

BRAZIL TALKING NEWS

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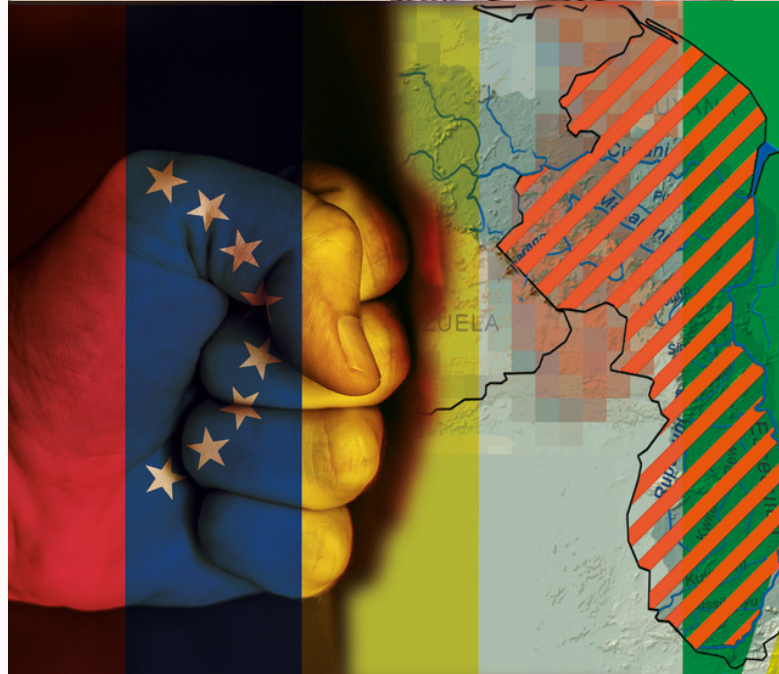
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BRAZILIAN
SCENARIO

Nomination of Flávio Dino to the STF



**ROBERTO
VIANNA**

FOTO: SITE PODER360



FOTO: FACEBOOKDE FLÁVIO DINO

The appointment of the Minister of Justice and Public Security, Flávio Dino, made by Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva for the vacancy in the Federal Supreme Court (STF) left by Rosa Weber, rightly divides opinions.



The president, interested only in having a faithful representative in the STF, is ignoring the pressure from society to nominate a female and/or black jurist, in addition to the nominee's clear, public, and notorious political activism. This latest demonstration caused Flávio Dino to send a letter to the Senate, guaranteeing that he would be “technical and impartial”.

The appointment of politicians to this position is nothing new, but the fact is that Flávio Dino is an undeniable politician and activist on one side. In this way, no matter how much he fulfills his promise of impartiality (which I do not believe), his political image will prevail for the public. His entry into the STF reinforces the idea that the Supreme Court has a political side, which completely takes away its legitimacy.

The perfect person for the position would be someone strictly technical, with an “indisputable constitutional record”, and who was very far from the political environment.

In this entire horror film for Brazilian society, one thing is certain: all this politicization of the country's highest court is destroying its credibility and impartiality. Flávio Dino may even be legally prepared, but according to the current criteria of honesty, he will be sworn in as the newest minister of the Federal Supreme Court due to his greatest qualification: his “NOTORIOUS POLITICAL KNOWLEDGE”!

A LITTLE BIT OF THE PAST

Ana Claudia Carregaro

Flávio Dino was governor of Maranhão for two terms. In 2014, he was elected in the first round with 1,877,064 votes (63.52% of valid votes), beating Lobão Filho (MDB-MA), son of former governor and former senator Edison Lobão (MDB-MA).

According to Estadão, in addition to being governor, he was also president of the Consórcio Amazônia Legal, a group that brings together representatives of the nine states in the region. In 2022, he left the state government early so he could run for the Senate. He was elected but did not hold the position because he was appointed Minister of Justice.

Numbers don't lie unless they are manipulated, but as the government is transparent in its public accounts Flávio Dino did not leave good memories for Maranhão

Maranhão is the poorest state in Brazil in terms of social inequality, according to data from the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), which found that per capita income is less than R\$255.00 per month. The main economic activities in Maranhão are agriculture and livestock.

According to Valor Econômico magazine, Maranhão is the state in which the population has the lowest average monthly income, at R\$409. The value corresponds to less than a third (31.2%) of the average income of the Brazilian population, which is R\$1,310. The other states with the worst situation for their inhabitants are Pará (R\$507), Alagoas (R\$552), Piauí (R\$554) and Ceará (R\$583).



In December, the Senate approved the appointment of licensed senator and now former Minister of Justice Flávio Dino for the position of minister of the Federal Supreme Court (STF). The secret vote ended with 47 votes in favor and 31 against, in addition to 2 abstentions.

Source: Senado Agency

Flávio Dino could stay at the STF for just over 19 years and should assume the presidency of the Court in 2035.

At 55 years old, Dino will have to leave the Supreme Court when he turns 75, in April 2043. The new minister is scheduled to take office after the judiciary recess, in February 2024.

The retirement of STF ministers is compulsory when they turn 75 years of age.

Attention

One of Flávio Dino's main goals as Minister of Justice is Internet regulation

In January 2023, the Minister of Justice, Flávio Dino, handed President Lula the so-called "Democracy Package", which proposes punishments for crimes against the Democratic Rule of Law. The proposed amendment to the Constitution, a provisional measure, and two draft laws aim to increase the security of the government and public buildings in Brasília, especially after the acts of January 8th. Among the ideas are the re-creation of a national guard and the increase in penalties for those who violate the democratic order. They also include the regulation of social networks and the internet, filtering content considered undemocratic. The allegation is that groups or movements in cyberspace have been spreading hate speech and false news, the so-called "fake news", which destabilizes democratic institutions and, ultimately, causes violent demonstrations.

Source: Senado Agency

INTERNATIONAL SCENARIO



**VENEZUELA X GUYANA:
ESSEQUIBO CONFLICT.**

01

THE FIRST POINT

What is Essequibo? The region gets its name due to the Essequibo River, which is also the Indigenous Native Language, which refers to the abundance of water. Not surprisingly, what Nicolás Maduro claims today is the entire west of the river, basically all the tributaries, fauna, and flora of that region. This name refers to water.

Why are Venezuela, Guyana, and Suriname, for example, more connected with the United States than with Brazil, although this is counterintuitive, as they share borders with Brazil? But why in economic and political terms are these 3 countries much closer to the USA?

These two points are very relevant and are also geographically descriptive. The first is that the regions where they are located: Guyana, Suriname, and the South of Venezuela, are mountainous and vast (very large plateau), and creating infrastructure within that region is very complicated, even more so, if we think in terms economic issues, not to mention the access and exit of goods and services, becomes inaccessible. However, we have the Amazon forest itself which makes it difficult for these countries to have a stronger bond with Brazil. If we are to analyze more deeply, part of Brazil, which has greater economic development, is not configured in the northern region of the country, which ends up disconnecting from Brazil and favoring the United States, especially with oil, as they have its American multinational companies.



0 2

SECOND POINT

Demography.

British Guiana has basically 800,000 inhabitants, it is the size of my city, Uberlândia-MG, it is a very small country, while Venezuela has basically 28 million inhabitants. Therefore, they are extremely different countries, in terms of economic production and public policy development. And they end up finding themselves in this Essequibo issue since the key population point draws a lot of attention.

0 3

THIRD POINT

To make it very clear, as I said previously, the Essequibo River cuts through the entire Guyana, and above all, the West of the Essequibo River covers around 70 to 75% of the area of the Guyana region, which is being claimed by Nicolás Maduro. It is important to understand that it is not a small territory, to be brief, it would be the size of Greece, Cuba, or England.

0 4

FOURTH POINT

Far beyond the Territory

Not only is it large in territorial terms, but it is also very vast and rich in minerals, for example, in the Essequibo region: there is a lot of gold, diamonds, bauxite, manganese, uranium... these are very rich minerals. In addition to having a lot of water, many tributaries are very important for navigation and the production of electrical energy for Guyana, such as the construction of hydroelectric plants. And finally, what has attracted attention and attention today is oil, much of which was discovered in 2015, by ExxonMobil, whose oil production is very high. Since, it is not restricted only to the territory of Guyana, but extends to the maritime region, which is its exclusive economic zone.

History



Between the years 1814 and 1815, a few years after Venezuela's independence, in the wake of Napoleon Bonaparte's conflicts, it is interesting to open a parenthesis, as everything that happened in the European metropolis had repercussions on the colonies. At that time, when Napoleon, wanted to conquer all of Europe, and he ended up losing. The English, victorious, beat the Spanish, the Dutch, and the French. Therefore, England claims a territory in South America, in the meantime, we understand it as British Guiana. In short, it is a spoil of war, based on the victory that England had over Napoleon. And they ended up signing a Peace Treaty. The Dutch with Guyana, which is now known as Suriname. And Venezuela continues with its territory.

So, with this peace treaty between the Dutch and the English, British Guiana appears, but without its borders being fully defined.

To try to resolve the border problem, England hired a German explorer named Robert Schomburgk, who defined the borders of what would become Guyana, as we know it today. In this there is an impasse, a problem of overlapping territorial claims is created as Venezuela had already claimed this region. And England had acquired it for having won the conflict with Napoleon Bonaparte, in the Treaty of Utrecht of 1815.

WHAT IS THIS REGION? WHY IS THERE THIS ESSEQUIBO DISPUTE?

Let's go back to the year 1777, 18th century, when Spain founded the Captaincy of Venezuela, in the region of Essequibo, which forms part of the territory of that captaincy.

In 1811, Venezuela became independent and continued with the Essequibo region, however, without any border delimitation. And this is a crucial point that generates friction to this day.



In the 1880s, understanding that the issue had not been resolved and they were delaying the issue of borders, the English began to find gold in this region, further reinforcing the delimitation, and the Omai Mine was discovered, which today is a source of gold/money to Guyana. (Between 1993 and 2005 alone, Omai produced more than 3.7 million ounces of gold.) The Guyana region was and continues to be very, very promising economically and conflicts have intensified.

At the end of the 19th century, Venezuela went to ask for help from the then president of the United States, James Monroe, in 1823 - due to the allegation that European countries were invading the American region, a region of the American hemisphere - Monroe, had established a doctrine that promoted European non-interference in the American continent: "America for the Americans".

In this way, the United States helped Venezuela, with the arbitration process, the Treaty of Washington of 1897 was created and with this, it was submitted to international arbitration, of 1889, in Paris, which gave rise to the famous Treaty of Paris, between English and Venezuelans. With the arbitration process between the two countries, they ended the 19th century and entered the next century, without having resolved this issue.

The USA intervened to try to carry out an arbitration and give a report, saying who had the right to that region/land: England or Venezuela. England emerged victorious with this report and initially, Venezuela accepted and complied with the decision.

In 1949, already in the 20th century, a report was discovered in which the lawyer represented that the arbitration was not impartial, that is, it was partial and had not been carried out in good faith and the judges had somehow favored the English.

From 1949 onwards, Venezuela's protest over the Essequibo region began to become increasingly emphatic, precisely as a result of the discovery of the report.

In 1962, Venezuela appealed to the United Nations to revisit the issue of the Essequibo case. And in 1966, a few months before Guyana's independence, with England and Venezuela, they signed the Geneva Agreement, both countries recognized their claims and agreed to resolve them peacefully.

After Guyana's independence, the dispute remains open. The Geneva Agreement concerns England and Venezuela. And not Guyana, already independent.

From 1966 to 2015, there was a hiatus, a silence. Until, in 2015, oil was discovered by ExxonMobil, whose company is North American, and it revived again.

In 2017, the current secretary of the United Nations, António Guterres, will take this dispute to the International Court of Justice - ICJ. On the other hand, Venezuela does not accept that it be taken to the ICJ, as it claims that there is no type of jurisdiction over this dispute in the Essequibo region, and whatever it may emanate will not make sense, because it is also biased.

And in 2023, we see Nicolás Maduro, making threats, reclaiming the Essequibo region, which has been contested for more than 200 years.



STEVAN BERNARDINO

Professor, Social
Communicator and
International Relations
Analyst – Lives in Ethiopia



By Ana Claudia Carregaro



IRAN ASSUMES PRESIDENCY OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS FORUM

Iran will become president of a UN human rights forum on Thursday, sparking an international protest campaign from human rights activists who say Tehran's record of oppression, torture, and executions makes it unsuitable for the role, says UN Watch

According to UNWATCH, Iran's nomination could be overturned by a special council meeting before Thursday, said Hillel Neuer, executive director of UN Watch, an independent human rights non-governmental organization based in Geneva, which drafted a resolution for countries to adopt.

UN Watch has been a leading voice at the United Nations on human rights in Iran. UN Watch's campaign is supported by a global petition signed by more than 90,000 people, calling on the UN to oust Iran's presidency of the rights forum UN Human Rights.



Cases of international repercussion in Iran

In October 2022, further demonstrations over the death of Mahsa Amini became one of the biggest challenges to the Iranian theocracy since the country's Green Movement protests in 2009. Protesters included oil workers, high school students and women marching without the mandatory headscarf or hijab.

In response to the wave of demonstrations, the government further tightened the existing dress code imposed on its citizens, whose victims are mainly women. The so-called "hijab and chastity" law provides for fines and prison sentences of up to ten years in case of violation.

According to Euronews in 2022, 1200 people were arrested and, according to a non-governmental organization, Iran Human Rights, 76 Iranians died in the protests.





DOCTORS DECLARE 16- YEAR-OLD IRANIAN GIRL BRAIN DEAD

Even with popular revolt, the Iranian government tightened its laws, increasingly oppressing its population. The Iranian regime does not have Democracy, but an Autocracy of political authorities. An example of this was yet another death of an Iranian teenager Armita Geravand who died in October 2023 after spending a month in a coma as a result of an incident in the Tehran subway, as reported by state media. In early October, she was allegedly violently attacked by the "morality police" due to incorrect use of the hijab, the mandatory veil for women, according to CNN

The Center for Human Rights in Iran, in New York, spoke out saying that Armita "can no longer share her story", and that she has been "silenced forever". "However, we know that, in an environment where Iranian authorities apply severe penalties against women and girls who disobey the state's imposition of the hijab, Armita demonstrated courage by appearing publicly without the veil," said the entity, as reported by the Associated Agency Press.



In addition to Armita's death, Iran sentenced two female journalists, Niloufar Hamedani and Elahe Mohammadi, to 20 years in prison. They were accused by the government of acting against national security because they reported the murder of young Mahsa Amini last year. Mahsa was also murdered by the customs police over a hijab issue.

EU diplomacy chief Josep Borrell defended Iran's nomination as a matter of regional rotation, "in coherence with procedures established by the UN."

The questions that remain: What are the procedures for placing a country that finances terrorist groups such as Hamas, and Fatah, among others?

How can a country that dehumanizes women due to an object, one of the countries that most violates the human rights of its people, kills due to popular protests, arrests its political opponents, be presiding over the human rights forum?

The question also remains why the silence of other heads of government who claim to be democratic and join hands with the UN for this setback?

What we call civilization, what becomes a civil being, is in danger and will become extinct in the future.

