

TIME to
step forward

A white line drawing of a human leg and foot, positioned between the words 'step' and 'forward' in the title. The leg is shown in profile, with the foot pointing towards the right. The drawing is simple and minimalist, using only white lines on a black background.

Richard Conricus

Earlier published books by the author:

EVOLUTIONENS idéer – en kort berättelse om varför, när och hur människan (av allt att döma) tog fel väg,

ISBN: 978-1502322159, sidor: 272, format: 15.24 x 22.86 cm, numen publications, Malmö, 2011-2015.

EVOLUTIONARY ideas – A short story about why, when and how humans (by all accounts) took the wrong path, ISBN: 978-1502377050, pages: 256, format: 15.24 x 22.86 cm, numen publications, Malmö, Sweden 2013-2017.

Är präststyre på väg tillbaka i Europa?

ISBN: 978-1500654894 sidor: 96, format: 14.0 x 21.5 cm, numen publications, Malmö, 2014-2015.

From Rio to Quito - A nine weeks photo odyssey in South America, ISBN: 978-1494742942 sidor: 96, format: 20.3 x 25.4 cm, numen publications, Malmö, Sweden, 2014.

Locktoner och Tankens Mutation – om godhet istället för religion, ISBN: 9652229563 sidor: 108,

format: 21.0 x 14.8 cm, numen books, Malmö, 1999.

Essays:

Tid att träda fram

sidor: 44, format: 12,7 x 20,3 cm, numen publications, Malmö, Sweden, 2020.

Silence of the God(s) and human choices

pages: 44, format: 12,7 x 20,3 cm, numen publications, Malmö, Sweden, 2019.

När gud(arna) tystnar och människans val

sidor: 48, format: 12,7 x 20,3 cm, numen publications, Malmö, Sweden, 2019.

FEAR OF GLOBALIZATION

ISBN: 978-1537716152, pages: 52, format: 12,7 x 20,3 cm, numen publications, Malmö, Sweden, 2016.

GLOBALISERINGSÅNGEST

ISBN: 978-1537716152, sidor: 52, format: 12,7 x 20,3 cm, numen publications, Malmö, 2016.

Hur man tidigt kan upptäcka Prostata Cancer

sidor: 28, format: 12,7 x 20,3 cm, numen publications, Malmö, 2017.

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by Richard Conricus

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We sat on the porch which I had named "Encheduanas eshadam" (Sumerian for Encheduana's tavern) after history's first known author. There, we neighbors gather most every day for an hour of Fika (Swedish for coffee brake) and to discuss current events. I have named the site after Encheduana (born around 2285 BC) for her clear-eyed warnings that humanity would make fatal decisions if the balance between female and male would be disrupted. She was the High Priestess of the Sumerian city of Ur about 4250 years ago, at a time when human societal structure was being shaped. The essence of Encheduana has intrigued me ever since I discovered her in the 1990s in the University of Oxford's transliteration and re-translating of a series of Sumerian texts. Beginning in the 1970s, I plowed farther and farther back in time to seek knowledge of the genealogy of civilization, and it was in the 90s that I discovered her impressive writings.

The morning had been perfect. Fresh and clean water had flowed from the tap. As usual, I started the day by rinsing my mouth and face and thanked for the luxury of being able to start the day this way. In the kitchen, as usually, I squeezed a lemon into a glass of water and went out into the garden. Against a clear blue sky, the foliage of the fruit trees swayed calmly back and forth. In the small greenhouse, corn seeds had begun to sprout up solemnly from the black planting soil. Only now in the autumn of my age have my wife and I managed to patch together all the pieces of our life's puzzle, and it is so beautiful and perfect. Children and grandchildren are doing well. In the shadow of Covid-19, we value even more everyday life and gratefully receive each day as a gift.

A slight spring breeze swept through the "tavern" a few hours later, and after the latest news about Covid-19, we, like countless times before, our little neighborhood club got to talk about whether the pandemic was going to change people's attitudes and actions. I argued that rulers had to make globally effective decisions, but that religions, and especially then fundamentalist religions, made solutions of consensus impossible. Their primitive scare propaganda and accusations of apostasy, bigotry and blasphemy must be neutralized. One of my friends, Lars, then looked at me under his black cap, which he had pulled down a bit. "You have to make a difference between bigotry and faith". "Not at all," I protested. "Religious magicians draw forth

allegations of apostasy, bigotry and blasphemy from the magic box loaded with superstition when nothing else works. Loyalists accuse and are intolerant of other creeds or opinions.”

