countries that are not allied [with Israel] were harmed physically,” D’Agostino added. “I was sharing my cell with a Turkish citizen whose arm was broken and he was left without painkillers for two days.”

Israel’s Foreign Ministry said Sunday that flotilla members’ claims of abuse are “brazen lies,” and that “all the detainees’ legal rights are fully upheld.”

As of Monday, Israel had deported 341 of the 479 detained flotilla activists. The remaining detainees are either awaiting deportation or, in some cases – including one Spanish woman who allegedly bit an Israeli medic during a forced medical examination at Ketziot Prison – are facing extended detention.

The alleged abuse of flotilla detainees pales in comparison to what Palestinian prisoners have

allegedly endured at the hands of their Israeli captors. Former detainees and Israeli personnel have described beatings, rape and sexual torture by male and female soldiers, routine amputations due to constant shackling, burnings, electrocutions, attacks by dogs, ice-water dousings, denial of food and water, sleep deprivation, constant loud music, and other abuse.

The Israeli military has launched investigations into the deaths of dozens of detainees at the notorious Sde Teiman prison, including one who died after allegedly being sodomized with an electric baton.

Another group of boats is currently en route from Europe in another attempt to break Israel’s blockade of Gaza.

“As more ships set sail for Gaza, we are likely to see a repeat of these events,” Amnesty International said Monday, referring to the alleged abuse of Global Sumud Flotilla activists. “States must act now and make clear to Israel that its suffocating blockade and its ongoing genocide against Palestinians must end now.”

Source: <https://www.common-dreams.org/news/greta-thunberg-gaza-genocide>

There comes a time when humanity is called to shift to a new level of consciousness, to reach a higher moral ground. A time when we have to shed our fear and give hope to each other.

~ Wangari Maathai ~

WORLD ADAPTATION FORUM ON COLLAPSE

Introduction from Iona: I used to be a big fan of the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) and published their periodic reports extensively in some of my former newspapers but now I have a better understanding of

how inaccurate they are and how they underestimate risks because they have to do everything by consensus, and that includes votes by some of the countries which are very pro-oil and gas, some of the most polluting countries in the

world. Watching 14 videos from the World Adaptation Forum about Collapse has reawakened my sense of urgency and I'm going to be publishing some of my notes as a series. The presenters were deep-

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Stalled 'green' innovations ...

For ~50 % of global energy use:

NOT A SINGLE zero-carbon alternative AT SCALE

steel, cement, plastic, fertilizer production, etc.
shipping, aviation, military, etc.

worldadaptationforum.org













Pitiable attempts to 'decarbonise'...

worldadaptationforum.org



A fully-electric 10,000 ton container ship has begun service equipped with over 50,000 kWh in batteries





Alice, the first all-electric passenger airplane, takes flight





thinking scientists, activists, and authors. I took many screen-shots of their slides and will use those instead of words to help you understand their messages. Let's start with Dr. Gelencsér András, an air chemist in Hungary, whose talk was Green Transition: Humanities Collective Illusion.

"Reality is missing from graph number one because it might disturb clear thinking of the people."

Superman equals "the Disneyland" of global green, continuing economic growth, let's make life more comfortable, easier, "live in happiness forever."

Massive amounts of materials are needed for each unit of energy produced. Things are stalled in trying to re-

place coal, oil, and gas with renewables. The sectors shown in the slide (previous page) "use a brutal amount of energy."

The ship run by renewable energy can only carry 700 containers*, and it cannot venture out to the sea because it is too weak to withstand the current and wind, so it's basically a toy.

That's really where we are in decarbonization, "The middle of nowhere." There is bullshit coming out in scientific papers as well as the media.

*From Valtran.com: These containers come in various shapes and sizes, ranging from 20 feet to 40 feet long. A typical container ship can carry thousands of these containers stacked on top of each other, maximizing space utilization. In fact, the world record for the largest container ship is held by MSC Irina, which has a staggering capacity of 24,346 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs).

You can listen to Gelencsér's entire speech at <https://youtu.be/46qvOnMtskY>.

Photo credit <https://valtran.com/blog/how-many-containers-on-container-ship/>



Derrick Jensen

Part 1

As a long-time grassroots environmental activist, and as a creature living in the thrashing endgame of civilization, I'm intimately acquainted with the landscape of loss, and have grown accustomed to carrying the daily weight of despair. I've walked clearcuts that wrap around mountains, drop into valleys, then climb ridges to fragment watershed after watershed, and I've sat silent near empty streams that two generations ago were "lashed into whiteness" by uncountable salmon coming home to spawn and die.