**SO FAR, AT LEAST
488 PROTESTERS
HAVE BEEN
KILLED BY
SECURITY
FORCES AND A
FURTHER 18,259
HAVE BEEN
DETAINED,
ACCORDING TO
THE HUMAN
RIGHTS
ACTIVISTS NEWS
AGENCY (HRANA),
WHICH ALSO
REPORTED THE
DEATHS OF 62
SECURITY
PERSONNEL -BBC**

UNDER THE PRIESTLY ROBLE

By Pr Alex Moreira



In a historic decision, the Vatican officially authorized this Monday (18/12) the blessing of same-sex couples or those in an "irregular situation", that is, those who are not canonically married by the Church. This, however, does not mean that the Catholic Church is no longer against same-sex marriage. According to the Vatican, the new norm published this Monday says that faced with a request from two people to be blessed, even if their status as a couple is "irregular" before the Catholic Church, it will be possible to grant it, without this gesture, however, contains elements minimally similar to a marriage rite.

The authorization is contained in the text called "Fiducia supplicans" on the pastoral meaning of blessings, published by the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith and approved by Pope Francis. The blessing authorized by the Vatican for same-sex couples is considered "spontaneous", similar to gestures of popular devotion, and not a ritual or liturgical blessing, such as that of marriage, says DW.

Among so many repercussions in the world, the Catholic Church has been rising to be the top trend in the USA, following his criticism of attempts to reform the Catholic Church, Pope Francis fired North American Bishop Joseph Strickland, a fierce critic who questioned the pope's leadership of the Catholic Church.

Strickland has launched a series of attacks on the pope's attempts to update the Church's position on social and inclusion issues, including abortion, transgender rights, and same-sex marriage. "Blessed perhaps, but still sinful" was the Pope's statement on the Church's position about same-sex couples, "we cannot be judges who only deny, reject and exclude". "When you do this, you lose true tradition and turn to ideologies for support. In other words, ideologies replace faith," Strickland added.

In addition to the break with tradition and remembering that Religion derives from the Latin Religare, which means, to reconnect "man to God", the priestly environment has shown itself in many case reports, as a parallel universe of opposing actions, to its primary purpose and concept, what should never happen, not even thought, has been more frequent than we imagine. We can say that illicit actions are taking place, such as adultery, flirting, immorality, sexual abuse, and even the crime of pedophilia. , in addition to complaints recorded in police reports, which has inspired many writers, academic scholars, and even filmmakers. Of all these sexual illegalities mentioned and others, which also involve an unprecedented scandal, of unimaginable proportions, which affects practically all interdenominational religions, one stands out: PEDOPHILIA



As this crime has been expanding, affecting all classes of people and society, there are countless attempts to frame within abject laws, through supposedly scientific data, certain legality, or justification, such an expansion that has recently been occurring. reaching presidents, politicians, businesspeople, employees, families, and finally religious people.

The biggest cause of the problem is within the religious institution, as on many occasions they are silent when they should report it to the competent bodies and even the police when they become aware of the facts, they do not do so under the pretext of being responsible for resolving the problem. situation only with religious counseling and support. This method has already proven to be a failure countless times, what we see are people taking advantage of the situation, disguised, to feed their sexual fantasies, making their offices and consulting rooms their sexual couches.

murder investigation
commit murder: The
attempted murder (=)
charged with att
pedophilia
sexual perversion in
object. Specifically :
sexual fantasies about
epubescent child



The victims of these crimes are: children, adolescents, women, young people, and all classes go through this situation, "UNDER THE PRIESTLY MANTO"

Pseudo-psychologists see what has always been a disgusting crime, pedophilia, emerging in this environment, now imputing guilt on its victims, destroying any psychological capacity for reaction or escape. Manipulation tactics are diverse, such as caresses, gifts, sweet and complimentary words, taking advantage of the innocence of the victims, who, believing in divine representatives, expose their weaknesses, confess acts, supposedly judged as sins, tell about their intimacies, hoping to obtain help, and even forgiveness and fall into the famous "Tale of the Vigário", or the Swindler!

What I want to show with this explanation is that little by little the Church is changing, loosening the reins, breaking traditions, and perhaps it is not to benefit others but perhaps to save others from crimes. As cases of pedophilia have increased so much and remembered that Brazil is in second place in the ranking of child abuse, what prevents marriages between adults and children from being authorized in the future, with the break in tradition? After authorization, perhaps, exonerate people who committed crimes against minors. Changing the pillars of the institution that maintains a civilized society during the chaos the world is in can have serious consequences in the future.





GEOPOLITICS

IRAN AND THEIR TENTACLES

BY BENO KIRSHBAUM

Metaphorically, Iran is like an octopus that has tentacles, one of the tentacles is Iraq, the other is Syria, Hamas in Palestine, in the Gaza Strip, Islamic Jihad, and the Houthis in Yemen, all these are groups and countries that cooperate with Iran, which is the head of the octopus that was formerly called Ancient Persia. The tentacles function to fight against the two Satans, Great Satan, which is the United States, and Little Satan, which is Israel.

The name Iran was conceived only in 1935 and is also part of the cradle of our culture, Ancient Persia, and became a gigantic Empire in almost the entire ancient world in the 5th century BC.



King Cyrus

The name that gives rise to the name Persian is a region called Fars in Northern Iran, close to the Caspian Sea, it is from there that the great leaders came from, such as Darius I (between 521 and 486 BC). - Xerxes I (between 485 and 465 BC) and even King Cyrus, who transformed Persia into an Empire by adding Babylon and other regions.

King Cyrus was important for biblical culture because after conquering Babylon he released those who were in exile, such as Ezra and Nehemiah, who rebuilt the Temple with the leader Zerubbabel, responsible for building the foundations of the Temple.



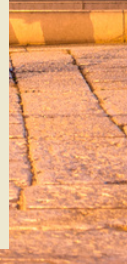
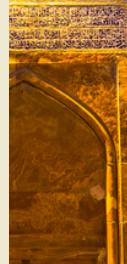
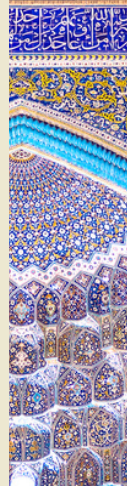
In the seventh century, in Saudi Arabia, the Islamic revolution took place, and soon after, Muslims began to expand and quickly dominated the world, from India to the Iberian Peninsula. As a result, the Persian ceases to be a Dynasty. Sassanid (224–651), was a power in its time, where there was a people with one language, an ancient culture, and even a monotheistic religion called Zoroastrianism.

With the expansion of the Arabs in Persian, the lingua franca began to be Arabic, even though it is not the official one, Islam became the religion removing Zarathustra and the temples gave way to mosques and this entire region began to be Muslim.

Mosques begin to take over the landscape of Iran and Persia at that time. In 918, the Persian tribal Confederation on the shores of the Caspian Sea made Shiraz the capital of Persia, which became the nation of the Islamic world, but more diversified, not so fundamentalist, with this Persia became a great power, in our science, medicine in astrology, in all aspects along with Islam.



Zarathustra



This period lasted until the Mongols began to conquer much of what was then the Arab Empire and Persia, and began to slowly destroy all of their culture, and religion, and at the height of this destruction, they managed to accumulate 70,000 skulls. Muslims, which would be enough to build a tower.

Persia remained in ruins until around the year 1500, under the rule of the Mongols. In 1501, a Kingdom called Safavid, then Muslim, in the Azerbaijan region, were Shiites and began to bring Islam and Persian pride back.

The Shah, which was the name of kings in Persian, overthrew all the descendants of the Mongols and founded the new Persian Empire. The Persian identity emerged again, rescuing the language, culture, and adoption of Shiite Islam, at this time, when Persia became the largest region and largest region and population of Shiite Muslims.



Persian Empire



The Ottomans slowly put pressure on the Persian Empire, which lost its strength and submitted to small invasions from the North.

In the meantime, Czarist Russia, in the 14th century, began to appropriate the lands of northern Iran (Persian) with the presence of Emperor Peter the Great and began to advance and increasingly weaken Iran (Persia).

Other groups that emerged almost close to the First World War were the Prussians, Germany, and the Austro-Hungarian Empire, all of them in a coalition with the Turkish-Ottoman Empire, which had a large part of the Middle Eastern world and reached the gates of Persia.

Therefore, the British Empire decided to get closer to Iran for 2 reasons: Firstly, because of the need for oil, and secondly, it is for this geopolitical strength and to prevent the Turkish-Ottoman Empire from continuing to expand towards the East. The setting for this geopolitical movement was Iran dominated by the Russians in the north of the empire and the south dominated by the British Empire.





At the end of the First World War, the British dominated much of the world and began to appoint heads of state, heads of country, and kings.

1935, Persia began to adopt the name of Iran. At that moment, Shah Reza Pahlavi brought, with the help of the Western world of the British and then the Americans, modernity to Iran. Iran (Persian) became, until the middle of the century 20, one of the most advanced countries in the Middle East - **Shah Reza Pahlavi in the mid-20th century dominated Persia for a long period.**

Iran until the 1970s was part of the Western world with all the advances, but in the early 1949s a fundamentalist Islamic resistance began to emerge in the face of the Western advance that was arriving in Iran. The so-called Islamist insurrection, which was led by the already Ayatollah Khomeini began to fight and rally a large part of the population behind his cause. At that time, Iran still had the strength to control these revolutions, it even had a secret police called Savak that managed to stop these Islamic movements. However, the people revolted against this lack of "democratization", as the majority at that time were already Islamists again, and therefore wanted more power and space from the more advanced world led by Shah Reza Pahlavi.



SAVAK

In the 70s, the policy of Jimmy Carter, the first president of the United States who did not have an interventionist policy, was a time when pressure grew from Shiite and Sunni Islamists within Iran, so Jimmy Carter retreated and let the Iranians resolve and Iran's progress, under the government of Shah Reza Pahlavi, begins to end. The leader of this revolution, Ayatollah Khomeini, returns from isolation to begin taking power and in 79 this Islamic revolution comes to fruition.

The forces that were militias, were Islamists, became an official Iranian army and began to reprimand any type. The demonstration was not Islamic and Shiite and this reality in Iran continues to this day.

Finally, at the end of the 80s we had the war between Iran and Iraq, where Iraq had support from the USA, and it was a bloody war and neither country was successful in its mission, neither country was able to advance due to this war.



Iraq

The word Persia means to bring a division, the etymological meaning of the word Persia Pars (Persis comes from the Persian Pars or Parsa – the name of Cyrus' main clan and which also gave the name to the region where the Persians lived, corresponding today to the modern province of Fars). This is Iran's objective, to divide the world between Shiites and Sunnis, however, there is the so-called "scapegoat" which is Israel, in English of course, an innocent person is held responsible for a fault that he does not have, another factor is that Israel is predominantly Western, making this division difficult;

There are 2 main groups, the Sunnis and the Shiites, the Shiites have Iran as their large nation, but they also have small groups in various places in the Middle East.

Iran and Iraq in the past were one nation, Iraq, which we also know as the cradle of our civilization, Babylon, where writing appeared in Mesopotamia, between the Euphrates River, a super fertile place, is also part of our culture.



Iraq is divided into a Sunni minority, a Shiite majority, some Kurds who are in northern Iraq, and other minorities who are in favor of Westernization, the latter has suffered greatly due to persecution by religious fundamentalists.

In 2003, the United States, after suffering the atrocities of September 11th, ended up invading places in the Middle East, including Iraq, to put an end once and for all to the anti-American forces that existed there and that continued to threaten the West and they were led precisely by Saddam Hussein who was Sunni and opposed a great enemy, Iran.

Iraq faced Iran for 8 years, and conquered its power with great force, with many deaths in the form of dictatorships, that is, in the modus operandi of the Middle East. Suffocating minorities, including Shiites, were suffocated and thus Saddam Hussein, being part of an ethnic minority linked to Sunnis, remained in power.

He was a military man, not very religious, and extremely intelligent in the sense of being able to maneuver and manipulate the population in favor of his interests, and, despite having been supported by the Americans in the 80s, he ends up facing off against the Americans.





Bush Jr., in the early 2000s, entered Iraq with his army and managed, after some effort, to put an end to Saddam Hussein's resistance.

The Iraqi people took to the streets and understood that Saddam Hussein no longer had power and they felt free to tear down his image and help the Americans start persecuting Saddam Hussein with the help of the Kurds in the north and the Shiites in the east.

The West's problem is our lack of interpretation capacity, the minds of Easterners are unable to put ourselves in their shoes. Maybe we missed some history and culture classes, and because of that, we think we will join in to democratize the Middle East.

The United States thought that by managing to remove Saddam Hussein, they brought a little from there, a little from here, and mixed everything in the same bottle, just that. It exploded, it exploded, and caused a tragedy that to this day has not been able to be repaired, why? Because all the forces joined together against Saddam Hussein, Shiites on one side, Kurds on the other side to help the Americans, but between them, they don't mix and they also don't have the slightest aptitude or intellect for a democratic system.

Currently, a part of Iraq is dominated by Iran with those Shiite populations that border Iran, already forming part of the same territory, that is, Iran has already embraced a large part of Iraq where the Shiite populations are located.

In the North, Kurdistan is a bubble in an attempt to get closer to the West and is suffering attacks from the Turks trying to invade Iraq and push the Kurds away, and in that vacuum left by the Sunnis in Iraq, when Saddam Hussein was captured, it was occupied by the Islamic State, Isis.

Iran ended up making a coalition with the pragmatic world, that is, a routine way, an attempt to expel ISIS in western Iraq. The Islamic State ended up gaining more strength in Iraq bringing its war commandos and arming itself heavily in the region and today it has an entire army focused on its enemy, which is Israel.

MAP - American bases since the time of Iraq and today this territory has advanced Iranian bases and attacks American and Israeli bases, that is, part of Iraq is a Shiite fundamentalist part linked to Iran and thus becomes a front aimed at attacking both the US and Israel.



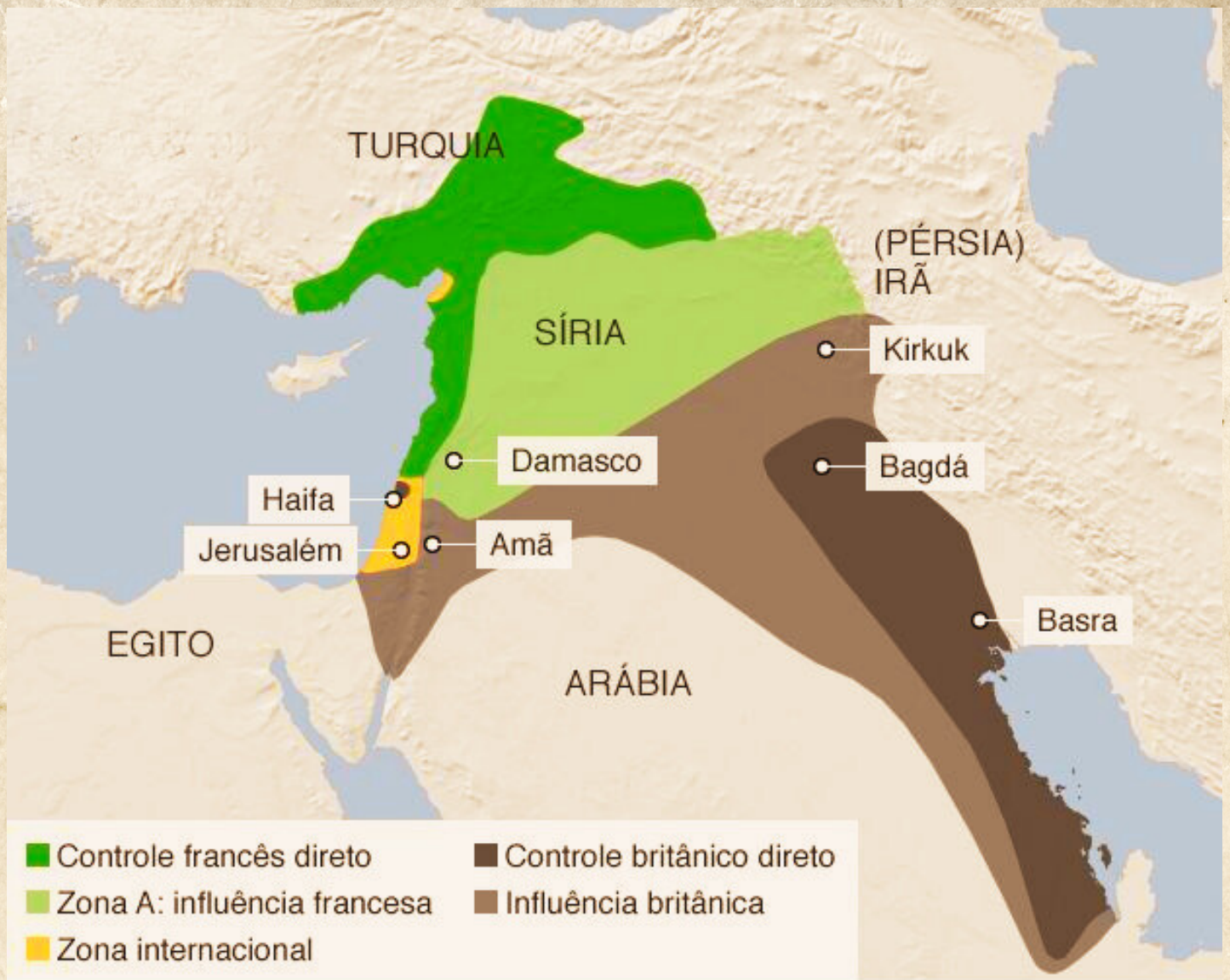
Syria

Syria is a country with a large number of borders between them; Iraq Lebanon, Türkiye Israel, and Jordan. Syria is also a very ancient civilization, supplied by rivers, much of it is desert, and for a long time in history, Damascus was the center of civilization.