Lars is the son of survivors from Theresienstadt’s Nazi concentration camp and, with a family background that can explain why, despite his atheistic view of life, shows pre-discursive reverence for believing people. His grandparents were deeply believing ultra-Orthodox Jews who never accepted the formation of the state of Israel in 1948. Lars’ mother revolted against her parents, became a communist and actively worked for the Zionist state of Israel. Lars was born in Sweden in 1948 and his parents gave him the Swedish-sounding name to show his great gratitude to Sweden and the Swedes who readily received them in the white buses after the end of the Second World War.

Our discussions almost always trace back to the power of religions over people and I am not late to reiterate the theory, which is supported by some researchers, that we humans probably have a brain structure and gene set that, unlike all other creations, enable belief in a higher power. I claim that it is based on the fact that *Homo sapiens* is indeed gifted, but not sufficiently talented to explain life. Therefore, evolutionary space has been created in our brains windings for the belief in a godly world and, as a direct consequence of this, can accuse, condemn, exclude from the community and even murder when the teachings are not followed. This has been the case since the Sumerian tolerant social system was destroyed by the Akkadian male gender power 4200 years ago.

The Sumerian society was very different from the social structures that followed. It was ruled by a multitude of female and male gods and was totally subject to the order and power of nature. The Sumerian explanatory models of life were based on the idea that man was subordinate to higher governing beings, and not masters over nature, which became man’s signature as a result of, among other things, more successful conquests over the next 4000 years. This is my interpretation of the texts that have been the basis of my books and essays resulting from almost 45 years of basic research.

The Covid-19 outbreak appears to have brought humans back to a time when they felt they were ruled by nature and not by its masters. The question is whether there will be lasting insights or whether the world will go back to "business as usual" once an effective vaccine has been developed. Should the tentacles of greed continue to be allowed to devour people and our earth? Man is in a peculiar position when the boundary between vital desires are blurred and developed into greed. The cognitive framework within which we can act evolutionarily apparently has no limit when it comes to economic and power greed. No other creation on earth has this defect. This is a destructive trait that has caused endless suffering to vulnerable people who, paradoxically, often are those who fall for greedy power rhetorics. Many others are heartening to power-hungry and unscrupulous rulers who have contributed to the extinction of 10,000's of species on our absolutely wonderful planet. It is obviously TIME for truly wise Homo sapienses (Latin for wise man) to step forward.

A few months before the Covid-19 outbreak, and just before my 67th birthday in October 2019, I uploaded a three-part video on YouTube and Facebook that I have been brooding for a long time. It felt like it was time to seek a wider audience with my theories that I first published 20 years ago in the book "Alluration and the Mutation of Thought - About Goodness Instead of Religion" (1999).

The full video with all three parts is available at <https://youtu.be/GU8-9954dg> but the text follows here

Is It Time?

by
Richard Conricus

To introduce the universal force of Goodness to a wider audience?

I believe so.

I'm sure that the world's various religious philosophers are aware of the universal force of Goodness.

The problem is that almost all of them are trying to make Goodness into a God for a specific ethnic group only, and thus build walls between people, which is the opposite of Goodness.

Goodness is for all, and sorry to say, not especially interested in the fate of humanity.

After all, humans have been around for about 200,000 years only, while the universe is around 13,800,000,000 years old.

Unfortunately, humans took the wrong path thousands of years ago. We are now living in a time paying for fatal mistakes made then.

The world is in an alarming situation of global heating and heading towards the sixth extinction.

Nothing is really done to save our planet.

Instead, greenhouse gas emissions are increasing.

So, why does not Goodness act for the safety of humans?

Again, Goodness is not particularly interested in humans.

What is then, you might ask, the point of seeking Goodness, if this force did not "create man in His own image"?

The answer to this question becomes obvious when you experience Goodness.

You will be in no doubt.

So, how can one experience Goodness?

- Part 2 -

These are the preconditions.

Its presence will be lost if stifling, selfish or scheming actions are present.