I began to feel pretty apocalyptic. But I hesitated to use that word, in part because of those drawings I've seen of crazy penitents carrying "The End is Near" signs, and in part because of the power of the word itself. Apocalypse. I didn't want to use it lightly.

But then a friend and fellow activist said, "What will it take for you to finally call it an apocalypse? The death of the salmon? The elimination of flocks of passenger pigeons so large they darkened the sky for days at a time, flying 100 km/hour and sounding like rolling thunder? The killing of the great herds of bison? How about the end of the great coral reefs? The extirpation of two hundred species per day? Four hundred? Six hundred? Give me a specific threshold, Derrick, a specific point at which you'll finally use that word."

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Do you believe that our culture will undergo a voluntary transformation to a sane and sustainable way of living?

For decades I've asked people this question, at talks and rallies, in libraries, on buses, in airplanes, at grocery and hardware stores. Everywhere. The answers range from emphatic nos to laughter. No one answers yes. One fellow at a talk raised his hand, and when everyone looked at him, he dropped his hand, then said, "Oh, voluntary? No, of course not." We will have a change to a sane and sustainable way of living, by definition, or we won't be living at all. Every cell in my body wants for it to be volun-

tary, but we all know it won't be. My next question: for those of us who care about wild nature, how would this understanding – that this culture won't voluntarily stop destroying the natural world – shift our strategy and tactics? The answer? Nobody knows, because we never talk about it: we're so busy pretending we have hope.

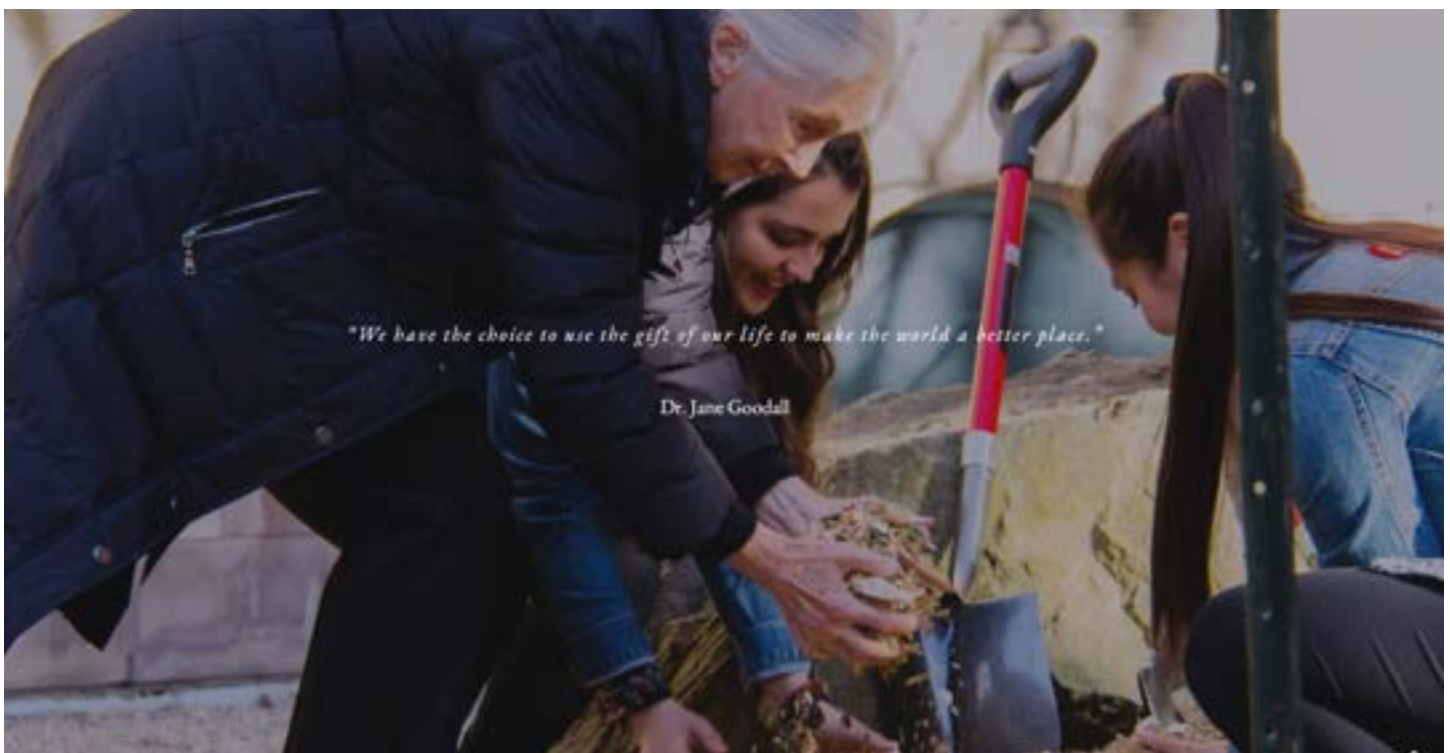
#

They say one sign of intelligence is the ability to recognize patterns. Well, I'm going to lay out a pattern, and let's see if we can recognize it in less than 6,000 years. When you think of Iraq, is the first thing you think of cedar forests so thick that sunlight never touches the ground? One of the first written myths of this