Between the First and Second World Wars, the entire Middle East was divided, the French Empire and the British Empire divided the entire Middle East, and a part of Africa, in an agreement called Sykes-Picot. They drew a line on one side through the British Empire and the French Empire on the other, until the middle of the Second World War.

The Umayyad Mosque in Damascus in the summer of 2010. | Rodrigo Isasi





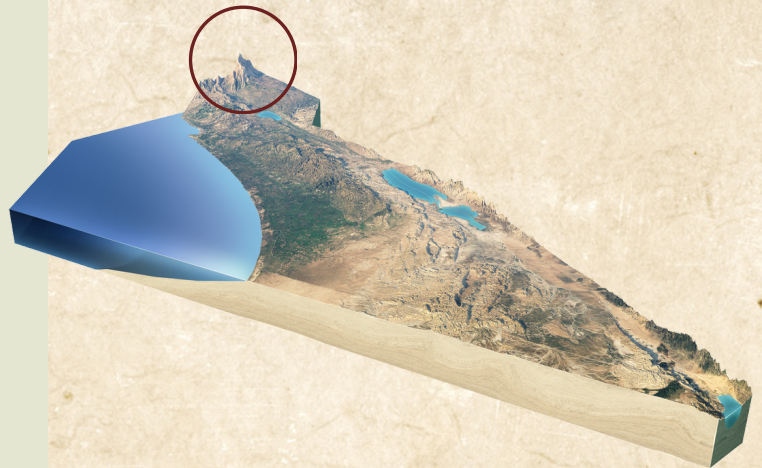
Syria was part of the French Empire, Iraq was part of the British Empire, Lebanon was part of the French Empire, and Palestine, as it was called, was part of the British Empire. Right after the Second World War, the 2 powers, the two Empires, after having suffered so much during the war with so many bombings, had to combine all possible efforts to rebuild the cities in Europe, so they ended up abandoning the Middle East, to take all their forces, their armies, back to Europe. Consequently, they ended up appointing kings, leaders, and Shahs, in the case of Iran, which was sympathetic to the West, without taking into account the culture of the Nation-State in that region. The system that prevailed and still prevails today in the Middle East is the clan system, in addition to the caliphates.

At that moment they began to draw artificial maps, we can exemplify that Syria and Lebanon are part of the same nation as Syria and Iraq. In the case of Syria, they took Alawite families who ended up becoming the head of the nation, the Alawites are the minority among Sunnis and have a connection with Shiites, they feel part of the Shiite world.

Assad father and Assad's son were leaders of Syria from the beginning of the creation of the state of Israel, they opposed the creation of the state of Israel and were involved in 3 major wars with Israel.

In 1948, during Israel's War of Independence, Syria, Egypt, and Jordan, together with the Iraqis and people from Yemen, came together to expel the Jews to the sea, however, this did not happen, Israel remained in the area that had been designed for the Israeli nation.

The 1949 Israeli-Arab Armistice refers to agreements reached by Israel and each of its neighboring Arab countries: Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, and Transjordan. These agreements put an end to the 1948 Israeli-Arab war and established provisional lines (also known as the Green Line) of separation between Israel and neighboring Arab countries, which were respected until the Six-Day War (1967).



Between 48 and 67 a. Syria took advantage of its geographical position with Israel from the top of the Mount, close to Israel, 2600 m high at the highest point of the Mount of the Golan Heights. With that, they had total dominance over Israeli territory, and they managed to shoot the peasants who were working from up there. North of the Sea of Galilee, every day, they killed the peasants in a war that lasted several years and Israel had no way to defend itself in that region.

In the 60s they started trying to divert all the springs, all the springs of water from the Golan that fed the Jordan and, in turn, the Sea of Galilee, the entire reservoir of water, all the water consumed in Israel, comes from this small reservoir of the Sea of Galilee, however this information was obtained by a Mossad spy, Eli Cohen, who was infiltrated in Syria, who informed the Israeli authorities of the Syrian plan.



In 1967, Syria, Egypt, and Jordan, once again, united to try to throw Israel and the Jews into the sea, a second attempt to end Israel, but at that moment Israel was so well prepared that it was unable to do so, and not only managed to defend its territory but also managed to conquer Jordan, the West Bank and east Jerusalem, Egypt, the Sinai desert and Syria, the Golan Heights.

Since then, Syria has had a good reason, a territorial pretext, to continue attacking Israel. At some point, Israel tried to negotiate to return to the Golan Heights in exchange for absolute peace, but this did not happen, as they wanted to reach the shores of Lake Galilee, which was not part of these agreements.

Due to this conquest of the Golan Heights, the best wine in Israel is harvested in this region. In terms of climate, there is a huge contrast between cold, snow, and heat, which is great for the grapes and these are wines that constantly win awards in Europe and elsewhere. Furthermore, it is an area of biblical stories, and no Israeli today has the desire to part with this area, which is a strategic area, called "The Eyes of Israel", and we can see Damascus with the naked eye, even more so in times of war nowadays.



Golan Heights on the other shores of Lake Galilee



The old trenches in the northeast of the Golan Heights are today a tourist site that gives visitors a better perspective on the conflict and past conflicts

In mid-2007, the Arab Spring movements began, the first stages, were when the middle class of these countries got tired of the dictatorships linked to religious fundamentalism that took the country further and further backward from now on, and this happened in several countries in parallel.

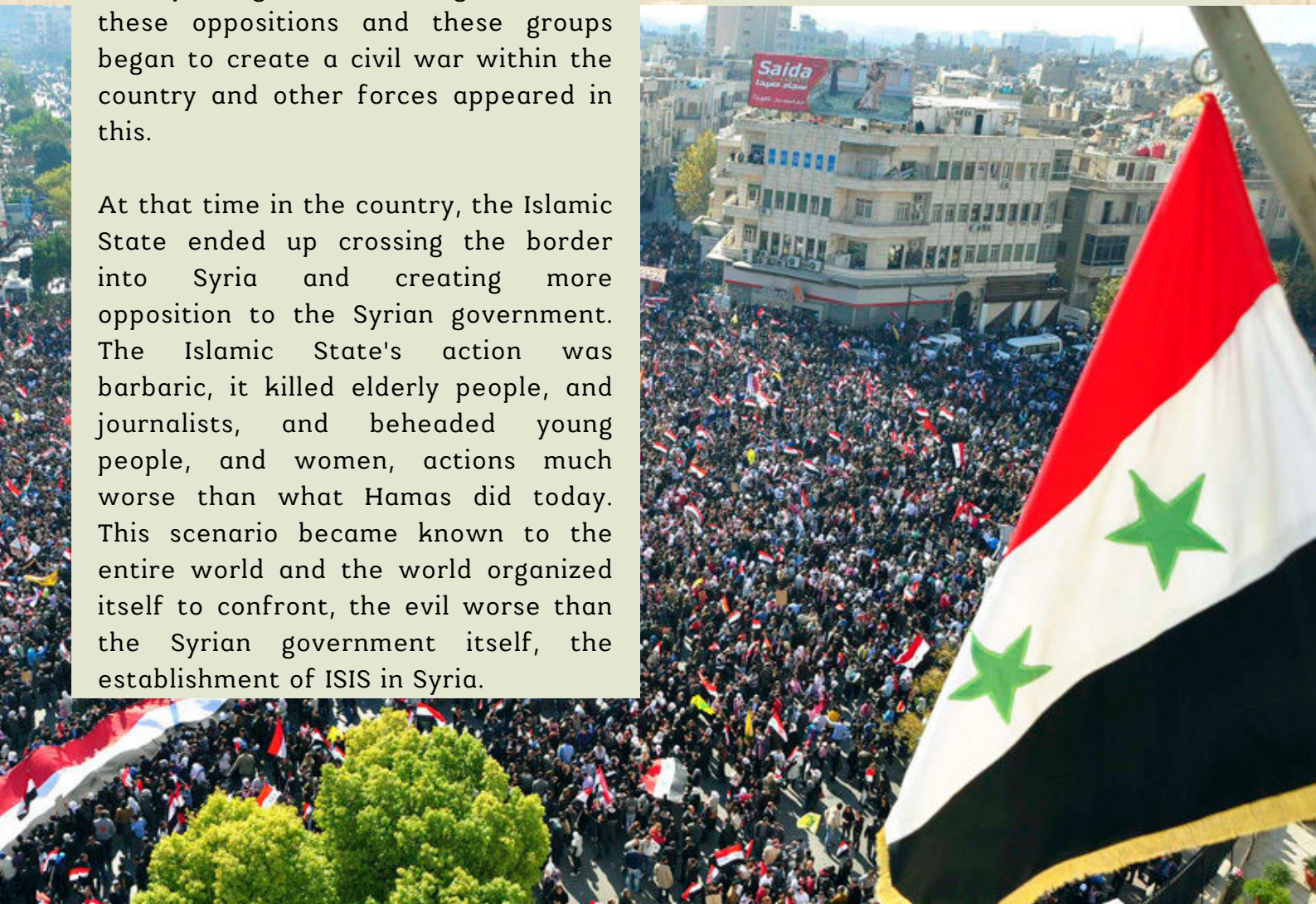
In 2011, the government did not leave the demonstrations unanswered. Assad Araf threw chemical weapons against his opposition, a large part of his population, at that moment the world stopped paying attention to Syria, to the cruelty of the country's leader, in his attempt to help these minorities.

Over time, the situation worsened, as the Syrian government began to face these oppositions and these groups began to create a civil war within the country and other forces appeared in this.

At that time in the country, the Islamic State ended up crossing the border into Syria and creating more opposition to the Syrian government. The Islamic State's action was barbaric, it killed elderly people, and journalists, and beheaded young people, and women, actions much worse than what Hamas did today. This scenario became known to the entire world and the world organized itself to confront, the evil worse than the Syrian government itself, the establishment of ISIS in Syria.

The coalition was joined by the United States, Turkey, Russia, and Iran, they all came together and each attacked the Islamic State on a different front, to try to put an end to ISIS once and for all.

In this region, there was no coalition. They didn't have it, so they geared up for it. That map, that, that new map, how could they not get in gear to attack, but each one on their side went, attacked what happened.



ISIS concentrates a large part in Syria, a part of Iraq, has one and has also advanced into Kurdistan very close to Turkey, a great threat to all nations in the region, each in their cause. - The interesting thing was that Iran ended up finding international legitimacy to confront the Islamic State, both in Iraq and Syria. And they end.

Syria today has the influence of some nations in the world due to these bases. Russia, and Turkey, are a large Shia base fed by Iran inside Syria, which shares the great border with Israel. Likewise, Hamas in the Gaza Strip is fueled by Iran.

For about a year, bombings have been taking place in the north of Israel, almost weekly, Israel has been bombing the airports of Aleppo and Damascus to prevent Iran from continuing to send any type of weapons. Some American bases on the border are also bombed by pro-Iran groups.



LEBANON

the last tentacle



The last axis supplied by Iran is Lebanon, among all these threats, southern Lebanon is the most urgent. The main tentacle is undoubtedly Hezbollah, which is in the south of the country. Lebanon is smaller than the state of Israel but is on the side of Syria, Iraq, and Iran. In the distant past it was known as Phoenicia and the Phoenicians were the fathers of navigation, extremely advanced, in biblical times. It was from Phoenicia that the first maritime traders emerged, so Lebanon is also very important for our culture.

The Cedar of Lebanon, the tree, is the symbol of the flag of Lebanon, the best wood in the entire region, an example of this is in a passage in the Bible when King Solomon builds the temple of God, the wooden part, with Cedar from Lebanon.

The population of Lebanon is made up of several different ethnic groups, among them: Sunni Muslims and Shiite Muslims. Greek Orthodox Christians, Maronite Christians, who are linked to the Catholic Church, Druze, and other small ethnic groups. Since its inception, Lebanon has not had a real identity between the people and the Earth. They are completely different people from each other, it is difficult to build a nation when there is no common culture among the people, which is why Lebanon has been subject to so many civil wars. Despite the wars, it is the most beautiful and culturally advanced place, Lebanon held great promise during the Middle East and was called the Switzerland of the Middle East, until the second half of the 20th century.



Coexistence between the groups is turbulent and they rarely agree, there are several disagreements, and the attempt to bring democracy, a Western governmental system that Lebanon has been frustrated with since the first days. Because of this, Switzerland in the Middle East became more and more nostalgic, Beirut, a coastal city, had everything to be, including very beautiful, but today it is destroyed by several years of war, anarchy, and civil wars between these different groups.

In the 70s, there was a conflict called Black September, it was when the Jordanian army clashed with the PLO guerrilla organizations, then based in Jordan, aiming to expel them from the country, consequently the PLO group took refuge in Syria and then they went to South Lebanon. As Lebanon is a kind of anarchy, no one was able to combat these forces that arrived already armed to the teeth and consequently began to attack Israel from this southern point of Lebanon.

In the 1970s, terrorists who arrived in small towns in the north of Israel began to attack Israel with missiles and land infiltrations, causing atrocities similar to those in the 2023 scenario. At the time, Israel had Minister Ariel Sharon, who invaded the south of Lebanon in 1982 to occupy a 20 km strip, to protect itself from missiles that reached that mileage and ended in 1999, when Ehud Barak, Minister of Israel (1999-2001) withdrew troops from South Lebanon.



King Hussein of Jordan speaking during the war against Palestinian militants (fedayeen)



Yasser Arafat, supreme commander of the Palestine Liberation Army

In 85, Hezbollah already had its ideological platform with the objective of colonialism in the Middle East and bringing to trial the phalanxes, which are groups and Christian militias that existed around Beirut and in southern Lebanon and other regions that during These wars attempted to defend Lebanon from Islamic fundamentalism to make Lebanon truly a more Western country, but it was heavily attacked by Muslim forces.