Goodness is solely apparent when non-egoistic, unintended and immediate actions are present.

This is what you will experience.

Connecting to Goodness renders a feeling of optimal togetherness resembling the true connection between loving individuals.

If an action was right, a clear and instant confirmation will be given.

If the action was wrong, no response will occur, and there is no punishment to fear. The choice is yours.

Freedom of choice governs.

Goodness cannot be demanded.

Instead, Goodness as a force must be received in insight after insight.

Goodness is the supreme force, predating and dominating the physical powers of gravity, electromagnetism, strong and weak nuclear power.

Connect with Goodness!

- Part 3 -

I know, I am in unknown deep space when theorizing about how Goodness can be everywhere at all times.

The only reasonable explanation, in my opinion, is based on the two legs of quantum mechanics:

the EPR effect and Bell's inequalities

Additional clarifications most probably exist.

To understand these effects, I borrow John Polkinghorne's excellent elucidation;

that there is a counterintuitive togetherness-in-separation between two particles

and that quantum entities that have interacted with each other remain mutually entangled,

however far they may eventually separate spatially.

Correspondingly, Goodness appears regardless of distance and volume when its universal "algorithm" of requirements are met.

Discovering, Connecting, and Knowing Goodness, is probably the ultimate reason why we exist.

Thinking "outside the box" is probably good, but which frames have to be forced to achieve goodness? Is it at all possible to understand and find the way there? And do you want to get there? Who would profit from it? The answer, of course, is that everyone and not just a few should be able to enjoy the gift we all received - life. However, this requires that our lives, values and opportunities are synchronized globally. But as long as people live in closed societies, ruled by power-mad despots or ideologies that brainwash people with the fact that there is only one truth, the dictator's or the religion's truths, the individual's ability to reach goodness awaits. This is because free choice is an important basis for reaching a higher consciousness. Needless to say there is another baseline: equality and equal values for women and men.

During long periods of my life, I have lived in Israel and gained insights that would be totally impossible to achieve if I only had lived in Sweden or in my hometown Malmö. By all means, Malmö is a wonderful cultural togetherness of people from nearly 160 different countries and nationalities, but if you want to understand the essence of today's turbulent dissonance between open and closed societies, you must have lived e.g. in the Middle East, which is almost to be considered a hell of power ambitions.

Already at a young age, I supported the newly formed state of Israel and, that after 2000 years of diaspora, Jews would finally be allowed to move back to the country from which they were driven. As a child, I heard stories about how our neighbor on Hjorttackegatan in Malmö had been involved in organizing small boat armadas across the strait to save Danish Jews from the Nazis. I also had a Jewish boy and girl as good friends at the "Västra skolan" and attended Sunday School in Petri Church under the leadership of pastor Herman Schlyter, who gave deep impressions and strengthen my interest in the Holy Land. As early as in puberty I joined pro-Israeli demonstrations, but they gradually attracted far fewer participants than high-ranking socialist-oriented power demonstrations. What was strange was how, from the outset, the Israel friendly Social Democratic Party in just a few years, especially after the 1973 oil crisis, was turned into anti-Israeli. Much later, I gained insight into why and how the swing happened (more on this at numen.com).

I am fortunate to have been born in Sweden, but what would my worldview look like if I was born in, let's say, Muslim Nablus on the West Bank, Jewish ultra-orthodox Mea Shearim in Jerusalem, or in the Bedouin village of Tuba in the Upper Galilee? Then I would have been trapped in a deeply narrow world of rules and regulations based on tribal thinking "for the best of the group", that is, decrees that since ancient times determine what is allowed and prohibited by canonized laws. These laws cannot be called into question and, therefore, closed societies exist and cannot possibly be integrated into the openness of the free world unless reform work is allowed.

Closed societies with rigid rules and regulations have certainly been functional during the course of civilization to achieve the necessary conformism and the pursuit of common goals. However, the question is in whose interest is the group forced into conformism? Once the tribe's survival was assured and surpluses began to accumulate, a pattern of hierarchy was discerned in which the most gifted began to set the tone for how the group would be fortified, expand prosperity and attain a position of power against rival groups. In line with continued success both in

the agricultural fields as well as in the war fields, the appetite for more increased. Successful leaders with power hunger attracted more and more people.