culture is Gilgamesh deforesting the hills and valleys of Iraq to build a great city. The Arabian Peninsula was oak savannah. Those trees were cut for export. The Near East was heavily forested (we've all heard of the cedars of Lebanon: they still have one, on their flag). Greece was heavily forested. Plato complained that deforestation was harming water quality. I'm sure the ancient Greek Department of Forestry told him they had to study it a few years to make sure there was a correlation. North Africa was heavily forested. These forests were cut to make the Egyptian and Phoenician navies.

Forests precede us, and deserts dog our heels.

To be continued next time.



1934-2025

Remembering Dr. Jane: Scientist. Conservationist. Humanitarian.

In Final Message of Hope, Jane Goodall Suggests Blasting Trump and Other Hateful Right-Wingers Into Space. "In the dark times that we are living in now," said the preeminent scientist, "if people don't have hope, we're doomed."

In her final months, renowned conservationist and scientist Jane Goodall secretly sat down for an interview with producers of a newly greenlit show for Netflix—with an agreement in place that the content of the discussion wouldn't be shared publicly until after her death. The interview turned out to be the first episode of "Famous Last Words," which was released last Friday — two days after Goodall's death at the age of 91.

ARCHANS IN ACTION



*My name is Bahr, I'm a 20-year-old traveler. My journey began as a little girl, when every year my family and I explored a new corner of the world. We never traveled through hotels or tourist routes – instead, we sought the most local experiences. Sometimes it meant sleeping on a kind stranger's floor, sometimes hitchhiking for hours to reach remote villages untouched by technology. Most of all, it meant being close to **nature**. Carrying a heavy backpack through wild landscapes became my norm, and from it grew a deep connection to the natural world.*

My First Two Weeks in ARIDANI - Tenerife

*By Bahr Gottesfeld, Israel
September 1, 2025*

It's been a long ride already. So much has happened since I arrived here, and so much is happening in this very moment. There is something so fulfilling about going through a transformation, this understanding that I'm in this very moment in time and in space, going through something big. Something that will influence my life, that will leave a mark and influence the way I view the world.

I arrived from a different world, from the other side of the continent: NORWAY. I landed here, coming from a cold country, where every person leads an individual life, where people are victims of wild and unpredictable weather. I landed after a great adventure on this warm tropical island. And in a smaller context: to a bunch of weirdos that live on 25,000 square meters (82,021 square feet) of land and forest.

On my first night – opposite to everything I knew about build-

ing relationships – I found myself sitting in front of 8 strangers that had the oddest language I had heard in a while. Every sentence started with the same few words: "I feel happy/sad/angry/scared because..." I was immediately skeptical. In those first moments I had so much judgment. *What the fuck are they even saying?!*

And after a few minutes of a very vulnerable and intense exercise in which every person started to

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ARCHANS IN ACTION

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share very openly how he or she is afraid of someone at the table and why – I just found myself stunned. So much anger was going through me. All the voices in my head wanted to shout back and say, “Leave me alone! I just arrived! Can you please just tell me where you’re coming from?”

Well, this is what I did. Pretty much exactly. I immediately put up a wall. I didn’t have the tiniest bit of patience to try and adapt myself to this communication culture.

The next day I woke up in my tent, and right beside me someone screamed. Not in an argument or a fight. He just screamed for no reason at all. I was looking for other judgmental looks from the people around, but it seemed that for everyone this was the norm.

I had to learn fast. After that I started to understand that I had arrived at a place that is like no other I had been to before. That on this little part of this little island there is a different culture. It’s a culture that celebrates feelings, that allows people to let out whatever they have on their mind. It’s a culture of love, of deep support. Here, no one has to face life alone. I see something really special that is created here. I had never experienced a life like this.

Every day here feels to me like a celebration of life.

This sentence alone has such a different meaning here than from the culture I know. At home, a celebration has to be joyful; we have to have fun, to be happy, to laugh and smile. Here, we celebrate all of that, but with that we celebrate the sadness, the anger, and the fear that co-exist with joy in the world.