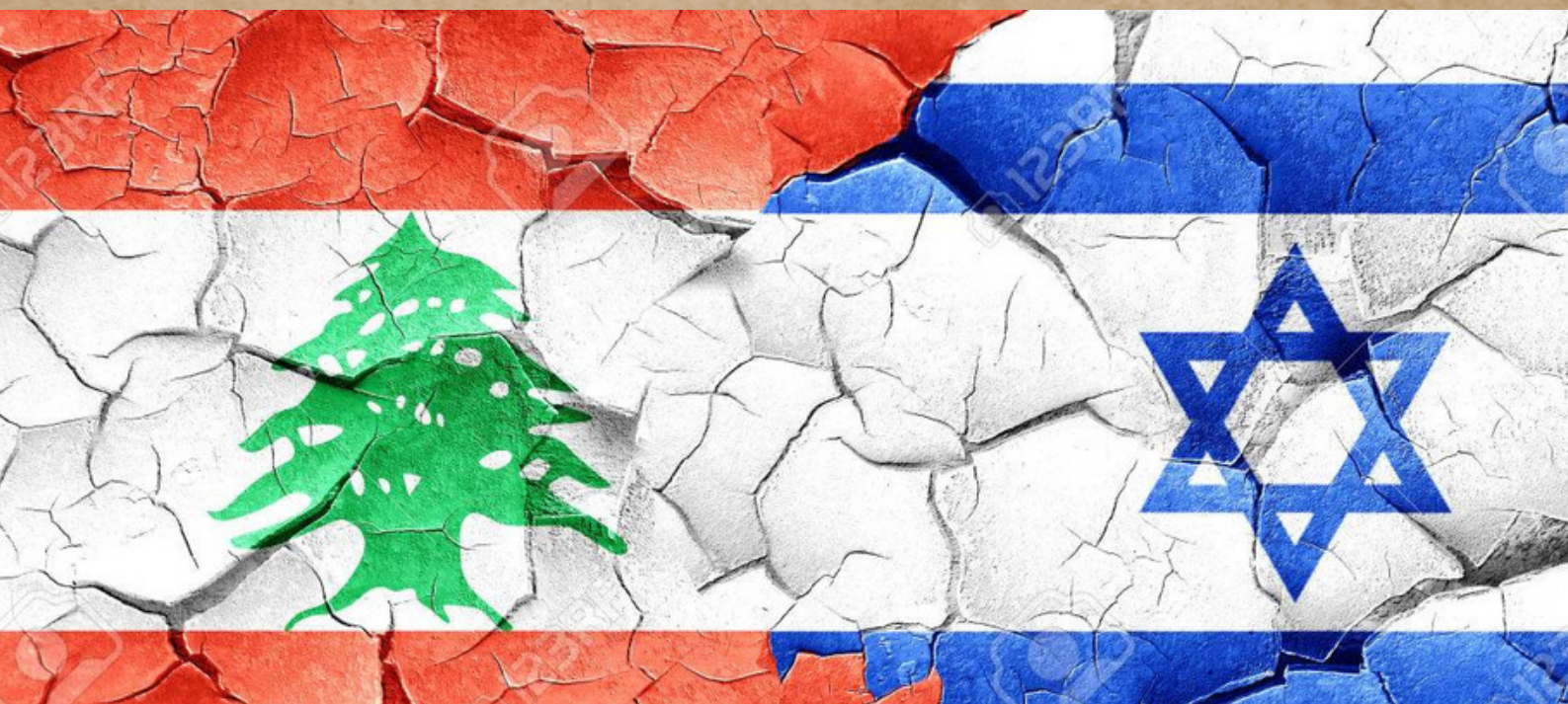
While the Palestinian group was weakening, Hezbollah was gaining strength with great international legitimacy, mainly from Shiite Iranians, who increasingly armed Hezbollah until they completely occupied southern Lebanon. Today Hezbollah occupies 11 of the 30 seats in the Lebanese parliament, is responsible for a large part of Lebanon's armed forces, and has several schools, televisions, radio, and humanitarian assistance groups. There is a lot of popularity among Lebanese, not just Shiites, but among Lebanese Sunnis, including some Christians and some Druze, due to massive propaganda, they see them as a protector of the Lebanese cause, in fact, it is nothing like that.



Hezbollah's mission is to defend Iranian Shiite interests in the region and they are fed with weapons and a lot of money to be able to support the Shiite fundamentalist ideal also on the Border with Israel. In 2006, they had the terrible, unfortunate idea of trying to attack Israel, a lightning attack, and kidnapping soldiers, which ended up leading to another war in Lebanon. Israel counterattacked by air and land force devastated a part of South Lebanon and ended up disarming Hezbollah. After this 2006 war, Hezbollah ended up bringing great misery and destruction to Lebanon and has not been able to recover from these internal wars to this day. Today there is much greater pressure from the Lebanese people, including from parts of the government, to calm Hezbollah and not let them bring a new tragedy to the country.

It is not just Hezbollah in southern Lebanon that torments Israel, there are also some Palestinian groups in southern Lebanon, and the main one, Hamas, which has joined Hamas' efforts here in the Gaza Strip by launching missiles at northern Israel, all this with awareness, the authorization and the legitimacy of Hezbollah, who are the true owners of that region. Therefore, Israel is focused on paying attention to southern Lebanon, due to its armament and number of soldiers much higher than that of Hamas and other groups that have been observed so far, as they have been fed by Iran since 2006.

Iran has an active role in these militias, in addition to supplying military material, they train Hezbollah soldiers, in other words, it is a more strategic and armed enemy. Israel, at the beginning of its defense, has already shown that if Hezbollah begins to escalate its aggression against Israel, the fate of Lebanon will be similar to the fate of the Gaza Strip



THE BROKEN JEWEL

Eduardo Vieira



On a sunny afternoon, two young women were sunbathing, in swimwear, in a bar built on a pier. The water, a rich blue, cooled the sweet breeze that made their hair sway and their eyes squint as they laughed about the previous night's adventures. As university students, both dedicated their time to studies and intelligent conversations with intellectuals in bars and cafes in that city of meetings and extreme intellectual wealth. When they could, the girls went dancing, in an entertainment that today would be considered childish, filled with soft drinks and nothing else.



oldbeirut.com

In the streets, elegant men and women went about their work, which included contacts with companies from all over the world in that cosmopolitan enclave. During the holidays, the nearby mountains showed off their white tops, reminding everyone of the wonders of skiing. The sands of the beaches competed for interest in a rare and delicious duality. The atmosphere was one of freedom and wealth, of hope and joy. Banks of all nationalities shared the blocks with family-owned stores and sophisticated restaurants, all owned by people known or related in a familiar, smaller version of a large metropolis. We were in Beirut in the 1960s and life was beautiful.

However, with the arrival of the 70s, the atmosphere began to become heavy. What was a political dispute between parties with a socialist inclination and others with a capitalist alignment has recently revealed itself as a re-enactment of what had already occurred thirteen centuries earlier, when Muslims conquered the city from the Byzantines. In fact, since then that region has been the subject of great dispute, basically between Christians and Muslims. Until the fall of the Ottoman Empire at the end of the First World War, when Lebanon was placed under French administration. From then until the 1970s, the country had its modern golden age. Beirut was called the "Paris of the Middle East".



revusetcorrige.com



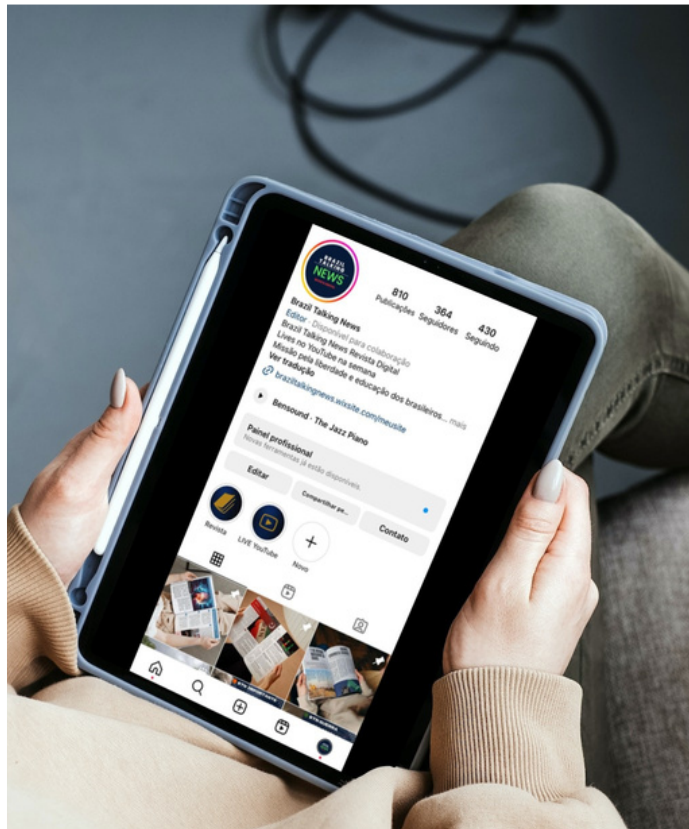


The dispute that was revealed was another edition of the same ancient conflict. Muslims fought to regain power from Christians. And they achieved it through war. This civil war broke out in 1975 and ended with Islamic control of the country. However, the conflict lasted years and destroyed the country. With the fall of Christians from power, prosperity and freedom fell along with it and the Paris of the East became just a sweet memory in the minds of ladies who had their lives turned upside down. The world gained a good number of Christian Lebanese expatriates, bringing the rich Arab culture to the world and Brazil received thousands of them, forming a large, rich, and friendly colony here, together with expatriates from Syria and surrounding areas.

Lebanon's beautiful and dramatic recent history provides us with an important historical lesson that should not be ignored. Islamic culture is not compatible with Western Christian culture. Water and oil don't mix. Interestingly, the same communist materialist worldview under which Islam advanced in the 1970s generated the activism that today fights for the entry of the same Muslims into Western countries, under the guise of humanitarianism and tolerance. This association is not by chance. Both ideologies, communism, and Islam, embrace very similar concepts regarding social control and the totalitarian notion of the State. In a historical episode of great relevance, the then Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, the supreme Arab authority in the region now called Palestine, visited the socialist dictator Adolf Hitler in Berlin in 1941, when he showered him with praise and promises of alliance. Some say that at this meeting the decisive method of the "final solution" to the Jewish problem was discussed.

In just thirty years of Christian Westernization, Lebanon became a regional paradise. In a decade of struggle, Islam destroyed the country and today paradise is over. Now varying forces are bent on bringing the same end to the West. There is not a single case in which the Islamic rise has not resulted in a totalitarian state where individual freedom is a deadly joke and where the yoke of the political-religious ideology that Islam is not brutal and complete. Those who do not learn from History are doomed to repeat their mistakes.

SOCIAL MEDIA



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OPINION



#CLAIM

Por Rodrigo Abrahão

WHO DECIDES WHO LIVES AND WHO DIES?
OR RATHER, WHO DECIDES WHETHER IT IS
WORTH LIVING OR DYING? WHAT LEADS A
PERSON TO JUDGE OR CONDEMN OTHERS?
WHAT IS THE LIMIT OF THE HUMAN BEING?

FACED WITH THESE QUESTIONS, IN THE
21ST CENTURY, WE STILL ASK OURSELVES.

TRAMPLE. IRRITATE. HURT. HURT. OFFEND.
TO HURT. DEMOTE. HUMILIATE. TO STEP. TO
JUDGE. BLASPHEME. SLANDER. OPPRESS.
ACHINCALHAR. TO JOKE. MOCK, MOCK.
RIDICULE. TO SEPARATE. TO DIVIDE.
AQUINHOAR. TO CRACK. MALQUISTAR.
DECONSTRUCT. DESTRUCTURE. ISOLATE.
CANCEL.

KILL, VICTIMIZE, RUIN, HARM.



ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS COMMANDMENTS
IN THE BIBLE IS TO LOVE GOD WITH ALL YOUR
BEING AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.
CHRISTIANS OF ALL TIMES AND AGES HAVE
TRIED TO FULFILL THIS COMMANDMENT TO
PLEASE GOD. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT AN
EXPLANATION OF THIS COMMANDMENT IS
NECESSARY BECAUSE IT IS NOT ALWAYS WELL
UNDERSTOOD AND EXPLAINED.

MUCH OF THE BLAME FOR THIS
MISUNDERSTANDING LIES IN OUR CULTURAL
BACKGROUND. WE ARE HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY
GRECO-ROMAN CULTURE AND THIS HAS HAD A
HUGE IMPACT ON THE WAY WE UNDERSTAND
AND TRY TO LIVE AND FULFILL THIS
COMMANDMENT. IN GRECO-ROMAN CULTURE,
LOVE IS SOMETHING ALMOST TANGIBLE, A
FEELING THAT CONQUERS A PERSON.
SENSUALITY IN THIS CULTURE WAS SOMETHING
SPECIAL IN SOCIETY. THE PAGAN MIND
UNDERSTOOD LOVE AS A FEELING. THIS TYPE
OF UNDERSTANDING IS DIFFERENT FROM THAT
WHICH THE JEWS HAD ABOUT THE MEANING OF
LOVE.

THE JEWISH WAY OF THINKING ABOUT LOVE IS
COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM GRECO-ROMAN
CULTURE. IN JEWISH CULTURE, LOVE IS AN
ATTITUDE. FOR JEWS, LOVE IS MORE THAN
JUST A FEELING, SOMETHING PRACTICAL THAT
CAN BE TRULY LIVED. WHEN WE UNDERSTAND
THIS, WE CAN BETTER FULFILL THE
COMMANDMENT OF LOVE. IN THIS STUDY, WE
INTEND TO SHOW HOW THIS COMMAND WORKS
AS A PRACTICE AND NOT JUST AS A FEELING.

1. ANALYSIS OF THE PASSAGE

CHAPTER 22 IS INTERESTING BECAUSE IT RECORDS A SERIES OF QUESTIONS MADE BY MEMBERS OF THE JEWISH SECTS TO JESUS. IN MT 22:15-22, THE PHARISEES SENT SOME OF THEIR DISCIPLES TOGETHER WITH THE HERODIANS, TO TEST THE LORD JESUS BY ASKING QUESTIONS TO EMBARRASS HIM. THE HERODIANS AND THE PHARISEES DID NOT GET ALONG. THE HERODIANS FORMED A POLITICAL PARTY THAT FAVORED THE HERODIAN DYNASTY, AS THE HERODIANS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR BUILDING THE SECOND TEMPLE, THE SO-CALLED TEMPLE OF HEROD. BOYER (VIDA, 1999) INFORMS US THAT THEY "FAVORED AN INDEPENDENT JEWISH EMPIRE, RULED BY HEROD, UNDER ROMAN RULE"¹

THE PHARISEES WERE THE POLAR OPPOSITE OF THE HERODIANS, AS THEY DESIRED THE LIBERATION OF ISRAEL FROM ROMAN RULE. HOWEVER, THE HATRED THAT THESE TWO GROUPS HARBORED AGAINST JESUS UNITED THEM. IT WAS IN THIS EPISODE THAT THE LORD JESUS SAID THE FAMOUS PHRASE: "RENDER THEREFORE TO CAESAR THE THINGS THAT ARE CAESAR'S AND TO GOD THE THINGS THAT ARE GOD'S" (MT 22:21). IN MT 22:23-33 JESUS IS QUESTIONED BY THE SADDUCEES.² THIS GROUP RAISED THE ISSUE OF THE LEVIRATE (FROM THE LATIN LEVIR, BROTHER-IN-LAW) RECORDED IN DT 25:5,6. ACCORDING TO THE TEXT OF GN 38:1-26, IT SEEMS TO US THAT THIS WAS PART OF THE CULTURE OF THE ANCIENT EAST. DYING WITHOUT LEAVING DESCENDANTS WAS A TERRIBLE THING, AS A PERSON'S MEMORY WAS PRESERVED THROUGH THEIR DESCENDANTS.³ IT WAS ON THIS OCCASION THAT JESUS SAID THE PHRASE: "[.] YOU ERR, NOT KNOWING THE SCRIPTURES OR THE POWER OF GOD" (MT. 22:29).