We have access to historical documents that indicate when the paradigm shift began. The first to break with indigenous traditions was Naram-Sin (circa 2254-2218 BC) in Mesopotamia, i.e. ca. 4200 years ago when he was the first to proclaim himself as God's representative on earth. Through this effort, the Akkadian Semite broke with the world-view of the former Sumerian culture of total submission to the will of the gods. With Naram-Sin's decree of god status, a path of boundless conquest was opened in the name of a god. Rulers came to decide, in God's name, what was permissible and what was unauthorized. Women who had an almost equal influence under the Sumerian culture saw themselves gradually shifted to the domains of the home. Encheduana warned of the ongoing development and, paradoxically, she was the aunt of Naram-Sin. Men became more and more alone at the center-stage and women were driven away from the public. As a direct result, women came to be oppressed and treated as possessions.

Homo sapiens, unlike other creations, seems to have no barrier to power ambitions and greed. Power blinds and corrupts and the greedy just wants more and more. This fatal flaw in the evolutionary evolution of the sapiens can likely be blamed on an erroneous brain configuration. As a result, *Homo sapiens* may be a further evolutionary failure. The problem compared to other failures is that the species through its faulty construction has created death and misery not only for themselves, but for so many other creatures. The barrier of reflection has given way to power and greed. Paradoxically, however, there are barriers when it comes to common sense and to seeing decrees based on superstition. I have personally met highly educated, scientifically active people who are completely incomprehensible when, for example, I argue that man is the result of evolution and not intelligent design (creationism).

Naram-Sin's disgraceful efforts to proclaim himself as the Moon god Sin's representative on earth were the beginning of a process that would, among other things, lead to the birth of monotheism. The

Abrahamic doctrine cleansed the house of 1000s of former gods and demanded blind obedience to Yahweh's laws. This obviously fell into good ground as the new faith quickly gained a foothold in the Middle East. But Yahweh worshipers gradually closed the door for converts, and after political and religious strife within the ranks of the Israelites, a new variant of monotheism was born; Nazarene, whom they first came to call after Jesus of Nazareth. Christians interpreted the Roman Empire's devastating victory over Israel as a sign that Israel and the Judah kingdoms did not preach the proper doctrine of God. Half a millennium later, a third monotheistic doctrine was born, which also claimed that its predecessors did not preach the right doctrine. Islam came to demand total submission, and to this day, unlike Judaism and Christianity, has not undergone canonized reform.

The priesthood of Judaism and Christianity does not preach the words of the Bible:

“Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Put every man his sword by his side, and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour. And the children of Levi did according to the word of Moses: and there fell of the people that day about three thousand men.” (Exodus 32: 27-28).

”Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.” (Matthew 10:34-36).

The clergy of Islam, on the other hand, cling to the mindless and terrible decrees

“And kill them wherever you overtake them and expel them from wherever they have expelled you, and fitnah [disbelief] is worse than killing.” (Qur'an 2:191).

I am convinced that if someone today tried to market a new ideology with similar wording, very few people on earth would go for such calls. So why do people not give up on the past and work for peaceful coexistence without interference of a God? Why are people sacrificed daily on the altar of intolerance?

One reason is that there is a terrible imbalance in the world between those who have and those who have not. People who fight for daily survival in closed and corrupt governed or greedy profit-driven societies have zero, or very little interest, for others. For them, tribal and group affiliation is a matter of survival. Add to that that man is easy to dupe, at least initially. Rhetorically gifted people can easily ride on people's discontent or by promising to fulfill age-old ideals, which ultimately only benefits an elite.

With the Covid-19 pandemic, the injustices have become even clearer. People in many countries have less chance to receive adequate healthcare.

A new global leadership must step forward and take on the world's terrible injustices and convey goodness. But any such leadership will have a hard time by education to teach ruler ideologies, the power-blind and greedy, which is why financial sanctions are the best tool to force these regimes into adherence to socio-economic justice. Earth's resources belong to all of humanity and should be distributed globally. Those who profited at the depletion of the earth must now join in trying to restore our planet to ensure the continued existence of all creations.

We must never forget that we are only guests here on earth and, as a guest, each one of us should know how to behave; not to destroy and kill but show reverence for all living.

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