Think for yourself: What if seeing someone crying is an opportunity for self-discovery? What if rage and anger are opportunities for



With markers, paints, and brushes, like the way I used to dream when I was young, I drew a little cabin in the woods. One that is only the fruit of my great imagination. This is the way we create here. We start with a vision and continue from there. We are 7 people around the kitchen desk. Each of us has a different dream, and every single one of us has the opportunity to create it.

action and change? What if fear is only the way we understand our wishes and desires?

Here, every feeling is a gate to a better understanding of oneself.

A Few Moments of Magic

I’m only two days in. We’re on our way to the beach, the water is crystal clear, and Maciej (one of the people here) had just gone through a fear; he jumped from a 10-meter cliff into the water. Oran is playing the guitar. Two people beside me are having a heart-to-heart conversation. I’m looking around and seeing the whole world glow.

It’s my birthday. Like almost every year since I was born, I’m somewhere far away from everyone I know. I’m in this forest land. My first view when I open my eyes is of a forest filled with sounds of birds and life. Tonight, while the sun is coming down, I’m surrounded by 10 other amazing beings,

music, and some sweets. It’s a party. We are barefoot, under the sky. We are dancing until we can’t anymore. All I need on a day like this is to be surrounded by love. Well, here I have a whole tribe.

Like kids we stand in front of the kitchen desk. With markers, paints, and brushes. Like the way I used to dream when I was young, I drew a little cabin in the woods. One that is only the fruit of my great imagination. This is the way we create here. We start with a vision and continue from there. We are 7 people around the kitchen desk. Each of us has a different dream, and every single one of us has the opportunity to create it. Only after we all have our individual visions, we collect the group wisdom and make a dream cabin that takes the best from every drawing. From there we create together something real.

A lot of my anger, I realize now,

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ARCHANS IN ACTION

Continuation from previous page

came from not understanding what is really going on here. I would often face the question: “*What do you even do there?*” and I wouldn’t know how to answer. I found it hard to describe the point or even the value of this project.

Then Lisa-Maria gave me an experiment: look around every few minutes and ask yourself, “*What value does this very moment have in the world?*” In the last few days, ever since I started asking this question, I’ve had a huge smile on my face. Every time I look around, I see how we create a better world. I see it in the way people allow themselves to communicate, in the loving hugs given so generously. I see it in how people understand themselves on a deeper level, how everyone is on everyone’s team. I see that no one is truly alone. The culture here supports every dream, big or small, to come true.

From this little corner of the world, I see more good being done than almost anywhere else I’ve had the chance to visit.

More from Bahr: I am part of the Aridani project, a project sets in Tenerife island, that connect people from all over the world for the intention of personal emotional healing, learning skills and abilities that will improve our understanding of the resources we have and the way we can use them without harming our environment, and deepening our relationship with the Earth – living, sleeping, creating a day-to-day life in and with nature around us. This project is an experiment. We are 20 people that came together with the intention to create a new and improved reality. Reality that is based on feeling, connection, exploration, and love. It’s a trial and error. We are start-

ing something new, its exiting and scary and not at all perfect, but we are all here together to try. We are all here together to discover, what is the reality that each of us really wants to live in?

I have a dream of kindness, I know how kindhearted people can be, in the most horrific situations the human kindness was tested, and more than once I was really saved by someone’s ability to give. I think we can all give so much, that we all have the power to create good.

We can do good for each other and we can do good for our planet.

Watch a 43-second video, Bahr’s Passionate Speech About Life in Aridani, at: <https://youtu.be/S7uF-q1DliUk>

Putting words to feelings is not about everybody being free to scream or yell at any time of the day or night. You learn to put words to feelings for a very practical reason: feelings are rocket fuel for aliveness, for clarity and for integrity.

Do you want to know how to create change? Do you want to know what information your anger, sadness, fear, joy has for you?

Aridani is a 5 week land-based training in regenerative village-making. This means living together in nature and co-creating our own culture in real-time. A culture that regenerates us from the inside out. We provide a container, a team to observe and transform the conditioning, blocks, beliefs, stories, and emotions that stand in the way of us living full-out and unfolding our potential – so can we start creating new results for ourselves and for the Earth. <https://somos.land/en/>

Thanks for reading! Subscribe for free to receive new posts and support my work at <https://substack.com/inbox/post/17226767>

Hello from Aridani in Tenerife, where 14 women and 6 men are Villaging for 5 weeks and 3 days at the Regenerative Research Center called Somos, a Living Laboratory for Creating Archiarchy.

This began with an Expand the Box training in a cloud forest held by Vera and Devin, and continues here on the land.

Together we are creating the culture we each want to live in, where emotions are doorways to healing, rage club is part of the team’s weekly training, and working with the Land is a pivotal part of the day.