IN MT 22:34-40 WE HAVE THE LAST QUESTION ASKED OF JESUS RECORDED IN THIS CHAPTER. THE PHARISEES ATTACK AGAIN. ONE OF THE PHARISEES, WHO WAS AN INTERPRETER OF THE LAW,⁴ ASKED CHRIST WHAT THE GREAT COMMANDMENT OF THE LAW WAS. TO THIS QUESTION, JESUS REPLIED: "[.] 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND'. THIS IS THE GREAT FIRST COMMANDMENT. THE SECOND, SIMILAR TO THIS, IS: 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' ALL THE LAW AND THE PROPHETS DEPEND ON THESE TWO COMMANDMENTS" (MT 22: 37-40). THE LORD JESUS BASED HIMSELF ON LEV 19:18 AND DT 6.4 TO COMPOSE THE ANSWER.

2. LOVING GOD AND NEIGHBORS

LOVING GOD AND NEIGHBOR IS THE GREATEST COMMANDMENT THAT CHRIST JESUS LEFT US (JOHN 15:12) AND FULFILLING IT SHOWS THE TRUE DISCIPLE (JOHN 13:35). THIS IS WHAT THE LAW OF GOD DEMANDS OF US, THAT WE LOVE OUR GOD AND AS A RESULT WE LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS.

THE ENTIRE BIBLE IS THE LAW OF GOD. HOWEVER, THIS LAW IS SUMMARIZED IN THE TEN COMMANDMENTS RECORDED IN EX 20 AND REPEATED SUMMARILY IN DT 5. THE FIRST FOUR COMMANDMENTS DEAL WITH OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD; THE LAST SIX DEAL WITH OUR COMMUNION WITH OTHERS.⁵ OUR "NEIGHBOR" IS ANYONE AND EVERYONE THAT GOD PUTS IN OUR PATH: PARENTS, SIBLINGS, FRIENDS, WIVES, CHILDREN, ETC.

IN 1 JOHN 4:16, THE APOSTLE JOHN, KNOWN AS "THE APOSTLE OF LOVE", TELLS US THAT "GOD IS LOVE". SINCE GOD IS LOVE, HE DEMANDS THAT WE SHOW LOVE TOWARDS HIM (DT 6.6; MT 22.37). WHOEVER DOES NOT LOVE GOD IS NOT CAPABLE OF FULFILLING ANY COMMANDMENT OF HIS LAW. IN THE SAME WAY, WHOEVER DOES NOT LOVE HIS NEIGHBOR CANNOT LOVE GOD. THIS IS WHAT THE LORD JESUS MEANT WHEN HE SAID THAT ONE COMMANDMENT IS SIMILAR TO ANOTHER (MT 22:38). STRICTLY SPEAKING, THEY ARE NOT TWO COMMANDMENTS, BUT A SINGLE ORDINANCE THAT CHRIST COMPILED AND GAVE TO HIS SERVANTS OF ALL TIMES AND AGES. THE TEXT OF 1 JOHN 4:20 SAYS THAT NO ONE CAN LOVE GOD, WHOM HE DOES NOT SEE, AND NOT LOVE HIS NEIGHBOR, WHOM HE SEES.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO CLARIFY A POINT HERE. BIBLICAL LOVE IS NOT A FEELING. BECAUSE OF THE STRONG INFLUENCE OF GRECO-ROMAN CULTURE, WE THINK OF LOVE AS A FEELING, SOMETHING THAT INVADES US AND LEADS US TO DESIRES. CONTRARY TO THIS, BIBLICAL LOVE IS AN ATTITUDE THAT I TAKE TOWARDS MY NEIGHBOR. THIS IDEA BECOMES MORE EVIDENT AND CONCRETE WHEN WE UNDERSTAND THAT, FOR EXAMPLE, WE MUST LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS AS OURSELVES. IN OTHER WORDS, JUST AS I LOVE MYSELF AND HAVE A GOOD AND CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS MYSELF, I MUST ACT IN THE SAME WAY TOWARDS MY NEIGHBORS. WHAT I DO GOOD FOR MYSELF, I MUST DO FOR MY FELLOW MAN.

PAUL IN RM 13.8-10 OFFERS US A PRACTICAL EXAMPLE OF HOW BIBLICAL LOVE WORKS. SEE WHAT HE SAYS IN VERSE 10: "LOVE DOES NOT DO EVIL AGAINST ITS NEIGHBOR [.]".⁶ NOTE THAT HE PRESENTS LOVE AS A PRACTICE. THIS IS CLEAR FROM THE PREVIOUS VERSES. AT THE END OF VERSE 8, PAUL SAYS SOMETHING THAT CATCHES OUR ATTENTION AND IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THE FOLLOWING VERSE: "[.] FOR WHOEVER LOVES HIS NEIGHBOR HAS FULFILLED THE LAW".

HOW CAN I FULFILL GOD'S LAW BY LOVING MY NEIGHBOR? PAUL PROPOSES TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION IN VERSE 9 USING PRACTICAL EXAMPLES. NOTE WHAT HE SAYS: "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY, YOU SHALL NOT KILL, YOU SHALL NOT STEAL, YOU SHALL NOT COVET, AND IF THERE IS ANY OTHER COMMANDMENT, IT IS ALL SUMMED UP IN THIS WORD: YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF." THAT IS, ACCORDING TO PAUL'S TERMS, IF YOU LOVE YOUR BROTHER YOU WILL NOT WANT HIS WIFE – YOU WILL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY; IF YOU LOVE YOUR BROTHER, YOU WILL RESPECT HIS LIFE – YOU WILL NOT KILL; IF YOU LOVE YOUR BROTHER, YOU WILL NOT TAKE WHAT BELONGS TO HIM – YOU WILL NOT STEAL; IF YOU LOVE YOUR BROTHER, YOU WILL NOT WANT ANYTHING THAT BELONGS TO HIM – YOU WILL NOT COVET. HAVING SAID THAT, PAUL CONCLUDES HIS REASONING WITH THE PHRASE THAT CLOSES VERSE 9: "[.] AND IF THERE IS ANY OTHER COMMANDMENT, EVERYTHING IS SUMMED UP IN THIS WORD: YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF".

-BUT, RODRIGO! WHY DID YOU BRING UP THIS WHOLE SCENARIO?

-WE ARE ON THE EVE OF THE BIRTH OF THE BABY JESUS (DECEMBER 25TH, SYMBOLIC DATE), AND IN MORE THAN 2000 YEARS, WE ARE STILL CRAWLING WITH HIS TEACHINGS, AS IN THE BIBLICAL RITE WE FOLLOW: HIS BIRTH, GROWTH, THE DAYS HE WAS DISTANT IN SPIRITUAL RETREAT PREPARING FOR CALVARY AND HIS CRUCIFIXION, DEATH, AND RESURRECTION.

PASTORS, PRIESTS, LEADERS, AND GURUS ALWAYS TELL US THAT THE BIBLE HAS ANSWERS TO ALL OUR QUESTIONS, OF COURSE, YES. AND THEY ALL LEAD US TO ONE GOD, NO MATTER WHAT HIS NAME IS: EL, YHWH (JEHOVAH, YAHWEH), THEOS, JESUS, ADONAI, KYRIOS, ALL REPRESENTED IN A SINGLE DIVINE BEING.

THE MASSIVE DECONSTRUCTION OF BEING BROUGHT US THIS SCENARIO: WHERE A MOTHER CALLS FOR A CERTAIN MEDIA TO TAKE DOWN THE TEXT THAT ENCOURAGED HATERS (PEOPLE WHO PRACTICE 'VIRTUAL BULLYING' OR 'CYBERBULLYING', AND ITS MEANING " THOSE WHO HATE" OR "HATERS") TO PERSECUTE HIS DAUGHTER, THUS INCITING HER TO COMMIT SUICIDE. THIS MOTHER RECORDED A VIDEO, IN WHICH SHE DESCRIBED THAT HER BELOVED DAUGHTER WAS GOING THROUGH DEPRESSION, AND EVEN SO, PEOPLE DIDN'T MINCE WORDS, AND THE TRAGEDY HAPPENED.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE? SIMPLY FOR THE CURRENT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO REGULATE SOCIAL NETWORKS. IN SHORT: CONTROL WHAT YOU, GOOD CITIZENS, WHO HAVE PRIDE, WHO HAVE WITH THEM THE MOTTO "GOD, COUNTRY AND FAMILY" - WATCH OR STOP WATCHING.

**“Have no illusions
Those who advocate
internet censorship
aren't worried about
fake news. They're
worried about the
real thing. “**

FILIPE SABARÁ
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE
STATE OF SÃO PAULO.



KNOW YOURSELF AND YOUR ENEMY

By Patrícia Munhoz e Silva

I have always argued that, in life, the individual must use filters to determine the permanence or impermanence of things and, therefore, their real importance in life. Here I am referring to what will stay with the person, regardless of situations or feelings, whether good or bad, given the dynamics of life.

Given this particular thesis, any situation must support specific questions, which, depending on the answer, can give guidance with the degree of commitment that the individual must direct to some fact or aspect of their life, remembering that the referenced filters can be their own or others, but, above all, they must respect the nature and individual history of each human being.

I say this only to be politically correct and ensure that the reader reaches the end of this article and allows me to express my opinion, as I consider my opinions to be truly infallible...

I say this only to be politically correct and ensure that the reader reaches the end of this article and allows me to express my opinion, as I consider my opinions to be truly infallible...

This time, anything, fact, or person must overcome the filters of permanence or impermanence based, in a very simplistic way, on "what the fire doesn't burn", "on what the thief doesn't take" and "on what the bank doesn't take".

Thus, given this thesis, the first determined impermanence refers to people, given that parents, spouses, children, relatives, friends, colleagues, and acquaintances can be taken by fire, killed by a thief and, as the saying goes, in a house, when debts enter the door, love escapes through the window... Go! And in this last one, don't be a hypocrite, because affectionate relationships in a house of hunger are difficult, and divorce is there to prove the theory and its biblical people...

Cursed is the man who trusts in man, and makes flesh his arm, and turns his heart away from the Lord! (Jeremiah 17:5)

Continuing the examples: A car!? Fire burns, the thief takes it and the bank takes it... A house!? Fire burns and the bank takes... Money!? Fire burns, the thief takes away and the bank takes...

Now it is your turn! Do the exercise, remembering that anything analyzed must surpass these three criteria together... I have already done this analysis and concluded that the only truly permanent things are information and culture, where information is embodied in what is learned to perform a task. activity and culture, in what is learned in the wanderings of life... Example: Everything that is learned on school benches cannot be burned by fire, a thief will never be able to steal and the bank, even if one studies with the support of some financing and this is not fulfilled, you move on in life with the information acquired... In the field of culture, the same situation, everything you have experienced culturally throughout your life, such as travel, art in general, gastronomy, and others will be recorded in your memory, hopefully for decades, and can be accessed at any time, wherever you are...

I clarify that, to date, no one has refuted me on these criteria and, therefore, it will not be today that I will change them...

Now, all of this was to say, without any arrogance or arrogance, that I am an enthusiast of knowledge in general, not surprisingly the 05 specializations - two in completion - a master's degree abroad, various courses, even carpentry (yes, I love DIY!), and a tour in 18 countries, one living for a year...

So, whenever someone complains about something in life, I usually suggest that they take a course. Any course that is available, from professional specializations to homemade brigadeiro sweets, if that's to your liking... A few days ago, my 14-year-old daughter went to take Basic Excel classes, at a college close to home...

And, for those who work in the field of politics, it would be no different, because, according to Sun Tzu, knowledge is fundamental in a battle:

You know your enemy and you know yourself; If you have a hundred battles to fight, you will be victorious a hundred times. If you ignore your enemy and know yourself, your chances of losing and winning will be identical. If you ignore your enemy and yourself at the same time, you will only count your battles as your defeats.



social media

Now comes the pepper, already listening to the whizzing of arrows in my direction: the so-called "right", especially in Brazil, despite the fallacious discourse regarding support for education and culture, is ignorant and lazy, more so than the left in this field, and I say this without fear of making mistakes knowing the Christians willing to "political fight" in the country. It's every 7x1 that only God causes...

Everything has exceptions in this life, but, in general, what we have is a pack of dogs that love to fight at the gate, restricting themselves to a profound argument like "you're stupid and ugly", not involving any attempt to improve knowledge. To get an idea, access the profile of former congresswoman Janaína Paschoal, on Twitter, and you will have a clear idea of what I'm talking about, because, no matter how temporarily eloquent she is in her publications, there will always be someone to counter her with arguments. the depth of a puddle of water.

With luck - or not - these half-wheeled activists become repeating machines for influencers, YouTubers, and, above all, smart people eager and capable of maneuvering cattle in the corral. An example of this is the numerous support for recent Trojan Horses that ended up in positions for deputies, senators, and various ministers, for embezzlers who took advantage of Tic-Tac's, +72h, Pix in such huge quantities that they could well be called of scandals and the Hors Concours of all this: "Don't criticize Bolsonaro or the PT will return...", this last one deserving five little stars in the sketchbook...

And this is why!? Because the gray matter is not placed to be used and filled, so much so that the average Brazilian IQ fell from 87 to 83, with below 85 being determined as "borderline mental functioning", aka "mental debility", which puts Brazil in 93rd position in the world rankings and even though 92% of its population is literate. Here I don't know whether I am appealing to explain this discrepancy based on our Paulo-Freirean education or based on the new degovernmental presidency of the IBGE, but think on the positive side, we are much better ranked than South Africa, for example, which is in 159th position with his 11 Nobel Prizes. Ah... that's right... Suck it!

Unfortunately, I will have to give my arm, to also remember, that this lack of interest in knowledge is also programmatic, shaped from "Pou da Puxa", through Funk's "Senta... Senta...", to arrive at the "Batecu" of the Ministry of Ungovernmental Health, associated with "Orra meu!, Fla x Flu on Sunday and Lud singing the Anthem as if it were Larissa's tattooed rager, not to mention the primordial need of the automaton life from 8 am to 6 pm, with its four hours of daily train and bus travel and also saving every last stalk of spinach due to the government's anger regarding taxes, not allowing time or money for any investment in this field.

And how to change that!? I don't see a definitive answer, but perhaps this answer goes through the basics, where prepared and willing people first teach people to think on their own and know where to look for information, distinguishing real information from narratives and providing means, such as access to first-class courses and books. However the situation is so complex that even the Caminho Suave booklet could now be considered a bestseller.

See, I'm just a guesser, from the group that perhaps has the chance to see issues from a wider angle than average. My business is to encourage people to reflect. Encourage people to take those three steps back so they can see the situation more broadly. And here I am trying to do it right now, without great expectations according to the current moment, but, curious to know if eventually something I said the fire won't burn, the thief won't take it or the bank won't take it... In reality, I like bullshit and if you like it, come along and there's a great chance.

THE 13TH SALARY NEVER EXISTED!

By Roberto Vianna



I HAD NEVER THOUGHT ABOUT THIS ASPECT. IT'S WORTH READING AND UNDERSTANDING..