Dirty feet and elephant-in-the-room processes simply ARE, possibility theatre nights and singing circles are abundant, shared meals happen twice a day, and we continue to experiment with the schedule.

Yesterday we said goodbye to @vera and two days before that, to Dimitra!

And hoy, a Women Of Earth devoted day where we ate passion flowers together, immersed our bodies in volcanic seaside ocean pools, and foraged plants to cultivate at Somos.

More legends of this genius group of women soon!

Love, Beth McNamara, Massachusetts USA

ARCHANS IN ACTION

Love Letter from the Orchard

Dear Village,

I want to start this week's journal with a message I received today from the land:

"Be here. You don't need to "do" anything just be here, witness me, acknowledge me and I will see you. I am endlessly displaying to you love, beauty, a way for you to see the world through my eyes – colorful, delightfull, playfull, wild, dangerous. I will fill you with sounds, smells, tastes, touches, physical, emotional, mental, spiritual, and energetic. You don't need to "do" anything, stay with me, experience me in your 5 bodies and I will delight you. I will embody you and you will embody me and together we make love. Touch the soil with sensuality and feel your body become fulfilled, sensual, open. See the colors of the trees, the flowers, the plants, and see the potential of creation. Hear the sounds of the birds, the wind, the stillness, the silence, the spaciousness, and feel the union of life. An orgasm embodying organisms. Life is happening and you do not need to "do" anything. See me and let me see you."

Today I held space in the orchard for being, being with ourselves, each other and Gaia. We used our conscious fear to reach out in the space and connect with Gaia letting her speak through us. Shi-Li allowed herself to become a spider whisperer and discovered an Archan village of spiders and was called by 1 spider to be a witness to it shedding its skin; she called the village and we all came together to witness the spider shedding

its skin and celebrated the new initiation of the spider.

I feel glad and sad about the space today. Glad because it happened and glad about the joy that I felt for seeing people being on the land, exploring the land and what was there instead of building something or using the land for something or moving across it to get somewhere to do something. It was delightful to witness and experience.

I feel sad because this was what I had wanted to hold space for as a main space for Aridani. Yet it went down the list of priorities. Processes and initiations were the priorities followed by logistics, followed by doing something on the land. Being on the land came after all that and I feel sad that it is in the last few days of Aridani I remembered this part of

my culture and the culture I want to create.

I feel anger and fear to make this a staple part of me, SOMOS and future Aridani's. What I witnessed from the space was more union, presence, love, and creativity. I want life to be born from this.

Love,

Charlotte Chalkley, from UK, living in Tenerife



ARCHANS IN ACTION

News from the Global Feelings Practitioner Field

By Annika Korsten, New Zealand

Art by Patsy Blackstock, New Zealand

It is possible that even writing these first lines onto the screen are pressed into the keypad with tension on my fingers, a tight forearm, and a stiff neck.

Have you ever written by letting the words flow from your hands? When you can let yourself be touched by life expressing itself in front of your eyes.

While reading, do you notice your eyes sticking out of your eyesockets 'trying' to grab the information to process the written black letters in your mental body to understand or to get it?

Instead, let your eyeballs sit on an imaginary chair in your eye-sockets and let the light of each word drip in like a slow trickling stream that can seamlessly flow through your eyes and into your heart.

In this picture, two movements are happening. One of pressure and one of vacuum. The goal is not to attempt either or let go of either, instead to find your inner pendulum between them in an attempt to land in presence – NOW.

And right now, how much activation do you (really) need in your life to keep energy flowing, to move or change and shift? When do your bodies call for rest, integration, or doing nothing?