English workers receive their wages weekly. But there is always a reason for things and English workers, members of a more mature and critical society than ours, do nothing by chance.

Now, here is a simple arithmetic example that does not require high knowledge of Mathematics, but perhaps requires average knowledge of dismantling misleading rhetoric. Remembering that the 13th in Brazil was an innovation by Getúlio Vargas, the “father of the poor” and that no government after his changed this.

WHY? BECAUSE THE 13TH SALARY DOES NOT EXIST.

The 13th salary is one of the most scandalous of all the lies of those in power, whether they call themselves “capitalists” or “socialists”, and it is precisely the one that workers believe most.

Suppose you earn R\$700.00 per month. Multiplying this salary by 12 months, you receive a total of R\$8,400.00 for a year of twelve months.

$\text{BRL } 700.00 \times 12 = \text{BRL } 8,400.00$

In December of each year, the generous government orders the well-known 13th salary to be paid.

$\text{R}\$8,400.00 + 13\text{th salary} = \text{R}\$9,100.00$

$\text{R}\$ 8,400.00$ (Annual salary) + $\text{R}\$ 700.00$ (13th salary) = $\text{R}\$ 9,100.00$ (Annual salary plus 13th salary) ... and the worker goes home happy with the government that sent the boss pays the 13th.

NOW LET'S DO A QUICK ARITHMETIC CALCULATION:

If the worker receives R\$700.00 per month and the month has 4 weeks, it means that he earns R\$175.00 per week.

R\$ 700.00 (Monthly salary) divided by 4 (weeks of the month) = R\$ 175.00 (Weekly salary)

The year has 52 weeks (check the calendar if you have any doubts!). If we multiply R\$175.00 (weekly salary) by 52 (number of weeks per year) the result will be R\$9,100.00.

R\$ 175.00 (Weekly salary) X 52 (number of weeks per year) = R\$ 9,100.00

The result above is the same value as the annual salary plus the 13th salary. Surprise? So where is the 13th Salary?

The answer is that the government, which makes the laws, steals part of your salary throughout the year, for the simple reason that there are months with 30 days, others with 31, and also months with four or five weeks (still, despite five weeks, the government only orders the boss to pay for four weeks). Your salary is the same whether the month has 30 or 31 days, four or five weeks.

At the end of the year, the generous government presents the worker with a 13th salary, the money for which came from the worker's pocket.

If the government withdraws the 13th salary of public service workers, the theft is double. Hence there is no 13th salary. The government only orders the boss to return what was surreptitiously taken from the annual salary.

Conclusion: Workers receive what they have already worked for and not an additional amount.

13TH IS NOT A PRIZE, NOR KINDNESS, NOR CONCESSION.

IT'S SIMPLE PAYMENT FOR THE TIME WORKED IN THE YEAR!

(And you will know the truth and the truth will set you free...)



APPEARANCE OF POWER, IS POWER...



Patrícia
Munhoz e
Silva

Those who, perhaps, someday give themselves the right to study the great names of history and arrive at Napoleon Bonaparte, will see that a good part of the public image achieved by the French Emperor was through, not only through, his military results in the conflicts and battles that participated, but also from much larger political propaganda involving art, fashion, customs, decoration, architecture, parties, banquets, lovers, lust, luxury, songs and everything more that it could transform him into a great statesman, a born leader, and that he could sell the image that would lead France to progress.

Thus, it will be easy to find several references to Napoleon in paintings, where he is seated on his throne among mythological gods and angelic figures, busts produced in Carrara marble, sold in hundreds to the French aristocracy, statues, tapestries, and porcelain citing his greatness, without prejudice of its image being linked to architecture in the neatly arranged and tiled facades of Rue de Rivoli, reaching the Louvre itself, which should concentrate all that was best in the field of art, aiming to elevate France to the top of what was conceived as a civilization, always linking it to this magnitude pursued by Napoleon who had great support from his clan of Bonapartists who were responsible for nurturing this image.

All this political propaganda aimed at praising Napoleon is summed up in the expression Appearance of Power, is Power, which can be translated as even if he doesn't have it, lie.

Napoleon did not go unnoticed by Karl Marx, so much so that, in his The 18th Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte, despite not being the main focus of the book, he was mentioned in a speech by Hegel that stated that all the great facts and characters in history universal appear as if twice gaining an addendum in speech, through Marx who complemented it as follows: But he forgot to add: once as a tragedy and the other as a farce, relating it to the coup d'état that overthrew the Directory, regime established in the French Revolution.

In any case, Napoleon was on Marx's radar who, in turn, when fanatically followed, was certainly studied and inserted into the ideological radar of his followers...

Returning to the title of this opinion piece, Appearance of Power, is Power..., it is clear that this is a very well-designed and implemented strategy by the left when we analyze the current system of awarding allies. Note that everyone, who in some way has acted or worked in favor of the left, has been repeatedly awarded titles and decorations for their good services rendered, as a method of creating authority, understanding this figure as public recognition for their achievements.

This would explain, for example, the fact that, following the death of the patriot Clewiston Pereira da Cunha, in Papuda, Ministers Alexandre de Moraes and Silvio Almeida, from the STF and Human Rights, were awarded the Rio Branco Order, the highest honor of the Brazilian State, which gives them the aforementioned authority and, as a bonus, a protective shield against criticism, justifying, even, the recurring argument that they are relentless defenders of the Democratic Rule of Law. At this same event, Fernando Haddad received decorations, with his fiscal dungeon, which intends to tax everything and everyone and is already causing mass layoffs; the nauseating Janja with her dazzle and hunger for power; Tebet, the inexpressive and even Margareth Menezes, probably since she once again fed the Brazilian artistic class, with the distribution of millionaire incentives to artists such as Ivete Sangalo, Daniela Mercury and Ludmilla.



Lula entrega a Alexandre de Moraes condecoração da Ordem do Rio Branco - (crédito: Ricardo Stuckert/PR)



And when talking about the leftist spectrum, don't just think about the State or Government, be it Federal, State, or Municipal. Think of the entire support network like Academies, Class Councils, and mainstream media that distribute diplomas to everything and everyone, praising them. Here it is worth mentioning that the same Margareth Menezes, Sonia Guajajara, a certain Liniker, and ten other characters from the left were inducted into the Brazilian Academy of Culture.

Another weird and megalomaniacal example!? Lula and her desire to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. And she will certainly have a chance, because if she didn't succeed in the Russia-Ukraine War, in which she set out to resolve everything over a beer; If you didn't achieve anything in the Israel-Gaza War, maybe now you can in this one that is brewing here in Brazil's backyard, between Venezuela and Guyana, since Maduro is your friend.

Have you ever thought about the media appeal this would have in left-wing narratives!? "The guy" who was "cleared by the UN" and won a "Nobel for Peace"... Woowww, hang in there! A full and very explanatory dish for the only country among the largest in the world that managed to reduce the IQ of its population.

And, as last examples, no less laughable, Dilma Rousseff received an award as Woman Economist of 2023, Lula, at an event, suggested that Fernando Hadad deserves the Nobel Prize for Economics and Marina Silva received the highest environmental award from the United Nations.

In any case, if the left undertakes this type of initiative for the wrong reasons, wouldn't it be time for the right to learn its lesson and reward people and institutions for the right reasons!?

The Nobel Prize is one of the world's main awards for recognizing people who carry out work, actions, and research for the benefit of humanity. The title award ceremony is held annually, on December 10, in Stockholm (Sweden) and Oslo (Norway).

Maybe so, but I fear that the fallacious Brazilian "right" is not yet ready to have this conversation. Don't be ready to understand that you need to stop deceiving yourself with the art of politics and its actors. Don't be ready to recognize that you need to stop waiting for saints or myths or heroes. Don't be ready to understand that you need to stop fighting with potential allies. Don't be ready to understand that you need to mature, including intellectually, so that you can understand moves, draw up strategies, and put them into practice, effectively.

If there is distrust among the actors of this ideological band that this does not contaminate the greater idea of creating exponents who defend the conservative values of God, Country, Family, and Freedom, so that they can climb ever higher positions, with the necessary notoriety, not restricted to half a dozen dripping cats, often planted in certain areas not because of knowledge, but rather because of scarcity.

Therefore, the "right" needs to grow up and stop repeating speeches like a broken record! Stop waiting for pure or holy people, because, even if issues such as ethics and morals are non-negotiable, some foot in the mud will be experienced. You need to study your enemy and learn their tactics from them, because there are many good ideas there that, if well applied, will make crucial steps to balance the game. Sun Tzu! Sun Tzu...



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CULTURE
RELIGION

PERSIAN EMPIRE

The golden city: Persepolis,

The Persians were an Indo-European people who inhabited the Iranian plateau, in present-day Iran. They descended from a nomadic tribe called the Parsis, who migrated from Central Asia to a region in southern Iran approximately in 1000 BC.

The Persians are believed to have originated from the Central Asian region in what is now Turkmenistan. They were a nomadic people, who lived from agriculture and livestock. Around 1000 BC, they began moving south towards the Iranian plateau.

In the Iranian plateau region, the Persians encountered a variety of peoples, including the Medes, Chaldeans, Assyrians, and Babylonians. The Persians began to settle in the region and interact with these other peoples.

In 550 BC, the Persians, led by Cyrus the Great, defeated the Medes and conquered their empire. Cyrus the Great then began to expand his empire, conquering Mesopotamia, Egypt, Central Asia, and parts of India

The Persian Empire, founded by Cyrus the Great, was one of the greatest empires in history. It spanned a vast region of Western Asia and the Mediterranean. The Persians were a tolerant people, who promoted cultural and religious diversity in their empire.

The influence of the Persians can be seen in many of the civilizations they conquered. The Persians introduced new technologies and ideas, such as road building, irrigation, and writing. They also promoted trade and culture.

After the death of Alexander the Great in 323 BC, the Persian Empire was divided into several kingdoms. However, Persian culture and language continued to have a significant influence in the region.

To this day, the Persians are an important people in the region of Iran. They are a people proud of their history and culture.



Pasargada: temple of Ciro El Grande



"The entrance to Persepolis and its winged griffins"

The Persian Empire varied throughout the history of the empire. The main capitals of the Persian Empire were:

- **Pasargadae:** It was the first capital of the Persian Empire, founded by Cyrus the Great in 550 BC. Pasargadae was a modest city, but it was important for its symbolic significance. It was the capital of a new and dynamic empire, and its founder, Cyrus the Great, was a tolerant and progressive ruler.
- **Persepolis:** It was the capital of the Persian Empire during the Achaemenid period, from 550 BC to 330 BC. Persepolis was a monumental city, built on a hill overlooking the plain of Persepolis. It was a symbol of the power and wealth of the Persian Empire.



Photo: kavehfarrokh



Ctesifonte
600A.D

- **Susa:** It was the capital of the Persian Empire during the Parthian period, from 247 BC to 224 AD. Susa was an ancient city, founded in the 4th century BC. It was an important commercial and cultural city and was known for its wealth and splendor.
- **Ctesiphon:** It was the capital of the Persian Empire during the Sasanian period, from 224 AD to 651 AD. Ctesiphon was a large and prosperous city, located on the Tigris River. It was a center of commerce, culture, and religion, and was known for its beauty and opulence.

Ahura Mazda

Culture and Society of the Persians

- Persian society was divided into social classes, with the king at the top of the hierarchy. Below the king were the nobles, who held high positions in the government and army. The middle class was made up of merchants, artisans, and other professionals. The lower class was made up of peasants, shepherds, and workers.
- Religion was an important part of Persian culture. Zoroastrianism, a monotheistic religion, was the official religion of the Persian Empire. Zoroastrianism emphasized the importance of purity and justice.

Some of the main tenets of Zoroastrianism include:

- Belief in a single God, Ahura Mazda
- The conflict between good and evil
- The importance of purity and justice
- Observance of the laws of Ahura Mazda
- Zoroastrianism has had a significant influence on Persian history and culture. It helped shape Persian thought and culture and remains an important part of Persian identity to this day.



Mesopotamian and Persian Mythology: A Shared Heritage.

- Mesopotamian mythology is the mythology of the people who inhabited Mesopotamia, a region of Western Asia that corresponds to modern-day Iraq, Syria, and parts of Iran. Mesopotamian peoples included the Sumerians, Akkadians, Assyrians, and Babylonians.

Mesopotamian mythology is centered around a series of gods and goddesses, who were believed to be responsible for the creation of the world and everything in it. Mesopotamian gods were often depicted as humans with animal features such as horns or wings.

Some of the most important gods and goddesses in Mesopotamian mythology include:

- **An:** The god of the sky
- **Enlil:** The god of air and wind
- **Enki:** The god of water and wisdom
- **Marduk:** The god of the city of Babylon
- **Ishtar:** The goddess of love, war and fertility

Mesopotamian mythology also includes a variety of myths about the creation of the world, the flood, the judgment of the dead, and other themes. These myths provide insights into the beliefs and values of the Mesopotamian people.



Enki with the Tigris and Euphrates rivers gushing from his shoulders. At his feet is the goat, his symbolic animal-**WIKIPEDIA**



Enlil leads Ur-Namma and a worker to begin work on the temple. King Ur-Namma is shown wearing a shepherd's hat. He is also shown with full hair and beard, which is his usual appearance. The fact that Ur-Namma keeps his hat in Enlil's presence shows that King Ur-Namma is also a god.

- **ancient-mesopotamia**

PERSIAN MYTHOLOGY

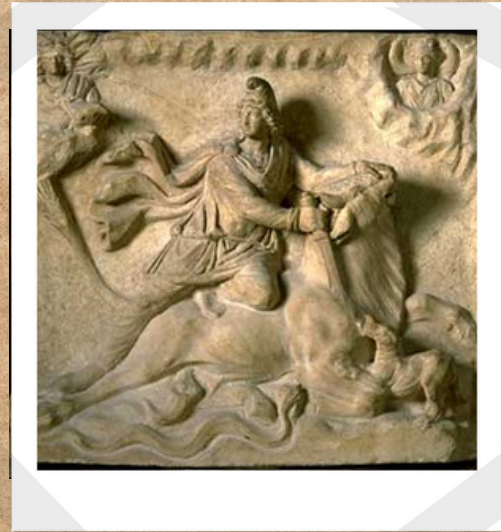
- Persian mythology is the mythology of the people who inhabited the Iranian plateau, in present-day Iran. The Persian peoples include the Persians, the Medes, and the Scythians.
- Persian mythology is influenced by a variety of sources, including Mesopotamian mythology, Indian religion, and Zoroastrianism. Zoroastrianism is a monotheistic religion that was founded in the 6th century BC by Zoroaster.
- The supreme god in Persian mythology is Ahura Mazda, who is the god of light, truth, and justice. Ahura Mazda is opposite to Angra Mainyu, the god of darkness, lies, and evil.

Other important gods and goddesses in Persian mythology include:

- **Mithra:** The god of light, friendship and protection
- **Anahita:** The goddess of water, fertility and healing
- **Spenta Mainyu:** The spirit of life and creation

Persian mythology also includes a variety of myths about the creation of the world, the flood, the judgment of the dead, and other themes. These myths provide insights into the beliefs and values of the Persian people.

**Mithras is sacrificing a bull in the presence of the Sun and the Moon.
Louvre Museum, Paris**



The Clan of Enki, mythology from Mesopotamia, migrated to the region of India and Persia and became involved with the Mysteries of Mitra, who was an Indo-Iranian deity. Mithraism was strongly supported by Roman soldiers, which influenced the religion of the Roman Empire.



Dagon, the fish god of the Philistines and Babylonians, wore a fish hat that is still seen today in the Catholic Church by the pope and bishops. The miter is derived directly from the miters of the ancient pagan fish-god Dagon and the goddess Cybele. The papal miter represents the head of Dagon with its mouth open, which is the reason for the pointed, divided shape at the top."

Similarities between Mesopotamian and Persian mythology

- Mesopotamian and Persian mythology share some similarities, including:
 - Focus on a series of gods and goddesses
 - Belief in a divine creation
 - Belief in a judgment of the dead
- Differences between Mesopotamian and Persian mythology
- Mesopotamian and Persian mythology also have some differences, including:
 - Mesopotamian mythology is more diverse, including a variety of different cultures and peoples. Persian mythology is more homogeneous, reflecting the beliefs of the Persian people.
 - Mesopotamian mythology is more anthropomorphic, representing the gods and goddesses as humans with animal characteristics. Persian mythology is more abstract, representing gods and goddesses as forces or concepts.

- Mesopotamian and Persian mythology is an important part of the cultural heritage of the Middle East. It provides insights into the beliefs and values of the people who have inhabited the region for centuries.
- The Persian economy was based on agriculture, livestock, trade, and mining.
- Agriculture was the main economic activity of the Persians. They cultivated a variety of crops including wheat, barley, rice, fruits, and vegetables. The Persians were also irrigation experts and developed a complex system of canals and reservoirs to irrigate their lands.
- Livestock farming was also an important activity. The Persians raised cattle, sheep, horses, and camels. Cattle were used for meat, milk, and leather. Sheep were used for wool and meat. Horses were used for transportation, warfare, and sports. Camels were used for transportation in arid areas.
- Commerce was another important sector of the Persian economy. The Persians controlled an important trade route connecting Europe, Asia, and Africa. They traded a variety of products, including spices, textiles, jewelry, and slaves.

Mining was also an important activity. The Persians mined a variety of minerals, including gold, silver, bronze, iron, and copper. These minerals were used to make coins, weapons, tools, and ornaments.

The Persian Empire was a prosperous and diversified economy. The Persians were an industrious and innovative people, and they developed many technologies that helped boost their economy.

Here are some of the main factors that contributed to the success of the Persian economy:

- **A favorable climate:** The climate of Persia is conducive to agriculture and livestock.
- **A strategic location:** Persia is located on a route of commercial importance.
- **A hard-working population:** The Persians were an industrious people dedicated to work.
- **An efficient government:** The Persian government was efficient and stable, which contributed to economic development.

The Persian economy had a significant impact on world history. The Persians were a pioneering people in a variety of areas, including agriculture, irrigation, trade, and mining.



Panagyurishte Treasure (c) Bulgarian National History Museum

FALL OF THE PERSIAN EMPIRE

The end of the Persian Empire was marked by the conquest of Alexander the Great in 330 BC. Alexander the Great was a Macedonian king who was expanding his empire. He defeated the Persians at the Battle of Gaugamela in 331 BC and conquered the Persian Empire.

The conquest of Alexander the Great was an important event in world history. It marked the end of an era and the beginning of a new one. The Persian Empire was one of the greatest empires in history, and its fall had a significant impact on the cultures and governments of the ancient world. In addition to Alexander the Great's conquest, other factors also contributed to the end of the Persian Empire. These factors include:

- **Continuous wars:** The Persians were constantly at war, either with their neighbors or with internal revolts. These wars were exhausting for the empire and drained its resources.
- **The great extent of the empire:** The Persian Empire was huge and difficult to manage. This led to widespread corruption and inefficient government.
- **The incapacity of Darius I's successors:** Darius I was a strong and capable ruler, but his successors were not as capable. This led to political instability that weakened the empire.
- **Palace intrigues:** Palace intrigues were common in the Persian Empire. This led to assassinations, coups, and civil wars that weakened the empire.



What are the differences between Arabs and Persians?

Arabs and Persians are two distinct ethnic groups with different origins, languages, and cultures.

Origins

Arabs are an ethnic group that originated in the Arabian Peninsula, in what is now Saudi Arabia. They are descendants of a Semitic people who settled on the peninsula in the 7th century BC.

The Persians are an ethnic group that originated in the Iranian plateau, in the current region of Iran. They are descendants of an Indo-European people who settled in the region in the 2nd century BC.

Languages

The Arabic language is a Semitic language spoken by around 420 million people worldwide, mainly in the Middle East and North Africa.

The Persian language is an Indo-European language spoken by about 80 million people worldwide, mainly in Iran, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan.

Culture

Arabic culture is a vibrant culture that has been influenced by a variety of different cultures, including those of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and India.

Persian culture is an equally vibrant culture that has also been influenced by a variety of different cultures, including those of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and India.

Religion

The dominant religion among Arabs is Sunni Islam. However, there is also a significant minority of Shia Arabs, as well as Christians, Jews, and Hindus.

The dominant religion among the Persians is Shia Islam. However, there is also a significant minority of Sunni Persians, as well as Christians, Jews, and Zoroastrians.

Other differences

In addition to the differences mentioned above, Arabs and Persians also have some physical differences. Arabs generally have darker skin and darker hair than Persians.

On a political level, Arabs and Persians also have a complex history. The two ethnic groups have faced each other in several wars throughout history, and relations between them are still sometimes tense.

Despite their differences, Arabs and Persians also share some similarities. Both groups are ancient people with a rich history and culture. Both groups are also important in the Middle East region.

What is the origin and meaning of the word Persian?

The word "Persian" originates from the ancient Greek "Persís", which was the name given to the territories governed by the Achaemenid kings, whose dynasty (c. 550-330 BC) founded the Achaemenid Empire, one of the largest empires of Antiquity.

The term "Persís" is derived from the name of an Iranian tribe called "Parsa", which inhabited the Iranian plateau region. The origin of this name is uncertain, but it is believed that it may be related to the word "parsu", which means "Persian" or "people of the East" in the Proto-Iranian language.

In Portuguese, the word "Persian" came to be used to refer to the inhabitants of the Achaemenid Empire and, later, to Iran, which is the political and cultural successor of this empire.

Additionally, the term "Persian" can also be used to refer to the Persian language, Persian culture, and Persian art.

Therefore, the word "Persian" can have the following meanings:

Relating or belonging to the ancient region of Persia, currently corresponding to Iran.

Natural or inhabitant of Iran.

Something pertinent to the Persian ethnic group.

The Persian language, whether ancient Persian, Middle Persian (Pahlavi), or even modern Persian (Parsi).

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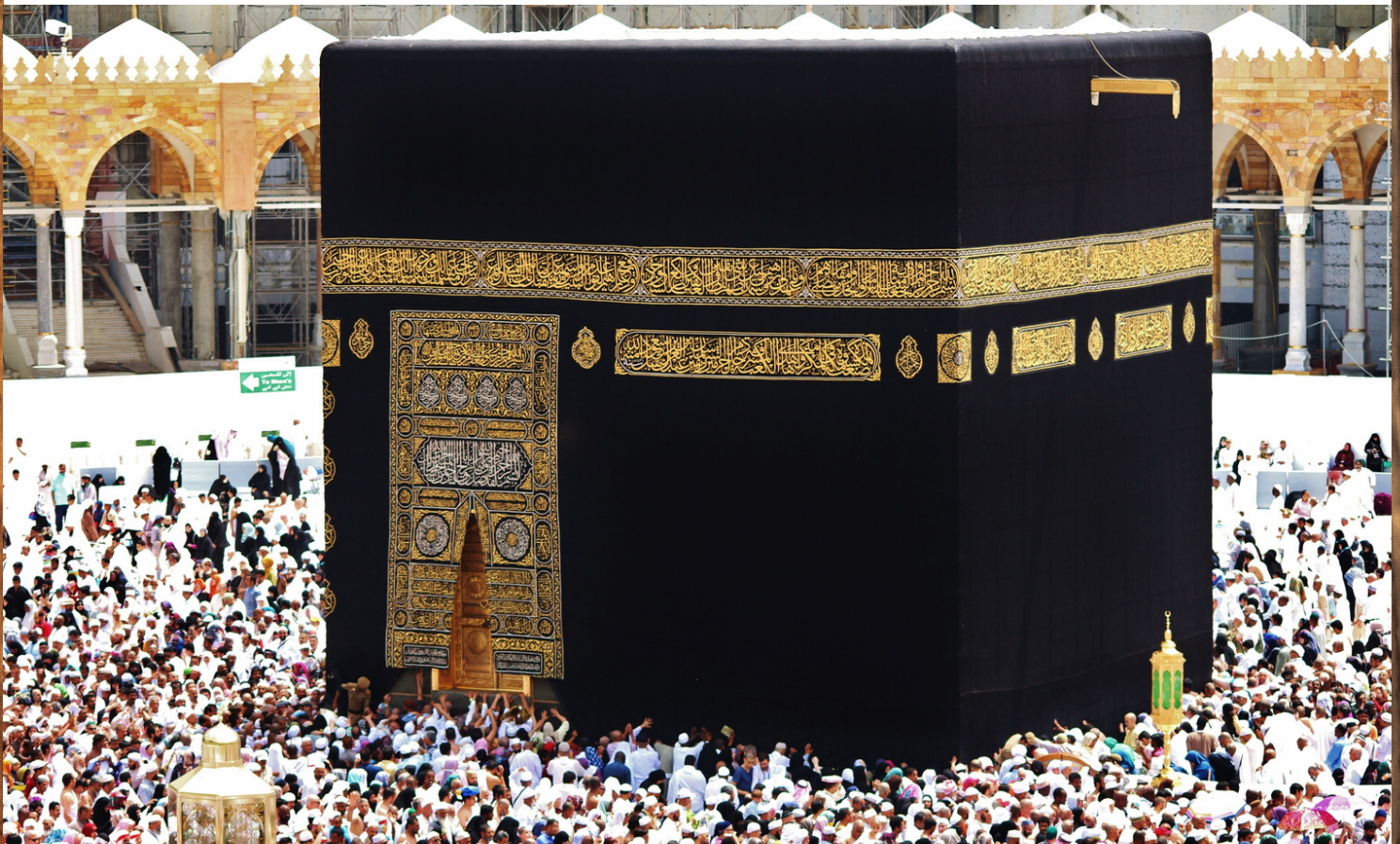


**By Rodrigo
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IRAN ISLAM

CULTURE / RELIGION / INDOCTRINATION

The official State Religion is Shiism or Twelver, with the majority of Iranians being Muslims. The Arabs of Iran are Sunnis and Shiites, some small communities are made up of Christians, Jews, and Zoroastrians.



Shiism

The basis of Iranian Shiism is twofold: the promise of the return of the divinely inspired 12th Imam - Muḥammad al-Mahdī al-Ḥujjah, who Shias believe to be the Mahdi and the veneration of their martyred ancestors. The Shia clergy have been the predominant political and social force in Iran since the 1979 revolution.

There is no ecclesiastical hierarchy or ordination in Islam, the clergy is performed by a community of scholars, the ulama, and not by a priest. To join the clergy, you simply need to be a male Muslim and attend a traditional Islamic school, or madrassa.

Training is mostly divided between faqih (jurist) or mullah (spiritual), and scholars often have independent and varied views on political, social, and religious issues.

The greatest honor lies in becoming a Marja -e taqlid, the highest level of excellence achieved in Iranian Shi'ism, which consists of insight and experience in Islamic canon law.

What appeared to be religious tolerance came to an end in 1979, during the Islamic Revolution. Although Christians, Jews, and Zoroastrians are still recognized in the constitution as the minority, there are still Orthodox Armenians, Assyrians, Roman Catholics, and some ethnic groups converted. Many of these groups emigrated after numerous persecutions that followed.

Islam or Islamism is a monotheistic religion based on the teachings of the prophet Muhammed Ibn Abdullah (570-632 AD) based on its origins, Abrahamic stories, part of the story also referred to in the sacred writings of Christianity and Judaism.

Followers of Islam are also recognized worldwide as Muslims, of which there are about two billion in the world, second only to Christians.

Some devotional activities of Islam are very peculiar and well-known, they defend five main pillars, on which the Muslim religion is based, which are:

Shahada (testimony), Salat (praying five times a day), Zakat (alms or tributes paid to help others), Sawm (fasting during the period of Ramadan), Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in a lifetime). -

During its religious and cultural history, we still have the caliphate, in this system, the territories of the Islamic Empire in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as their inhabitants, were governed by a supreme leader called the caliph ("khalifa", successor in Arabic). Initially, the caliphs were the only rulers of the empire built by the prophet Muhammad.

Delving a little deeper into the doctrine, laws, and thoughts defended by Muslim Islamists, we generally have four main sources of inspiration:

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Delving a little deeper into the doctrine, laws, and thoughts defended by Muslim Islamists, we generally have four main sources of inspiration:

the **Quran** - faith, literally in practice is reading and reciting, the words of God (Allah) delivered to the prophet Muhammad by the angel Gabriel. Composed of 114 chapters, also called suras, it is the spiritual source of Islamic teachings. The suras revealed in Medina in a later period of the prophet's career are largely based on social legislation and political-moral principles.

the **Sunnah** - the tradition, basically the reports attributed to the prophet, his customs, words, and daily actions composed of six collections, compiled in the 9th century AD.

the **ijmā'** - the doctrine or consensus, a type of standardization between legal theories and practices, to overcome individual and regional differences and divergences. Maintain balanced thinking free from questioning, accepting authorities and the faith of the community.

and **ijtihād** - individual thinking, is based on striving to find a legal or doctrinal solution to a new problem, within the texts of the Qur'an and Hadith.



About theology and philosophy, there are two traditions of learning, Islamic theology (kalām) and philosophy (falsafah) developed by Muslim thinkers who committed themselves, on the one hand, to rational clarification and defense of the principles of Islamic religion (mutakallimūn) and, on the other, in the search for ancient (Greek and Hellenistic, or Greco-Roman) sciences (falāsifah).

When it comes to family life or marriage, Islam encourages marriage and the generation of children, or procreation, and considers the practice of celibate to be something exceptional, accepted only in cases of economic rigor.

An important detail is worth highlighting, that polygamy is also a pre-Islamic Arab practice, according to them, defended in the Qur'an, accepting a limit of up to four simultaneous wives, as long as the husband was able to support and fairly divide the rights between the wives. - wives, that in practice, the matter is dealt with between them, in the Qur'an's suggestion, the husband will never be able to practice this justice, between women, no matter how much he wishes, thus maintaining it as a private matter and of sole interest to the marriage. Today, monogamous practice is also accepted and commonly practiced.

When it comes to the state, Islam does not distinguish religion from secular life, both are interconnected and intertwined. Laws and religion permeate together decisions, administrations, and the conduct of the State.

A religious caliphate is not above the laws, just as laws are based on religion.

The caliph does not have the authority to define dogmas or even to legislate. He is the chief executive of a religious community, and his main role is to implement sacred law and work in the general interest of the community. He is not above the law and, if necessary, he can even be deposed, at least in theory.

Political theory is essentially a product of circumstances, a later rationalization of historical developments. Thus, between the Shia legitimism that restricted rule to 'Alī's family and the Khārijite democratism that allowed rule to anyone, even "an Ethiopian slave", Sunnism maintained the position that "the government belonged to the corals" (the tribe of the prophet) the condition that existed.

Again, because of the extremes represented by the Khārijites, who demanded rebellion against what they considered to be an unjust or impious government, and by the Shias, who elevated the imam to a metaphysical plane of infallibility, the Sunnis took the position that a ruler has must satisfy certain qualifications, but this rule cannot be disturbed in small matters. In fact, under the impact of the civil wars started by the Khārijites, Sunnism drifted towards ever more conformism and actual tolerance of injustice.