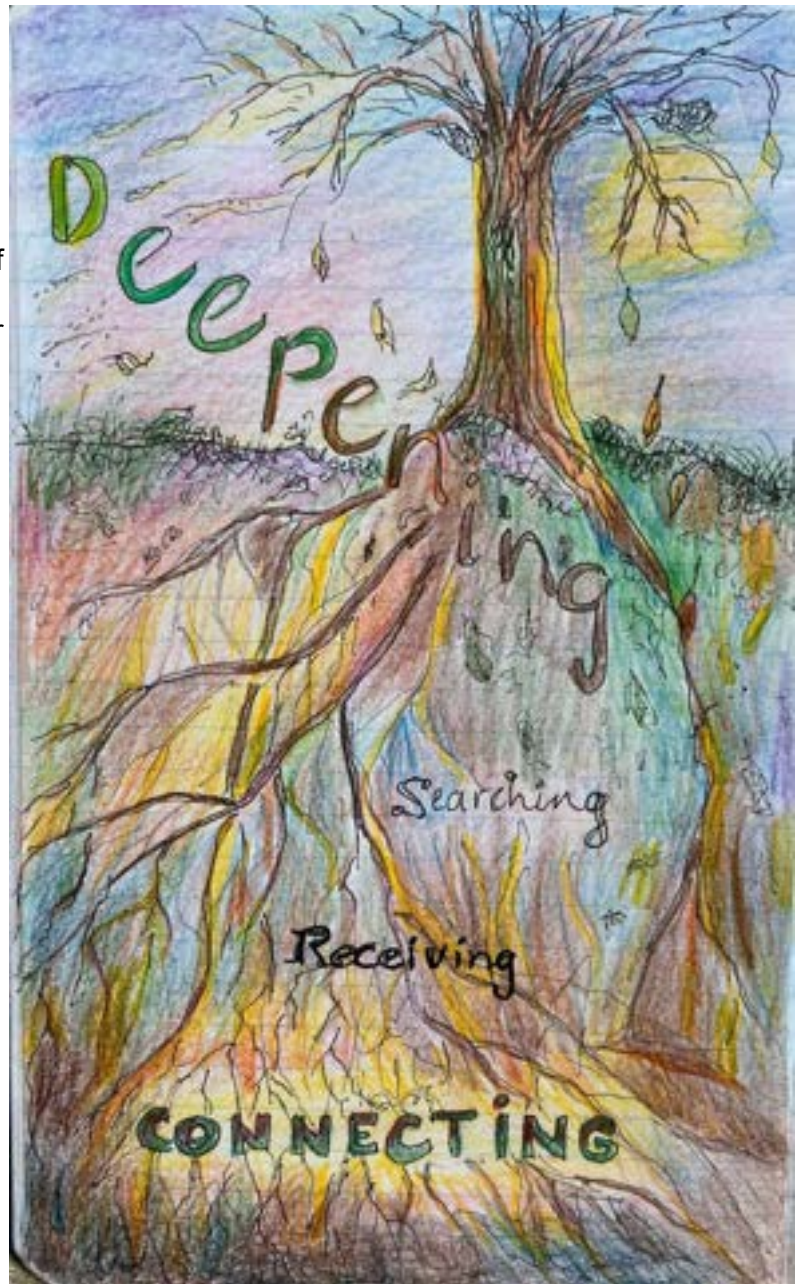
If both are lived to an extreme, the outcome of pressure being overextended ends up in burn-out, overwhelm, pressure on the pressure, endless to-do lists, inflammation, tension, and any variation of the above. If too much vacuum is in a space, it might collapse or

depress.

In a world where both extremes are now obvious in all their expressions of perversion, it takes your connection to your four feelings [anger, sadness, fear, joy] to navigate through a collectively burned-out nervous system. By incarnating into your physical body on Earth, it is possible to go into resonance with the outside world and, instead of reacting to or resisting the outside, it becomes a source of creation and aliveness.

One possibility is to reach out to a trained Feelings Practitioner and experience the Fear Net Process. It creates a doorway to navigate your nervous system, and you may start inhabiting more of it and come in connection with your nerves from the inside.

Becoming an agent of your fear



is like a (r)evolution for all other feelings to dance and play even more, for your impulses to flow and to create from within.

En-Joy the unfolding.

With Love,

Annika and the Feelings Practitioner Newsletter Team

Source: <https://sh1.sendinblue.com/aeg1zi8xolpfe.html>

IONA ~~A~~ NOT IN ACTION



I LOVED TURNING 80!

October 2, 2025

Here I am as a little girl and here I am as an 80-year-old woman, lying in a pit in the woods nearby. It's like being embraced by Earth and looking up at the trees is a link to the Universe. I was there with my best friend.

Later in the day I met one son and his wife for drinks and nachos, then had my tap dancing class at night. I will have dinner with my sister and her husband and another friend on Day 80+1 and dinner with my whole family on Day 80+3. What a great birthday it has been so far!



Messages from Our Global Family

This edition is beautiful looking. It's also filled with stories about stuff of concern to me.

Bill Boteler, Maryland USA

Thank you for sharing, very interesting. I will share my story to be included in the next newsletter.

Jussa Kudherezera, Zimbabwe
[See pages 14 and 15.]

Thank you so much for sharing! This is good information to us and we continue praying for you for such work you are doing right now.

Sadat Mutekanga, Uganda

Thank you Iona!

This brightened my day...

So, unexpectedly, did your piece on your burial.

I was one of the many who kept vigil with Joanna Macy during her last weeks.

And I loved her burial....washed and wrapped in bright cloth by her closest women friends, scattered with flower petals, she was laid directly into the ground in a green burial field beside a large stone boulder.