The first step taken in this direction by the Sunnis was the statement that "one day of lawlessness is worse than 30 years of tyranny." This was followed by the principle that "Muslims must obey even a tyrannical ruler". Soon, however, the sultan (ruler) was declared "God's shadow on earth." No doubt the principle was also adopted and insisted that "there can be no obedience to the ruler in disobedience to God"; but there is no denying the fact that Sunni doctrine has increasingly come to be heavily weighted on the side of political conformism. - BRITISH

Based on the research mentioned above, we can say that Iran is based on a mixture of CULTURE / RELIGION / INDOCTRINATION as a source of food for its ambitions of conquest, development, and implementation of the State. The issue is that as it spreads around the world, it forces other countries to submit and accept their ideals, at the cost of anarchy, riotous movements, massacres, and even crimes, in the justification of defending their beliefs and cultures, which, they judge those who differ from their teachings and doctrines, heretics or infidels, with a pre-defined judgment, they justify their deliberately cruel actions. Your disguised tolerances.

By Pr Alex Moreira

While they are living outside their countries of origin, they submit to local laws and rules and gradually force their cultural, religious, and doctrinal customs. As they spread and infiltrate society, they begin to impose their intolerance. What we constantly see happening in European countries and the Americas. The declared common objective is to be the only models of culture, religion, and indoctrination to be followed and observed by the world.

Compared to other cultures, religions, and doctrines, Islam stands out with machismo, polygamy, child sexual abuse, extremist punishment rules, and death sentences, accumulating in its histories and legacies the largest number of deaths from executions, to the detriment of compliance of its rules, surpassing the first and second world wars, and even the Holocaust applied by the Nazis to the Jews.





HEALTH



THE IMPACTS OF CULTURE AND RELIGION ON THE MENTAL HEALTH OF IRANIAN WOMEN: AN ANALYSIS OF ABUSE AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.



BY SIMONE HAZIN

Iran is home to one of the oldest and richest cultures in the world. Formerly known as Persia, the country was an epicenter of art, literature, and philosophy throughout the Middle Ages, also playing a crucial role in the cultural development of the region and being the cradle of great empires. Religion plays a significant role in Iranian culture, evidenced by several traditions, festivals, and cultural practices intrinsically linked to the Islamic faith.

This rich cultural heritage, rooted in ancient history and influenced by diverse civilizations, plays a crucial role in shaping social and gender norms in Iran. As a predominantly Muslim nation that follows the Shia school of Islam, the country sees a strong influence on these beliefs in expectations related to the behavior, dress, and roles of men and women.

It is worth noting that Iran is a country with a complex, diverse culture influenced by a variety of factors, including religion, history, and politics. This article seeks to deepen understanding of the impacts of this intersection between culture, religion, and gender on the mental health of Iranian women, particularly highlighting the challenges faced with abuse and domestic violence.



CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS IMPACT ON FEMALE IDENTITY:

The role played by culture and religion in Iran profoundly shapes female identity. These issues are one of the main causes of Iranian women's mental health problems. They are often subordinate to men and often face discrimination in education, employment, and marriage.

Culturally rooted expectations about women's traditional behavior and roles often clash with modern aspirations. The rigidity of gender norms, influenced by the Shia interpretation of Islam, creates an environment in which women face challenges as they seek more active roles in society. This identity conflict can have significant implications for mental health, creating a breeding ground for anxiety and depression.

Iran accused of repressing protests with bullets

THE LAW AND DEFINITIONS OF GENDER ROLES:


Interpretations of Islamic law, known as Sharia, play a crucial role in defining gender roles in Iran. The imposition of the hijab, or veil, is a visible example of these norms, reflecting the traditional emphasis on the division of roles, where men are often associated with leadership positions in the public sphere, while women are directed to more traditional roles in the domestic environment. This gender dichotomy creates a context in which power imbalances manifest themselves, contributing to the persistence of domestic violence.





DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND LEGAL LIMITATIONS:

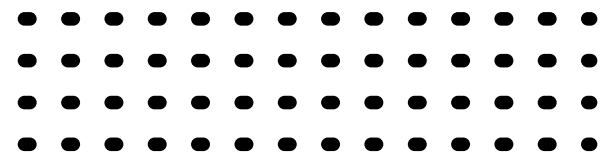
The intersection between culture, religion, and gender is also reflected in the alarming issue of domestic violence. Despite existing laws to protect women, effective enforcement of these laws is challenging due to social pressures, social stigmas, and lack of resources and support. They can also often be harmed, due to traditional interpretations. Women may be hesitant to report cases of abuse, fearing social and family repercussions, and may face significant barriers, both legal and cultural, which perpetuate a cycle of silence around domestic violence. This complex dynamic directly contributes to the negative impact on the mental health of these women, who face not only the physical but also the psychological trauma associated with disclosing their situation.



PSYCHOLOGICAL CHALLENGES AND SOCIAL PRESSURES:

Social pressures to conform to traditional standards as well as challenges in balancing social expectations with individual aspirations can lead to internal conflict, as well as creating an environment conducive to mental health problems. In this way, psychological illness can manifest itself in several ways, including anxiety, depression, eating disorders, and even psychological trauma resulting from experiences of coercion and control. There are several reasons:

Restriction of freedom, where the imposition of rigid norms of dress and behavior limits women's individual freedom, causing feelings of imprisonment and restriction. Conflicts between identity and social expectations can also generate significant stress. Women may feel pressured to conform to norms that do not reflect their true identities, resulting in psychological distress. Additionally, stigma and social isolation play an important role; women who challenge established norms may face stigmatization and social isolation. Fear of judgment and exclusion can contribute to feelings of loneliness and helplessness, fueling mental health problems.



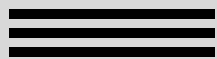
The lack of resources is an element that also favors psychological illness. The lack of resources is also an element that favors psychological illness. Lack of access to mental health services, combined with cultural stigmas, often prevents people from seeking professional help when needed. The persistence of traditional standards is also a very relevant reason. These standards in an evolving society can create constant conflict, that is, the desire to advance and seek individual opportunities can conflict with traditional norms, contributing to a state of mental tension.

And finally, the challenges of Cultural Change. To address the psychological illness of Iranian women it is necessary to adopt a culturally sensitive approach. Encouraging mental health awareness, providing supportive resources, and creating an environment that values individual expression are key steps to addressing these challenges.

Despite these challenges, it is important to highlight initiatives and movements within Iran that seek positive change. Iranian women have demonstrated resilience by challenging restrictive norms and actively pursuing gender equality. Feminist movements and support groups have emerged, seeking to provide a safe space for women to share their experiences and address mental health challenges. At the same time, the need for legal reforms is increasingly recognized, signaling a path towards a more inclusive and equitable society.

Examining the intersection of culture, religion, and gender in Iran reveals a complex landscape where women face significant challenges regarding their mental health, especially in cases of abuse and domestic violence. Understanding these complexities is crucial to driving effective change. The quest for a more just and inclusive society requires not only raising awareness of the challenges faced by Iranian women but also implementing legal and social reforms that guarantee adequate protection and support in vulnerable situations. Top of the form.

In conclusion, the impacts of culture and religion on Iranian women's mental health are significant and multifaceted. The imposition of strict norms, lack of resources, and negative social stigmas for psychological challenges and social penalties. However, there are positive movements for change and resilience within Iran, with Iranian women challenging norms and fighting for gender equality. It is critical to promote mental health awareness, provide supportive resources, and create an environment that values individual expression. With continuous efforts and collaboration from different sectors, it is possible to achieve positive transformation.



PERSPECTIVE OF CHANGE AND RESILIENCE:

BOOKS
MOVIE
SERIES

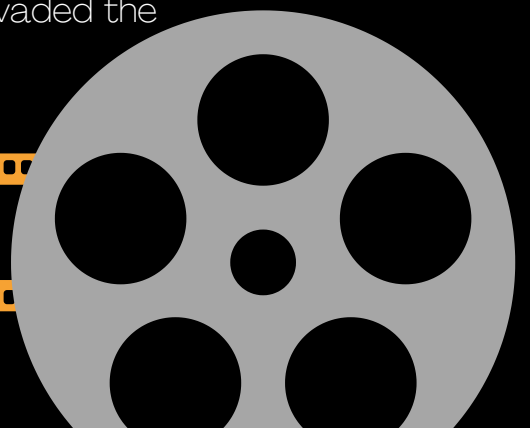
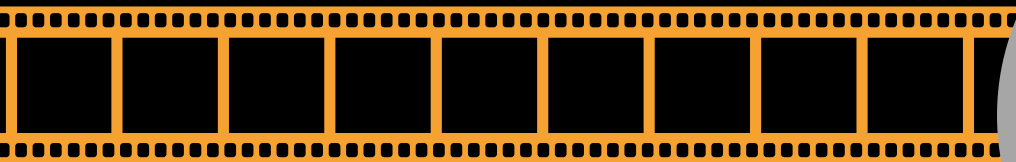
FEATURED MOVIE



September in Shiraz

Based on the book "The Septembers of Shiraz" (2007) by Dalia Sofer, "September in Shiraz" tries to show the events that followed the Islamic revolution and how it affected several families living there.

A Jewish family is caught up in the Islamic Revolution in 1979 in Iran. Now, they will have to survive a heroic journey to overcome and try to escape the tyranny that has invaded the country and threatens to extinguish their lives.



FEATURED MOVIE



THE GREEN PRINCE

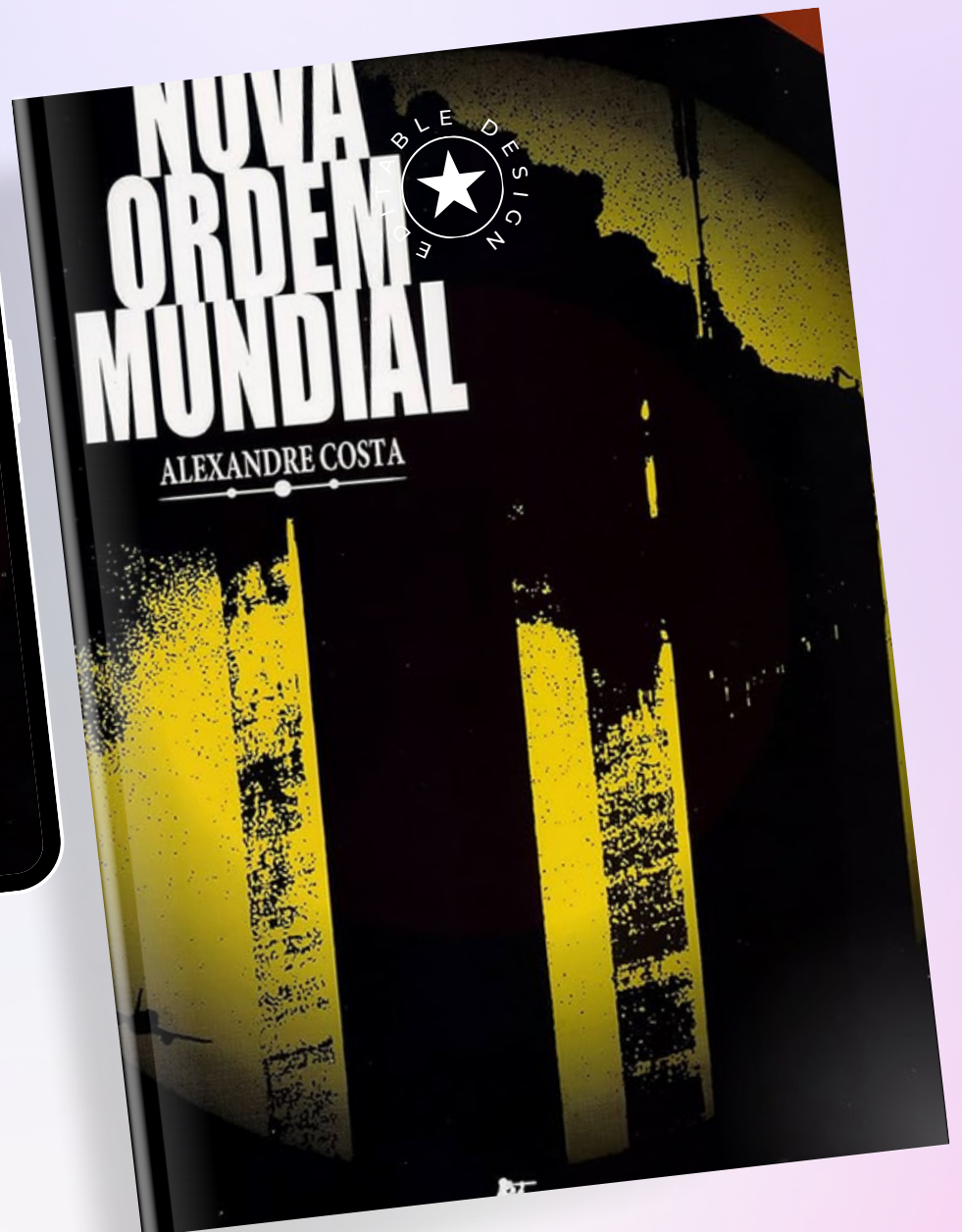
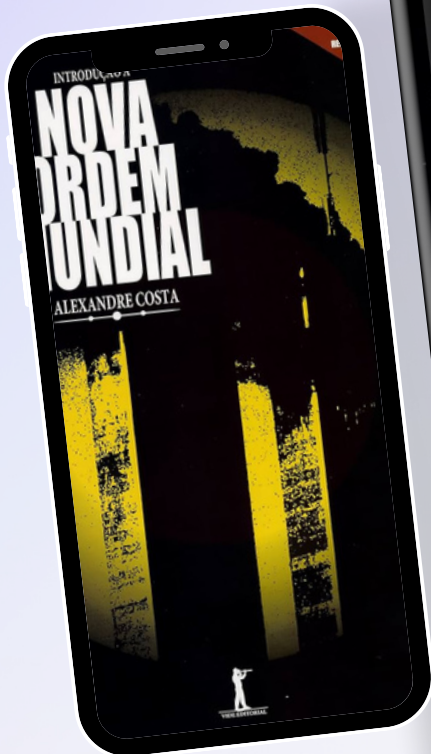
The son of one of the founders of Hamas, a radical Islamic group, Mosab Hassan Yousef grew up ready to fight. Arrested for arms smuggling at the age of 17, he is interrogated by the Shin Bet, Israel's security service, and sent to prison. But shocked by Hamas' cruel tactics in prison and the organization's growing campaign of suicide attacks outside, Mosab agrees to spy for Israel. Codenamed "Green Prince", he investigated the group for over a decade, risking his life and dealing with the idea that he betrayed his family. Furthermore, he creates a strong and unexpected alliance with his coach Gonen Ben Yitzhak, who risked his career to protect him.



FEATURED BOOKS

"Alexandre Costa's book, Introduction to the New World Order, could be titled 'The least you need to know to avoid being a useful idiot of Globalism'. It condenses and organizes, in simple and clear language, the information and sources of essential information about the Western globalist elite, their plans, their mentality, and their means of action. Very good indeed." - Olavo de Carvalho

"Reading Introduction to the New World Order is like taking the red pill from the Matrix: absolutely disturbing... and there is no way back!" - Flavia Barros Ximenes



MARATHON SERIES



The Spy

Eli Cohen disguised as a millionaire alongside Syrian officials in the militarized zone of the Golan Heights. Four years of his information about Syria's military was crucial to Israel's defeat of that country in the Six-Day War in 1967.



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***“Commit your work to the
LORD, and your plans will
be established.”
Proverbs 16:3***



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