My nearest green burial places here in Ontario are listed at <https://ecofuneral.ca/192/Green-Burial-Cemeteries.html>. That is what I want. And it is a lot more reasonable than your quote. If you or friends had a bit of acreage, that would be one way to use it! It would offer an ecological service to many.

I'm onto my next community art installation, Iona, one based on Bridget's crosses, the woven reed symbols hung in almost every house in Ireland. I've just started after finding out that the form is 20,000 years old and honored in every spiritual tradition around

the planet. It has always been a symbol of well-being until co-opted by the right in the 1930s. I want to do something to reclaim the Sacredness of the flow of life and our interconnectedness. I'm in the process of training as a Global Social Witnessing facilitator with the Pocket Project. I may be able to use their networks as well as my own to get thousands to make these, connect them all together and display it somewhere over Poul nabron in the Burren in Ireland. [See photo below.] Reeds grow in most countries. They clean the waters and provide habitat for our relations in the insect, bird, reptilian, and amphibian worlds. They form roofs, walls, and floors. And when that symbolic life supporting network is dry, it can be ritually burnt in the Bealtaine Fire at Uisneach, a ritual gathering of the tribes, local and international, that has returned to Ireland and marks the planet's movement from darkness into light.

Eimear O'Neill, Canada

I celebrate the newspaper. I celebrate you. It's so rich. I really love to read these articles. I enjoyed every word, every minute. I have so much appreciation for all the time and love you put into it. It's so worth it! And I feel honored that you included my article. Thank you for doing so.

Love,

Alice Belz, Mallorca, Spain

Chief,

Thank you for publishing Lieutenant Colonel Bone Spur's obscene Truth Social post in the September edition (pg. 22) of *Next Culture News*, along with Christopher Cook's rousing national call to arms for a General Strike Against Fascism. You should know that Pulitzer Prize-winning author Viet Thanh Nguyen handily deconstructed Trump's pathetic meme on yesterday's Democracy Now broadcast here [41:53 - 58:45] ...

https://www.democracynow.org/2025/9/9/viet_thanh_nguyen
Continued on next page



Messages from Our Global Family

broadcast here [41:53 - 58:45] ...

https://www.democracynow.org/2025/9/9/viet_thanh_nguyen

According to Viet, at the moment in "Apocalypse Now" when the Colonel says "[H]e loves the smell of burning napalm in the morning," Coppola evokes, "[T]he entire history of American troops going into Native villages, burning them down and massacring people, cleansing the land in order for American conquest ... He is evoking a long string of ideology, but also of pop cultural references that he thinks celebrates American masculinity and macho militarism." An extended clip from the original movie that Lt. Col. Bone Spur childishly referenced – featuring Robert Duvall & Martin Sheen – is here ...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RHo_ZG-YGo

Clark K., Washington, D.C.

[after sending link to GoFundMe]
Greetings Iona,

Great to know you're still doing good things!

Keep on keeping on.

What is your address?

Mr. Steve, Maryland USA

(right) **The final and completed design of the hot PV plate.**

Hi everyone.

I'm happy to reach out to the final in guidance of the government grant.

The set will be composed by a 400-500W solar panel; a converter/controller to step-down the voltage and the plate itself.

Thanks and best regards,

Clement Musonda Kankomba, Zambia
(Rosa Solar Stoves)

musondakankomba@gmail.com

[Note from Iona: I superimposed the closeup of the hot plate and lined up the yellow power cord so this is not to scale.]

[Subject line: Support Iona's Next Culture News for a Better World; Sadat forwarded the link to my GoFundMe site to many others.]

Thanks for sharing this information! Let's continue praying for this work. Okay thanks for being appreciative. I am trying to share this information to different people due to the need of funds for smooth running of other activities Thank you.

So happy for you! Trying to do my best to mobilize people to at least do what they can to give a hand towards this issue as we keep praying together with the

kids through our gatherings.

Sadat Mutekanga, Uganda

My prayers for you to hit the Target. [\$2,200]

Love,

Amos Mugarura, Equal friend forever, Uganda

Thank you for the love and effort you put in your newsletters and your commitment to Archiarchy.

Anonymous, California USA



Messages from Our Global Family

My goodness, Iona, you are doing some wonderful things lately. I'm impressed and interested in your work and projects. You seem very much energized and I could not be happier for you.

FYI, I live close to the Yanuncay River that flows through Cuenca [see page 1 September issue *NCN*] and I often walk along its banks. It is so beautiful and relaxing, helps calm my mind. Take care, stay well.

David Bishop, Ecuador

[After learning that Sadat was forwarding my GoFundMe link to his friends.]

Shows initiative.

I will contribute what I can. I hope in time that we may benefit mutually, and those we are in service to.

I respect your constant movement forwards, always onwards.

David Pinto, Wales

Hey all,

Here are videos of the excellent event at which I played a small part in Budapest, last spring.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLvINKqB1XG8iuH_pm03kNpnuET6zHx8tf

Among the videos on that list is this short one:

<https://youtu.be/Qe0mHP1fYOM>

Thank you,

Derrick Jensen, California USA
[Note from Iona: These are the links to the World Adaptation Forum on Collapse I'm sharing here month after month.]

[After forwarding Derrick Jensen's email above to everyone.]

Happy birthday, Iona! I watched Derrick's video and loved it. Thanks.

Marney Bruce, Maryland USA

Dear Iona,

Thank you for saying all of this.

The event itself was really good.

Congratulations on your 80th birthday!!!!

Thank you for all of your wonderful work.

Love,

Derrick Jensen, California USA

Okay, thanks mom for sharing with us this great information. Okay mom thanks for being appreciative and let me hope our beloved friends are donating something towards the "GoFundMe" program because am doing the mobilization work.

Sadat Mutekanga, Uganda

[Note from Iona: I pulled it down because nobody was contributing.]

Hello Iona.

Happy birthday to you.

Greetings from Herbert in Uganda and thank you for who you are to me.



(left)

I hope you're doing well. I'm reaching out to ask for support for this GoFundMe. Please consider donating, no contribution is too small to help. Sharing with your network also helps reach more potential donors.

Here's the link to the fundraiser:

<https://gofund.me/032059442>

Lucy Achieng, Kenya

Messages from Our Global Family

It's been a long journey since we last shared a word; however, I have been following all your work and support for community cause.

Am still working hard to save the environment through community work and agriculture.

Would you kindly help me in the following

1. Find me partners for my community work.
2. Mobilize for me volunteers or a volunteer on site to work with me here in Uganda even if a week?
3. It's a planting season and my community needs improved seeds worth \$500 if you can get me a donor or someone to support us?

Thank you very much.

Herbert Bagyenyi Kajoki

One Village Uganda
onevillage2013@gmail.com
WhatsApp: +256701233725

Dear Iona,

Thank you. I have two books almost done, but not done yet. They're not quite ready. Remind me in a few months and you can start excerpting them.

I would do myth of human supremacy.

And also here is the talk I did in Budapest. [Note from Iona: Now running as a column.]

I hope you have a great day.

Love,

Derrick Jensen, California USA

Dear Iona,

I finally got to read through *Next Culture News* #1 and it is fantastic! I am amazed at the depth and professionalism in your creation. Wow!

I am making a website called <https://nextculturenews.mystrikingly.com> to also list your work.

Are you willing to send me links to all the *Next Culture News* you have written so far? Then I can show them there.

I will also make you Admin of the site.

Harbigarrrr!

Love and Hugs,

Clinton Callahan [Note from Iona: I love that Clinton did this for me but I wanted to finish this issue of NCN before I start working on this new website.]

[Subject line = It's your birthday. Together let's celebrate her birth date as a global family.]

Happy Birthday to my dear friend Iona! Today we celebrate not only your life but also your remarkable service through charity missions and environmental initiatives you have tirelessly chaired.

As a Ugandan fraternity Africa, we proudly recognize you as a true hero. May you be blessed with long life, joy, and strength to blow countless candles ahead!

1. "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." – Mahatma Gandhi

2. "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth." – Muhammad Ali

3. "The greatness of a man is not in how much wealth he acquires, but in his integrity and his ability to affect those around him positively." – Bob Marley

4. "Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does." – William James

Enjoy your day!

Love,

Equal friend forever,

Amos, Liam, and Akamushaba Mugarura. Uganda

Dear old friend,

I hope you have a wonderful birthday. It's your 80th, right? Wow, I wish you all the joy you can muster.

Isn't that the cruelest part of aging – our bodies can't keep up with our active minds. Well, at least you still have a mind :-) I used to think dementia would be a blessing but unfortunately, we don't get to choose what we forget.

Water is a wonderful healer of all kinds! I'm glad you found a way to (temporarily) overcome grief. [Note from Iona: I was grieving the loss of my youth and went to the ocean every morning for the four days before my birthday. I'm not grieving anymore. I'm celebrating!]

Keep marching on, my dear activist friend!

Love you,

Anonymous, Vermont USA

Dear Iona,

Thank you so much for your email and words of encouragement, it means a lot.

Of course, you can use it in your wonderful newsletter.

Warm regards,

Tijn Tjoelker

+31612633830

[Note from Iona: I will publish Tijn's story next time.]

JOYFUL THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO MADE MY BIRTHDAY SO SPECIAL!